

6 July 2007



Murray Cowper MLA
Member for Murray

The Secretary
Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners
GPO Box F316
PERTH WA 6841

Dear Sir/Madam

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES – MURRAY ELECTORATE

I have examined the proposed boundary changes and believe them to be fair in respect to those communities that will fall within the Murray Electorate, which will consist primarily the Shires of Murray, Harvey and Waroona.

I would like to make the following comments and suggestions to enhance the final draft.

1. In relation to the proposed name change to better reflect the district, may I suggest the name that has been used in the past, Murray-Wellington. The historical significance of the Murray-Wellington Electorate goes back to the 1950's when the then Premier Sir Ross McLarty held the seat. This Electorate falls within the land titles of the "Murray Location " and "Wellington Location", and hence the name. The locals who live in this area know this name.
2. In the area of the North Western boundary, the proposal is to follow from the intersection of Lakes Road and the Serpentine River, then along Lakes Road, right into Lakelands Road, along a dirt track and then right down Fiegerts Road, then left along Pinjarra Road and a loop back along the Murray River.

I would like to proffer the following suggestion, which is detailed on the **enclosed** map, which will define the boundaries more clearly and hence better suit those people in the affected area.

As you will see from the map, I suggest that at the intersection of the Serpentine River and Lakes Road, to follow the Serpentine waterway as the boundary, eg Lake Goegrup, Blake Lake, Nambeelup Pool, down to Pinjarra Road, immediately across the road from Pinjarra Road, to Tonkin Drive, along Tonkin Drive to the mouth of the Murray River.

Shop 21
Meadow Springs Shopping Centre
Meadow Springs Drive
Meadow Springs
PO Box 94 Mandurah, WA 6210
or PO Box 184 Pinjarra, WA 6208
Tel: (08) 9583 3830
Fax: (08) 9583 3834
Email: mcowper@mp.wa.gov.au



Parliament of Western Australia
Legislative Assembly

This would see the entire Murray River falling within the Murray Electorate.

Accordingly, based on figures that I have, this would see a total of 774 additional voters come into the electorate of Murray from Mandurah.

The reasoning for this small change is as follows:

- The northern part of Barragup, which includes Lakelands Road, Peaceful Waters Drive, Passive Place, Shenton Road and Meares Road is segregated from Barragup and Furnissdale by the Serpentine River and one needs to travel over 10 kilometres back through the Mandurah City to link these communities. Residents in this area are on 5 acre rural properties, which are more synonymous with the rural environment in Murray, than with the urban area on the eastern side of Lake Goegrup; (see attached map). There are only 138 voters in these locations.
- The Yunderup community is divided in two under the draft proposal. Residents in this area recreate together and they share membership in the same clubs such as the Yunderup Sporting & Recreation Club. The 596 voters in North Yunderup will be segregated from their natural community and this has the potential to divide the community;

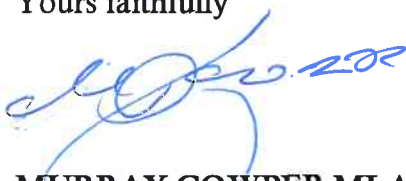
In total my proposal would see an additional 774 voters added to the Murray electorate which would bring it close to 22,196 voters, well within the scope of the upper limit which is 23,485.

Conversely it would see a reduction in the Mandurah seat from 20,171 to 19,327, which again falls within the limit of what is acceptable for the purposes of the redistribution.

The benefit of reducing Mandurah's number of voters, is premised on the phenomenal growth in the North of the Mandurah Electorate which includes the suburbs of Meadow Springs, Lakelands and Madora Bay, which are arguably amongst the fastest growing areas in Western Australia. The growth in this part of the City of Mandurah is the highest in the whole of the Mandurah LGA and it is anticipated that there will be an additional 6000 voters in these areas by 2016.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed boundaries.

