



Suggestion 39

Dr Paul Rival

4 pages

SUBMISSION TO THE EBC - BY EMAIL - FedRedistribution-VIC@aec.gov.au <FedRedistribution-VIC@aec.gov.au>;

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission regarding the boundaries of the Federal electorate in the Northeast of the Melbourne metropolitan area.

I am a young doctor who lives and works in the Eastern suburbs, and I have a strong interest in ensuring that our electoral boundaries best reflect their communities.

I make this submission to voice my concern about maintaining the communities of interest in the suburbs comprising the electorate of Deakin. I am cognisant of the fact that changing one electorate's boundaries has a consequential flow on effect to other electorates, so I will make comments in relation to other electorates as well.

This submission is not concerned with the names of the electorates, although it would be preferable to maintain the existing names as far as practically possible.

I note that Victoria will be allocated one less seat in the Federal Parliament, and therefore one electorate will be abolished. I make no submission in that regard.

For the purpose of this submission, I have assumed that the seat to be abolished from North of the Yarra river, which has been a point of natural divide in the metropolitan area. This assumption is made because under the current boundaries, the North has 21 electorates and the South has 18 electorates, which are both within projected quota range. It is expected that the Yarra will not for much longer represent the line of division between north and south in metropolitan Melbourne, and that one electorate will need to cross the river. Modern bridges mean that rivers are no longer hard boundaries, as opposed to the Bay which presents an insurmountable boundary.

The consequence of this assumption is that the electorates in the North-East will all be allocated new boundaries, and this could potentially result in the breakup of communities of interest in those electorates. Hence, this submission.

It is noted that the electorates of Aston, Chisholm, Cooper and Scullin are under the 3.5% range of projected population requirement, and these electorates will require increased populations. The electorates of Casey, Deakin and Menzies are close to the projected population range.

DEAKIN SACRIFICES POPULATION TO ASTON AND CHISHOLM

As noted previously, Aston and Chisholm require additional population, which means that Deakin will have to shave off SA1s on its East and South flanks.

The readoption of Springvale Road as the Western boundary of Deakin would mean Deakin would contribute population to Chisholm from Blackburn, as well as a small section of Vermont South through adoption of Burwood Highway as the southern-most boundary.

Aston requires additional population, and this could be obtained by shaving off part of Heathmont and Bayswater North from Deakin, by adopting Canterbury Road as the southern boundary.

DEAKIN GAINS POPULATION FROM MENZIES

Deakin currently comprises the LGA of Maroondah and parts of Whitehorse LGA. It boasts a significant multicultural community which enjoys the cultural community centres that have been

established over many years, with foods, music, cultural events and places of worship. The area is supported through the major activity centre in Ringwood, which is a significant social and retail hub for all residents of the North-Eastern suburbs, with convenient transport options throughout the area – with the Belgrave and Lilydale rail lines that connect the community with a network of buses. The Eastern freeway and Eastlink provide efficient transport into the city, as well as to Frankston.

The Croydon component of Deakin is semi-rural in parts, and this naturally extends into Park Orchards and Donvale in the Eastern part of the electorate, and Warrandyte and Wonga Park in the northern part of the electorate. With this in mind, it makes sense that Park Orchards, Warrandyte, Wonga Park and Donvale are incorporated into Deakin and the boundary would effectively be the river, with the electorate shifting in a northerly direction. This makes sense, as these suburbs are closer in proximity to the Ringwood activity hub than to Doncaster.

CASEY

Casey is close to the population range and can accommodate more population. With the Eastern boundary of Deakin becoming Colchester Road, Deakin would be gifting population to Casey through the loss of Kilsyth South. This is a good fit, as these north-eastern suburbs are characterised by a community that places importance on the balance between country and city, parkland and suburban residential area.

These proposed changes would mean that Deakin would be part of Maroondah, Whitehorse and Manningham LGAs.

