



Objection 355

Naomi Blackburn

1 page

Re: VICTORIAN REDISTRIBUTION SUBMISSION: MELB/WILLS

Dear AEC representatives,

I have lived in Fitzroy North since 2010 and I am writing to express my support for the proposed redistribution of the seats of Melbourne and Wills to bring Princes Hill, Carlton North & Fitzroy North into the federal electorate of Wills.

We initially moved to Fitzroy North in 2010, we then bought our house here in 2011. My son attends Fitzroy North Primary School and previously attended childcare and kindergarten in Carlton North.

I see the connection to the natural landscape of Merri Creek as one key rationale for this change. For cyclists like our family, Merri Creek cycleway to the east and Upfield bike path to the west are key transport corridors. I know the state seat of Brunswick has also moved over time to include Fitzroy North and I think it makes sense for the state and federal seats to overlap.

We regularly take the Merri Creek cycleway north to travel to Ceres in Brunswick to shop at the market, meet friends and use the playground, we have our child's birthday parties every year at Kirkdale reserve in Brunswick East on the Merri Creek and for bush kinder travelled weekly further up to Egan Reserve also on the Merri Creek. We value the creek as a nature and wildlife corridor and it makes sense to have it as the Fitzroy North stretch of the creek connected in the electorate of the northerns sections. As a woman I've also had concerns about women's safety along the creek, which our state MP has been active on and may also be of concern to the MP for Wills.

We also regularly ride along Park St and along the Upfield bike path to go to weekly swimming lessons at Brunswick Baths. We have found that as our friends from kindergarten has siblings and moved out of their two bedroom terraces (of which Carlton and North Fitzroy has so many), they wanted to keep their inner city community and lifestyle and moved just up the road to Brunswick East meaning we spend a lot of time in that suburb as parents, much more than we do in Fitzroy or Collingwood. When we go out for dinner we're also more likely to walk along Park St up to Lygon St in Brunswick East for dinner and we regularly ride to Barkley Square to shop and often run into our kindergarten friends there.

As a family who is settled in the area and plans to stay long term, we see Brunswick as the centre of where we shop, visit friends and play and as a community that shares our values and like Fitzroy North and Carlton is more suburban compared to the CBD and its immediately surrounding suburbs in the seat of Melbourne.

I hope you are able to consider our submission and retain the proposed redistribution boundary of Wills.

Kind Regards,

Naomi Blackburn

██████████ Fitzroy North, ████████.