Geoff Gough PO Box 1, Doncaster 0412 345 081



MAV Presidential Election

Dear MAV Delegate

I write to advise you that I have decided to withdraw my nomination for president of the MAV.

I withdrew my candidacy because I reached the view that local governments' interests are best served by continuing to be led by the principled and fiercely independent style of the incumbent, Cr Bill McArthur. Although initially I thought my Liberal Party background may have provided some advantage to the sector given the recent change of government, it is now clear to me that what we actually need is a sector led by experienced hands and one whom everyone respects – on both sides of politics (and also the Greens) – rather than a political apparatchik.

In reaching my decision, I don't want to detract from the other two candidates who are standing against Bill for president – Jane Rowe from East Gippsland Shire and Reid Mather from Buloke Shire. Both are capable of doing the job. However, like me a few years ago, they are both very involved in their respective political parties – Jane having stood previously at state and federal elections for Labor and Reid only narrowly (and surprisingly) missing out on claiming an extra upper house seat for the National Party at the recent State election. Both Reid and Jane will get their chance soon (probably in the rabbit warrens of Spring Street), but what the MAV needs right now is stability, sure hands, clarity of thought and a considered but diligent approach to our issues. That's why I'm no longer standing and why I'm supporting Bill.

Yours Sincerely

GEOFF GOUGH

Mayor of the City of Manningham

MAV Board Member

Lord

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