

APPENDIX B

Public Suggestions

List of Public Suggestions
Divisional Boundary Review of Gold Coast City Council

Suggestion	Name / Organisation
1	Gecko Environment Council Association Inc.
2	Councillor Dawn Crichlow, Division 6, Gold Coast City Council
3	Brendon McGrath
4	Dianne Chapman
5	Joanne Vonhoff
6	Lorel Dodson
7	Luke Sorensen
8	Alexander Wall
9	Noel Grummitt, Vice President, Southport Chamber of Commerce
10	Darrell Brown, Member of Southport Chamber of Commerce
11	Vikki Hocking, Secretary, Pacific Pines Residents Group
12	Ian Kennedy, Managing Practice Director of McLaughlins Lawyers
13	Neil Badke
14	Ian Kennedy, President, Southport Chamber of Commerce
15	Arran Woollams, Director, Space Cubed Pty Ltd

- 16** Roger May
- 17** Anita Kuiper, Director, Space Cubed Pty Ltd
- 18** Arran Woollams, Director for We Create Space Pty Ltd,
T/A Last Night on Earth
- 19** Ben Howe
- 20** Lois Levy on behalf of members of Gecko Environment
Council Association Inc.
- 21** Catherine C Ash
- 22** Jenny Matheson
- 23** Christine Jarvie
- 24** Ty Kudla, President, The Southport Place Collective
- 25** Ross Lee
- 26** Angela Prendergrast
- 27** Yvette Dempsey
- 28** Sally Spain, President, Wildlife Queensland Gold Coast
Branch
- 29** Josh Burkin, Project Manager of Shadforth
- 30** Ariana Margetts, Board Member, Southport Chamber of
Commerce and founding member of Southport Place
Collective
- 31** Nick Gentle, Project Engineer at Shadforth
- 32** Ross Jones
- 33** Tim Cowling, Project Engineer of Shadforth
- 34** Mark Tierney
- 35** Liam Campbell

- 36** Chris Nolan
- 37** Jenny Crewes, Location Manager, White Lady Funerals and Board Member, Southport Chamber of Commerce
- 38** Judith Badke
- 39** President TMCCI
- 40** Nerang Community Association Inc.
- 41** Tory Jones
- 42** Allan Godbee, Managing Partner of Godbee Favero Strategic Accountants
- 43** Bryan Lean
- 44** Councillor Glenn Tozer, Division 9, Gold Coast City Council
- 45** Councillor Gail O'Neill, Division 14, Gold Coast City Council
- 46** Councillor Pauline Young, Division 12, Gold Coast City Council
- 47** Councillor Cameron Caldwell, Division 3, Gold Coast City Council
- 48** Lorraine Lovatt, Chief Executive Officer, Maylake Pty Ltd
- 49** Tory Jones
- 50** Councillor Peter Young, Division 5, Gold Coast City Council
- 51** Councillor Daphne McDonald, Division 13, Gold Coast City Council

25th March 2019

Electoral Commission of Queensland
GPO Box 1393,
Brisbane QLD 4001
ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Re: Review of divisional boundaries, City of Gold Coast Council.

I write on behalf of the members of Gecko Environment Council Assoc. Inc in regard to the current review of electoral boundaries in Gold Coast city Council divisions. Gecko Environment Council Assoc. Inc. is a not-for-profit environment association founded in 1989 and has been active for the past 29 years in protecting the environmental values and ecological sustainability of the Gold Coast, Queensland and, when appropriate, nationally. Gecko's Mission is *"To actively promote, conserve and restore the natural environment and improve the sustainability of the built environment of the Gold Coast region in partnership with our member groups and the wider community."*

It is our understanding that Gold Coast Council has undertaken a review of the divisional boundaries and has provided your Commission with two options, both of which require changes to a greater or lesser degree for every division.

Some of these changes, while they meet the criteria of approximately equal voter populations (+ or – 10%), do not appear to our members to meet the other criteria which should be considered.

These criteria taken from Section 46 of the electoral Act 1992 include:-

- The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district (division)
- The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district (division)
- The physical features of each proposed electoral district (division) and
- The boundaries of existing electoral districts.

There is also the matter of the time span between these divisional boundary reviews, which we believe will be 8 years following the current review. The Gold Coast population continues to grow rapidly at 2.9% per year with an additional population of 16,053 in 2017

(<https://profile.id.com.au/gold-coast/population-estimate>). This level of growth is expected to continue. Using these figures the population of the Gold Coast by 2028 will be about 728,000.

This would indicate to us that during the 8 years from the Local Government elections in 2020 to those in 2028 there will be a definite need for major changes to the divisional boundaries in our city. Further it is extremely likely that Gold Coast City will in fact need an additional division (or maybe 2) before 2028. The minimum and maximum voter populations per division are recommended at 24,304 and 29,705 respectively with a "reasonable proportion of electors being 27,004" These figures are approaching the voter population figures for State electorates and demonstrate to our members that the *local* in Local Government is being lost with very large divisional voter populations. It would be preferable to have the extra division prior to 2020, rather than wait until 2028.

With large voter numbers in divisions, not only is the *local* being lost, but it is an unreasonable burden of duty on the councillors to manage these large numbers and provide adequate representation.

In regard to the two options proposed by City of Gold Coast Council we note that there are major changes in several divisions, some of which may be reasonable, but some do not appear to follow the criteria.

As an example, Division 13's current northern boundary is Tallebudgera Creek which complies with the criteria of 1) The physical features of each proposed electoral district (division) and 2) The boundaries of existing electoral districts. There is also a reasonable level of community of interest in the current boundary to the west as residential development in that area is largely urban. The proposed changes in Option 1 and 2 of the Council Review proposal has the northern boundary being moved south so that Division 12 takes over some of the area south of Tallebudgera Creek and then follows a crooked line through the middle of a residential area. To the west, the boundary has been extended both west and north to take in parts of Division 9 or Mudgeeraba Village. There seems to be little community of economic, social, regional or other interests within the proposed electoral district (division) between the beachside population and the semi-rural population of Mudgeeraba.

In some of the other e.g. division 9 Option 1 suggests adding 8,361 voters and removing 5,812, while Division 5 has 9,651 added and 8,736 removed. Similar figures are seen in Option 2. There does not appear to be much logic in changing these figures.

The alternative is to create an additional division, taking Gold Coast Council to 15 divisions, which would allow current divisions to remain much the same, while providing improved and more local representation in the north of the city where population growth is both greatest and most rapid. The growth projections for the Gold Coast outlined in the SEQ Regional Plan <https://diligpprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/shapingseq.pdf> show an increase of 351,100 people between 2016 and 2041, based on medium series projections, which would notionally reflect a steady increase of around 14,000 people each year.

An additional division in the north would accommodate such projected growth, comply with all of the criteria and enable a new councillor to adequately represent the electors.

Gecko members support the creation of an additional division in the growth corridor of the north of the city and commends this suggestion to the Electoral Commission.

Yours sincerely



Lois Levy. OAM



From: Cr Dawn Crichlow - Division 6
Sent: Thursday, 2 May 2019 9:02 AM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: Gold Coast Local Government Electoral Boundaries

Good morning

I would like to raise concerns about potential changes to electoral boundaries, in particular the possibility of an electoral boundary running through the centre of the Gold Coast CBD.

Council designated Southport the Gold Coast CBD in 2014, along with the implementation of the Southport Priority Development Area (PDA) and subsequent creation of Council's CBD office, with the view to increase development within Southport to grow the CBD and diversify the economy.

Any boundary realignment should consider that the PDA represents the Gold Coast CBD and as such, could cause operational, political and reporting concerns should it be split by an electoral boundary.

The Southport PDA map is at the link (Page 4). <http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/documents/bf/pda-proposed-scheme.pdf>

I strongly believe that the Gold Coast CBD should not be split by a divisional boundary as it could be detrimental to its future success.

Regards

Dawn

Cr Dawn Crichlow OAM
Councillor for Division 6
City of Gold Coast

T: 07 [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
cityofgoldcoast.com.au



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From: noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au
Sent: Sunday, 5 May 2019 9:06 AM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (78687) Gold Coast City Local Government Area - Brendon McGrath

Online submission for **Gold Coast City Local Government Area** from **Brendon McGrath**

Submission Details

Name: Brendon McGrath

Submission Text: I believe it is important to consider what 'community' means to the divisions and the effect adjusting divisional boundaries will have on community spirit. The adjustment is primarily driven by a growth in a specific region of the city and adjusting all divisions using a domino effect is short cited. What happens in 5 years time when the northern regions have grown again? I believe a better solution would be to introduce a new northern division and adjust only the boundaries of divisions 1-4.

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From: noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 1:05 PM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (78696) Gold Coast City Local Government Area - Dianne Chapman

Online submission for **Gold Coast City Local Government Area** from **Dianne Chapman**

Submission Details

Name: Dianne Chapman

Submission Text: I think the Gold Coast has had considerable growth in the north and, rather than move ALL the Divisional boundaries it would be better to add a new Division.

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From: noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 15 May 2019 9:27 AM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (78735) Gold Coast City Local Government Area - Joanne Vonhoff

Online submission for **Gold Coast City Local Government Area** from **Joanne Vonhoff**

Submission Details

Name: Joanne Vonhoff

Submission Text: Change the divisions so our councillor looks after the valleys and the hinterland. Major conflict of interest if they are supporting the majority of their voters on the beach. Different values are needed to protect our green scape - no foreign development. Councillors should not be able to represent two different dynamics of environment especially when developers of the beach areas provide funding to council. Please give us our own voice.

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From: noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 15 May 2019 2:19 PM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (78754) Gold Coast City Local Government Area - Lorel Dodson
Attachments: GCCC-division-submission-2019.docx

Online submission for **Gold Coast City Local Government Area** from **Lorel Dodson**

Submission Details

Name: Lorel Dodson

Submission Text:

File Upload: GCCC division submission 2019.docx (16.4 KB)

I understand the need to review divisional boundaries to strive to have equal local government representation for everyone however just basing the decision on numbers will lead to a very poor outcome and inequities for the community in which I live. I am aware that GCCC has prepared an option for redistributing the divisions and I am concerned with this in general and regarding division 9 in particular. Consideration of the types of the communities in each division needs to be the main focus otherwise some communities will be significantly worse off.

I live in Bonogin, a little semi-rural valley community in the Gold Coast hinterland. This area has been left out as the 'poor relation' previously therefore I make this submission to ensure this does not happen to this area (or any area) again. I cite the following 2 incidents as proof of this:

1. When Albert Shire was absorbed into the Gold Coast City Council (GCCC) this community and other like it definitely became the biggest losers. GCCC is always focussed on tourism and coastal issues so the problems of the hinterland are always pushed to the back as evidenced by the following description from the Gold Coast City website "Australia's Gold Coast is a leading tourism, business and events city boasting arguably one of the best lifestyles in the world. Situated in the south east corner of the state of Queensland, the Gold Coast stretches along 57 kilometres of coastline and is home to over half a million people." Examples of where the amalgamation failed us are:
 - * the grass verges on the only road into the valley is constantly over grown with actual trees growing right beside the road and the grass is often left to grow as tall as me before it is cut,
 - * we have abundant wildlife to manage (koala, kangaroos, wallabies, platypus, echidna and dingo are frequently spotted in my immediate area),
 - * large volumes of vegetation including some huge trees (especially after storms) need to be managed and GCCC even proposed at one stage to close our local tip and/or charge a fee,
 - * frequent dumping of rubbish in the bush (which is our front yard),
 - * rubbish left lying around the streets for several month,
 - * a very dangerous road identified as suitable for bikes when it is not,
 - * etc, etc
2. In the last reshuffle of federal electoral boundaries part of the Bonogin suburb was added to a miscellaneous 'left-over' group and placed in the ragtag new electorate of Wright. Our 'local' representative is located well over 1 hour drive away which not 'local' in the widest stretch of the imagination. The area he presents takes over 3 hours to drive from one end to the other. Whilst the current incumbent tries his best to represent the hugely differing communities over such a vast area it is a huge task and is grossly inadequate and means that our access to representation is significant less than other people despite what the numbers show. Compare this to the 15 minute drive to the office for the McPherson electorate MP that covers the rest of Bonogin..

It is very interesting that the difference in community types conveniently follows the M1 to a large extent particularly in the southern and central sections of the GCCC area, therefore my submission is that whole the area between the M1 and the coast be divided up according to the required number of people in each division and the remaining area divided up according to the required number of people.

If the GCCC submission is adopted it will mean this area is deliberately disadvantaged yet again which contradicts the whole purpose of the redistribution. Under the present distribution my local division 9 counsellor is a 10 minute drive from home but under the GCCC proposal my 'local' counsellor will be at least a 30 minute drive plus I would travel past 3 other divisional counsellor's office to visit my Local Government representative.

I therefore submit that the divisions be decided on the types of communities first, then balanced to meet the numbers.

From: noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au
Sent: Thursday, 16 May 2019 10:11 AM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (78757) Gold Coast City Local Government Area - Luke Sorensen

Online submission for **Gold Coast City Local Government Area** from **Luke Sorensen**

Submission Details

Name: Luke Sorensen

Submission Text: I am absolutely disgusted that the suggested changes to the electoral boundaries on the Gold Coast involve gutting and splitting the township of Nerang in half, and do not agree. I strongly believe it will have significant negative impact on business, lifestyle, amenity and connectivity of our town — the oldest township in the Gold Coast area. Our community is united as one and having one single councillor for us all is imperative to the prosperity of this township, whether it be the interactions between schools, the commonality of our local businesses and the community initiatives of a single councillor to bring us together and work for our common needs. Please register that I do not support this and it believe it must be altered to NOT split the township of Nerang by the proposed moving northward of the existing Division 5 southern boundary that abuts Division 9. If anything, the boundary should move south and cross the less populated rural area of Worongary, but NOT split our township in half!

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Submission regarding Review of Gold Coast City Council Divisional Boundaries.

I am concerned by a proposal for changes to the boundaries of divisions within the Gold Coast City Council area, drawn up by Gold Coast City Council prior to the matter of a redistribution being referred to the ECQ by the Minister.

The proposal, which was widely reported in the media, is to retain 14 divisions and adjust the existing boundaries to ensure they met the required quotas. As a resident of Bonogin, which is currently in Division 9, I was horrified to see that under the Council proposal, I would move into Division 13.

I feel this would see myself and other residents of Bonogin included in a division with which we have little or no involvement. Division 13 extends from Palm Beach on the coast, where I doubt many people from 'west of the Pacific Motorway' ever go. Furthermore, it would take us out of Division 9, centred on Mudgeeraba, where we shop, go to the doctor, collect our mail at the nearest post office and where some of our children go to school.

The ECQ needs to consider the community of interest when conducting the redistribution and adding hinterland communities in with beachside suburbs would fail to take this into account. For example, I doubt anyone in the coastal parts of Division 13 have ever had to call Council to remove a dead horse or cow from the road. And they've probably never had to request Council to remove dangerously positioned large trees which overhang one of only two roads in and out of the suburb, which are threatening to fall and block that road.

The above issues also highlight the reason why the position of the M1 (Pacific Motorway) should also be taken into account. Many of the hinterland areas west of the Motorway, which include acreage lots and semi-rural lots, have very different issues regarding population density, council services and facilities to those living in built-up suburban areas. I'm sure Council has never had to erect koala habitat warning signs on the Gold Coast Highway at Palm Beach in a very, very long time. And residents should be represented by a Councillor who is familiar with those issues.

While I live at Bonogin in the hinterland, I am also a ratepayer in the coastal Gold Coast suburb of Burleigh. I would be much happier if any redistribution saw Palm Beach and Burleigh in the same division, as they have similar issues and are closer to each other than Palm Beach and Bonogin.

The Bonogin community has already seen the negative impact redistributions at a federal level, with the suburb split in two and the part where I live being included in the seat of Wright. That puts me in the same federal electorate as people living at the foot of the Toowoomba Range. As a result, we hardly ever see or hear from our federal member. The issues we have are totally different to those of people living in the Lockyer Valley. And our MP's office is more than an hour's drive away at Beaudesert. That's despite other Bonogin residents being included in the federal seat of McPherson, which only has Gold Coast suburbs and federal member's office is about 15 minutes' drive at Varsity Lakes. I would hate to see us again disadvantaged by being included in a sprawling local government division where our local representative is about half an hour away, rather than the current situation where our local councillor has his office right across the road from our nearest shopping centre.

Consideration should be given by the ECQ to increasing the number of Councillors from the existing 15 (14 + Mayor) to 16 (15 + mayor) by creating a new division at the top end of the Gold Coast, which is experiencing large residential growth. That is where additional representation is needed

and divisions on the central and southern Gold Coast could be left fairly much as is, although some minor adjustments may be required to preserve necessary quotas. This would help to future-proof the Gold Coast, otherwise there's likely to be the need for another redistribution in just four years, given the population expansion.

An alternative solution to the Gold Coast's population growth and representation on Council would be more radical and not currently implemented in any other Queensland local government area, to the best of my knowledge. That would be to create 'super divisions' with multiple councillors. For example, there could be five 'super divisions' each with three councillors. These could roughly divide the Gold Coast into north, east, south, west and central divisions. With three councillors looking after each area, I'm sure residents and ratepayers would get better representation. We currently have multiple representation in the Senate. Why not at a local level? However, this may not be possible in the short-term, given it may require changes to Acts of Parliament.

Whatever the ECQ does, please keep in mind the importance to look at community of interest when drawing the new boundaries.

Alexander Wall

Bonogin

From: noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au
Sent: Friday, 17 May 2019 1:35 PM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (78782) Gold Coast City Local Government Area - Noel Grummitt

Online submission for **Gold Coast City Local Government Area** from **Noel Grummitt**

Submission Details

Name: Noel Grummitt

Submission Text: As a Vice President of the Southport Chamber of Commerce, I wish to object in the strongest terms to the proposed southern boundary between Division 6 with Division 7 which bisects the whole CBD area of Southport. It was our understanding that Divisional boundaries should reflect communities of interest and bisecting the designated and recognised CBD of Southport flies totally in conflict with that process. As other communities have experienced, eg Nerang, the duplication of responsibility within Local Government for a clearly defined community is disastrous to the community and leads to economic stagnation because no one Councillor will take responsibility for or push for the benefits of that community. Southport last year celebrated its centenary and is still a geographically distinct economic unit, containing the highest order government services in the City, eg the Southport Court House. The dismantling of that long-standing community construct cannot be supported on any basis in the Local Government Act and is in total conflict with the requirements of Chapter 2, Part 2, Division 1 of the Regulations to the Act. Such a change would be illegal and should not proceed.

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From: Darrell Brown
Sent: Friday, 17 May 2019 3:01 PM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: New boundary divisions 6 & 7 - Southport - OBJECTION TO PROPOSAL

As a person who has had a business at [REDACTED], Southport for 47 years, I don't believe that the proposed boundary division for 6 & 7 make sense other than it is convenient for you to draw a dividing line along Nerang St. Southport is a CBD & should remain as one division. To place half of it with Surfers Paradise & Isle of Capri fails to recognise communities.

Please revisit the boundaries & recognise communities, especially the CBD of Southport.

Regards,

Darrell Brown B. Arch (Hons), MUS.
Member of Southport Chamber of Commerce

[REDACTED]



From: Vikki Hocking
Sent: Friday, 17 May 2019 3:56 PM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: Proposed New Gold Coast Local Government Electoral Boundaries

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to make a submission that the EQ considers the creation of a 15th division in the northern end of the City of Gold Coast. Our city could definitely benefit with improved representation with an additional Councillor, not to mention avoiding some areas like Nerang being divided into 4 different divisions, not to mention the town centre of Mudgeeraba being excised from its current division.

