



Web Comments 10.8.21 - 10.13.21

Submitted Time	Full Name	Subject	Message
10/08/2021 - 00:00	Jesse R Bryant	Rural Eastern Arizona Legislative district	With respect to the proposed grid maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silence our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you.
10/08/2021 - 05:32	Alicia Jimenez	Re-districting	With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you.
10/08/2021 - 06:33	Tanya Sweet	Redistricting	In regards to the proposed redistricting maps, it seems that yet again, we are ignoring the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. The region of the 5 Eastern Counties was united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature by changing the boundaries. In 2021 we want our rural voice in our own state government back! Please restore to us the 5+ Easter Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of SE Yavapai. Thank you.
10/08/2021 - 07:28	Carlie Androus	REDISTRICTING	"With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you."
10/08/2021 - 07:29	Wendy Blake	REDISTRICTING	"With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you."
10/08/2021 - 07:55	Susan Bickel	consideration of a different Catalina Foothills legislative district	<p>During the Oct 5 mapping meeting, Commissioner Mehl advocated for a legislative map that stretches from the far east side of the Tucson city limits to Marana on the west side. His map would cross through the Catalina Foothills, a clearly defined suburban community north of the metropolitan city of Tucson.</p> <p>During the initial public hearings to gather communities of interest, the public clearly identified the Catalina Foothills as their community of interest. By definition this area is contained within a compact area bordered by River Road, Oracle Rd and Sabino Creek and the Catalina National Forest, both natural permanent boundaries.</p> <p>The natural flow of traffic and population through this district is north and south. Three main transportation arteries (Campbell Avenue Corridor, Swan Rd and Craycroft Rd.) connect Catalina Foothills with easy access to entertainment, healthcare and educational opportunities and the economic base of the multi-cultural city of Tucson. The primary east west road is Ina which merges into Sunrise. This artery ends at Sabino Canyon Recreational Area, effectively stopping eastward movement.</p> <p>It is clear that from the IRC community of interest maps and any other map that the community of Catalina Foothills interacts more easily and directly with midtown Tucson. I suggest that the commission abandon Commissioner Mehl's suggestion to create an east/west district and follow the natural flow of population movement via the north/south corridors that are already in place. This area should be kept together in one compact legislative district.</p>

10/08/2021 - 08:45	Richard Freeze	Redistricting proposal	<p>"With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you."</p> <p>Richard Freeze, Navajo County PC</p>
10/08/2021 - 09:21	Joan Lewis	Redistricting	<p>With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. No more manipulation of rural Arizona please! Thank you.</p>
10/08/2021 - 10:38	Vickie Parks	Redistricting Maps	<p>Madam Chair Neuberg and Commissioners. My name is Vickie Parks, and I want to thank you for your time and energy on this important redistricting task.</p> <p>I am a fourth generation Arizonan and have lived in Flagstaff most of my life. Coconino County is 18,661 square miles of which is comprised mostly of public Federal and State lands with only approximately 16% private property. This means we are rural and will always be somewhat rural since there are just so many ways to develop....and we want to stay rural with our communities of interest and not be connected to Phoenix or be punished for being rural with little ways to expand communities.</p> <p>In reviewing the maps IRC is working from, I find them totally unacceptable for the northern part of Arizona. I would ask you commissioners if you would want to represent a massive area you are referring to as District 2 as a Congressman? Your Legislative map seems to meander unnecessarily and does not meet competitiveness or communities of interest.</p> <p>In reviewing maps in your published map possibilities, CD0009 and LD0009 seem to cover a workable geographic area for a legislator or congressman to represent effectively and efficiently. Keeping counties in tact, where possible, is appropriate and understandable, and speaks volumes about each county's communities of interest. It keeps most of northern Arizona rural but includes competitiveness. Flagstaff, including greater Flagstaff, is a hub for tourism, which is a community of interest for small businesses and is a university town forming those communities of interests. It is surrounded by rural lifestyles with agriculture and ranching communities of interests. Also, due to the beautiful, rural surroundings, there is a large community of interest among outdoorsmen with a variety of outdoor interests. The previous maps were drawn without equal populations but since northern Arizona is so rural, I would hope we might be deemed by population to the best extent practicable leaving Coconino County in its entirety as in published map LD0009 and CD0009. One thing I'd like to stress is that all of Flagstaff, and especially any developed area, should not be divided into two different districts. I live on the east side of Flagstaff yet I currently fall into LD7, not LD6 and do not have the same communities of interest with LD7. I have friends in LD7 yet their neighbors just across the street are in LD6. This is unconscionable. I do not support small 'pockets' being segregated. My Hispanic family would be embarrassed if they thought they were sought out separately rather than being part of their community as a whole. Keeping large communities together should absolutely be a priority such as all of Sun City and all of Flagstaff and greater Flagstaff for example.</p> <p>Again, thank you very much for your attention to this very important issue.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Vickie Parks  Flagstaff, AZ 86004</p>

10/08/2021 - 12:10	JERRY K. HUBBARD	Northeastern Arizona Redistricting	<p>To the members of the IRC:</p> <p>The maps that have been proposed for the legislative and congressional districts in northeastern Arizona do not serve the needs of the citizens who live in this rural part of our state. From 2001-2010, the region of the five eastern counties were combined and well represented, but in 2011, the IRC's redistricting effectively removed our voice in the legislature. For 2021, I strongly request that you restore our representation in state government by combining the 5+ eastern counties district consisting of Gila, Graham, and southern Navajo and Apache counties, along with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal county, and the Verde Valley of southeast Yavapai county.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration,</p> <p>Jerry K. Hubbard Overgaard, AZ</p>
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10/08/2021 - 12:40	James Farmer	Comments to IRC - Oct. 7, 2021	<p>Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission Comments: James R. Farmer October 7, 2021</p> <p>My name is James R. Farmer, I'm 73 years of age, and I live in Westbrook Village in Peoria. I've been an Arizona resident since 1996, living in Tucson, Scottsdale, Anthem and now Peoria. I spent much of my business career in senior leadership roles for companies serving the banking, financial and healthcare industries, including most of Arizona's hospitals and health systems. I'm a precinct committeeperson in the current LD22 and I serve on my party's State Committee.</p> <p>I wish to SPECIFICALLY address the requirement that both Congressional and Legislative districts must be "fair and competitive" to the greatest extent practicable. In Arizona, as in other states, there has been a 10-year campaign to undermine fair and competitive redistricting. The idea of competing on a level playing field is not at all attractive in some political circles. Yet, today, our state is neither "red" nor "blue" – it is solidly PURPLE.</p> <p>Our state is not "homogenous" – that's a big word meaning that we're all alike. We are not all descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers who came to America on the Mayflower. Rather, we are "heterogeneous" – that's another big word meaning that we are all different. Our voting communities are made up of people from all walks of life and many national heritages. These people all have different family, business and political priorities and they ALL matter. The voting districts you create MUST represent these differences in a balanced and meaningful way.</p> <p>We are split ticket voters, and 1/3 of all Arizona voters have registered as Independents. Communities of interest and of color are no longer isolated in geographically defined precincts and communities... rather, with certain exceptions in our rural and tribal areas, they are networked throughout the business, social and political fabric of our community as a whole.</p> <p>I believe we are all basically united as Americans. We all want our elections to be free, fair and open. They have been this way throughout our lives. It's only when current politics are injected that extremism and dissent about the free, fair and open nature of our elections becomes a factor. Then it is real, it is acute, and (unfortunately) today it is often ugly. As a state, and as a nation, we cannot afford to cater to, further, or endorse political extremism in our redistricting process. When we do, we limit the field of bright, motivated, qualified candidates who choose to run for office at the local, state, and Federal levels. Why should they run if they reside in districts where they have little to no hope of being elected?</p> <p>By creating fair and competitive Congressional and Legislative districts, this Commission can protect our State and its voters against extremism - and it can create an electoral climate that encourages candidates to run on platforms that will best benefit our state generally and their constituents individually.</p> <p>Fair and competitive redistricting encourages more qualified candidates to seek office - and those candidates must appeal to a broader segment of the electorate if they wish to win. The result is that we will elect candidates in these fair and competitive districts who are willing to WORK FOR THEIR CONSTITUENTS instead of just holding a seat and providing a reliable vote.</p> <p>I'm encouraged that the Commission, when deliberating on the "fair and competitive" requirement for redistricting, chose to overlay composite election results data on the 2020 census data that were used to define the current grid maps. I believe the integration of these data will clearly point the Commission in the direction of creating maps that will fulfill the requirement to create "fair and competitive" voting districts.</p> <p>In closing, I wish to recognize the Commission for its work to date and its willingness to undertake the work still ahead. You don't get paid, you have agreed to invest your time, your energy, and your best efforts in the redistricting process, and I am sure you will make every effort to neutralize partisan pressure and define voting districts that truly reflect the growing diversity of our state, and that protect the voting rights of all communities of interest.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
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10/08/2021 - 14:28	Greg Peterson	interpreting the maps	What does it mean by most proportional and least splitting?
10/08/2021 - 14:36	Barbara Tellman	Draft Map disrespects the Tohono O'Odham Nation	<p>The draft map completely ignores the stated desire of the Tohono O'Odham Nation to be primarily connected to the Tucson Metro area, which is part of the Nation historically and commercially. Tribal members shop, go to school, and run casinos in the metro area, not Nogales. As one tribal member stated, Tukson is the original tribal name for Tucson.</p> <p>The draft map shows complete disregard for that wish and instead connects the Nation as little as possible with the Tucson area, with a narrow strip extending into the Avra Valley, in the process also splitting the Avra community of interest in two. Residents of this area defined Avra Valley as their community of interest and pointed out their strong connection with Tucson, not Nogales. Instead the map joins the Nation and half of Avra Valley with all of Santa Cruz County and points north.</p> <p>This in turn deprives one of the two Minority-Majority districts in Pima County of a significant number of Hispanics needed to form the M-M district. It appears that this was done to please Republicans in the Green Valley-Sahuarita area who feel they need protection from people different from them.</p> <p>Please change the map to connect the Nation with downtown Tucson via Ajo Way, which is a major transportation route for the tribe from Tucson through Sells and on to Ajo.</p> <p>I strongly urge Mr. Watchman especially to get involved in this matter. For the past ten years the Tribe has been represented by legislators in Maricopa and Yuma Counties, a long distance away through miles of federal land. Please correct that mistake by turning them towards the Tucson Metro area where they belong.</p>
10/08/2021 - 15:19	Ron Pannuzzo	Comment on Proposed maps	With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you.
10/08/2021 - 16:13	Scott Green	proposed redistricting maps North Eastern Arizona	With respect to the proposed maps, the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona are being completely ignored. We had two meetings in this area in July and you heard testimony from person after person speaking out about lack of representation with the current legislative district lines. This proposed map does nothing to address that issue. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you.
10/08/2021 - 16:26	Lisa Green	proposed redistricting maps North Eastern Arizona	<p>I attended two different redistricting meetings in July, Eager & Show Low. Show Low was standing room only. The commission was given testimony from concerned citizens about the lack of representation regarding Legislative District 7, taxation without representation. At the Eager meeting I heard that LD 7 was purposely drawn to be 64% Native American vote. I also heard the redistricting board threatened by a gentleman from the voter rights office on the reservation. He told you that he would see you in court if you changed the lines to create a more competitive legislative district. I can only surmise that you are unwilling to fight for the redistricting rules-compact/contiguous, communities of interest and COMPETITIVE. These proposed maps do nothing to create a competitive legislative district. I also heard Navajo Nation President, Jonathan Nez, ask for a separate legislative district for the Navajo Nation. You have ignored his request as well.</p> <p>Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>

