



Comment on objections 99

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2 pages



Victorian Redistribution

12 July 2024

Dear Secretariat Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a comment on objections to the proposed redistribution of Victorian electorates. My submission is in response to the following objections:

- OB1
- OB26
- OB86
- OB174
- OB288
- OB416
- OB437
- OB487
- OB493
- OB504

These submissions all objected to the committee's proposals regarding Gellibrand and Fraser, specifically the movement of Spotswood from Gellibrand to Fraser.

I wish to endorse these objections and argue on behalf of the community of Spotswood and South Kingsville that the separation of this area from each other by moving Spotswood to Fraser is not a useful or logical change and I argue that Spotswood should remain in Gellibrand.

Spotswood is the gateway to the southwest coastal suburbs of Hobsons Bay and has less in common with the inner and northwest local government areas of Maribyrnong and Brimbank that make up Fraser. Spotswood's community interests are twinned with South Kingsville, which under the redistribution, would be separated from Spotswood. Recent local government urban planning renewal and local area movement studies undertaken in an ambitious local government program, Better Places and Local Area Movement Plans, plan the area's urban and transport development for greater connectivity. The success of these plans relies on attracting state and commonwealth funding. The synergies between these two should not be separated.

Spotswood should be retained within this southwest coastal cluster of communities rather than with the northwestern suburbs.

Government services for Spotswood are aligned to Gellibrand.

- Spotswood is currently located in the Local Government Area of Hobsons Bay itself recently undergoing redistribution of wards. The new ward of Spotswood, South Kingsville and sections of Newport.
- Together these suburbs make up the 3015 postcode.
- Hobsons Bay boundary follows Stony Creek as a natural boundary and takes in the Exxon Mobil Terminal.
- Spotswood is in the Victorian electoral district of Williamstown. This boundary is Francis St Yarraville.
- Spotswood is currently in the Federal seat of Gellibrand with the local members seat located in Newport with current boundary Geelong Rd/Somerville/ Francis St.
- The redistribution enables Gellibrand to absorb the coastal communities of Pt Cook.





There are two natural physical boundaries to our area, West Gate Freeway and Stony Creek, either of which make sense. The freight line chosen as the new boundary makes the least sense and is not used for any other differentiation of services.

The transport infrastructure aligns Spotswood entirely with Gellibrand. Spotswood is serviced by the Werribee/Williamstown line. Fraser is predominantly serviced by Sunbury line. Active and public transport from development site in Altona North Precinct 15 west of Spotswood is linked to Spotswood Station as are ancillary bus services. The major bus hub is linked to Newport Station as are most community and social services delivered by Hobsons Bay City Council.

East Spotswood is home to major industry and forms a Victorian State Strategic Industry Zone. It is home to Visy Glass, Viva Energy, AMPOL and other allied fuel and chemical and manufacturing industries. The Stony Creek boundary would keep this zone intact and enable coherent policies for industry and economic development and the management of major hazardous infrastructure.

Finally, there is no numerical advantage in distributing this small population out of Gellibrand.

Regards

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