



## Comment on objections 25

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The Australian Electoral Commission: Redistribution secretariat

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Dear Victorian Redistribution Committee,

I am writing express my support for objections to the redistribution that support the inclusion of Balwyn &/or Balwyn North within the electorate of Menzies. I especially support objections 155 and 312, as they explain the importance of the inclusion of Balwyn North in Menzies for the Chinese community.

The committee has done a good job uniting the Chinese community of Box Hill in one electorate. Placing the Chinese community of the Balwyn-Doncaster Axis in one electorate is equally important. Now that Box-Hill is united, this should be the next priority for the AEC.

The Chinese community of Balwyn is isolated in Kooyong, since there is no major Chinese diaspora community outside of Balwyn and Balwyn North in that electorate. As other objections have made clear, transport links, shopping links, etc also strongly connect Balwyn and Balwyn North to Menzies.

Only one or two objections disagree with this proposal, while dozens agree (Objections 155, 312, 53, 54, 94, 95, 108, 448, 288, 504, likely more).

Given the strong level of community support for the inclusion of Balwyn North and Balwyn in the electorate of Menzies, I strongly suggest that the committee place those suburbs in Menzies to greatest extent that it can be done. Abolishing Higgins requires Kooyong to move south, and this opens the perfect opportunity to unite the Chinse community of the Balwyn-Doncaster Axis.

To compensate for the extra electors taken in, Menzies should have its southern border pulled up to Canterbury Rd, as this is a much stronger natural border than the current proposed borders, which consists of single lane suburban roads.

If this is not enough to balance quota numbers, consider changing the shifting the south-eastern border of Menzies from Blackburn Rd to Middleborough Rd. This would ensure that the boundaries of Menzies aligns with the boundaries of the state electorate of Box-Hill, the ABS borders of Blackburn, Blackburn North and Blackburn South, and Whitehorse City Council Cootamundra Ward.

It would also ensure that the Blackburn activity centre isn't divided between two electorates, as it currently is. I thank you for your consideration

Regards,