

**Melbourne City Council**  
**2018 Lord Mayor By-Election**  
Candidate Statements

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**XIE, Qun**

I'm an economist, accountant, executive director and "Taxation Officer of the Year" award winner. Melbournian for 25 years. Today, we face the toughest challenges ever - cost of living, childcare and schools, aging, health and security. Here my 10 point action plan to address the issues as mayor: 1. Ensure everyone work at Melbourne Council has the highest ethical standards, disciplined, hard working to meet our community expectations. 2. Ensure childcare and medical centers, schools meet the demand of our population. 3. Establish a 1 billion "Business Development Fund" to help business in needs, encourage new technology and investments, big events and more tourists to Melbourne. 4. Start a "Vegetable Basket" project, ensure enough vegetables on offer to keep you healthy. 5. Establish a 200 million "Education Fund" to help our students. 6. More community centers and volunteer groups for our aging society. 7. Team up with State Government and Victoria Police to start a "Residents Safety" program, ensure our city on alert, safe and secure. 8. To solve the housing and homelessness, will encouraging community power. 9. More trees and parks. 10. A "Mayor Mailbox", also free "Excises Programs" for you. Please write 1 beside my name. Thank you!

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**CAPP, Sally**

Lord Mayor of Melbourne is a serious job, managing a budget of almost \$500 million and a daily population of almost a million people. I bring the passion and credentials necessary for this job. I love Melbourne and its people. I have studied, lived and worked in Melbourne throughout my life. I was the CEO of the Committee for Melbourne and represented Melbourne overseas. I have run businesses big and small. I am an active participant in community groups. I know what it takes to work with business, government and the community to turn ideas into outcomes. I have the skills, experience and passion to ensure we create the best possible city for us all. I am confident that my proven leadership and focus on getting the basics right will improve Melbourne's liveability. The Lord Mayor is responsible for preparing Melbourne for our future so that we can take advantage of ideas and opportunities to constantly improve the city. I will work inclusively with the entire community to deliver an open and transparent City of Melbourne and to lead a council of which we can be proud. I ask for your support to provide the new leadership Melbourne needs. [vote1sallycapp.com.au](http://vote1sallycapp.com.au)

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**DOWNING, Luke**

The great transformation of the city over the past decade in residential growth and technology infrastructure has severely affected quality of life for our residents and crippled the governance of our civic institutions. The impact of these erosions of our civic consensus is similar to the modern experience of other great cities of the post-industrial world, leading to the introduction of resident-friendly practices in high tourism cities such as Rome, Barcelona, and Venice. Our planning for endless residential growth continues to be a disaster, with our failure in responding to the stresses on our civic society of population flow being most evident in the non-implementation of the City of Melbourne Homelessness Strategy developed in 2015. The Homelessness Strategy is still on the shelf; city officials have been frustrated by poor coordination and conflict between Councillors - and our homeless residents are paying the price. Putting this strategy into effect is the first step back to resident led civic governance. I want our homeless residents restored in the dignity of their relations with, and contributions to, their community. There is no accountability and transparency in our present leadership, and the results show. This must change.

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**LEPERT, Rohan**

I am your Greens candidate for Lord Mayor. I have been a Councillor since 2012 and a City of Melbourne resident my entire adult life. Melbourne is at a crossroads, growing faster than at any time since the gold rush. I love this city's eclectic mix of people, buildings and experiences, but this is at risk from development that doesn't always consider long-term value, quality and sustainability. Good design saves money: it makes buildings energy efficient and affordable, and creates vibrant, walkable and interesting streets. As your Lord Mayor I will fight for development that's in the public interest, free from developer and gambling donations. I will champion a city that's welcoming for everyone, and takes homelessness seriously. I will ensure any Queen Victoria Market renewal genuinely consults traders and the community, and retains the market's grittiness and heritage as an affordable, fresh food market. As a hardworking Councillor with a track record of effective collaboration with Councillors and the community, I can hit the ground running, bring energy and transparency to the Lord Mayor's office, and lead a Council with a healthy culture that delivers for you, our residents, businesses and ratepayers. See my detailed policies at: [www.melbournecitygreens.com](http://www.melbournecitygreens.com)  
Rohan.Leppert@vic.greens.org.au

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**WARHAFT, Sally**

Politics is becoming the preserve of professional careerists and single-issue activists. I am neither. I have never been a member of a political party, associated with a trade union or a developers' lobby group. My only interest is in the people of Melbourne. Cities and culture are my passions. For years I've been a guest presenter on ABC radio, talking to leaders and listening to the people of Melbourne. I understand the issues which make Melbourne tick. My PhD in Anthropology, undertaken in the sprawling megacity of Mumbai, asked the question 'What makes community strong?' My conclusion is just as applicable here: communities prosper when they are connected to place; when their citizens can afford the necessities of life; when their workers enjoy what they do and outsiders are welcomed. My priorities if elected Melbourne's first female Lord Mayor in almost 30 years - more than usually relevant in this election - will be affordability, amenity, inclusion, safety and integrity. Let's address the culture of Town Hall, review the wrong-headed Victoria Market development, and above all work together. Make Warhaft Lord Mayor. Let's clean up the City of Melbourne. More at Facebook @Vote1Warhaft

