



**BRRAG**

**Belmont Resident and Ratepayer Action Group Inc.**

*"To provide an effective voice for the people of Belmont"*

15 January 2019

The Mayor and Councillors  
City of Belmont  
Belmont WA 6104

Dear Mayor Marks and Councillors

Happy New Year to you all. We hope you had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed some time to relax with family and friends.

We would like to thank Mayor Marks for allowing the Residents of Belmont to have an opportunity to be heard at the recent Electors Meeting. Sadly, there was not a large attendance which may be attributed to the timing of the meeting so close to Christmas. Given that Councillors Rossi, Bass and Davis were absent, as well as member's of the public, consideration could be given in future for calling the meeting in late November to allow more participation.

At the Electors meeting, BRRAG put up five motions that were successfully carried. These motions will be available to the Residents of Belmont via our new website. We are hoping that each councillor will look at each motion based on its merit before voting for or against it.

As Councillors you are elected to represent the ratepayers. With this year being an election year for some of you, it will allow for the Residents of Belmont to give more scrutiny to who they think will be most likely to represent them the best in the future. BRRAG intends to put the outcome of the voting on these motions on our website so it is all very transparent for the residents.

Last year there were three motions put forward by the Residents at the Electors Meeting. The officers comments for one of them was that it had been voted on previously a number of times and on the other two they related to the DA6 Vision Plan which had already been adopted. The officers recommendation on all three motions was no further action be taken on any of them.

The officers recommendations on the item relating to the Electors Meeting, tied together in one recommendation the accepting of the minutes of the Electors Meeting, accepting the Annual Reports as well as the recommendation of no further action on the three motions that had been carried. Further noted, was the fact that the item which related to the Electors Meeting was lumped together in a package of no less than thirteen other recommendations. They packaged was accepted en bloc by Absolute Majority. The end result of this meant that each and every councillor not only dismissed the voice of the electorate, but it would seem you did not even think the Electors Meeting was worthy of being an item on its own for consideration.

It is hoped that the way it was done last year may have simply been a lack of understanding on the part of the Councillors, when you were given a package like that to vote on, as opposed to the

residents being dismissed by their representatives. We hope this year, now it has been pointed out, more consideration might be given to those you represent. Surely it is not unreasonable for the electorate to want to have proper representation and their voices heard?

As BRRAG is a community group who represents the residents of Belmont hoping to improve our City, we will be letting the community know of the outcome of the Electors Meeting via our website. We will let the residents know in particular the voting outcome of our motions. We also want the residents to know that we have requested that our motions be voted for on their individual merits. Accordingly we will put a copy of this letter on our website with the motions and the outcome.

We look forward to a great year ahead for the City of Belmont and the opportunity to work more with our councillors.

Kindest regards

Lisa Hollands

Chairperson Belmont Residents and Ratepayers Action Group.