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Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Gaven

Submission:

Submission to the Queensland Redistribution Commission

Objection to Proposed Boundary Changes – Electoral District of Gaven

I wish to lodge an objection to the proposed redistribution affecting the Electoral District of Gaven.

While I understand the need to maintain electoral districts within population quotas, the proposed changes appear to significantly disrupt established community connections within the northern Gold Coast without a clear improvement in representation.

The proposal removes communities such as Highland Park and Boonooroo Park from Gaven and transfers them to Mudgeeraba, while also shifting parts of Nerang and Carrara east of the Pacific Motorway into Southport. These changes divide communities that have long been connected socially, economically and geographically to the Nerang–Pacific Pines–Gaven area. Nerang in particular functions as a central hub for surrounding communities including Pacific Pines, Highland Park and nearby hinterland areas. Residents in these areas share common schools, sporting facilities, shopping centres and transport corridors centred around Nerang and the northern Gold Coast growth corridor.

The Pacific Motorway has historically functioned as a clear geographic and community boundary. Moving areas east of the motorway into a coastal electorate such as Southport risks grouping communities with very different economic and social connections.

Similarly, transferring Highland Park and Boonooroo Park to Mudgeeraba appears inconsistent with the day-to-day connections residents have with Nerang and the broader Gaven area. These communities are more closely linked through transport routes, service catchments and local identity with the Nerang and Pacific Pines corridor rather than the southern hinterland. While the Commission notes that enrolment balancing is required, the proposed solution appears to fragment established community groupings rather than maintain them. Retaining the existing Gaven community structure around Nerang and Pacific Pines would better reflect community of interest and local identity.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Commission reconsider the proposed boundary adjustments to Gaven and explore alternatives that maintain the integrity of the Nerang–Pacific Pines community while still meeting enrolment requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into this important process.