The proposed changes of realigning boundaries instead of creating a new division will affect approximately 87,000+ voters, equating to almost one quarter of all voters across the city. In comparison, creating a new division would not affect as many people and people would then retain their current Councillors (if they are re-elected) and retain that current relationship that they have.

I believe that that cutting Nerang up into 4 different divisions and also the change in Mudgeeraba will have a detrimental affect to local businesses. How can growth, planning, etc. possibly be achieved for this one suburb by 4 different Councillors who all may have different agendas?

I am happy to provide further input or be contacted regarding this matter if required.

Vikki Hocking
Secretary
Pacific Pines Residents Group
Tel [REDACTED]

My name is Ian Kennedy and I am writing to you in my capacity of Managing Practice Director of McLaughlins Lawyers.

For 30 years our practice was in Southport in current Division 6. Although we are now in Bundall we continue to deal with businesses in the CBD of the Gold Coast and in particular the Courts precinct.

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district and Courts precinct is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater. It would be preferable for the proposed Division 7 northern boundary line to be moved north to Smith St to keep the CBD with the rest of Southport in the one Division.

To bisect the CBD of the Gold Coast as proposed would be a breach of the principles set out in Chapter 2, Part 2, Division 1 Reg 9 of the Local Government Regulation 2012. Division of areas of common economic interest, such as a CBD, should not be divided and an appropriate whole should be retained to ensure effective representation for residents and ratepayers including businesses.

With Regards,

Ian Kennedy | Legal Practice Director
McLaughlins Lawyers [REDACTED]

Good morning. My name is Neil Badke and I live with my family at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Today Sunday the 19th day of May 2019 I would like to put forward my submission with respect to some of the proposed divisional boundary changes. I have lived at this address for the past 33 Years and have witnessed previous boundary changes that were detrimental to the social and business wellbeing of Nerang as a regional town of the Gold Coast. Changes mean more Councillors have a say on future improvements to our community which generally means nothing gets done!

I believe the best solution for the whole of the Gold Coast is to form a new division where a large amount of development has and is currently happening. Coomera, Oxenford, Ormeau and Pimpama are growing at a massive rate and will need more representation as the volume of families continue to move into the new developments that are overthinking this originally rural and farming precinct. Do it now, be forward thinking and not 6 years down the track when it will be overdue.

Yours truly. Neil Badke

Dear ECQ,

My name is Ian Kennedy and I am writing to you in my capacity of President of the Southport Chamber of Commerce.

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater. It would be preferable for the proposed Division 7 northern boundary line to be moved north to Smith St to keep the CBD with the rest of Southport in the one Division.

To bisect the CBD of the Gold Coast as proposed would be a breach of the principles set out in Chapter 2, Part 2, Division 1 Reg 9 of the Local Government Regulation 2012. Division of areas of common economic interest, such as a CBD, should not be divided and an appropriate whole should be retained to ensure effective representation for residents and ratepayers including businesses.

Regards,

Ian Kennedy | President
Southport Chamber of Commerce

Dear ECQ,

My name is Arran Woollams and I am writing to you in my capacity of Director for Space Cubed Pty Ltd.

Our business is located at [REDACTED]

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you

Submission Details

Name: Roger May

Submission Text: I feel that the growth of the Gold Coast is now moving north and that a further division (15) should be formed in the areas of Ormeau/Pimpama. Nerang is one of the older areas of the Gold Coast and should be kept an one entity.

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Dear ECQ,

My name is **Anita Kuiper** and I am writing to you in my capacity of **Director at Space Cubed** (41 Nerang St) and a part owner of **Mr P.P.'s** (13 Nerang St) and **Last Night on Earth** (50b Nerang St).

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7. It is my understanding that my businesses will therefore reside in different divisions as they are on either side of Nerang St in the Southport CBD.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you

Dear ECQ,

My name is Arran Woollams and I am writing to you in my capacity of Director for We Create Space Pty Ltd, T/A Last Night on Earth.

Our business is located at [REDACTED], and is a small bar.

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you

Arran Woollams

Last Night on Earth

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Submission Details**Name:** Ben Howe

Submission Text: I strongly oppose any proposal that boundaries of Division 6 or 7 change from their existing location. In particular I vehemently oppose the proposed change put forward by City of Gold Coast that the division line be located down Nerang St directly through the center of the CBD. This idea, makes no logical sense and would cause irreversible damage to the businesses within the CBD and wider Gold Coast community. A strong and vibrant city center will grow over the coming decades between Queen St and Nind St, it is vital we strengthen the locality rather than attempting to weaken it. Furthermore, the division numbers are comfortably within zone size quotas.

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18th May 2019
 Local Government Change Commission
 GPO Box 1393 BRISBANE QLD 4001
 LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au
 Minister for Local Government.
 lgrma@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Commissioners,

Re: changes to divisional electoral boundaries Gold Coast City.

I write on behalf of the members of Gecko Environment Council Assoc. Inc in regard to the current review of electoral boundaries in Gold Coast city Council divisions. Gecko Environment Council Assoc. Inc. is a not-for-profit environment association founded in 1989 and has been active for the past 29 years in protecting the environmental values and ecological sustainability of the Gold Coast, Queensland and, when appropriate, nationally. Gecko's Mission is *"To actively promote, conserve and restore the natural environment and improve the sustainability of the built environment of the Gold Coast region in partnership with our member groups and the wider community."*

City of Gold Coast Council Options: It is our understanding that Gold Coast Council has undertaken a review of the divisional boundaries and may provide Electoral Commission with two options, both of which require changes to a greater or lesser degree for every division, but with greater changes to Divisions 5, 9 and 13. These options do not, in our opinion meet the Commissions criteria and inadequately consider the population growth projected for the next 9 years.

The City of Gold Coast Council has not undertaken any meaningful public information or consultation of these proposed changes to divisional boundaries so it is unlikely that residents are even aware of proposed changes, seen any maps or the opportunity for them to make a submission.

A third option: Gecko's members therefore would like your Department to consider a third option of an additional division in Gold Coast City bringing it to 15 divisions. In order for this to occur it appears that it is necessary for the Minister to use his powers and undertake an *electoral arrangement review* to determine if an additional division is in the public interest.

Some of these changes in the Council submission, while they meet the criteria of approximately equal voter populations (+ or – 10%), do not appear to our members to meet the other criteria which should be considered. These criteria taken from Section 46 of the Electoral Act 1992 include:-

- ☐ The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district (division)
- ☐ The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district (division)
- ☐ The physical features of each proposed electoral district (division) and
- ☐ The boundaries of existing electoral districts.

An example of this is given below.

Population growth over time: There is also the matter of the **time span** between these divisional boundary reviews, which we believe will be 8 years following the current review. The Gold Coast population continues to grow rapidly at 2.9% per year with an additional population of 16,053

in 2017 (<https://profile.id.com.au/gold-coast/population-estimate>). This level of growth is expected to continue. Using these figures the population of the Gold Coast by 2028 will be about 728,000. This would indicate to us that during the 8 years from the Local Government elections in 2020 to those in 2028 there will be a definite need for major changes to the divisional boundaries in our city. Further it is extremely likely that Gold Coast City will in fact need an additional division (or maybe 2) before 2028. The minimum and maximum voter populations per division are recommended at 24,304 and 29,705 respectively with a “reasonable proportion of electors being 27,004”

Loss of sense of local: These figures are approaching the voter population figures for State electorates and demonstrate to our members that the *local* in Local Government is being lost with very large divisional voter populations. It would be preferable to have the extra division prior to 2020, rather than wait until 2028.

With large voter numbers in divisions, not only is the *local* being lost, but it is an unreasonable burden of duty on the councillors to manage these large numbers and provide adequate representation.

In regard to the two options proposed by City of Gold Coast Council we note that there are major changes in several divisions, some of which do not appear to follow the criteria.

An example,

Division 13's *current* northern boundary is Tallebudgera Creek which complies with the criteria of 1) The physical features of each proposed electoral district (division) (river) and 2) The boundaries of existing electoral districts.

There is also a reasonable level of community of interest and communication/travel in the current boundary to that in the west, as residential development in that area is largely urban and the divisional boundary for that area has not changed greatly over many years. The residents of Division 13 identify themselves as being part of that division and could be disadvantaged in representation if the major change proposed by City of Gold Coast Council goes ahead.

The proposed changes in Option 1 and 2 of the Council Review proposal has the northern boundary being moved south so that Division 12 takes over some of the area south of Tallebudgera Creek and then follows a crooked line through the middle of a residential area.

To the west, the boundary has been extended both west and north to take in parts of Division 9 or Mudgeeraba Village. There seems to be little community of economic, social, regional or other interests within the proposed electoral district (division) between the beachside population and the semi-rural population of Mudgeeraba. This is also true of communication and travel in this area. There appears to be no rationale for this new boundary.

Other divisions: In some of the other e.g. division 9 City of Gold Coast Council Option 1 suggests adding 8,361 voters and removing 5,812, while Division 5 has 9,651 added and 8,736 removed. Similar figures are seen in City of Gold Coast Council Option 2. There does not appear to be much logic in changing these figures, especially when the most growth is in the north.

The alternative is for the Minister to create an additional division, taking Gold Coast Council to 15 divisions, which would allow current divisions to remain much the same, while providing improved and more local representation in the north of the city where population growth is both greatest and most rapid. The growth projections for the Gold Coast outlined in the SEQ Regional Plan <https://dilgpprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/shapingseq.pdf> show an increase of 351,100

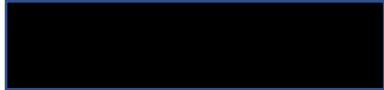
people between 2016 and 2041, based on medium series projections, which would notionally reflect a steady increase of around 14,000 people each year.

An additional division in the north would accommodate such projected growth, comply with all of the criteria and enable a new councillor to adequately represent the electors.

Gecko members support the creation by the Minister, of an additional division in the growth corridor of the north of the city and commends this suggestion to the Commission. Gecko members do not support either of the options put forward by City of Gold Coast Council.

Yours sincerely

Lois Levy, OAM





Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to endorse the letter sent to you from Gecko Gold Coast regarding divisional changes on the GC. I would like to add that there is a general feeling that there is an element of gerrymandering going on here ably done by Mayor Tate. When this briefly came before council at a general meeting he immediately closed down any discussion regarding a 15th division. The divisions with the biggest changes are those held by councillors who do not always agree with Mr. Tate. The boundary changes divide the suburbs in divisions 5,9 and 13. Mudgeeraba and Nerang are most affected.

Please consider a 15th division in the fast growing northern suburbs.

Catherine C Ash



Local Government Change Commission
GPO Box 1393 BRISBANE QLD 4001

LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

Minister for Local Government.

lgrma@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Ceris Ash


Sent from my iPad

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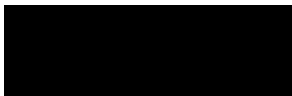
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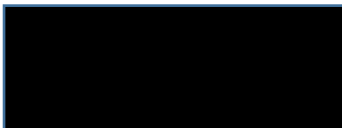
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Yours sincerely



Lois Levy. OAM



Hello

As a resident of Nerang for over 30 years I would like to speak out against carving Nerang up into different electorates. It is hard for a suburb when it is divided into 2 or 3 electorates. Here in Nerang we are always on the fringes & feel being on the edges of electorates makes us fairly insignificant. We are a great community who deserve to be a whole community not dissected into pieces & dished out to different Councilors.

I believe that a new division (15) would be ideal in looking towards the future growth of the areas around Pacific Pines & Maudsland which are rapidly growing areas as you would know & therefore help Nerang to remain whole.

Please leave us undivided.

By the 2020 election our population here would more than likely unchanged but these areas north & west of Nerang will still be booming.

I understand boundaries have to be drawn but it should not divide neighbouring streets. My suggestion would be the boundary go through the Nerang State Forest. Boundaries through acreage properties rather than fairly high density subdivisions would make a cohesive community which is what we all strive for. Different electorates governed by different Councillors does not help neighbourhoods vying for improvements. Instead it creates competition in communities.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter & I know I am not alone in my outlook.

Regards

Jenny Matheson

Sent from my iPhone

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a resident of Nerang and want to advise of my opinion that Nerang should have our own division, a newly created 15th division, as our needs are unique to the Gold Coast and our population will suffer if cut into further divisional pieces.

Please listen to our representative Peter Young who I trust on this matter.

Kind Regards,
Christine Jarvie

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear ECQ,

My name is **Ty Kudla** and I am writing to you in my capacity of **President, The Southport Place Collective, Inc.**

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you

Submission Details

Name: Ross Lee

Submission Text: I agree with the Southport Chamber of Commerce submission, viz The Southport Chamber of Commerce believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, the Chamber believes that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance). This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, for the benefit of business within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community, given the significance of Southport as the CBD of the city.

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To whom it may concern

I have lived in the division 5 area since I was 10, now 36 and am very disappointed to hear you want to change our diversions, seriously do you just sit in a room and go we need better roads and parks and then think no don't be silly let's waste money on changing diversions!!!! Yes let's upset the people who vote us in and keep us employed seriously have you all become that out of touch? I wrote this because most of all because I will moved to a division who well let's be honest I've never heard of the person I know a few of our local members from neighbouring ones but the jo blow you want for my diversion never heard of them and to be honest when I was told of them asked so what have done to help your diversion and got told have no idea. I don't understand why you can not just make a new diversion after all we are an expanding city not that you care I'm sure it's all about money for you right? Our local member do enough without having to take on new residents and to be honest if this case maybe people just won't care and not bother when it comes to voting I know I won't be if this is case and you can send your fines all you want I won't pay them. I thought local council was for the people but clearly your not for the people let's just make as much money as we can and screw the people who pay your wages right. Keep the divisions as they are after all the people are the ones that pay for you to be in this position so maybe you should listen for once I know that can be hard for people who haven't lived on ground level...

Angela Prendergast

Submission Details

Name: Yvette Dempsey

Submission Text: I am concerned about some of the divisional boundaries being proposed &, in particular, to those for Div 5 (Nerang) which is very near me an an area I'm familiar with. I'm also well aware of the rapid growth of the area to the north, including Oxenford & Coomera. I do not feel there's been sufficient public consultation on this matter. Currently, there are a number of communities of interest in Nerang/Div 5 and these have taken some time to develop. Their best interests would not be served by division as it would disrupt community cohesion and artificially assign them to an area which is further away & less familiar. The current population in Div 5 is well served by its current council representative and the numbers are manageable. Meanwhile, the northern area has many newcomers, some from inter-state and is growing at such a rate it would be best served by making it a new, 15th division with its own councilor. This would allow greater capacity to assimilate the new growth while requiring few changes in established areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a Submission, with regard to Divisional Boundaries, in Gold Coast City Council area.

Wildlife Queensland's Gold Coast and Hinterland Branch has served the cause of Conservation in the City for over half a century and was founded by such eminent Australians as Judith Wright, Dr David Fleay and others.

Gold Coast City is the sixth largest and most biodiverse City in Australia.

In terms of population it is the size of a Governance area, surpassing Tasmania, well surpassing the ACT and the Northern Territory.

Thus, in some terms, we are looking at adequate representation in an area of the wider responsibility akin to a small parliament.

Nevertheless, it is the basic contention of our Association that the City's social cohesion is irrefutably connected to a form of "neighbourhood" identity which assists care, protection and concern for the social and visual amenity and environment.

As a linear City, with differing antecedents of settlement and development, the Gold Coast is particularly subject, in spite of its size and constant incoming population, to almost parochial definitions of "place," and association with localized area. To a certain extent there are, often quite markedly, although not entirely, socio-economic definitions of these areas.

Certainly with the proliferation of at least some types of local facilities, for instance almost four times the amount of shopping centres found in most Cities, the residents of areas are markedly connected with the divisional boundaries which have historically grown around them. Aspects of geography and natural assets emphasise this.

Epecially, because the City is linear, with no central focus, unlike capital Cities, community identity is primarily with the localized facilities that are immediate. There is, to a large extent, more tendency to only occasionally reference wider areas. This has been ascertained by Local Council studies eliciting patterns of movement.

Obviously employment, some aspects of educational opportunity, specific recreational, social, medical and other needs, may cause wider social pathways to be tracked but there is a strong and historic tendency to identify with quite distinctive local areas. For example the hinterland oriented Mudgeeraba, Numinbah and the Springbrook World Heritage area, is contrasted with the iconic Surfers Paradise area. Palm Beach and environs are delineated in contrast to hinterland Nerang, Claigiraba, Maudsland area. Early settled area of bayside Southport contrast with the distinctive sea to semi rural valley identity of Currumbim.

\Most of these often quite markedly differing communities, brought together under the moniker of Gold Coast, have had historically differing neighbourhood needs and social and environmental guardianship, reflected via representation, whether faithful and professional or less so, by local Council representatives who, although their primary duty is to whole of City interests, were cognisant and conscious, to varying degrees, of local responsibility and the natural heritage.

This has not prevented much shocking loss of a great part of our once prolific fauna and flora but its defence has often been a localized concern and even definition.. Outstanding but not exclusive examples are David Fleay's Burleigh Fauna Reserve, Alex Griffith's Currumbin Sanctuary, the Rosser Family's original donation to the Botanical Gardens at Ashmore plus many campaigns generated

locally but gaining wider input, as with the Main Beach Spit Central Park and the current Coomera effort to save the genetically significant koala population from local extinction.

It is our Society's contention that to fracture these communities of interest would be to disrupt the pattern of pre-established identity, cohesion, adherence to the conventions of governance, local input into environmental asset management and would be detrimental in a City uniquely subject to the ongoing disruption of a constant tide of incoming population settlement.

Consistent, pre-existing divisional delineations as they currently stand, even with some inequity via responsibility of population, are critical to the identity forged in a City whose progress has been marked by rapid growth and constant, sometimes disruptive change.

The exception is the environmentally valuable and extraordinarily pressured North of the City, Coomera, Pimpama and environs, subject to an enormous tide of incoming, new population and non sequential development, in terms of social and community assets and to massive attrition with regard to environmental assets, which same are rare and decreasing in Australian and Planetary terms.

It is of concern to our Association that the proposal, apparently supported by some Councillors, that this newly emerging area, a pivotal area in terms of whole of Australian settlement pattern and particularly prone to concerning high density delineations, should have an extra Councillor, was overruled as a proposed Council Submission by Mayoral input.

Concerns by Northern Councillors, nearby or incumbent, who are obviously conscious of, or experiencing the impact of, the unprecedented population surge, with its attendant social and environmental infrastructure needs and impacts, should obviously inform the Whole of Council Submission. In spite of central powers currently held via the mayoral role, this input to Submission on Boundaries should not, in the opinion of our Association be omitted.

It is the contention of our Society that, in the interest of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Sustainability, the North of the Gold Coast City, progressing rapidly, but in an imbalanced fashion, in terms of infrastructure and environmental preservation, towards the size of a major City area, should have representation increased now, in its relatively early but rapid growth stage. This representation should be two divisions, as it will inevitably, we assert, have to be the case in the future.

This will have the double effect, if representation is wisely and impartially effected, of aiding social coherence and ameliorating, hopefully, where possible, the already detrimental loss of environmental assets.

Also, as stated, it is stabilising, to retain the original representational divisional pattern elsewhere.

