



NEOSLETTER
STAND BY
FOR WIENER NEUSTADT

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NEOS Freiheit
Fortschritt
Gerechtigkeit



OUR TOP 3 CANDIDATES



BERNHARD LUTZER

frontrunner/lead candidate

As the regional spokesperson for my party, I am fully committed to enhancing transparency and reconnecting politics with the people of our city. Together, we can improve the quality of life in Wiener Neustadt for generations to come. As a father of two, I want to focus on childcare, education, and innovation. I offer fresh ideas and grand experience to challenge the outdated ways of governing. I want to be the strong voice of reason that Wiener Neustadt deserves.



THEODOR HARNISCH

candidate

As a soon-to-be historian, I strongly believe that our city, rich in history, also deserves a prosperous future. The needs of our community must once again be represented in the local council. I want to ensure that political decisions are made with accountability and with a focus on sustainability. The development of our city can only succeed through greater involvement of those most affected – whether in matters of transportation, housing, or other key issues.



ELENA HOFER

candidate

I am studying law in Vienna and have been politically active in the Austrian Student Union for a long time. I want to bring my experience into local politics. It is here that our everyday lives are shaped, yet many decisions are made without the future in mind. Wiener Neustadt has so much untapped potential. I want to inspire young people by enabling them to actively shape the future of our city. For that we need greater representation via an additional council for youth affairs.



OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE



IMPROVED EDUCATION

One of our top priorities is to assess the demand for childcare and educational offerings based on demographic developments to plan accordingly. Our schools need to be renovated and better equipped. After-school care must be expanded across the board. To relieve educators, we aim to launch an educational training initiative and provide more administrative support to ensure high educational quality.



SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Urban development must align with the needs of citizens. We want to ensure access to public healthcare in all neighbourhoods through targeted incentives and proactive planning. An expanded network of cycling paths and buses will help us solve traffic congestion. Affordable housing will be created through the renovation and use of vacant buildings in the city centre, while we avoid sealing off additional green spaces on the city outskirts.



ENSURED TRANSPARENCY

Political deals and backroom agreements must be a thing of the past. Our new way of politics is built on working together. Major projects and the appointment of key positions should always be transparent. We are committed to mandatory activity reports, townhall meetings and ongoing communication. Additionally, we aim to balance the budget: our resources should be used efficiently and unfair expenses cut, so that our children do not inherit the burden of debt.



THRIVING LOCAL ECONOMY

Our goal is creating jobs and securing prosperity. To achieve this, we must stop hindering businesses with bureaucracy. Instead, we need an efficient administration and the expansion of digital infrastructure. By simplifying the founding process, strengthening the connection between local businesses and schools, and easing regulations, we will give the regional economy new momentum.





MORE CONGESTION DUE TO DEMOLITION

The latest project from the local government has caused significant frustration throughout the city. We are critical of the redesign of the main street for several reasons. Instead of using the past years to focus on improving commutes to school and work by expanding public transportation, a new „flagship project“ has been introduced just before the election - one that seems to create more problems than it solves.

The very intention behind the demolition is questionable. Why plan a grand—and likely more expensive—redevelopment in the city centre, when it is well known that the residents of the Pottendorfer and Nestroy-Straße suffer the most from traffic congestion?

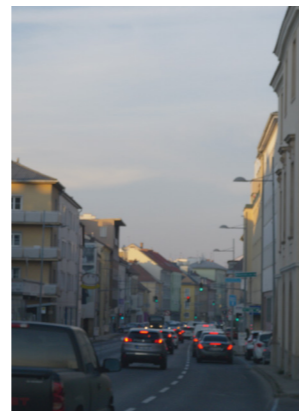
There are concerns that traffic will only get worse if the project moves forward as planned. No sensible person would begin demolishing a (main) road and leave citizens stuck in traffic without offering alternatives. According to the regional traffic study, the expected relief for the Grazer Straße from the eastern highway will be minimal. How the new layout will integrate into the city’s road network remains unclear.

To this day, there is no viable overall traffic plan to reduce excessive car traffic and offer alternatives

to driving. The city’s development and traffic plans have proven to be ineffective, and the measures within them have been harshly criticized by the Federal Court of Auditors.

What we need are attractive alternatives that would make the jump to public transport a real option for all citizens: safe, widespread cycling and pedestrian paths, reliable bus lines with appealing schedules—seven days a week, until the late hours. Only then would such a demolition make sense from a number’s perspective. Otherwise, this will just create more and longer traffic jams.

One can only hope this is not a serious plan. Over the years, many similar projects have been announced by Mayor Schneeberger but never implemented. The city government must finally prove that it can create sustainable mobility solutions in the long term, and not just make election promises that are later forgotten.



THE MASTER OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Schneeberger has earned a new reputation alongside his „Concrete Emperor“ title. He makes grand announcements about construction projects and initiatives but rarely ensures they are implemented on time. The reason for this is the dried-up funding from the state and ongoing secretive decision-making processes. Public trust in politics has been severely shaken. In recent years, we have focused on raising awareness to prevent the costs of the mayor’s one-man show from being paid by us citizens. Let us take a look at just a few projects that has been grandly announced but never carried out.

