

From: GDEG Sise [REDACTED]
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To: Submissions - Greater Dandenong City ward boundary review 2024
Subject: Review of Greater Dandenong Council Wards

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If we are JUST looking at the two Models given:

The current ward structure united the whole of the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge in one ward. That was a positive development that should be maintained in this review. The Greater Dandenong Green Wedge is a unique and environmentally valuable part of Greater Dandenong that is its own community of interest and has nothing in common with either Greater Dandenong Industrial Area or the central business district of Dandenong. Model 1 is an abomination - the idea of putting the environmentally sensitive Green Wedge and a major Melbourne industrial area in the same ward is suggestive of opening up the destruction of this precious environment- but I would hope I am being paranoid. As well as that it is simply too big - with one part bordering Waterways in Kingston to another part bordering Doveton in Casey.

If we look beyond the two models, I suggest a bigger upheaval.

Combine wards and reduce the number of wards but increase the councilor representation to 2 per larger ward.

1. Cut Yarraman into two easily defined by Eastlink and Corrigan Road. Combine Dandenong North and Cleeland and Yarraman bit from Eastlink to railway to make DANDENONG NORTH.
2. Combine Noble Park North and Noble Park and Yarraman from Corrigan Road to Eastlink into NOBLE PARK
3. Combine all Springvales into one SPRINGVALE
4. Combine Keysboroughs and Include DINGLEY VILLAGE (now chopped and isolated by the Freeway) back to Greater Dandenong Council where it was originally! to make KEYSBOROUGH. This would place the Green Wedge including Braeside Park connecting the chain of parks and reserves from Karkarook Park to Banghones and to the source of the Dandenong Creek - almost restoring the old Carrum Carrum Swamp (wetlands).
5. DANDENONG includes the city centre and industrial south Dandenong.

Elect TWO councillors per ward, thus having 10 councillors.

I think the arbitrary demarcation lines dividing the wards are very confusing for most residents.

I do not think numbers make a huge difference as some councillors do an excellent job representing their wards but many just surf along awaiting a political opportunity to move into State or Federal Governmental positions. There are some glaring examples in the past and very recent past years of this.

Judith Sise
Dingley Village VIC 3172