

The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES

Public Objection Number: 218

Name: PARRAMATTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Page(s): 1



17th July 2006

Mr Ian Campbell
The Electoral Commissioner
Chair - The Redistribution Committee
PO Box 20014
World Square
NSW 2002

Dear Sir,

Champion of business in Parramatta Independent business advocate Promoting business excellence



RE: PARRAMATTA FEDERAL ELECTORATE REDISTRIBUTION PROPOSAL

Parramatta has stood the test of time - don't destroy it now for the sake of the convenience of electorate averages.

On behalf of the business community within Parramatta and its surrounds we strongly disagree with the planned redistribution which effectively cuts the Parramatta CBD in half, displaces a large proportion of its business community and creates an illogical division within the core of the city.

Surely the major CBD's and regional centres, Sydney CBD, North Sydney CBD, Parramatta CBD should carry their own names and as much as possible follow local boundaries. Your proposed redistribution fails on all counts.

While it is understood that the directive is to ensure each division does not deviate by more than 3.5% below or above the State's quota of 93,508 electors, surely a redistribution plan could have been more intelligently approached rather than simply drawing a line through the point of highest density to ensure a mean average is met.

It is illogical to suggest that Parramatta CBD which includes Parramatta Park (which is also divided across the two electorates within the proposed redistribution) and Old Government House, the first site of government in Australia, should be torn in half so that a large percentage of the Parramatta CBD actually falls into the Reid Electorate, including the Member for Parramatta's offices!

The city of Parramatta – the first centre of government in the country – should remain in the seat of Parramatta!

Western Sydney has seen one of the highest rates of commercial growth in the country and Parramatta is very definitely the capital of Western Sydney. It must remain intact for the sake of the strategic business opportunities being presented.

We implore you - allow reason to influence your plans and keep Parramatta intact!

Regards,

Stephanie Dale

President Parramatta Chamber of Commerce



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