10/08/2021 - 17:05	nikki miller	redistricting	"With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you."
10/08/2021 - 18:49	Daniel	Redistricting 5+ counties	<p>With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai.</p> <p>Also, I am a real person living here in rural Arizona. I know sometimes many peoples comments may be ignored because of an appearance of a boiler plate message. This is not the case here. Again I am a real person.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Daniel</p>
10/08/2021 - 21:58	Raymond Gross	Bias shown towards the west valley of Maricopa County in CD map 1.1	I was looking at the CD 1.1 map and was struck by the favoritism the commission has shown towards the east valley, The east valley CDs of 1,3, and 4 are compact and will give the east valley powerful representation in Congress for the next decade that will exclusively represent only their interests. The west valley other than CD 8 which is drawn to only represent the Latino community interest in the west valley has its political power diluted. You have drawn the majority of Surprise and other northwest suburbs into CD 9 which stretches to the Colorado river in the west and North to the border with Utah. A large chunk of the southwest valley including Avondale is now in CD 5 which now stretches to the border with New Mexico. CD 7 takes in Buckeye, Waddell and even parts of Surprise while also going to the Colorado river and down to the border of Mexico. I would really like an answer in the next meeting for why the west valley is having its potential political power and representation diluted while the east valley is compact and undiluted? I am asking this as a life long resident of the west valley. Thank you.
10/08/2021 - 23:26	Molly Ottman	What are you doing?	<p>I can't believe you created a map that doesn't have a different outlook. Didn't you hear the people even the Navajo Nation President? They/ we want to have a district that reflects our heritage, our own thing. You absolutely do not care one bit about rural Arizona or have heard a word we said to you at the meetings.</p> <p>Lets do this one more time!</p> <p>Make LD7(Navajo County) smaller and stop putting us with the tribe..Is that clear enough? If you don't help rural Arizona it will impact our schools and families. We have been silenced for 10 years and experiencing no representation, why would you let it keep going? Give us our voice back!</p> <p>Restore us back to 5+Eastern Counties District: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache County.</p> <p>See you at the next meeting.</p>
10/09/2021 - 11:10	Gail Kamaras	Commission independence & transparency	<p>I am deeply concerned about the actual independence of this commission. Republican Commissioner Mehl seems to be running the commission without restraint from its supposed independent Chair. The Chair needs to take control of the meetings and ensure the fair consideration of all views. If not, its work will be suspect.</p> <p>Further Mehl's views do not represent those of a majority of Tucson or Pima County. Holding the first Tucson hearing at a hotel owned by his company has a very bad odor of bias.</p> <p>Regarding transparency, moving the meetings from YouTube to a little used website has made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. You have limited your audience to retired people and others who don't have to work for a living.</p>

10/09/2021 - 11:32	Carol Schloff	Thank you for listening	<p>Hi. I would like to thank the Commission for listening to the speakers at the virtual Tucson hearing last week. I opened a new draft map this morning and saw a map that takes into account my concerns. I live in LD3, just west of the Tucson city limits. You have included my Tucson Mountains foothills area with Tucson. Also, the Tohono O'odham Nation still maintains a strong commercial and social connection to metro Tucson.</p> <p>Thank you. Carol Schloff Vice Chair LD3 State Committeeperson</p>
10/09/2021 - 13:06	Thomas McConnell	Initial LD Draft Map	<p>This is pathetic. The map is not even close to meeting the basic criteria. You would have done better selecting one of the maps uploaded by the AZ community; several are quite good.</p>
10/09/2021 - 17:42	Virgene Silvers	Redistricting	<p>"With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you."</p>
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10/10/2021 - 12:24	Jennifer Dawson	Redistricting maps	<p>The current map is 1. disrespecting the needs of the Tohono O'Odham and 2. threatening the majority-minority status of the Santa Cruz County Hispanic population.</p> <p>1. The first draft map goes directly in the face of clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with Metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By giving them as little as possible of Pima County outside nation boundaries you have shown that they should be satisfied with representation in the Legislature from some other county, most likely Santa Cruz. This would mean that they will be represented by legislators in two different districts. Evidently this was done in an apparent effort to restrict their influence. Tribal interests need to be protected.</p> <p>2. One of the two Minority Majority districts in Pima County depends heavily on Santa Cruz County's Hispanic population to meet the federal requirements. By removing this area, the minority-majority status is threatened. The reason for this appears not only to disrespect the TO, but also to protect Republican bigots in Green Valley/Sahuarita from having to associate with people different from them.</p> <p>The map needs to be "fair, competitive and INCLUSIVE." Thank you</p>
10/10/2021 - 12:42	Jennifer Dawson	Redistricting maps	<p>There is too much bias on this committee in favor of rich, white people.</p> <p>1. David Mehl is NOT the chair of the IRC. It was bad enough that the first Tucson hearing was held in his hotel; now it appears that chair Neuberger is deferring to him on a regular basis. He represents a very specifically wealth / racially-based population of the county.</p> <p>2. Communities of Interest: By making Communities of Interest the entire focus of the first set of hearings, you have encouraged divisiveness and racial and political division. The committee seems to be cherry-picking and zeroing in on communities based largely on party, bigotry and money, i.e. RICH WHITE PEOPLES Community of Interest: This COI appears to be the most important one in the new map. The white high income people in the Catalina Foothills are protected from the lower income people south of the Rillito River according to the draft map. This long horizontal district of rich white people is a clear bias.</p> <p>Ms. Neuberger needs step up and stop this kowtowing to people like Mehl, and be a LOT more independent if the committee is not to be considered seriously biased in favor of rich, white people.</p>
10/10/2021 - 12:49	Jennifer Dawson	Redistricting maps	<p>Protect Apache interests.</p> <p>The draft map gerrymanders a piece of a heavily right wing Republican district between Whiteriver and its commercial hub of ShowLow-Pinetop. There is no justification for this.</p> <p>This area is where many tribal members conduct their business, send their children to school, and even where their main source of income – the casino – is located. This gerrymander assures that a district designed to include four tribes will be weakened in its legislative representation. Remove it, and keep the area unified.</p>

10/10/2021 - 12:59	Jennifer Dawson	Redistricting maps	<p>There are serious problems with the current draft map, and the process of public input (Citizen mapping, and map PDFs).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Map: it is totally defective and should be scrapped, with the consultants instructed to start over. It shows little knowledge of areas outside Maricopa County and has clear party bias. It also would not pass the same population test that citizen mappers have to undergo. Mappers appear even to misunderstand Maricopa County's distinct areas, such as Anthem, which is split. 2. Citizen Mapping: The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users.; very few can figure it out, and most gave up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS, with lots of fast "click here" directions. There is no FAQ section and no way to communicate with those in charge of the system, effectively keeping the public out of the process.. 3. PDFs of Maps: The pdf format of the draft map is totally impossible for people to decipher. Boundaries are unclear and there are few points of reference. The ESRI system is capable of making good maps for export, and allowing for closeup views with detail. <p>Once again: keeping the public from seeing detail, and being involved in the process. This is absolutely unacceptable..</p>
10/10/2021 - 13:08	Jennifer Dawson	Redistricting maps	<p>Why are you making it so hard for people to watch the meetings, or give direct public input? You are also showing bias about who you will listen to in those public forums..</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Format for the meetings: By moving from YouTube to WebEx, you have made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. 2. Ability to express opinions: By limiting people's ability to submit opinions to live meeting times, you have favored the retired and people who don't have to work for a living. 3. Objectivity: The legislation was designed to ensure that redistricting was done in an impartial and fair way. This Commission is clearly showing Republican bias and in a way that narrows the participating audience. The recent Tucson hearing revealed that coordinated groups of people who arrived very early got the most attention. Most of them left after their contingent had spoken. People who had arrived only half an hour early were only allowed to speak much later in the afternoon or evening. Why was Tucson not considered important enough to have a separate hearing? It appears that you want to keep people in the dark, and only listen to certain groups. This does not make for a "fair and competitive" map.
10/10/2021 - 15:32	Evelyn Lathram	Communities of Interest	<p>Communities of Interest: Oro Valley, Casas Adobes and northern Pima County</p> <p>Oro Valley, Casas Adobes and northern Pima County are so tied together that without a marker you wouldn't know when you left one and entered the other. All three are dense suburban with a mixture of homes, apartments, businesses, parks and churches. They all have large shopping malls and a variety of grocers. The majority of our populations own their own homes and speak English. Even the median incomes are similar ranging from \$65-\$85,000 annually. All three have populations that reflect a balance across age groups. Oro Valley's median age is about 50, and Casas Adobes' median age is 42. Oro Valley's median age is 54 years and 65+ only make up 34% of the population. Over 10,000 of Oro Valley residents are minorities or about 25%. There exist strong community ties between all three places, all were established before the 1980's and we often shop, work, and worship across our boundaries. The school systems are all rated well above the state average. All three places share the same concerns about clean water availability, ensuring safe neighborhoods and maintaining a healthy balance between development and open spaces.</p> <p>Oro Valley has little in common with places in Pinal County. Our new boundaries should not be composed of small and/or homogeneous communities. Residents of Oro Valley and Casas Adobes and northern Pima County go to downtown Tucson and the University of Arizona for arts and entertainment. Tucson is our central hub. Casas Adobes and northern Pima County are contiguous areas that should be combined with Oro Valley as a community of interest. All are located in Pima County. and share Oracle and I-10 as major thoroughfares.</p>

