

Darebin Council Elections 2020: Questions for Candidates

23rd September, 2020

Dear Candidate,

Below is a list of questions compiled on behalf of Darebin community groups; Darebin Progress Association, Darebin Residents Group, Save THE Preston Market and Darebin Appropriate Development Association.

The aim is to supply our members answers to question most important them in the hope it will aid their voting choices in the upcoming council election.

We have aimed to keep the impost on your time to a minimum by posing most questions for yes or no answers with some also asking how you might achieve the answer as a Councillor.

Your answers will be posted, unedited, on our websites and Facebook pages for maximum coverage to our members across Darebin.

Please leave a YES or a NO and remove or cross out the answer you don't want.

GENERAL RESPONSE

Name: _____KATHY ZISIADIS___ Ward: _____SOUTH CENTRAL WARD_____

Please tell us in 50 words the main reason you are running for Council and your top three issues you want council to adopt

AS A PROUD LONG-TERM RESIDENT OF DAREBIN, I HAVE LOVED RAISING MY CHILDREN IN SUCH A DIVERSE AND MULTICULTURAL ENVIRONMENT. I HAVE A GENUINE INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND AM PASSIONATE ABOUT IMPROVING THE WELL -BEING OF RESIDENTS THROUGH - FAIR TAXES; RATES RELIEF; ADVOCATE FOR 'SHOPPING LOCALLY' TO BOOST JOBS AND BUSINESS GROWTH; GREEN LIVING; HEALTH AND SAFETY; APPROPRIATE SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS.

GOVERNANCE, ACCOUNTABILTY AND TRANSPARANCY

One of the glaring weaknesses of the majority of current councillors has been their inability/failure to accept that they represent the community. The following questions



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require a simple yes/no/how answer to demonstrate your commitment to important democratic procedures.

1. Will you support complete transparency in issues affecting the community?

YES - YES	NO
HOW? I WILL ENGAGE IN TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES VALUING FAIRNESS AND INCLUSION, WHILE LISTENING WITH COMPASSION AND AN OPEN MIND AND ACT WITH INTEGRITY TO GET THE JOB DONE.	

2. Would you guarantee regular meetings with the community by all means available?

YES YES	NO
HOW? ORGANISING MEETINGS WITH THE COMMUNITY.	

3. Will you actively consult with community groups prior to any local by-laws being enacted?

YES YES	NO
HOW? YES I WILL ACTIVELY COMMUNICATE WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS AND VOICE THEIR OPINIONS AND CONCERNS PRIOR TO ANY LOCAL BY-LAWS BEING ENACTED.	

4. Would you restructure Public Question Time in allow questions directly to Councillors?

YES	NO
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5. Will you support a review of the Council newsletter to make it more informative, regular and representative?

YES YES	NO
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6. Will you ensure Advisory Committees recommendations are heard in General Council meetings?

YES YES	NO
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7. Will you work for the community and not to serve any political party?

YES YES	NO
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8. Will you insist on an annual staff survey and make it available to the community?



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YES YES	NO
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9. Will you listen to the Community’s opinions when motions for spending and approvals for planning are brought before Council?

YES YES	NO
HOW? YES I WILL LISTEN TO COMMUNITY’S OPINIONS WITH COMPASSION AND VOICE COMMUNITY’S OPINIONS TO COUNCIL.	

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Will you oppose the demolition and relocation of the Preston Market elsewhere on the site and actively support its retention?

YES YES	NO
HOW? YES I WILL FIGHT TO PROTECT PRESTON MARKET’S 50 YEARS OF HERITAGE AND FIGHT TO PROTECT LONG-TERM TRADERS AND KEEP THE MARKET IN ITS CURRENT LOCATION. I WILL VOICE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY, STAND BY THE COMMUNITY, SIGN PETITIONS AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION TO SERVE MY COMMUNITY.	

2. Will you support mandatory heights limits be applied to the Preston Market site?

YES YES	NO
HOW? YES WE NEED APPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT WITH OPEN SPACES NO SHADOWING AND HEIGHT LIMITS TO BE IMPLEMENTED FOR THE PRESTON MARKET SITE. I WILL VOICE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY, STAND BY THE COMMUNITY, SIGN PETITIONS AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION TO SERVE MY COMMUNITY.	

3. Will you oppose the practice of trading off of objectives and standards, such as height limits in the planning scheme that can result in poorer outcomes but gets developments built in Darebin?

YES	NO
HOW? I WILL VOICE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY, STAND BY THE COMMUNITY, SIGN PETITIONS AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION.	



