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LANCASTER

Election may hasten downsizing of Lancaster Village Board

By Sandra Tan
NEWS STAFF REPORTER

Lancaster Mayor William Cansdale said he believes Wednesday's village elections could be a catalyst to complete the downsizing of the Village Board from seven members to five.

The mayor's seat and the seats of two trustees will be up for election. A third trustee's seat will be abolished after the election, in keeping with the village's downsizing plans.

None of the open seats are opposed, but only Cansdale and Trustee William Schroeder are running for re-election. Trustees Gary Ambrose and Joseph Dennis are leaving office.

Trustee Edward Marki, whose term is set to expire in 2011, will be running for the second open trustee seat, which would expire in 2013. If elected, his current seat would become a mid-term vacancy.

"My recommendation to the board is that we leave it unfilled," said Cansdale, who added that he intends to bring up the matter after the elections.

Though the board was not expected to abolish its sixth seat until 2011, Cansdale said he intends to recommend that the board leave Marki's old seat open and send a resolution to public referendum in November to abolish the seat entirely.


If the opportunity to reduce the board to five members through attrition exists right now, Cansdale said, why not give voters what they want?

"It's my position that we're at five, let's stay at five, and let's abolish this seat in November," he said. "It's pretty clear how many representatives residents want . . . and they're happy with five."

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