10/10/2021 - 19:02	Deborah Howard	Meeting Agendas	<p>Dear Commissioners, I appreciate Arizona Open Meeting Law requires posting of the agenda and meeting information only 48 hours prior to the meeting. However, given that you have scheduled dates for line drawing sessions, posting those agendas, times and locations as far in advance of the meeting would be most helpful.</p> <p>For instance, it is Sunday 10/10 at 6:30 p.m. and specific information for the Tuesday meeting is available. However, information for the Friday, 10/15 line drawing session is not. And the following week you have four line drawing sessions planned. It would be really helpful to be able to share information for all upcoming meetings - instead of parceled out for each - 48 hours prior.</p> <p>I ask that out of respect for the those members of the public who have restricted availability to track the process multiple times a week ,that you post the line drawing meetings schedule next week as a package - much as you did for the round 1 listening tour and the recent public input sessions on the grid maps.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>AS a post-script - the IRC has been unresponsive to all public record requests since June. More than 100 days have passed. This is simply unacceptable. To me atleast.And it should be unacceptable to you as well. This failure to comply with the most minimal standards of public transparency undermines the public confidence the commission asserts so regularly you seek to establish. As you know the task ahead is monumental. You must depend on, and have confidence in, staff and consultants. I ask: how can you continue to have confidence in the staff and/or consultants for the monumental task ahead when they have failed to manage this most basic business function? It is indefensible.</p>
10/10/2021 - 19:27	Mary Ann Detrick	Oro Valley	<p>* Oro Valley is in Pima county and should be in a predominantly Pima county LD.</p> <p>* Oro Valley's community of interest is due west and south of Oro Valley, not north. Oro Valley has shared history, demographics, economies, development, diverse housing and environmental concerns aligned with Marana, Casa Adobes and northern Pima county. The only thing we share with Pinal County is our current LD.</p> <p>* Oro Valley is composed of nearly 25% minority populations. By placing Oro Valley in Pinal County, it would dilute minority voices even more than they already are.</p>
10/10/2021 - 21:48	Iris J Adler	IRC Plan CDF001	<p>I support this redistricting plan because it keeps Cochise County together, and it is competitive. It also keeps FT Huachuca and Davis Monthan together.</p>
10/11/2021 - 06:16	Nicole Linn	Oro Valley District needs to be in Pima County	<p>Oro Valley, Marana and Casas Adobes are so tied together that without a marker you wouldn't know when you left one and entered the other. All three are dense suburban with a mixture of homes, apartments, businesses, parks and churches. They all have large shopping malls and a variety of grocers. The majority of our populations own their own homes and speak English. Even the median incomes are similar ranging from \$65-\$85,000 annually. All three have populations that reflect a balance across age groups. Oro Valley's median age is about 50, Marana's is 40 and Casas Adobes' median age is 42. Oro Valley's median age is 54 years and 65+ only make up 34% of the population. Over 10,000 of Oro Valley residents are minorities or about 25%. There exist strong community ties between all three places, all were established before the 1980's and we often shop, work, and worship across our boundaries. The school systems are all rated well above the state average. All three places share the same concerns about clean water availability, ensuring safe neighborhoods and maintaining a healthy balance between development and open spaces.</p> <p>Oro Valley has little in common with places in Pinal County. Our new boundaries should not be composed of small and/or homogeneous communities. Residents of Oro Valley, Marana and Casas Adobes go to downtown Tucson and the University of Arizona for arts and entertainment. Tucson is our central hub. Phoenix is the central hub for many of the places in Pinal County. Marana and Casas Adobes are contiguous areas that should be combined with Oro Valley as a community of interest. All are located in Pima County. and share Oracle and I-10 as major thoroughfares</p> <p>It does not makes political or geographic sense to put Oro Valley in a primarily Pinal County district. We are a part of the Tucson area and should be districted as such.</p>

10/11/2021 - 07:12	Aaron Torrance	Proposed plans are too tilted to favor Republicans	<p>The proposed redistricting is not fairly balanced. Please make use of mathematically objective scoring provided by https://planscore.campaignlegal.org to ensure that your proposals are unbiased.</p> <p>I am deeply concerned that we have become partisan, polarized, and divided. One party is in favor of democracy and fair representation... and another is trying to rig the system...</p> <p>Project Redmap in 2010 leveraged weak campaign finance laws to buy state legislative seats and rig maps for a decade. It was anti-democratic, and an assault on good governance.</p> <p>We have a chance to shore up Americans' trust in our government. We can bolster our support for democratic representation that reflects the will of the people, not tilted to favor those who can buy better representation.</p> <p>These maps are unacceptable, quit letting Republicans stack the deck!</p>
10/11/2021 - 07:19	Susan L Wachter	boundaries	<p>As you should realize, Arizona is frequently joked about nationally because of things like the so called audit by some Ninjas or because of Sinema's behavior. Please do what you can to improve our reputation by showing that we do all we can to encourage fair elections and that we want everyone to have access to voting. It is so important that we not give in to the gerrymandering popular in far too many states. Help Arizona stand up proudly and represent what is right and good about America.</p>
10/11/2021 - 07:29	Carolyn Anderson	Oro Valley	<p>I have lived and owned property in Oro Valley since 2004 and am now registered to vote here. I object to the proposed redistricting that would put us with Pinal Country. We are part of Pima County, we are urban not rural, and have nothing in common with Pinal Country. Our connection is with areas south and slightly west. We also have a sizeable minority population whose vote you will dilute if we are placed with Pinal Country. I've read of no legitimate reason to put us with Pinal Country or any other area north of us. If you need more voters in the Pinal Country LD, why not expand it both, not south?</p>
10/11/2021 - 07:47	Dr. Lisa Kiser	Fair redistricting process	<p>We need a fair redistricting process that does not favor the Republican party and does not split the districts so that wealthier communities are separated from the lower-income ones. We also need a chair that is respectful of all members of the committee.</p>
10/11/2021 - 07:55	Heidi Harley	Redistricting maps & tribal interests	<p>The proposed new district map does not respect the Tohono O'odham Nation's wish to be associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County, which does not accord with their best interests as expressly described and requested.</p>
10/11/2021 - 07:59	Jacqui Bauer	Fairness of proposed district maps	<p>The current draft maps being proposed by the IRC are biased towards Republicans and directly in violation of the intent of the independent redistricting process adopted by AZ voters. According to the Planscore tool recommended by the IRC, these maps will favor Republicans 68-83% of the time. That is unacceptable! It is also extremely frustrating watching the chair - whose sole purpose on the commission is to ensure that the process is truly independent and non-partisan - defer so heavily to a Republican commissioner regarding the fate of an area (Pima County) that otherwise leans heavily Democratic. Commissioner Mehl is there to represent the interests of the GOP, and his input regarding Pima County MUST be balanced with the interests of the community of interest there. Do NOT separate the heavily white, wealthy areas from the rest of Tucson - doing so creates class- and income-based segregation, and respect the historic and economic ties of the Tohono O'odham to the Tucson area.</p> <p>The draft maps must be redrawn with an eye to balance, competitiveness, and fairness to the voters of Arizona - the level of bias to one party in the current draft maps is unacceptable.</p>
10/11/2021 - 08:02	Judith Nostrant	unfair redistricting	<p>Your draft maps favor Republicans. You shouldn't separate white suburbs from urban Tucson. IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that isn't so complicated. The proposed map disrespects the Tohon O'odam Nation. Please create a map that is fair and just to everyone.</p>
10/11/2021 - 08:21	Frank J Sagona	Draft IRC Maps: Comments	<p>I STRONGLY disagree with the proposed draft maps that separates and splits Tucson districts. To achieve better government, we need more competitive districts not less. Please maintain AZ's history and your history of the IRC of striving for better independence and responsive governance. Thank you.</p>

10/11/2021 - 08:26	Tom Evans	Lack of fairness in current redistricting plans	<p>I am writing to express my opinion that the current redistricting plan process is unfair to Arizona voters.</p> <p>Draft boundaries favor Republicans. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Thank you for considering these comments.</p>
10/11/2021 - 08:29	Er ka A. O'Dowd	IRC must be independent	<p>Independent redistricting is enshrined in our very constitution! The IRC must work diligently to put aside partisan influence and respect our Founders' wishes!</p>
10/11/2021 - 08:32	June Louise Webb-Vignery	Inclusion and maps used for redistricting	<p>As a Democrat in District 10, I have several comments regarding redistricting: 1. Include neighborhoods of all income brackets (do not separate out the wealthier neighborhoods from those with lower incomes); 2. Fresh maps need to be drawn with more competitive districts. I am especially concerned about the Tohono O'odham Nation and its inclusion (total) in the Pima County map; and 3. Use a better mapping tool...the present maps are not easy to understand especially for first time users.</p>
10/11/2021 - 08:34	Tom Evans	Proposed redistricting process unfair and lacks transparency	<p>I left an earlier comment regarding one shortcoming of the redistricting process. This is an comment on an additional problem with the redistricting process.</p> <p>The mapping tool published by the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission does not allow an Arizona Voter with typical technical skills to visualize and compare what the implications of the proposed boundaries.</p> <p>Clicking on the Maps tab does show a simple, user-friendly comparison of previous and proposed boundaries. Instead there are links to a series of websites with high levels of complexity which obfuscates the redistricting process.</p> <p>This lack of transparency is not fair to Arizona voters.</p> <p>Thank you for considering this comment.</p>
10/11/2021 - 08:59	Diane Nevill	Draft maps favor Republicans	<p>According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p>
10/11/2021 - 09:01	Diane Nevill	Don't separate affluent white suburbs from urban Tucson	<p>In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.</p>
10/11/2021 - 09:03	Diane Nevill	David Mehl's influence	<p>David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.</p>
10/11/2021 - 09:04	Diane Nevill	A better mapping tool for ordinary citizensThe IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. T	<p>The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p>
10/11/2021 - 09:05	Diane Nevill	Disrespect for Tohono O'Odham	<p>The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p>

10/11/2021 - 09:06	Diane Nevill	Avra Valley	Representatives of Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates.
10/11/2021 - 09:21	Diane Nevill	We need new maps drawn	The current draft maps are strongly in favor of the Republican Party. This is clearly shown in an analysis of PlanScore. It is imperative that fresh maps be drawn that contain more competitive districts.
10/11/2021 - 09:27	Wendy Weiss	Concern about fairness in redistricting	Please do your utmost to make the new districts fair and equitable. Rumor has it that the commission is trying to ensure Republican control of all districts. I hope this is not true. In the polarized atmosphere in our country at the moment, it is incumbent upon you to do what you can to uphold non partisan redistricting standards. Please don't separate suburbs from cities; please don't try to sway things to favor one party over another. Arizona has to demonstrate that it can follow the law and can have fair elections. There has been too much poisonous rhetoric recently. Please do what you can as a whole group to model working together for the sake of this state and this country.
10/11/2021 - 09:31	Carol A Brown	Redistricting with balance	Districts should be as balanced in all ways possible to make things fair. Of course, there are some interests like Native People's that should not be diluted by division of their lands into separate districts. Our resulting districts should allow for the possibility of the greatest diversity in our government. Diversity of legislators leads to better decision-making for everyone.
10/11/2021 - 09:31	Virginia Kovatch	Redistricting	To the Redistricting Commission, I have issues with the Congressional and Legislative district grid map approved by the IRC on Oct.5. The Draft Maps Favor Republicans. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts. Please, let us be fair to everyone. Virginia Kovatch
10/11/2021 - 09:33	dianne post	Comments	The current draft is clearly gerrymandered to bias toward Republicans. This certainly is not the intent of an "independent" redistricting commission. Nor is the intent that Mehl should be given outsized influence with his outsized dollars. The rich suburbs should not be circling the poor city of Tucson as this is completely reminiscent of the circle segregation of the 1960s in white flight from the cities. Native Americans are called Native because they were here before we were and should be given an equal voice which you have not done.
10/11/2021 - 09:39	Virginia Kovatch	Redistricting Maps	To the Independent Redistricting Commission, We are fortunate in Arizona to have a nonpartisan Independent Redistricting Commission. But the Congressional and Legislative district grid map approved by the IRC on Oct. 5, is not nonpartisan. Affluent White Suburbs are being separated from urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets. Let's redraw the maps to be fair to everyone not just Republicans. Thank you, Virginia Kovatch

