



Comment on suggestions 20

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I wish to raise a point regarding the 42nd suggestion for the Victorian redistribution, the suggestion recommends removing Kensington from the division of Maribyrnong to the division of Melbourne which I agree with, however our community has been split since the last election with the removal of the suburbs of Maribyrnong, Maidstone and West Footscray from the division of Maribyrnong.

Rather than see suburbs that have not enjoyed a long history of representation by the division of Maribyrnong, the community would be better served by adding the suburbs of Maribyrnong and Maidstone back into the division with the new boundary being set at Ballarat Road. This would ensure the division has the appropriate number of voters.

The Maribyrnong River is not a strong boundary, despite how it may appear on a map. The numerous vehicle and pedestrian bridges ensure a tightknit community that includes sporting clubs, community groups and a vibrant social network. Many residents on both sides of the Maribyrnong River travel across for work, shopping and other services, with a strong focus on Highpoint Shopping Centre. This means the needs and wants on both sides of the river are more aligned than the communities to the north and north-west that the 42nd suggestion recommends, and I ask that the AEC ignore this recommendation.