



Objection 5Í

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5 Pages

Objection to 2020-2021 Victorian Redistribution

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Divisions discussed: Fraser, Gellibrand, Maribyrnong

Proposals (see Appendix A for proposed borders):

- 1a. Move southern border of Fraser so that it borders West Gate Freeways
- 1b. Move Fraser border from Williamstown Rd in Yarraville west to Stony Creek **OR** Severn St
2. Ensure that suburb of Maribyrnong sits within the Division of Maribyrnong

Justification for 1a and 1b.

- The proposed borders split residents from the Yarraville area from their central commercial and transport hub from which they are in walking distance. The West Gate Freeway forms a hard barrier to walkability so while the residents living south of Francis St may be geographically closer to the Spotswood commercial precinct, it is nevertheless easier and quicker to walk or cycle to the Yarraville commercial precinct (see Appendix B). The proposed borders therefore can be shown to violate the 'community interests' and 'means of communication and travel' considerations. Note that this argument also applies in part to the areas of Yarraville and Brooklyn west of Stony Creek as well. However, these areas do not allow for active transport (walking and cycling) and are much more automobile dependent, thus the Freeway does not form as significant of an impediment to everyday activity.¹
- Similarly, while Williamstown Rd may appear to be a natural border when abstractly drawing lines on map, in reality the area between Stony Creek and Williamstown Rd is still within comfortable walking distance of the Yarraville commercial precinct. As a resident of this area, I walk to Yarraville Station in 10 minutes every weekday (pre-pandemic) and also often on weekends. Furthermore, some streets between Severn St and Williamstown Rd in particular are similar in character to those east of Williamstown Rd, with several smaller blocks of under 350m², comprising pre-World War 2 era housing.
- Seddon, Kingsville, and Yarraville are often referred to as a single community (SKY) for the purposes of activism and community-building.² While the ideal solution may be to include all of Yarraville within the same Division boundaries, extending the border west to Stony

¹ Nevertheless, the AEC could also consider including this area in Fraser if feasible. This would have the added advantage of including the entire City of Maribyrnong within the same electorate.

² See, e.g. Humans of SKY. <https://humansofsky.com.au/>. Accessed 21/03/2021.

Creek will at least keep the parts of Yarraville closest to their neighbours in Kingsville and Seddon as part of the same Division in order to facilitate this advocacy.

Justification for 2

The proposed borders for the Division of Maribyrnong exclude the suburb of Maribyrnong. This has the potential to be highly confusing to voters, especially since until now they have been part of this Division. If the proposed borders remain after period of consultation, then the simplest solution to this is simply to swap the names of the Division of Fraser and the Division of Maribyrnong.

Appendix A: Proposed border (yellow)