This divisional pattern may have some inequalities re the responsibility of the local Councillor, in terms of social needs, incoming as opposed to long standing settlement patterns and socio economic self sufficiency, but, nevertheless, as outlined above, the divisional identities are crucial for the management and self perceptions in a City the size of a Capital, but lacking the wider amenity and benefit of such.

It is made cohesive and better prepared for future unity and continuance, by the acknowledgement, in its historic divisional boundary delineations, of its unique disparities

Sally Spain, President [REDACTED]

Wildlife Queensland (formerly Wildlife Preservation Society Inc.) Gold Coast Branch

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear ECQ,

My name is Joshua Burkin and I am writing to you in my capacity of Project Manager of Shadforth.

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you

Kind Regards,

Josh Burkin, Project Manager

Dear ECQ,

My name is Ariana Margetts and I am writing to you in my capacity of a board member for the Southport Chamber of Commerce and a founding member of Southport Place Collective.

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. The suggestion to for the norther boundary line of Division 7 from Nerang Street to the Broadwater means that our CBD will be split down the main street, tearing it into two divisions and meaning we have two councillors governing the CBD and the Broadwater, one of the largest and most used public parklands in the city.

I understand the boundaries need to be amended so that the divisions are in a quota that is more fair, however this specific split isn't necessary.

We kindly ask that you revise this small portion of the boundary line to keep it's existing boundary, at the Sundale Bridge, to ensure that Southport as a CBD is retained as wholly as possible within a single division.

To reiterate, I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater and retain the existing boundary line for that small portion of the redistribution

Thank you,

Ariana Margetts

Dear ECQ,

My name is Nick Gentle and I am writing to you in my capacity of Project Engineer at Shadforth.

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

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Thank you

Kind Regards,

Nick Gentle | Project Engineer

I write to suggest the best option for the divisional boundaries review with regard to Division 5 (Nerang) would be to leave this area intact as it has a long history of community interests and cohesion. I suggest the establishment of a 15th division for the fast growing northern areas of the Gold Coast which will need separate representation by virtue of its rapidly escalating population. Nerang residents are well served by their current councillor and anxious about a possible disruptive inclusion of areas with different interest and aspirations.

Ross Jones, [REDACTED]

Dear ECQ,

My name is Timothy Cowling and I am writing to you in my capacity of Project Engineer of Shadforth.

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Kind Regards,

Tim Cowling

To whom it may concern

Re boundary Review City of the Gold Coast – specifically Boundary review Division 5

I have been a long time 40 years + resident of Division 5 in the City of the Gold Coast and I find the submission by the Local Council to once again reset the boundaries of the electorate unpalatable. Past history has shown that to divide the division has been counter productive especially to the residents and business of the 4211 post code. In the not too distant past the 4211 post code had 4 councillors and this had the effect of minimal monies being spent in the area not only were community assets underserved but new assets were not forthcoming and no new business initiatives or support was of any depth that had value, as the councillors possibly quite rightly saw that with the voting power of the electorate divided by 4 there was little point in supporting the electorate as a whole. I do not believe there is any benefit from the proposed boundaries changes for anyone domiciled in division 5 and I also do not believe that there is any benefit to be gained by once again dividing it business centres into what would be new boundaries – we have a well settled – vibrant – forward looking community that should be left with a stable political set of outcomes not once again thrown into chaos by the power play of the Present council

The City of the Gold Coast would be far better served by the addition of a new division - Division 15 - that could cater for the ever growing population of the northern section of the city, this should create an identity in the northern corridor that would cater for the needs of growth area and further not disrupt the long standing divisions in the southern areas of the coast

I ask humbly that you strongly consider the overall better and fairer outcomes that the creation of a new division would bring rather than disrupt the community's in the boundaries that are working well

Yours sincerely

Mark Tierney

Submission Details

Name: Liam Campbell

Submission Text: Dear ECQ, My name is Liam Campbell and I am writing to you in my capacity as a resident and worker of Southport. It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7. I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance). This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community. I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you Liam Campbell

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Gold Coast continues to grow. The proposed divisions do not take this into account.

I live in the Nerang area under Division 5. I propose that Nerang is reviewed and comes under one division instead of being split across a number of divisions. (This includes the 4211 postcode areas of all estates including but not limited too Highland Park, Clearview/Clearwater, etc). it is absurd to think that Nerang be serviced efficiently when it is all over the place with a number of different Councillors managing it.

Whilst Nerang is split across a number of divisions it does not provide a critical local infrastructure for communities. A good community infrastructure contributes to stronger, more resilient and liveable interface community and enables council's capacity to respond to the changing community needs and demands.

The creation of a 15th Division will improve the level of service possible by all Councillors. Unbalanced Growth. Gold Coast city continues to experience a significant growth spurt in the north, and indeed the Minister for Local Government identified this continued uneven rate of growth as a challenge for the Electoral Commissioner to consider.

As part of the Nerang community, I am aware that many of us in Division 5 are more than happy with our Councillor being Peter Young. He has done a lot for our area and knows the area thoroughly having being our Councillor for a large number of years. He has encouraged the community to grow in many areas offering community events to support this.

Please take the above into strong consideration when reviewing the divisions.

Kind Regards

Chris

Chris Nolan

Division 5 - Clearview/ Clearwater estate.

From: [Jenny Crewes](#)
To: [LG CC Submissions](#)
Subject: Concern about Proposed Boundary Changes - Division 6/7 on Gold Coast
Date: Monday, 20 May 2019 4:22:09 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Dear ECQ,

My name is Jenny Crewes and I am writing to you in my capacity of Location Manager, White Lady Funerals, [REDACTED] and as Board Member of the Southport Chamber of Commerce.

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you and Kind Regards,

Jenny Crewes

Jenny Crewes

Location Manager
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

www.whiteladyfunerals.com.au



Submission Details**Name:** Judith Badke**Submission Text:** Electoral commission LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.qld.tov.au Re:Divisional Boundaries Realignment Judith Catherine Badke [REDACTED]

TO Whom it Concerns, I wish to make a submission concerning the proposed realignment of Gold Coast City Council Divisional Boundaries. It concerns me greatly that Nerang's Division 5 is yet again being subjected to being 'carved up', divided and allocated to adjoining electorates with no consideration given to the fact that we are a community that should be considered and treated as one identity. Nerang is one of the oldest communities in the Gold Coast and has suffered immensely in the past by being divided and treated as an afterthought by councillors who only hold a section of the area, and thereby treat us accordingly. We have been lucky enough over the past few elections of having one councillor who is responsible for majority of the area, and the community as a whole has benefitted from consolidated decision making. It would be a shame that all the work that has been put in from community and business groups to unite our town will be nullified by once again dividing our community. It seems ridiculously simple to create a new and additional 15th Division in the rapidly growing and expanding northern suburbs to accommodate the increase in divisional numbers, rather than breaking up areas which are already functioning as united communities. This will allow future growth in the northern corridor to be assimilated and save the Boundary issue having to be readdressed again in the very near future. Please give grave consultation to any boundary changes that will dissect areas that have at long last being given the united consideration they deserve by being in the one Division (5). Yours sincerely Judith Catherine Badke

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Submission Details

Name: President TMCCI

Submission Text: Regarding re-alignment of Council and division boundaries for the Scenic Rim: Tamborine Mountain covers 1% of the area of the Scenic Rim Regional Council, comprises 20% of the population, yet pays 24% of the rates. The issue in the Rim is that our rate in the dollar is so much higher than surrounding Councils due to a low rate base, high cost of running Council, and difficulty in achieving sufficient efficiencies to get the RID lower. Understandably, the overall relationship between Tamborine Mountain residents and the Scenic Rim Regional Council has historically been strained. The local economy of TM is mainly based on tourism, with over 1.5 million visitors per year. Even though Tamborine Mountain is one of the Scenic Rim's six regions, our Mountain's tourism emphasis is at odds with the SRRC's agritourism focus. We do not deny the relevance of agritourism as a key focus within the other five SRRC regions - it is simply one that has little application to Tamborine Mountain's tourism. Because of these differences and the geography of the Rim, the support of the Local Government for the development of tourism and infrastructure on Tamborine Mountain is minimal. The Mountain's tourism industry is almost entirely focused towards the Gold Coast (The Green behind The Gold). Better management of the local economy is much more likely if Tamborine Mountain were to be included in the Gold Coast region. As an ecotourism destination, Tamborine Mountain is, almost by itself, one of the three pillars of Gold Coast tourism (along with beach and shopping). Our community Blueprint has been running for many months now, and feedback has been both enthusiastic and constructive. After the recent 'Changing Councils' report in the Gold Coast Bulletin, robust discussions on the Mountain followed, and surprisingly many are leaning towards change. The Blueprint results so far reflect a sizeable swing, and many believe that cheaper rates, money to fix infrastructure, stronger tourism alliances and a strong Council would definitely benefit the Mountain. <http://visittamborinemountain.com.au/blueprint/> The loss of part of the ratepayer base could be compensated by including several areas of Logan into the Scenic Rim. If Mundoolun, balance of Tamborine, Veresdale, Veresdale Scrub, Kagaru and Undullah are added to the SRRC, then the 'loss' of TM would likely be more than compensated. Apparently, these regions/postcodes (except Mundoolun) are now split over two councils. I ask that the Electoral Commission and the State Government seriously consider this option. As long as Tamborine Mountain is governed by a Council only interested in agritourism (given the demographics of Scenic Rim, an understandable choice), the region's major Hinterland tourism destination will only face more problems due to lack of proper government and funding. Only a Local Government which values the quality of our Mountain for both local residents and tourists will be able to make sure that the economic benefits of the tourism industry are optimised in balance with preservation of the natural environment. We thank you in anticipation of a positive response to our proposal.

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NERANG COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC

[REDACTED]

May 20, 2019

LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

Local Government Change Commissioner
Electoral Commission of Queensland

Dear Commissioner,

We submit our formal submission to the proposed Local Government Boundary Changes.

The Nerang Community Association is a broad-based, apolitical, residents' group that has worked for our community for a quarter of a century, liaising with the three-tiers of government, particularly the Gold Coast City Council.

We have sub-committees for Youth & Community, Roads, Traffic & Transport, Planning, Parks, Environment and Heritage. We umbrella the annual Christmas event and the Riverside Community.

We have restored two timber heritage houses in riverside parklands in Nerang, the oldest town on the Gold Coast; and, have served on many committees since our formation.

One of these committees was the Nerang Development Committee, a duly constituted committee of the Gold Coast City Council. This committee was made up of local Government elected representatives, the Mayor and councillors, the State Member for Gaven, the Chamber of Commerce reps, small business owners, landholders, residents, police, Main Roads, legal, engineering and town planning

professionals, council officers. This committee fully represented all interests of the community.

A matter of much discussion was the Local Government Boundaries, and the importance of a division for the whole of Nerang, including its business centre. The committee strongly believed this would allow better representation and decision-making and ensure the town's community of interest was met.

The Nerang Community Association, Nerang Chamber of Commerce and the Nerang Development Committee members worked hard to align the boundary for Division 5 with the community of interest for its citizens and business owners.

The issues that were raised then (and which were agreed jointly by the Nerang Chamber of Commerce for business & the Nerang Community Association for residents) are no less important now, and we submit that:

It is important that the local government divisional boundaries for the town of Nerang remain as is.

Nerang residents in the area marked in Option 1 to go over to Division 9 see themselves very much Nerang people and have no community of interest with Division 9, i.e. Mudgeeraba. This is not in their interest.

The business owners need certainty that the town will be seen as a whole and represented accordingly.

We believe that the Division 5 boundary should remain and that a newly-created division in the northern growth area should be fully investigated. Creating a new GCCC division this round would eliminate the need for extensive boundary changes yet again in the future. Residents find boundary changes extremely

confusing especially when neighbourhoods are dissected as occurs in the Option 2 proposal, which we wholeheartedly reject. Creation of the suggested additional division should improve representation and access to councillors on the whole. This is in the public interest. It also allows community of interest in the real sense.

Boundaries should reflect social inclusion and cohesion of neighbourhoods, not disintegration. Neither Option reflects this. Division 5, as is, allows this.

Our Executive Committee would be pleased to discuss the content of this submission and seek that the Division 5 boundary, that was given so much attention and toil to achieve, is retained. We believe another division in the growth area to the north of Gold Coast City would allow Division 5 to remain as a whole in the public interest and the citizens in the fast-growing area to the north of the City to be best served.

Sincerely,

Derek Ogden
President

Nerang Community Association Inc



Mr Pat Vidgen

Electoral Commissioner of Queensland

LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

20 May 2019

Dear Mr Vidgen,

Thank you for the opportunity to make suggestions for your review of local government boundaries. At this point in time, 24 years since the last major boundary changes when Gold Coast City merged with Albert Shire, our population has grown from under 400K to over 600K. I believe that comprehensive realignment of divisional boundaries is warranted.

Having consulted the Local Government Act criteria for determining communities of interest, I can identify many aberrations ignore the criteria. Some of these result from historical land use and development patterns that have been erased through redevelopment. Others have become accentuated as the city has grown and changed shape. Tinkering with boundaries to adjust the population catchments is not enough. This is an opportunity to abandon the historical divisions and redraw them to be more faithful to the criteria, and therefore reflective of land use and activity patterns that have emerged since the last major change.

To demonstrate my point, I draw your attention to the coastal strip where I live. Five divisions front the city's ocean coastline (7, 10, 12, 13, 14) and each of these stretches a long way inland. To look at the urban landscape with no knowledge or map of the divisional boundaries, it is impossible to discern where boundaries stop and start. Land use and development between the beach and Gold Coast Highway bears little resemblance to the inland areas and local council-related issues across these areas are vastly different.

I recall that these extruding east-west divisional shapes were created through the amalgamation in 1995, and the rationale was to blur the former urban/rural, Gold Coast/Albert political divide. But almost 25 years on, those historical land use patterns and political allegiances are largely forgotten in the minds of today's population. It makes little sense to continue with this shape.

I think there is logic in having fewer beachfront divisions, perhaps 3 or 4, and these could stretch more north-south than east-west. Then, create 1 or 2 new inland divisions to take in the more suburban, golf course and canal estate areas west of Bundall Road/Bermuda Street. This arterial road has become a significant physical divide between communities either side, and therefore seems a logical new administrative boundary.

Of course, I recognise this is just one of potentially infinite adjustments that could be considered.

If you need assistance with local knowledge of how these communities interrelate, I would be pleased to scrutinise areas and statistics more closely.

I wish you well and will hope for real change, because the status quo is outdated.

Regards

Tory Jones



Dear ECQ,

My name is **Allan Godbee** and I am writing to you in my capacity of **Managing Partner of Godbee Favero Strategic Accountants**

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you

I support by submitting my approval to divide ward 5 Gold Coast Queensland into two
Signed Bryan Lean e: bryanl@hotmail.com



Councillor Glenn Tozer

Division 9

CITY OF
GOLD COAST



Change Commissioner
GPO Box 1393,
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Change Commissioner,

I write to make a submission regarding the Divisional Boundary Review of Gold Coast City Council (City of Gold Coast).

Please be advised that I am the current Councillor for Division 9 at City of Gold Coast, and it might be considered by some that I have a conflict of interest given that I do intend to run at the next local government election, scheduled for March 2020. However, I have considered my position on this matter, particularly in the context of the nature of my submission, and do not believe such a conflict exists that might deliver an advantage or detriment to me that is any greater or smaller than any other person who intends to contest the election. I consider that my submission is made in the public interest, informed by public opinion collected by me, and that the public interest in my making a submission as an informed person far exceeds any personal benefit or detriment that I or others might experience as a result of my submission being considered favourably. Additionally, I have full confidence that my submission will not be considered with any greater or less weight by decision makers than any other submission made, and that the process to decide the matter will be transparent and equitable, by an independent entity. Accordingly, I am confident that by making this statement I have executed my obligations properly under the relevant Act.

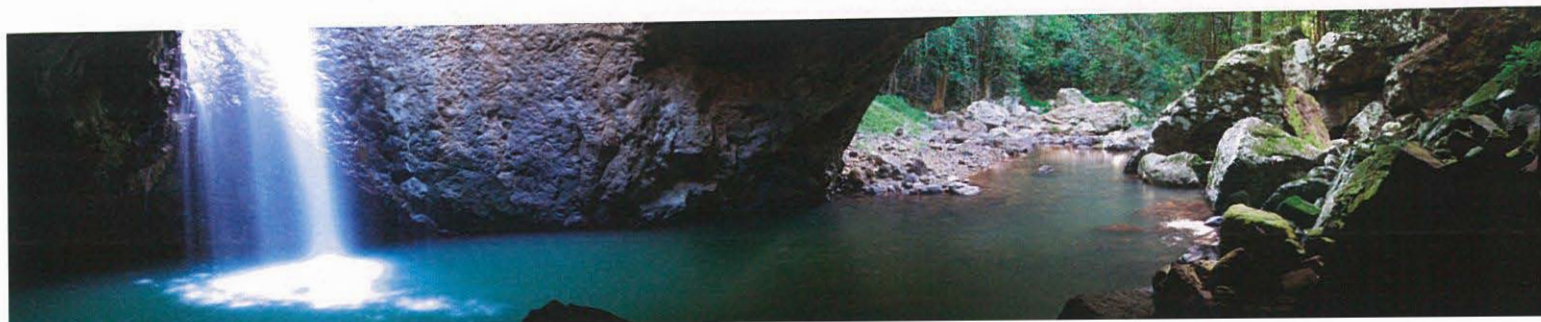
Preferred option – a 15th division

The primary premise of my submission is to communicate that the least impactful change to boundaries that is able to address the required average electors per division, in the context of population in the north of the City of Gold Coast should be the preferred position of the Change Commissioner as the local government divisional boundaries for City of Gold Coast are considered.

Accordingly, I have formed the view that 15th division, located in the north of the city, combining electors who are currently located in Division 1, 2, 3 and 4, as well as a minor re-allocation between Divisions 8, 10 and 11 (impacting under 1500 electors and addressing the unacceptable deviation in Division 10), constitutes the outcome most closely aligned to the broad public interest.

The benefits of such a position are as follows;

1. The highest likelihood of consistent representation where the electors in a given division are satisfied with their incumbent Councillor.
2. The greatest opportunity for geographical and community familiarity for a prospective candidate that wishes to contest the election, where the electors in a given division are not satisfied with their incumbent Councillor.



3. The most efficient way to address expected change in the geographical area most likely to experience population growth in future (in the city's north).
4. Respects the work of past change commissioners, and accordingly previous submissions, that delivered divisional boundaries with the Local Government principles in mind.

The following table indicates this proposition from a purely mathematical perspective. It should be noted that my colleague, Cr Cameron Caldwell, has submitted a not dissimilar proposition that has merit and also has my in-principle support.

