

Motion for submission to the MAV State Council May 2023

Title
Create environmentally sustainable forms of transport.
Motion
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That MAV requests the State Government:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) commit to creating a State that is climate-safe, equitable and liveable for all residents and visitors through ensuring an accessible and reliable public transport network.b) commit to the permanency of the Strategic Cycling Corridors pop-up bike lanes and that these will remain a priority for the State Government.
Rationale for Motion
Why is this a state issue and why should this be endorsed by the MAV? (Maximum 300 words)
<p>Investing in sustainable transport initiatives, which fund and improve walking and cycling corridors, improve accessibility and create zero carbon public transport is vital.</p> <p>Specifically, the development and rollout of Strategic Cycling Corridors that are safe and effective. In 2020, the State Government announced 100kms of new and improved pop-up bike routes to make it easier and safer for people to ride to and from Melbourne's CBD. Despite the Department of Transport indicating the pop-up bike lanes will be in place for 12-18 months and converted to permanent routes if successful, there has yet to be a sincere decision confirmed. This is despite users of the pop-up bike lanes indicating they now feel safer, and data showing that more children and families are using the road. Additionally, these corridors will lead to a reduction in traffic congestion, improved air and noise quality and improved local economic outcomes.</p> <p>Secondly, we need to work together to improve accessibility to public transport for every member of our community by upgrading all trams and tram stops to be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1992. Melbourne's tram network is a crucial public transport mode, with 205 million trips taken each year. The DDA requires that all tram stops must be fully compliant with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (DSAPT) by 31 December 2022 and all trams must be DSAPT compliant by 31 December 2032. An October 2020, Victorian Auditor-General report highlighted that failure to meet these targets is likely to breach legislation. It would also mean that people with mobility restrictions will continue to face practical and physical barriers when trying to access the tram network.</p> <p>It is imperative to invest in such initiatives, delivering on-the-ground improvements, ensuring easier and safer commuting and embracing low and zero carbon transport options.</p>