



Amanda-Sue **MARKHAM**

LIBERAL CANDIDATE FOR **CLARK**



15th May 2019

**A STRONGER ECONOMY.
A SECURE FUTURE.**

Cr A Reynolds
Lord Mayor
City of Hobart
GPO Box 503 Hobart Tasmania 7001

Dear Lord Mayor

Thank you for your request to expand on my comments to you and your Aldermen and Councillors when we met to discuss the Council's 2019 Federal Election priorities.

As the candidate for Clark, I am proud to represent the Liberal Party, who I believe is the only party capable and willing to meet the hopes and aspirations of the citizens and ratepayers of Hobart.

As a long term resident and mother in the City, I seek to represent the electors within Hobart in providing a secure future for all residents through a stronger economy. A strong economy will provide more funding for health, education and essential services. The Liberal Government will deliver improved infrastructure and its vision for Hobart is to be the hub of Antarctic activity and science, as well as the commercial and cultural capital of Tasmania.

Hobart City Deal

Specifically a re-elected Liberal Government is committed to fully implementing the City Deal for Greater Hobart signed by you, fellow Mayors and the Prime Minister in February this year. The City Deal outlines a 10 year vision and investment for Hobart and Southern Tasmania.

The Hobart City Deal is an absolute game-changer for Southern Tasmania and will ensure more affordable housing, reduced road congestion and more jobs.

I do not believe that other candidates in Clark can make such a commitment or have the ability to implement it. The only way to guarantee that the City Deal will be fully implemented is by ensuring the Federal Liberal National Government is re-elected in May.

Sports and active recreation facilities

Up until this election, I was a registered nurse at the Royal Hobart Hospital so I have a first-hand view of the need to encourage health and well-being within the community. As a mother I see the need for improving sporting facilities for all children and adults not just women and girls, although I applaud the State Government's commitment of the \$10 million 'Levelling the Playing Field' program for women's and girls' sport facilities which is by far the largest investment per capita by any state or territory government and is already benefiting the City of Hobart.

I have also visited the New Town sports precinct that includes the New Town Cricket ground and the Creek Road net ball courts and is subject to your own planning processes for redevelopment, I am surprised that these extensively used sporting facilities is not in your proposal, yet the TCA ground refurbishment is, which has already received State Government funding for improved female facilities. Your Council has already spent \$2.4 million of ratepayers funds against the \$5 million budget you are now requesting from the Commonwealth.



Amanda-Sue **MARKHAM**

LIBERAL CANDIDATE FOR **CLARK**



A STRONGER ECONOMY. A SECURE FUTURE.

That said,, a Liberal Government will work with Council, the State Government and stakeholders to determine priorities and funding opportunities to develop sporting facilities. The commitment extends to the upgrading of the Aquatic Centre.

Climate

The Federal Government is already providing strong action on possible adverse impacts of a changing climate. Our \$3.5 billion Climate Solutions package will help ensure Australia meets its emissions target under the 2030 Paris Agreement. I note that your Council flew a Councillor at ratepayers expense to the recent Conference of the Parties in Katowice, Poland so I am sure you are aware of Australia's leading commitment to the UN Convention. The Liberals will be building on the success of the Emissions Reduction Fund with the Government's Climate Solutions Fund which will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

It will also support jobs for Indigenous communities and diversify regional economies. We are investing in energy efficiency to reduce costs for households and small businesses, investing in Australia's world class hydro electricity and a national electric vehicle strategy.

In Tasmania the Government is working with the Hodgman Liberal Government and has already achieved zero net emissions for the first time in 2016. In 1989-90, Tasmania's baseline greenhouse gas emissions were 18.9 mega-tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂-e). The State's total greenhouse gas emissions for 2015-16 were 0.01 Mt CO₂-e, which is a 100 per cent reduction since 1990.

I would hope the Council will join me in promoting such a world leading first!

Welcoming refugees and migrants

I am proud to advise the Liberal Government has allocated 18,750 places in 2018-19 to the Refugee and Humanitarian Program. We also fulfil our international obligations by offering protection to non-citizens who are already in Australia.

We fund a Community Support Program (CSP) which helps someone in humanitarian need start a new life in Australia. Through CSP you can support applicants and be matched with someone in need, help with a job offer, provide the skills necessary for someone in need to work, or provide financial support to help fund visas and other costs.

I have met refugees and migrants in groups and individually to understand their needs and barriers when first arrived. My impression from them is that the programs provided by all levels of government and the community are both generous, accessible and effective. I will continue to advocate for such programs.

