

# MIN SWAN

Sunshine Coast Mayoral Candidate

#minformayor #teammin



February 2024

To the members of MTAG,

Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit my views on transport and densification.

As I mentioned on the telephone to Tracey, my preference to completing the survey is to provide you with an overview of my position and priorities as Mayor of the Sunshine Coast with regards to this topic.

A key reason for running for Mayor of the Sunshine Coast is the criticality of the next four years in influencing the future for the region in relation to infrastructure investment and the planning scheme review. As a long-term local, business owner and parent, you can be assured of my commitment to the future of the Sunshine Coast and balancing the forecasted growth projections with the unique personality of the Sunshine Coast, not the Gold Coast.

Here are my commitments:

- 1) **Commitment to passenger rail to Maroochydore** – I will strongly advocate with all levels of government, community and business groups to present a unified approach to the delivery of passenger rail (Direct Sunshine Coast Rail) from Beerwah to Maroochydore, utilising leverage opportunities of election periods and the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. I have been an active member for advocacy of this project in the business community and in my community roles.
- 2) **Creating a unified voice** – My Mayoral commitment is to create a clear and certain plan for our future, with deep conviction to deliver a powerful voice when representing the region. This needs to occur by bringing the Sunshine Coast community along for the journey and working to create a unified voice. I will immediately implement a Mayoral Advisory Group focused on liveability to guide conversation and seek creative solutions to the planning scheme review and integrated transport strategy. I firmly believe in the power of presenting a unified approach and am not afraid of constructive conversations that could lead to the right outcome for the Sunshine Coast.
- 3) **Public Transport Connection** – the passenger rail solution needs to be coupled with public transport for connectivity. A priority being Maroochydore to Caloundra connecting key infrastructure such as Sunshine Coast University Hospital.

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Other known areas of concern from my community and business involvement are Sunshine Coast Airport connectivity, Coolumburra, Nambour, Hinterland, University of the Sunshine Coast and the enablement of the night-time economy. I am sure throughout the election campaign more will come to light.

I would define myself as mode agnostic and will continue to seek the best solution to our connectivity issues, in consultation with TMR, State Government, and community and business groups, such as MTAG.

- 4) **Behavioural change and identification of hurdles** – alongside infrastructure implementation needs to be a meaningful people focused change behaviour assessment and program in place. I am already activating conversations in this arena to formulate a plan to solve the lack of use of existing infrastructure and look for short-term solutions to the current options provided that create hurdles for use.

I will seek to review the effectiveness of the Sunshine Coast Council ThinkChange™ travel behaviour change program that was developed as part of Integrated Transport Strategy. Understanding and working with people is a core skill of mine and I will provide a balanced approach to the hard and soft infrastructure required to deliver a viable solution.

- 5) **Active transport** – I believe a movement towards active transport is important to reduce future motor vehicle use for those that are open to this mode. A continuation on the focus for safe corridors for active transport will form part of the Integrated Transport Strategy, and I will actively work with key stakeholders on how we can improve pathways and active transport corridors. I would especially like to reinforce practices for active transport amongst our youth, however as a parent I understand the need to feel safe to allow our children to participate.
- 6) **Assessing creative solutions** - as the world evolves with new technologies and behavioural patterns, I will be committed to evaluating and continually seeking new solutions.
- 7) **Planning Scheme** – I am committed to a balanced approach to development and planning for population growth while protecting our way of life. A key priority of my Mayoral candidacy is to provide certainty, direction and a shared vision which includes a core focus on the revision of the Planning Scheme.

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I appreciate it is difficult to please everyone, however under my leadership they will get a voice that is heard and included through the Mayoral Advisory Group and other forums.

My current involvement in transport infrastructure forums has been far more extensive than the planning scheme and so throughout the campaign I seek to further understand the various viewpoints on the 2024 revision of the Planning Scheme to place me in an informed position for involvement in the process. I have met with several organisations and continue to form a specific position. A presentation by Sunshine Coast Council team on the revised Planning Scheme that is currently with State Government for review is a key priority. Prior to this consultation that may outline why another option is preferable, I currently align to a plan for pockets of densification, and the identification of a variety of housing solutions that suit new generational change, as well as a commitment to focus on designing a Sunshine Coast unique to us. I believe we have a region that can set the standard for other regions on how to balance growth and lifestyle and can work with experts and community groups on outcomes that will deliver such. As part of my research, I am keen to understand your position on developer leniency and privacy outcomes to assist in formulating a view on these issues.

I am a consultative, collaborative leader that commits to continued and on-going relationships with key stakeholders based on respect. You can be assured of my strong desire to protect our region for future generations and seek outcomes that are Sunshine Coast centric. This is my commitment under a new era of leadership.

I welcome and would be incredibly grateful for a meeting with MTAG to further understand your viewpoints, history and your key priorities for the future of the Sunshine Coast.

Warmest regards,

**Min Swan**

Candidate for Sunshine Coast Mayor

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