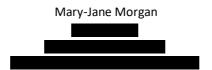




Objection 194

Mary-Jane Morgan
^{1 page}



To: Australian Electoral Commission

Re: Proposed abolition North Sydney Electorate Attention: NSW Redistribution Secretariat

Dear Australian Electoral Commission Officers

I am writing to object very strongly to the proposed abolition of the Federal seat of North Sydney.

Following, are some of my concerns.

The AEC proposes to redistribute us to Bradfield. We deliberately left Bradfield in 1987 and came to live in Chatswood to be part of this extraordinary and enriching community. There were several reasons: As a family, North Sydney seemed a more coherent, engaged and progressive community.

Within the NS community, the historical society and progress association welcomed us. My husband and I have contributed to their activities for over 35 years, including active involvement in the gazetting of the heritage conservation areas and properties, and the greater awareness of the gifted planning and creative geniuses, Marion & Walter Burley Griffin. For our further pleasures, we support our two wonderful symphony orchestras, a dramatic society, and the amazing Ensemble Theatre. This is a society, all within N S, that I love. None of this exists in Bradfield.

Ted Mack, the Father of Independents, was our State independent, later, Federal member. Ted had a moral resolution to represent our concerns. He understood democratic progress. Ted encouraged my successful stand as an independent councillor in Willoughby, 1991-1999. This really helped me appreciate the innovative nature of this diverse and interesting society of N S. In listening to this community, we as a council, were able to fund and rebuild our Civic Place in Willoughby, and improve our libraries, in a couple of instances, by adaptive reuse of two beautiful churches. Once again, the inspiration came from within this N S community.

There is a real cohesiveness in N S. Leading up to the 2022 federal election, we selected, organised and campaigned to find another community independent as our sitting member. There was something like one thousand volunteers making this happen. That in itself is remarkable and worth noting. This is what being part of the North Sydney community means.

I observe in the proposed electoral commission redistribution you acknowledged the submissions of both the Liberal and Labor Parties' but ignore our Community Independent, the sitting member, Kylea Tink's submission. This does not really reflect your understanding of the wishes of our demographic.

We have easy access to RNS Hospital which has met the health needs of this three-generation family living together. As part of that community, we have continually advocated to preserve RNSH lands for medical services.

Geographically, North Sydney electorate works. It has the natural boundaries of the Harbour, Middle Harbour, Lane Cove and should continue to Boundary Road (as it once did).

I want North Sydney to remain more or less as it is - NOT because I cannot handle change but because we are the North Sydney community.

Yours sincerely, Mary-Jane Morgan