

Your local voice

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RECEIVED

06 MAR 2007

ACT ELECTORAL
COMMISSION

4 March 2007

Redistribution Committee
ACT Electoral Commission
PO Box 272
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608

Dear Committee Members

ACT Legislative Assembly Electoral Boundaries Redistribution 2007

The Weston Creek Community Council (WCCC) welcomes this opportunity to contribute to the ACT Legislative Assembly Electoral Boundaries Redistribution 2007 public discussion.

There is a strong belief in our district that Weston Creek is a distinct and generally homogeneous community which has different characteristics compared to other districts in the ACT. One of these differences is the ageing of the population since our last submission to an electoral boundaries re-distribution inquiry in June 2003. The ageing of Weston Creek's population is compounded by the opportunities to build further aged care accommodation within the district. Weston Creek's central location is an advantage in the siting of aged care hostels and nursing homes as relatives and friends seek a central location for the convenience of being easily able to travel from all over Canberra to visit them.

There is a strong community bond in the district which was reinforced following the disastrous fires which devastated Duffy and parts of Chapman and Holder in 2003. The community came together to offer support and succour to friends and neighbours and the close bonds created by the disaster have remained.

Compared to other districts in Canberra, Weston Creek is a compact area separate from other districts and splitting of the district into different electorates would be felt more severely in Weston Creek than elsewhere.

The WCCC recommends that the Electoral Commission avoid splitting local communities as much as possible. The community council is also of the view that Weston Creek should remain in the electorate of Molonglo.

Yours faithfully



Bob Sutherland
Secretary, Weston Creek Community Council