

5 November 2022

Marley McRae McLeod, Candidate for Macedon

Victorian Greens

### **RESPONSE:**

"I'll preface my response by saying that I understand more than two-thirds of people in Victoria want to walk and ride their bikes more. But Victoria doesn't have enough safe bike lanes, walking paths and crossings, so people don't always have the option. Here is the Greens state policy on biking <https://greens.org.au/vic/platform/transport#safer-bike-lanes> and The Greens will make the big banks, property developers and the gambling industry pay their fair share of tax so we can invest in climate action, affordable housing and public services for all.

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

Macedon is pretty well resourced with bike trails which run throughout our electorate for the recreational and usually proficient rider. I feel this area of the biking community that is well looked after. My priorities would be to increase commuter or town specific active transport infrastructure and awareness in our numerous town centres. We need more dedicated bike lanes which link into all areas of our towns and those bike lanes have to be connected to our train stations to ensure our biking community feels safe and confident in riding to the places they need to go when they need to go. Our foot paths in our town centres are okay, but have a long way to go in order to be DDA compliant so that everyone has access to safe movement and I believe all of our footpaths need shading so people can move any time of year, especially when the sun is out - a shaded footpath is always more appealing to walk along, if there is no shade people are more inclined to use their car or wait out until the sun has gone down.

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

- Advocate for safer and more active transport options for Macedon.
- Follow and listen to local groups, like Transport Action Group from the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group, that do the important work to understand active transport needs in our area. A clear example of this is the Black Forest Drive Safety Improvements design which is currently out for comment. This project is the perfect opportunity to get an active transport corridor between Woodend

and Gisborne for our commuter community.

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

This is not a fair spend when 2/3 of our people want to walk and ride more. The Greens have a plan for a Big Bike Build of hundreds of kilometres of separated bike lanes and paths across metropolitan Melbourne and regional centres. We also want upgrades to our streets, footpaths and crossings to make them safer and easier for people to walk around and will make the budget reflect what is require to make that happen.”