

14 November 2022

Alex Breskin, Candidate for South-East Metro

Victorian Greens

RESPONSE:

What is your view regarding the current active transport infrastructure in your electorate?

The South-East Metro has many holes when it comes to active transport and residents have come to me frustrated with how hard it is to abandon their cars in favour of bicycles.

The cities in our region have been crying out for funding for better cycling infrastructure across the board, and they have advocated to state government for funding to develop amazing active transport projects. These include transforming the Nepean Highway in Frankston to drastically improve cyclist safety with their Nepean Boulevard advocacy, intersection improvements across the City of Casey to improve cyclist priority, as well as the completion of the Djerring Trail for cycling between Caulfield Station and Yarraman Station.

We welcome the projects developed by our cities to improve active transport. Big, interconnected projects that improve cyclist access and safety is what we need.

What actions will you take to improve active transport in your electorate?

My priorities would be to see these programs put in place by the cities of Frankston, Casey and Greater Dandenong.

I also call on the City of Kingston and VicRoads to put forward a project across the Nepean Highway to improve safety for cyclists, especially from where the Bay Trail ends in Mordialloc and taking it beyond to connect it with Frankston City's Nepean Boulevard project. I am aware they are currently undergoing their consultation process to develop their next cycling plan and this would be a natural fit to have a truly interconnected cycling network along our bay.

Active transport spending at the state level is less than 2 per cent. In your view, what is a 'fair spend' for active transport?

The Victorian Greens have committed \$2.5 billion dollars over the next four years to implement a 'Big Bike Build' with hundreds of kilometres of safe and separated bike superhighways and more safe pedestrian crossings, upgraded footpaths and walkable neighbourhoods across the state.

With transport as Victoria's biggest growing source of emissions, governments must do more to support people to make the switch to climate-friendly transport like bike riding and walking.

The Greens' plan would move Victoria towards the goal of active transport funding being 10 - 20 per cent of transport capital funding as recommended by the United Nations.

As part of the power sharing government in Ireland, the Greens have increased active transport funding to 20 per cent, while in Scotland they have increased it to 10 per cent and here in Victoria we should be aiming for the same.