

## **Preston Brown**

Walker Ward

As a candidate for Walker Ward councillor, I will be in favour of freezing rates to ease the financial burden on families. Speaking with parents at my daughter's local school and kinder, the financial pressures on local families are in need of any assistance.

With a double diploma in building and construction and management, and over 20 years experience in construction, I will focus on maintenance and upgrades of local parks, schools, and roads. Proper planning and budgeting will ensure that projects are completed efficiently and effectively.

As a father and husband, I understand the importance of family values in our community. I will work to uphold these values and create a strong sense of unity among residents.

Having grown up in a small business family, I'm dedicated to supporting local businesses. I will personally work to ensure that they have access to resources and assistance they need to thrive in our community.

With a strong foundation in family values and a deep appreciation for our country and community, I am dedicated to serving the people of Walker Ward with integrity and compassion. I hope to earn your trust and vote in the upcoming election. Thank you for your consideration.

Questions:

### **Why are you standing for Council?**

I have always been a leader in all aspects of school, work and sports. Since becoming a father and husband, I have opened my eyes more to the greater needs of a community, especially that of the needs of families in the community. I have slowly watched the slow decay of parks and school facilities, as well the engagement of local representatives.

Speaking with local businesses and schools, my concerns were confirmed that the local council were becoming harder and harder to get responses to their concerns. I felt my personal engagement with people and leadership skills are a vital asset, that now my young family is a bit more independent, I can commit valuable time to getting our community back on track and be an approachable leader for the local community to reach out too.

### **How will you make a difference?**

With a history in construction, more specifically in operations and construction management, I not only know what it takes to make the right decisions based on the information I am presented with, but also get results being mindful of budgets and the details that can go into proposals to council. I have made a career of being a leader whose sound decisions drive my continued success, and this is a skill set I would love to share with the wider Whitehorse community.

### **What are your key interests or issues?**

Back to basics local governance. Ensuring the proper funding and maintenance into Roads, Schools, parks and sporting clubs and that these funds are also being properly used by the administrators of these sectors. I will also look to provide a

voice for local businesses as they struggle exceptionally with the current economic climate, and these diverse and eclectic businesses are the real life blood of the community, especially in the shopping strips. A thriving array of diverse boutique shops add character to the suburb and can attract visitors from all over the city, I would love to keep Mitcham a great place for people to shop.

**Are you a member of a political party, and if so which party?**

Yes, I recently joined the Liberal party last year, not that I agree entirely on all their policies, but meeting with a few base members, I was surprised to find how different they were than the state or federal representation of the Liberal party. The majority of the members I have met have a "live and let live" Libertarian outlook on society which I agree with.

Despite the increase in independent parties and their engagement. I think the Labor and Liberal party will remain the two dominant parties for some time to come and making positive changes to the liberal party is something I would like to contribute too, as I feel my values now more closely align with that of the Liberal party and not Labor who I have actually voted for most of my adult life.

*Authorised by Preston Brown, 4 Dalmor Ave Mitcham 3132*