



Comment on objections 59

North and West Melbourne Association

2 pages

NORTH AND WEST MELBOURNE ASSOCIATION SUBMISSION TO THE PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION OF THE FEDERAL SEAT OF MELBOURNE - 2024.

The North and West Melbourne Association (NWMA) would like to thank the Australian Electoral Commission for the opportunity to make a submission on such an important matter. We found the online material provided extremely helpful.

The NWMA and its predecessors have been active in North and West Melbourne for more than fifty years. Our submission is as follows:

1. The NWMA fully supports the proposed redistribution identified on your website and contained in the map dated May 2024 and titled "Map of Proposed Commonwealth Electoral Division of Melbourne".
2. The NWMA does not support the proposal/objection number 487 currently before you for consideration.
3. The proposal to split North and West Melbourne between the Federal Electorates of Melbourne and Maribyrnong could only be describe as a disaster for our community.
4. The North and West Melbourne communities have for generations identified and worked together as one. This community allegiance was enabled by being a strategic part of one Federal Electorate with high quality representation.
5. The North and West Melbourne community has much stronger links to the communities to its east (Carlton, Fitzroy and Richmond) rather than those to the west (Travencore, Moonee Ponds and Ascot Vale). This long established social cohesion should be supported and not undermined by proposal/objection 487.
6. This long established social cohesion is further supported by the location of the community close to the CBD of Melbourne, the built form of the area, significant architecture both modern

and heritage, access to services, public transport and important social infrastructure such as health and education just to name a few. It is important to note that this social cohesion is all located in **MELBOURNE.**

7. The proposal/submission 487 does not support social cohesion and could only be regarded as a retrograde step. Whilst we understand the redistribution depends heavily on population numbers, it should not be at the expense of social cohesion.
8. In terms of governance of North and West Melbourne, a split would have a significant adverse impact in areas such as strategic and statutory urban planning, provision of government services, transport planning, education and health services.
9. If North Melbourne and Parkville were to be included in the Federal seat of Maribyrnong, as proposed by proposal/submission 487, the community would be separated from the rest of that electorate by an enormous physical barrier the Tullamarine Freeway/Citylink. This division would result in further isolation and undermine the social cohesion of the area.

If the Australian Electoral Commission were to conduct a public inquiry into this matter, the NWMA would like to take part and assist the process with a further submission

Kevin Chamberlin

Secretary

North and West Melbourne Association