Details of your comment

Please provide additional information and supporting documentation as attachments.

I am writing to appeal to the independent three-member panel administering the redistribution process, (Chairperson, Justice Arthur Emmett, NSW Electoral Commissioner John Schmidt and NSW Surveyor General Narelle Underwood) to please take into considerations the cohesion of a vulnerable and socially disadvantaged community of Cabramatta and the current service provision into account when deciding where the new electoral boundaries should be drawn. In the Labor Party submission, it proposed that the State seat of Cabramatta by abolished and the electorate split across multiple Local Government areas, namely: Canterbury-Bankstown and Liverpool.

As you might aware in the late 1990s Cabramatta faced a serious drug problem and had a strong stigma attached. Only via the Cabramatta project, being the tireless work of the local police, Council and State Government did the area's economic fortune and social issues improve. Since this time the support service for this still vulnerable community of Cabramatta and surrounds have seen Fairfield City Council work tirelessly to organise social support services, community confidence instilling festivals, other services and lobbied the state government for support, grants and service such as commuter car parks and flood support in Lansvale.

Fairfield City Council services and overlaps three State Electorates being Prospect, Fairfield and Cabramatta. This means the Council's efforts and State members efforts can easily be aligned for these communities. This principle has served the area well for over 40 years. Therefore it is important to have the Cabramatta electorate continue to exist and to be staying within the Fairfield City envelope.

The Status Quo has been efficient and successful, because the Local Government area of Fairfield completely covers the seat of Cabramatta, meaning Council and the Local State Member and the State Government can work closely in harmony and unison to lobby and provide services for the entire community. In simple terms - the voices are aligned.

The Cabramatta name also has a long history; it's an Indigenous name meaning "where river meets" and it's a place where the diverse communities of Fairfield Local Government come together. It's also was the home of the former Prime Minister of Australia, Gough Whitlam and even Henry Parkes resided here.

Having a state seat named after the area gives additional pride and recognition and has helped creating a local pride which was missing 25 years ago. Cabramatta CBD is the economic hub within the Fairfield LGA, servicing surrounding suburbs such as Canley Heights, Canley vale, Mt Pritchard, Edensor Park, Bonnyrigg, Bonnyrigg Heights, St Johns Park, Wakeley and Lansvale.

I understand the Electoral Commission needs to ensure electors are evenly distributed and hence this process is taking place to look at shifting the electoral boundaries. However, I ask if the three-members panel please keep in mind the community cohesion, culture, needs, social and economic impacts of wiping Cabramatta off the Electoral Map.

As such, I support the name Cabramatta remains for the State seat of that electorate, and I hope that you will consider the above proposal in assessing where the boundaries will be drawn to evenly distribute enrolled electors.

Thank you for your considerations.

Kind regards