



## Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.

### Two Candidates for Mayor Duck Public Scrutiny

Community group leaders cannot believe that two of the three candidates for Mayor are passing up the opportunity to present themselves and their platforms to public forums organised in their localities. The first two forums have attracted big attendances of residents keen to meet the candidates and to assess their platforms.

Clr Bruce MacKenzie did not even respond to the Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association invitation to appear at the first forum attended by 200 voters at Soldiers Point. When contacted he said he would see whether the first forum turned into a “shit fight” and then decide whether he would attend the other meetings in his own Ward. TRRA asks why would a man with Mackenzie’s years of experience be so resistant to standing before his electors and to taking questions on his past performance and vision for the future?

Clr Dover took the opportunity at Soldiers Point to put her case to be elected as mayor, but declined to appear at Wednesday’s Anna Bay forum. She objected to the questions asked at the first forum. These raised the Council’s poor report card from the Department of Local Government Review of its performance, and the declining customer satisfaction on financial and planning responsibilities. Her response was that there was too much emphasis on the failures. Clr Dover also may have been shocked by the strong negative reaction from the auditorium to her acknowledgement that she will be directing her preferences to Bruce Mackenzie.

The Chairman of TRRA Geoff Washington said that the 70 people at the Anna Bay Forum appreciated the opportunity to hear the candidates who cared enough to stand before them. Clrs Geoff Dingle and Shirley O’Brien and new candidates Caitlin Spiller, and Shaun McEachern were prepared to put their visions on the line and respond to voter questions. “We hope that those keen community members who have requested the forums at Medowie and Tanilba Bay will not be denied the opportunity to engage with all the Mayoral and Ward candidates.”

The next forum will be in the Medowie Community Hall on Monday 27 August followed by another at Tanilba Bay RSL/Sports Club on Wednesday 29 August, both commencing at 7.00 pm.

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