



# Objection 404

Anonymous 28

2 pages

Dear Redistribution Committee,

I am writing as a proud resident of the Melbourne electorate to oppose the removal of Fitzroy North, Carlton North, Princes Hill from Melbourne.

The main reasons that these suburbs should not be removed from the electorate of Melbourne fall under the 'communities of interest' and 'physical boundaries' considerations.

There are a number of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities in Fitzroy North, Carlton North and Princes Hill, which are more established migrant groups, different to the more new and emerging CALD communities in Wills. These CALD communities of interest in Fitzroy North, Carlton North and Princes Hill are different to those in Wills. There is a sense of shared identity with CALD communities in Fitzroy North, Carlton North and Princes Hill, around their histories of migration, languages spoken and experiences in Australia.

Removing Fitzroy North, Carlton North, and Princes Hill from Melbourne will significantly disenfranchise these CALD communities within the Melbourne electorate. These suburbs are home to a rich tapestry of cultural groups who rely on their current representation to address their unique needs and challenges. By altering the electoral boundaries, these communities risk losing their cohesive voice and advocacy in the local and federal governments. This change could lead to a dilution of their cultural presence in existing organisational structures in Melbourne and marginalised influence in decision-making processes. This includes moving City of Yarra and City of Melbourne suburbs into Wills – which would negatively affect the hard work and organisational structures of these communities in Fitzroy North, Carlton North, and Princes Hill.

Maintaining their current electoral boundaries ensures these communities continue to contribute to the area's richness and diversity, fostering a more inclusive and representative governance of the electorate of Melbourne. The implication of the AEC's proposed changes should be more fully considered and I believe more serious consultation across communities and their leaders should occur before any change.

There is also an established and natural boundary – that of Brunswick Road. I would encourage you visit this part of Melbourne, as there is a marked and visible difference between the communities on one side in Fitzroy North, Carlton North and Princes Hill, and communities in Wills. People on one side of this natural border frequent pubs, movie theatres and shops on that side. I know that in Fitzroy North, residents work in the city, ride their bike to work, and eat and shop on Gertrude Street and Smith Street. By contrast, people in Fawkner rarely come here, as they have their own cultural and retail centres in the north.

I believe the above reasons should be considered seriously and request that the changes should be rejected.

Best



,  (Melbourne)