



Cycle Aware Wellington (CAW)

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Windy Wheels newsletter

September 2004

Special Election Issue

With local body elections around the corner, the question on your mind is, who do I give my precious votes to?

You could attend meet-the-candidates meetings, trawl through their websites, read the leaflets, or study their voting records. But who's got the time for all that? Great news people, we've done the hard yards and surveyed all 62 candidates for Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council elections.

So who's cyclist friendly? We let the candidates speak for themselves. We sent them all questionnaires, and rated their responses on a 5-star scale. If you want to see what we asked them, the questionnaire is online at www.mountainbike.co.nz/politics/caw/survey.html

| | |
|-------|--|
| * | answered the questionnaire, expresses support in general |
| ** | supports most initiatives described in the questionnaire, with some reservations |
| *** | supports most initiatives, and cycles at least occasionally, or uses alternative transport |
| **** | supports all initiatives, and cycles at least occasionally, or uses alternative transport |
| ***** | cycling champion – goes the extra mile for cycling initiatives |

| Wellington City Council | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Name | | Candidate for | Do you cycle? | Cycle-friendly rating |
| Rob | Goulden | Mayor | occasionally | *** |
| Kerry | Prendergast | Mayor | occasionally | ** |
| Jack | Ruben | Mayor | no reply | |
| Stephen | Hay | Mayor | no reply | |
| Timothy | O'Brien | Mayor | never | ** |
| Bryan | Pepperell | Mayor | regularly | ***** |
| Robert | Armstrong | Northern | no reply | |
| Ngairé | Best | Northern | regularly | *** |
| Ash | Bhasin | Northern | occasionally | *** |
| Ron | England | Northern | no reply | |
| Jim | Candiliotis | Northern | no reply | |
| Kent | Clark | Northern | occasionally | *** |
| Ian | Hutchings | Northern | no reply | |
| Helene | Ritchie | Northern | occasionally | ***** |
| Hayley | Wain | Northern | no reply | |
| Kelly | Buchanan | Onslow-Western | never | ** |
| Te Makao | Bowkett | Onslow-Western | never | *** |
| Judy | Siers | Onslow-Western | no reply | |
| Andy | Foster | Onslow-Western | occasionally | ***** |
| John | Morrison | Onslow-Western | no reply | ** |
| Michael | Appleby | Lambton | no reply | |
| David | Zwartz | Lambton | no reply | |

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|----------|--------------|-------|
| Rosamund | Averton | Lambton | never | * |
| Stephanie | Cook | Lambton | never | **** |
| John | Macalister | Lambton | occasionally | **** |
| Iona | Pannett | Lambton | never | **** |
| Ian | McKinnon | Lambton | never | ** |
| Alick | Shaw | Lambton | no reply | |
| Chris | Anastasiadis | Eastern | never | ** |
| Leonie | Gill | Eastern | no reply | |
| Rob | Goulden | Eastern | occasionally | *** |
| David | Major | Eastern | occasionally | *** |
| Ray | Ahipene-Mercer | Eastern | occasionally | ** |
| Phil | Sprey | Eastern | occasionally | **** |
| Tafa Max | To'o | Southern | no reply | |
| Linda | Hobman | Southern | occasionally | **** |
| Celia | Wade-Brown | Southern | regularly | ***** |
| Ben | Knight | Southern | occasionally | *** |
| Sue | Piper | Southern | occasionally | ** |
| Langi | Sipelli | Southern | never | ** |
| Bryan | Pepperell | Southern | regularly | ***** |
| Silvia | Zonoobi | Southern | no reply | |

Greater Wellington Regional Council

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|------------|--------------|-------|
| Chris | Turver | Kapiti | no reply | |
| Maurie | Bognuda | Lower Hutt | no reply | |
| Glen | Evans | Lower Hutt | no reply | |
| Peter | Glensor | Lower Hutt | never | ** |
| Sandra | Greig | Lower Hutt | occasionally | ** |
| Steve | Ritchie | Lower Hutt | no reply | |
| Rosemarie | Thomas | Lower Hutt | no reply | |
| Dick | Werry | Lower Hutt | no reply | |
| Robin | Gunston | Porirua | occasionally | *** |
| Margaret | Shields | Porirua | never | ** |
| Rex | Kirton | Upper Hutt | no reply | |
| Judith | Aitken | Wellington | regularly | ***** |
| Sally | Baber | Wellington | no reply | |
| Hugh | Barr | Wellington | occasionally | **** |
| Paul | Bruce | Wellington | regularly | ***** |
| Bernard | Darnton | Wellington | no reply | |
| Michael | Fleming | Wellington | regularly | **** |
| Michael | Gibson | Wellington | no reply | |
| Chris | Laidlaw | Wellington | occasionally | *** |
| Terry | McDavitt | Wellington | never | ** |
| Martyn | Turner | Wellington | occasionally | ** |
| Fran | Wilde | Wellington | no reply | |

