



Comment on suggestions 8

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There are many good suggestions which retain the seat of Hotham. I feel that if the committee resolves to adopt that approach, it should rename the seat to Tchen, named after Tsebin Tchen the first Chinese-Australian and Asian-born parliamentarian. It also reflects the rich multiculturalism of the area which the seat of Hotham is located. Hotham is named after a colonial governor who spent his life trying to avoid his posting in Australia and only had an incredibly short term, insignificant to Australia's history.

I think that the Yarra River is a hard boundary for much of Melbourne that separates the north and the west from the east and the south. There is an argument that Southbank, Docklands and Fisherman's Bend can be united with the Melbourne CBD across the river which I can tolerate if numbers don't permit otherwise but as a hard rule, Kooyong and Menzies should not cross the Yarra River. The communities on the adjacent sides are completely different and separate with only 2 roads connecting Manningham LGA in Menzies with the suburbs across the Yarra River (3 if you include Warrandyte into North Warrandyte which I feel would be the only acceptable breach of the river in this area of Melbourne but ideally North Warrandyte gets united with the other areas in Jagajaga north of the Yarra River.

Like the mighty Yarra River, the Monash Freeway east of Warrigal Road is also a large boundary and social divide between the east and the southeastern suburbs. For that reason, I think that it is impediment that the Monash Freeway is the southern border for the seat of Chisholm and should not be crossed. At most if it does need to be breached due to numerical requirements, it should not go any further than Ferntree Gully Road.

There are additionally suggestions for Kooyong to be contiguous with the Boroondara LGA which I do support but if the committee resolves otherwise, I would not mind if that does not occur.

There are also many notable suggestions for a re-orientation of Menzies and Deakin to North-South orientated seats rather than East-West as they currently are and traditionally have been. In the case of Deakin, there is a very strong case for a North-South orientation due to the strong community links between Maroondah LGA and the semi-rural green wedge of Donvale, Park Orchards, Warrandyte and Wonga Park. The state seat of Warrandyte unites these areas quite well. For Menzies there is a case for both an east-west orientation and a north-south orientation (which the committee has partially included in the last redistribution with the expansion of Menzies south of the M3). There is a community of interest of the inclusion of Manningham LGA in one seat while from a demographic and community point of view, there are very strong ties between the suburban parts of Manningham LGA such as Doncaster and Templestowe with the suburbs south of the M3 such as Box Hill and Blackburn, all sharing similar culturally diverse communities contrasting with the more Anglo areas of Maroondah LGA and the semi-rural green wedge of Manningham LGA. Transport, education and health links are also particularly strong. I personally think a north-south orientation works best due to it having better communities of interest and it does help keep Menzies from crossing the Yarra. The current boundaries of Menzies put it halfway between a north-south and east-west orientation. Whatever the outcome the committee decides for the Menzies/Chisholm/Deakin boundary, it should not result in Menzies having to cross the Yarra River which would make the boundaries must worse than they currently are.