

Phil Bradley Greens candidate:

Responses to Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust and Epping Civic Trust Questions

Beecroft Cheltenham residents voted, in a survey conducted by their Civic Trust, that the single biggest issue for them was noise from the M2. This noise is markedly louder than what was predicted and appears to have increased since the opening of the North Connex. If elected, what would you do to ameliorate this noise?

*** Firstly, I must say that the views expressed in all my responses are mine and not necessarily those of the City of Parramatta Council or of other Councillors.**

*** I opposed the construction of the M2 on its current route because of the serious environmental damage it would cause and because of its inefficiency and detrimental air and noise pollution impact on nearby residents.**

*** If elected, and even if not, I will support the construction of much more efficient noise absorption barriers informed by a more extensive noise study, and where this is likely to be ineffective, the financial compensation of affected residents.**

● The Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust has written to the current government (copy attached with no reply having been received) highlighting difficulties and inherent conflicts built into the current system of private certifiers. If elected, what would you do to address these concerns?

*** As an active volunteer member of the Better Planning Network (BPN) for many years, I have lobbied the Department of Planning and Environment numerous times to address the obvious conflict of interest in arrangements which allow developers and property owners to choose who they want to privately certify development or to conduct environmental impact statements or assessments. "They who pay the piper call the tune" is relevant here as when the property owner or builder chooses the private certifier, they can pay to get the outcome they want.**

*** As an individual and as a representative of BPN, I have argued for a regulated independently accredited list of private certifiers, and/or assesses to be used to allocate in rank order and assessor or certified to the appropriate development. The developer should be required to provide funds to the department or council for the payment of the assessment and independent monitoring of this, probably by appropriately qualified Council or Department staff. Fines for non-compliance should be significantly increased, stop work orders more readily obtained and serial or serious offenders de-registered.**

*** Some small scale code complying developments are not problematic, but many larger ones are totally unacceptable for code compliance and are often non-compliant due to inadequate private certifier approvals and/or supervision.**

*** The current planning system has been redesigned consistently by the NSW Coalition government to benefit land owners, developers and investors.**

- The State Government funded a cycle track through Beecroft and Cheltenham. This track is not connected to any track on either the north or the south, with the result that it is not connected into Sydney's regional cycle network. If elected, what would you do to address this problem?
 - **Funding the two missing cycleways links is the key to this and I support funding these by implementing a fair public value share of unearned windfall profits of wealthy landowners created by rezoning for greater density. University modelling has calculated that if NSW Implemented a 75% betterment levy model like exists in the Australian Capital Territory, this would raise about \$8.2 billion per year in NSW.**
 - **Recent changes such as the NSW government banning public value share of rezoning land value windfall increases (sometimes as much as \$100 million) will be reversed if I get my way after being elected. The Greens and Local Government NSW have already opposed the removal of public value share by the NSW Coalition government.**
 - **The Greens and I strongly support cycleways and more generally active transport links.**
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- If elected, will you commit to the State government funding much-needed public green space in Epping to replace the loss of the former Epping bowling club.
 - * **As a Parramatta Councillor, I supported moves by Councillor Davis to purchase the Epping Bowling Club land for compensatory green space, but we were not sufficiently supported due to arguments about the high cost of purchase of that land based on its development potential.**
 - * **I strongly believe that green space should be increased commensurate with any increase in population. I also oppose the view by many that this greater population driven demand for green space could be resolved simply by replacing natural turf sports fields with synthetic plastic grass, which is environmentally damaging through micro plastic shedding and can be as hot as a flesh burning 50°C on hot summer days.**
 - * **The restoration of a fair public share of the adjoining land value increase from high density rezoning would have paid for the Bowling Club land purchase. General reinstatement of fair public value share would fund the purchase of other land for public green space too.**
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- We are seeing increasing traffic problems, and we need a thoughtful approach to the increased traffic along the M2 and Epping Rd railway bridge. Trains and metros are not the answer for all commuters. If elected, what will you do?
 - * **First the State government must deliver on its promise to duplicate the Epping rail bridge as soon as possible, and this should also provide for in my view, low emissions public electric bus services, which should be free, accessible and treatment services throughout the area. More active transport links will also help.**
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- We are seeing severe loss of tree canopy throughout Epping and Beecroft/Cheltenham. The State Government issued a legislative direction that local councils must implement a Local Strategic Planning Statement with associated strategies aimed to make our communities more sustainable and more liveable. The intent of the LSPS is to preserve tree

canopy in Parramatta and Hornsby Councils but current development policies are still allowing wholesale removal of trees. If elected, what will you do to ensure NSW tree canopy targets are met? Noting in particular the future predictions of severe heating impacts in Sydney and elsewhere.

*** The Greens and I personally love trees and have been pleased to work with the late Margaret McCartney from the Epping Civic Trust to chase up numerous illegal and unapproved tree removals to the point in some cases of prosecution. As a Councillor I have also followed up on the lack of required replacement of approved tree removals by several smaller trees.**

*** On Council, I have also consistently pursued an increase in tree canopy cover throughout the local government area, which covers most of the Epping electorate. I have also lobbied for a full time Council tree inspection officer and as a volunteer Bush Regenerator with Parramatta Council Bushcare and as a long-term member of Parramatta Climate Action Network with their tree planting grant have personally planted hundreds of local native trees, shrubs and grasses.**

*** As a Parramatta Councillor I have also lobbied continuously for Council to take stronger action against global warming and in recognition of the impact of more frequent extreme heat and urban heat island effect have also been vigilant in reminding Council officers to ensure that high standards of maintenance for new plantings to maximise survival rates.**

*** The Greens of course also have much stronger policies to reduce the current high risk of runaway, irreversible dangerous global warming. Whereas the Liberal/National party Coalition and Labor have a target of 50% carbon emissions reductions by 2030, The Greens' target is 75% reduction by 2030, as this is consistent with the United Nations' climate science experts and as strongly recommended by Australia's Climate Council and Nature Conservation Council of NSW.**