10/11/2021 - 09:50	Virginia Kovatch	Independent Redistricting Commission	<p>To the Independent Redistricting Commission,</p> <p>The IRC is supposed to be Independent, but the Congressional and Legislative district grid map approved by the IRC on Oct 5 is not fair. I feel a big reason for this is David Mehl's influence. David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias. David Mehl should not have undo influence on the committee. Please, let us be fair to everyone and be a truly independent committee.</p> <p>Virginia Kovatch</p>
10/11/2021 - 09:51	Diane Nevill	Don't segregate affluent white suburban areas from urban Tucson	<p>I attended three IRC meetings where the refrain I heard many times was to separate white affluent areas around Tucson into one district, leaving Tucson residents inside this "ring." Saying that they never come into Tucson is very hard to believe. Wanting a homogeneous white affluent district separate from Tucson's diverse economic and racially diverse population surely smacks of segregating themselves away from the the diversity that is becoming today's Arizona.</p>
10/11/2021 - 09:53	Liz Levine	Independent Redistricting Commission	<p>I am concerned that the draft maps favor Republicans. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p>
10/11/2021 - 09:54	Liz Levine	Independent Redistricting Commission	<p>We should not separate affluent white suburbs from urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.</p>
10/11/2021 - 09:54	Susan Silverman	Southern AZ Redistricting	<p>Dear Friends,</p> <p>I have serious concerns about your redistricting efforts for the area where I reside and I urge you to please take these points into consideration. Here are my concerns:</p> <p>Draft Maps Are Biased and Favor Republicans . According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Don't Favor the Wealthy and Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson . In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.</p> <p>A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p> <p>Clear Disrespect for Tohono O'Odham Residents . The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p> <p>Thank you for your kind consideration of these concerns. Sincerely, Susan Silverman, Tucson, AZ 85716</p>

10/11/2021 - 09:55	Diane Nevill	Perception of a new chair	The whole commission's deference to David Mehl's plan for redistricting lends itself to the perception of a new chair for the IRC. I thought that an independent chair was to lead the IRC. David Mehl seems to be taking over the commission, with little push back from the other commissioners.
10/11/2021 - 09:57	Diane Nevill	We need a better mapping tool	I thought that the public was supposed to give input, too. I don't think that input is wanted, given the mapping tool that citizens are supposed to use.
10/11/2021 - 10:02	Diane Nevill	The Tohono O'Odham Nation	I attended the satellite meeting held at TCC in Tucson. I heard several members of the Tohono O'Odham get up and speak about Tucson being their ancestral home lands and how important it was to be connected to Tucson. Didn't the commissioners hear them? The current draft map splits them in half! No, this is so wrong.
10/11/2021 - 10:09	Virginia Kovatch	Disagreement with the IRC	To the Redistricting Commission, We are fortunate in Arizona, to have an Independent Redistricting Commission, but the Commission, in my opinion, has not been fair or respectful of the Tohono O'Odham or the people of Avra Valley. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County. Also the Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates. What's going on? This doesn't seem equitable to me. Please, let's be fair to everyone. Virginia Kovatch
10/11/2021 - 10:19	Diane Nevill	Avra Valley	At the satellite meeting at the TCC, people from Avra Valley very clearly spoke about their desire to be left as is and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map clearly disregarded their request, dividing them in half just west of Tucson Estates. Please keep Avra Valley together
10/11/2021 - 10:24	Diane Nevill	Draft maps are not fair and competitive	All elections should be fair and competitive. That won't happen with the new versions of the CD and LD maps. They are strongly in favor of Republican candidates. Please toss these maps out and start fresh with competitive districts.
10/11/2021 - 10:30	Diane Nevill	Don't draw LDs according to race and economics	After attending three IRC meetings in Tucson, it was hard to ignore the Republican plea to separate their suburban enclaves from the economically and racially diverse metro Tucson area. The woman who said that she liked all of her marbles the same color could not have been more clear.
10/11/2021 - 10:37	Diane Nevill	David Mehl exerts too much influence	The Independent Chair lets David Mehl draw the maps according to his vision. That vision does not represent all of the residents of Pima County, only a segment. I want to see the Independent Chair lead as an independent. This redistricting process has the appearance of an already done deal, with the Republicans drawing maps to their advantage.
10/11/2021 - 10:42	Diane Nevill	The map is so hard to use	The majority of citizens in Arizona are not really equipped to work with the mapping tool. The training given is really inadequate for people not familiar with GIS. Isn't there something easier for the public? You want input, but ordinary citizens are really left out of the process.
10/11/2021 - 10:43	Patricia Dow	Redistricting Committee's Draft Maps	The draft maps made up by the Independent Redistricting Committee need to be redrawn to be more fair and balanced. As drawn, the draft maps favor Republicans.

10/11/2021 - 10:45	Deborah Howard	Racially polarized voting analysis	<p>During the September 28 business meeting, Dr. Lisa Handley presented data regarding racially polarized voting patterns in three counties - Apache, Navajo and Maricopa. To date her presentation, which appropriately was presented during open session, has not yet been posted to the website. Please post this presentation, and subsequent presentations by Dr. Handley, to the website as well as any reports that accompany these slides.</p> <p>AND it would be really helpful if the IRC could establish a "best practice" of posting presentations that will be presented during your meetings to the website prior to the beginning of that meeting. It is very challenging to follow these very dense discussions w/o the benefit of the underlying information. Screen share is a poor substitute.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
10/11/2021 - 10:46	Patricia Dow	Redistricting Committee's Draft Maps	As drawn, the Independent Redistricting Committee's maps segregate affluent white suburbs from urban Tucson. Tucson legislative districts should combine all income groups and not favor one over the other.
10/11/2021 - 10:49	Diane Nevill	Disrespect for the Tohono O'Odham	I am sending this message on Indigenous People's Day. Our Native American citizens have suffered for hundreds of years at the hands of white people. That seems to keep happening today with the IRC redistricting process. They have stated over and over about how their native lands were in Tucson. They want to be located in this district. Why in the world should they be located in a district that has so little of metro Pima County? Keep the Tohono O'Odham together with Tucson. Please do the right thing.
10/11/2021 - 10:52	Diane Nevill	Avra Valley	Please keep Avra Valley together with the Tohono O'Odham Nation and metro Tucson. Residents clearly stated their desire to be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. Please do not split Avra Valley.
10/11/2021 - 10:53	Patricia Dow	Redistricting Committee's Draft Maps	David Mehl has been given outsized influence in the Redistricting Committee. He represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him to him regarding Pima County, it gives the appearance of bias.
10/11/2021 - 10:56	Patricia Dow	Redistricting Committee's Draft Maps	The IRC's mapping tool confounds any but the most experienced user. It needs to be made user friendly for us ordinary mortals. Besides, there's no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.
10/11/2021 - 10:59	Patricia Dow	Redistricting Committee's Draft Maps	Representatives of Avra Valley stated very clearly that their community of interest needs to be left intact and associated with Metro Tucson. The draft map violates this request and splits Avra Valley in half just west of Tucson Estates
10/11/2021 - 11:10	Kay Schriener	Oro Valley/Mariana/Casas Adobes Cofl	<p>I live in Oro Valley. I believe that Oro Valley should be combined with Cases Adobes, Mariana, and northern Pima County as a community of interest.</p> <p>People here go to the south and west for their shopping and business. My dentist and optometrist are in Cases Adobes, my physician is in Tucson. We shop in Oro Valley and to the south. I travel to Tucson regularly, and refer to the area I live as northwest Tucson, as is common in Tucson. We live in Pima County and pay attention to Tucson elections and events.</p> <p>We have almost nothing to do with Pinal County.</p> <p>Mariana, Oro Valley, and Cases Adobes are similar in significant ways. The populations are similar in age and incomes. They are all dense, urban areas with mixed housing. They all have large malls, parks, and many businesses. Residents of these areas share common concerns about balancing development and protection of natural areas. Residents cross the boundaries of these areas routinely to shop, worship, and recreate.</p> <p>In summary, I would hope that the Commission would recognize the natural community of interest that exists between Oro Valley, Marana, and Casas Adobe, and understand that combining Oro Valley with Pinal County would be inconsistent with the goals of redistricting.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention.</p>

10/11/2021 - 11:13	Joseph D Silins	Current redistricting maps biased towards Republicans	<p>Greetings Redistricting Committee, Fair and free elections are a cornerstone of democracy and central to protecting our way of life in Arizona. The IRC was created to ensure the fairness of elections. Current IRC maps threaten all of these principles and will be an abdication of the IRC's responsibilities if the draft maps are enacted in their current form which favors Republicans.</p> <p>According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Please fulfill your duty as Commissioners and redraw the maps free from partisan bias. Sincerely, Joe Silins</p>
10/11/2021 - 11:21	Patricia Dow	Redistricting Committee's Draft Maps	<p>The Tohono O'Odham nation expressed clearly that they be primarily associated with Metro Pima County , where they have historic and economic roots. The new version of the map doesn't do this. Instead, you put it in a district with very little of Metro Pima county. That shows disrespect for the tribe.</p>
10/11/2021 - 11:29	Cindy Doklan	maps	<p>I have reviewed the maps. The new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p>
10/11/2021 - 11:48	Lynda Gordon	new IRC maps	<p>The new proposed maps are biased towards Republicans. This is not the way it's supposed to be.</p> <p>You shouldn't separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income levels.</p> <p>The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p> <p>The new version of the map shows disrespect for the Tohono O'odham by rejecting the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p>
10/11/2021 - 11:49	Brenda M Wexler	Redistricting	<p>To the Commission: Honor the request of the O'odham Nation to remain within the Metro Pima County district. You know the American government has an ugly history of not only dismissing native voices but also renegeing on promises made. I taught on the O'odham reservation and know them to be a quiet, gentle people. Please do not silence and shut them out of the democratic process simply because you the powerful, can. Respectfully, Brenda Wexler</p>

10/11/2021 - 11:56	Donald G. Jorgensen	Comments re: recent hearing statements	<p>Commission Members:</p> <p>I wish to communicate my comments regarding the decision process and recent statements made during Commission hearings.</p> <p>1.Non-representative Community of Interest and potential bias: This 'Communities of Interest' factor appears to be the most important one in the new map. Although Commissioner Mehl may live in my area, he does not accurately represent me or my fellow Pima County or Catalina foothills residents. (I also question the potential bias shown by use of his hotel for a hearing.) His comments clearly targeted a very specific racially and wealth-based sub-population. The Independent Chair needs to be a lot more independent and not just defer to him regarding Pima County to avoid even the appearance of bias.</p> <p>2.Consideration of equal factors: By making Communities of Interest the entire focus of the first set of hearings, the process has encouraged divisiveness and political division. I urge to focus more strongly on the relevant factors of potential competitiveness, geographic boundaries, and the Federal Voting Rights Act.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
10/11/2021 - 12:06	Brenda M Wexler	Redistricting	<p>Chair Neuberg, History will remember you as THE strong, Independent, objective leader, both as a woman, and an historic 2021 Arizona IRC Chair, ONLY if YOU take the reins of the process to ensure COMPETITIVE- NON-BIASED mapping as is your charge, your word and your moral obligation. Please do not defer to Mr. Mehl's, yes Mr's heavy biased hand dictating Southern Arizona maps as he favors rich, white constituents.. Respectfully, Brenda Wexler</p>
10/11/2021 - 12:10	Catharine	New LD10 redistricting maps	I am concerned that the Committee's draft maps showing new versions of CD and LD10 maps are significantly biased in favor of the Republican Party, according to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in your IRC documents. The Independent Redistricting Committee's purpose is to keep districts competitive. The proposed 2021 maps fail this purpose. I urge you to redraw these maps.
10/11/2021 - 12:26	Jessie Mance	We the people demand fair and unbiased district maps	The current IRC draft maps are clearly biased in favor of Republicans, and therefore a failure of the INDEPENDENT Redistricting Commission. This is a very REAL problem in American elections, and should be given the utmost attention, so that ALL voices are heard and all citizens are accurately represented by leadership. The current draft maps need to be amended to represent Arizona truthfully and equally.
10/11/2021 - 12:28	Linda Peet Dugan	Redistricting	New maps need to be drawn because current ones are biased towards Reporting. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts
10/11/2021 - 12:30	Linda Peet Dugan	Redistricting	Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.
10/11/2021 - 12:31	Linda Peet Dugan	Redistricting	Disrespect for Tohono O'Odham. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.