<u>Divisions</u>	<u>Proposed enrolled voters</u>	<u>Deviation from Average Enrolment %</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Electors moved</u>
DIVISION 1	22700	-10%	reduced electors	-11564
DIVISION 2	25979	3%	minor change	-1000
DIVISION 3	22700	-10%	reduced electors	-10333
DIVISION 4	26614	6%	minor change	-1000
DIVISION 5	26641	6%	no change	
DIVISION 6	27180	8%	no change	
DIVISION 7	25287	0%	no change	
DIVISION 8	24561	-3%	possible minor change	500
DIVISION 9	25179	0%	no change	
DIVISION 10	23634	-6%	possible minor change	500
DIVISION 11	27209	8%	possible minor change	-1000
DIVISION 12	25076	-1%	no change	
DIVISION 13	25404	1%	no change	
DIVISION 14	25998	3%	no change	
NEW DIVISION 15 *	23897	-5%	NEW division	23897

Alternative option – with 14 divisions

Were the Change Commissioner to form the view that the City of Gold Coast should retain only 14 divisions I would submit that considerable regard should be given to a wholesale change across the city in all divisions, taking into account expected population growth over the coming three (3) quadrennial elections and ensuring that consistency could be delivered for constituents and prospective candidates into the future. Specifically, approved residential development along the existing light rail corridor, in the northern growth area, and at Pacific View Estate where 10,000 electors are expected to populate in the centre-west over the coming decade, should be taken into account as divisional boundaries are altered. Additionally, natural boundaries such as ridgelines and major arterial roads that funnel residents to commercial centres, or act as implied borders between areas of interest, should inform such a proposition. Given the time available before the next local government election I remain unconvinced that adequate resources can be provided to prepare such an option that is in the public interest.

My knowledge of Division 9 and its surrounds affords me some expertise on the sentiment of constituents who reside in this area, but I am not sufficiently informed about the view of constituents in other divisions to comment on possible boundaries there. In Division 9, constituents have expressed to me their preference that their divisional Councillor represent both the area where their home is located, and the commercial centre they utilise nearby. For example, the communities of Bonogin, Tallai, Austinville and Mudgeeraba all use Mudgeeraba Village as their commercial centre. Similarly perhaps, the issues faced by rural residential (acreage) properties are similar across the city so a Councillor familiar with that type of community might better represent large groups of that sort of community. For instance, a Councillor representing the interests of the south-western hinterland area that includes Gilston, Lower Beechmont and Advancetown, if needing to add electors to their division, would better augment their division by adding electors in Mt Nathan and Maudsland, even though that might be a larger geographical area with less population density, than southern urban Nerang.

Additionally, constituents have communicated to me that urban centres with a common suburb name are best represented by one Councillor rather than two or more. For instance, splitting suburbs such as Nerang, Mudgeeraba, or Southport for that matter, in such a way that means two or more Councillors each represent part of the suburb, delivers unnecessary competitive tension and inhibits collaboration for community groups and other groups of interest. This is a critical consideration for the Change Commissioner whichever option is preferred.

Conclusion

In conclusion, in a growing City like the Gold Coast, where the number of divisions has remained static for two decades, it is my view that the public interest will be best delivered by resolving that a new Division be delivered where that primary growth has occurred.

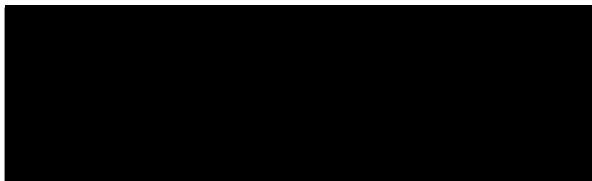
Any relative costs associated with such a resolution can be adequately absorbed into the \$1.5B operating budget of the Council. Most importantly, ensuring that communities across the city are able to support a new candidate who may have already prepared comprehensively to contest the upcoming local government election, or support their incumbent if they are indeed satisfied with their representation, is a critical consideration at this late stage in the electoral cycle.

Yours Sincerely,



Councillor Glenn Tozer

Division 9



CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

Submission to Change Commissioner

As Councillor for Division 14 I represent Elanora (part of) Tallebudgera (part of), Tallebudgera Valley, Currumbin Valley, Currumbin Waters, Currumbin, Tugun, Bilinga, Kirra, Rainbow Bay and Coolangatta

I have been made aware of Councillor Cameron Caldwell's recent submission to the Change Commissioner advocating for a 15th Division to be introduced in the north of the city to address the growth that Northern Gold Coast is experiencing and is predicted to experience over the next 10-20 years.

I support Councillor Caldwell's submission for the following reasons:

- The introduction of a 15th Division is, I believe inevitable given the growth forecast by the State Government.
- I believe that this option is the common sense one and would be the least disruptive to electors, especially in those divisions that are currently not affected.
- There will obviously be costs incurred with both options, a redistribution that will affect all divisions or the establishment of a 15th Division. This would be a matter for City of Gold Coast to consider but I believe managing the cost of a 15th Division could be achieved by the City.
- There would be confusion amongst residents if Divisional Boundaries are changed, especially in CBD areas or by natural boundaries such as waterways etc.

I would be happy to comment further if required.

Regards,

Councillor Gail O'Neill (Division 14)



Councillor Pauline Young

Division 12



CITY OF
GOLDCOAST™

20 May 2019

#73493217

Electoral Commission of Queensland
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001
LGboundaries@ecq.qld.gov.au

Dear Commissioner

Re: **Divisional Boundary Review**
Submission to the Change Commissioner

I am aware that due to the growth experienced in our city, particularly in the North that there is a now a requirement for a redistribution of electors.

On that basis I write a submission on the potential boundary changes and their impacts.

I wish to disclose that I am currently the elected Councillor for Divisional 12 which spans from Mermaid to Burleigh. I advise the commission of my current position as to identify my interest in the matter.

The submission I am making speaks to the impact on the community I represent and the Gold Coast more broadly.

Submission:

The need for the redistribution clearly comes from the exponential growth that the Northern Gold Coast is experiencing.

This growth is projected to continue at similar levels so the boundary distribution must take into account a model which can sustain this growth for the future.

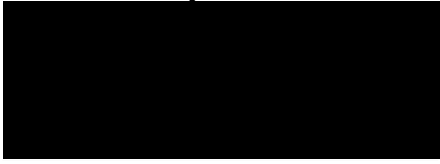
The model I have seen proposed by Councillor Caldwell which outlines a methodology for adding an additional division in the North is the common sense approach.

Although there would be costs involved in adding an additional division, the cost of making changes to the majority of divisions if the Commission seeks to maintain the current arrangement of 14 Councillors would be significant – relocation, informing voters, office costs, stationary etc.

It would be prudent to approach the distribution in a way that seeks to eliminate as much voter confusion as possible and to keep business districts and communities together, such as Southport, Broadbeach, Burleigh, and Palm Beach etc. Therefore I am supportive of adding a 15th division in the North where the growth has and is continuing to occur.

I would be seeking to provide comment once a proposed boundary map is produced.

Yours sincerely



PAULINE YOUNG
DIVISION 12 COUNCILLOR



Councillor Cameron Caldwell

Chair Economy, Planning and Environment



CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

S-47

20 May 2019

Secretary Elise Arklay
Local Government Change Commission
Electoral Commission of Queensland

E: LGboundaries@ecq.qld.gov.au

Dear Change Commissioners

City of Gold Coast – Divisional Boundary Review

I write to make a submission on the future of Divisional Boundaries for the City of Gold Coast.

I advise that I am the Councillor for Division 3 a position I was first elected to in 2012, and again in 2016.

I am also the Chair of the Economy, Planning and Environment – a position I have held since my election in 2012.

I advise the Commission of my current positions to identify the interest I hold in this matter having regard to those positions.

The submission is made having regard to the public interest in this matter and having regard to the principles that will apply to the redistribution.

Background

Division 3 is one of three divisions that the Minister has been advised does not have a reasonable proportion of electors.

Having been the Division 3 representative for the last 7 years, and as the Chair of the Economy, Planning & Environment Committee I have seen first hand the growth in our City.

That growth has occurred predominantly in the north of our City, in areas such as Coomera, Pimpama and Ormeau.

Proposal

Having been provided with the relevant statistical data I have undertaken an analysis of a potential new set of boundaries that could be adopted. The result of that work is mapping and elector numbers annexed in two separate documents to this submission.

Key features:

No change to current divisions 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, & 14

Minimal change to current divisions 2, 5, 6, 10, 11

Significant change to current divisions 1, 3, 4

Creation of a new division 15

No need for change in office locations of any current division.



Application of Redistribution Principles

I believe that the proposal submitted accords with important principles of redistribution that you will take into account as set out in s.46 *Electoral Act 1992* and additional matters:

1. The proposal not only meets current quota requirements but is also sustainable for at least two quadrennial elections.
2. The proposal has regard to the economic, social, regional and community interests of each of the proposed electoral districts.
3. The proposal is in the public interest.
4. The proposal has regard to the physical features of each proposed electoral district, including but not limited to key centres and suburbs, waterways such as the Coomera River, the M1.
5. The proposal is sensitive to current electoral boundaries, limiting change in 11 of the current 14 divisions to nil or minimal change, and focusses on the growth areas where the change is required to occur.
6. The ways of communication and travel within each proposed district.

Cost implications:

There will be a cost implication to the City of the growth that we have experienced.

A new division will require Councillor salary, Personal Assistant and Community Development Officer which I estimate would be in the order of \$350,000.

Each division currently has an allocation of \$750,000 for Local Area Works, which, if reduced by \$50,000 per division would mean there was a 15 allocations of \$700,000. It is therefore open to the Council in annual budget deliberations to minimise the impact of such change.

Council has community facilities either at the Upper Coomera Centre, or the Coomera Community Space that could house an office without the need for retail premises in the short term. Plans are underway to deliver a more substantive community outcome at the Coomera Town Centre and a Councillor office would be ideally located in that premises in due course.

The proposal reduces the need for change across large portions of the City meaning current Council office locations and operational methods can continue without disruption.

Moving Forward

A copy of this proposal has been provided to all current Councillors for their information.

I would be very pleased to answer any queries or assist the Change Commission in any way.

I trust that you will give due consideration to this submission and I look forward to seeing the outcome of the Commissions analysis in due course.



CAMERON CALDWELL
Division 3 Councillor

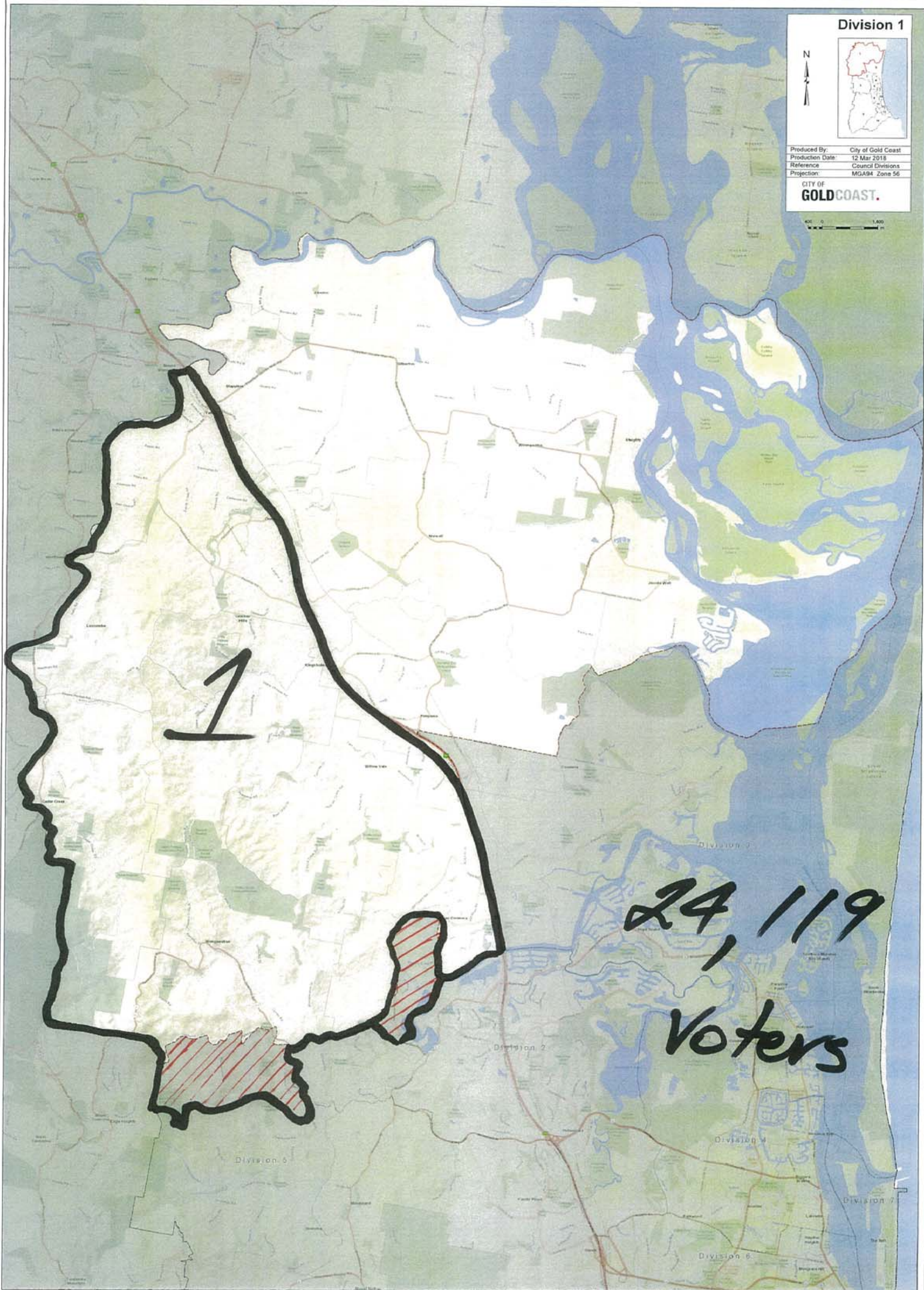
Division 1



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA94 Zone 56


CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

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Division 2



Produced By:	City of Gold Coast
Production Date:	13 Mar 2018
Reference:	Council Divisions
Projection:	MOA34 Zone 58

CITY OF GOLD COAST

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Disclaimer: This map is for general information only. It is not intended to be used for legal purposes. The City of Gold Coast is not responsible for any errors or omissions.

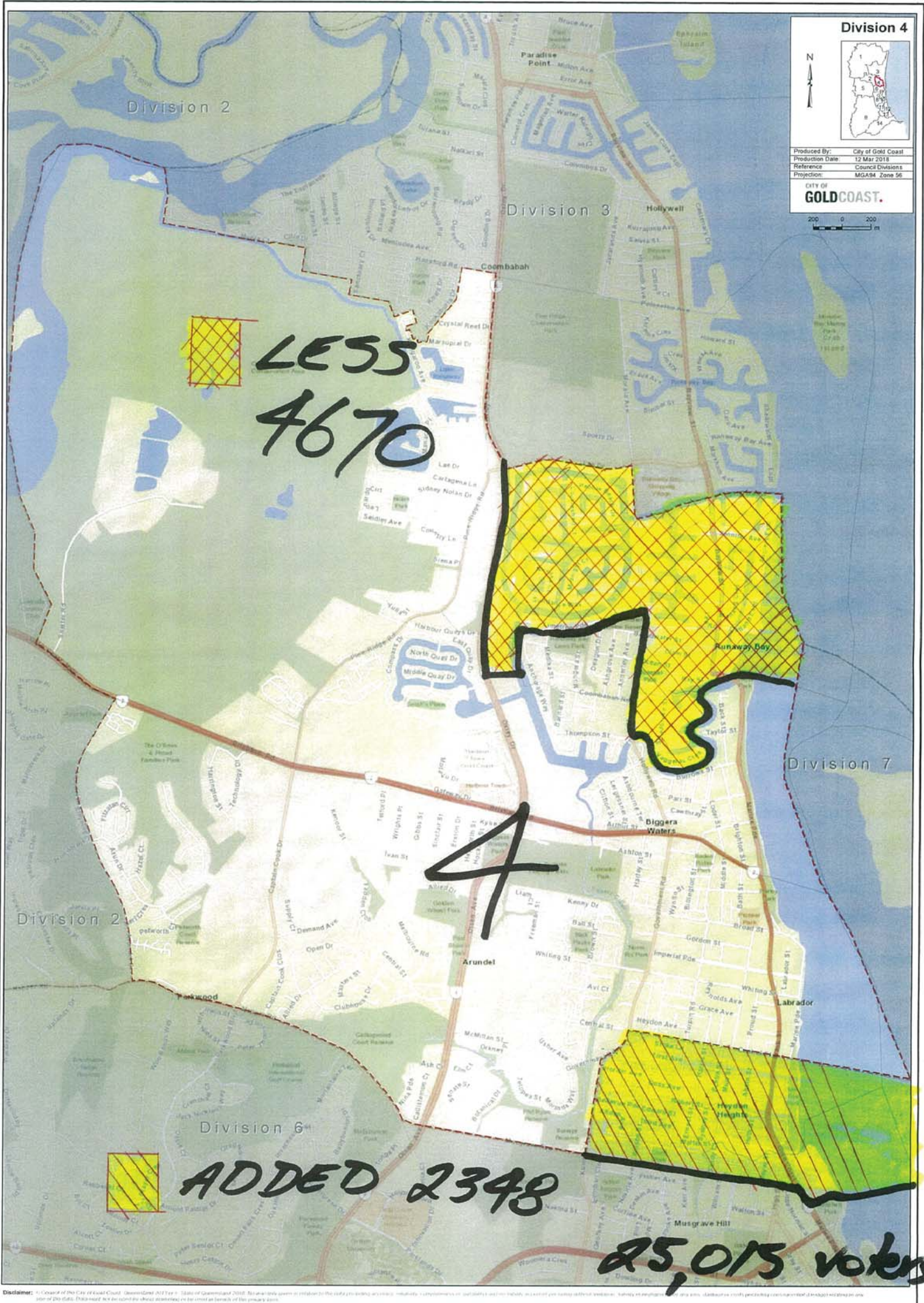
Division 4



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
 Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
 Reference: Council Divisions
 Projection: MGA94 Zone 56

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GOLD COAST.

