



Suggestion 26

Maroondah City Council

3 pages



CALLS FOR SUGGESTIONS TO THE REDISTRIBUTION

VICTORIAN FEDERAL REDISTRIBUTION 2023/24

21 November 2023

Overview

Public notice was given by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) that Victoria is undergoing a redistribution of House of Representative Divisions (seats) due to the number of Divisions decreasing from 39 to 38, following a determination of the Electoral Commissioner on 27 July 2023.

When a Division is removed it is also a requirement to review and assess all current Divisions against the prescribed statutory voter ranges, which are:

- Plus and minus 10% of the current enrolment quota; and
- Plus and minus 3.5% of the projected enrolment quota as at 17 April 2028.

The review process is undertaken by the Victoria Redistribution Committee and is supported by the Australian Electoral Commission. At the present time it is very difficult to make any definitive comments and/or suggestions as no maps of possible boundary changes across the state are available.

The public consultation process is quite extensive with several opportunities for public comment and suggestions.

Preliminary Analysis

The City of Maroondah is currently represented by the single seat of Deakin which is the suggested way forward as per the attached map.

Over two successive distributions in 2018 and 2021, Maroondah was progressively united into a single federal seat, being the electorate of Deakin. This correctly united all the Maroondah communities that centre on Ringwood and Croydon.

Council notes that Deakin currently meets and is projected to meet, the division elector threshold requirements both now and moving forward without a change to the boundaries. As of the 9 August 2023, the Division of Deakin meets the division requirement by having 113,714 enrolments with a predicted 123,966 enrolments by 17 April 2028.

Representation

Maroondah City Council is of the view that as a guiding principle, the Australian Electoral Commission should ensure that communities of interest are not split, and portions of the community are not disadvantaged through dislocation from natural/geographic/population centres of attraction.

Council notes that the municipal City of Maroondah is fully enclosed within the current Deakin division, including the major activity centres of Ringwood and Croydon. This division enables the single federal representative for all constituents within the Maroondah community.

Council frequently advocates on local and regional matters to other levels of Government and strong relationships with local members of Parliament are critical. The current electoral boundary allows for continued ease of consultation and focused advocacy for the municipality under a single seat. Therefore, Council reiterates its position of the strong desire for representation by a single electorate Federal representative.

Conclusion

Maroondah City Council most strongly advocates that our municipality continues to be wholly represented by a single federal electorate.

Steve Kozlowski
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL

21 November 2023



July 2021
**MAP OF COMMONWEALTH
 ELECTORAL DIVISION OF
 DEAKIN**