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4. Do you agree to a complete review of the Darebin Planning Scheme including consultation with community groups and members to ensure it is clearer in its intent, eg: applies mandatory heights to development plans, better protects neighborhood character and increases neighbourhood residential zoning?

YES YES	NO
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5. Will you support the Open Space Levy and Developer Contribution Levy that adequately increases the amount of land dedicated to open space in order to meet the future needs of Darebin's growing population and ensure that the money is spent in the general locale of where the development occurs?

YES YES	NO
HOW? HOW? I WILL VOICE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY, STAND BY THE COMMUNITY, SIGN PETITIONS AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION.	

6. Will you support a review of the Planning Committee Charter to give objectors more time to present their case, to allow at least one councillor to call up planning applications and, release the agenda papers and reports at least seven days ahead of meetings and to allow residents to ask questions and make submissions?

YES YES	NO
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AGED CARE AND DISABILITY SERVICES

1. Will you support Council having an ongoing role in the direct delivery of home support care services to eligible older people and people with a disability in Darebin?

YES YES	NO
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2. Will you support Council subsidising the cost of home care services to eligible residents?

YES YES	NO
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3. Will you support Council continuing to directly deliver to eligible older residents and people with a disability the following :

● home support services;	YES YES	NO
● personal care,	YES YES	NO
● shopping,	YES YES	NO
● respite,	YES YES	NO
● food services,	YES YES	NO
● home care,	YES YES	NO



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• community transport,	YES YES	NO
• home maintenance	YES YES	NO

4. Will you oppose further restrictions of eligibility criteria for home care services in Darebin?

YES YES	NO
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5. Will you agree to support Council becoming a registered home care provider?

YES YES	NO
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6. Will you agree to maintain at least \$6m in council co-funding for age care services and provide open financial reporting of aged care services?

YES YES	NO
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FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND SERVICES

1. Will you campaign and vote to provide more public facilities eg; toilet facilities, bins, footpaths upgrade, bike paths, Outdoor Gyms, upgrading parks, and regular removal of graffiti and litter in Darebin?

YES YES	NO
<p>HOW? YES I WILL CAMPAIGN FOR MORE AMENITIES, FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACES (GREEN LIVING) IN OUR COMMUNITY. I WILL VOICE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY, STAND BY THE COMMUNITY, CAMPAIGN, SIGNING PETITIONS, AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION.</p>	

2. Will you vote for balanced services and equal spend across all of Darebin, particularly Reservoir, including rebuilding to the Reservoir Leisure Centre?

YES YES	NO
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3. Will you oppose unsubstantiated use of money spent on consultants?

YES YES	NO
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4. Will you vote for more parking and vote against blanket parking restrictions?

YES YES	NO
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5. Will you support Council in making publically available more detailed financial reporting on departmental, program and project expenditure?

YES YES	NO
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● **ENVIRONMENT**

1. Given that we are in a climate emergency and everyone; individuals, corporations and all three levels of government must be part of mitigation and adaptation, are you prepared to commit to strong action on global warming?

YES YES	NO
<p>HOW? GLOBAL WARMING IS AN ISSUE. TAKING APPROPRIATE AND ADEQUATE ACTION TO SLOW DOWN GLOBAL WARMING IS NECESSARY TO SAVE OUR PLANET. I WILL VOICE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY, STAND BY THE COMMUNITY, CAMPAIGN, SIGNING PETITIONS, AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION.</p>	

2. Will you bring policies to Council that will make a real improvement at a local level to Darebin’s environment and biodiversity?

YES YES	NO
<p>HOW? (please provide examples) Advocate for - All Products and packaging to be made from fully recycled material to help the environment.</p>	

3. Darebin Council set up both Climate Emergency Darebin and the Darebin Nature Trust as key initiatives very early in their term. What do you know about these two entities and their specific achievements?

	<p>1. Darebin to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2030 to meet all Australia’s energy needs. 2. Reform planning laws and building standards to zero emissions by 2023.</p>
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4. Have they been effective?

YES ONGOING REFORM	NO
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In order to share this information to voters please return your responses to the sender in a



Darebin Council Elections 2020: Questions for Candidates

Word, PDF or JPEG document by the 30th September 2020.

Thank you.

On behalf of:

Darebin Progress

Association: <https://www.facebook.com/Darebin-Progress-Association-163813440325401/>

Save THE Preston Market Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/4553059228098235/>

Darebin Appropriate Development Association: <https://www.darebinada.org/> and

Darebin Residents Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/695607447257408>

