

5049 Meet the Candidate

## Part A

### Lynda Yates

Yes, I will attend.

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I am nominating for Holdfast Bay Council as a Seacliff Ward Councillor

Personal profile < 100 words

I am independent of political party affiliation, free of any potential commercial conflict of interest, do not take campaign donations and will be a full-time councillor. I enjoy serving the community. With skills in science (B.Sc Zoology and Physiology), environmental resources (Master's degree) computing and internal audit, I'm Treasurer for Seacliff Neighbourhood Watch, a book club and a conservation group. I represent Council as Secretary of Murray Darling Association Adelaide Metro Region, member of Metropolitan Seaside Councils Committee, delegate to SLSC and board member of our recycling centre. A beach lover, I swim, cycle, garden and am an environmental volunteer.

Part B Priorities for the 5049 coastal community < 500 words (a little over but I am not counting the headings)

### **Cement Hill development**

The fencing repeatedly creates an eyesore.

I would prefer a low-rise development but accept this high-rise if there is sufficient car parking and open space around it. Most will be in Marion council area but residents will predominantly use Holdfast Bay facilities because of separation from Marion by the dual carriageway. Access, egress and the potential 600 extra cars along Brighton Rd must be handled by DPTI before it impacts traffic flows.

**5049 foreshore** I know the permanent kiosk is the priority. Retention of the green area near the seashore is also desired with a smaller nature playground than shown in the Master Plan. There is no space for a larger car park (hope for electric share cars soon!)

**Local transport and access** Until share cars become the norm local roads will be congested by private cars. Council must ensure that where several houses replace one on a block there is sufficient on-site car parking, otherwise parking on the road will become the norm – not desirable. I am glad State Government will re-open Pine Ave rail crossing. Furthermore, it is important that Young St crossing is also re-opened as this provided direct pedestrian access to Angus Neil Reserve and the foreshore for many in Seacliff and Seacliff Park.

**Sustainability and the local environment** Native plants and animals are increasingly reliant on council open space and street trees for habitat as house blocks are subdivided and their gardens with trees and shrubs reduced to paved courtyards and driveways with a few pot plants. Biodiversity is unfortunately decreasing.

**Planning and development** Unfortunately local councils have been forced to cede power to State Government on this with a one-size-fits-all attitude and a pro-development agenda. Residents are no longer notified of any but the most imposing plans for new housing nearby nor given the chance to comment. This is a retrograde step which, as a former DAP member, I feel needs to be strongly protested by local communities.

**Access to public open space and community assets** As private open space disappears, it is more important than ever that council provides residents the State Government target of at least 0.4ha of open space within 400m walk. The western end of Seacombe Road already falls outside this target. The closure of Young St crossing produced yet another area.

Councils provide community assets such as libraries, community centres, sports ovals and reserves for residents and these must be retained and carried forward to future generations by ensuring depreciation costs are annually calculated and allocated for future rebuilding of assets (rate capping could stop this).

### **Other**

With urban infill, there is reduced stormwater soakage into the soil so runoff increases. With more severe storms likely, this will only intensify. A new stormwater pipe in Pine Gully will be provided by council (with a financial contribution by Marion). The gullies are also important as some of the few natural areas left in Holdfast Bay and local volunteers including myself look after these with council support. Sea level rise is a serious issue that must be mitigated as far as possible and council is already mapping the coastline to detect vulnerable areas.

### **How to engage with and represent community and 5049CCA on these local priorities - < 300 words**

As a full-time councillor with no political bias, I am open and usually available to hear and deal with any upcoming issues presented by groups such as this or by individual residents.

I advocated with other councillors to allow Q and A sessions for the public at council meetings and also for meetings to be recorded. Council are still considering this. I feel it is a useful advance especially for groups such as this and I will push for it again.

I attend liaison meetings with the 5049 Community committee members and council staff every second month. I feel this is an excellent way to discuss priorities for the area.

I know politicians organise meetings in local parks and malls for residents to come and question them. I think these are good for a particular issue. When there was the possibility

of a community garden in Dover Square Reserve, Council arranged meetings there and I attended to hear residents' views directly.

Individuals or groups with specific issues are always welcome to email or phone me directly as their ward councillor and I will either find out the answer from staff and respond personally or, if the issue is less clear cut, let them know who to talk to about the problem. I will raise motions at council if there needs to be a change in council procedure.

Regarding social media, I have a Facebook page and can be contacted that way as well. I know that many older people do not use social media but it is important to be accessible to all generations. However, I have not got as far as Twitter yet!