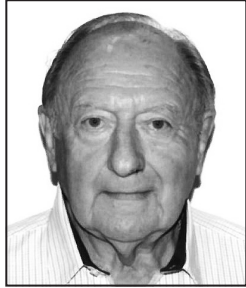
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**MacDONALD, Alex**

For over thirty years I have run a horse-drawn carriage business servicing visitors to Melbourne. Council should make living and working in Melbourne easier. For me it means a cleaner and safer Melbourne. A place that we are proud to live, work or for people to visit. I will work to help you to run your business better and not make it harder. Small businesses need support and a voice especially, for example, the traders of the Queen Victoria Market. As a Councillor for the City of Melbourne and fellow small business owner you can be assured that I will represent you, because I am you. You won't have to tell me how hard it is to feel safe at night when closing up or how hard it is to deal with Council red tape. Because, I know. I have and continue to deal with it daily. I'm not a well-known business person, a celebrity or politician I am just a small business owner trying to make a go of it. If you are looking for a real voice who will represent your interests, I am here for you. [www.alexmacdonald.melbourne](http://www.alexmacdonald.melbourne)

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**WATSON, Allan**

Allan Watson, proprietor of Jimmy Watsons Wine Bar. Married with two sons, working in the business. Appointed legend of Rutherglen, Justice of the Peace, for over forty years, past Trustee of the World Heritage Royal Exhibition Building, previous board member of The Zoological gardens. Councillor of the City of Melbourne over several terms and Lord Mayor 1993. On fathers death I commissioned Robin Boyd to redesign the facade of 333 Lygon Street, which now has Heritage protection. Key objectives as Lord Mayor are the safety and a cleaner city and surrounds, and a sensitive restoration of the Queen Victoria market. Improved amenities for residents especially lighting and safety. Would keenly like to help resolve the homeless position around the streets of the city, in conjunction with the Salvation Army and the churches that are at the coal face of the problem. My original maiden speech in the seventies led to the introduction of disabled parking, which has blossomed to general use. Would like to bring back stability to the present council to transcend any petty and personal agendas.

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**YANG, Jennifer**

Jennifer Yang is running for Lord Mayor to end the toxic culture at Town Hall. As a twice-elected Mayor of Manningham she knows how to get things done. Jennifer will bring residents and small businesses back into the heart of Council decision making. As Lord Mayor, Jennifer will ban Councillors from drinking when on Council business. She will double the pensioner rates rebate and put more money into resident-led local park upgrades. She will cut red tape for retailers and restaurants by abolishing unnecessary Council licenses, freeze all rates until 2020, and immediately commence a Council-wide expenditure review. Jennifer believes that homelessness is a serious problem requiring a meaningful and substantial response. That's why she will build permanent crisis accommodation to get those sleeping rough off our streets, into safety and on the path to secure long-term accommodation. Jennifer is a proven leader in Melbourne's vibrant multicultural community and a devoted working mother. She is passionate about creating a city of diversity, equality and prosperity. Most importantly, she has the experience and energy to get our great city back on track. Please feel free to contact Jennifer on 0413 292 348, [vote@jenniferyang.com.au](mailto:vote@jenniferyang.com.au) or [www.jenniferyang.com.au](http://www.jenniferyang.com.au).

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**SFETKIDIS, Katie**

I am a resident and artist living and working in Naarm (Melbourne). As an artist and local resident, I offer a unique and exciting voice for the City of Melbourne. Arts and Culture is the life blood of the City of Melbourne and hold significant cultural and economic value for the city. As artists, we also offer a political voice on issues facing the City of Melbourne. I bring to the city creative ideas and a feminist, intersectional viewpoint as a way to tackle issues of structural diversity, planning and sustainability. As the city grows in population, it is imperative that the council strive to make sure the city can be a safe and accessible place for all people regardless of your gender, sexuality or cultural and socioeconomic background. This means taking seriously affordability issues including homelessness and gentrification. If the city wants to harness arts and culture for its economic value it needs to make sure it remains a place where artists can afford to live and work.

