

Maple Ridge municipal election 2018

HUB Cycling Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows has conducted interviews with candidates for Mayor and Councillor for the 2018 election to determine their level of support for cycling for all ages and abilities. A summary of responses for those candidates who have requested to be interviewed can be found in this document.

Candidates have been marked as follows:

- ✓ Has demonstrated strong support for cycling in past term(s)
- 📎 Has requested to be interviewed (click on name for responses)
- 📎 Requested interview but didn't show up
- ? Did not schedule an interview

Click [here](#) for candidates for Mayor.

Click [here](#) for candidates for Councillor.

Click [here](#) for the information about candidates available on the City of Maple Ridge website (under "who is running").

The following questions have been asked:

Question 1 - Explain your understanding of the role of cycling in enhancing clean environment, livability and health.

Question 2 - What is your past involvement in advocating for safe cycling routes? Can you give us examples of places that you have cycled that you feel provide safe cycling for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

Question 3 - What part will you play in promoting safe cycling for AAA if you are elected to council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?


Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to the greenhouse gas reduction targets already committed to? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit as part of our efforts to reduce greenhouse gases?

Question 5 - Would you be interested and willing to commit to join HUB Cycling members for an easy bike ride in our community in order to get a better understanding of the issue? (If not able yourself, you could choose a representative who can report back to you)


Candidates for Mayor:




To read candidates' responses, click on interviewee's name ([underlined blue live link](#)).

Candidates for Mayor who have not held office previously:

BLAMEY, Douglas 		
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Present or former Mayors/Councillors running for Mayor:

DAYKIN, Ernie ?	MORDEN, Mike ?	SPEIRS, Craig  ?
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-  Has demonstrated strong support for cycling in past term(s)
-  Has requested to be interviewed (click on name for responses)
-  Requested interview but didn't show up
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Candidates for Councillor:




To read candidates' responses, click on interviewee's name ([underlined blue live link](#)).

Candidates for Mayor who have not held office previously:

BOSSLEY, Chris 	KRONEBUSCH, Rysa ?	SCHAFFRICK, Glenn ?
CARR, Susan 	MEADUS, Chelsa ?	SVENDSEN, Ryan ?
DOZIE, Onyeka 	MITCHELL, Don ?	TAM, Peter 
HAYNER, Mike ?	O'BRIAN, Chris 	TAYLOR, Elizabeth 
HEGEDUS, Andrew ?	PENNYKID, Rick ?	TUZZI, Michael 
JOHAR, Bhupinder 	POZSAR, Andrew 	YOUSEF, Ahmed 
JOSE, Lou 	PRIEBE, Kevin 	
KENNEDY, Terry ?	ROBBIE, Al ?	

Present or former Mayors/Councillors running for Council:

DUECK, Judy ?	DUNCAN, Kiersten  ?	ROBSON, Gordy ?
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-  Has demonstrated strong support for cycling in past term(s)
-  Has requested to be interviewed (click on name for responses)
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BLAMEY, Douglas

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- Much efficiency, health, air quality. Totally the best green way of transportation.
- Most economical.
- Almost as fast as a car.
- You feel better at the end of the day.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- Used to complain all the time to Department of Highways that bikes were too close to the cars at Old Dewdney & Lougheed. Got them to move the pylons.
- Safe cycling infra: dikes in Pitt Meadows. Have to look out for horse manure.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- Big priority (in top 7 of list of priorities, after solving murders and making Alouette Lake into water reservoir).
- Gives families more money for food if they rely on bikes more than the car.

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Make our town more bicycle friendly, make it safer.
- Give bikes registration number, so they can find out who you are if you're in an accident.
- No cars on 224 Street.
- Cars with batteries can't come soon enough.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Yes. No problem. I have a trike and ride around the cemetery because Dewdney is too dangerous. I shop by bike as well.

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BOSSLEY, Chris

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- No negative impact to the environment.
- Can connect to transit. Use bike parking or take bike on transit.
- Encourage people to walk and cycle, which replaces vehicles on roads and reduces GHGs.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- No past advocacy.
- Need to consult with experts (users!).
- Biked everywhere in Vancouver and has fond memories. Didn't own vehicle for some time. Would love to see similar infrastructure in Maple Ridge.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- Would consult with HUB and with Engineering Department.
- Important to look for design flaws.
- Need to encourage kids & seniors to bike more.
- Try to find more direct routes, and clearly mark the routes.
- Aware of the 123 Bike Route.

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Need to address GHGs at local level.
- Need sustainable/smart growth.
- Electric charging stations.
- Make it easier to ride to work, shop, attend events locally. Need pathways for improved accessibility.
- More community nodes in neighbourhoods, such as 240th and Dewdney.
- Need more business and retail so we can work, live and play in town.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Yes. Would love to get more involved with HUB if not elected.

