

From: noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au
Sent: Monday, 14 November 2022 9:24 AM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (57918) - Erwin Hecht

Online submission for from **Erwin Hecht**

Submission Details

Name: Erwin Hecht

Privacy preferences: Publishing your submission and your name

Submission text: I object to the application to rename our Region for the following reasons: Council has not provided a single argument, which is backed up by verifiable facts. All of promised benefits can be achieved with us remaining a Region. Other regional Councils have demonstrated, that they can be as successful or even more so without being a City. Council's budget for changing over to City has not been laid open and Council refuses to be accountable for all past and future expenses associated with these costs. Council's consultation and voting process in their surveys, which formed the basis for their vote, was a total shambles and an invalid process. Council spent a huge amount on advertising and they held various surveys, which they claim altogether supported the proposed move. Lets examine them: (Data taken from Council's report) The surveys were: 1) Business and community leaders invited to a business lunch (A group of people, which most likely provide goods or services to Council and are bound to be sympathetic) = 150 Votes nearly exclusively YES 2) 12 targeted focus groups (64 residents) , selected and processed by an outside contractor. We know nothing about these people. After they were "educated and informed" they allegedly voted mostly: 64 voted Yes 3) A Courier Mail survey. Some 660 readers (residents?) participated. Only accessible for subscribers and we don't know what the questions were. Allegedly 56% = 370 Yes 4) Your Say Moreton Bay survey (many residents refused, because they have to register and they did not trust their data being handled by an outside contractor. Many were also put off by the format and wording of the survey, which was more like an advertisement than an opinion poll) [During the survey period, 2,975 visited the landing page, 1,036 people visited the survey page but only 451 people completed it.] 451 participants, 35% = 158 yes, 55% = 248 no 5) Council also took credits for 297 likes and emojis displayed on their facebook site. (a very dubious practice) Altogether tiny numbers for a Yes vote, even when you add them up. But here comes the crunch: Any participant in these groups could have and most likely did vote in the other groups as well and could have created those likes and emojis. So Council has really no way to know, how many people voted yes for their moves. How can you use a voting system, which allows participants to vote multiple times in a number of surveys? I have never known of a survey, where such votes are allowed. Seeing, that voters could vote multiple times in the various surveys and comment on the social media. The largest single group of Yes votes is 370 and that is the maximum Council can honestly claim. And that was achieved in a media, which is not accessible to most residents (paywall) . Effectively less than 0.1%, not even one in a thousand residents voted Yes to support Councils move. Would anybody call that a democratic or popular vote? We ask that by your authority you reject Council's application. This is too important an issue to be resolved without majority support of the community. regards Erwin Hecht 535 Burpengary Road Narangba 4504 Email: erniehecht@gmail.com Mob: 0423308503

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Time of Submission: 14 Nov 2022 9:23am

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