10/11/2021 - 12:32	Linda Peet Dugan	Redistricting	Avra Valley. Representatives of Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates.
10/11/2021 - 12:34	Margaret Vaughn	Proposed Redistricting Maps	I urge the Committee to draw a map that is more representative of our varied population. The maps as they stand now are more polarizing than ever. For the good of AZ, we need elected officials who can appeal most of us, not just one political party over another. This prevents unity and encourages division. For progress' sake, please redraw these GOP-leaning maps. Thank you.
10/11/2021 - 12:35	Margaret Vaughn	Proposed Redistricting Maps	I urge the Committee to draw a map that is more representative of our varied population. The maps as they stand now are more polarizing than ever. For the good of AZ, we need elected officials who can appeal most of us, not just one political party over another. This prevents unity and encourages division. For progress' sake, please redraw these GOP-leaning maps. Thank you.
10/11/2021 - 13:28	Liz Levine	Independent Redistricting Commission	I am concerned about David Mehl's influence. David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.
10/11/2021 - 13:29	Liz Levine	Independent Redistricting Commission	We need a better mapping tool for ordinary citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.
10/11/2021 - 13:30	Liz Levine	Disrespect for Tohono O'Odham	The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.
10/11/2021 - 13:40	Liz Levine	Avra Valley	Representatives of Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates.
10/11/2021 - 13:57	Joan Thomas	Comments to the IRC regarding redistricting	Hello, The draft maps favor Republicans. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts. Thank you.
10/11/2021 - 13:59	Margo Newhouse	Independent Redistricting Commission Maps	I'm disappointed in what I'm reading and hearing about the current proposed district maps. Planscore's analysis claims the maps are biased in favor of Republicans. It is also concerning that the needs and desires of the Tohono O'Odham nation have not been respected. They want to be associated with Pima County, but the current proposal splits this community of interest in half.
10/11/2021 - 14:08	Joan Thomas	Comments for IRC on redistricting	Don't separate affluent white suburbs from urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.
10/11/2021 - 14:12	Dee Maitland	Submitted Legislative Maps	I took the time to go through all 25 submitted legislative maps and was greatly concerned that only 5 (LD0003, 0009, 0011, 0016 and 0023) kept Marana and Oro Valley in Pima County and the orbit of Tucson. Many of the other maps broke up Marana which unfortunately is separated by Hwy10 but not in spirit. These towns share a county government, water, police and fire services, news outlets, a university and urban interests with Tucson not Pinal County or Maricopa County. Pima County combined with Santa Cruz and Cochise counties support 5 legislative districts. Going beyond these borders breaks up municipalities and communities of interest unnecessarily.

10/11/2021 - 14:12	Joan Thomas	Comments for the IRC re: redistricting maps	The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County, you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.
10/11/2021 - 14:13	Michael Weingarten	Redistricting Maps	I'm concerned about the focus on homogeneity in the proposed legislative districts. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.
10/11/2021 - 14:23	Michael Weingarten	Redistricting Maps - Mapping Tool	I am concerned that the inadequacy of the current mapping tool has limited the quality and thoroughness of the public input the Commission has received. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.
10/11/2021 - 14:34	Steve Robinson	Oro Valley	Commissioners, thank you for the difficult job you are doing. As a resident of Oro Valley I am deeply concerned that the commission will decide to put Oro Valley, which is in Pima County, in the same district as communities to the north in Pinal County. I believe I am speaking for most residents of Oro Valley when I assert that we live here precisely because we can enjoy the best of both worlds--the vibrancy, diversity and energy of Tucson with desert living in the shadow of the Catalinas. It distresses me to hear some of my neighbors decry the fact that they might find themselves in districts with people from different backgrounds and life experiences. That is not the America that I believe in. If we simply become a nation of warring tribes, our democracy will wither. Educating children, maintaining safe neighborhoods and a healthy environment are dreams we all share for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. It seems to me that a crucial component of your job is to ensure that we have districts whose populations represent what Arizona and America are today--a combination of races, religions, ethnicities and, yes, political parties. Different kinds of people with the same hopes and dreams. Thank you for considering my views.
10/11/2021 - 14:36	Michael Weingarten	Redistricting Map Bias	Draft maps favor Republicans. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.
10/11/2021 - 14:41	Valerie E. Green	Public Meetings by the Redistricting Commission	Hi, I'm Valerie Green and I have lived in Pima County for fourteen years. I am very active in volunteering with nonprofits in our community. I live and work with residents of various ethnicities, which is one of the important things that I love about Pima County. Legislation was designed to ensure that redistricting was impartial and fair. This COI appears to be the important one in the new map. This long horizontal district of rich, white people is a clear bias and not inclusive of people of color. This is not reflective of the Tucson that I know, and love, and it is not acceptable to me. I thank you for the work that you are undertaking to create redistricting maps for AZ. Your task must ensure opportunity to be represented by office holders who can appreciate the health, opportunity, and security desires of individuals unlike themselves. Thank you.

10/11/2021 - 14:46	Derris Duane Elger	Redistricting	<p>Gerrymandering is unAmerican. I do not understand how politicians who cheat the system to enable their party to win can think of themselves as good patriotic Americans. In that vein unless a river without many bridges cause jagged lines in districting, line should be straight with no fingers sticking out. No consideration should be made based on where the poor people live, where high income people tend to live, and the like. As a general rule, the area should be calculated for a proposed district shape, and the square root of that area should be calculated to give how long each side of a square shape would be. Then this should be multiplied by 4 to give the length of the periphery. Lastly the periphery should be multiplied by 1.4. Any proposed district should then not exceed the multiplied product. If the proposed periphery is longer than that, it should be considered to have been gerrymandered, and it should be cleaned up to bring the boundary length into compliance.</p> <p>Personally I believe that the Tohono population is so small that undue accommodation to make districting into their favor is not meritted.</p> <p>Someone should light a fire under the Chair so that all members wants and opinions are considered and acted on in appropriate extents.</p> <p>Thank you for reading this and for taking the redistricting fairly to be a patriotic duty.</p>
10/11/2021 - 14:55	Sally Ann Prentiss	NO Gerrymandering	<p>Enough with the gerrymandering!. You are suppose to be a fair and equitable redistricting committee representing all residents of Arizona. The draft maps I have seen favor Republicans. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website recommended in the IRC documents that these new versions are biased in favor of the Republican Party. They favor between 68 to 83% for Republicans in election outcomes. These maps should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts. You have the tools, so do it right with no favoritism for one political party. Enough is Enough!</p> <p>Sally Ann Prentiss, a voter in every election for 56 years</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:04	Judd Ruggill	Proposed Redistricting	<p>Thanks kindly for the opportunity to comment on the proposed redistricting. I'll keep my comments brief. Principally, the proposed maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party, which runs counter to the purpose of having an INDEPENDENT Redistricting Committee. The express goal of an independent committee is to create compact, competitive, and inclusive districts. Here in Arizona we value independence, which is why 1/3 of registered voters are registered as Independent. Please honor your obligation as an independent committee and produce maps that are truly independent of political bias.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:11	Sally Ann Prentiss	Independent Redistricting Commission	<p>Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs from Urban Tucson. In a recent Independent Redistricting Commission Meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Our Legislative Districts should not be segregated into high income and lower income districts but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets. You have your census information so now use it fairly so that our elections will be fair and unbiased. The State legislature is already trying to undermine free democratic elections with their new laws. Don't you exasperate fair elections with your redistricting maps that favor one political party!!!</p> <p>Sally Prentiss PCT 9; LD 10 SD 04 SD 01 City Tucson Ward 02</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:20	Ron Pullins	Redistricting Commission	<p>Please avoid using the recent CD and LD maps that are so biased towards Republicans. We live in a democracy and you are charged with supporting that democracy. Let's redraw these things so that the races are competitive, evenly distributed; so that urban citizens in urban districts work with the suburbs and rural districts to make Arizona stronger.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:23	Sally Ann Prentiss	all members of the council speak up	<p>It appears that David Mehls is running the Independent Redistricting Commission Meeting. Just because he likes to talk and is very opinionated in favor of Republicans doesn't mean that every member should succumb to his beliefs. As the chairperson, Mr. Neuberg it is your responsibility and obligation to not let one person dominate. As a retired Elementary School Principal I have been in many meetings where the chair let's this happen! It is not fair and not how meetings, especially government based meeting should operate. We live in a Democracy but sometimes I wonder if you all want to perpetuate our democratic form of government and prefer an Authoritarian form of government. It is easier to let one person run the show, that way you don't have to think.</p> <p>Please take this seriously and every one do their part. We have to live with your recommendations for 10 years.</p> <p>Sally Prentiss</p>

10/11/2021 - 15:26	Ron Kovatch	Regarding redistricting/gerrymandering...	<p>Talking points for October 12 Independent Redistricting Commission Meeting</p> <p>Draft Maps Favor Republicans. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.</p> <p>David Mehl's influence. David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.</p> <p>A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p> <p>Disrespect for Tohono O'Odham. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p> <p>Avra Valley. Representatives of Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:26	Nancy Wexler	Public participation in IRC meetings	<p>By moving from YouTube to WebEx, you have made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. Rather than finding methods of including more people, you restrict community involvement to those with time and resources to participate. You are clearly not hearing from wide swaths of Arizonans who would otherwise see and weigh in on your deliberations.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:29	Ron Kovatch	Redistricting/Gerrymandering	<p>Talking points for October 12 Independent Redistricting Commission Meeting</p> <p>Draft Maps Favor Republicans. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:31	Nancy Wexler	Do not create separatist communities of interest	<p>I am a Pima County Resident and voter. I am very concerned that your latest grid maps followed the rhetoric of the separatist that showed up in large and unified numbers at the first Pima hearing, requesting COI over competitiveness be emphasized. The request was to make sure they could be represented free from people of color diluting their influence. This is NOT what most residents of the area want. We are a connected greater Tucson community and all income levels are well served when representation has to consider the needs of all.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:34	Ron Kovatch	Redistricting/Gerrymandering	<p>David Mehl's influence. David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.</p>

