



*26 Melbourne councils working together for better transport
on behalf of over 4 million residents*
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Event notice and media release

Cycling and the Federal Election: Which party loves cycling as much as you do?

Free online forum organised by local government to hear what the major parties will do to support cycling.

Thursday 24 February 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm

Register now <https://bit.ly/mtftix>

Local government is hosting an online forum to give the major parties and a prominent independent a forum to peddle their cycling policies before the Federal election.

Representing 26 Melbourne Council, Metropolitan Transport Forum Cycling Ambassador Cr Tom Melican said the growing popularity of cycling was attracting the attention of political thinkers as we get set for the federal election.

'Cycling has emerged as a great recreation as well as COVID safe way to get around,' he said.

'There is a lot that all levels of government, including Canberra, can do to get more people cycling now and in the future.

'In the last Federal election, over \$500 million was promised on commuter car parks at stations.

'Investment in cycling infrastructure and ways to make cycling safer could deliver great value for communities – both in the cities and regions.

'The pandemic has also drawn attention to the health benefits of cycling, especially for mental health and well-being.

'The cycling boom is not all about commuter cycling. The work from home revolution has increased the demand for safer, easier local cycling.

'More home-based workers are jumping on their bike to grab a coffee, get the kids from school or do some local shopping.

'More households are questioning the need to have multiple cars in favour of using the bike for local trips. It's cheaper, healthier and offers a break from the screen.

'The forum is chance for the parties to recognise the community's interest in cycling,' he said.

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Event panel: candidates who love cycling

Senator Janet Rice: Greens Senator for Victoria and lifelong transport activist.

Andrew Giles MP (Scullin): ALP Shadow Minister for Cities and Urban Infrastructure

Monique Ryan: Independent candidate for Kooyong

Liberal / National: TBC

Contact: Cr Tom Melican, MTF Cycling ambassador

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Metropolitan Transport Forum represents 26 Melbourne councils on transport issues.

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Media liaison

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