

STATE ELECTION: Commuters face2face with candidates

Town hall community forums on public transport

Whitehorse Mon 30 Aug; 6.15 pm - 7.30 pm

Maribyrnong Mon 6 Sep; 7 pm – 8.15 pm

Melbourne Town Hall Wed 8 Sep, 5.30 pm – 6.45 pm

Port Phillip Wed 8 Sep; 7 pm – 8.15 pm

Yarra Sun 12 Sep; 3 pm – 4.15 pm

Moreland Mon 13 Sep; 7 pm – 8.15 pm



Commuters will meet state candidates face-to-face at town hall transport forums in some of Melbourne's most hotly contested state seats.

Organised by the Metropolitan Transport Forum (MTF), the town hall transport forums will feature speakers from the major parties and questions from the community.

MTF Chair, Yarra Councillor, Jackie Fristacky, said the public had many questions about Melbourne's public transport.

'We are holding forums in municipalities where opinions about transport could have a real impact on the outcome of the 27 November State election,' she said.

Forums are being held at Melbourne, St Kilda, Brunswick, Richmond, Box Hill and Maribyrnong town halls in the weeks after the 21 August federal poll.

These areas include hotly contested seats of Brunswick, Richmond, Prahran, Mitcham, Forest Hill and Burwood. It also includes the recently highlighted Footscray area.

'We are anticipating that the public's attention will swing to key state issues like public transport, planning and infrastructure after the federal election.

Cr Fristacky said that the forums would look at a range of citywide and local issues.

'Our recent online survey showed that people see improvements in public transport as a high priority. There's no doubt that public transport, planning and infrastructure will be major topics in the state election.'

The pt4me2 What Moves You, What Moves Your Vote survey received over 10,500 responses, and highlighted many local issues, including:

Moreland: more frequent services, especially on the Upfield line;

Port Phillip: much needed upgrade to Balaclava Station;

Yarra: rail to Doncaster; more frequent services; and more segregated bike paths;

Whitehorse: development of the Box Hill transport interchange; and extending the tram to Knox;

Maribyrnong: Westlink; more frequent and reliable services; and better buses.

'The forums are an ideal opportunity for the public to hear the parties' plans for improved public transport and ask questions about important local services,' she said.

More information: www.pt4me2.org.au

Greg Day, pt4me2 media liaison, 0418 345 829

Full list of confirmed speakers

Whitehorse 30 Aug 6.15 pm – 7.30 pm, Box Hill Town Hall

ALP: Brian Tee, MLC Eastern Metro and Parliamentary Secretary Public Transport

Greens: Damian Magner, Greens candidate LC Eastern metro

Liberal: Robert Clark, MLA Box Hill and Shadow Attorney General and Finance

Maribyrnong Mon 6 Sep 7 pm – 8.15 pm, Maribyrnong council offices

ALP: Marsha Thomson, MLA Footscray and Parliamentary Secretary (Justice)

Greens: Colleen Hartland, MLC Western Metro

Liberal: Bernie Finn, MLC Western Metro

Melbourne CBD: Wed 8 Sep 5.30 pm - 6.45 pm, Melbourne Town Hall Supper Room

ALP: Martin Pakula, MLC and Minister for Public Transport and Industrial Relations

Liberal: Terry Mulder, MLA and Shadow Minister for Public Transport and Roads

Greens: Greg Barber, MLC Northern Metro

Port Phillip Wed 8 Sep 7 pm – 8.15 pm, St Kilda Town Hall

ALP: Martin Foley, MLA Albert Park; Tony Lupton, MLA Prahran

Greens: Phillip Walker, candidate for Caulfield

Liberal: David Southwick, candidate for Caulfield

Yarra Sun 12 Sep 3 pm – 4.15 pm, Richmond Town Hall

ALP: The Hon Richard Wynne, MLA Richmond and Minister for Housing, Local Government and Aboriginal Affairs

Greens: Kathleen Maltzahn, candidate for Richmond

Liberal: Matthew Guy, MLC Northern Metro and Shadow Minister for Planning

Moreland Mon 13 Sep 7 pm – 8.15 pm, Brunswick Town Hall

ALP: Cr Jane Garrett, candidate for Brunswick

Greens: Cyndi Dawes, candidate for Brunswick

Liberal: Matthew Guy, MLC Northern Metro and Shadow Minister for Planning