



# Comment on suggestion 40

Darren McSweeney

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Victorian Redistribution comment on suggestions uploaded from the AEC website.

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Additional information: Please find attached comments for suggestions in pdf format.

Thank you.

## Comments on Suggestions

I submit a few comments on general themes of suggestions for Victoria, not focussing on any particular suggestions.

### Crossing the Yarra

Overall, I saw that a number of suggestions felt the need to cross the Yarra/Alpine Divide. Most notably these suggestions used Ivanhoe or Nillumbik to bridge the gap.

I would suggest that neither of these are necessary, as I demonstrated, that all divisions can be drawn within tolerance, while maintaining the sanctity of the divide.

I would object to any suggestion that tries to tie Nillumbik into Casey through St Andrews. There is virtually no connection between these areas, with one single road traversing the region, and large areas of forest and state parks separating communities. There is no community of interest, with Panton Hill and St Andrews looking north to Kinglake, or south to Hurstbridge, Diamond Creek and Greensborough. These areas would not consider themselves to be any part of Casey, especially with all of Murrindindi Shire being located in Indi.

If the Committee were to consider crossing the Yarra as unavoidable, then I would suggest using Banksia St at Heidelberg as the main connecting route. The roads through this area are heavily used as a connection across the river, with communities on each side of the river having similar demographics. Indeed, many in Bulleen use Heidelberg shopping centre as the nearest local shopping centre.

### Central Goldfields

Several suggestions included Central Goldfields Shire in Mallee, while maintaining Loddon Shire in Murray. I initially considered moving Central Goldfields into Mallee, and making this one move would easily accommodate changes to Mallee and Wannon. However, I determined that Maryborough shares little in common with the more rural communities in the north and was a far better fit with Bendigo. By following the suggestions and moving Central Goldfields into Mallee, the Committee would elongate Mallee further than necessary. There is little communication between these areas, with only minor roads and no major highways leading from Maryborough to the north. All connections look back toward Ballarat or Bendigo. Loddon is much better fit with the rest of Mallee.

### Corangamite and Corio

I note that suggestions did not feel the need to keep Corangamite's namesake within or along its boundaries, for the most part. Those that did had to try incredibly hard to make divisions work elsewhere, and the result was almost always unsatisfactory. I opted in my suggestion to no alter the Corio/Corangamite boundary, however I note that most other suggestions did. I would not be opposed to any changes in this area that sensibly divide the City of Greater Geelong between Corio and Corangamite.

### Division Names

I stated in my submission that I believed that no changes to the names of existing divisions was warranted, however my opinions were certainly not shared by all those making submissions.

Of the main changes suggested, I would support changing the name of the Division of McMillan, however, I do not believe any of the suggested alternatives are any better.

Replacing McMillan for "Strzelecki" or "Anderson" is seemingly exchanging one pioneering name for another. Using "Bunjileene-Purrine" the name suggested by the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation and Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation would not comply with the guidelines, in that it should be named after a single individual. While there are a small number of divisions named after multiple people (Hasluck, Durack, Lyons and Macarthur), in all those cases, the division is named after members of the same family, who all share the same name. It would be unique to have a division named after separate individuals with differing names with no direct connection to one another, and in reality, these individuals should be honoured with separate divisions.

I do not support a change of the name of the Division of Batman to "Simon Wonga". This would directly contravene the naming guidelines, for including a given name in addition to a surname. The name "Wonga" may be acceptable, however I feel this name change is unnecessary.

Finally, I would in principle support changing the name of the Division of Melbourne Ports, however I feel the name "Monash" may be confusing. The area covered by Melbourne Ports is not generally regarded as having a strong connection to General Sir John Monash, GCMG, KCB, VD, as the area further east around Clayton and Waverley. This area already contains Monash University, Monash Medical Centre, Monash City Council and parts of the Monash Freeway. While there is a Monash University campus at Caulfield, this is actually contained within the Division of Higgins and not Melbourne Ports.

Additionally, as there is already a local government area using the name "Monash" I feel it would lead to further confusion. We already have local government areas named "Casey", "Latrobe", "Corangamite" and "Maribyrnong" that are fully or partially disconnected from their namesakes in electoral divisions. Adding a fifth would certainly not assist.

I do not see the need to rename an existing division "Fraser" in order to honour the Prime Minister. As Victoria is adding an electoral division, the name can easily be accommodated by the new division.

## Bayside and South East

Moving now to my own area, I chose to leave most of the divisions in the south east alone. Melbourne Ports, Higgins, Goldstein, Issacs and Dunkley are all within tolerance and I made no suggestions, apart from a small adjustment to the Issacs/Bruce boundary along Heatherton Rd.

I note several suggestions proposed uniting all of Kingston City within one division, either Issacs or Hotham. I would object to these proposals. Kingston is a city made of several "bits" surrounding a large green wedge and industrial zone. The suburbs in the south of Carrum, Chelsea, Patterson Lakes and Aspendale share very little in common with those in the north of Clarinda and Clayton South. In the north west, the suburbs of Moorabbin and Highett look toward Bentleigh and Sandringham, even if somewhat aspiringly and bear little resemblance to those in the south.

I would suggest that using the industrial and green wedge zones of Heatherton, Dingley, Braeside, Moorabbin Airport and Bangholme, there can be quite a number of feasible

boundaries. If any changes are made here, Cheltenham (but not Highett) could be included with Mordialloc and Chelsea, or Mentone could be excised from Issacs, using Warrigal and Lower Dandenong Roads as the boundary. Parts of Mentone and Cheltenham would be able to be moved into Goldstein, while other areas could be included within Hotham.

My suggestion removed Springvale from Hotham, but retained Springvale South and Dingley Village. If changes above were to be considered, then I would suggest that Springvale South be united with Springvale. Dingley Village is always a tricky one, as it is a distinct and insular area, surrounded by green wedge zones. It doesn't really fit in any neighbouring area, but geographically is closer to Springvale South than Keysborough or Mentone. For this reason, I would keep Dingley Village with Springvale South, possibly using Boundary Rd or the proposed Mordialloc Bypass as a boundary.

In the south of the division of Issacs, making moves to change the boundary with Dunkley are unnecessary. Seaford is far more connected to Frankston than Carrum, Chelsea or Mordialloc, so should not realistically be added to Issacs. Carrum Downs on the other hand is a much newer area and while part of the Frankston City today, was previously in the old Shire of Cranbourne.

If any changes were to be made here, I would suggest incorporating all of Skye in Issacs, following Peninsula link, detouring around the small corner at Frankston-Dandenong and Ballarto Roads to include this small section that is very much a part of Carrum Downs. Then following Ballarto Rd and Peninsula link to the Pines/Centenary Park golf course boundary, then to McClelland Dr, Valley Rd and then either along Potts Rd or continue along Valley Rd and a straight line to Harold Rd.

If we were to make more extensive changes to the bayside divisions, then I would also adjust Higgins and Hotham to realign the boundary to either Poath Rd or Warrigal Rd. This would avoid the unnecessary dog leg around this area. The Monash City Council area uses Poath Rd as a boundary, however this would split the Hughesdale shopping precinct. Using Warrigal Rd would avoid splitting the shopping area, with the main Oakleigh shopping district to the east of Warrigal Rd.

Finally, it may be considered prudent to realign the Dunkley/Flinders boundary using portions of Peninsula Link, as this freeway is now a distinct boundary and imposes a notable barrier to communication in this area.

I thank the Committee for the opportunity for suggestions and comments, and thank the large number of contributors to this process. I look forward to the Committee's proposal in the coming months.