



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 692

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The NSW Redistribution Committee
Australian Electoral Commission

OBJECTION TO THE ABOLITION OF THE FEDERAL ELECTORATE OF NORTH SYDNEY

I am a resident of the Municipality of Lane Cove and have been so since 1960, firstly living in Greenwich and since 1962 in Lane Cove North. I was an elected Councillor for two terms first in 1999-2004 and then more recently from 2017 – 2021. I have been very active in the Community having served on various Community committees over the years both on Social, Cultural and Environmental, been a representative on various Council Committees over the years and am still an on Council's Bushland Management Advisory Committee. I was previously President of our local Resident Association for many years.

With the greatest respect, I cannot possibly conceive how the Redistribution Committee have come to the conclusion that there will be a reduction in residents right across our Municipality as there has been and is, continuing increase in high rise development in what is known as the Mowbray Precinct in Lane Cove north, some in Lane Cove West and to a greater extent in the Eastern area of Lane Cove, along the Pacific Highway in St. Leonards and presently the ongoing development in St. Leonards South. In addition, there is a continuing great increase in high rise for senior's living and these will continue to be in demand considering the longevity of our senior citizens.

The figure 2000 units in St. Leonards South is bound to increase due to the legislation regarding Social Housing where bonus of building increase is available to developers. I understand this is a real factor here. On the other side of the Railway Line in St. Leonards there is much more development either planned or already in the process of development.

There is an even greater demand for more development imposed within the Municipality of North Sydney.

This is all mainly due to the Transport Oriented Development Program imposed by the Department of Planning.(TOD) and the perceived need for more housing.

In addition, increased demand for residential development by the State Government needs to be factored in. I understand this has the potential to increase development with the North Sydney Federal Electorate to around 24,000 new buildings.

Therefore, if we multiply the demand for more development across the affected municipalities, especially surrounding the Transport Nodes (Train and Metro stations and major bus routes), which is prevalent in all the affected Municipalities within the North Sydney Federal Electorate, it makes no sense to assume there will be a reduction in population. Rather it stands to reason, that they will be a continuing increase in numbers of residents which should more than satisfy the population numbers needed to retain our electorate of North Sydney.

Communality across the Electorate

The Electorate of North Sydney enjoys a great community of interest across the municipalities within its boundary. These have been proven over the years.

Caring for the environment and bushland with many bushcare and landcare volunteers. Cultural, Music, Art, Theatre and Sporting Activities. In addition, being a harbour and river oriented Electorate many activities such as sailing and rowing are prevalent across the board interests within the North Sydney Electorate.

This will be lost once we are split up and joined in with communities who have totally disparate aspirations within their communities and do not have the communality relationships we enjoy within the North Sydney electorate. In fact we could end up feeling alienated.

We stood as one against Amalgamation and had the highest Yes Vote in the recent Aboriginal Referendum which shows a very caring community.

Heavy Demand on our Federal Elected Representative

Whoever the elected representative would be, whether from a Political Party or Independent, the demands on their ability to look after an enlarged electorate, especially when he/she will have to look after the needs of a much more diverse community will be very detrimental.

So far, whether it has been Liberal or Independent we have enjoyed a great relationship with our Elected representatives, who have a great understanding of their Electors' aspirations. With greater demands which they will have to deal with, this will be of great loss to us into whichever boundary we become absorbed into as there could be a great disconnect between us because of the increased size and diversity of their new Electorate.

Conclusion

That due consideration be given to the Community of Interests that is presently experienced within the North Sydney Federal Electorate and due to the predicted high increase in development now and in the near future will result in an extremely large increase in population numbers, and show there is no need to abolish our North Sydney Federal Electorate.

Yours sincerely

Thelma Frances Vissel