10/11/2021 - 15:34	Suzanne Maisner	Don't Rig the Redistricting	<p>As a proud, and a very concerned Arizonan, I call on you to incorporate my thoughts and concerns on the redistricting taking place. One of the major concerns is political party bias built into the maps. The new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of one party: Republican. This needs to be remedied to reflect the spectrum of voters in Tucson. Scrap the old maps and draw fresh maps that reflect the voter demographics.</p> <p>I spent part of my childhood in Phoenix but have been living in Tucson for the past six years. One of the things that makes Tucson enjoyable is the mix between different income levels and cultures. As a result, we have unique events here reflecting that: Meet Yourself and the Day of the Dead. We are not white Tucsonians, or native Tucsonians, or rich Tucsonians,etc. We are Tucsonians living in the neighborhoods we do. Drawing maps according to anyone's political agenda is just plain wrong. I call on you to take the bias out of redistricting.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:36	Ron Kovatch	Redistricting/Gerrymandering	<p>A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:37	Ron Kovatch	Redistricting/Gerrymandering	<p>Disrespect for Tohono O'Odham. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:39	Ron Kovatch	Redistricting/Gerrymandering	<p>Avra Valley. Representatives of Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:43	Dr. Jane Levin	Oro Valley	<p>I have lived in Oro Valley for the past 12 years. Oro Valley does not resemble Pinal County in any way. We are located in Pima County, are urban and more like Marana and Casas Adobes in all ways than Pinal County.</p> <p>I urge you to keep Oro Valley in the district with Pima County.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:43	Nancy Wexler	On Indigenous People's Day-Respect the Tribal Communities (Pima)	<p>What we are seeing in the maps so far disrespects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with Metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots and contribute greatly to the richness and diversity of the greater metro area. Do not restrict these populations to the nation boundaries where they would have split representation between two counties rather than pulling these communities closer to Tucson and divorcing the major source of casino income from unified representation. This weakens tribal influence and is in direct contradiction to what matters most of the vast majority of people living in the area -inclusion and civic cooperation. Disenfranchising the nations is immoral and constitutionally corrupt.</p>
10/11/2021 - 15:55	Terry Frost	Independent Redistricting commission comments	<p>As a citizen and voting resident of Pima County, I continue to be dismayed by the lack of respect for our democracy and fair tactics in creating "independent" redistricting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The maps now absolutely favor Republicans. Seriously, you think this is fair? You have been tasked with creating a model that shows respect for our constitution, not 68-83 percent in favor of the Republican party. These should be scrapped and new versions created that have outcomes with more competitive districts. 2. Why are you separating white suburbs from urban Tucson? That's a ridiculous unnecessary attempt to create class conflict and unrest among people. You all are showing such fear of your citizens. Have faith that most people want decent outcomes for ALL people. 3. Why in the world was David Mehl appointed to this committee. What a slap in the face and clear cut disregard for the spirit and intent of this process! 4. Clearly, this mapping tool is not user friendly. Heaven forbid the people who are supposed to benefit from this system can actually access it with understanding. Nice way to avoid transparency. 5. You split up Avra Valley and then put the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County. Obviously, you all are just continuing the puppet show of showing up to only the Republican's bidding. All Republicans were wearing Red Shirts on the committee? Is this Middle School mentality where it is an Us against Them? Where is your Respect for Democracy, the constitution and the people of your state. We are already a laughing stock for the country for Arizona's blatant disregard for rule of law and what the citizens of this state deserve. You have been charged with a mission to make this process fair -not railroading and spitting on the intent of this exercise. Do your jobs with integrity. stop being so self serving. Redo this Now!

10/11/2021 - 16:19	Bonnie Heidler	David Mehl's Influence	<p>It appears the IRC is listening to one member of the Commission...David Mehl. And, this started from the very first hearings to be held in Pima County and where they were held...a hotel that David Mehl built. I live in Pima County and David Mehl does not represent me or Pima County. He is not directing how the map should be drawn for a fair and competitive map. In fact, the map that David Mehl has instructed be drawn fails the test. It appears he only listened to the Republicans who showed up at the hearing here in Pima County wearing their red shirts and hats and asking for a white, Christian district to be drawn. The IRC should have started with the current map because it is fair and competitive. I say that because over the past 10 years there has been a Democrat win CD2 and a Republican win CD2. That indicates to me that if you have a good candidate, either party can win. Same happened in LD10...a Democrat has won and a Republican has won. The map that Mehl wants does not provide competitiveness. What is worse is that the "independent" Chair allowed Mehl to lead the pack having the appearance of bias towards Republicans.</p>
10/11/2021 - 16:24	Barbara Tellman	Communities of Interest and Racism	<p>For weeks we have listened to hearings where people unabashedly showed themselves as racial bigots in the guise of declaring Communities of Interest. They openly talked about not wanting to be in districts with people with whom they have "nothing in common." They have called for "All White" districts and in some cases "All White Christian Districts" showing religious bigotry as well.</p> <p>This is to be expected, given that your sole topic for the first set of hearing was Communities of Interest, to the exclusion of the other criteria in the law.</p> <p>All this was reminiscent of the days when whole blacks and Jews were not allowed to move into certain neighborhoods. I thought that way of thinking was gone, but they are now back in the guise of Communities of Interest.</p> <p>Now your first test map shows that they are getting what they asked for. For example, quite a few bigots demanded a district without "those people," stretching from Sahuarita eastward and not including Hispanic neighborhoods to the north and south of Sahuarita, which they must endure under the 2011 map. Some of them even wanted a military white district stretching all the way to Ft. Huachuca. (The military was integrated long ago!). A rich white district looms in Mr. Mehl's neighborhood on the northeast, where you placed our first Tucson hearing (at a Mehl hotel). Mr. Mehl does not speak for me.</p> <p>Please do not let bigotry prevail. You are an official state commission tasked by the citizens to be fair and impartial. Since four of the commissioners are White, it would be easy for you to not see the implications of districting groups of people by race or religion.</p> <p>Federal law requires some Minority-Majority districts, which occur now, but include a range of diversity, which most residents including myself enjoy.</p> <p>Please act responsibly in the 21st century and reject race and religion as a basis for forming legislative districts. Mr. Watchman – please speak up on this.</p>
10/11/2021 - 16:25	Bonnie Heidler	Draft Map	<p>The draft map fails the criteria that is supposed to be used to create fair and competitive maps. It shows little knowledge of areas outside of Maricopa County and shows CLEAR party bias. And, would not pass the same population test that citizen mappers have to undergo. Mappers appear even to misunderstand Maricopa County's distinct areas, such as Anthem, which is split. Using the current map overlaid against the grid map, then tweaking for population, would help insure that the maps are fair and competitive because they are now. Creating districts that are free of people of color and/or the Nations is not creating a fair and competitive map.</p>
10/11/2021 - 16:49	David Williams	District competitiveness	<p>Dear IRC,</p> <p>If democracy is the highest end of the redistricting process, then all districts must be as closely competitive as possible. Anything less compromises democracy.</p> <p>Thank you, David Williams</p>

10/11/2021 - 16:52	Ed Fix	Maps	We need districts with multiple income levels and not just a unitary population.
10/11/2021 - 17:13	Betts putnam-Hidalgo	Transparency and fairness at irc meetings	As one of the people who got to the Tucson meeting early I waited for perhaps 5 hours to speak. That's absurd. I'd hazard a guess that there wasn't a single person with children there and not many working people either. Please open up your means of gathering input to people other than retirees. Having the first meeting at a resort in the foothills and the next one start before the end of a regular work day and then stretch on for hours is not at all respecting the spirit of an independent redistricting committee. Pima county deserves your attention— not just Maricopa.
10/11/2021 - 17:25	Philip M Torrance	Independent Redistricting Commission is too biased	How is this districting map being made? is it true that the Independent Redistricting Commission strongly recommended the districting analyzer PlanScore https://planscore.campaignlegal.org/#!2020-ushouse and yet that site shows the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party? shouldn't we make new maps with more competitive districts?
10/11/2021 - 17:37	Arthur Torrance	Fair district boundaries	Please stop the gerrymandering and bias in drawing districts. Our democracy is in enough trouble without the persistent efforts of some to blatantly skew election results. Play fair.
10/11/2021 - 17:39	Virginia West	Redistricting	Dear Committee, Here are some of my comments on the draft maps so far: * Per PlanScore, both the CD and LD maps are biased toward the Republican Party. The metrics show the maps favoring the Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. The current draft maps should be discarded and new maps drawn with more competitive districts. * Please do not segregate LDs into high income and low income districts. Instead, there should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets. There should definitely NOT be a wrap around the city district that only includes white, affluent suburbs. * David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County, it creates the appearance of bias. * Tohono O'odham tribal advocates clearly expressed that they be primarily be associated with metro Pima County where they have historic and economic roots. Please honor their wishes and allow them to have a representative from Pima County. * Please allow the Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson to be left as it currently stands. This is their community of interest and the draft map splits them in half. Thank you for your time and attention. I am grateful for the time and effort you are putting in on this very important issue. Please allow the maps to uphold all of the key principals. Virginia West
10/11/2021 - 17:59	Andrew Flach	Too many safe Republican LDs	Howie Fischer's article today about the new maps says that it gives the GOP 14 safe LDs while only giving Democrats 9 safe LDs plus 5 Democratic leaning districts. This arrangement gives the GOP an unfair edge in the state house. We should have more competitive districts so that there is true competition between the parties in the state legislature "Its researchers find that out of the 30 legislative districts, the lines give Republicans a sufficient edge in 14 to pretty much guarantee the GOP's nominee can win, with two others leaning that way. They also find that the map gives Democrats nine districts that should be safe for the party's nominee and five others with a Democratic leaning."
10/11/2021 - 18:27	Gail Kamaras	Maps	The recently released maps are unfairly biased in favor of Republicans. This does not reflect voter registration in Arizona. Republicans and Democrats are nearly equally divided in voters, while those with no party affiliation make up another third of voters. This requires far more competitive districts than those the Commission has drawn. The whiff of undue influence is becoming more noticeable. The unrepresentative sea of loud red shirts seems to be casting a spell over the Commission. Loud voices do not represent the electorate. Retired affluent people who can attend daytime meetings are not representative voters. You must do more to contact those under-represented communities to create fair and competitive maps.

