



# Objection 440

Anonymous 21

2 pages

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to you in opposition to the proposed redistribution of Deakin and Menzies.

I write this objection in my capacity as a long-time local resident in the City of Whitehorse.

My submission is focused on the proposed redistribution to Deakin and Menzies.

It is my view that the proposal to divide the electorates along Blackburn Rd and Surrey Rd and move Box Hill into Menzies is particularly problematic against the 'communities of interest' and 'means of travel and communication' considerations. I believe the AEC should consider having one electorate to represent all of the City of Whitehorse.

I have lived in Vermont and in the City of Whitehorse for all of my life, and have long felt a strong connection with both my suburb and my Council area.

I have gone to kindergarten, primary and secondary school in Whitehorse, I've worked in Whitehorse, I went to scouts in Whitehorse and I feel that first and foremost I identify as a person of Whitehorse.

The way I travel is also through Whitehorse, as both a public transport user and a driver the new boundaries make little sense to me. When I'm travelling my most frequently used road is Canterbury Road, whether I'm going to Eastland, Box Hill or Forest Hill Chase, my direction of travel is always east to west, or west to east. At the same time whenever I'm travelling into the city too, it's the Belgrave and Lilydale Line which I use. This is why it makes little sense to me to have the areas north of the Eastlink, Bypass and Mt Dandenong Road included in the electorate.

Asides from the impracticalities for transport in having Deakin going as far North as it is, the people of Whitehorse feel very little connection to those Northern areas. I personally have gone to Park Orchards, Ringwood North and Warranwood a very limited number of times and feel very little connection there, I don't have friends in that side of the M3, there aren't facilities that I regular there and I don't feel as though my community is from North of the M3.

Much of my recreational spaces I find are in Box Hill. From the hospital where I was born in, the restaurants I visit, the university that I attends station and the friends who I see, Box Hill is a part of both my council area and my local community and it makes far more sense for it to be included in the electorate than Warranwood.

Fundamentally, As a young person my friends and I don't travel North of the M3, we travel to Ringwood for work or leisure, or we're travelling to Box Hill and the city, whilst we also just don't know what is North of the M3. We do not feel a connection with the people, nor the same relationship with the land.

For these reasons I request that the Committee re-examines its proposed redistribution of Deakin and Menzies, and implements a different redistribution that collects in one electorate as far as possible the suburbs of the City of Whitehorse: Mont Albert, Box Hill, Blackburn, Burwood, Vermont, Mitcham, and Nunawading.

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 considering my objection.

Yours sincerely