



Comment on objections 29

Cr Colin Hampton

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To the Australian Electoral Commission

I have been a councillor for the North East Ward of the City of Frankston for many years and have been its Mayor on two occasions (including currently). I make this submission in my capacity as a long-term councillor and resident, not as Mayor. It reflects my personal views.

To me, it seems like this Victorian redistribution provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity to align electorates with LGAs, and through this, communities of interest. This seems a far stronger argument than any of the objections raised to the proposal.

As councillor representing the North East Ward of Frankston— encompassing Carrum Downs, Sandhurst, Skye and Langwarrin – I look forward to the communities I represent finally being brought within the same Federal electorate.

All of these communities receive their local news from Frankston, access major health, education and retail services in Frankston, and connect via public transport to Frankston. Having represented them over many years, I say that communities of interest are much strengthened by the proposed boundary changes.

Furthermore, many families in Carrum Downs send their children to school in the Dunkley electorate – not just to Carrum Downs Secondary College, but also to Paterson River Secondary College, Monterey Secondary College and McClelland Secondary College.

I note that some submissions claim that Dunkley is actually a coastal seat and that areas east of Peninsula Link should be excluded. This is not so and has not been so for some time. Frankston is acknowledged by both sides of politics as a major Metropolitan Activity Centre – as a service centre for the wider region covered by the LGA. This is the more sensible way to view Frankston (and by implication Dunkley).

Planning for the economic and social development of Frankston City and Dunkley will certainly be made much easier if the LGA is fully contained within the electorate of Dunkley. While this change has been too long in coming, the proposed changes seem to enable a better alignment not just within Frankston, but also within the Mornington Peninsula and Casey council areas.

I strongly commend the proposed boundary changes, and look forward to the bringing together of the strong communities of interest in my North East Ward and Frankston LGA through this process.

Cr Colin Hampton