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Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries and Names
Electoral District: Beaudesert (formerly Scenic Rim)

Submission:

I believe there was a lot of talented people on this issue of electoral boundaries, but not practical minded people.

In 2008 when we were all told there is a redistribution of electoral boundaries, many Councils lost and some gained areas and revenues the same.

We took it on the chin and moved forward, in essence for us at Beaudesert there were losses but our big gained was in the name Scenic Rim which encompassed a lot of rural towns and areas not really identified in the past. Coming together as one had merit, an identity that could establish ourselves as a destination.

National Parks, tourists areas, walking/ hiking trails, Camping areas, 4wd Parks, Bike Parks and Festivals.

There would be many name changes occurred that cost a lot of money, particular from our local Council. Identity, vehicle badging, stationary, signage, libraries, utilities just to name a few.

Many business have established themselves within the Scenic Rim and in some cases have named their business after this name e.g. Scenic Rim Blinds, Scenic Rim Plumbing, Scenic Rim Pest Management and there is many more. Our Scenic Rim population search for trades etc within the Scenic Rim, why wouldn't you support your local community.

Our local Scenic Rim Eat Local festival which has grown considerably over the past years. Attracting tourists from outside our area and bringing in financial business to our local operators.

Since 2008 we have embraced the Scenic Rim name and worked with it to establish ourselves to the greater population.

Just because people choose to make the Scenic Rim their home and our population has increased, triggers this proposal. To me, we have the land to expand and an opportunity to enhance our communities and build commerce within our regions.

This decision to change us back to Beaudesert will cause confusion from residents within the Scenic Rim and our neighbouring boundary Councils. The majority of people will not realise this is going on, and won't have the opportunity to have their say.

I read an article in our local paper that alerted me to this proposed decision. Given the time frame, the amount of responders will be a small representation of our Scenic Rim population.

My ask, is to look at the ramifications of this decision and how the name "Scenic Rim "has been embedded into our communities since 2008.

I will presume that many other areas will be showing their defence against a name change also.

Even this process to date has accumulated a lot of expense, have a thought of the expense caused to business's and individuals if this goes ahead. Life is tough at the moment and we are doing our best to move toward tomorrow.

Maybe the State government and Electoral Commission should acknowledge the current economic climate as well.

Please think practically and read the comments from our communities. I have a feeling that our comments will be read, but our voice will not be heard and this redistribution will go ahead, despite our time informing you of the facts.

I hope common sense prevails.