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 communities in deciding where boundaries should be drawn.

In the submission proposed by the Liberal Party, the current Cabramatta electorate has been pushed into the Canterbury-Bankstown LGA, taking in the suburbs of Villawood, Chester Hill, and Bass Hill Lansdowne.

Villawood has 2088 electors, Chester Hill 7200, and Bass Hill-Lansdowne 5841. This makes it a total 15, 129 electors in this area that the Liberal Party has proposed to include into the state seat of Cabramatta.

I believe that the Canterbury-Bankstown community is very different to the Fairfield City Council community. They might share some similar socio-economic characteristics, however, they have vastly different cultural needs and requirements. While one community being in the current Cabrmatta Electorate has a post war European and indo Chinese cultural mix, the electorate areas proposed to be added have different and additional cultures - menaing the Local member's focus will be even further distilled with vastly differing demands and requirements. It simply makes a complex seat even more complex. The disconnections are not only in the demographics, but also by local government areas as well as major highways. its simply a messy proposal.

If the primary goal is to distribute the enrolled electors as evenly as possible, I would like to put forward the following:
To keep Mount Pritchard (5780 electors), Bonnyrigg (5598 electors) and St Johns Park (4325 electors) within Cabramatta electorate (please see map.). In total, 15,703 electors.

If you look at the map for the above proposed suggestion, you will see that it will enable Cabramatta to fully remain within the Fairfield local government area.

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 Cabramatta is also a significant economic centre within the electorate of Cabramatta.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

Kind regards