

**2020 Port Phillip City Council
Gateway Ward
Candidate Statements**

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MAHER, Sami

I am Sami Maher your local candidate for Gateway Ward. I have managed large businesses and delivered consistent successful outcomes to all key stakeholders. With your support we will take back control of our council and ensure decision-making is based on the interests of the community 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 Bay St, Clarendon St, Acland St & Fitzroy St. 6 Improve community safety by sorting out street homelessness, drug use and crime. 7 Support traders by reducing costs and red tape. 8 Reduce our bloated Council & deliver greater efficiencies. 9 Focus on core and essential services. I will give power back to you and the people of Port Phillip by being your voice in council. I am part of a highly credentialed & professional team of three candidates endorsed by the Ratepayers of Port Phillip (RoPP). <https://www.facebook.com/SamiMaherRoPP>. Vote 1 for Sami Maher & vote 2 Marcus Pearl and preference all other candidates in the order of your choice. www.ropp.org.au

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CUNSOLO, Heather

It is my passion for where I live, the people and good design that motivates me to be a candidate. I am truly politically independent and genuinely here for the community side of local government. We need to revitalise our retail precincts and assist businesses to bounce back from Covid restrictions. I am for better maintenance of our streets and parks, proper lighting for safety and considerate of all wheels: bikes, cars, prams, wheelchairs and mobility scooters. I will: -Ensure sensible development in our neighbourhoods, St Kilda Road North and Fishermans Bend. -Help make Station Pier a dignified gateway to Melbourne. -Advocate for fair parking solutions for residents and businesses. -Address the Bay & Liardet intersection. -Evaluate Council's 150+ services -Ensure appropriate, responsible and cost efficient handling of waste. I am interested in the entire ward. I believe in direct, frequent engagement with the residents and businesses. I will make informed decisions to spend their rates correctly and transparently. Some may know me as the creator of Port Melbourne Focus (formerly Port Melbourne Families) Facebook group where I have publicly demonstrated my dedication, care, integrity, positive nature and accountability. As a mother of 3 children, I am a frequent user of many of Council assets and services like parks, beaches, MCH, and libraries. With a degree in architecture and as a small business owner, I have a valuable skillset for a Councillor. My planning and design knowledge are essential to both understanding planning approvals as well as vision for our capital works projects. To learn more about me, please check out my website www.heathercunsolo.com, www.facebook.com/HeatherCunsolo1 or ring 0429452057. Vote 1 for Heather Cunsolo to give this community minded independent a go. Thank you.

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GYLES, Stan

I will be your voice on Council. I am a South Melbourne resident and have been active in Gateway Ward for the last 27 years. My professional career saw me lead a marketing, advertising and communications business as CEO for 31 years. During this time, I have been president of three clubs, including a prominent city business club, director of three companies and now life member of three sporting organisations. I am a supporter of DonateLife and Eye Research Australia. I am honoured for the opportunity to give back to the community as your representative on Port Phillip Council. I pledge to support local businesses during and post COVID-19 to create prosperity and to implement initiatives to create and deliver local jobs. I will lead a transparent review on council spending, recycling and rate increases, including an immediate freeze on increases for 2021. New property developments should be restricted to four stories without exception. Parking policies for single dwelling permanent residents reviewed as well as parking restrictions and fees. It is time to beautify the areas around South Melbourne market and to protect its tradition. Let's speed up home renovation permits and cut out red tape. Let's reduce rental fees and charges for sporting, recreational and community groups. I am truly independent and therefore not bound to vote on party lines. My vision is for a Port Phillip with beautiful, protected public spaces and boulevards. A city obsessed with good design and urban planning, where medium density neighbourhoods are retained and safe to live and work in. A community with renewed civic pride. Vote for me to make my pledge a reality. Stan Gyles the councillor you can count on. Vote 1 Stan Gyles.

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LEWIS, Trina

It's time for change! Recent events have forced many of us to reflect on who we are outside of work and what legacy we want to leave. I am passionate about my community and want to play an active role in ensuring we get the best out of our local government. I stand for great community outcomes with fiscal responsibility. In Port Phillip we all pay a lot of rates, more than many other Melbourne councils. I want to ensure all residents get true value from their rates. Council decision making should be efficient and fair, not driven by politics. I stand for a council that is truly community focused and not an inefficient bureaucracy doing business with itself! I would drive for a council that: truly listens to and focuses deeply on our community; maintains high levels of community service without frivolous spending; sets clear goals with effective and fair prioritisation of spending, and is highly transparent in decision making. What do I bring to make this happen? Port Phillip is my heartland and I know it well - I have had the privilege of living here with my family for over 20 years. I am an independent candidate. I will focus on challenges and opportunities based on facts and merit, not politics. Professionally, I am a highly experienced business leader and management consultant. My speciality is designing and leading organisational change. After over 30 years of doing what I do, I know what makes organisations work well and how to enable positive change. It would be my privilege to represent your interests on Council. Please send your first vote my way! Then vote 2: Marcus Pearl 3: Sami Maher and number all other boxes. I would love to hear your questions and thoughts. Email me at trinaforportphillip@gmail.com