10/11/2021 - 18:44	Kurt Cooper	Evenly competitive districts	Hi: Please make there be as many competitive districts as possible with no party having any more "safe seats" than the other. Competition breeds better policy. Thank you!
10/11/2021 - 19:00	Diane Nevill	Maps favor Republicans	While the Princeton Gerrymandering Project has good things to say about the maps in general, the maps clearly favor Republicans. The GOP has 14 safe LDs, while Democrats have nine safe LDs, plus five Democratic leaning LDs. Only three of the state's nine congressional districts were listed in the "competitive Zone."
10/11/2021 - 19:03	Diane Nevill	Too few competitive districts in the new maps	While the Princeton Gerrymandering Project has good things to say about the maps in general, the maps clearly favor Republicans. The GOP has 14 safe LDs while Democrats have 9 safe LDs plus 5 Democratic leaning LDs. Its researchers find that out of the 30 legislative districts, the lines give Republicans a sufficient edge in 14 to pretty much guarantee the GOP's nominee can win, with two others leaning that way. They also find that the map gives Democrats nine districts that should be safe for the party's nominee and five others with a Democratic leaning. ... But the Princeton project is less impressed with the number of competitive districts now being contemplated, where candidates from either party have a chance of winning. And that is far different than partisan split. Out of the 30 legislative districts, the project's analysts found just seven in the maps so far being considered where the margin of vote share between the parties is in a range where the vote could go either way. Only three of the state's nine congressional districts were listed in the "competitive zone."
10/11/2021 - 19:20	Robin Hiller	redistricting	Arizonans want competitive legislative districts. Some of the newly drawn districts have over 60% -80% of one party. That's not citizens want. Competitive districts allow for more moderates to win, more bipartisanship and a better future for Arizona.
10/11/2021 - 19:20	Eric Robbins	Redistricting - fatal flaw	The proposed redistricting is fatally flawed and must be redrawn. As drafted, districts intentionally wall off neighborhoods in ways the proponents hope will corral partisan voters; it further insults and isolates native populations from their greater communities of history. As a resident and voter in Pima County, I call out these continued absurd and shameful practices that at their root disenfranchise rather than empower voters. Arizona deserves better.
10/11/2021 - 19:21	Golda Velez	Please Draw Competitive Districts	The purpose of the independent redistricting commission is NOT to draw safe districts for one party. We do not need to segregate out white suburban voters. We do NOT need to favor Republicans! The districts you have proposed are blatantly partisan. Please make a fresh start.
10/11/2021 - 19:28	Alison Jones	Too many safe GOP districts,	the latest draft maps have too many safe GOP districts and not enough Dem or competitive districts. Arizona is almost evenly divided among independents, GOP, and Democrats. The districts should reflect this.
10/11/2021 - 19:30	Alison Jones	Dave Mehl	It is unwise to defer to David Mehl, who represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. Whether or not the chair realizes it, deferring to him creates bias.
10/11/2021 - 19:33	Alison Jones	NEED FRESH MAPS--new versions have strong GOP bias	The newest versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party, according to PlanScore, a districting analysis website recommended in the IRC documents. For the LD map, metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. The new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party. THEY SHOULD BE ABANDONED and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.
10/11/2021 - 19:35	Mark Albrecht	redistricting	Arizona has what used to be a fair system for drawing new district lines. Why are we allowing that history to be subverted this time around? If this state has a very balanced electorate between the two parties, then why are the proposed new districts being drawn to ensure that Republicans will have the majority in between 60 and 80% of the new districts? This is a blatantly illegal misuse of a system that is designed to eliminate gerrymandering in order to ensure that all Arizona voters are fairly represented. Our legislature is already a joke, with no bipartisanship at all, despite the Republicans insisting that it is so important on the national level. No Democratic bills are even given a hearing. This supposedly independent commission has a huge responsibility to do what it was created to do, and if it refuses, it should be disbanded and reconstituted.

10/11/2021 - 19:37	Mykel Reese	Redistr buting Maps	As a voting citizen of Arizona, I must insist on fair, non-partisan, legislative districts. It is the sworn duty of the Independent Redistricting Commission to insist, and demand proper districts that accurately represent all the citizens of this state. There is to be no favoritism towards any Party. Period!
10/11/2021 - 19:45	Nancy Ross	Redistricting	Start over & don't favor Republicans
10/11/2021 - 19:46	James Dugan	Redistricting Inequities	Gerrymandering of voting districts is rampant in many states across our nation. However, Arizona has attempted to do away with this inequity by forming a commission consisting of equal parts republicans and democrats. This is a unique and atypical approach to the gerrymandering problem. It appears this attempt is not working as it should. A number of problems have arisen that need to be addressed. Of those I am particularly concerned about: 1. The draft maps showing a definite bias toward Republicans, anywhere from 68 to 83%. These unfair maps must immediately be restructured to reflect competitive districts. 2. The new version of the map shows a distinct disrespect for the Tohono O'Odham nation. This version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. 3. Representatives of Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates. These inequities must immediately be dealt with and the fairness that is inherent in the structure of the commission must be restored.
10/11/2021 - 19:51	Elizabeth Packard	IRC	Thank you for reading and assimilating my concerns about the Redistricting in my area. I spoke at the satellite meeting in Tucson on these concerns and want to put in writing the same issues I addressed two weeks ago. It is imperative that the commission make a better mapping tool available as many of us who have tried to create maps but have not been successful. It is hypocritical of the commission to say we have the opportunity to clarify our interests with a map when the average citizen lacks the expertise and tools. It is apparent that David Mehl has the chair's attention and respect, but he doesn't represent ME or the people in my community of interest. Please stop, madame chairwoman, listening to Mehl for advice about Pima County. Listen to those of us citizens who want to see concern for competitiveness and compactness in the forming of our LDs. We want to have all income brackets and diverse populations included in our districts. Finally, fresh maps need to be created as districting analysis done by the recommended website for Redistricting has noted that the new versions of the LD maps show they are favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the election scenarios. That is not an honest or fair representation and must be redone and made available so this commission may have credibility.
10/11/2021 - 20:02	Catherine Ann Arnquist Burke	redistricting	Hello Redistricting commission! I hope you are all doing well. I am writing out of concern for the redistricting draft maps. It should be a priority to draw the maps so that each district reflects as much economic diversity as possible. As a Tucsonan, I value and appreciate the economic diversity that our area has. It is important that we continue to highlight this diversity and allow our representatives to hear from and represent different perspectives. Please make sure that new maps are drawn to include neighborhoods of all income brackets. Please take the time to support new maps that do not favor 1 party and instead support balanced representation on our area. The draft maps are biased, and our area deserves better! Thank you! Catherine Arnquist Burke Tucson Constituent
10/11/2021 - 20:04	Jeanette Arnquist	Redistricting	A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.
10/11/2021 - 20:07	Rosemary Bolza	Tucson area LDs need to be compact and competitive	Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.

10/11/2021 - 20:14	Clyde J Jones	Redistricting	The legislation was designed to ensure that redistricting was done in an impartial and fair way. This Commission is clearly showing Republican bias and in a way that narrows the participating audience. The recent Tucson hearing revealed that coordinated groups of people who arrived very early got the most attention. Most of them left after their contingent had spoken. People who had arrived only half an hour early were only allowed to speak much later in the afternoon or evening. Why was Tucson not considered important enough to have a separate hearing?
10/11/2021 - 20:18	Neil Norton	Redistricting	A redistricting analysis website suggest that the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican party. Since the main adjective as stated in the state mandate is to create balanced districts I urge the commission to pay close attention to that part of the redistricting. Everyone should feel their vote counts and by having balance within the districts the best people will run for office. If the redistricting isn't about fairness and balance what good is the commission. Thank you. Neil Norton
10/11/2021 - 20:19	Marlene verdery	Maps need to ensure competitive races	Draft Maps favor one party. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.
10/11/2021 - 20:20	Wesley	Redistricting	Hello, I am a voter and resident of Tucson, AZ. Thanks for all the work the committee is doing to redistrict AZ. However, there are some issues that need attention. -According to PlanScore, both the AZ Senate and AZ House skew Republican. In a state as competitive and nearly balanced (roughly 1/3 of voters are each: independent, Republican, or Democrat), our legislative districts should reflect this. -Wealthier suburbs of Tucson area re separated from more urban Tucson. Why is this? -The Torino O'Odham nation has expressed interest in being represented through a district in Tucson, as it's historic and cultural roots are there. Current map does not reflect this. Please redraw these maps so that they are representative, fair, and truly reflect the voters of our state. Thank you, Wes Oswald
10/11/2021 - 20:21	Cynthia P. Gardiner	Republican bias in the current maps	The currently proposed maps are unacceptable.. Statistical analysis using the widely acclaimed methods of PlanScore clearly show that these maps are strongly biased towards the Republican party--indeed, are in places blatantly gerrymandered. If this Commission truly intends to be independent, it must abandon these maps and replace them with replace them with honestly competitive Districts.

10/11/2021 - 20:24	joy Fischer williams	redistricting	<p>According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.</p> <p>David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.</p> <p>A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p> <p>The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p>
10/11/2021 - 20:26	Robert Williams	redistricting	<p>According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets</p> <p>David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.</p> <p>A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p> <p>The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p>
10/11/2021 - 20:28	Kathleen Dubbs	Biased districts	<p>I respectfully ask the commissioners to follow the spirit of the voters wishes when creating the Independent Redistricting Commission, and redraw the LD maps to create competitive districts. Arizona should be a model for fair districting. Please adhere to the promise you made when you agreed to serve, and draw the fairest districts possible. Competitive districts will increase voter participation by creating interest in legislative elections. This may be one of the most important things you do in your life, with repercussions that will last for at least ten years. The voters of Arizona are depending on you.</p>
10/11/2021 - 20:45	Eileen Hollowell	Proposed redistricting maps in Pima County area	<p>I oppose dividing the city of Tucson from adjoining suburbs. Doing that, creates a predominantly suburban wealthy district which will exacerbate divisions in Pima County and leave minorities underrepresented</p>

