



Objection 498

David Barker

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To the Electoral Commissioners,

I am writing to object to the proposed electoral redistribution for Deakin, as it splits the Whitehorse Council and creates a Deakin electorate with disparate communities and interests.

As someone who commutes, shops and socialises predominantly in the Whitehorse Road/Maroondah Highway area I believe that Deakin should be based on the twin centres of Box Hill and Ringwood. This represents a logical community and should keep Whitehorse Council intact within Deakin.

I have lived and worked on the Whitehorse-Maroonah corridor for 6 years and this area has been important with a partner from an asian background. Whitehorse Road-Maroonah Highway represents a natural corridor for work and social life for many people in the east of Melbourne. I work for a company on Maroonah Highway that takes pride in a diverse workplace and fostering a good culture. There can be no doubt that the advantage of the commercial and social opportunities provided by the Whitehorse-Maroonah corridor between Ringwood and Box Hill play a huge part in fostering that culture that could not be even in nearby parts of Melbourne's Eats.

Once or twice a week meeting up with family, friends or work colleagues in Ringwood, Nunawading or Box Hill but we would rarely be found beyond this area.

Families such as mine with connections in Mandarin and Cantonese speaking communities in this area and I believe having a united electorate would be of great advantage to those communities from Ringwood to Box Hill to Burwood.

The current proposal for Deakin does not provide for a coherent view of the communities of Deakin and other surrounding electorates.

I urge you to reconsider the proposed redistribution and to keep Whitehorse Council intact. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
David Barker