

# ***Make, What Counts.***

## ***Short election program for the Local Elections***

### ***2024 in Rostock***

On June 9th, the Rostock City Council will be re-elected. With this short election program, we present our most important goals and plans for Rostock's future. Climate protection and social cohesion are particularly important to us. We look forward to discussions and exchanges with you in the coming weeks.

In the local elections, you have three votes. We want to make Rostock greener together with you and ask for your trust.

#### ***A green city by the sea for all people***

**Building more homes, faster:** We want more affordable housing for Rostock, especially in neighborhoods where low-rent housing is lacking. Our goal: 500 new social housing units in the next five years. We support housing projects and the construction of new student dormitories.

**Improve Social Cohesion:** We will make meeting places such as the city harbor, parks, and green spaces more attractive. We want to advance the implementation of the Dierkow City Park. New residential areas should be planned with high quality of stay, playgrounds, and low-traffic zones from the start. Active and early involvement of local people strengthens cohesion.

**A Green City by the Sea for All People:** We will prepare Rostock for weather extremes such as prolonged heat and heavy rain. This includes a sponge city concept to regulate water volumes. To cool the city, we need more urban greenery, including green facades and roofs. At least 200 additional trees should be planted in each district.

**Sustainable Building and Renovation:** New buildings in Rostock should primarily be apartment buildings to use the limited urban space efficiently. We advocate for moderate

densification instead of new development areas on the outskirts. We want to promote ecological and energy-efficient construction methods.

## ***Living Together – We Are Stronger Together***

**Building a Child- and Youth-Friendly City:** Many playgrounds can be made more attractive. Rostock needs more offerings for teenagers. We advocate for making municipal sports halls with free hall times accessible on weekends. Families with low incomes should receive better discounts on municipal cultural and recreational offerings. The situation of single parents should also be considered.

**Active in Old Age:** The proportion of older people in Rostock is growing. They should be able to stay active in Rostock for as long as possible. We want to quickly improve the condition of sidewalks and create additional seating and public toilets. The senior citizens' advisory council should have the right to submit motions in the city council. We advocate for parking niches for mobile care services to facilitate their work.

**Achieving Gender Equality:** We aim for equal representation of women in city politics and in the management of municipal companies. We want to eliminate poorly lit areas to make people feel safer in the city, such as poorly lit paths. We support the construction of the new barrier-free women's shelter.

**Keeping Rostock Open-Minded:** We want to support initiatives promoting diversity and integration permanently. The migration office needs more staff to process requests faster. We advocate for the creation of more suitable accommodation options for refugees. In memory of the NSU murder victim, we support renaming Neudierkower Weg to Mehmet-Turgut-Weg.

**United in Diversity:** We GREENS stand for a colorful, discrimination-free, equal, and inclusive Rostock. We support corresponding initiatives and projects. Existing barriers for physically disabled people must continue to be removed. We are committed to reliable financing of social counseling centers and the establishment of an anti-discrimination office.

## ***Convenient and Climate-Friendly Through Rostock***

**Expanding Public Transport:** Expanding the tram network is particularly important to us. Park-and-ride facilities on the outskirts need to be better connected to public transport. We want to secure free preschool and student tickets permanently and enable free Wi-Fi on buses and trams.

**On the Way to Becoming a Bicycle City:** We fight for safe cycling throughout the city. An important project is to create more space for pedestrian and bicycle traffic on Mühlendamm. We want to accelerate the implementation of the 26-kilometer fast bicycle network and ensure the construction of the Warnow Bridge. Rostock needs more secure bicycle parking facilities.

**Improving Sidewalks, Reducing Car Traffic:** Many sidewalks are tripping hazards and need to be renovated. We also want to create more safe pedestrian crossings. We advocate for neighborhood parking garages and the expansion of residential parking. The network of e-charging stations should be further expanded.

## ***Protecting Urban Greenery and Biodiversity***

**More Nature on Your Doorstep:** We want to establish more green corridors and advocate for clear rules on how many green spaces each district must have at a minimum. Our goal: trees on every street. Additionally, three schoolyards should be greened annually. We want to ensure the current number of allotment gardens in the long term.

**Protecting Valuable Habitats:** The Oldendorfer Tannen and the moor area around the Peezer Bach at Breitling are currently threatened by port expansion plans. We want to prevent this. We also advocate for the ecological management of the approximately 3,000 hectares of agricultural land owned by the city.

