I support the preferred option outlined in the preliminary report that suggests that a minor boundary change occur between Red Gum Ward and Silverleaf Ward, which, aside from accounting for deviation, would also unite Dandenong North in Silverleaf Ward, and that a further boundary change occur between Silverleaf Ward and Lightwood Ward to account for deviation. However, there are two possibly negative effects, in that a small area in Noble Park North is moved into Lightwood Ward, resulting in a split of Noble Park North, and that Keysborough is split between Paperbark Ward and Red Gum Wards.

However, when considering the other model, I view this as a necessary sacrifice. The Noble Park North split, as noted by the VEC, is very much a necessary modification to accommodate growth, and the population moved to another ward is rather minor- 5.38% of current enrolment. The Keysborough split is rather more pressing. Red Gum Ward is by far the largest ward in the Greater Dandenong City Council, covering 68% of the area of Greater Dandenong. It therefore may be possibly necessary to divide Red Gum Ward, especially considering the split of Keysborough. However, the proposed alternative model by the VEC, which divides Red Gum Ward and unites Keysborough seems to have more drawbacks than benefits. While it does, as outlined, make the Red Gum Ward smaller, and represent the distinct communities of interests of Dandenong and Keysborough better than the preferred option, it also moves almost triple the voters that the preferred option does, resulting in 15.98% of all voters being effected within Greater Dandenong. Dandenong North continues to be split between Red Gum Ward and Silverleaf Ward, and Noble Park is also split between Paperbark Ward and a larger Silverleaf Ward.

I do not wish to propose any ward name changes. I do not wish to speak at the public hearing.