

Sunday  
Forums  
#4

progressive  
port phillip



# Local Climate Action Now!

A forum in  
partnership with

**PORT PHILLIP  
EMERGENCY  
CLIMATE  
ACTION  
NETWORK**

**2.30pm, Sun 25 August 2024**  
325 Dorcas St, Sth Melbourne



# Local Government Act 2020

- Strengthened mandate for councils to act on climate change:
  - ❖ “Councils are required to promote the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, *including mitigation and planning for climate change risks.*”
- Councils also required to give priority to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, *including future generations.*

DELWP (2020), Local Government Climate Change Adaptation Roles and Responsibilities under Victorian Legislation: Guidance for local government decision-makers, Victorian Government, Melbourne.



Feb 2019

PECAN's Heat Fire & Flood event called for stronger  
Council action on climate

Sept 2019

Council declared a Climate  
Emergency





## Councillor voting patterns on Sustainability and Climate Action

21 Feb 2021-17 Apr 2024

In this Council term, four councillors have consistently voted against action on the climate emergency and to enhance sustainability. They are Crs Sirakoff, Clark, Bond and Pearl. Crs Crawford, Baxter, Copsey (to end 2022), Cr Nyaguy (from March 2023) and Cr Cunsolo (with the exception of two motions in the table \*) supported these measures.

Motion	Voted against the motion:			
	Sirakoff	Clark	Bond	Pearl
<b>17 Feb 21</b> Include mention of addressing the Climate Emergency in the Council's Strategic Directions	X	X	X	X
<b>15 May 21</b> Endorsement to progress the Inkerman Safe Travel Corridor Project including developing concept design options for the corridor	X	X	X	X
<b>23 June 21</b> \$50,000 to give free access for Port Phillip Residents to Ripponlea Estate Gardens (access to open space for East St Kilda residents who have little )	X	X	X	X
<b>23 June 21</b> Support for local bike programs to continue	X	X	X	X
<b>23 June 21</b> \$20,000 for Enviro Leaders Course and Sustainable Business Network	X	X	X	X
<b>1 September 21</b> Endorsement to pursue funding & delivery of specific pop-up bike lanes proposals through the DoT's \$13M Pop-Up Bike Lane Program.	X	X	X	X
<b>3 November 21</b> Motion for CEO to prepare a costed proposal on options to develop a five-year Climate Emergency Action Plan, for Council to effectively take action on the Climate Emergency.	X	X	Abstained	X
<b>16 March 22</b> Council contribution to Elsternwick Park Masterplan: 350k to Bayside CC & 600k in Reserve for flood mitigation & water quality in Elster Creek Catchment.	X	X	X	X

Motion	Sirakoff	Clark	Bond	Pearl
<b>15 June 22</b> Endorsement to participate in Stage 2 of the Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets Project, including progressing an amendment to the Port Phillip Planning Scheme.	X	X	X	X
<b>17 August 22</b> Review the Act and Adapt Strategy and develop Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan	X	On leave	X	Abstained
<b>16 November 22</b> Explore the establishment of a South Eastern Councils Biodiversity Network (Hobson's Bay, Melbourne, Port Phillip, Kingston, Frankston, Mornington Shire and Bayside).	X	X	Abstained	Supported
<b>20 June 23</b> Further consider request for longer than 10 year lease for EcoCentre as part of separate lease negotiations	X	X	Supported	X
<b>16 August 23</b> Include advocacy to re-instate a protected bike lane in the State Government's Shrine to Sea project as recommended by Council officers *	X	On leave	X	X
<b>4 October 23</b> Increase the lease for the EcoCentre from the Officers' recommendation of 15 years to 21 years. (Amendment moved Baxter and Crawford) *	X	X	X	X
<b>1 November 23</b> Adoption of revised Act & Adapt Sustainability Policy and new Climate Emergency Action Plan with amendment to review in 12 months	X	X	Abstained	X
<b>21 February 24</b> Approve a lease of 15 years for the EcoCentre	X	X	X	X
<b>17 April 24</b> Additional funding (\$51,000) for the EcoCentre to cover CPI increases	X	X	X	X
<b>17 April 24</b> Additional funding for the EcoCentre to enable opening on Saturdays and Sundays (\$68,000)	X	X	X	X

Then  
what  
.....?

A  
Council  
divided





# Climate Emergency Action Plan 2023-28

portphillip.vic.gov.au

- **Climate Emergency Action Plan**  
narrowly adopted 23 November 2023
  - ❖ A vote of 5 to 4
- Business as usual
  - ❖ Very little new spending
  - ❖ Little sense of urgency
- PECAN had lobbied hard for stronger action to no avail
  - ❖ Current divisions on Council & opposition to spending \$\$
  - ❖ Officers reluctant to propose bold action in that context