

ELECT ALEX JOEHL

Q & A with Alex:

In 2014, the WalkScore organization rated the Township of Langley a score of 39. In 2022, it was down to 33: “Langley is a Car-Dependent City”. Why do you believe this is? Do you believe Langley should be less car dependent? What sort of policies would you support to reverse this trend?

The Fraser Valley in general has suffered from urban sprawl because for many decades the real estate prices allowed for it. And as long as the provincial government has a monopoly on most forms of public transit we won't see it become efficient enough to serve our whole city, so our vehicles are not going anywhere. I don't believe that being “less car dependent” is the ultimate goal. But as affordability worsens it is a reality that fewer and fewer residents will be able to afford one or two cars per household and commercial development should reflect that. Walkable neighbourhoods have a smaller footprint, both physically and environmentally too, so they should be the end goal. What we can do as a council is set a criteria for desired development outcomes and fast-track the permitting process for applications that meet those criteria.