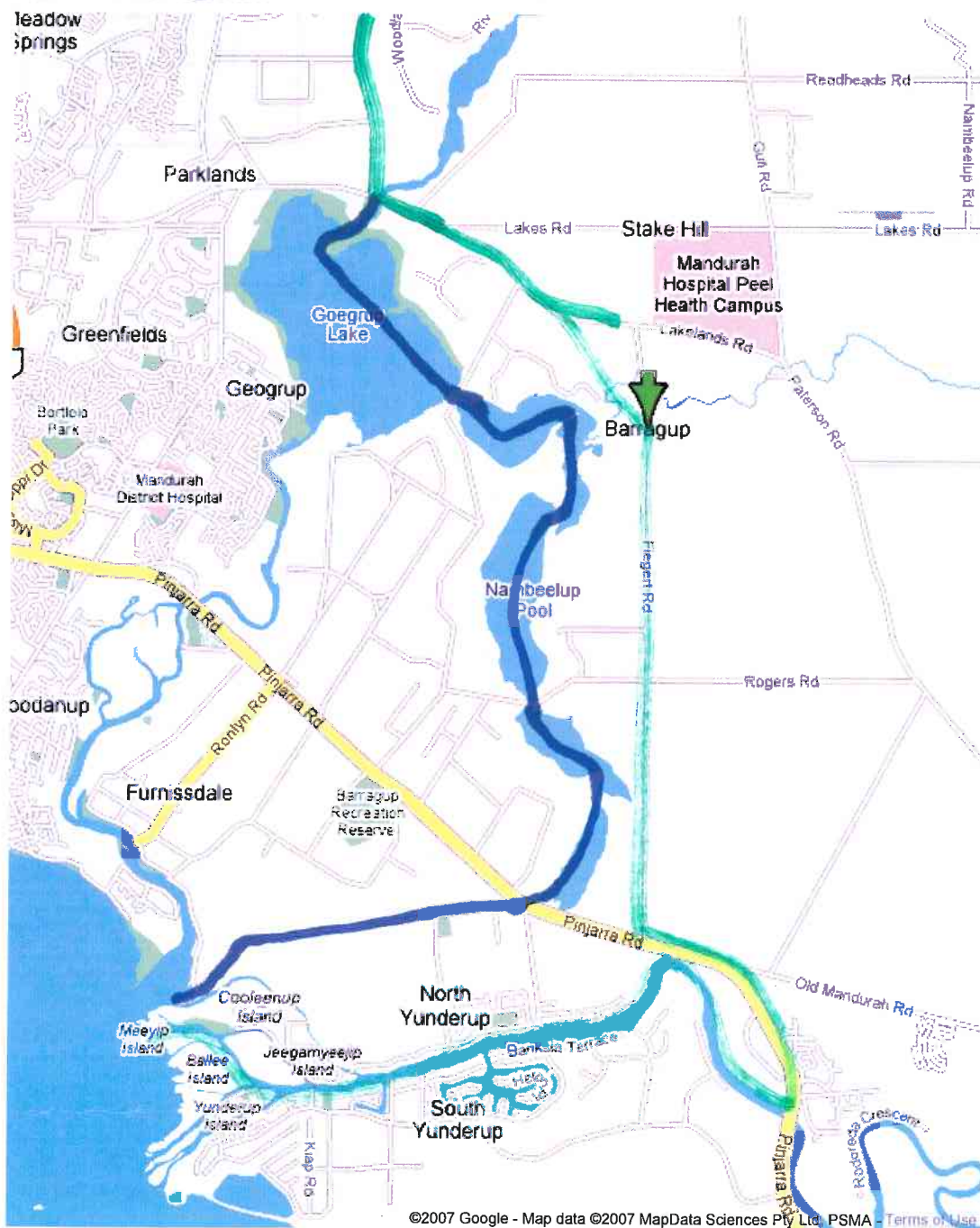
Yours faithfully





MURRAY COWPER MLA
MEMBER FOR MURRAY
Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations;
Emergency Services

Enc

Google Maps Australia BETA Address **Barragup, WA**



 PROPOSED COSMETIC AMENDMENT.
 DRAFT WAEC BOUNDARY