## Electoral structure review – Greater Shepparton City Council – Response Submission Michael Curtis – Tatura – 12 July 2023, 06:02 pm

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Wednesday, 12 July 2023 6:02 PM Greater Shepparton ERAP Submissions 2023 Submission Greater Shepparton City Council

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Tatura 3616

I am in favor of the second model proposed in the preliminary report regarding the Greater Shepparton City Council. It creates a much farer distribution of Shepparton city and regional areas within the Greater Shepparton City Council boundry. At the moment most of the money is spent in the city of Shepparton NOT Greater Shepparton (e.g. \$50m on SAM, Maude Street Mall Redevelopment \$17.1m, ONE of the xmas decorations a christmas tree in mall \$20k + etc.. all this expenditure in Shepparton City). I live in Tatura, our town (which is growing rapidly) contributes 7% of the rates pool to the Greater Shepparton City Council but only .7% of the capital budget is spent in Tatura. The town needed to apply for a small towns xmas grant of up to \$2k. Thus SMALL towns need to apply for a grant of up to \$2k for xmas decorations (with this amount Tatura could only afford to purchase 2 xmas wreaths) but Shepparton city or Mooroopna don't need to apply for funding for xmas decorations.

Although the VEC site refers you to the Greater Shepparton City Council web site for a direct link to make a submission to VEC but you need to follow a link back to the VEC website then go into the Greater Shepparton City Council electoral structure review preliminary report to get to this link. Once you get into the VEC site you end up going round in circles. It should be a simple process.

Further the Greater Shepparton City Council's reasons given re opposition to the change in structure are invalid. It's media release stated "The key area of concern expressed related to the barrier this ward structure would present to minority groups. In particular, that the single member ward structure may negatively impact the likelihood of women from diverse backgrounds being elected into Local Government". However, on their own website the mayor says he has Albanian heritage which helps him discharge his duties as a councillor. It should also be noted there is a first Nations councillor and three female councillor's (one of which comes from a CALD background).

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