

2020 Port Phillip City Council
Canal Ward
Candidate Statements

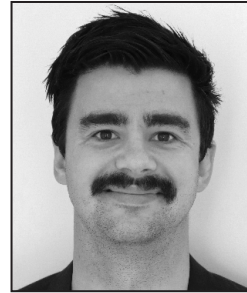
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CRAWFORD, Louise

In representing you as your councillor for the last three and a half years, I have demonstrated that politics can be done differently, with kindness and integrity. I am an actor, environmentalist, committed local, former hospitality professional, and endorsed Labor candidate. On council, I have: helped deliver a reduction in council's carbon footprint by funding a wind farm to supply electricity; increased funding to the arts and implemented a COVID-19 rescue package to support Port Phillip's business and arts community recovery; ensured stability for Lady Forster Kindergarten through a long-term lease and fought to keep council childcare services. I have also: collaborated with Melbourne Water and Bayside Council on flood mitigation for Elwood through Elsternwick Park North, and installed water harvesting in Alma Park; facilitated free resident access to the Rippon Lea gardens; and increased funding to remove and replace graffiti with street art. But, of course, there is much more to be done. I am asking for your vote so that I can continue to ensure the arts, environmental sustainability, climate change mitigation, and caring about our diverse, vibrant, and inclusive community remain Port Phillip Council's core business. If granted a second term, I will continue to work hard, and listen to, advocate for, and address our community's concerns. In particular, I will: implement Elwood's much-needed flood mitigation project; reform waste and recycling services; promote active transport; continue to improve council efficiency and effectiveness; and plant more trees to reduce emissions and enhance liveability. I will also: deliver the Elwood foreshore upgrade; support the Phoenix Centre facilities upgrade to create a community hub; increase affordable housing; and champion community-based childcare. Find out more about me, my policies, and why you should vote for me at www.louiseclawford.com.au or contact me on 0407 152 661.

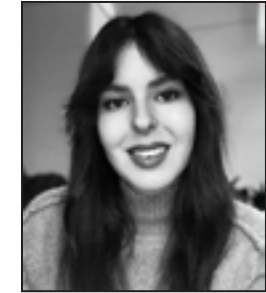
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CAHIR, Warwick

My name is Warwick Cahir, a local resident, local police officer and common sense enthusiast who looks forward to working with all in the community to deliver positive outcomes for everyone. I am running as an unendorsed independent however I am a proud member of the Liberal Party. I will be a voice for sustainability and sensible, accountable spending on council. It's all too common to find elected Councillors who only seem interested in spending our money and being remembered. I will not cut the services we have come to be proud of in our city, rather, I will find ways to cut bureaucracy and unnecessary vanity projects which will save money and, importantly, maintain a consistent rates base. We can no longer tolerate this council's global and grandiose ideologies, I will force local focus back on local issues. Now more than ever we need Councillors that understand their residents and business owners are not a never ending honey pot to be reached into for every whim that comes up. People are hurting, businesses are hurting, workers are hurting and our city is hurting as a result. I will help our small businesses get back on their feet, I will find ways to turn our city back into a destination for all of Melbourne. 10 years in Policing has driven my lifelong passion for community safety and given me a strong skill set with community engagement at the forefront. I will turn our streets, lanes, parks and beaches back once again into a destination for all by working with the community and ensuring that safety and maintaining amenity is at the forefront of all decision making regarding these public spaces. Vote 1 Warwick Cahir, Vote 2 Jo McDonald and preference all other candidates in the order of your choice.

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PIANELLA, Lesley G.

I'm one of the 51,000 women and 57,000 young people who call Port Phillip home. I'm enthusiastic, progressive and fiercely independent. I'm standing for our people, our places and our planet. I'm committed to enhancing our health and wellbeing, protecting the most vulnerable members of our community, advocating for our early education and child care services and revitalising our arts and creative industries. I'm committed to supporting sustainable initiatives to combat climate change by pursuing zero emission policies and implementing recycling strategies and exploring opportunities for new and existing green, open spaces within our municipality. Feeling connected to our neighbourhood has never been more important and now more than ever, our local government needs to be about more than just rates, roads and rubbish. If elected, I'll be proactive, collaborative and pragmatic. I'm committed to ensuring recovery support for our services, businesses and industries as we emerge from this global health and economic crisis. I'm a daughter, granddaughter, adoptive greyhound mother and lifelong local. I love where we live, I'm excited for our future and I want to see our unique culture thrive. It would be an honour to represent you. Please dedicate your number one vote to me. 0425 770 217. lesleygpianella@hotmail.com. [facebook.com/lesleygpianellaofficial](https://www.facebook.com/lesleygpianellaofficial).

