



Objection 350

Gulmi Samaj Victoria Australia

2 pages



GULMI SAMAJ VICTORIA AUSTRALIA

To Whom It May Concern

Dear Redistribution Committee,

GULMI SAMAJ VICTORIA AUSTRALIA welcome the opportunity to provide you with an opposition to the proposed redistribution of Wills.

We would like to oppose the removal of parts of Oak Park, Pascoe Vale, Brunswick West and Glenroy from Wills and the addition of Fitzroy North, Princes Hill and Carlton North.

It is our view that the proposal to divide Oak Park, Pascoe Vale, Brunswick West and Glenroy from Wills and add Fitzroy North, Carlton North and Princess Hill are not demonstrative of the 'communities of interest' and 'means of travel and communication' and 'physical features' considerations.

We are providing a joint submission because the view of the entire community and different Nepalese bodies we represent is consistent – we all support the current boundaries in Wills as the local area, which has been a strong community hub that enables us to remain connected through our cultural, language and religious needs.

The contribution of Nepalese migrants has become a significant part of our wonderful multicultural story. The Nepalese community is so strong in Wills, we often refer to it as 'Little Nepal'. This includes Nepalese people in Glenroy, Oak Park, Pascoe Vale South and Brunswick West who we work with at the GULMI SAMAJ VICTORIA AUSTRALIA. It is essential that our community is not divided by boundaries or electorates. We have cultural, language and religious needs that need to be protected and nurtured. Our community languages, Cultural Activity, Sports and recreations, Health and Wellbeing Sessions, Mental Health and safety Training with young family, youth, children, women, seniors and international students are all able to thrive because of the existing community infrastructure and organisational realities in Wills. This is evidence of a clear community of interest.

At GULMI SAMAJ VICTORIA AUSTRALIA, we work with the organised community in Wills, bordered by the logical and current natural boundary of the Moonee Ponds Creek, which has different communities on the other side. The Nepalese community's infrastructure and organisational presence – Nepalese restaurants, cultural services, social groups, language centres, aged care services that is almost exclusively on the side of the Moonee Ponds Creek that is in Wills. This includes Oak Park, Pascoe Vale, Brunswick West and Glenroy. There is a Nepalese library, multiple Nepalese restaurants and businesses on Sydney Road alone.

The Nepalese community in Wills is a defined community and a new and emerging migrant group. This means the relationships with neighbours, local government services (Merri-Bek), school catchments and community organisations have been developed through hard work and commitment to the community. We rely on a coordinated approach.

In contrast, the Nepalese community's presence south of Brunswick Road (Fitzroy North, Carlton North, Princes Hill) and west of Moonee Ponds Creek (Maribyrnong division) is limited.

Rupturing the suburbs of Glenroy, Oak Park, Pascoe Vale South and Brunswick West would separate the Nepalese community and negatively impact our new and emerging migrant community which has worked so hard to build home and community in Wills.

Carving up the suburbs of Glenroy, Oak Park, Pascoe Vale South and Brunswick West along with proposed Pascoe Vale Road boundary will cut through the Nepalese community and split half into a community of suburbs that are very different (Maribyrnong)

For these reasons we request that the Committee implements a different redistribution that keeps Oak Park, Pascoe Vale South, Brunswick West and Glenroy and excludes Fitzroy North, Carlton North and Princes Hill.

This, rather than the proposal, will have due regard to the 'community of interest' consideration and accurately reflect the 'means of travel and communication' in these areas.

Thank you for your consideration

Yours Sincerely

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GENERAL SECRETARY

GULMI SAMAJ VICTORIA AUSTRALIA

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