

Electoral structure review - Port Phillip City Council - Response Submission
Vicki Radcliffe - Port Melbourne - 03 August 2023, 03:45 pm

I write as a resident of Port Melbourne. I am pleased that this review recommends a return to single member wards because I think that reinforces the sense of responsibility that a councillor has for their constituents.

I strongly favour Model 3.

The City of Port Phillip's strategic plan acknowledges the importance of local communities and fosters this sense of local identity. Only Option 3 respects this as far as the community of Port Melbourne is concerned.

Traditionally Port Melbourne has been the area bounded by the beach, Pickles Street, Boundary Road and the Yarra River. I recognise that the requirement that each ward have roughly the same population would not allow for these to be the boundaries.

However in both models 1 and 2 the boundary slices right through this community, using Graham Street to separate Port Melbourne/ Gateway Ward from Kirrip Park Ward.

Option 3 includes most of traditional Port Melbourne. Even Option 3 takes out a small section of traditional Port Melbourne from Rouse Street, along the beach to Pickles Street and north-west to Graham Street. It puzzles me as to the logic of this enclave being in Gasworks Ward.

Each of the three models uses a different name for our area: Sandridge, Gateway, Port Melbourne. I would not like to see Gateway used again. Either of the other two are traditional to the locality although my sense of historical identity makes me personally favour Sandridge