

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Your Support Is Needed to Keep Boroondara the way it is.
Date: Monday, 4 March 2019 6:16:31 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2019 5:27 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Your Support Is Needed to Keep Boroondara the way it is.

ONE CONCILLOR REPRESENTING **ONE WARD** MAKES GOOD SENSE !!

WHY CHANGE SOMETHING THAT WORKS

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Tom Ponya

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DEAR BRAG MEMBERS

Please all help with this issue, numbers are needed to win this.

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) is reviewing the elected representation of Boroondara. We need all to tell them we dont want to change.

We currently have 10 wards across Boroondara and one councillor to each ward so 10 councillors.

Years ago, when I was a Camberwell Councillor, there were 4 big wards and 3 councillors to each ward and there was an election every year for one councillor from each ward. Believe me it works much better the way it is now. You can contact your councillor and they should know his or her area well and speak for you to

take care of the ward.

I will put here the email I have just sent to them about it and please do an email too, in your own words.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR HELP ON THIS ISSUE

MARY

- [REDACTED]

TO THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF VICTORIA RE THE
PROPOSAL TO REVIEW BOROONDARA'S ELECTED
REPRESENTATION

Dear Victorian Electoral Commissioner

Back in 2008 there was a review by you of Boroondara's elected representation by your predecessor and at that time we residents made it clear that we wanted to keep one councillor per ward and we have 10 wards. Years ago when I was a councillor of the City of Camberwell we had 4 big wards and 3 councillors per ward. I can speak from years of experience dealing with council both inside and outside that it is far more satisfactory to have single councillor wards in smaller wards.

When there are single councillor wards the councillor gets to know their area well and also the people. When people have an issue they know who to speak to and at council meetings the councillor then speaks for issues in his/her ward and the others take notice. They are also more accountable for their actions.

I would object strongly if you changed the system we are happy with. I know from experience that it is not as good for the residents to have the other system. So please leave it alone.

Mary Drost

You may remember the meeting held in 2008 about it - I remember a lot of us spoke. At that stage they left it alone. You have to wonder why they start again.

Then below I will send you a number of ideas you could use - but your own words please.

Dear Victorian Electoral Commissioner

I am emailing in support of ten single-councillor wards for Boroondara City Council.

The last electoral representation review for Boroondara took place in 2008. Following the 2008 review, the VEC's final recommendation was for Boroondara to remain with ten single-councillor wards with a minor change to ward boundaries. If it is not broke, what are we trying to fix?

In single member wards our elected representatives are easier to access, have a greater understanding of the local area and issues, act for diverse voices in our communities, and are more accountable to us. Our representatives should have a close connection to their community.

Keep Boroondara with ten single-councillor wards.

Thank you for your consideration

Dear Victorian Electoral Commissioner

The current number of councillors for Boroondara is appropriate and is sufficient to provide fair and equitable representation for locals. There is no major forecasts in population growth or increased communities of interest that would justify more councillors.

In terms of electoral structure, I strongly support keeping Boroondara local and with ten single-councillor wards. It is my experience that my ward councillor is a truly local representative, easily accessible and aware of local issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dear Victorian Electoral Commissioner

In my view the current single-member wards structure for Boroondara should be retained, as this is the best structure to meet the needs of the Boroondara community because:

- it allows easy access to your local representative;
- local representatives have a greater understanding of their local area;
- single-member wards provide the best representation;
- it reflects the individual elements of our diverse community;
- it provides one primary point of contact and ensures a consistent approach;
and
- different neighbourhoods have different needs. Local representation ensures these differences are recognised and supported.

I believe that multi-member wards are not good for Boroondara because:

- multi-member wards can encourage party political affiliations;
- councillors may be less accessible for residents in some parts of the ward;
- all of the Councillors may reside in the same part of the ward, leaving the remaining parts without local representation;
- residents may need to contact multiple councillors to raise awareness of an issue or galvanise support for local projects;
- there is potential for a duplication of work if councillors do not communicate or share their workloads effectively;
- councillors may be overworked due to increased workload; and
- councillors may have competing views about how their ward should be run, which may cause friction and be confusing for residents and businesses.

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