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CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

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→ DIV 1

26,430 voters

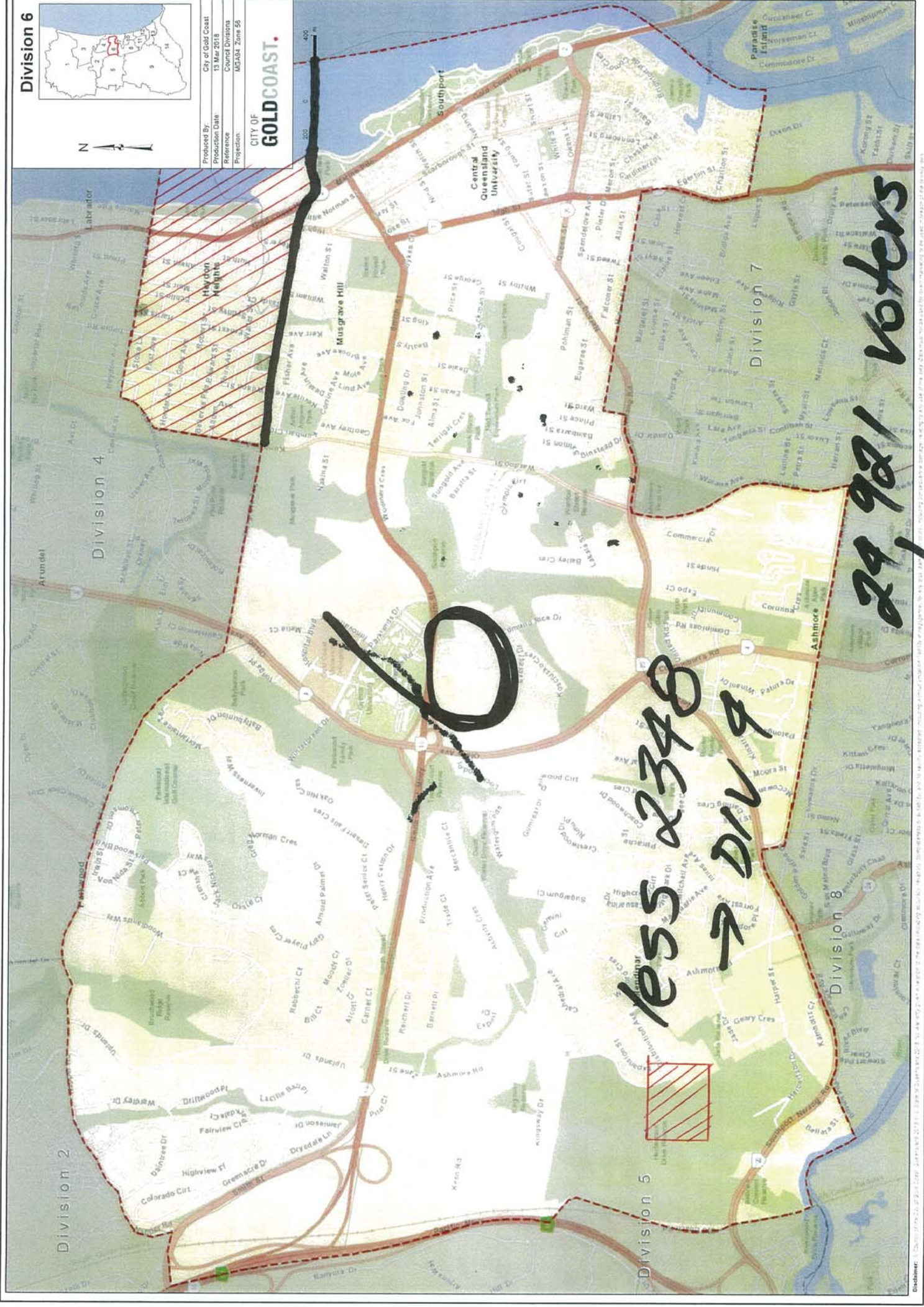
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Division 6

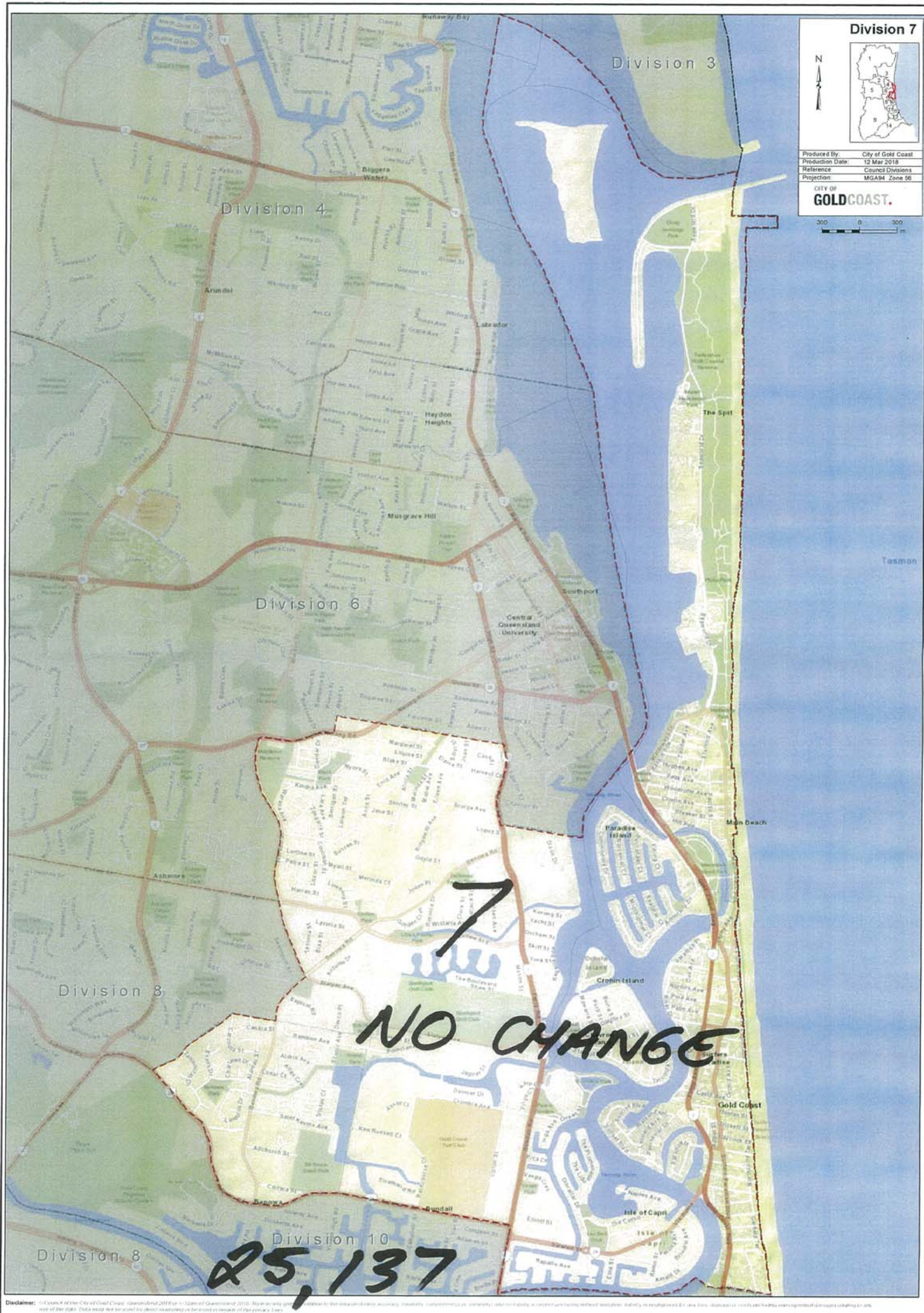


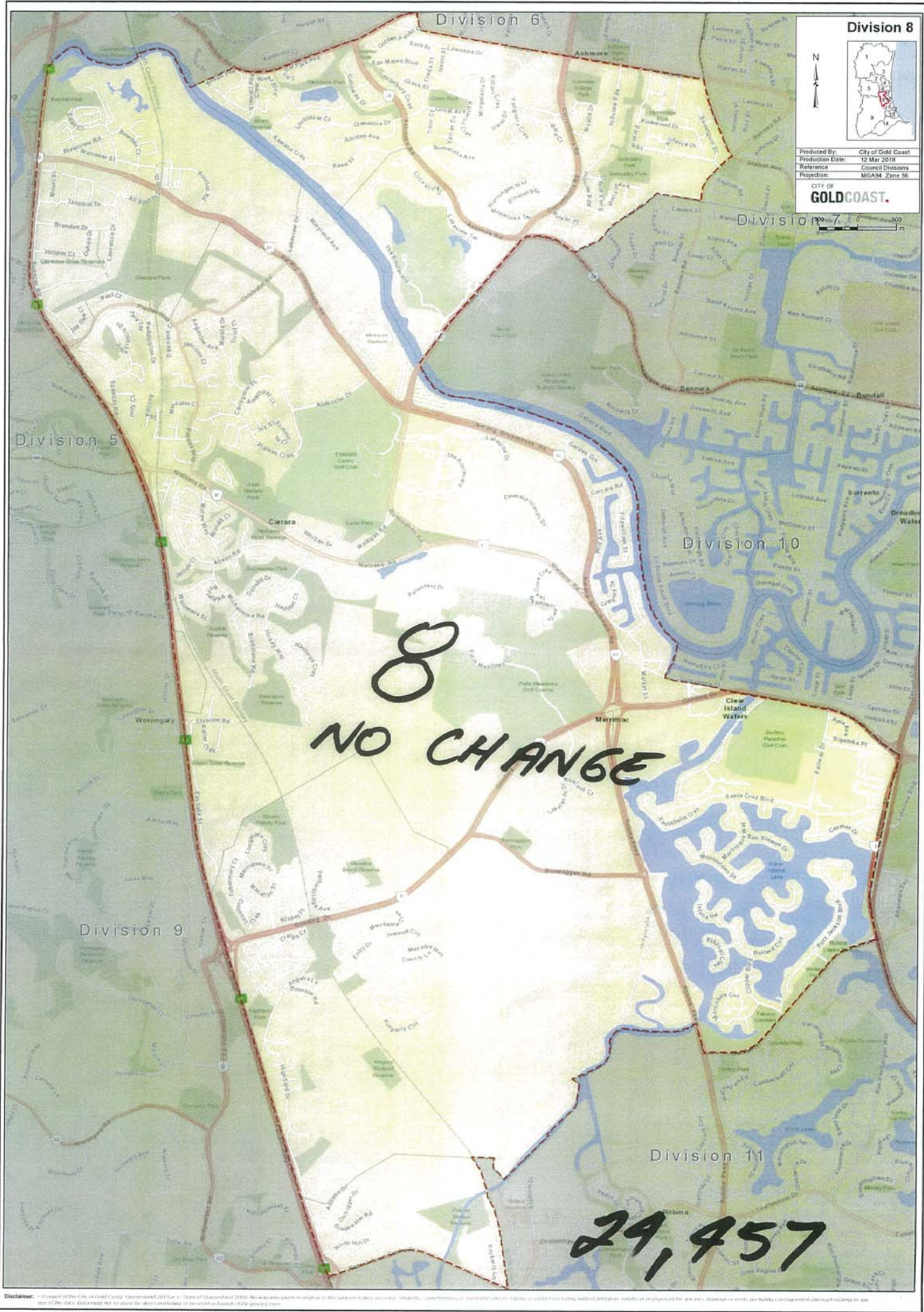
Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 13 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA84 Zone 55

CITY OF
GOLD COAST



24, 92, Voters

[illegible]



Division 8



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA94 Zone 56
CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

0 100 200 300 m

8
NO CHANGE

29,457

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Division 9



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA84 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

0 500 1000
m

9
NO CHANGE

29,954

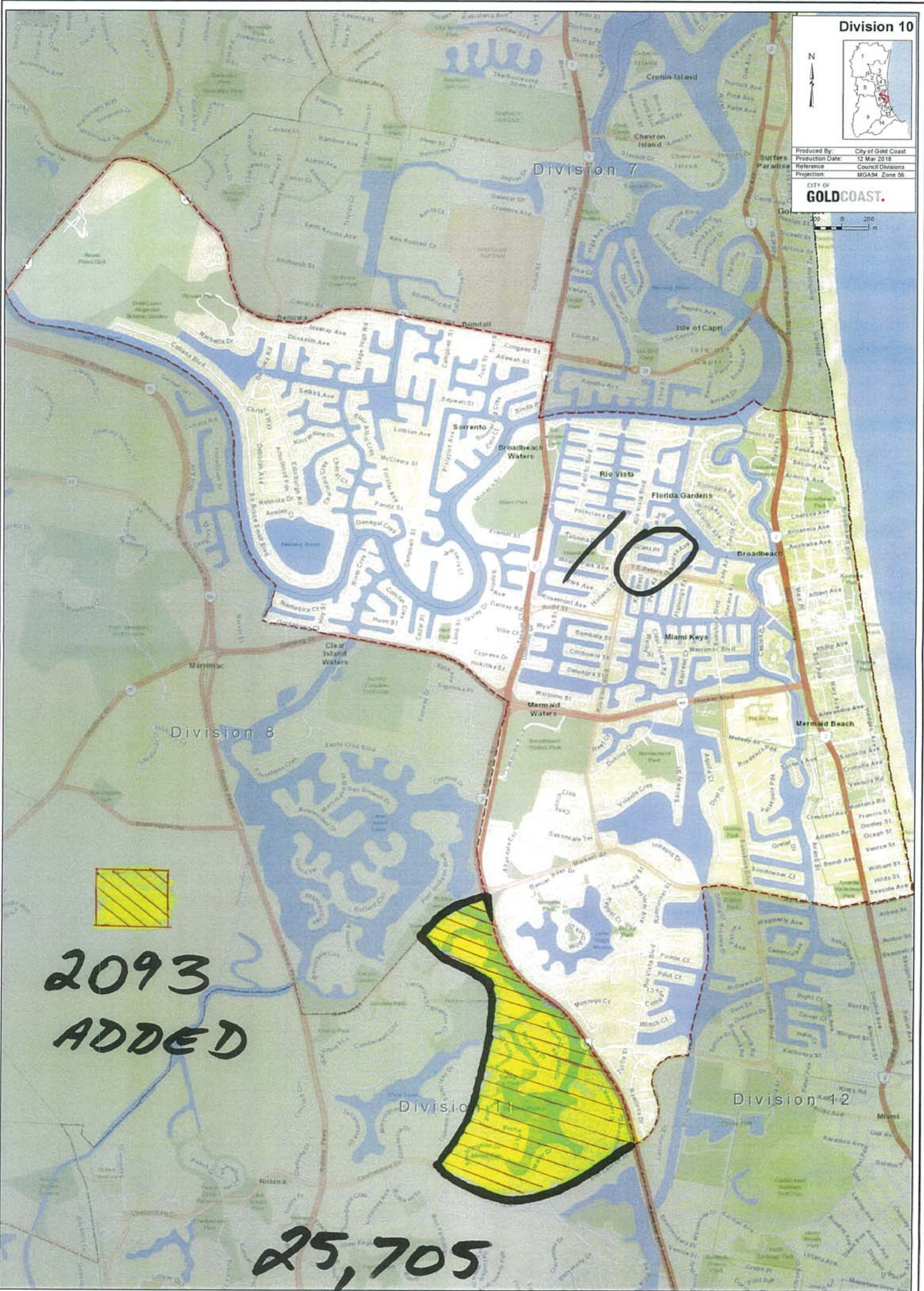
Division 10



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
 Production Date: 13 Mar 2018
 Reference: Council Divisions
 Projection: MGA94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

200 0 200
 m



Division 11



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
 Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
 Reference: Council Divisions
 Projection: MGA94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

200 0 200
 Metres

Division 8

Division 10

Division 13

Division 12

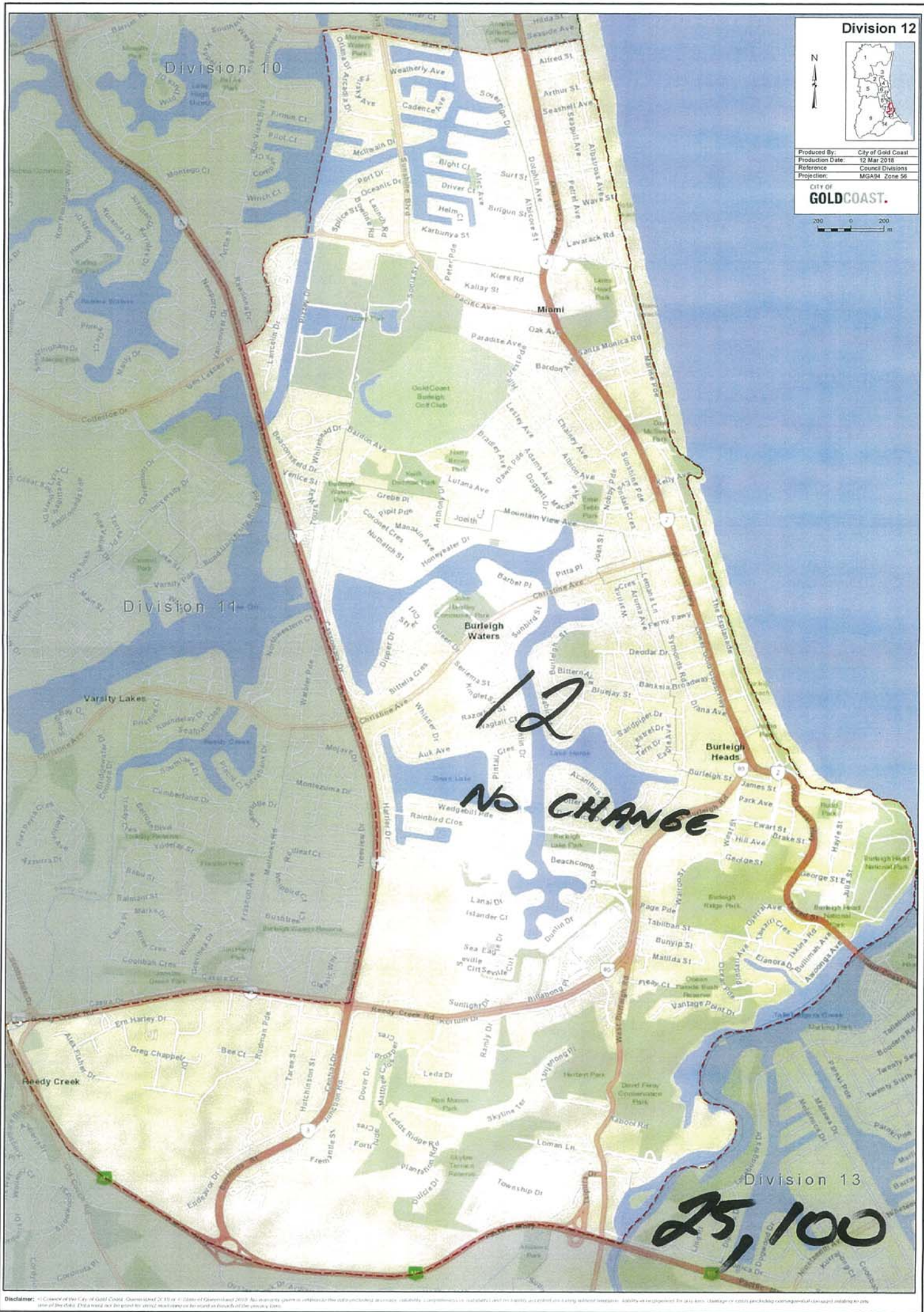
Division 9



2093

→ DIV 10

24,956



Division 12



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGAM Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.