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CARR, Susan

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- Cycling makes a community more livable; people can feel safe riding from their house.
- Healthy activity.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- When my kids were in school I was on PAC; we promoted kids cycling to school.
- Currently on the Active Transportation Advisory Committee as a school trustee where I am supportive of building safe cycle routes.
- Cycling on dikes is safe; that's mostly where I cycled with my kids.
- "123" bike route feels safe in places but not in others; recently rode it.
- Would like information re: best practice guidelines for constructing safe cycleways.
- Need to be built safely so people can bike safely, including kids.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- Feel strongly about improving transportation which includes cycling.
- Connect bike lanes so they don't stop and start
- It is council's role to advertise existing cycleways to get people cycling.
- Consulting with experts, i.e. HUB. Want to create formal process for council to consult with all stakeholders when new cycle routes are to be built.
- Create cycle routes to "destinations" i.e. shopping or recreation sites.
- Would like to see kids riding to their activities
- Ask kids/adults why they don't ride their bikes and find ways to get them cycling.

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Bussing needs to be improved so there are more options to get places easier.
- Support reducing emissions by making sure public buildings are energy efficient
- Promoting cycling by having up to date info on cycle routes on City website.
- Connecting safe cycleways to transit hubs, i.e. West Coast Express and buses.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Yes. Slow and flat ride preferred.

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DOZIE, Onyeka

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- Cycling helps keep youth out of claws of addiction/video games etc.
- Children should ride bikes in order to prevent obesity.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- No past involvement.
- Grew up in Nigeria. Very few cars. Walked 8 kms to school until he got a bike, which changed his life.
- Has biked from Maple Ridge along the dikes to Pitt River Bridge, which is very safe.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- High priority.
- Getting out of the house means a better future for our youth.
- Will study the issues and consult with experts (e.g. HUB Cycling).

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Maple Ridge residents could easily bike to work if they work in Maple Ridge.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Would like to.

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JOHAR, Bhupinder

No-show.

JOSE, Lou

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- Didn't connect cycling to health, livability, or active transportation/transit.
- Talked about the importance of the "B" Line bus.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- No past advocacy.
- "Not enough safe routes". Not aware of existing designated bike routes.
- Separated path on Lougheed from Laity to 216th should be continued.
- Too many bike routes just stop with nowhere for the cyclist to continue safely.
- Felt curb bulges and chicanes appropriate way to slow traffic down to create safe cycling.
- Declined being sent information where he could read about what constitutes safe cycle routes/best practice when building cycle routes for AAA.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- Main priority is to build a cycle route from 240th along Dewdney to Garibaldi Secondary School.
- Wants to build a cycle route north on 224th which will then climb up to the UBC Research Forest for both road and mountain biking ("recreational purpose").
- No money to develop any further safe cycle ways over next 4 years.

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Feels amount of greenhouse gases produced in Canada is negligible; doesn't feel an urgency to decrease cars.
- Should plan Big Box stores along 240th instead of residential only.
- Need alternatives to change ways that people move about but no mention of how improving cycle routes could help achieve this.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Yes.

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O'BRIAN, Chris

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- Cycling to and from work cuts down on emissions; improves environment.
- Creates a more liveable city if people can cycle around town.
- Increase exercise, improves health by improving cardiovascular/fitness and decreases obesity.
- Personal enjoyment for families to recreate.
- More pleasant commute.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- Not a lot of cycle advocating in the past.
- Feels lighting on Loughheed Hwy is inadequate. Uses River Road to go east/west.
- Not familiar with 117, 121 and 123 cycle routes but will look into them. Would like info on best practice for building cycle routes.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- I would connect the gaps.
- Improve street lighting to make it safer.
- Make sure roads have good pavement.
- Consider some sort of divider between cars and bicycles on roads, i.e. cones.
- Improving safe cycling routes is amongst other priorities.
- Look at the strategic plan, official community plan, ask for community input, consult with HUB members and other cyclists to determine need.

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Cycling decreases cars.
- Promote electric vehicles; new houses should have to be built with electric charging stations.
- Consult the public on whether they want Uber and Lyft; should be electric vehicles; limit # of vehicles.
- Green wave technology for traffic lights.
- Skytrain should be in Maple Ridge and would advocate for that
- Increase business base in Maple Ridge.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Yes.

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POZSAR, Andrew

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- The bike definitely has a role in transportation. Cycling in Europe much safer, often separated from cars. Biked everywhere first 2 ½ yrs in Canada.
- Green mode of transportation. Need to be able to bike to destinations.
- Biking ½ hr every day improves muscle strength, cardiovascular health.
- Great way to socially connect to other people.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- No past involvement in advocacy.
- Now legally blind, not possible to bike anymore. Cycling is second-most thing he misses (after driving).
- Remembered cycling along 100 km/h highway in home country Hungary. Bike path was separated from highway through a buffer of trees and shrubs. Felt very safe.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- Supports bike lanes fullheartedly.
- Cycling infra needs to connect between destinations.
- Should be able to ride safely to train stations.
- Would like to see a connected bikeway all the way from Golden Ears Park to Stanley Park.
- HUB Cycling should come up with 20-yr plan.
- #1 Priority is economic development, which will generate money for municipality. Revenues can be used for social programs, bike infra.
- Developers to pay into fund to build sensible bike lanes.

