



ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY

**NOOSA / SUNSHINE
COAST 2020**

CAMPAIGN COMMITMENTS

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Reversing urban sprawl

The Animal Justice Party does not believe in the infinite growth or expansion of a city. But while our population continues to grow, we must encourage quality, high density development within our urban footprint and end the destruction of bushland and green space. Not only will this give nature space to breathe but will improve transport efficiency along the coast.

Our commitments for both Noosa and Sunshine Coast 2020 are:

1. End the construction of new low-density housing estates on bushland or farmland.
2. Trial a free, high-frequency electric shuttle mini-bus for locals to get to suburban bus and train stations and commercial hubs, reducing demand for roads and cars.
3. Reward ratepayers for native tree cover with rates discounts.
4. Shrink the city's urban footprint by buying back and converting outer properties to native bushland, creating a green belt.
 - a. On the Sunshine Coast, start by increasing the Regional Inter-urban break to 40,000 hectares by 2025.
 - b. In Noosa, total land protected will be increased from 35% to 50% by 2030.
 - c. Oppose any Noosa Civic Expansion that would encroach on Koala and other wildlife habitat.

Keeping beaches safe, for everyone

Sharks are an essential part of ocean ecosystems and the Animal Justice Party advocates complete protection for them. We must reimagine our relationship with sharks and the ocean and trial new, cruelty-free ways of living peacefully side-by-side. We want residents and tourists to be safe and to enjoy our magnificent beaches, but we don't believe killing sharks is a necessary or desirable part of this vision.

Our commitments for both Noosa and Sunshine Coast 2020 are:

1. Actively lobby the State Government to trial new non-lethal technologies, e.g: detection drones, with the view to remove lethal controls.
2. Educate residents and tourists on shark behaviour/protection and their importance to the marine ecosystem.
3. Provide signage on beaches in high risk areas including live information on the presence of sharks.

Saving coastal koalas

The Animal Justice Party is incredibly concerned by the dwindling koala population in South East Queensland and the increasing fragmentation of their habitat. We are heading towards koalas being wiped out completely from our cities because they can no longer live safely or connect with one another unless urgent action is taken.

Our commitments for both Noosa and Sunshine Coast 2020 are:

1. Create and publish an interactive map to show active koala habitats and ongoing population changes over time.
2. Introduce electronic signage to reduce speed and develop awareness of koalas' movement in hot spots between the months of July and September (breeding season)
3. Invest greater resources in Council's "Wildlife Movement Solutions" programs to prevent roadkill and habitat fragmentation
4. Invest in new tracking technology to monitor koalas in real time.

Living safely with kangaroos

Our national icon should be free to live safely with us, but unfortunately encroaching development and dangerous roads mean that too many kangaroos are injured or die a premature death.

Our commitments for both Noosa and Sunshine Coast 2020 are:

1. Establish speed control measures such as speed humps and chicanes on the roads around areas with known kangaroo populations.
2. Consult with local rescue, welfare and conservation groups to ensure speed controls are located in the best places.
3. Invest in animal-friendly infrastructure to provide more wildlife underpasses to keep them off the roads and to prevent traffic accidents (roadkill).
4. Lobby the State Government to prevent kangaroos being added to the 'pest' list.
5. Provide 'How to live with and protect wildlife' information cards for residents.

Celebrating responsibly, safely

We all love a good celebration and show, and the Animal Justice Party knows that we can have just as much enjoyment without the use of fireworks. Fireworks cost a fortune, pollute the air and water, and scare wildlife and companion animals. There are better, cheaper solutions that are fun, responsible and safe for all.

Our commitments for both Noosa and Sunshine Coast 2020 are:

1. Educating the public on the detrimental impact of fireworks to animals, humans and the environment.
2. Trial other means of entertainment such as laser shows. Eg: Noosa 2019-2020 New Year's Eve festivities included an environmentally friendly laser show rather than fireworks. Study the environmental impact of these alternatives and transition accordingly.
3. Make Noosa and the Sunshine Coast firework-free Councils to help the environment, save money and stop harm to animals.

Cleaning up, stopping pollution

The Animal Justice Party is dedicated to busting litter and pollution which is damaging to our local environment, including our precious waterways. We believe that the solution involves getting community, business and industry on board with 21st century waste management and introducing innovative ways to build roads and drains.

Our commitments for both Noosa and Sunshine Coast 2020 are:

1. Place “drain socks” on storm drains to catch litter before it ends up in the local creek.
2. Trial using recycled plastic to resurface roads, like Redland City Council.
3. Reward businesses using eco-friendly practices with a Council star-rating scheme.

Supporting animal rescuers

The Animal Justice Party will fight to ensure that animal rescuers, who are providing an important public service to our community, are properly funded by Council for the work they do in our community. Injury to wildlife is a sad reality of modern living; we have a collective duty to provide the best care possible where an animal is hurt.

Our commitments for both Noosa and Sunshine Coast 2020 are:

1. Fund a native wildlife ambulance service like Brisbane, Logan and Gold Coast.
2. Develop new council grants specifically for wildlife carers in Noosa and Sunshine Coast.

Caring for companion animals

The Animal Justice Party envisions a kinder Council, which provides better services for our beloved companion animals while humanely managing cat and dog populations. We reject violence as a form of 'control' and encourage responsible caregiving towards animals. Desexing is an important step in preventing the oversupply of companion animals, which is a key cause of their abandonment and suffering.

Our commitments for both Noosa and Sunshine Coast 2020 are:

1. Reintroduce the registration fee for Noosa cats, previously abolished in 2014. For both Noosa and Sunshine Coast, direct funds collected to manage cat populations and fund animal services.
2. Use registration fees to subsidise local vets to provide free desexing to the community to stop overpopulation.
3. In both Noosa and Sunshine Coast, amend the Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) to require the compulsory desexing of cats at an appropriate age, preventing oversupply issues.
4. Allocate any surplus funds from registration fees to wildlife rescue groups
5. Trial immunocontraception/sterilization to humanely manage populations of wild cats.
6. End the use of 1080 in the Council area and lobby the Queensland Government to outlaw the poison.
7. Advocate for adopting rather than buying from animal breeders (e.g. puppy farms).
8. Oppose applications for new breeding facilities, e.g. on the Sunshine Coast the Diamond Valley Kennels facility in Landsborough.

(Position:) Stopping Corruption

Note: The Animal Justice Party has policies for animal and environmental issues (which we focus our campaigns on) and also has positions for human-only issues (which we care about, but do not campaign on).

The Animal Justice Party relies upon our core values of Kindness, Equality, Rationality and Non-Violence in forming our position to stamp out corruption in all of its forms. Corruption is insidious and undermines the rule of law, destroys public confidence in government and seeks to give power, influence and resources to a privileged few with criminal and unethical intent to the detriment of the broader community. Corruption is also often detrimental to animal and environmental protection. Alan McSparran, Chairperson of the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) stated "Recent corruption investigations have exposed a number of significant and systemic corruption risks in the local government sector."

The AJP supports the efforts of integrity and accountability agencies that oversee our democratic processes including the Electoral Commission Queensland (ECQ) and CCC. The AJP supports all efforts to improve equity, transparency, integrity and accountability in local government elections and decision-making. Specifically, the AJP supports all recommendations in the CCC's Operation Belcarra report and the implementation of these by the Queensland Government. We also support similar measures in other jurisdictions, including the introduction of a federal Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).

Internally, AJP representatives will maintain high ethical standards with zero tolerance towards corruption; the AJP will promptly refer any matters it is aware of involving corruption to the relevant authorities.