

# Sunshine Coast Mass Transit Action Group Inc. (MTAG)

## March 2024

### Divisional Councillor Candidate Questionnaire

As a key advocacy groups on the Sunshine Coast, we are seeking your views on public transport and housing densification in the region. Please be advised your responses will be collated and made public as we believe all voters should be aware of your position on these two key issues prior to voting. No response will be taken to mean you agree with the following:

1. The current Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) Southern Sunshine Coast Public transport strategy and their decision to proceed with Rapid Bus Transit in a dedicated lane along our coastal strip.
2. The current Sunshine Coast Regional Council plan to house the large majority of the future population growth out to 2041, in the Coastal corridor between Maroochydore and Caloundra.

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|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|--|
| Name of candidate:   | Deborah Moseley | 19.02.20<br>24 |  |
| Division contesting: | 7               |                |  |

## Section 1: Transport

- 1 Do you think two public transport spinal networks (Heavy Rail from Beerwah to Maroochydore and a Mass Transit system from Maroochydore to Birtinya) with feeder networks running to them, is the best public transport system for the region?**

NO

- 2 If NO, and you are elected, will you advocate to TMR for a different Sunshine Coast Public Transport strategy?**

YES/NO

I am not in favour of densification of the coastal strip. I am in favour of free and frequent (smaller) buses on the coastal strip this has less impact and does not leave ratepayers with large debt for infrastructure which is likely to become obsolete once AI driven vehicles are common place in a couple of decades.

- 3 Do you support a Rapid Bus Transit system in a dedicated right of way along our coastal corridor?**

YES

- 4 What will you do to improve public transport now?**

Response: We need to improve the reliability, frequency and dependability of public transport. eg: Sydney's Northern Beaches used to have poor support, but once they had 10 minute services with bus lanes the take up has been incredible, and minimise car congestion.

- 5 What do you think should be the priority for better public transport in the future?**

Response: Affordable, reliable, quicker and more frequent. Smart links with smaller more agile systems in less populated areas of the coast. Greens policy is for Free buses. Share bookable community taxis will serve hinterland and less populated areas, ensuring equity of access.

## Section 2: SCRC 2024 Draft Planning Scheme

**6 Do you support the current plan to put the large majority of new arrivals out to 2041 within the Coastal Corridor? (Maroochydore to Caloundra)?**

NO

**7 What does high-rise mean to you (how many storeys)?**

Response: That depends where we are talking about. I think it was crazy to move the city away from established areas like Nambour where the impact of high rise will cause minimal harm, and provide (hopefully) good heavy rail links. The coast is our major attraction, and vulnerable to climate change. I'd go 10 story high in Nambour and 5 near the coast, but I admit that I have not studied the details of this.

**8 Do you think housing densification should occur along the Heavy Passenger Rail Corridor rather than the Mass Transit Coastal Corridor?**

YES

The infrastructure is in place on the old rail line. HOpefully the dual line is fast tracked. We should be densifying population where there is least impact on roads and our environment.

**9 If you are an existing Councillor, did you vote in favour of the current draft 2024 Planning Scheme?**

NO

**10 If you are elected, will you vote to review the draft 2024 Planning Scheme, in particular the densification of the coastal corridor?**

YES

**11 As a Divisional Councillor, what will you do to ensure we do not become another Gold Coast?**

Response: Let's use our beautiful assets to encourage healthy transport and experiences: more active transport options and community led attractions, rather than development led. We must empower our communities to come together to develop shared values, conserving our beautiful environment, community gardens to engage all ages to come together. Community that knows and respects our natural and cultural heritage.

**12 Do you think the current planning decision making process is too lenient toward developers, especially in regard to site coverage, set backs and density?**

YES

We have all seen the decline in our water quality as developers get away with clearing all vegetation and allowing top soil and nutrients to be washed away into our waterways. I have seen developers bulldoze our First Nations Cultural Heritage- an area that has effective NO protection, even though it is older than the pyramids and teaches us to understand the history of our land. First Nations people must be involved in the decision making.

When one developer clear fell 16 ac of bushland near me, I was told that the council didn't have the money to pay for the legal processes that would hold the developer to be accountable.

**13 Do you think all Development Applications should require Council to notify all adjoining neighbours?**

YES

Certain classes of DA will make little material difference to the immediate community or the environment. Where community, ecosystems or First Nations connection to land is impacted,

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|  | consultation must occur. |
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**14 As a Divisional Councillor, what will you do to achieve better development outcomes for the region and your Division?**

Response: Trees will have a financial value that is owned by the community (as in Europe) - to clear a tree there will be a scale based on the age and ecological and cultural heritage value of the tree. The person clearing the tree will be required to compensate the community for the value of that tree. That money will be used to replace the trees capacity to contribute to the ecosystem.

I will advocate for the First Nations representative to be in Planning and Development to ensure that all First Nations Cultural Heritage is protected.

Communities will be consulted on all developments over a certain size.