



Suggestion 85

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6 pages

2020 Electoral Redistribution Victoria

New Electoral Division

I would propose that the new electoral division is named HAWKE after the former Prime Minister Robert (Bob) Hawke. This follows on from the naming of the 38th division in Victoria at the last redistribution after former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser. Further Bob Hawke was a representative of the state of Victoria in the federal parliament and I feel it appropriate that any seat named in his honor should be in the state he represented.

Name changes

Much discussion ensued at the last redistribution re the naming of the division of CORANGAMITE and it was ultimately resolved that the division name would remain. This redistribution will further alter the bounds of the division and thus I believe it would be appropriate to again review the naming of the division. I would suggest consideration be given to naming the division **Wathaurong** or alternatively **Wadawurrung** which are two aboriginal names for the area the division sits within. I believe this aligns with the criteria used in determining the division names and also overcomes some of the issues encountered on this matter in the last redistribution.

Change Overview

An examination of the enrolment data on 15 July 2020 did not provide a strong view as to the best way to approach the reallocating of the divisions as each of the current divisions was within the maximum enrolment figure assigned for the redistribution. Thus it was necessary to give a strong focus on the projected data for 26 January 2025.

Broadly after looking at the data it was apparent that the redistribution was best approached beginning in the East and then heading in a westward direction. Gippsland was within quota and no change was needed but small change was needed in Monash and significant change in both Holt and La Trobe. Subsequent changes then followed necessitating changes to both Bruce and Hotham. The changes in Hotham then resulted in changes being made in a general Northerly direction encompassing in particular Chisholm, Menzies and Jagajaga.

Similarly, in the West, Lalor was significantly over quota and the only option was to move the excess voters in a Northerly direction

Corangamite was significantly over quota and there were minimal options re the excess other than broadly reassigning them to a combination of Wannon and Ballarat. Ballarat was then able to shed electors on the Eastern side of the division which subsequently saw changes required in the divisions to Ballarat's East.

Bendigo also needed to shed electors and this was best achieved by examining the areas closest to metropolitan Melbourne

Ultimately it became apparent that the new division was best placed in Melbourne's North Western region. As will be seen the new division takes in parts of Fraser, Gorton and McEwan.

This also saw some of the electors previously in McEwan moving to Nicholls and a small change was then made to move electors from Nicholls to Mallee.

Broadly I have approached the redistribution based on the SA2 groupings however where necessary this was disaggregated to SA 1 and attention was also paid to local area boundaries as identified in the ABS mapping data and other statistical boundaries as identified in this mapping data.

Having worked as an election official on many occasions I was also particularly mindful in setting the boundaries to try and minimize voter confusion which occurs where areas are split across divisions of small indistinct side streets are used to form the boundary. In your consideration on these matters can I ask this form part of your consideration.

Also, in approaching the redistribution I was mindful of the redistribution in 2017 and thus I attempted to minimize the number of divisions that alterations were made to.

Divisions with no change.

No change has been made to the following divisions;

Aston

Casey

Cooper

Dunkley

Flinders

Gippsland

Indi

Isaacs

Kooyong

Melbourne

Scullin

Wills – NB: Whilst this was almost at the maximum allowable voters there seemed no easy logical ability to move electors to alternate divisions without necessitating quite significant change across all divisions.

Changes.

The changes are detailed in the attached spreadsheets however I provide the following as further detail of the proposal. I do this in a sequential manner so the steps followed are easier to follow;

MONASH – The choice was to move electors on the western edge to either La Trobe or Holt. The Bunyip – Garfield SLA2 was seen as the best to move and this has a relationship with the adjacent electors in **La Trobe** and was less rural than the possibilities which were available to move in to the urban oriented Holt

La TROBE – Electors in the Cranbourne East area were unified with the remainder of Cranbourne in **Holt** whilst those in the Narre Warren area were unified with the existing electors in the Narre Warren area in **Bruce**

HOLT – Having moved in electors in the Cranbourne East area the majority of electors in the Narre Warren area were unified with others in that area in **Bruce** whilst Hampton Park was also moved to Bruce. It is acknowledged this does not provide a good boundary but no other alternatives seemed available particularly given the strong population growth between 2020 and 2025 making it difficult to fit within both quotas

Bruce – Having received electors on the Eastern side and looking to minimize disruption to other divisions the best choice seemed to be to move excess electors to **Hotham**. Thus those on the Western side of Bruce in the area around Noble Park and Springvale were moved.

Hotham – Having received voter on its Eastern side and once again being mindful that most divisions adjoining Hotham did not require change electors on the Northern side of Hotham have been moved to **Chisholm**. In demining the boundary re the Ashwood-Chadstone SA2 I determined to follow the state electoral boundary. **Wheelers Hill and Gen and Mount Waverley have existing association with Chisholm**

Chisholm – Having received electors on its Southern edge and being mindful that minimal change was needed in Deakin or divisions to Chisholm's East the only option was to move electors at the Northern edge to **Menzies**.

Menzies – Having received the electors from Chisholm Menzies could return to Jaga Jaga the area North of the Yarra River it acquired in the 2017 redistribution. Additionally the Warranwood suburb was relocated to **Deakin** and is now unified in a single division

Deakin – This required minimal change and it was achieved by unifying the suburb of Warrenwood which had previously been in **Menzies** into **Deakin**

Jaga Jaga – Having received the Eltham / Research area from Menzies the best option was to move the Northern areas around Yarrambat / Diamond Creek to **McEwan**. This also sees similar communities being located in the same division.

