



Objection 232

Cr Len Cox

3 pages

From: Delaney Kelly
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Yarra Ranges Council
Date: Wednesday, 2 May 2018 4:52:43 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[AEC Redistribution.pdf](#)

Good Afternoon,

Please find attached a letter from Cr Len Cox (Mayor, Yarra Ranges Council) in regard to the proposed boundaries for the Casey electorate.

If you have any difficulty opening the attachment, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,
Kelly



Kelly Delaney
Executive Assistant – Mayor & Councillors



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2 May 2018

Redistribution Secretariat – Victoria
Australian Electoral Commission
GPO Box 768
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Email: FedRedistribution-VIC@aec.gov.au

Dear Redistribution Secretariat,

Proposed Boundaries for the Seat of Casey

I am writing to you regarding the proposed boundaries for the seat of Casey outlined in your report of 6 April 2018. At the outset, I would like to say that as a long serving Councillor for Yarra Ranges I believe the AEC has done an excellent job with the proposed Casey boundaries.

I particularly commend you for the outcomes of uniting the councils of Knox, Maroondah and Yarra Ranges within as few electorates as possible. In fact the Yarra Ranges Council is nearly wholly contiguous with the proposed Commonwealth Electoral Division of Casey. This is a fantastic outcome for most of our residents as it ensures they will be more easily able to identify who their local representative is. This allows for the development of strong connections between local members of Parliament and their councillors, council administrators and communities. There is however, a notable exception to the proposal.

This exception falls within Walling Ward of the Yarra Ranges Council which transverses the localities of Kilsyth and Montrose. Having represented these communities for over 30 years and Walling Ward since amalgamation, I feel that I am particularly well placed to comment on the communities of interest present in this local community.

The AEC's decision to use the eastern boundary of the Kilsyth locality as the boundary between Deakin and Casey has fundamentally split the community of interest between the localities of Montrose, Mooroolbark and Kilsyth. Given the shared means of transport and communication between these areas this represents a fundamental error. The balance of Kilsyth within the Yarra Ranges Council should be returned to the division of Casey to unify Walling Ward and the Yarra Ranges Council within the division of Casey.

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The assumption made in placing Kilsyth in Deakin is that the proper orientation of Kilsyth is towards Croydon which is incorrect. Dorset Road marks the border between two extremely distinct communities of interest. One is centred on Croydon and its historic and current links to the City of Maroondah, the other is focussed on Mooroolbark, Kilsyth and Montrose and their historic and current links to Yarra Ranges Council. In light of the stated desire of Maroondah City Council to unite as much of their council area in Deakin as possible, Council is convinced it makes sense to continue to recognise the division between these communities of interest as far as possible. We believe the best outcome is to use the boundary between Maroondah City Council and Yarra Ranges Council as the boundary between the seats of Casey and Deakin.

In conclusion, as a long serving local representative of these communities, I would request that the Victorian Redistribution Secretariat amend the proposed redistribution to return that part of Kilsyth within the Yarra Ranges Council to Casey. This would have the effect of making the Commonwealth Electoral Division of Casey wholly contiguous with the Yarra Ranges Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed boundaries.

Yours sincerely,



Cr Len Cox
Mayor
& Councillor for Walling Ward