

**Electoral structure review - Moorabool Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
MICHAEL Lombardi - Bacchus Marsh - 24 February 2023, 05:03 pm**

I find it rather frustrating that the current elected representatives have been elected to the Shire Of Moorabool and do not need to live in specific areas of the shire to become elected. Currently Hopetoun Park which has grown considerably in the past years and set to increase greatly in the next 2 years due to subdivision applications before the shire yet we do not have an elected representative who either lives in the estate or understands the needs and requirements of the residents of this estate.

Of The current councillors NONE reside in the area and NONE have even visited our estate in years.

It has become an issue for residents who whilst the shire considers us to be residential ratepayers and charged exhorbatant rates we believe we are truly rural and do not have the same issues as residents who reside in the townships.

[REDACTED]

I personally believe that the shire should be divided in seperate wards with each ward receiving one elected councillor.

This would ensure that the elected representative is truly representing the residents as currently we have 6 councillors voting on issues that they have no idea about and the issues are completely different in semi rural and rural areas as to residential townships.

I urge the commission to take into consideration the current boundaries and restructure where elected representatives are actually truly representing the area they reside in.

As our estate grows larger and larger it is imperative that semi rural communities become truly represented.

The current system of voting in the representatives needs an overhaul as the system in place benefits candidates from larger townships being elected to represent residents in areas they have no understanding of or possibly never been.

Because townships have thousands of residents there is never a chance for smaller rural communities to get local residents elected.

Certainly an Unfair current system of electing representatives.

Regards

Michael Lombardi

Victorian Electoral Commission note 01/03/2023:

Content in this submission has been redacted due to the material being deemed private, sensitive, out of scope or inappropriate for publication.