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## Seasoned Gatt will make bid for mayor

### Landry gives support for current mayor pro tem

*By Nathan Mueller*  
*STAFF WRITER*

Bob Gatt has served the residents of Novi in some capacity for the last 40 years.

But now he is ready to do so as their leader.

Gatt, who currently is the mayor pro tem on the City Council, announced his candidacy for mayor last week, joining council member Justin Fischer in the race for Mayor David Landry's seat.

He said his passion has fueled his career thus far and it also led him to make the decision to run for mayor.

"I just don't make a wishy-washy decision on anything," he said. "I'm a passionate guy and always have been. I'm ready for this."

Gatt is in his second term on the City Council and was a police officer in the city for 27 years. He now works for Oakland County.

He entertained the thought of running for the state Senate last November, but health issues - that have since cleared up — derailed that plan. He said during that time he reassessed his future and made the decision to not leave Novi.

"With my experience on council and in the city and in leadership roles with the police department and Oakland County I believe I am ready to pick up the mantel when (Landry) leaves," he said.

Gatt has earned the endorsements of the current mayor — and council members Dave Staudt and Wayne Wrobel — saying "it will be very difficult to fill his shoes."

"No one will ever be able to fill Dave Landry's shoes," he said. "He was the best mayor that Novi has ever had, and I would know, since I worked for and with so many of them. However, Novi is going to have a new mayor next November and that person will have to create his own path, wearing his own shoes."

Landry, who has been mayor since 2005, announced in January that he would not be seeking re-election to a fourth two-year term.