

**Electoral structure review - Moonee Valley City Council - Response Submission
Ava Adams - Essendon - 08 November 2023, 04:49 pm**

Submission to the Electoral Representation Advisory Panel (ERAP) for Moonee Valley City Council ward boundary review.

Cr Ava Adams

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Essendon VIC 3040

Phone: [REDACTED]

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I make this submission as an individual expressing my personal opinion and view.

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I am a current Councillor at Moonee Valley City Council. I have lived in different parts of Moonee Valley my whole life and am raising my family here. I know the area well and understand the differing needs and expectations of our unique neighbourhoods and diverse communities.

I support Model 1 of the ERAP proposed electoral review structure map for the following reasons:

- It best groups communities of interest making it more practical for logical and sensible representation of needs within wards;
- It keeps suburbs together where possible and represents how the community accesses services and patterns of movement locally. Residents identify with their suburb boundary and Model 2 ward boundaries do not respect this community identity. Model 2 is a significant change and divides suburbs in a confusing way that is unnecessary;
- It is more aligned to existing ward structures and therefore more familiar, consistent and less divisive for neighbourhoods and communities than Model 2;
- It has more meaningful and effective ward boundaries that can be easily identified and supported by local communities;
- Model 1 proposed ward name changes: Queens Lake Ward be named Queens Park Ward or Moonee Ponds Ward, Roberts Ward be named McNamara Ward or Steele Creek Ward, Fairbairn Ward named Riverside Ward, Canning Ward renamed Milleara or Avondale Ward.

- Strathmore, Strathmore North and Strathmore heights are characterised as spectacular green and beautiful suburbs with interests in common relating to local flora, fauna, parks, open spaces, community facilities and waterways. They are not defined by the neighbouring airport and should absolutely be kept together in the same ward group. Separating them will divide these communities unnecessarily,
- I propose the following change in Model 1: boundaries for Fairbairn Ward and Myrnong Ward to reflect the boundaries outlined in Model 2 for Walter Ward and Myrnong Ward;
- Regarding population growth, in either model significant growth in Moonee Ponds, Niddrie and Essendon North should be taken into consideration.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards

Cr Ava Adams