



Comment on suggestion 38

Ringwood Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc.

5 pages

From: Louise Vogt
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Ringwood Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc. - Submission
Date: Friday, 1 December 2017 11:22:21 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[2875_001.pdf](#)
[2876_001.pdf](#)
[2877_001.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Dear Sir/Madam,

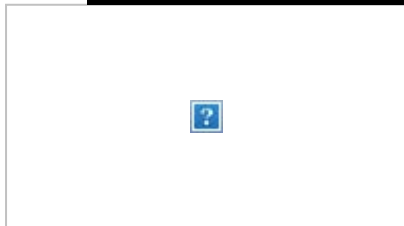
Please refer to the attached letter and enclosures for your attention.

Yours faithfully

Peter Milford – Secretary

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]



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Ringwood Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc.

President: Ms. Kerry Atherton

Secretary: Mr Peter Milford

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PO Box 62, Ringwood, Victoria 3134

Phone: [REDACTED]

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Website: www.ringwoodchamber.com.au

1 December 2017

The Redistribution Committee for Victoria
Australian Electoral Commission
By Email: FedRedistribution-VIC@aec.gov.au

Dear Sirs/Mesdames

Comments on Public Suggestions

The Ringwood Chamber of Commerce & Industry submits the following observations to the Federal Redistribution Committee for Victoria.

It is not our intention to comment on every detail in each submission, rather to point out important flaws and difficulties with submissions pertaining to the Ringwood district which the Committee may want to take into account.

Background

The Chamber represents local businesses across the Ringwood district, including Heathmont, Burnt Bridge, Ringwood North, Ringwood, Ringwood East and parts of Warranwood, and has done so since 1947. Attached please find a brief history and statement of purposes of our Chamber.

In our efforts to best represent the needs of our members, the Chamber works with Federal, State and Local Government representatives.

We work closely with the Maroondah City Council, the State Member for Ringwood and the Federal Member for Deakin. Unusually, it is only at the Federal tier of Government that electoral boundaries do not wholly include the Ringwood District (being parts of Ringwood North and Warranwood).

Hence, the re-alignment of Federal boundaries is extremely important to the Chamber as it provides an opportunity for us to unite all of our members under the one Federal electorate. A united Ringwood is highly desirable for our Chamber to provide cohesive Federal representation for our members, all local traders and indeed the residents that frequent our businesses.

ALP (Victorian Branch) and Australian Greens Victoria submission splits Ringwood in half

The submission by the ALP and Greens is not supported by the Chamber as it will split Ringwood and would be unhelpful to the local community and businesses.

Ringwood is a highly important Business Community as well as a designated Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC). As a key MAC in Melbourne's outer-east, Ringwood is the focus of significant public and private investment, employment growth and renewal.

The status of Ringwood justifies the entire District cohesively falling within a single Federal electorate.

Some submissions advocate 'splitting' Ringwood in two along Maroondah Highway. In our view, this would be detrimental to the local community and businesses generally, as it would result in disunity rather than the unity of the area.

We at the Ringwood Chamber of Commerce & Industry posit that the Ringwood Traders are a significant community of interest that is best served united within the Deakin electorate. We would not like to see our District split between two or more Federal electorates.

We trust that we have made clear our strong opposition to the re-distribution proposed by the ALP (Victorian Branch) and Australian Greens Victoria.

In the event that you require any matter to be clarified or elaborated upon, please do not hesitate to contact either our President, Ms. Kerry Atherton (Mobile: [REDACTED]) or our Secretary, Mr. Peter Milford (Mobile: [REDACTED]).

We wish you well in your deliberations.

Yours faithfully,
RINGWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY INC.

[REDACTED]

Per: Peter Milford - Secretary



A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHAMBER

The first meeting of what is now the Ringwood Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc was held on 20 October 1947. The Association was initially named the Ringwood Traders Association and very soon afterwards changed their name to the Ringwood Trade and Commerce Association. The Association then became the Ringwood Chamber of Commerce in 1953 and affiliated with the Associated Victorian Chambers of Commerce.

The name was finally changed to the Ringwood Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the seventies, to encompass all commerce and industry in our area.

Over the past 70 years the Chamber has been actively involved in the affairs of Ringwood, and has achieved much in that time. Some of the more notable of these involvements have been:

- The organisation of the procession to celebrate the declaration of Ringwood as a city in 1960.
- The introduction of the idea of a large shopping centre to the Ringwood Council which resulted in Eastland.
- The Chamber led the agitation for the retention of the memorial Clock Tower, the most significant landmark in Ringwood, and was without a doubt responsible for it being erected on its present site.
- The decision by the then Ringwood Council to provide the rezoning of the area upon which Ringwood Market and Target Square are sited was due in large to the original representation of the Ringwood Chamber of Commerce.
- The Chamber was actively involved in taking the 'No Tolls' on Eastlink Campaign to the State & Federal Governments.
- The Chamber was, with others, instrumental in saving the historic Ringwood Fire Station from destruction.
- The Chamber, with the Ringwood RSL led the agitation which resulted in the retention of the Ringwood Memorial Clocktower Park intact in 2010/2011.

The Ringwood Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. is a long standing and much respected organisation which has represented the interests of those involved in trade, commerce and industry in Ringwood for 70 years.



PURPOSES OF THE CHAMBER

- **To represent professional, retail, service, industrial and primary interests in Ringwood**

- **To promote Ringwood as the Commercial Centre of the Eastern Suburbs**

- **To provide a venue for members to meet and exchange matters of common interest**

- **To create a spirit of community interest and to support community groups**

- **To originate, promote and oppose Commonwealth, State or Local Government measures directly or indirectly affecting the objects of the Chamber and the interests of trade, commerce and industry in Ringwood**