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Use unfarmable land to develop more local industry and jobs, so fewer people have to commute to elsewhere.
- Rode 200 km/h bullet train in Japan 22 yrs ago. Our transportation system is that of third world country. Need to connect Mission to Vancouver with hi-speed train.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Would love to go on bike ride if tandem bike could be arranged.

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PRIEBE, Kevin

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- Health benefits: getting exercise just getting to and from work is huge.
- Slows you down and helps you enjoy your surroundings and feeling more connected to your community.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- Advocacy through municipal accessibility advisory committee. Learned a lot about the background of why things are done a certain way.
- Infrastructure needs to be connected, not piecemeal.
- Mentioned the improper placement of bollards along Abernathy/128th, which can be problematic for people with visual and other impairments as well as people on bikes.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- Smart development.
- Need to look at the bigger picture.
- Attracting and helping innovative businesses.
- Important to include people using different modes of transportation. Can become mental health issue.
- Due to his own experiences with his physical disability, he feels very motivated to help other people who are dealing with disabilities, a.o. through his business (customizing mobility devices).

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Encourage LEED standards.
- Attracting business in order to reduce commuting to elsewhere.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Would like to. Rides recumbent bike.
- Lives on 132nd Ave., where it is no longer safe to ride, so hasn't been out cycling since barriers were put up.

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TAM, Peter

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- Integral part of multimodal transit system which includes cycling, buses, trains.
- Cycling not just recreational; should be considered part of overall transit system.
- Exercise is good for health.
- Decreased gas emissions results in decreased environmental toxins.
- Cycling takes up less space on the roads

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- Actively supports HUB; promotes cycling, gets others interested and involved.
- Has taken part in various HUB sponsored rides; encouraged others to do same.
- 203rd St bikeway: not well designed, creates hazards; unidirectional paths safer.
- Aware and uses existing bikeways in Maple Ridge; some safe some not.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- Be role model, cycle to council meetings; encourage others on council to do so.
- Will strive to oversee cycling projects that council has approved and make sure the city staff design and build them so they are appropriate and safe for AAA.
- Feel major routes east of the downtown are especially inadequate.
- Vision: to connect downtown to destinations/commercial hubs using trails/paths so that people will cycle to shop, school and for other everyday activities.
- High priority. Change philosophy of cycling as being recreational only to consider as investment to create economic growth and jobs and promote eco-tourism.
- Work to have existing horse trails become bike friendly and share trails/multi use paths.
- Use traffic calming strategies to make quieter roadways safer.
- Promote consultation with cyclists and HUB members.

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Direct routes to promote cycle commuting; integrate better into transit system.
- Vision above (question #3) will decrease cars as people cycle to do errands in town or at various commercial centres that are connected with trails.

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Yes of course; will continue to work alongside HUB to improve cycling for AAA.

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TAYLOR, Elizabeth

Question 1 - Role of cycling in relation to clean environment, livability and health.

- Cycling is better for health in terms of exercise and less emissions.
- Clean transportation, so better for environment.
- If people can cycle safely they can ride their bikes to the store or around town which makes the city more livable.

Question 2 - Past involvement in cycling advocacy? Examples of safe cycling infra for people of all ages and abilities (AAA)?

- Always been interested, supports increasing safe routes that allow AAA to cycle.
- Prefers cycle routes not be on roadways; especially for safety of children.
- Good for tourism.
- Separated bi-directional path on Lougheed Hwy provides safety for cyclists.
- Roads and bikeways should be separated if there is not adequate space between a car and the bike to ensure safety of the cyclist.
- Types of cycle ways dependent on existing roadway, car speeds, number of cars.
- Welcomes our offer to send information on best practice guidelines.

Question 3 - What will you do to promote safe cycling for AAA if elected to Council and how much of a priority is it for you? What will you actually do to facilitate this?

- Wants to make streets safe, including for people on bikes, so that people's lives are not ruined when accidents happen.
- Suggests Council bike ride with HUB ("team building exercise"). Says this would help Council members find out what the issues are.
- Create a more liveable city: if cycle routes improved, people could cycle to do day to day activities, kids could ride their bikes to and from school, activities, jobs.
- Livability is important. Sees cycling as important part of improving livability.
- Agrees cycling infrastructure should be built when new developments are put in.

Question 4 - What are your plans to get Maple Ridge closer to GHG reduction targets? How do you see cycling as part of the strategy to enhance transit to achieve this?

- Ideally all buses have room to transport bikes.
- Continuous bike routes between communities; sharing trails (horse/bike).

Question 5 - Would you commit to easy bike ride with HUB?

- Yes.

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TUZZI, Michael

No-show

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YOUSEF, Ahmed

No-show

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