



Comment on objections 42

Gowanbrae Residents Group

3 pages

From: Rick Arden
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Comments on objections to the planned federal redistribution
Date: Thursday, 17 May 2018 8:55:10 AM
Attachments: [GRG AEC COMMENT 170518.PDF](#)

Good morning,

Please find attached our comments on objections to the proposed transfer of Gowanbrae from Wills electorate to Calwell electorate.

Regards,

Rick Arden
Secretary



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
17 May 2018

The Augmented Electoral Commission for Victoria
Via email to FedRedistribution-VIC@aec.gov.au

Dear Chair and Members of the Electoral Commission,

I write to you, on behalf of the Gowanbrae Residents Group and residents of Gowanbrae, to comment on two objections to the proposed changes to the boundaries of the Federal Electoral Division of Wills, as per the proposed redistribution report released on 6 April 2018.

The Gowanbrae Residents Group is a community group which coordinates activities in our local community of Gowanbrae, and advocates on behalf of residents to local, state and federal Governments on local issues that impact us.

Since we wrote our Objection 299 to the proposed change that would have moved Gowanbrae from Wills to Calwell, we have had time to consider the issue more fully, aided by a well-attended public meeting that we held. This meeting was held on the night before objections were due, which did not give us time to modify and then agree our Objection as a Committee. The meeting gave us strong, valuable community feedback, and has led directly to our refining our views in line with our community's inputs. These views are now stated below.

We now submit as follows, as both:

- further comments on our views submitted on 4 May 2018 as Objection 299, and
- as a comment on Objection 268, submitted by Mr. M. Dal-Corobbo of Gowanbrae.

Re Objection 299

Firstly, we wish to apologise that unbeknownst to us, there was in fact no Objection submitted by the Federal Member for Wills or his party. Hence our first primary dot point in that submission can be ignored.

Secondly, we wish to re-iterate our clear position that our community and our Committee unanimously opposes the proposal for Gowanbrae to move to Calwell electorate. It appears to be based on a specious argument i.e. the fact that Gowanbrae is only accessible via Coventry Street. This is irrelevant to our community of interest, our places of work and leisure and all other aspects of life in Gowanbrae. It is only a road.

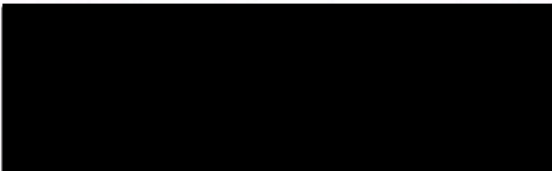
Thirdly, we wish to refine our view in that our community tells us that it would prefer Gowanbrae to move to Maribyrnong electorate rather than to stay in Wills. The reason is that overwhelmingly our residents tell us that the northern part of Maribyrnong is where the clear majority of their activities, of all types, occur: in Airport West, Essendon, Strathmore, Niddrie and Moonee Ponds. The fact that this area forms our primary community of interest is well documented in objection 268, so rather than repeat those arguments we write to support that objection as below.

Re Objection 268

We write to strongly support Objection 268. The writer is not known to our Residents Group, but in our opinion he makes a strong case for Gowanbrae to become part of Maribyrnong electorate. His views strongly aligned with the clear majority view of the public meeting that we held on 3 May 2018. In our view his arguments are logical, detailed and well thought-out, and in fact there is no aspect of his objection that we disagree with. Hence we write to strongly support Objection 268 in its entirety.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Regards,



Rick Arden
Secretary
Gowanbrae Residents Group Inc.