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PEARL, Marcus

You elected me four years ago to bring energy, integrity and action to Port Phillip. Over that time, I have gained a reputation for delivering essential projects, acting to strengthen planning regulations and fighting for common sense decisions. I am the only Gateway Ward Councillor who opposed an increase of your rates. With your support I successfully achieved the upgrade of key assets including J L Murphy Reserve and Edwards Park, helped attract funding from the Commonwealth for recreational and civic facilities, reduced parking fees, improved dumped rubbish collection across South Melbourne and delivered improved planning outcomes within the St Kilda Road Precinct. In these challenging times more needs to be done. This will be achieved by you electing an enthusiastic Councillor with experience and a record for strong financial management, support of local jobs, demonstrated integrity in planning and delivery of improved services including child maternal services and recreational facilities, and caring for our elderly. With your support I will continue to work to stop dud projects that add no value to you or our community and I will focus on local issues that matter to you and your family. Your Council is at its best when focused on results for residents, ratepayers, and local businesses. There has never been a more important time to support our local traders and residents through targeted services, reduced costs, and less red tape in the post COVID world. Many of you know me from our chats at community events that we have attended. You know that I am a member of the Liberal Party, whilst being a fiercely independent Councillor for you and our local community. Voting preference: 1 - PEARL, Marcus; 2 - MAHER, Sami; 3 - LEWIS, Trina. Then make sure you number all other boxes.

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JAMES, Earl

As a teacher, economist and resident of Port Melbourne for the past nine years, I am proud to be a Greens-Endorsed Candidate for Port Phillip Council. My vision for our community is one where economics meets sustainability, to build a thriving Port Phillip community that is both fair and just, economically vibrant and innovative. As a teacher for the past 19 years, a representative for the rights of teachers at the Independent Education Union, and with my daughter attending a local primary school, I am particularly passionate about education and am keen to see our city's youngest residents have access to high quality, affordable and inclusive learning experiences that they need to thrive in a fast-evolving world. I stand with the Greens because I am committed to ensuring that the City of Port Phillip continues to be a responsive, resilient, diverse and sustainable place, and the Greens are best placed to deliver that promise. My key focus areas are: 1) Advocate for building inclusive schools and workplaces that are welcoming of diversity and bring out the best in people. 2) Deliver innovative programs that support and empower vulnerable communities, such as those in precarious housing. 3) Give our young the best start on their educational journey through affordable council and community child care. As an economist, I understand the needs of sustainable, just and open communities and I will be a strong voice for Port Phillip's residents. Please contact me at earl.james@vic.greens.org.au to find out more. Vote [1] Earl James for a sustainable and secure economic future. Vote Early, Vote Earl.

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MARTIN, Peter

I've been living in and working for our community in the City of Port Phillip for 30 years, and after retiring as Principal of Port Melbourne Primary School in April, I now want to serve our community on Council. As a parent, principal and local community member involved in a range of sporting clubs and education centres, I have a proven track record of working with Government and stakeholders to develop local schools and childcare centres, liaising with Council, Government and our community to re-develop the JL Murphy Reserve and have decades of experience advocating for publicly run services, including local kindergartens, sporting clubs and community events. I will be a strong voice for the issues that matter, including a COVID-19 Recovery Plan that supports local families and businesses. As an educator, I have always been a voice for high quality, accessible and affordable locally-run council services like our early education centres and libraries. We can't afford any more mistakes at Fishermans Bend. I have a track record of fighting for proper community infrastructure including new schools, hospitals and community services to ensure our community isn't left behind. I want to tackle the parking crisis in our community and rejuvenate Station Pier and Bay Street. Last year, the City of Port Phillip declared a Climate Emergency, and I will work to ensure that Council does all it can to address this, as it thinks globally but acts locally in all matters that impact on climate change. With more time at my disposal since my retirement, and without the constraints of being a public servant, I look forward to representing the views of all residents of Gateway Ward in Port Phillip Council, so I can repay the wonderful support I have received from local residents during my time as PMPS principal.

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PAPAGEORGIU, Cleo

My name is Cleo Papageorgiou and I am a candidate for Gateway Ward because I want to make a difference for our culturally diverse and LGBTQ communities and their wellbeing. If elected to Council I will advocate for services for our diverse communities especially those with significant vulnerabilities. I have a passion for our diverse and multicultural community, and I have the skills and qualifications to advocate for improved community services in South Melbourne and Port Melbourne where I have been a resident for 6 years with my partner and two dogs. I am an experienced and diverse leader across multiple sectors including private global, government owned, non-profit and local government. I am experienced in managing teams and working on projects/programs that make a difference to the community, particularly in mental health and currently in emergency relief. I hold a double degree in B Arts (Psychology), B Business (HR) and Grad Cert in Executive Business Administration. I am a keen cyclist and will advocate for safe bicycle lanes but not at the expense of adequate car parking and accessibility at shopping centres. I believe our community requires more diversity and care for vulnerable people in our community, especially those struggling with mental health and elderly people. I have no political affiliations or conflicts of interest. I will be a Councillor who represents our culturally diverse and vulnerable members of our community. Vote 1 PAPAGEORGIU, Cleo. Vote 2 MAHER, Sami, and number all other candidates in order of your choice.