The Leiner-Areal has attracted the most attention. Negotiations are still being conducted without meaningful public involvement, even though the project will have a significant impact on the city’s appearance and nearby residents. For the “Maximilium am Stadtpark,” plots of land were recently exchanged like in a game of Monopoly. No one knows when the promised musical campus will materialize, while students are still learning in increasingly dilapidated buildings. We, the NEOS, demand clarity and a proper review of alternatives, such as renovating the existing schools.

Despite a groundbreaking ceremony and multiple announced start dates, the site of the new State Hospital only features a billboard. The facility was supposed to begin operations in 2028, but now it’s expected to open in 2030. The clock is ticking, and not just for the initially projected cost of 553 million euros, which goes up year after year. The current



hospital has been neglected in the hope that the new one will be built, with no renovation work being done. Once again, no review of alternatives have been considered. Instead of being transparent, the authorities are misleading the public and keeping them waiting. How much longer? No one knows.

All of these issues stem from a lack of transparency in our city. The public has a right to know how and where their tax money is being spent. It’s time for decisions to be made more openly and democratically to end growing debt and irrational decision-making. We are committed to a policy that works in the best interests of all citizens and restores trust in the future of our city.



A REVIEW OF OUR EDUCATION

The past decade has been marked by empty promises at the expense of children and teachers. There has been a lot of noise and grand announcements, but very little progress. While press releases boast shiny headlines, our education system is facing a crisis of its own making. We don't need any more short-term "campaigns," but instead a long-term, realistic strategy with clear goals focused on quality and genuine progress.

Last year, it was boldly announced that there would be enough childcare places for all children between 0 and 6 years old. However, according to Statistics Austria, only around 67% of all toddlers actually have a spot. The demand for childcare spaces for 3- to 5-year-olds has been officially „covered“ since 2015, but the number of places for 0- to 2-year-olds only rose to around 35% last year. The number of VIF-compliant facilities - those meeting high quality standards - has stagnated.

One-third of teachers in Austria will retire within the next five years. Right now, we need to create more training places for kindergarten, after-school, and early childhood educators at the local level. But instead of addressing this, the problem is being sealed in concrete by our local government. Our historic school buildings have been neglected for years; renovations are long overdue. It seems that quantity is being prioritized over quality, which is only creating more problems.

Even in language support, there have been setbacks. German language classes are falling far short of their goal; rather than integrating, they isolate. According to Statistics Austria, half of the children in our elementary schools no longer speak German as a common language. German is crucial for integration. Contrary to its promise in December 2022, the city government has failed to establish comprehensive language support in kindergartens. Instead, support staff are being cut, while putting pressure on the remaining educators by opening new classes.

This pattern of silent cuts extends to the foreign language assistance program, with hours being reduced. How are our children supposed to remain competitive in a globalized world, if they are denied essential language skills and intercultural competencies? Schneeberger and the ÖVP would rather clip our children's wings than save within the system itself.

The past ten years have shown that it's time for a sustainable education strategy, with meaningful reforms. A government that doesn't just make promises but also delivers results.

LOOKING BACK AT OUR SUCCESSES

SAVING EUROPE!

In May, the newly elected member of the European Parliament Anna Stürgkh visited us at the Zentralkino. Together with people of all ages, we discussed Europe's biggest challenges and how we can overcome them.



THANK YOU!

Ever since we started with a new team in Wiener Neustadt, the citizens of the city have shown us their trust in various elections. We want to thank you for your support and for sharing our vision of a bright future for our city! **We are counting on you in January for the municipal elections!**

State Election 2023:
 7.35% (1,331 votes): +2.04%

European Election 2024:
 10.27% (1,607 votes): +1.49%

Federal Election 2024:
 8.4% (1,877 votes): +0.9%

DISCUSSION ON EDUCATION REFORM

In September, we organized a discussion on the challenges within the education system. Martina Künsberg Sarre, our education spokesperson and member of the Austrian Parliament, chaired the event and emphasized our commitment to reform. Participants made it very clear that urgent actions are needed, particularly regarding the shortage of teachers and bureaucratic hurdles. We are pushing for a comprehensive education reform, including an opportunities index and reduced red tape. In Vienna, we have already made progress, such as introducing school administrators and increasing language support staff.

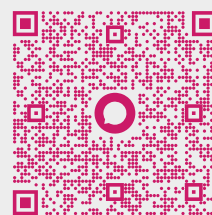



26.1.2025
NEOS

WE'RE READY. ARE YOU?

Get to
know our
team now!

Scan the QR code to learn
more about our plans and
our team!



PINKER ADVENT

Christmas season is just around the corner, and once again, our city has an exciting program planned. Every Sunday, we'll be at the city's Christmas markets, ready to chat and connect with you.

- 01.12.2024:** Stadtpark
- 08.12.2024:** Beethovenallee
- 15.12.2024:** Am Dom
- 22.12.2024:** Bürgermeistergarten

Zusätzlich freuen wir uns das Ö3-Weihnachtswunder in Wiener Neustadt empfangen zu dürfen und werden dem Spendenaufruf zu Weihnachten nachkommen.



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