**Taking Animal Welfare Seriously:** We protect the habitats of animals in the city and support animal welfare initiatives. We want to better promote measures for animal welfare, such as the neutering of wild cats and the establishment of pigeon houses. For school meals, we advocate for less meat from factory farming and more organically produced products.

**For a Clean Environment:** We initiated the "Plastic-Free City" initiative and want to continue promoting it. Only reusable cups and dishes should be offered at public events. We want to push harder to reduce the number of cigarette butts in the environment. We will also focus on clean playgrounds.

## ***Heat and energy supply - local, social, climate-neutral***

**Implementing the Rostock Heat Plan:** Rostock should become climate neutral by 2035. This decision was made three years ago with many initiatives. Now it is important to implement this goal consistently. A lot of energy is needed for heating and hot water, so there is the most to be done here. The Rostock heat plan for climate-neutral heat supply is now a nationwide model. With investments in large heat pumps, heat storage, and waste heat utilization, we will become more climate-friendly and independent of fossil fuels step by step.

**More Electricity from Sun and Wind:** Many municipal buildings still lack solar systems – we want to change that. We support the planned offshore wind farm ten kilometers off the coast of Warnemünde, which can theoretically cover the entire city's electricity needs. At the same time, we want to reduce the city's electricity consumption, for example by quickly replacing street lighting with energy-saving LEDs. The coal power plant should only serve as an emergency reserve as soon as possible.

## ***Good educational opportunities for all***

**Better Care in Daycare and After-School Care:** Together with the state, we want to achieve an improvement in the care ratio. We also advocate for all children to have the right to a full-day place. This would also be a contribution to reducing bureaucracy, as all parents currently have to submit work time proof for a full-day place. Safe ways to daycare centers and schools are a priority for us.

**Modern and Friendly Schools:** We want to implement new constructions such as at Groten Pohl in the southern part of the city and necessary renovations more quickly. We advocate for a new school service at the municipal building management (KOE) to ensure clean schools and functioning interior furnishings again. Digitalization must be further improved, including rapid technical support. For school meals, we will ensure that the proportion of sustainably produced ingredients continuously increases and that prices remain affordable.

**Promoting Lifelong Learning, Strengthening the Science Location:** We want to preserve the great variety of educational providers. The shortage of skilled workers is currently putting some providers under great pressure. Here we want to provide special support so that providers can pay appropriate fees. We also advocate for an environmental education center. We want to make the cooperation between the city, universities, and research institutes even closer.

## ***Culture – diverse, free and vibrant***

**Ensuring Structures, Enabling New Things:** The construction of the new theater has finally begun. We will ensure that it is not delayed again. The new Volkstheater should be open to various cultural actors and financially equipped to attract regional attention. We advocate for the dynamization of funding in the free culture scene and want to improve working conditions in culture. We want to create new cultural spaces, especially in the northeast and northwest. We continue to support the expansion of the museum location at the traditional ship in IGA Park.

**Making Culture More Visible:** We want to launch a marketing initiative with the tourism center for our cultural actors so that Rostock is more perceived as a cultural city. Events should be findable via the "Rostock App" in the future. We want to introduce an annual cultural day modeled on the "Open Monument Day." More visibility also means: more art in public spaces, such as street art or legal graffiti opportunities.

## ***For a future-oriented economy***

**Sustainable Economic Development:** Rostock is highly attractive for businesses. There are not enough areas for all interested parties. Therefore, we want to link settlements and economic promotion to social and ecological criteria. We also see the perspective of the Overseas Port as a location for the production of hydrogen and suppliers for renewable energies.

**Supporting Modernization:** We want to further expand the broadband network in Rostock and better promote innovative startups. We want to consistently advance the digitization of administration so that citizens and businesses can handle their concerns much faster. Refugees should have quicker access to the labor market. We support initiatives for a lively and attractive city center.

**Promoting Gentle Tourism:** We want to strengthen tourist offers that protect nature and landscape in and around Rostock. Popular destinations such as the Rostock Heath should be better accessible by public transport. We advocate for a bike rental system. Cruise ships should be required to use the existing shore power facility in the port.

## ***Solid and sustainable finances***

**Securing services of general interest:** It is important to us to secure municipal property in the long term. For this reason, municipal land should not be sold as a rule, but instead granted as a leasehold with annual lease payments. For us, investments are sustainable if they maintain or expand important infrastructure, save money in the long term or make the city fit for the future. Charging statutes should become fairer. To reduce waste, we want to introduce a municipal packaging tax for disposable tableware and packaging from snack bars and fast food restaurants.

## ***Contact us***

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