



Comment on objections 32

Alan Strangwick

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To whom it may concern

I write to with a view to submitting comments on objections to the redistribution of my electorate, McEwen.

I am 73 years old and have lived in Mernda/Whittlesea all my life, and have always lived in McEwen since the electorate began 30 years ago.

Over the last 7 decades, Mernda and the surrounding suburbs have gone through enormous changes and I think it is important that if there are any changes, we stay with Craigieburn.

Mernda has a strong connection with Craigieburn because both towns have similar histories and experiences.

Both Craigieburn and Mernda have had huge population growth recently. They were once small rural towns but are now large outer suburbs of Melbourne. Both towns also provide services to the rural towns of the north, and have to deal with very high demand on infrastructure and services.

Given that fact I fully support submissions 132 and 170. Both express my view on the importance of this relationship between our suburbs.

That said, I object to the comments on McEwen in relation to Craigieburn in submissions 68, 92 and 118. These submissions do not come from our local community and do not show an appreciation of how we see ourselves and our neighbours.

Like most families in Mernda, my family travels to Craigieburn all the time. If we need a doctor, want to go to the movies, take our kids and grandkids to do different sports, it makes sense to drive over to Craigieburn.

I think that Bridge Inn Road, which runs between Mernda and Craigieburn is the ideal boundary for McEwen. People north of Bridge Inn Road in both towns are different to the people south of it and it makes sense that the same electorate represents us.

Thank you for letting me have my say, and I hope you will consider my experience.

Alan Strangwick