Importantly a re-elected Liberal Government will invest an additional \$5 million in a dedicated Accelerator Support Program to assist first generation migrants looking to develop a start-up business. New grants will support those organisations best placed to deliver targeted business education, incubation and mentoring to people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

We will invest \$10 million to create a dedicated network of Aged Care System Navigators to assist people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and their families in navigating the aged care system.



Amanda-Sue **MARKHAM**

LIBERAL CANDIDATE FOR **CLARK**



**A STRONGER ECONOMY.
A SECURE FUTURE.**

Smart City

The Liberal Government committed to the Smart Cities Plan in 2016. This Plan sets out the Government's vision for productive and liveable cities that encourage innovation, support growth and create jobs.

The Smart Cities Plan represents a framework for cities policy at the federal level and it is a framework that guides action across various portfolios to deliver better outcomes for Australian cities, the people who live in them and all Australians.

The City Deal can be the key mechanism for delivering on the Smart Cities Plan.

Our Mountain

There is much debate within the community on the future management of our mountain, a major talking point is the provision of access to the summit. It seems unlikely that your requested funding that fails to address this major issue will resolve the debate. Whilst the projects have merit, the Management Trust and its members must resolve safe access to the summit. The road built in the 1930s attracts strong criticism from visitors and is clearly in need of an independent safety audit to assess its continued use or upgrading requirements. Such refurbishment may exceed the cost of your proposed projects. Until the access issue is resolved a business case for a Visitor Centre at the Springs is problematic, and if your Council or a neighbouring Council approves the Development Application for a cable car, when lodged, such projects may be redundant.

As these issues are worked through by Council and stakeholders I would then be a willing advocate of funding for approved developments that are supported by the Community.

Heritage

The Liberal Party is committed to providing heritage leadership nationally. It has responsibility for the identification, protection, celebration and, in some cases, management of Australia's premier heritage assets—those found to have Outstanding Universal Value and inscribed in the World Heritage List or those found to have outstanding value to the nation and inscribed in the National Heritage List.

We have developed funding programs including innovative models to preserve this heritage. In Hobart the Cascades Female Factory and Yard 4 North are two of the 11 places that make up the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage serial listing, inscribed on 31 July 2010. It is also on the National List. Whilst the Government recently funded restoration work on St George's Church, this building is not on the list and normally would not be able to access funds allocated for nationally significant places.

The Liberal Party has a strong record of funding heritage places both built and natural.

Affordable Housing

The achievement of this policy objective requires the input of all levels of Government. Delay in planning approvals, planning schemes that do not encourage such housing or locking up land for other purposes contribute to a restriction of supply. So whilst the Federal Government is committed to funding solutions, I would also encourage Council to review its policies to ensure affordable housing is available in the City.



Amanda-Sue **MARKHAM**

LIBERAL CANDIDATE FOR **CLARK**



A STRONGER ECONOMY. A SECURE FUTURE.

The Liberal Government has ensured the supply of affordable housing in Hobart for Tasmanians in need will be boosted by a \$30 million package under Hobart City Deal.

The funding will facilitate more than 100 new social housing dwellings across Greater Hobart, with the Liberal National Government providing \$30 million to make it a reality.

The Government provides 2,824 individuals in Hobart with Commonwealth Rent Assistance, which is aimed at avoiding housing stress.

The forgiveness of the Housing debt, whilst attractive is also a complex issue. Premier Hodgman has sought this relief; however such a request was rejected on the basis that all other States would need to be treated on the same basis. The Commonwealth and all States recently completed the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement.

In 2019–20, the Australian Government will provide \$1.56 billion to the states and territories through this Agreement, which is a 1.88% increase from the 2018–19 allocation of \$1.53 billion. This includes \$33.7 m for Tasmania or 2.16% slightly above our population share of 2.11%.

Conclusion

I believe I live in the best city, in the best State in the best country in the world. To secure Australia's future, the road ahead depends on a strong economy. That's why there is a lot at stake at this election.

The Liberal Party is delivering the first Budget surplus in more than a decade. Nationally unemployment is now 5% - with 95% of the jobs created in the past 12 months being full-time. Last year, for the first time in history, 100,000 young Australians got a job.

With a stronger economy, the Liberals will:

1. Create 1.25 million more jobs over the next five years.
2. Maintain budget surpluses and pay down debt.
3. Deliver tax relief for families and small businesses.
4. Guarantee increased funding for schools, hospitals, medicines and roads.
5. Keep Australians safe and our borders secure

All of this will be delivered by our plan to keep building our economy – not by increasing taxes.

This will make the lives of the residents of Hobart easier and take the pressure off our families.

Yours sincerely

Amanda – Sue Markham
Liberal Candidate for Clark