

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

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**BOND, Andrew**

You have an opportunity this election to vote in a group of Councillors to represent you, your values and your aspirations. As one of the current Councillors for Lake Ward, I once again seek to be your representative on Council. As a proud and active Liberal Party member, I hold my Party's values, but have never once brought State or Federal politics into the Council chamber. I am a long term Lake Ward resident and believe strongly that those that represent Lake Ward should also live in Lake Ward. I stand for lower rates, stronger financial management and restrained Council spending, and have voted for a Zero Rate Rise budget for each of the past 4 years. I know the increased cost of waste services can be absorbed without the need for a new Bin Tax, entirely through internal efficiencies. I have delivered improved safety on our streets through CCTV in St Kilda, and other safety measures. I fought to preserve facilities for our residents such as saving Middle Park Library from a book-free future. I believe in a fairer parking system for residents and traders alike, and appropriate development in our neighbourhoods that respects heritage protections. If I wouldn't live next door to it, I don't expect you to either. Now more than ever we need to support small business throughout Lake Ward with relaxed outdoor dining regulations, less footpath trading red tape, and free parking in our shopping precincts. I have reduced the cost of parking in Lake Ward previously, and will fight to do so again in support of our traders. And most importantly we need to maximise open space opportunities, and preserve off lead areas for dogs. To support me Vote 1 BOND, Andrew. Vote 2 SIRAKOFF, Christina. Vote 3 CONAGHAN, Geoffrey, then number remaining boxes.

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**JACKSON, Adrian**

I have lived in Port Phillip as a share house renter in Albert Park from 1980 and later as a ratepayer from 1983 when I bought my house in Middle Park, which I still live in. Local government is a "house keeping" organisation. My platform includes mostly spending our rates on core functions we all need and use like rubbish removal, street and footpath repairs and cleanings and maintenance of parks. Council should not duplicate functions already carried out by governments. Duplication is unnecessary, costly and confusing. Council is not an entrepreneur for events and entertainment. Governments and the private sector should run these activities in Port Phillip and Greater Melbourne. A 30% reduction in staff numbers over 3 years is required but mostly through natural attrition as staff retire or leave to take up other careers. Nearby councils have fewer staff, less spending and still function just as well. I don't like secrecy in council nor pork barreling vocal vested interest groups. I have always taken an interesting the council, particularly after I retired from the Army and have stood as an independent in the past. I support the objectives of RoPP. After passing HSC at Camberwell Grammar School in 1971 I spent 23 years as a Regular Army Infantry Officer and from 1996 in small business with a traditional hosted B&B and managing a rental flat I own - no agents; rent kept lower, \$200 PW were other owners charge \$300 PW. The B&B went well for over 20 years but has been affected by a glut of AirBnB and now Corona Virus. I am a caring landlord for my 1965 era flat in a solid brick block of 36 flats in Stonnington, I have been the Secretary of the Owners Corporation for over a decade.

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**COPSEY, Katherine**

As a former planning and environmental lawyer and the sitting Greens councillor for Lake Ward, I have passionately served the community of Port Phillip since 2016 and I'm thrilled to be standing for another term as your Greens candidate. As a local, I am so proud of our eclectic neighbourhoods, our thriving local marketplaces, our rich cultural heritage and our natural environment. My vision is to give Port Phillip the Council it deserves: one that will invest in climate action based on science, that will provide active and sustainable transport to get people where they need to go, and keep improving a transparent and inclusive local democracy. My background in planning law and experience as a Councillor means I have a solid understanding of the role of local government and community, and my proudest achievement to date is getting the City of Port Phillip to 100% renewable energy in my first term. I stand with the Greens because I won't let anyone in our community be left behind and am focused on addressing inequality through mental health, housing and homelessness support. My key areas of focus are: 1) Promoting sustainable development and new energy initiatives and reducing community emissions. 2) Improving childcare and early education facilities. 3) Protecting our cultural heritage. 4) Positively engaging the community at local government level. I am so excited to continue to stand up for Greens values and our community in another term at the City of Port Phillip. Please email me for more information at [katherine.copsey@vic.greens.org.au](mailto:katherine.copsey@vic.greens.org.au). Vote [1] Katherine Copsey for a safe, sustainable and thriving local economy for Port Phillip.

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**MANDILE, Bernard**

My name is Bernard Mandile, I was born and raised in Albert Park and it's still my home today. A father of four children, I'm passionate about bringing our community together with fresh and honest ideas, focusing on positive environmental and infrastructure solutions. I have always been an active member of our community. I assisted with the formation of Middle Park Youth Club, South Melbourne Basketball Club, Carmelite Youth Club and the Open Family Foundation, with Father Maguire, for which I was awarded 'Youth Citizen of the Year'. I'm a passionate, long-time Swans supporter. I played for South Melbourne districts, and coached junior basketball and football. Currently, I'm Vice President of the oldest Italian Club in Melbourne, a board member for Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School, and a long-standing member of South Melbourne life saving club. From Elwood to Port Melbourne, over the past 30 years I have owner/operated businesses from supermarkets to delicatessens, food stores to catering firms. I know business, I know our community, I understand the issues that we face. I believe there are workable solutions to enhance our already great community. I would like to be a strong voice regarding rate freezes, and ensuring our vulnerable citizens are supported. I'm passionate about supporting our kindergartens, childcare centres and schools. I believe in the preservation and protection of our local heritage buildings. I will be a strong supporter of environmental sustainability ensuring the future for our children's generation. Being one of the few councillors working part time, living in my ward and not having state government aspirations, ensures I will be a ground level councillor, getting in and making this community the best it can be. I will bring positive change to our City of Port Phillip because I have a history of getting the job done.

