



Objection 55

Lois Williams

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Objection to boundary changes for Higgins

To The AEC

I object to the proposed changes to the boundaries and removal of the name of Higgins for the following reasons-

1. Higgins is historically named after Justice Henry Higgins and has produced politicians of note namely Prime Ministers Holt and Gorton and Treasurer Peter Costello.
2. The proposal does not comply with community connectivity.
3. Instead of the local government area of Stonnington being in one federal electorate it is being split into 5 federal electorates I see this as divisive and creating problems. The council will need to negotiate with 5 federal members who may, or may not, be from the same political party and therefore have different views on what should happen creating stalemates. This will cost the already financially stretched council money arguing their case many times over and delay in the progression of programs. In some cases, they will need to invite more than 1 Parliamentarian to a function costing a further expense. All these factors will increase council cost in a time of financial stress.
4. Where we live was initially in Hotham when this part of the electorate got little or no attention. In a redistribution we moved to Higgins and have had good representation from the 3 members over that time. Now we are redistributed to Hotham, and I fear that the extremities may again be neglected.

I hope you will consider these points in your deliberations.

Lois Williams