



Objection 368

Karen Cosson

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Objection to the AEC proposed boundary redistribution for the seat of Melbourne

I have lived in Flemington for 14 years and lived in another inner city suburb for 12 years before that.

Inner city¹ suburbs (less than 8 kilometres) have different needs and pressures than those further out and we need to be represented as a whole and not mixed in with suburbs further out.

In Flemington, we have been in the City of Melbourne local government area, which kept us with our sister city Kensington which we have a very long history of being together. We are now in the City of Moonee Valley and the needs of our suburb are often lost amongst the issues in the middle and furthest sections of the municipality. We would be better represented in City of Melbourne.

Flemington bears the brunt of intensive development for the City of Moonee Valley. The housing density is double that of the rest of Moonee Valley and the federal seat of Maribyrnong. We are close to transport but it keeps getting more and more crowded and it is difficult to get on the train at Newmarket at peak hour. Development and population are outstripping infrastructure and services.

We have also been moved from the Victorian seat of Melbourne to Essendon. We have lost representation of our issues and needs as a result of this.

We need to stay in the Federal seat of Melbourne to ensure that our infrastructure needs and planning and social planning are considered with the same demographics for all of these reasons. We are a community of interest and, as stated above, have an association with Kensington since both suburbs developed in the 1800s. We need to stay with our inner city neighbours who share our community of interest, needs and pressures.

Karen Cosson

¹ I note the recent fashion, probably driven by real estate agents, to include many more suburbs, like Preston etc. as inner city. This is wrong.