

2024 Local Government Election - Sunshine Coast Council Candidate Questionnaire Responses

Candidate Name	Taylor Bunnag
Nominating for	Councillor
Which division for?	Division 8
Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Reserve	I support the proposed Dark Sky Reserve designation across the western portion of the local government area but would like to see how we can address light pollution along our coastal strips that impact nesting turtles.
Do you support the Sunshine Coast Dark Sky designation?	Yes
Circular Economy	I support the strategy in-principle but if elected, will be seeking to include an annual kerbside clean-up within the strategy. I believe that this should be a key feature of our circular economy strategy.
Do you support the strategy?	Yes
Biosphere designation	The UNESCO Biosphere designation is designed to show our region's commitment to a sustainable future. My view is that council has a very important role to play in terms of helping to meet the objectives of the biosphere. One of the objectives of the Biosphere relates to development and demonstrating leadership in delivering a diverse and resilient economy. A focus area within this objective is encouraging responsible and sustainable development that contributes positively to our economy and community, while supporting affordable living outcomes. The next planning scheme should be one which carefully integrates a mixture of housing options with

	infrastructure delivery such as Sunshine Coast Direct Rail. The planning assumptions within the planning scheme must align with the public transport system we have on the Sunshine Coast. If we want to be a sustainable and affordable region, we must break our car dependence and that can be achieved through our planning scheme.
Will you actively promote our Biosphere Aims and Objectives?	Yes
Inter-Urban Break	The IUB is important from both an environmental and regional identity perspective. The Shaping SEQ Update includes Halls Creek as a Potential Future Growth Area. I am deeply concerned by this and the environmental impacts on the nearby Pumicestone Passage. This issue will need to be vigorously addressed by the next council through robust dialogue with the State Government.
Do you support it's protection?	Yes
New Planning Scheme	I was a member of the community reference panel for the original planning scheme. The new planning scheme has recently been through the State Government Interest Review Stage and once returned to council, the new council will be required to embark on a proactive and transparent consultation process. My vision for the planning scheme is to reflect community expectations around urban development and protect the unique identity of each of our towns. In a place like my home are of Yaroomba and Coolumb, the community expectation is that we maintain our low rise, low key coastal character.
Will you uphold the Community Planning Priorities?	Yes
Climate and Renewables	Council needs to also show leadership on helping lower emissions throughout the Sunshine Coast by endorsing a planning scheme that changes the Sunshine Coast's



	<p>culture of car dependency. According to the CSIRO, as at 2023, the third largest percentage contributor to CO2 emissions was transport. The next planning scheme and the assumptions contained therein must be carefully integrated with the Sunshine Coast's Public Transport Network. That is not an easy task as I believe that the debate regarding the optimum transportation infrastructure for the Sunshine Coast is unsettled from an economic and planning perspective. The business case for 'Direct Sunshine Coast Rail' (ie heavy rail) along the CAMCOS corridor all the way to Maroochydore has just been released. Funding of the project in full is yet to be committed to by any level of government but if this project is delivered, I want to see a planning scheme that sensibly creates opportunity for people to live and work near public transport infrastructure, in particular along the Direct Sunshine Coast Rail Corridor, to break our car dependency culture. In the interim, Council should start spending the public transport levy future fund on actual public transport services in key areas which people might actually use (ie a bus loop connection servicing Cotton Tree, Maroochydore CBD, Alex Headland and Sunshine Cove which is currently unserviced etc). This would be within the scope of Council's transport levy policy, which includes contributing to trials of flexible public transport services to meet specific community needs.</p> <p>See my above response with respect to the new planning scheme on how Council can help the entire region transition to net zero emissions with careful planning. I would also like to review council's fleet vehicle procurement policy to expand the use of electric/hybrid vehicles</p>
<p>Do you support Nature based Solutions for climate resilience?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Sunshine Coast values</p>	<p>One of the most important aspects of our cultural heritage is our indigenous history on the Sunshine Coast. However, I believe that there is a real disconnect between planning and cultural preservation. I am aware of a case study where council allowed development on an important indigenous cultural site in Rosemount. I would support a cultural officer being integrated into the planning team to provide support and advice regarding culturally significant sites that may be impacted by development. I am also</p>

	committed to working with the Kabi Kabi people towards renaming Murdering Creek Road in Peregian.
Do you support the use of non-lethal shark deterrent methods in our oceans?	Yes
Will you advocate to manage population growth to protect and restore the region's ecological and liveability values? Liveability definition from SCRC new planning scheme preliminary documents - Liveability is the sum of the factors that add up to a community's quality of life now and in the future, including the built and natural environments, economic prosperity, social stability and wellbeing, equity and access, education, cultural and recreation opportunities.	Yes