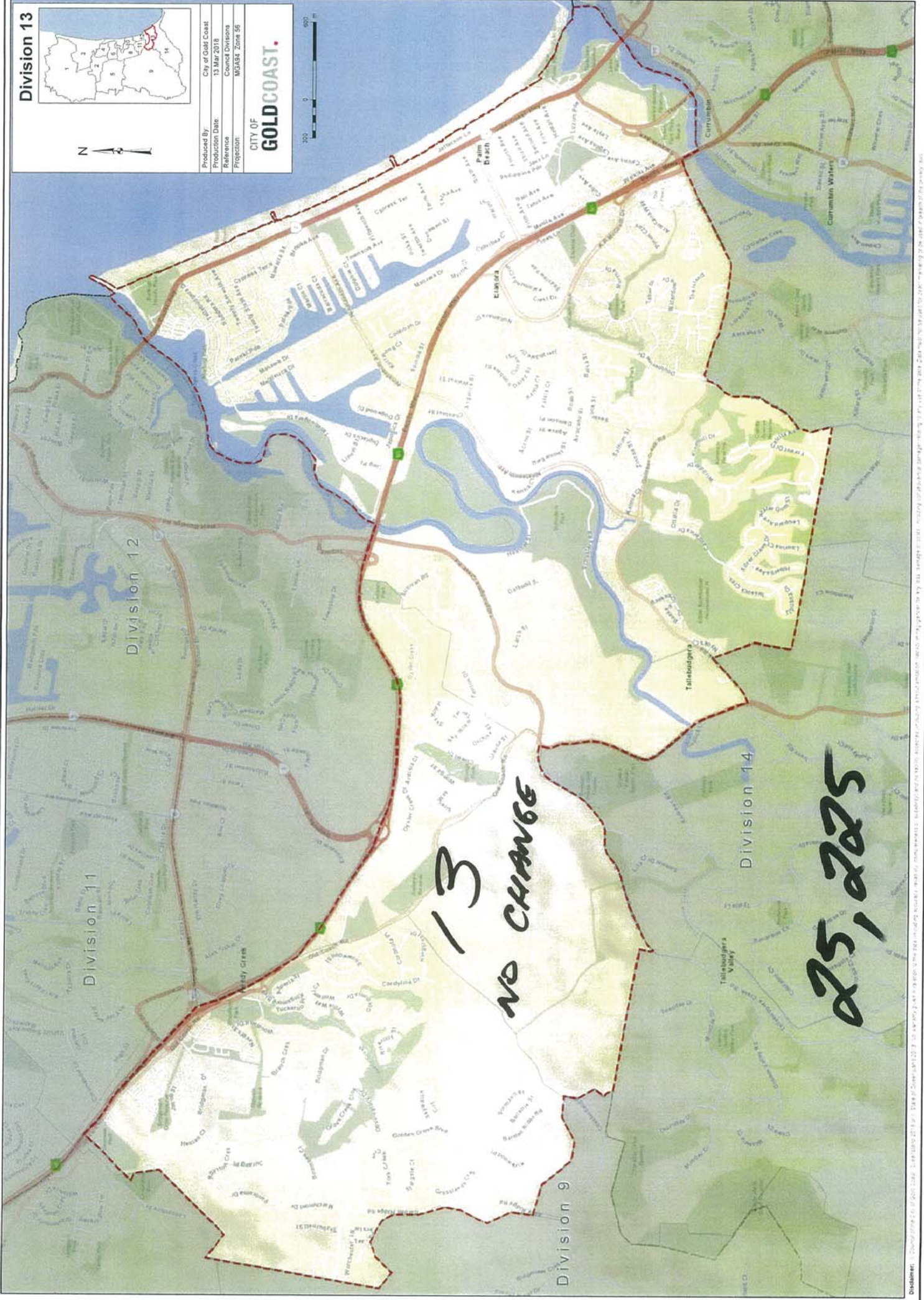
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Division 13



Produced By	City of Gold Coast
Production Date	13 Mar 2018
Reference	Council Divisions
Projection	MOGAS Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.



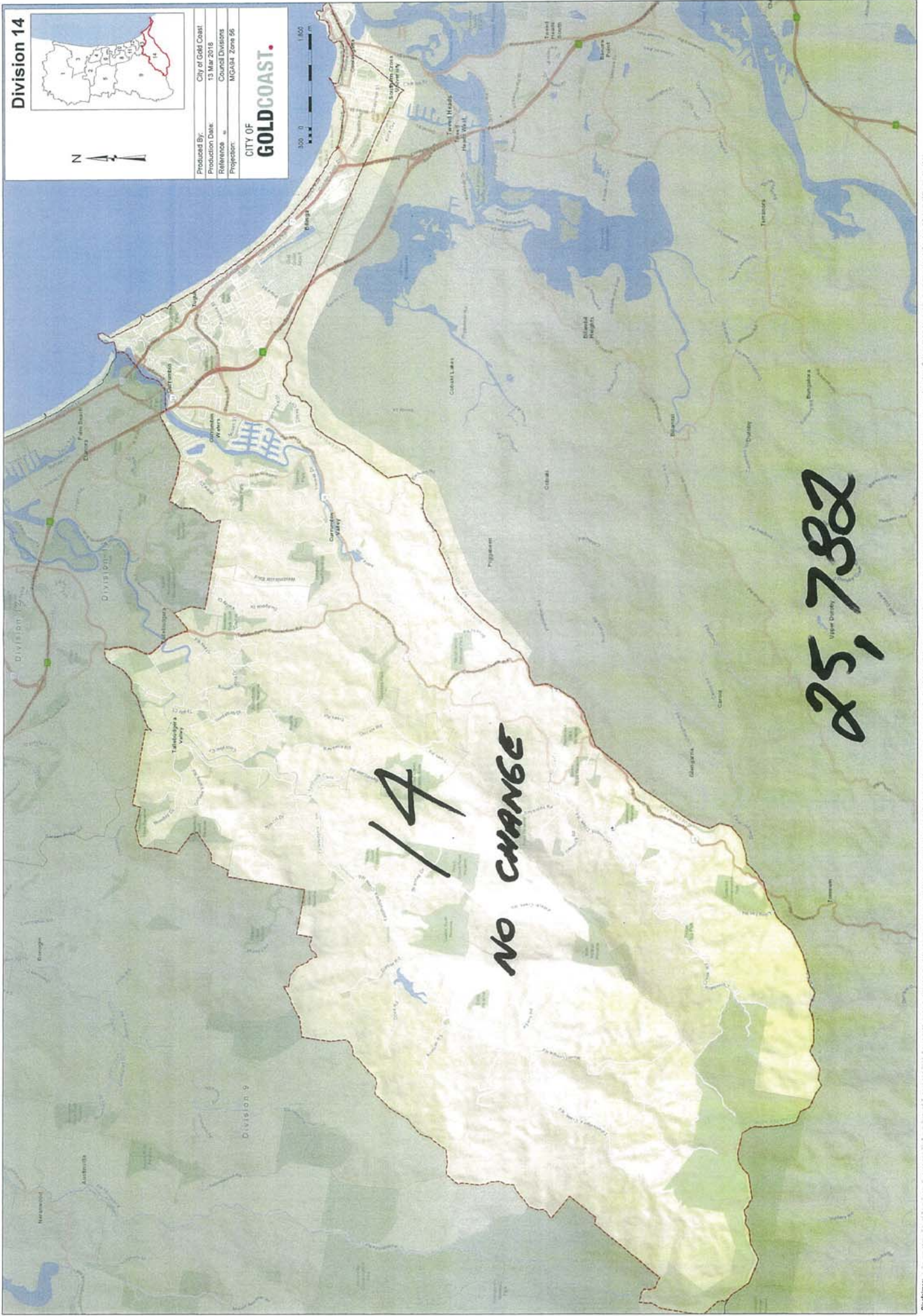
Division 14



Produced By:
City of Gold Coast
Production Date:
15 Mar 2016
Reference:
Council Divisions
Projection:
MGA84 Zone 56



CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

300 0 1500 m



14
NO CHANGE

25,782
Upper Density

Produced By:	City of Gold Coast
Production Date:	12 Mar 2018
Reference:	Council Divisions
Projection:	MG94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

400 0 1 800
 m

15

22,189
Voters

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DIVISION	REVISED CURRENT
1	24119
2	24805
3	24776
4	25015
5	26430
6	24921
7	25137
8	24457
9	24954
10	25705
11	24956
12	25100
13	25225
14	25782
15	22189
TOTAL	374665
MEAN	
374665/15	24997
min 10%	22479
plus 10%	27496

Dear ECQ,

My name is Lorraine Lovatt and I am writing to you in my capacity of Chief Executive Officer of Maylake Pty Ltd a Southport based company

It has come to my attention that the City of Gold Coast Council have reviewed the city's divisional boundaries, and suggested to the Electoral Commission, among all other changes, to split the Southport CBD area into two divisions, Division 6 and 7.

I believe that Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division. In particular, that the core business district is retained within a single division. This area should be defined by the Southport Priority Development Area boundary or by Census statistical area/s boundaries (for instance).

This is necessary to ensure consistency of decision-making and that the interests of Southport as the CBD of the Gold Coast are promoted and managed effectively by the Council, by one single Councillor, for the benefit of business and residents within Southport and the broader Gold Coast community.

I urge you review the northern boundary line for Division 7 so it doesn't split the CBD of the Gold Coast into two divisions from Nerang Street to the Broadwater.

Thank you

Kind Regards

Lorraine

Lorraine Lovatt

Chief Executive Officer

Maylake Pty Ltd

Mr Pat Vidgen
Electoral Commissioner of Queensland

LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

20 May 2019

Dear Mr Vidgen,

Thank you for the opportunity to make suggestions for your review of local government boundaries.

I lived for many years at Paradise Point, and my parents still do, so my submission is focused on the current Division 3, and it has consequential implications for divisional boundaries around it.

Thinking way ahead, by 2030 the City of Gold Coast will have doubled from 400K to 800K since the last major boundary change

- In **1996**, after amalgamation with Albert Shire, the population of Gold Coast City was less than **400K**.
- In 2008, the Beenleigh and Eagleby regions of Division 1, totalling approximately 40K, were transferred to Logan City.
- Looking forward to **2030**, projections indicate that the City of Gold Coast population, according to the current boundaries, will exceed **800K**.

As well as growing massively, the shape of the city has changed. Nevertheless, if the population were evenly spread across the 14 divisions, by 2030, each councilor would be representing almost 60,000 people. Surely that is losing the 'local' in local government. It is impossible for any councilor to adequately respond to the full range of issues that arise from this many constituents.

I have heard suggestions about creation of an additional division in the northern growth corridor, and I would support this as a partial, interim solution.

Currently, Division 3 is split by the Coomera River. The growing communities of Coomera and Pimpama have little commonality or interconnection with the established communities of Hope Island, Paradise Point, Runaway Bay and Coombabah.

Areas north of the Coomera River and extending to the northern external boundary with Logan City, are experiencing fast growth. The population in this region is already approaching 100K, and by 2030, it will exceed 200K.

When considered as a geographical region, this area is large and diverse with some hidden and under-recognised assets.

- It has stunning scenic amenity with the Moreton Bay Islands to the east, remnant natural bushland, vast low-level canfield landscapes and the mountain backdrop on the McPherson Range;
- It has the regional centre of Coomera and a hierarchy of smaller centres;
- It has employment generators – the Coomera Marine Precinct, Dreamworld, the Yatala Enterprise Area, cane farming and lots of opportunity to introduce and transition to new forms

of agriculture like bananas, hemp and vegetables in micro-farms, hydroponics and super greenhouses;

- It has a constant momentum of new infrastructure (roads, public transport, schools, libraries, parks and even a hospital) trying to keep up with the burgeoning suburban housing estates;
- And, to be frank, large swathes of natural landscape are being unnecessarily destroyed, the design pattern and quality of these new estates is unsustainable, and economic development opportunities are being missed.

I believe that any boundary changes now should be designed with the future possibility of making the entire region between the Coomera and Albert Rivers into a new city. I think it would be advantageous for this occur immediately, but I also understand that to introduce such a drastic change seamlessly takes time to plan, prepare and communicate, so it may be more feasible to occur when the next review is due in 2028. By that time, benefits may also be apparent for reintegrating Beenleigh and Eagleby and contiguous areas of Logan City like Bahrs Scrub, that would fit logically within this new city.

This northern region deserves and needs the full attention of a local council dedicated to carving its own distinctive identity, planning properly and delivering infrastructure to accommodate its new residents, promote job opportunities and protect and enhance the environment.

For the current review of boundaries, I believe that at least the following changes are necessary:

- 1. Areas within Division 3 north of the Coomera River should be integrated within a new Division around Coomera Town Centre, taking in connected communities of Upper Coomera and Pimpama; and**
- 2. Areas of Division 3 south of Coomera River should join up with its southern neighbours in the current Division 4.**

I hope you will take my suggestions into consideration and look forward to the outcomes of the review.

Regards

Tory Jones

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Councillor Peter Young

Division 5



CITY OF
GOLDCOAST

S-50

20 May 2019

Local Government Change Commission
Electoral Commission of Queensland
GPO Box 1393
Brisbane QLD 4001

via email: LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

Dear Commissioner

I am making this submission on a personal basis. I am a Councillor of the City of Gold Coast and I have served as the Division 5 representative for all but four years since 2000 (I resigned during the period 2012-16). I believe I know the community very well. I have experienced changes in the Divisional boundaries in the past, and I know what the impacts can be. The issue of Divisional boundaries has always been of concern to my community and I am making my submission informed by my experience.

As is evident the existing boundaries need to be substantially changed to accommodate continued uneven growth, principally in the northern areas of the City.

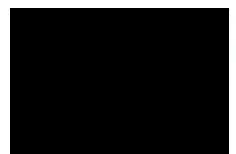
However, any proposed boundary change that retains 14 Divisions is likely to result in significant impacts. Indeed, three options for adjusting the boundaries that were prepared for Gold Coast Council earlier this year showed that up to **87,881 voters** - almost **one quarter of all voters** across the City - could experience a change in their Division in 2020 (see item 14.4 <http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/documents/ma/council-20190226-adopted-minutes1.pdf>)

In Division 5 the extent of change was that up to 8,800 voters (about one-third) would be in a new Division in 2020. The greatest and potentially worse impact is in the suburb of Nerang with a very large number of voters having their Divisional 'heart' transferred to Mudgeeraba - a smaller centre that is in no way 'connected' with the Nerang community.. With continued uneven growth, this scenario of dramatic change will only re-present itself in 2024.

Regardless of the quality of each individual Councillor, I am very concerned that such boundary changes will have detrimental effects on the community and governance. In Divisional boundary reviews conducted in past years, community and business groups in Nerang have eagerly sought as few boundaries as possible. In a similar vein, I note that on 17 May 2019 the Southport Chamber of Commerce has published an email stating that *"Southport, as the CBD of the Gold Coast, should be retained as wholly as possible within a single division."*

I am therefore proposing the creation of a fifteenth Division in the City. I believe that this will:

- Provide the best opportunity for 'communities of interest' to be retained;
- Strongly recognise the matters of 'means of communications and serviceability';
- Provide an improved degree of representation of the public's interests;
- Provide more scope for continued growth in the City's population;



Communities of interest. I strongly believe that major centres should not be cut up. All of the people in Nerang (and indeed Southport) have common interests, and those interests should be held as one rather than falsely divided by rivers and roads. A 15th Division gives us the greatest possibility to retain the current boundaries in Nerang and in other key centres, almost without change.

Communication and Sensible boundaries. In my experience, the Nerang River within the suburb of Nerang is not considered a boundary. People are well connected across the river and their normal patterns of travel - to work and to shops and other services, and schools and facilities - takes them back and forth across the river. The river is the town's focus - it connects people. On the other hand, however, the Nerang State Forest represents a very substantial natural boundary. This unpopulated area is under State control and it is extremely unlikely in my long experience that people from areas such as Pacific Pines will travel to Nerang for any services - they are much more likely to travel to Helensvale and other areas east. It is so strong a fact that I don't bother providing information on social media to the Pacific Pines community about events in Nerang - and vice-versa. Transport access between the suburbs is very limited (except by means of the M1) and public transport is non-existent. The Nerang River is not a boundary. The Nerang State Forest is. Implementing boundaries that further carve up Nerang is divisive and negative.

Improved Representation. The population of the City has risen by about 80% since 1995 when the 14 Divisions were first created. Councillors now are dealing with a substantially greater number of residents, schools, businesses and problems than in 1995. I believe that the level of service able to be provided by individual Councillors has somewhat decreased, and that the creation of a 15th Division will improve the level of service possible by all Councillors. This will continue to serve the best interest of the community well beyond the 2020 and 2024 timeframes and is an inevitability that should be acknowledged and enacted now.

Furthermore, I believe the establishment of a new Division in the north of the City will substantially raise people's perception that they are truly a recognised part of our City - I think this will add significantly to the better governance of the area and an improved level of community engagement and identity.

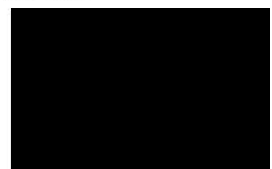
Unbalanced Growth. Our city continues to experience a significant growth spurt in the north, and indeed the Minister for Local Government identified this continued uneven rate of growth as a challenge to consider (https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/78173/Referral-Gold-Coast-CC-Divisional-Boundary-Review_web.pdf). I believe if we do not make the change now to create a 15th Division, we will face the same challenges in 2024 and there will be more disruptive changes to boundaries at that time. The creation of a 15th Division now, however, gives greater capacity to assimilate that growth into the future with minimal changes in established areas.

Proposal. I have included for your reference maps in pdf format showing the boundaries for 15 Divisions. These were prepared by my colleague Cr Caldwell, Division 3, and show a new 15th Division in the north of the City. In general discussions amongst Councillors in February, there seemed to be strong level of support for such an outcome. Council did not formally debate or make any recommendations on any possible boundary configurations because at the time there was a strong belief this would make Councillors in breach of the Local Government Act (indeed the advice from the City Solicitor was unquestionably not to discuss any boundaries in the Chamber whatsoever and to simply resolve to inform the Minister our boundaries did not have even numbers of voters).

Statement - Conflict of Interest

My submission gives rise to complex provisions in the Local Government Act pertaining to *Personal Interest*, *Conflict of Interest based on a Personal Interest*, *Material Personal Interest*, *Offence to Influence*, and *Responsibilities of Councillors*.

I have recently sought and been provided advice on two occasions from the *Queensland Integrity Commissioner* in regard to the potential for me to have a Conflict of Interest in this matter, and how to deal with that. I have provided those two advices herewith.



As an elected Councillor, I believe I have no potential *Conflict of Interest* in this matter unless I stand for re-election in 2020, when the new boundaries will take effect. As I have not yet decided my intent for 2020, I am taking the cautious route of declaring a *Personal Interest* or perhaps a *Material Personal Interest* in this matter does exist, in that – if I do seek re-election in Division 5 in 2020 - it might be 'easier' for me to retain a higher degree of electoral support from a community that is currently within the Division 5 area, as opposed to a community that is currently outside of the Division 5 boundary.

I have given careful thought to that Conflict and despite this, I am making this submission as I believe the public interest is of the greater importance, and in this matter it is represented in the fact that a likely outcome of the Divisional boundary changes is that Nerang will be cut up into four Divisions from 2020 and a substantial number of voters and communities of interest across the City will be similarly impacted.

This is a position I think detrimental to the best interest of the Nerang community – regardless of who is elected. Evidence of that concern is demonstrated through submissions made to the Electoral Commission - in relation to boundary changes introduced in 2004 and 2008 - by individuals and organisations representing the business and resident sector of Nerang, supporting the consolidation of as much of the suburb as possible into a single boundary.

In regards to any possible *Offence to Influence* (other Councillors), I note that Council has in February resolved to submit to the Minister, in accordance with the Act, a notification that the numbers of voters in some Divisions does not comply with the requirements. There is no action afoot for Council to make a submission in regard to any changes to the boundaries and the submission process closes on 20 May.

In regard to the *Responsibilities of Councillors*, I give particular regard to the following requirements of the Act:

12 Responsibilities of councillors

(1) A councillor must represent the current and future interests of the residents of the local government area.

(3) All councillors have the following responsibilities—

- (b) providing high quality leadership to the local government and the community;
- (c) participating in council meetings, policy development, and decision-making, for the benefit of the local government area;

and

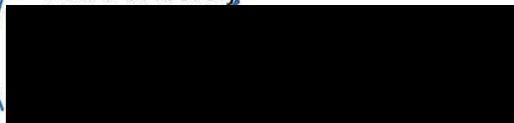
4 Local government principles underpin this Act

(2) The *local government principles* are—

- (a) transparent and effective processes, and decision-making in the public interest; and
- (b) sustainable development and management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services; and
- (c) democratic representation, social inclusion and meaningful community engagement; and
- (d) good governance of, and by, local government; and
- (e) ethical and legal behaviour of councillors and local government employees.

I am happy to expand on or clarify any aspect of my submission, and I am grateful for the opportunity to present this to you.