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**WARD, Roger**

I have lived in the City of Port Phillip for 23 years. During my time here I have developed a deep understanding of the area. I have a background in scientific research and have a masters in occupational medicine. I am passionate about the environment and want to take practical steps to improve it for the whole community. My policies I am passionate about sustainable gardening and wherever possible I want the City of Port Phillip to lead by example and introduce drought tolerant natives to all its parks. I will encourage the council to sponsor gardening initiatives such as community gardens and lane way gardens. This will improve the environment and peoples sense of well-being. I want to improve the recycling options available and introduce a green waste service for residents. Why does so much waste go to land fill? Let's make it easier for people to do the right thing and save money at the same time. I want to introduce new events to Port Philip to encourage economic growth and tourism to the area. I cycle everywhere and want to improve the amenity of Port Phillip and Melbourne for cyclists. I will work with others to improve cycle paths and safety for cyclists young and old.

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**SIRAKOFF, Christina**

My name is Christina Sirakoff and I am your candidate for Lake Ward. I am an Applied Mathematician with a successful career in the sciences, environmental research and the Bureau of Meteorology for 20 years. I am part of a highly credentialed & professional team of three candidates endorsed by the Ratepayers of Port Phillip (RoPP) and with your support we will take control of our council and ensure decision-making is based on the interests of the community without the political party bias that has resulted in higher rates & reduced services. We need your help! Vote for RoPP & we will deliver. 1 Immediate Rates freeze and Rate reductions. 2 No more Bin Tax. 3 One free parking permit. 4 Protect street parking for residents & traders. 5 Lower parking fees. 6 Rebuild our famous retail & dining precincts - Acland St, Fitzroy St & Clarendon St. 7 Improve community safety by sorting out street homelessness, drug use and crime. 8 Support traders by reducing permit costs and red tape. 9 Properly fund libraries, an essential service. 10 Reduce our bloated Council & deliver greater efficiencies. Give power back to the people of Port Phillip. Vote 1 for Christina Sirakoff & Vote 2 Andrew Bond and number every other box in order of your preference. Go to [www.ropp.org.au](http://www.ropp.org.au) or my Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ChristinaSirakoffRoPP> for my preferences.

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### **CONAGHAN, Geoffrey**

My over arching proposal is a Resident and Trader Charter to guide all Council decisions including planning, events and services. Residents will be at the apex as the most significant stakeholder by volume, value or any other metric. Council must focus on residents and traders. Locals tell me they never see Councillors. I promise to be visible and available with 20 scheduled consultation sessions each year at shopping strips and community centres. I will come to your neighbourhood. I will not use your vote to build my personal political career and promise I will not pursue State or Federal preselection. I want better value from Council. Festivals and events must contribute ongoing benefits, not just a few weekends. Fix Fitzroy Street which has got worse under the current Council. Acland Street is the next disaster. Focus on secure housing for women, the arts sector and vulnerable long term residents of Port Phillip; deliver environmental projects that are in Council control with a long term vision of parks and recreation spaces. Please see [www.vote-conaghan.com](http://www.vote-conaghan.com) for more details. I moved to St Kilda in 1987 and am active and connected in Port Phillip as the current Ambassador and former board member and chair of Linden New Art in St Kilda; member Castellorizian Club South Melbourne; member St Kilda Bowling Club; member Green Knoll neighbourhood network and resident representative on the Fitzroy Street Placemaking committee. I will bring strong and diverse skills to the role of Councillor from my career as executive director of a Not For Profit industry training board; senior executive with Melbourne Airport management; international appointments as Victorian Commissioner to India and Agent-General to the UK and Board member of Tourism Victoria for 11 years. Check my full bio on [www.vote-conaghan.com](http://www.vote-conaghan.com)

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### **NYAGUY, Robbie**

Hello, I'm Robbie Nyaguy - your Labor candidate for Lake Ward. I'm putting my hand up to be your progressive voice on Council. The people of Port Phillip taught me to love this area. I've fought to stop the privatisation of council-run childcare, advocated for more open space as a St Kilda Marina Community Panel member and stood for council investment in community housing. We need our Council to stand up for what matters most - creating more open space and reducing overcommercialisation of the foreshore, investing in our essential community services and real local climate action. I will be there for renters and homeowners - a Council for all, not just a few. In my professional career and through the Community Alliance of Port Phillip, I've worked to strengthen social policy. We must invest in our local COVID recovery. I will develop a rescue package to revive our shopping strips including Acland and Fitzroy Streets, invest in safer foot and bike paths and ensure our vibrant arts communities and venues have a strong future. We must provide jobs and hope for young people. I live in Middle Park, in the house where my Nonna settled after arriving from Lithuania at Station Pier to build a new life in Australia. I feel privileged to march openly and proudly in Pride every summer, with the LGBTIQ community and our allies. Pride shows Port Phillip at its best - community embracing everyone. We will need that spirit as we recover from COVID. If elected, I will be a grassroots councillor for Albert Park, Middle Park, St Kilda West and St Kilda working for you, responding promptly to your issues and managing Council's finances responsibly. Guided by my progressive Labor values, I will always put our community first. I'd love to hear from you - 0431 686 997 / [robbie@robbieforlake.org](mailto:robbie@robbieforlake.org)