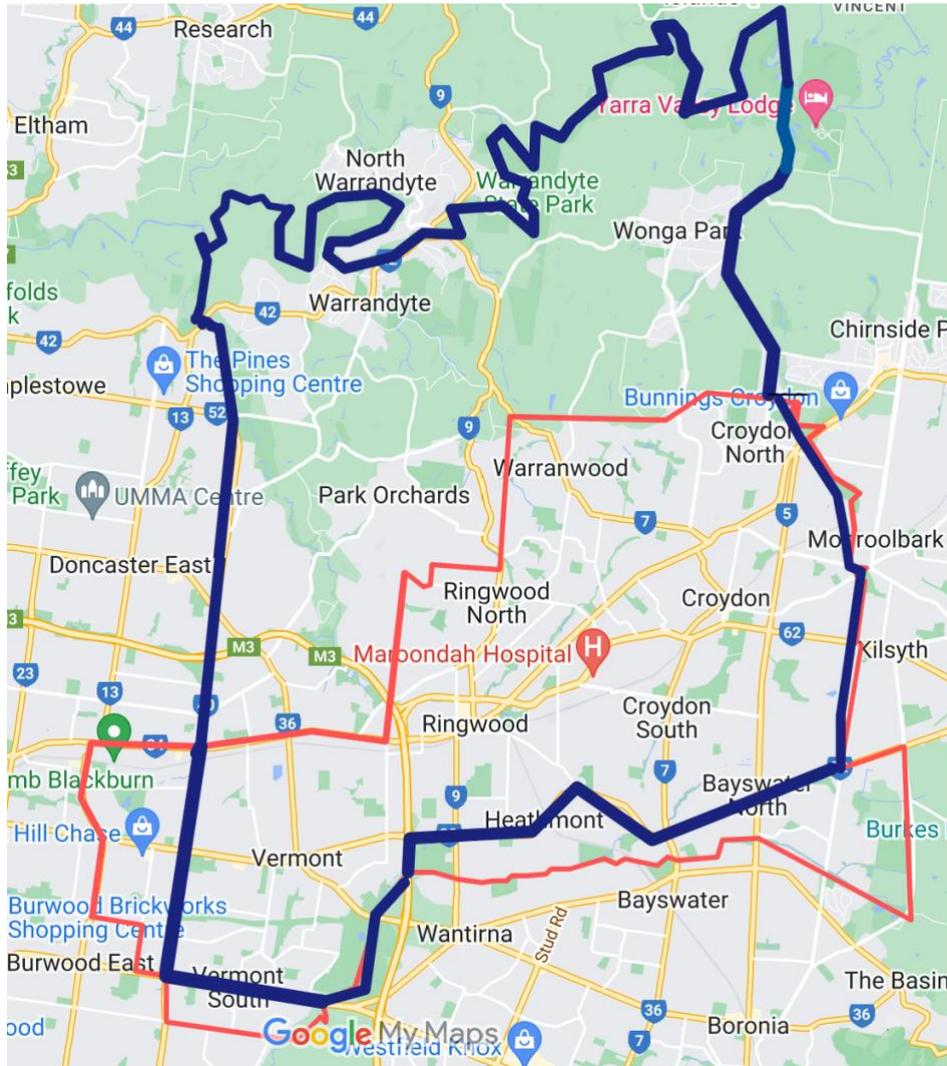


Figure 1 Deakin electorate - red lines are existing boundaries, dark blue are proposed boundaries.

MENZIES MOVES WEST AND CROSSES THE RIVER

Under this submission, Menzies would move west into the current Jagajaga electorate, in the LGA of Banyule, with which it shares strong transport lines (Doncaster Hill to Heidelberg is a 20 minute bus on the 903 line). Further, the suburbs of Ivanhoe, Heidelberg, Lower Plenty are in close proximity to economic activity hubs Doncaster and Bulleen. Menzies would therefore straddle parts of both Manningham and Banyule LGAs, and would cross the river which would run north-south through the new electorate.

POPULATION OVERVIEW

I am aware that under this submission, the population of Jagajaga would be depleted, but as this electorate is further north, I make no further comment on this, other than to note that Cooper and Scullin require additional population.

The prescribed projected population quota of 127,238 and the margin of 3.5%, the minimum projected population is 122,785 and the maximum is 131,691.

Under this proposal, the estimated effects on population of the affected electorates would be:

Electorate	Projected population	Within range
Deakin	123,724	✓
Aston	129,873	✓
Chisholm	130,490	✓
Menzies	124,211	✓
Casey	126,573	✓

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO DEAKIN

Proposed boundaries:

West: Springvale Road

North: Yarra river, south side.

East: Colchester Road, Cambridge Rd, Newman Rd, Brushy Creek, Brushy Creek Rd, Lower Homestead Rd to Yarra River

South: Burwood Hwy, Dandenong Creek, M3 to Canterbury Road.

LGAs and suburbs:

LGA	WHOLE SUBURBS	PART SUBURBS
MAROONDAH:	Ringwood East	Kilsyth
	Ringwood North	Heathmont
	Croydon	Bayswater North
	Croydon North	Ringwood
	Croydon Hills	
	Croydon South	
	Warranwood	
WHITEHORSE:	Vermont	Nunawading
	Mitcham	Vermont South
		Forest Hill
MANNINGHAM:	Wonga Park	Donvale
	Warrandyte	
	Warrandyte South	
	Park Orchards	

Yours sincerely

Dr Paul Rival