I now turn to the Divisions in Melbourne's West to provide a better picture of how I determined the proposed structure

Lalor – This has limited options as to where it can divest electors to with **Gellibrand** being the only realistic possibility. Thus the remainder of Point Cook has been moved to Gellibrand as has part of the Truganina SA2 area. Moving Truganina is consistent with some of the submissions re the 2017 redistribution. It is not ideal to split the suburb but there seemed no alternative.

Gellibrand – Having received the electors from Lalor, the only option was to divest the electors in the North. All electors North of the West Gate Freeway have been assigned to the Fraser division. These electors are all in the Maribyrnong council area which also makes for a good boundary.

Maribyrnong – In light of the changes to Gellibrand the possibility of moving these electors to Maribyrnong was considered. After much consideration it was determined that the best fit for the Maribyrnong division was to use the Maribyrnong river as a strong boundary on its western side. As such the existing areas South and West of the Maribyrnong river have been moved to **Fraser**. Maribyrnong thus needed additional electors and this was achieved by unifying all of Keilor into the division which has seen electors move from both Fraser and **Calwell**. Maribyrnong has also brought in Tullamarine and Melbourne Airport from Calwell and has strong borders and communities of interest.

Fraser – This division encounters significant change bringing in voters primarily on its Eastern side from Maribyrnong and Gellibrand and losing voters on its Northern side to the new division of Hawke. The Suburb of Deer Park is unified bringing in that part which had been in Gorton and doing the same with Kings Park. The boundary may seem a little off on its Northern side however it unifies communities of interest.

I now turn to Corangamite as it's changes ultimately feed back to what occurs with Gorton and subsequent moves

Corangamite – The boundary for Corangamite was achieved after moving into **Corio** those parts of Highton and Newcomb / Moolap SA2's not currently in that division. This does not necessitate subsequent change to Corio. The more rural areas on the Western side were subsequently moved to **Wannon**. Some of these SA2's are currently split between the divisions and thus become unified. On its North Western edge the area associated with the Golden Plains Shire was moved to **Ballarat**. As will be explained later all of Golden Plains will be unified following the redistribution proposal.

Wannon – Having received electors from Corangamite the best option was to move those electors in the Golden Plains shire to **Ballarat** plus those in the Smythes Creek SA2. These areas are close to Ballarat and thus seem to fit the communities of interest criteria.

Ballarat – Having received the Golden Plains electors from Corangamite and Wannon the best fit was to move Bacchus Marsh to the **Gorton** Division. It was noted that one of the ABS metrics incorporates Bacchus Marsh in with Melton. Bacchus Marsh is becoming a commuter town and this provides further synergies with electors in the Gorton division

Bendigo – This division was over quota and removing the Woodend SA2 enables it to return to quota. In view of other subsequent changes it was felt the Woodend would be best placed in the **Gorton** division

Gorton – As was previously mentioned the Deer Park and Kings park SA2 were moved to the **Fraser** division. With Bacchus Marsh SA2 moving to Gorton it was considered appropriate that the similar SA2's of Gisborne, Woodend and Macedon should move to Gorton from McEwan. The SA2's of Sydenham, Taylors Hill, Sunbury South and Hillside would then move to the new division of **Hawke**.

Calwell – As mentioned previously the SA2 of Tullamarine, Melbourne Airport and Keilor were moved to Maribyrnong. Additionally 4 SA1's comprising the Mickleham and Kalkallo suburbs were moved to the McEwan division. These are new housing estates and thus have much in common with many of the electors in McEwan. The SA2 of Greenvale / Bulla was moved to Calwell from McEwan to ensure the division stayed within quota.

McEwan – Having received Plenty / Yarrambat and Wattle Glen from Jaga Jaga and the Mickleham and Kalkallo suburbs from Calwell to get to quota the SA2 of Kilmore/Broadford was moved to **Nicholls** – This unifies a great part of the Mitchell shire into this division. Additionally the SA2 of Sunbury and Sunbury South were included in the new division of **Hawke**.

Nicholls – Having received the Kilmore / Broadford SA2 from McEwan it was necessary to shed electors and this was done by moving the Lockington / Gunbower SA2 to Mallee.

Mallee – This receives the Lockington / Gunbower SA2 from Nicholls. This SA2 appears consistent with many others already in Mallee.

Hawke – Having now established the boundaries for all other divisions those that remain are to be included in the new division of Hawke. These are;

-From the existing Fraser the SA2's of Delahey, St Albans Nth, St Albans Sth, Sydenham and Taylors Lakes

- From Gorton the SA2's of Hillside, Sunbury Sth, Sydenham and Taylors Hill

-From McEwan the SA2's Sunbury and Sunbury South.

The embedded spreadsheet contains;

- a summation by division of the alterations which have been made

-by division the various components which have moved in and out order to arrive with this view



2020redistribution
submission.xlsx

Closing

I thank you for the opportunity to be part of this process and I look forward to seeing how things evolve over the life of the redistribution process. Please contact me if any clarity is needed

Colin McLaren