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CLARK, Rhonda

I'm Rhonda Clark and I am your local candidate for Canal Ward, and I have a lifetime of experience managing at senior levels the strategies and operations of large organisations. With your support we will take back control of our council, decision-making based on the interests of the community and outcomes without the political party bias that have resulted in higher rates & reduced services. We need your help! Vote for RoPP & we will deliver. 1 Immediate Rates freeze. 2 No more Bin Tax. 3 One free parking permit. 4 Protect street parking for residents & traders. 4 Lower parking fees. 5 Rebuild our famous retail strips & restaurants Carlisle St, Acland St & Fitzroy St. 6 Improved community safety. 7 Support traders by lowering the costs. 8 Reduce our bloated Council & deliver greater efficiencies. Give power back to the people of Port Phillip. I am part of a highly credentialed & professional team of three candidates endorsed by the Ratepayers of Port Phillip (RoPP). <https://www.facebook.com/RhondaClarkRoPP>. Vote 1 for Rhonda Clark & vote 2 Jo McDonald and preference all other candidates in the order of your choice. www.ropp.org.au

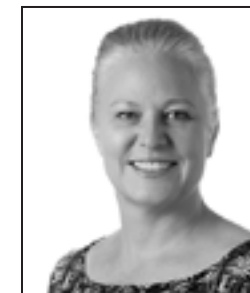
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ARMSTRONG, Steven

Dear Resident I am standing for election to Port Phillip Council Canal Ward. I am very concerned about overdevelopment, pandemic safety, and our ability to socially interact. 2020 has been a bad year for the city and our resilience to current problems is reducing. We have seen a terrible effect on families, friends and businesses. The coronavirus pandemic teaches us that high rise and dense populations are not safe and not healthy. Epidemiologists the world over are saying that. It's no accident that people in New York were dying at the rate of one every 2 minutes. We continuously lose front yards and backyards and I fear our city is being turned into a concrete jungle. All the research about climate change and the urban heat island effect tells us we need to keep all the trees and open space we can, for both our physical and mental health. Councillors and officers make the right noises about this, but the trees and vegetation keep disappearing. If there's one thing we learned from the IBAC Inquiry into Casey Council, it's that property developers are happy to give money to Councillors and State MPs to advance their cause. Make no mistake I will support residents, not property developers. I have lived in Elwood for 23 years. I am an endorsed candidate for the Sustainable Australia Party, which strongly opposes overdevelopment, and strongly opposes corruption. Councillors who are members of major parties will not oppose major party policies. I will stand up for residents against the cosy deals of the State Government and property developers and oppose their unsustainable growth, with its massive infrastructure costs and accompanying rate rises. More: www.sustainableaustralia.org.au/vic Contact: 0409186477 canal2020@fastmail.fm Preferences Vote 1. Steven Armstrong 2. Dennis Bilic 3. Lesley G. Pianella and put a number in every box.

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McDONALD, Jo

I have lived in Port Phillip for decades. I have a masters degree in Economics and am a career professional in consulting and asset management. I will use these skills with maximum impact as your local Council representative. As your Councillor, I will listen and passionately advocate for the outcomes that matter to you most. My experience and business acumen will ensure that Canal Ward is treated fairly and equally, and that your concerns are promoted with focus, energy, and passion. Whilst I am a member of the Liberal Party of Victoria, I am running for this election as an independent candidate. In this election I ask you to support a candidate that will listen and act and put your interests first. I believe I have delivered far more for the City as a volunteer than some Councillors and will continue to do so. What I stand for: Working for a Safer and more pleasant Carlisle Street; Combating inappropriate development and maintaining the beauty of our beaches, parks and streetscapes; Ensuring rates are spent wisely and exploring ways of reducing our already too-high rates; Developing an upgrade plan for the Elwood foreshore council buildings; Searching for sustainable energy solutions across the municipality noting Sustainability = reduced energy bills for the community and businesses; Protecting the Canal Ward dog off-leash areas (including Elwood foreshore and Alma Park). I have been an active community member for many years including: Chaired and mediated community consultation with Social Housing businesses, the police, and residents to restore community amenity; Advocated with the Dept. of Transport for safety improvements to St Kilda Junction cycling lanes (ongoing); Community liaison for implementation of the Albert Park Master Plan, specifically at the Junction Oval. Vote 1 Jo McDonald; 2 Rhonda Clark; 3 Warwick Cahir and number all other boxes.

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BAXTER, Tim

As a Balaclava local with a young family and strong connections to many groups within my community, I am proud to be a Greens-endorsed Candidate for Port Phillip Council. I am dedicated to planning ahead for our community's future and care about promoting sustainable development, creating new open space opportunities in our city, and providing more opportunities for safe, active transport. My record is strong as a supporter of equal marriage, welcoming refugees and strong action on climate change. During my current term as your council representative, I pushed for strong action on the Climate Emergency, which led to Port Phillip joining the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project at 100% energy purchase. I also encouraged transparency and community engagement by implementing live streaming of council meetings and regular declassifying of confidential information. I stand with the Greens due to a shared vision of a society that cares about people and the environment. My key focus areas are: 1) Continuing to establish Port Phillip as a world leader in sustainable living by reducing emissions and helping citizens adapt to cleaner energy. 2) Increasing our open spaces, making our streets more liveable for people and establishing more community-led green spaces, such as transforming nature strips into biodiversity corridors used to grow food. 3) Protecting our Council services that improve the lives of so many, especially for the young people, artists, international students and others who have been hit hard by the COVID-19 crisis. Within our community, I am a strong voice for integrity, and will stand for decisions that have positive impacts for our area and its people. To learn more, contact me on 0404 566 733. Vote [1] Tim Baxter for a sustainable way forward for our city.

