

Submission ID: CS-0008
Date Received: 4/9/25, 11:51 am
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Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Capalaba; Oodgeroo; Redlands; Springwood
Related Submissions: Submission in Response for Redland City LGA
electorates - Capalaba, Oodgeroo and Redlands

Submission:

Key Principles

1. The three Redland City-based electorates of Capalaba, Oodgeroo and Redlands should maintain alignment with the boundaries of the Redland City Local Government Area (LGA) and the Federal Division of Bowman.
2. Electorates should be maintained on a North-West (Capalaba), Eastern (Oodgeroo) and Southern (Redlands) basis, incorporating only minimal and logical boundary adjustments.

Three Redland City-Based Electorates

The Queensland Redistribution Commission (QRC) has witnessed in its consultation process that many residents expressed a desire to reverse the changes made at the last redistribution, which placed Sheldon and Mount Cotton into the Logan-based electorate of Springwood.

I believe Redland City LGA is very close to 3 quotas now and into 2032. I also believe the future population has not taken into consideration the recently announced Southern Thornlands Priority Development Area by the State Government, which will increase the projected population growth.

I agree the LNP submission (s110) to return Mount Cotton to the Redlands electorate, consistent with the pre-2017 boundaries. However, their proposal to move Carbrook into a Redland City electorate would create the very same issue that Sheldon and Mount Cotton residents currently face, placing one Logan suburb inside a Redland-based electorate. Based on the future projected voters, there is no requirement to include a single suburb from Logan LGA.

Carbrook's community of interest is clearly with Logan City and the M1 corridor, not with Redland City. By contrast, Sheldon and Mount Cotton are the primary acreage suburbs of Redland City and share strong, consistent communities of interest. The QRC has historically recognised this fact by keeping them together in one state electorate. I also note that this is supported by the submission 031 by John Talty. John is the husband of a long serving Councillor for the area, who understands the connection between the two suburbs.

A more logical approach is to exchange a similar number of voters: move Sheldon back into the Redlands electorate and leave Carbrook with the Logan LGA based electorate. This outcome would restore the integrity of Redland's LGA boundaries and align with the Bowman federal boundary.

For much of the reasoning above, the QRC should not consider s112 from the Queensland Greens to move Capalaba into Brisbane City LGA. Two different LGAs, no shared communities of interests and would only add complexity and confusion to voters. Even to the extent of trying to service the constituency on two different show public holidays.

Minimal Boundary Movements

The LNP submission suggests two separate boundary adjustments to Capalaba: one in the north-east and another in the south. A simpler and more coherent approach is to make a single, directional adjustment east for Capalaba.

Extending Capalaba to include additional areas of Birkdale south of the rail line and south-west Wellington Point aligns with the principle adopted by the QRC in the last redistribution, when Capalaba's boundary was extended east into Birkdale and the southern Statistical Areas (SA1s) of Wellington Point.

This adjustment would also align with the Redland City Council divisional boundary Division 8, which in turn corresponds with the catchment boundary of Birkdale South State School. Retaining the school and divisional boundaries will help preserve communities of interest tied to Birkdale train station.

I agree with the LNP's submission to move the Oodgeroo boundary south to include more of Thornlands. This would be a natural consequence of moving Capalaba east and would allow a greater proportion of Thornlands to be in the one electorate.

Conclusion

I respectfully submit that the QRC should adopt a redistribution approach based on simplicity and minimal change.

1. The current confusion and frustration experienced by residents of Mount Cotton and Sheldon, caused by their inclusion in a Logan-based electorate should be corrected. This correction should not be undermined by creating a new problem, namely moving Carbrook (a Logan suburb) into a Redland City based electorate.
2. By adopting minimal, logical boundary adjustments in one direction for each electorate (east for Capalaba, south for Oodgeroo, west for Redlands), the QRC can keep key communities of interest intact. This will ensure Sheldon and Mount Cotton remain together, more of Thornlands is placed the single electorate of Oodgeroo and Birkdale and southern Wellington Point are included with their neighbouring SA1s in the Capalaba electorate.

Thank you for your consideration.

No Submission Attachments