



# Comment on suggestions 21

Cathy Bates

1 page

I wish to comment in response to Submission S6 by Martin Gordon.

Regarding the suggested abolition of Macnamara and its flow on effects to Maribyrnong, I have strong objection to further pushing the Maribyrnong electorate south, into the Melbourne LGA. The reasons for this objection relate mostly to lack of community connection. The Melbourne LGA is distinctly made up of inner-city locations, with a strong focus on the unique social, commercial and recreational challenges that it holds. The Maribyrnong electorate centres around the Moonee Valley council area, and its inner suburban communities. Suburbs further south such as North Melbourne, Docklands, the Central Business District and surrounds do not share a commonality with these areas, while Moonee Valley has far more in common with the mirroring areas across the Maribyrnong river.

I also comment in response to Submission S20 by Cheston Mak.

I object to any proposed abolition of the division of Maribyrnong on a number of grounds.

Whilst the division is currently under quota, this can be easily remedied by reintegrating areas that have traditionally existed in the seat, such as those on the western bank of the Maribyrnong River – Maribyrnong, Maidstone, Braybrook. This would also assist with ongoing confusion for local residents who live in the suburb but have only recently been removed from the division of the same name.

I believe that where there is not a clear example of which division should be abolished in a state, that the history and age of a seat should be taken into consideration and newer, less established electorates be a higher priority for abolition.

The Maribyrnong electorate is one of the longest standing metropolitan Melbourne seats, existing since before World War 1, and is also one of the few electorates in the state with a name of Indigenous origin. These factors both hold historical significance, and in my view are enough of a reason for retention.

I have been a resident in the federal electorate of Maribyrnong for over 30 years.