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GROSS, Dick

I will fight more ferociously and more effectively than anyone for Elwood, East St Kilda, Balaclava and Ripponlea. As promised, I battled for more green space and grabbed land the amazing size of 14 MCGs at the Marina, Rippon Lea Gardens and Elsterwick Park. I want to capture more green space and I know where to get it. We have fought the fight to make Elwood safer from flooding. There is more to do and I will work with Melbourne Water to make Elwood secure from inundation. We have declared a Climate Emergency with our vulnerable coast line; I have lectured in Climate Change at Melbourne University for over a decade and my environmental credentials are unimpeachable. The Council's electrical energy needs are carbon neutral as we share a windfarm near Ararat. I have always strived for active forms of transport. On planning I have always been resolute to get the best for residents and I will fight to save you from inappropriate development. I fought for residents when others capitulated at sites like William St, Balaclava; Tiuna Grove., Elwood; and Elm Grove, Balaclava. I am concerned about street cleaning and we have poured more technology into this area. I have championed new waste methods including the green waste trial in Elwood. I will get green waste bins into the rest of Port Phillip as soon as possible. I have been financially prudent with this year's Budget saving \$6.5 million in operations. I supported the banning of drinking alcohol in Carlisle St and crime against the person has dropped 15% from 2018 to 2020 in postcode 3183. I am the most experienced candidate having been a 4-time Mayor and President of the Municipal Association of Victoria. I am the battle-hardened candidate who will fight for you and nobody but you.

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BILIC, Dennis

Hello, I'm standing for election in Port Phillip Council to ensure your local needs are met and to improve quality of life in the area. I have lived in Melbourne for 42 years and have seen the changes, both good and bad. Overdevelopment is one issue I would like to address, ensuring your homes are not burdened by high-density developments and crowded street parking. I believe we should preserve trees and green spaces, give local residents a strong say about any proposed developments and, if approved, make certain that developers adhere to planning regulations. I stand strong against corruption and am appalled by the findings of the IBAC Inquiry into Casey Council. That will not happen here. Cleanliness of our beaches, the removal of litter and safe access to public bathrooms will be prioritised. If practical and cost efficient, I would like to explore utilising small-scale renewable energy solutions to power public facilities. Council costs will be closely managed. I currently work as a management consultant for a professional services firm, which specialises in public infrastructure. I also have a masters degree in Strategic Foresight from Swinburne University, which will allow me to help the council plan long term solutions to whatever issues may arise in the coming years. I will always be keen to hear from the community and I am an endorsed candidate for the Sustainable Australia Party, which is strongly opposed to overdevelopment and corruption. Finally, I am looking forward to seeing our community free to embrace more outdoor activities with all the facilities available to them for fun and fitness, improving physical and mental well-being. Thank you for your consideration. More: www.sustainableaustralia.org.au/vic Contact me: 0422 344 059 or dennisbilic@gmail.com / vic@sustainableaustralia.org.au Vote 1. Dennis Bilic 2. Steven Armstrong 3. Lesley Pianella and put a number in every other box.

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BLAY, Maddy

As a long-term St Kilda local, I'm proud to be the Greens-Endorsed Candidate for Canal ward in the City of Port Phillip election. My vision is for people in Port Phillip to continue to be supported and cared for by Council, and that we work to shape our community sustainably and with an eye on the future. Growing up in Canal ward, I'm passionate about championing our local cultures, stories and histories, and supporting our local businesses. Canal ward has been my home for almost my entire life, and I feel deeply connected to our local community. Through different leadership roles in the Melbourne Jewish community, and as a proud resident of St Kilda, I am committed, compassionate and feel energised to represent Canal ward. Coming from a migrant background, I am passionate about ensuring that our communities are safe and welcoming, and are free of discrimination and prejudice against women, young people, First Nations people, migrants and refugees, LGBTIA+ people and people with disabilities. Like many of us, I'm deeply concerned by the ongoing effects of the climate crisis, and will work to find ways for our local areas to continue to prosper while also considering the changing nature of our environments. If elected, my priorities will be: 1) Addressing the local-level effects of climate change through helping Council source renewable energy. 2) Supporting our communities to get back on their feet after the coronavirus pandemic. 3) Bring back the vibrancy of our local arts and culture. Vote [1] Maddy Blay for a representative who will truly listen to our community.