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**MORGAN, Gary**

Gary Morgan has lived and worked in Melbourne all his working life - Roy Morgan is Australia's oldest, largest and most trusted consumer research company. I helped found the Committee for Melbourne, and am frustrated when Council gets 'bogged down' in compromise and hidden agendas that fail the interests of ratepayers and residents. Melbourne lacks leadership. Council lacks a 'moral compass'. My policies will reinstate Melbourne as Australia's leader in business, retail, education, arts and tourism, increase community safety and improve Council effectiveness. I will cut red tape, stop Council waste and unnecessary expenditure. I will enforce community safety with zero tolerance for drug dealers, street gangs and graffiti; 'state-of-the-art' traffic controls for reduced car and bike traffic congestion and safer travel; stop urban 'campers' by helping the homeless find a home and job. I will prioritise Melbourne's heritage buildings and parks and stop the current Queen Victoria Market 'mega' redevelopment to protect our history and the needs of shoppers and stall holders. I belong to no political party, and never have. I will engage honestly with all businesses, community groups and State Government. I will respect the position and get the job done. Vote 1 Gary Morgan - number every box.

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**O'SUGHRUE, Nathalie Nicole**

As a single mother, a survivor of rape, addiction, bullying and depression, I have a deep understanding of the issues in our society and how we can minimise the harm/risk. In the last 20 years, I have featured across a broad range of media discussing issues including but not limited to; body image, mental health, sexual assault and addiction. In the last 2 years I have worked mainly with the disadvantaged (homeless, drug dependent, ex offenders, mental health) to change their situation. I am 100% transparent about my life experiences and deliver a powerful message straight into the heart of each person who hears me speak. With over a decade of strong sales and business management experience, I specialise in implementing strategies to increase revenue in businesses. Leading by example and repeatedly placing myself in the firing line, I will continue inspiring, empowering and educating people to speak up for their beliefs, remain true to themselves, and trust in change. I am a refreshing pop of teal in a world of black and white and who better to bring change in our city, then someone who understands it. I am Nathalie Nicole and Now is the Time for Change.

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**BURGE, Michael**

Michael Burge OAM has worked in the CBD since 1994. Following teaching electronics, media and psychology, Michael continues in private practice psychology involving treatment, organizational leadership coaching and trauma training courses for psychologists. He has also participated in extensive voluntary community work. He was a member of the inaugural Federal Government's Educational Multicultural Task Force and the Sir Edward Dunlop Medical Research Foundation. He has consulted for years in occupational health and safety issues. From his work in social psychology, Michael has been actively promoting social justice, gender equity, resolving workplace bullying, discrimination and assisting community healing after Black Saturday catastrophic events. He has published and promotes these issues and needs in various international and local media outlets. Michael has seen firsthand how quality amenities or lack thereof affect peoples lives, well-being and connectedness within communities and within this endeavour was an endorsed Liberal candidate in the 2010 state elections. He has had extensive governance experience and has held numerous leadership roles and is a Fellow and recent past Board Director of the Australian Psychological Society. In the 2010 Australia day Honours, Michael was awarded an OAM for his services to psychology and the community of Australia. [www.actt.com.au](http://www.actt.com.au)

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**ONG, Ken**

I pledge to use my experience, abilities and knowledge gained from my 8 years as a Melbourne City Councillor, to provide leadership to deliver best outcomes for Melbourne. Melbourne is a city for people, first and foremost. It must be inclusive, caring and respectful of all people. It must also be prosperous and do so sustainably. This city is great and my passion is to make it an ever greater city. This means better core services, amenities and infrastructure. I commit to delivering these. Greater emphasis is now needed for high quality planning and design. There must be a constant review of the planning rules to ensure our city's character, charm, history and livability are not diminished. The Lord Mayor is a servant of the city and its people. Besides leadership, it must show integrity and respect for everyone. If elected, I will ensure that Council's focus is to service all the people of Melbourne whether residents, business owners, workers, students or visitors. I am a progressive Liberal but here, Melbourne comes first. With my council experience, I will hit the ground running. I ask you to vote 1 for me. Then put 2 for Jennifer Yang. Thank you.

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**POON, Bruce**

The Animal Justice Party is determined to make Melbourne a city that cares about its animals as well as its people. We should remove horses and carriages from city streets altogether. City traffic is no place for animals, nor their manure. Dogs, foxes and cats should not have to suffer short painful lives for our fashion. We can lead on this issue by stopping the sale of fur in our city. The finning of sharks for food is a cruel and wasteful practice, and we can again lead by banning these products. For the city's human residents, the rates are too high, and can be reduced for most if we return to calculations based on site values, not capital improved values. This also encourages development of the unused and derelict sites within the city. We should also proceed with progressively covering the train yards east of Russell Street. This would create a lot more parklands, open space and gardens for people and animals. If you are voting to support animals, I recommend you preference The Greens candidate Rohan Leppert at number 2, as he has shown good support for animal issues.