Yours sincerely,



PETER YOUNG
Councillor for Division 5

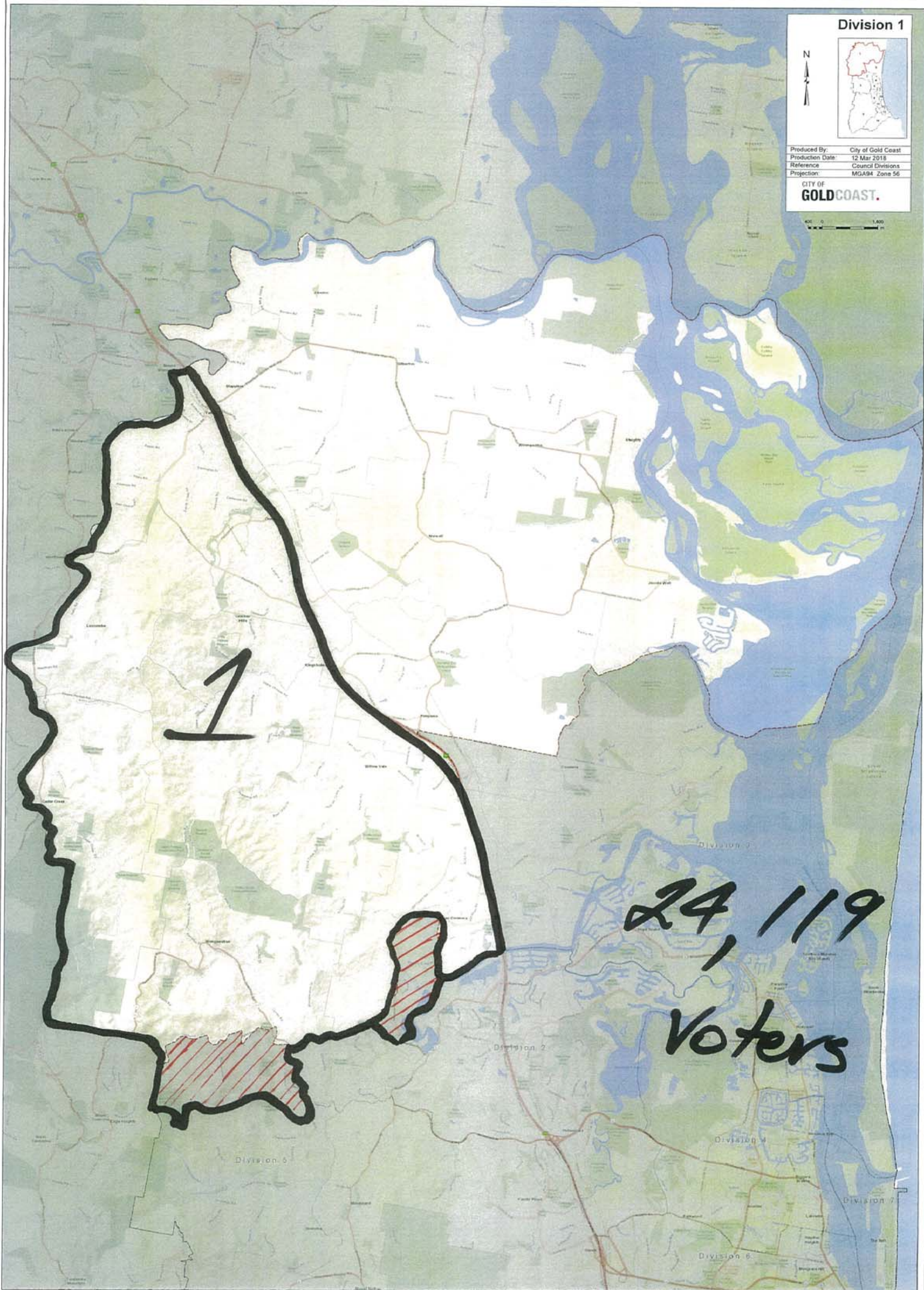
Division 1



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Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.


0 500 1,000
m



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Division 2




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Production Date:	13 Mar 2018
Reference:	Council Divisions
Projection:	MOA34 Zone 58

CITY OF GOLD COAST



N



0 400 800 m

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Division 3

Produced By:	City of Gold Coast
Production Date:	12 Mar 2018
Reference:	Council Divisions
Projection:	MGAS4 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.



12,108 less
to DIV 15

4670
ADDED

24,776 voters

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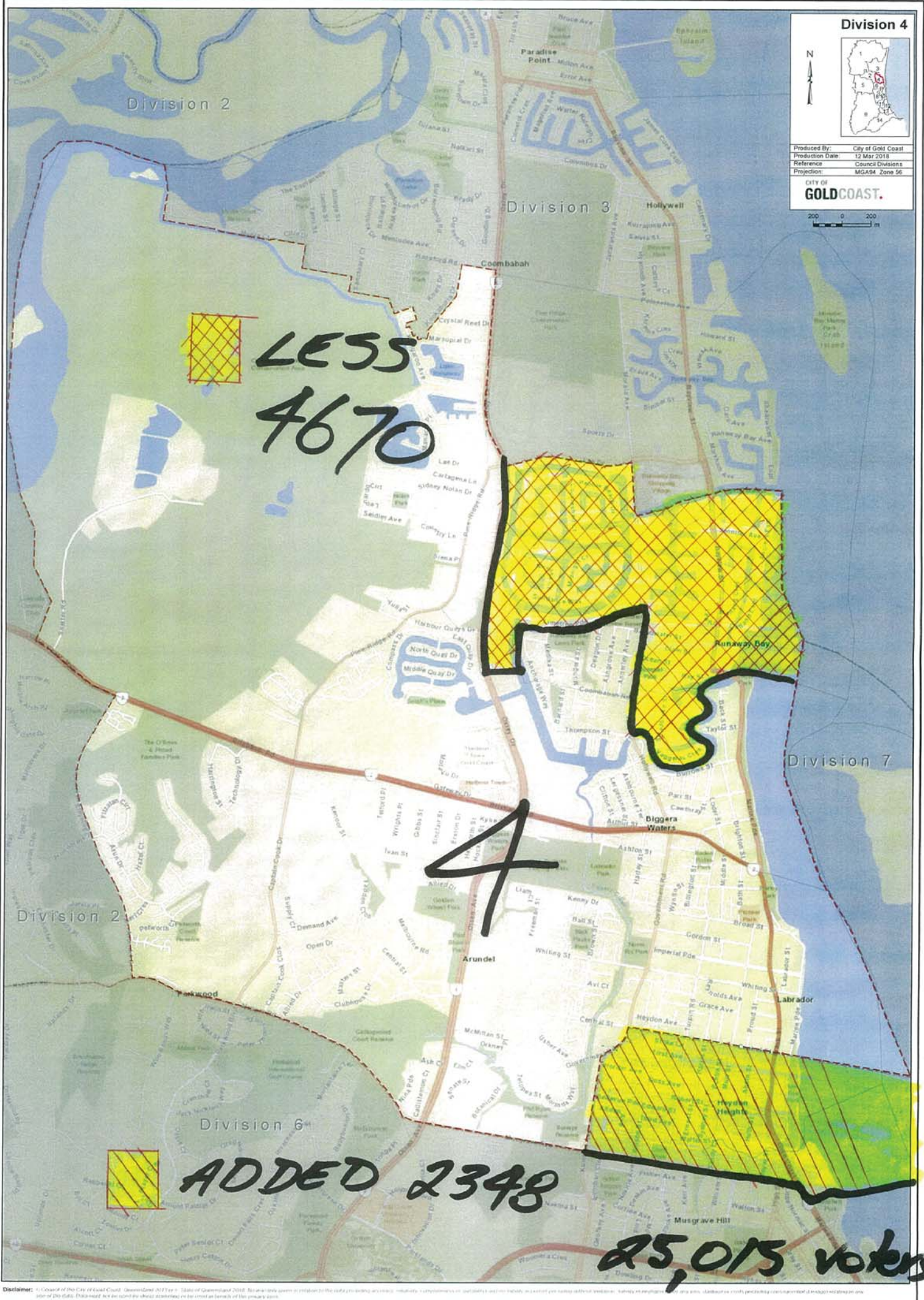
Division 4



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 Reference: Council Divisions
 Projection: MGA94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

200 0 200
 m



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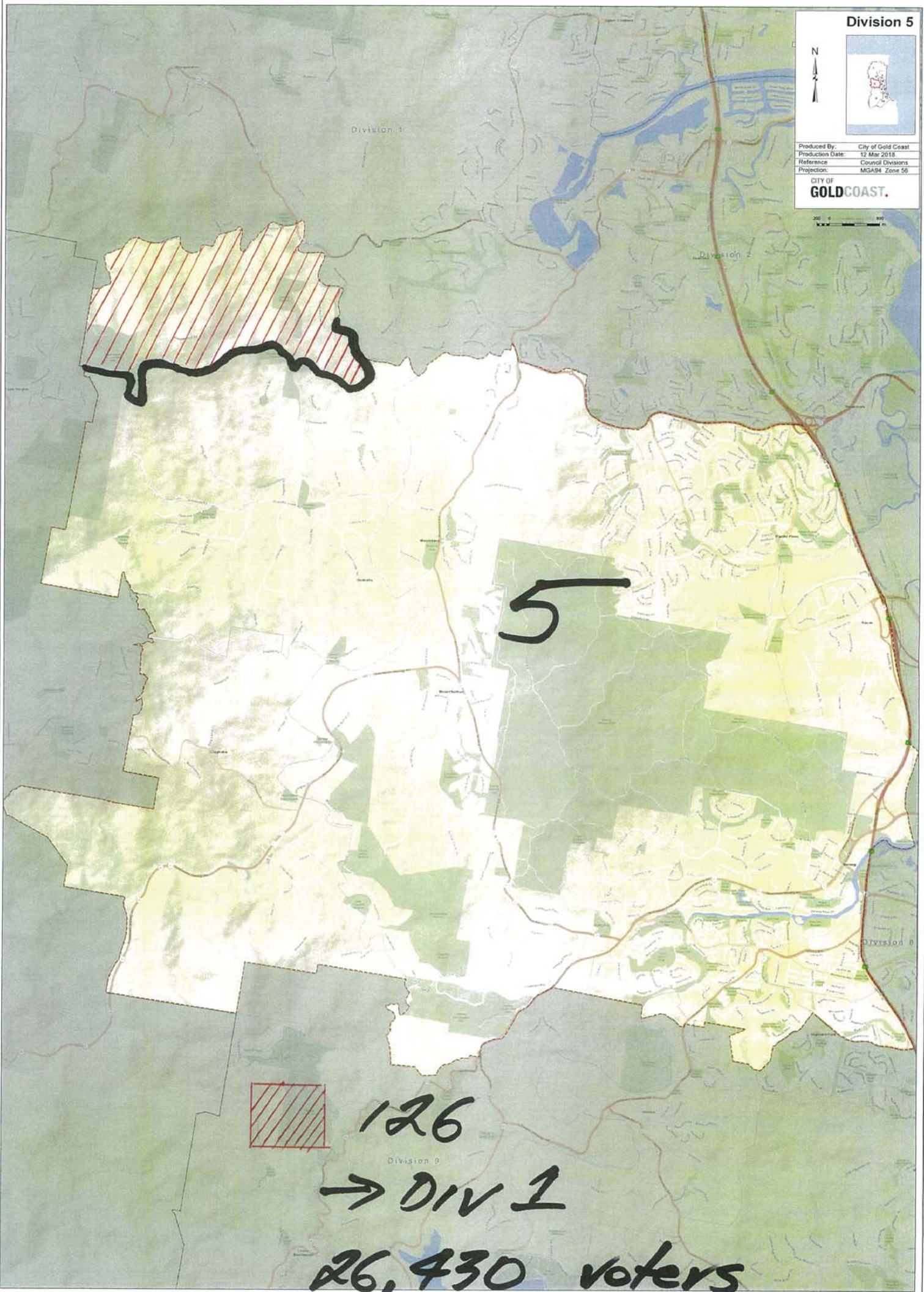
Division 5



