



## Wyndham City Council

### Harrison Ward

#### Candidate, Harrison Ward – Jasmine Hill

##### **If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Wyndham?**

I would love to see much more walking and cycling in the community. The primary way that we can encourage the people of Wyndham to cycle is by providing safe infrastructure to do so. Ideally this would be by separated bicycle paths that are physically separated from cars and trucks on roads, which is a big factor in discouraging people from cycling. When people feel they are safe it will encourage more trips by bicycle. With our relatively new suburbs in Wyndham, this comes into town planning, giving a viable alternative from the start.

Many of the routes available to us do not connect to each other – for example, Federation trail does not connect to the Skeleton Creek trail without riding on the roads, as well as to Melbourne CBD. With these missing connections – even small improvements would make a big difference. Even when bicycle infrastructure is present, it is often not fit for purpose. For example, the metal surface on “shared” path near Laverton station is dangerously slippery when wet – and Federation Trail is too often flooded.

The city of Wyndham is so beautiful, including our rivers and beaches. Over the last decade there have been several excellent proposals to make these more accessible via bicycle. I would love to see these improvements, which will see Wyndham become more attractive to cycle, not only for local residents, but also as a destination. Some of these include (a) the Wyndham Bay Trail – extending the Coastal trail so that it extends to Wyndham Harbour, (b) The Werribee River Trail – particularly along beside the spectacular red cliffs, eventually connecting to Melton hopefully, and (c) a connection between Wyndham (and Melbourne) to Geelong, a bicycle trip which I recently completed. A lot of people would be excited to cycle around to our own beaches, not just limited to going to the Altona beach which is what I often do.

##### **When you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride?**

I love exploring different places. Usually I ride from Point Cook to Altona Beach, as there is a very nice and safe bike path leading from my house all the way to the beach.

##### **Are you satisfied with the progress being made with your council's bike strategy?**

Could have been better, there are so many opportunities that can be made to support bike riders and walkers. Even though there have been some of changes made that had been made to support bike riders over the years. However, a lot of the bike paths have missing links, also, due to the



upgrade/constructions of roads, some of the bike paths have been broken for years. All these makes it quite challenging to ride as there were no consideration made to the bike riders especially the disjoined links, plus there are other issues that discourage bike riders from riding or commuting such as unsafe or insufficient bicycle parking.



## Candidate, Harrison Ward - Eli Muse

Been a follower of this network and I love cycling. I have been disappointed over the lack of action on our bike strategy in Wyndham.

I am running in the upcoming election for Harrison Ward and will be a passionate advocate for more connected cycle ways and infrastructure in Wyndham.

You can read more on my thoughts on improving cycling in Wyndham here  
<https://bit.ly/3qZiCja>

I hope to be in touch and hopefully after winning the election to work with interested groups to get some actions.