



Objection 492

Dr Tikoo

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Dear Redistribution Committee

I am writing to you as a former resident of Kensington and North Melbourne. I also used to work in Parkville and my kids went to school in Parkville. I am very well versed in the area.

I am writing to suggest that North Melbourne and Parkville be added to Maribyrnong because they are 'communities of interest', that is, they are like communities. I also believe the 'travel and means of communication' is shared.

Melbourne City Council connects North Melbourne and Parkville to Flemington and Kensington. People in North Melbourne, Parkville, Kensington, Ascot Vale and Flemington all congregate on Errol St in North Melbourne or Macaulay road Kensington, use the same hospital facilities (Royal Melbourne Hospital), and we have shared socio-economic and cultural circumstances.

Kensington, Flemington, North Melbourne and Parkville are all wonderfully diverse suburbs – that is, we have people of all cultural backgrounds, and we have mixtures of students, backpackers, young families and established older people. The incomes of North Melbourne and Parkville are similar to those in Maribyrnong, and aren't as high as those in Melbourne or Richmond.

In all these suburbs, we will go to Footscray for some great food or markets, and spend time running around the Flemington and Moonee Valley racecourses. We share the same lifestyles – walking along the Maribyrnong River and playing sport at riverside park. These suburbs are unique and similar to each other because it is inner city, high density living, but with the freshness and openness usually reserved for suburbs. People in other parts of Melbourne – e.g. Richmond, do not come our way to socialise or eat or play sport.

If you came to these suburbs, you would see that North Melbourne and Kensington have many townhouses and smaller living structures, unlike other parts in the south of the Melbourne electorate.

There are also many shared roads and public transport that connect our communities such as Macaulay Road.

I believe North Melbourne and Parkville would find their shared identity with Kensington and Flemington better represented in Maribyrnong than in Melbourne.

Kind regards

Dr Tikoo