

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.

Name of candidate:	Tracy Burton	Date:	31 January 2024
Division contesting:	Division 5		

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?

YES/NO Yes

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

YES/NO Yes

If YES what?

Besides the spinal networks and the MTS, other needs may arise with ongoing community consultation. For example, greater effectiveness of services between our region's towns is a possible extension. And, other possible extensions based on efficient transport to-and-from employment between towns.

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

YES/NO Yes

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

Response:

Advocate in Council for greater public transport services from the region's towns to major services on the Sunshine Coast. For example, efficient public transport from Maleny to SCUH at appropriate times.

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

Response:

Servicing our regions towns. Based on the diversity of needs within our communities.

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)?

YES/NO Yes

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

Response:

For that strip, the residential limit should be no more than 5-6 storeys. - depending on the proximity density of these buildings to each other.

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

YES/NO No

Explain why?

Should be both. So that the overall social impact is miminised.

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

YES/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/NO Yes

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

Response:

Limit high-rise density and keep our coastal attractions well within easy access for residents. And, integrate design with significant green space.

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/NO Yes

Why?

There is not enough of a requirement for neighbours and local community to be part of the decision making process.

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

YES/NO Yes

If YES, what will you do to try and make this happen?

Propose an appropriate amendment to the planing scheme to enable the need for widespread notification.

14 As a Divisional Councillor, what will you do to achieve better development outcomes for the region and your Division?

Response:

Firstly, listen to the local residents with ongoing engagement and participation in decision making.