It was encouraging to read how many candidates ride their bikes. Most expressed support for initiatives which are good for cycling.

It will be interesting to compare their responses to what they actually do once in office.

Dangerous cycling gives us a bad name. One candidate said she gets grumpy when cyclists run red lights. Several said they'd like to see safe cycling education.

Several candidates pointed out that pedestrians and cyclists have a lot to gain by working together. Both groups gain from traffic reduction measures such as traffic calming, lower urban speeds, and promotion of alternative transport modes.

Voting closes on October 9.

Wellington City Council works with commuter cyclists



Wellington City Council and Cycle Aware Wellington conducted research this winter with Wellington commuter cyclists about the safety of cyclists who ride in the dark.

Nationally, one in five car crashes involving a cyclist happen during dark hours. In Wellington, however, the night-time rate is one in four. Concerned about the higher-than-national night-time crash rate in Wellington, the

City Council worked on ways to increase cyclist visibility at night and to effectively convey safety messages to cyclists.

Canvassing two of the main cycle routes in and out of the city (Thorndon Quay and Oriental Bay), researchers passed contact details on to 229 cyclists. Fifty-six cyclists responded. Focus groups and questionnaires were used to collect data in a friendly and nonthreatening manner (food was provided). Casual and occasional riders more likely not to have adequate lights or reflective gear were not captured by the canvassing methods, but ways of reaching this group of cyclists were discussed in focus groups with commuter-cyclists. The final report should be out in the next month or two, so watch this space!

Urban Sprawl

by Lou Gallagher

According to associate professor Jeff Kenworthy of Murdoch University in Western Australia, Wellington is ranked seventh in the world's most sprawling Metro Regions, as reported in the August 2004 issue of Environmental Health Perspectives. Rating higher than Wellington were Brisbane, Perth, Sydney, Calgary (Canada) and Vancouver (Canada). Auckland didn't even come in the top 10. The rating process for urban sprawl used standardized indicators based on urban density for 84 major metropolitan areas around the world. Note - the comparison excluded all US cities.

In the same issue of Environmental Health Perspectives was an article and a guest editorial from the National Institutes of Health the impact of the built environment on the obesity epidemic. Siting the negative impact of increased vehicular use on a range of health outcomes ranging from mental health and obesity to poor water quality (well referenced), Dearry argued for better collaboration between health practitioners and public planners in improving our built environment. Decreasing neighborhood density results in more vehicle miles travelled.

Yet recent submissions to Wellington City Council from cycling advocacy groups arguing for a greater chunk of the transport/roading budget to be allocated to cycling and pedestrian projects were largely ignored. The \$68,000 earmarked for cycling projects was deemed sufficient growth for this sustainable transport mode.

So much for clean and green, Wellington City Council. Vote for sustainable city planning this year!

Critical Mass is back



Summer is coming and Critical Mass is back. Meet Friday 24 September at Civic Square at 5:30 and let's go for a ride around town.

New Kryptonite U-locks can be picked with a biro

It's true folks, check out <http://www.bikeforums.net> and look at video 4.

CAW meeting

When: Tuesday, October 5, 2004, at 6pm

Where: Senior Citizens Room at the City Library on Victoria St. Take the steps up to Clark's cafe and then turn left to go past the lift doors.

What: get involved in helping CAW make the world a better place for biking. We'll be planning how we can support WCC in their cycling safety programmes this year.

CAW Cycle Aware Wellington, www.caw.org.nz, PO Box 11-964, Wellington

Secretary: Geoff Thomas, geoff.thomas@vuw.ac.nz, tel 463 6247

Windy Wheels is edited by Patrick Morgan, (www.morgan.net.nz/contact.php)

The deadline for the next issue is Tuesday 12 October 2004.

CAN Cycle Advocates' Network: www.can.org.nz

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