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

200 400 600
m



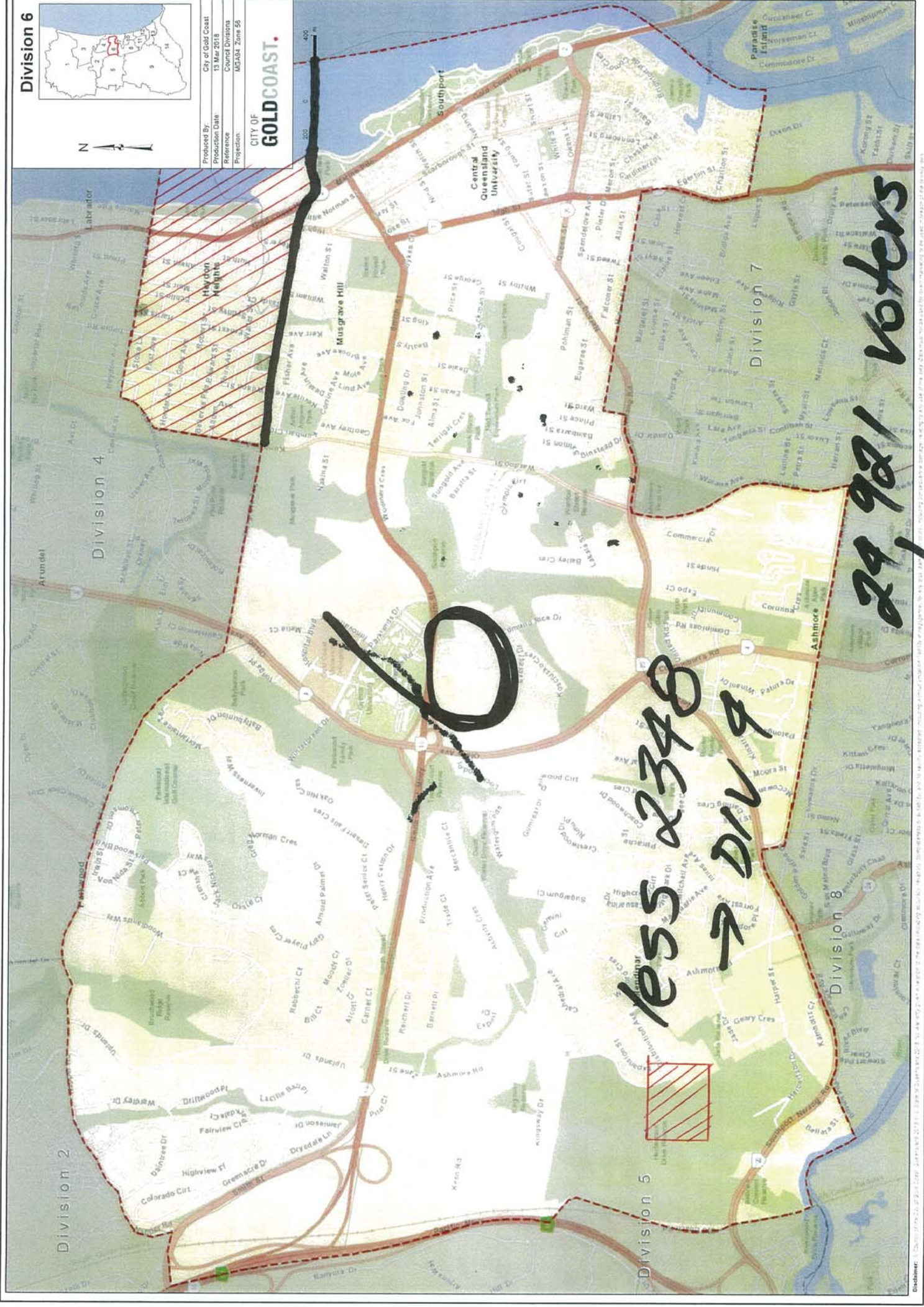
126
→ DIV 1
26,430 voters

Division 6

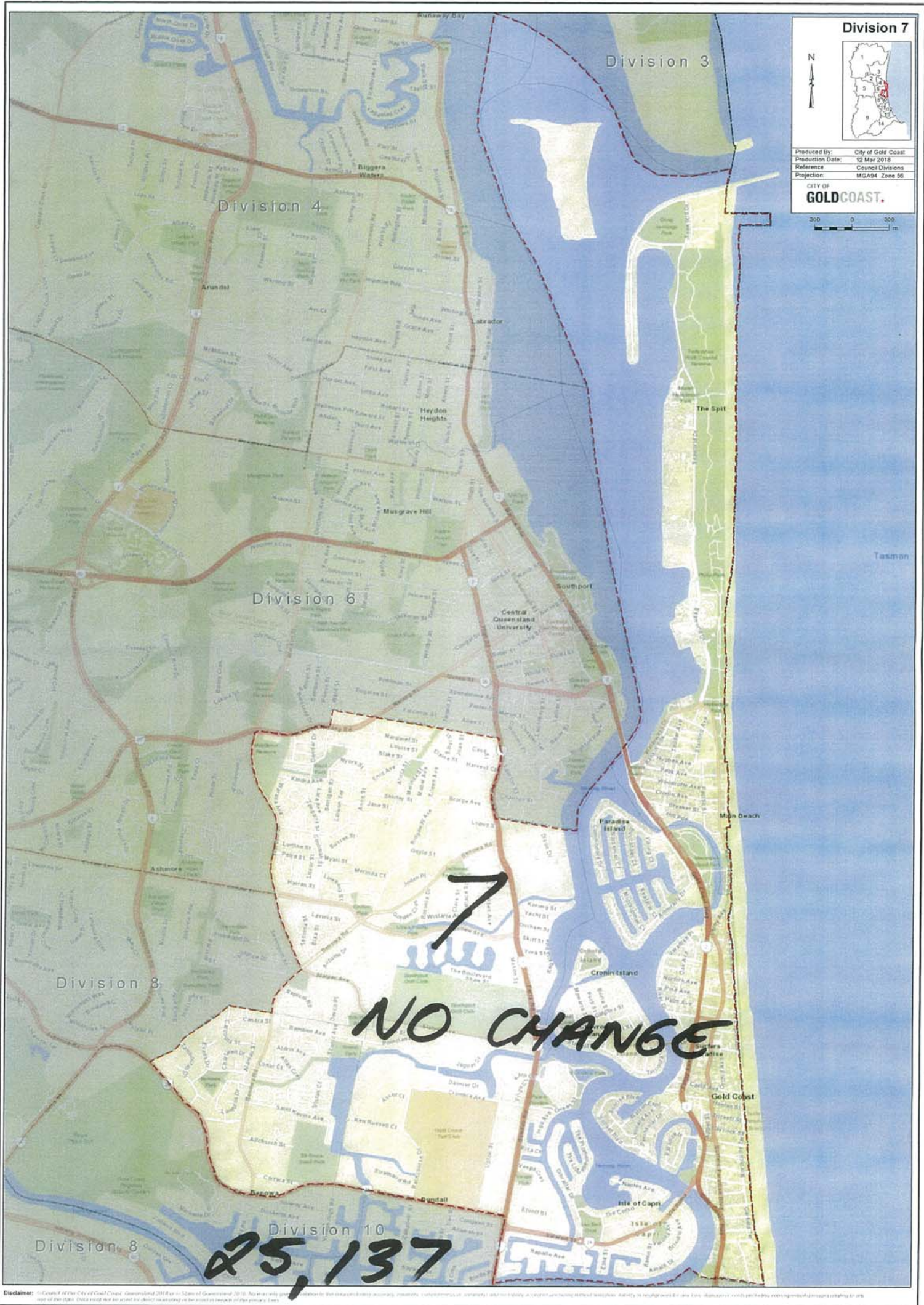


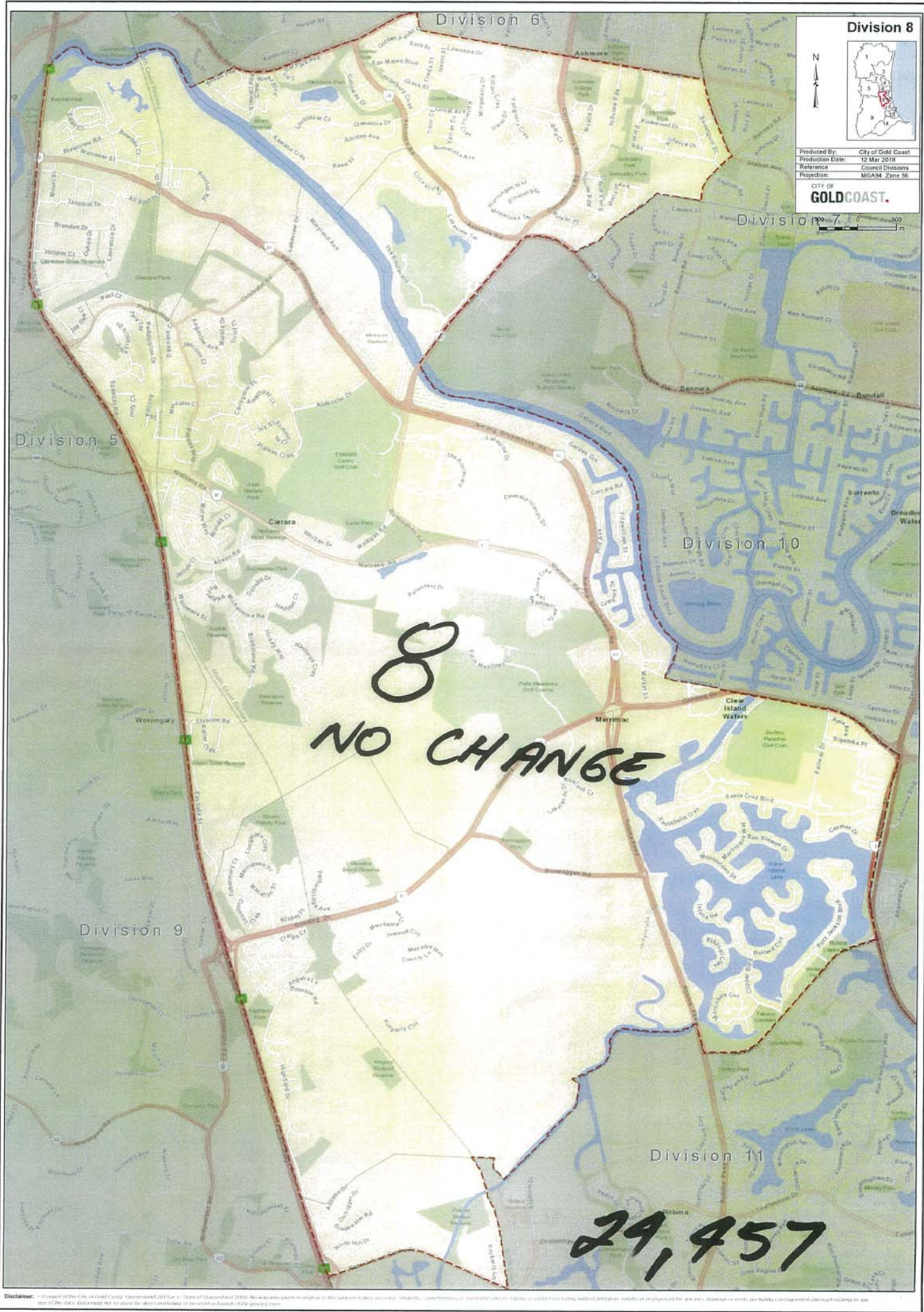
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Production Date: 13 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA84 Zone 55

CITY OF
GOLD COAST



24, 92, Voters





Division 8



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA94 Zone 56
CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

0 100 200 300 m

8
NO CHANGE

29,457

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Division 9



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA84 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

0 500 1000
m

9
NO CHANGE

29,954

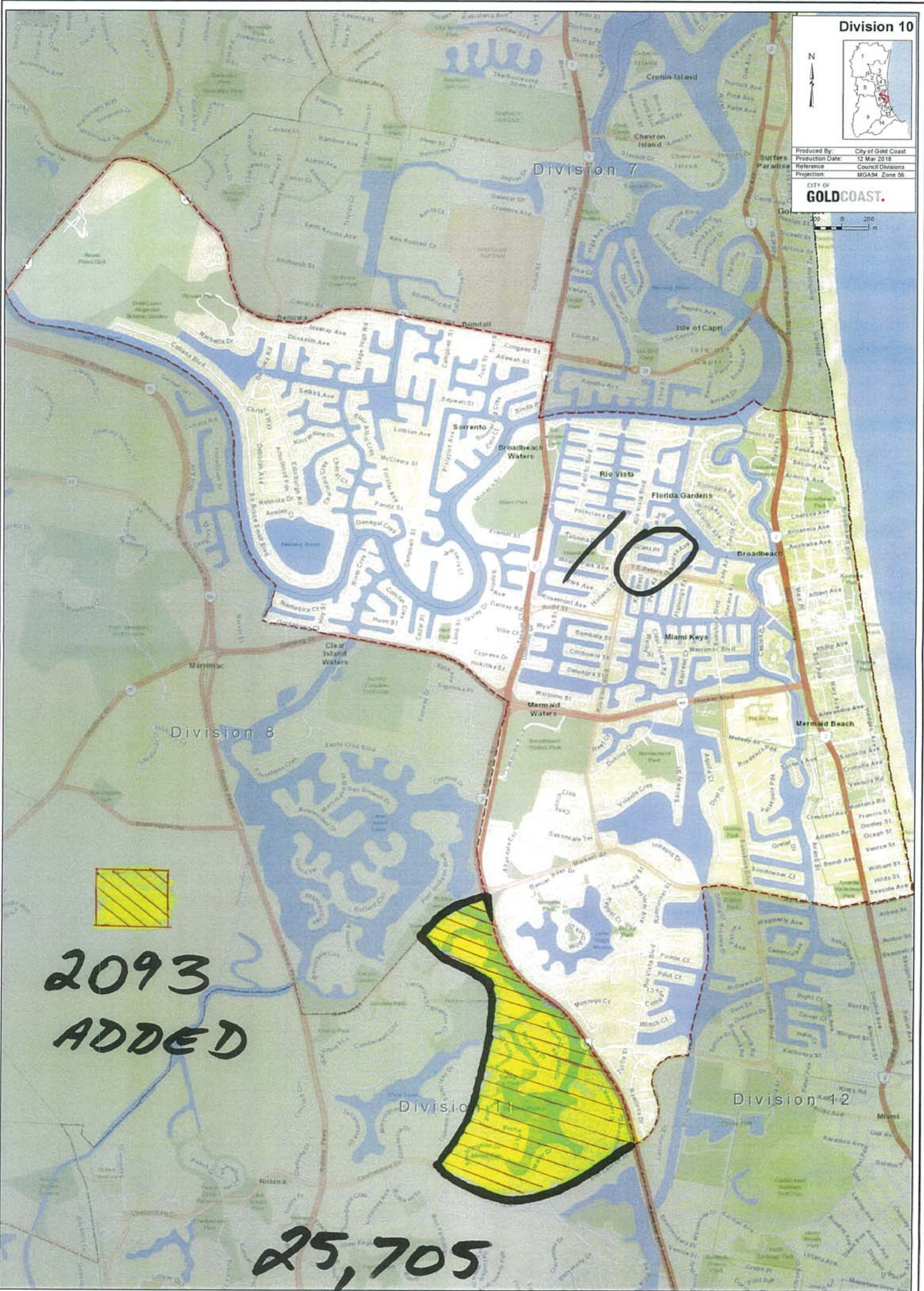
Division 10



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
 Production Date: 13 Mar 2018
 Reference: Council Divisions
 Projection: MGA94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

200 0 200
 m



Division 11



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
 Production Date: 12 May 2018
 Reference: Council Divisions
 Projection: MGA94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

200 0 200
 Metres

Division 8

Division 10

Division 13

Division 12

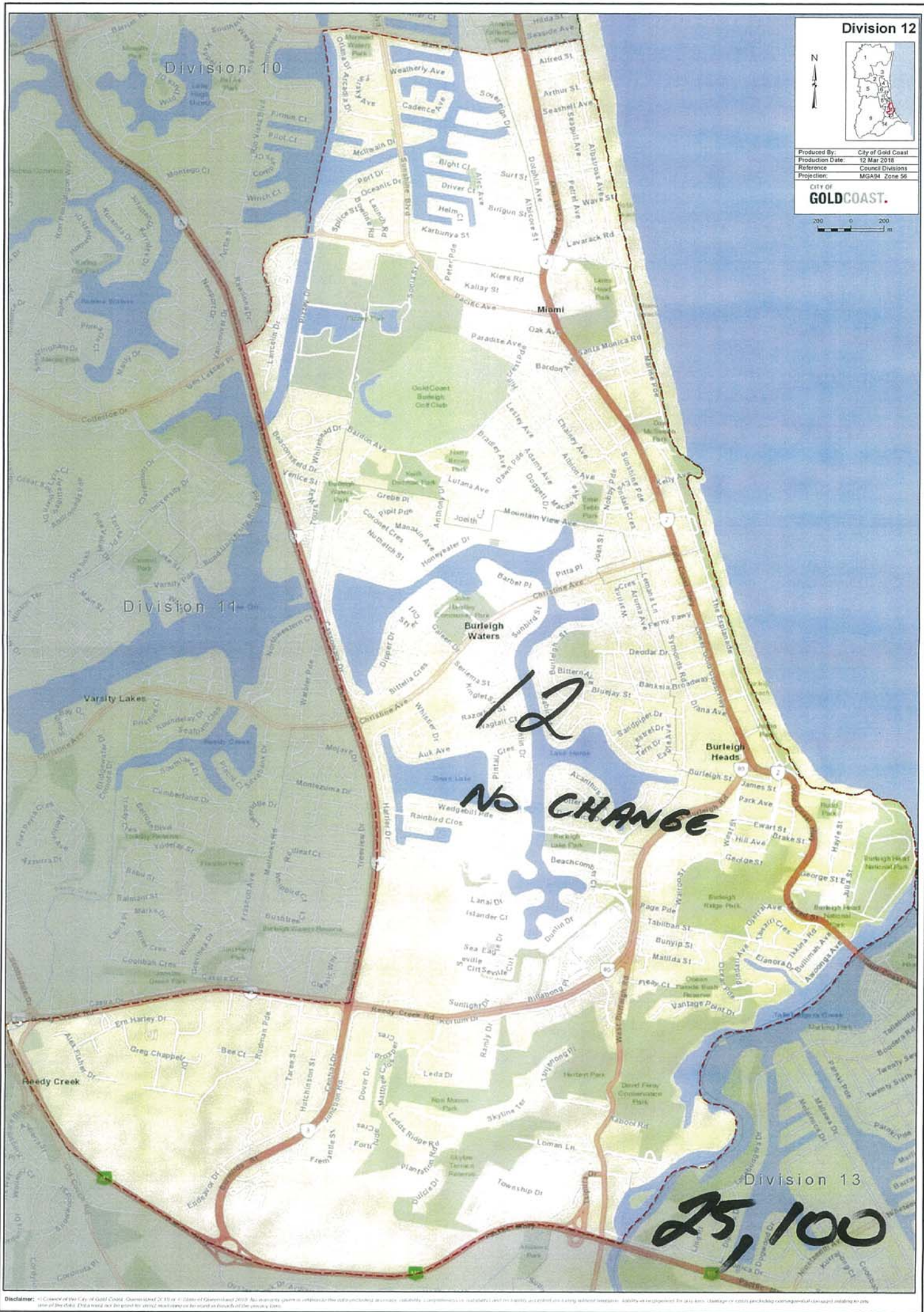
Division 9



2093

→ DIV 10

24,956



Division 12



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 12 Mar 2018
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGAM Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

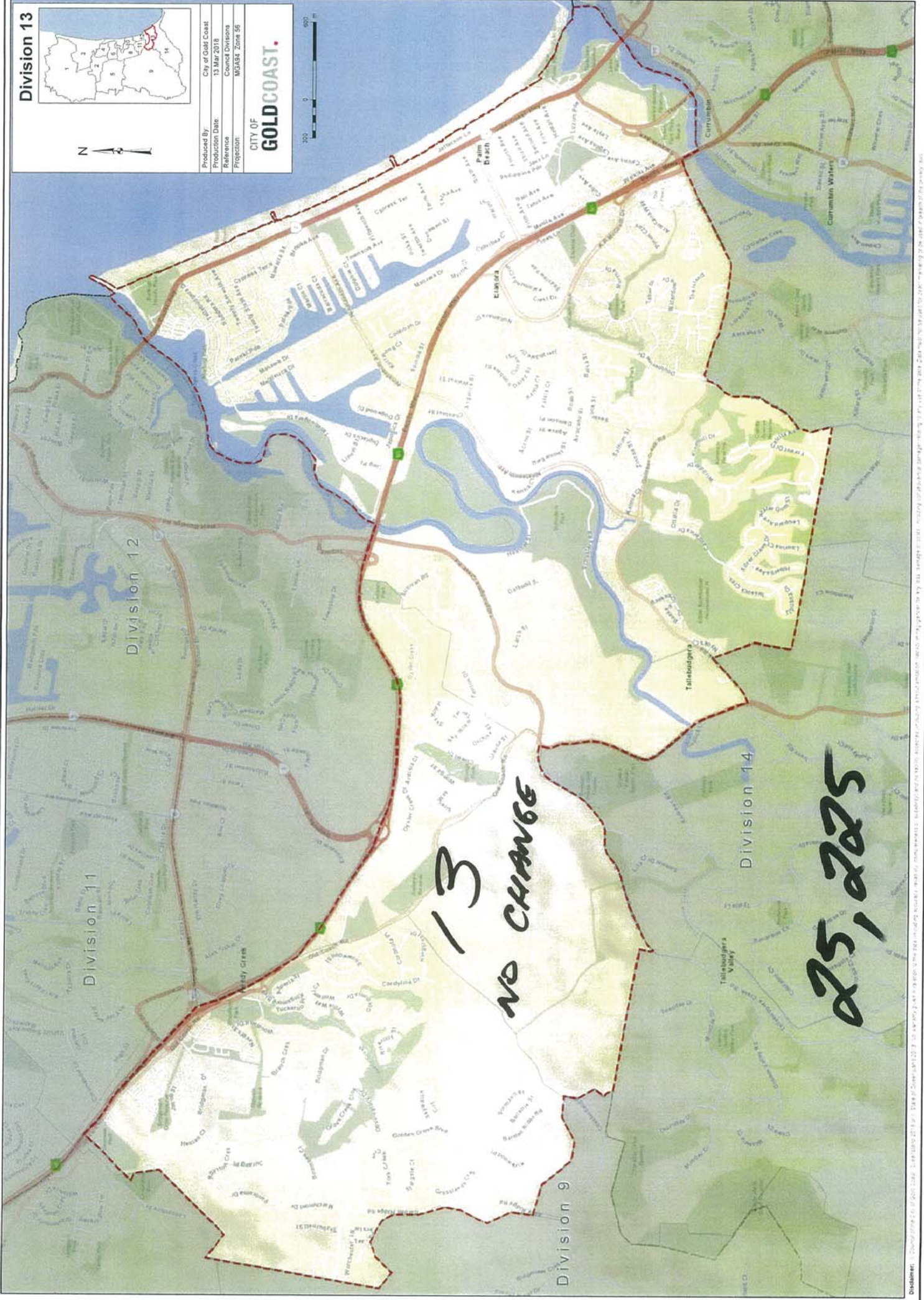
200 0 200
m

Division 13



Produced By	City of Gold Coast
Production Date	13 Mar 2018
Reference	Council Divisions
Projection	MOGAS Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.



Division 14



Produced By: City of Gold Coast
Production Date: 15 Mar 2016
Reference: Council Divisions
Projection: MGA84 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST

300 0 1500 m

14
NO CHANGE

25,782
Upper Density

Produced By:	City of Gold Coast
Production Date:	12 Mar 2018
Reference:	Council Divisions
Projection:	MG94 Zone 56

CITY OF
GOLD COAST.

0 400 800 1 600
m

15

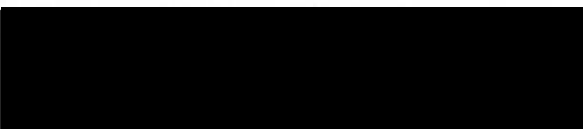
22,189
Voters

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Councillor Daphne McDonald

Division 13



CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

S-51

20 May 2019

By email: LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

Electoral Commission of Queensland

RE: Boundary Review Submission City of Gold Coast

I write with reference to the current review of electoral boundaries in the City of Gold Coast and provide the following information and submission based on my 28 years as a current Councillor of this City first elected in 1991.

The criteria from Section 4.6 of the Electoral Act 1992 include:

- The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district (division)
- The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district (division)
- The physical features of each proposed electoral district (division)
- The boundaries of existing electoral districts.

The City has seen a number of boundary changes and the increase in Divisions over the years due to population growth and the amalgamation between City of Gold Coast and Albert Shire in 1995.

Although the City has grown from a population of approximately 314,106 in 1995 to over 600,000 today, previous boundary changes have been able to preserve the traditional neighbourhoods and local communities of interest.

In the southern area of the city where Division 13 is located, the distinctive and defining features of Tallebudgera Creek (northern boundary) and Currumbin Creek (southern boundary) have always been taken into consideration as natural boundaries which comply with section 4.6 of the Electoral Act 1992 and have been important in retaining the community of interest and preserving the traditional neighbourhoods of Palm Beach/Elanora and Tallebudgera.

There is also a level of community interest in the existing boundary to the west.



In this review the minimum voter numbers per division are recommended 24,304. The upper margin 29,705 and mean quota for the 14 Divisions 27,004.

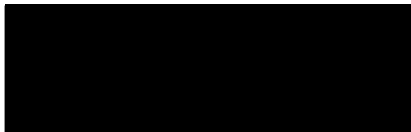
I believe the next boundary review will be in 8 years following this current review with the continued and expected population growth to continue.

To cater for the projected amount of growth in the future and retain the 14 divisions could require major changes to the existing boundaries which would be a threat to the preservation of the traditional neighbourhoods. The alternative is to create an additional division taking the City of Gold Coast to 15 Divisions which would allow the current Divisions to remain much the same thus preserving the traditional neighbourhoods and providing the north of the city a more stable local representation where the population growth is located. This has been reported to be the biggest growth of any suburb in Queensland.

An additional division in the north of the City of Gold Coast would accommodate this growth, comply with the criteria and allow a new Councillor to adequately and consistently represent the community in this fast growing city.

In summary, I would propose any boundary changes made by the Commission would be with the consideration of the criteria as stated in Section 4.6 of the Electoral Act 1992 utilising both natural boundaries and physical features of each proposed electoral district and where possible the boundaries of existing districts retaining the traditional neighbourhoods.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Daphne McDonald
Working for Division 13

 Cr Daphne McDonald

