

A Safe, Connected, Active City: Transport Policy



Yarra Greens Policies
September, 2020

We believe that Yarra can become a world-class city for active and public transport. We support a future-proof integrated transport system that is efficient, sustainable, accessible and adapted to a growing city.

We aim to reduce emissions and congestion on roads for those who need to use them by enabling a variety of safe and healthy transport options. To cater for a growing number of people moving around Yarra, we prioritise sustainable transport modes that move the greatest number of people.

We commit to:

A walkable city

- Improve walking amenity, accessibility and safety with more drinking fountains, shade trees, seating, bins, dog facilities, shelter, lighting, accessible crossings and public toilets.
- Review road pavement areas that can be made available for other uses such as walking, cycling and vegetation, to increase porous surfaces and reduce the urban heat island effect.
- Ensure that footpath capacity is maintained where there are competing proposals, and increased where possible.

- Improve and add pedestrian crossings in high pedestrian areas to increase safety for vision-impaired pedestrians.
- Work with the State Government to speed up pedestrian light response times and expand pedestrian and bike priority at intersections and crossings through the application of auto-on, increased pedestrian walk time, reduced pedestrian crossing distances as well as other pedestrian friendly techniques.
- Expand and prioritise a connected, safe and accessible pedestrian network, through the development of good quality walking links between residential, business, open spaces and public transport.

A safe, low-emissions city

- Prioritise walking, cycling and public transport in planning decisions, particularly in urban renewal precincts.
- Support initiatives to provide space for people to safely follow physical distancing regulations while exercising, in transit and in high-pedestrian traffic zones during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Support electric car uptake by increasing the availability of electric charge points.
- Regularly review the Car Share Policy targets to ensure they meet the car sharing needs of the community.
- Lead by example, working to convert Yarra's vehicle fleet to electric and encouraging staff and services to use emissions-free transport.
- Oppose the construction of new public or private multi-storey car parks.
- Accommodate the growing demand for car-free living in new residential developments.
- Require best-practice active transport provisions in

new developments, such as ground level bike parking, change rooms for office buildings, electric car and bicycle charge points and scooter parking.

- Remove the minimum parking provision requirement in the Yarra planning scheme, particularly in areas well serviced by public transport.
- Roll out 30kph zones in residential and high-activity areas across the municipality.
- Establish safe, well-lit transport hubs and pick-up points.
- Encourage established businesses to set up incentive programs that encourage their employees to use public transport or active transport when commuting to and from work.

Advocate to, and work in conjunction with, the State Government to:

- Improve public transport services at night throughout the week.
- Scale-up the electric bus fleet servicing Yarra.
- Increase shelter and seating at public transport bus and tram stops across Yarra.
- Ensure no new freeways are built in and beyond Yarra.
- Ensure road space for car use is not expanded.
- Increase allocation of road space for cycling, pedestrians and public transport.
- Advocate for levies raised on commercial car parks in Yarra to be directed towards spending on sustainable transport in Yarra.

An active city

- Expand and enhance Yarra's bicycle network to make it safe, connected and direct.



- Create continuous, connected and direct separated bike lanes as part of a broader bicycle network.
- Advocate to the State Government to implement separated bike lanes on arterial roads.
- Where necessary, minimise conflict between pedestrians and cyclists on shared pathways.
- Support the creation of a bicycle network map that includes Yarra and neighbouring municipalities, identifying missing links.
- Increase bicycle parking in shopping areas, near schools, services and childcare centres, including for cargo and electric bikes.
- Roll out targeted education and training programs for groups with low cycling participation rates.
- Support local schools to promote riding and continue to develop bike-parking facilities in schools.
- Ensure that bicycle facilities are integrated into new developments.
- Advocate to, and work in conjunction with, the State Government to fund the metropolitan bike strategy.

A connected city

- Take opportunities to diversify street usage to establish play streets and pocket parks, pedestrian-only and safe cycling zones.
- Transform Yarra's high streets into high quality civic spaces and thriving pedestrian locales, by encouraging cultural events, upgrading streetscapes, encouraging outdoor dining, attracting local business tenancies, making public transport fully accessible and increasing pedestrian and bike safety and facilities, while accommodating delivery access to businesses and critical parking needs.

Advocate to, and work in conjunction with, the State Government to:

- Rebuild the Walmer Street Bridge in a way that is accessible, safe, and appropriate to the volume of daily pedestrian and cycle traffic.
- Better integrate cycling with other transport options, including bicycle access to trains and secure bicycle storage at public transport stops and stations.
- Reduce congestion and encourage active transport through a review and potential enhancement of the Parking Levy.
- Implement fairer public transport fares.
- Transition all tram stops within Yarra to fully accessible, while ensuring that they are integrated with other active transport modes and facilitate safety for all road users.



Photo by Edbert Als

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