



Mayoral Candidate: Anne Marsden

Question 1	If elected, will you commit to the protection of Burlington greenspace and Halton farmland, including opposing the construction of Highway 413, and prioritizing the establishment of complete, 15-minute communities in your ward/throughout the city?
Response:	I am totally committed to the protection of Burlington greenspace and Halton farmland whether that will include opposing construction of Highway 413 and prioritizing the establishment of complete, 15-minute communities requires a lot more time than is available at this time in the election campaign to give a truthful answer.
Question 2a	<p>Transportation is the largest source of carbon emissions in Burlington, and currently accounts for over 40% of total emissions. Reducing emissions from this sector is an essential step to reach Burlington's goal of community carbon neutrality by 2050. If elected:</p> <p>A) Will you support the changes and funding investments required to boost public transit ridership (e.g. purchase more (electric) buses; enhance frequency, range, reliability, density & directness) to make public transit an appealing and effective option in Burlington?</p>
Response:	This is not a simple yes, no answer. I will, as I have in the past commit to do my very best to support making public transit an appealing and effective option in Burlington for all residents.
Question 2b	What specific actions will you take to make active transportation (cycling, walking, ...) an appealing and effective option in Burlington?
Response:	I will lead Council in considering the options available to make this happen and promote these options. I will be

	<p>forming a youth and family council which will have safe active transportation available all year as a top priority. This is a huge mental health issue.</p>
Question 2c	<p>Will you support opportunities to increase and prioritize public EV chargers to ensure equitable distribution on City property across the community and with consideration of accessible design standards?</p>
Response:	<p>Yes. This needs to include mobility scooter chargers which the city has refused to put in place to date.</p>
Question 3	<p>We are facing a sixth mass extinction event. Biodiversity is critical for climate mitigation/adaptation and local accessible nature is vital for mental and physical well-being, but Burlington does not have a biodiversity action plan. If elected, will you champion the creation of a biodiversity action plan within the next 4 years and advocate for the resources/budget to initiate its implementation?</p>
Response:	<p>I have always understood that local accessible nature is vital for mental and physical well-being and consider encouraging such access is part of the role of leading council that demands acting for the well-being of city residents and businesses.</p>
Question 4	<p>If elected, will you actively demonstrate your support for the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition push for a temporary moratorium on new gravel mining applications in Ontario, by supporting a pause on all new and expanded quarry permits in Burlington?</p>
Response:	<p>Yes. Absolutely and more, there are so many issues around the Nelson situation. I don't understand how they are able to re-raise this matter when they failed to appeal the original decision. There is caselaw that states NO means NO. I believe it is an abuse of process. Also the city and region should be asking for an extended application process given the two year schedule surrounding this. Nelson should not be allowed to appeal application out of time for this process that is different to a regular application.</p>
Question 5	<p>Climate Change is worsening existing inequities and putting marginalized community members at increased risk of harm if mitigation and adaptation efforts are not carefully planned (see Health in a Changing Climate report).</p> <p>If elected, will you champion the effective integration of measures such as vulnerability and equity impact assessments into city plans and processes to prevent avoidable harm to marginalized Burlington residents, and encourage other members of council to support this as a top priority?</p>
Response:	<p>Yes. In my role as part of a Pro Bono Health, Safety and Access Team I have always encouraged consideration of such measures as vulnerability and equity impact assessments and nothing will change in this regard in terms of leading council.</p>

Question 6	Please share some of the actions you personally take to minimize your environmental footprint:
Response:	<p>Having a significant mobility disability I have to rely on others driving me to where I need to be and transporting my mobility scooter. I am always addressing such issues with those who I rely on but I cannot personally take those actions. I have been asking the city for years on behalf of mobility users to provide us with city charging stations. The city has refused to do so. As mayor of this incoming council I believe I can ensure a change of heart.</p>