10/11/2021 - 20:51	Valerie Peterson	redistricting	From the research I have been able to undertake, it seems clear that the current plan favors single party and especially Republican outcomes and does so via biases (re Tohono O'Odham concerns, anticipated mappings, high 'vs' low income areas, problematic dependence on David Mehl's influence) -- all of which undermine citizen confidence in, and preferences for, unbiased redistricting. Now (arguably, more than ever) we need clear evidence of commitments to fair and unbiased practices in support of democratic processes.
10/11/2021 - 20:58	Roy Verdery	Support Indigenous Peoples' representation	The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of Tohono O'odham advocates that they be primarily associated with metropolitan Pima County where many tribal members traditionally reside. The Tohono O'odham nation, their O'odham relatives and the Pacua Yaqui should be respected with map boundaries which give them the possibility of responsive representation.
10/11/2021 - 21:19	Lynne Jaffe	Redistricting map for Arizona	It's a mistake to separate mainly white suburbs from the city of Tucson. This gives this group a powerful voting bloc when actually the Congressional and Legislative districts should be more balanced by income. This makes each district non-competitive. As well, Native American tribes should not be segregated but need to be included in metropolitan Pima County, according to their requests. More to the point, however, it appears that the redistricting analysis favors Republicans. Please go back to the drawing board and create more balanced and competitive districts. I want to be represented.
10/11/2021 - 21:20	Sally Connelly	Redistricting	Voters should not be subject to the whims of one political party or any party to reclaim votes for their preference. Leave the maps as they stand in Santa Cruz county; we have a community that serves the common good
10/11/2021 - 21:26	Margaret Chaney	Redistricting bias	Dear Committee members: I write to ask you to use caution regarding redistricting Pima County. I have lived here for over 20 years. I married and raised my son as a native Tucsonan. We shop at the stores, we drive our cars on the streets, we worry about taxes and crime and the effectiveness of our district schools. When there is a fire on the mountains I worry that the hotshots will get hurt or worse. When there is flooding in the streets, I fear that cars will float away. I complain when it's too hot even when it's dry heat, I know what swamp cooler is and have noticed tremendous changes in the types of monsoons we have had over the years. I sometimes think my city is growing too fast and yet other times it seems not to grow at all. I care about the delicate balance of our desert ecosystems & cheer for the Wildcats and I dedicated to investing in my community: Tucson. I fear that separating my urban neighborhood from the suburbs or from the Tohono Oodam reservation will ignore the fact that we all have far more in common than not. Please don't listen to those who say they feel disconnected or have little in common with me because all they would need to do is talk to me to see that this is not true. The only real difference we may have is something they won't say straight out loud because they may have an ulterior motive. They are not being honest with their true goal: segregation of income and ethnicity. Please don't fall for their charade. Keep our districts as they are because they tell the real story of Tucson: diverse, eclectic and real. Thank you.
10/11/2021 - 21:31	TAMAR RALA KREISWIRTH	Keeping the 'I' in the IRC - Independent Redistricting Commission	I moved to Tucson over 40 years ago for work & school and the reason I stayed is because of the community. We have the opportunity, if we so choose, to build relationships with people from all walks of life. We build connectivity and trust in our communities when we are not compartmentalized into silos. My children had a wonderful education at our local public schools. They played sports and learned about shared values and how to support others in a team environment. They also learned how to be sensitive to others and when offered, took the challenge to demonstrate leadership..with team support. This is just one basic example of a type of community but, it speaks to what can be accomplished when you create a community's boundaries. Are you allowing for competitiveness? Are you being unbiased? Are you being fair? Are you taking into consideration the ethos of a democratic republic? We get a once in a decade opportunity to demonstrate leadership with this process of creating 'political communities'. What that means is apparently different to different people pending their "interests". From what I have read, it appears that there is a serious concern that the changes suggested by some on the committee will create silos of like-kind-voters while at the same time not taking into consideration the request by the Tohono O'Odham to stay connected to Pima County. If the partisan members on this committee convince the Independent Chair to create maps that favor one side over the other, then the Independent Chair is not fulfilling her duties to a Fair process. Please do not segregate areas based on party bias. If the "independent" feature of the IRC is being questioned then we have lost before we have even started.

10/11/2021 - 21:34	FREDERIQUE P DELHAYE	redistricting	these maps are a form of gerrymandering, they favor Republicans, that's against the rules of making it competitive. We need to have a real representation of America in each precinct as much as possible and not creating a form of apartheid. These maps divide the Toho Othams, which is against their wishes. I also don't understand why one member of the comity seems to have more say than the others.... I can see that you are not following the rules that requires you to make these maps competitive and diverse.
10/11/2021 - 21:40	Janice welchert	Independent redistricting	It is important to me we retain independent competitive voting districts to foster dialogue and truly get good ideas from both sides of the aisle. Here are some of my concerns on your proposed changes. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets. No one person should have greater influence in this process than the other members. David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens and doesn't look like an octopus. The wishes of the Indigenous people should be given respect. They have made request to be associated with Pima County and new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. Thank you
10/11/2021 - 21:55	Mona L Ammon	Structure of meetings	Both the viewing format (WebEX) and the funneling of input only during the meeting times are restrictive. They favor individuals who do not work and have the ability to watch and comment in real time. You should be having a robust format that easily allows all of Arizonans to participate in the process. This will insure a thorough and fair process.
10/11/2021 - 21:56	Mona L Ammon	Misuse of Communities of Interest	You might want to read your instructions again to insure that you have a firm grasp of communities of interest. You seem to be cherry-picking and zeroing in on communities based largely on party and bigotry. The rich white people's community of interest appears to be the most important one in the new map with boundaries set to protect them from their lower income Tucson neighbors.
10/11/2021 - 21:58	Mona L Ammon	Disrespect for Tohono O' Odham	The first draft map goes directly in the face of clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with Metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By giving them as little as possible of Pima County outside nation boundaries you have shown that they should be satisfied with representation in the Legislature from some other county, most likely Santa Cruz. They will be represented by legislators in one district and another from an important source of income – a casino, by representatives from another district. This was done in an apparent effort to restrict their influence. I urge Mr. Watchman to actively speak up for all tribal interests.
10/11/2021 - 22:00	Mona L Ammon	Disrespect for Tohono O' Odham	Representatives of the Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with Metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates.
10/11/2021 - 22:01	Mona L Ammon	Apache interests	The draft map gerrymanders a piece of a heavily right wing Republican district between Whiteriver and its commercial hub of ShowLow-Pinetop. This is where many tribal members conduct their business, send their children to school, and even where their main source of income – the casino – is located. This assures that a district designed to include four tribes will be weakened in its legislative representation.
10/11/2021 - 22:02	Mona L Ammon	Objecdtivity	The legislation was designed to ensure that redistricting was done in an impartial and fair way. This Commission is clearly showing Republican bias and in a way that narrows the participating audience. The recent Tucson hearing revealed that coordinated groups of people who arrived very early got the most attention. Most of them left after their contingent had spoken. People who had arrived only half an hour early were only allowed to speak much later in the afternoon or evening. Why was Tucson not considered important enough to have a separate hearing?
10/11/2021 - 22:06	Mona L Ammon	David Mehl's Influence	David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.
10/11/2021 - 22:06	Thomas Ray Anderson	Draft redistricting maps	These maps as of 10-11-2021 do not represent AZ voters best interests. Tom
10/11/2021 - 22:07	Mona L Ammon	Better mapping tool for ordinary citizens	The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.

10/11/2021 - 22:09	Mona L Ammon	Separating suburban Tucson from Urban Areas	In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.
10/11/2021 - 22:57	Gage Stewart	Fair Redistricting	The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.
10/11/2021 - 23:24	Jane Helen Froemel	Redistricting Meetings	By moving from YouTube to WebEx, you have made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. You have limited your audience to retired people and others who don't have to work for a living.
10/11/2021 - 23:26	Jane Helen Froemel	Redistricting Process	By making Communities of Interest the entire focus of the first set of hearings, you have encouraged divisiveness and racial and political division. And in recognizing people's communities, you seem to be cherry-picking and zeroing in on communities based largely on party and bigotry.
10/11/2021 - 23:28	Jane Helen Froemel	Bias in COI	This COI appears to be the most important one in the new map. The white high income people in the Catalina Foothills are protected from the lower income people south of the Rillito River according to the draft map. This long horizontal district of rich white people is a clear bias.
10/11/2021 - 23:30	Jane Helen Froemel	David Mehl's Bias	David Mehl does not represent my part of Pima County. Holding the first Tucson hearing in Mehl's hotel, showed your bias early. Mehl does not represent me or my Pima County. He represents a very specific racially and wealth-based population of the county. The Independent Chair needs to be a lot more independent and not just defer to him regarding Pima County to avoid even the appearance of bias.
10/11/2021 - 23:32	Katherine D'Assis	Redistricting	Tohono Odam tribe should be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. It was very difficult for me to understand how to figure out the mapping and more difficult to get help. Seems to be aimed in support of Republicans and should take into consideration ethnic communities. It also seems unfair to put the richer suburbs together on the outskirts of Tucson separate from Tucson Metro.
10/11/2021 - 23:33	Jane Helen Froemel	Draft map	This draft map is totally defective and should be scrapped with the consultants instructed to start over. It shows little knowledge of areas outside Maricopa County and shows clear party bias. It also would not pass the same population test that citizen mappers have to undergo. Mappers appear even to misunderstand Maricopa County's distinct areas, such as Anthem, which is split.
10/11/2021 - 23:36	Jane Helen Froemel	Objectivity	The legislation was designed to ensure that redistricting was done in an impartial and fair way. This Commission is clearly showing Republican bias and in a way that narrows the participating audience. The recent Tucson hearing revealed that coordinated groups of people who arrived very early got the most attention. Most of them left after their contingent had spoken. People who had arrived only half an hour early were only allowed to speak much later in the afternoon or evening. Why was Tucson not considered important enough to have a separate hearing?

10/11/2021 - 23:42	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	The legislation was designed to ensure that redistricting was done in an impartial and fair way. This Commission is clearly showing Republican bias and in a way that narrows the participating audience. The recent Tucson hearing revealed that coordinated groups of people who arrived very early got the most attention. Most of them left after their contingent had spoken. People who had arrived only half an hour early were only allowed to speak much later in the afternoon or evening. Why was Tucson not considered important enough to have a separate hearing?
10/11/2021 - 23:47	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	By moving from YouTube to WebEx, you have made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. You have limited your audience to retired people and others who don't have to work for a living. As such, by limiting people's ability to submit opinions to live meeting times, you have again favored the retired and people who don't have to work for a living.
10/11/2021 - 23:50	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	By making Communities of Interest the entire focus of the first set of hearings, you have encouraged divisiveness and racial and political division. And in recognizing people's communities, you seem to be cherry-picking and zeroing in on communities based largely on party and bigotry. Rich White People's Community of Interest is what appears to be the most important one in the new map. The white high income people in the Catalina Foothills are protected from the lower income people south of the Rillito River according to the draft map. This long horizontal district of rich white people is a clear bias.
10/11/2021 - 23:52	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	David Mehl does not represent my part of Pima County. Holding the first Tucson hearing in Mehl's hotel, showed your bias early. Mehl does not represent me or my Pima County. He represents a very specific racially and wealth-based population of the county. The Independent Chair needs to be a lot more independent and not just defer to him regarding Pima County to avoid even the appearance of bias.
10/11/2021 - 23:54	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	This draft map is totally defective and should be scrapped with the consultants instructed to start over. It shows little knowledge of areas outside Maricopa County and shows clear party bias. It also would not pass the same population test that citizen mappers have to undergo. Mappers appear even to misunderstand Maricopa County's distinct areas, such as Anthem, which is split.
10/11/2021 - 23:58	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of different users. Most gave up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS, with lots of fast "click here" directions. There is no FAQ section and no way to communicate with those in charge of the system. Along with this, the pdf format of the draft map is totally impossible for people to decipher. Boundaries are unclear and there are few points of reference. The ESRI system is capable of making good maps for export and also allowing for closeup views with detail. They could have used the web-based system of showing their results clearly. This appears to be an effort to keep the public from seeing detail.
10/12/2021 - 00:00	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	The first draft map goes directly in the face of clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with Metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By giving them as little as possible of Pima County outside nation boundaries you have shown that they should be satisfied with representation in the Legislature from some other county, most likely Santa Cruz. They will be represented by legislators in one district and another from an important source of income – a casino, by representatives from another district. This was done in an apparent effort to restrict their influence. I urge Mr. Watchman to actively speak up for all tribal interests.
10/12/2021 - 00:02	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	Representatives of the Avra Valley, which is located between the TO Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of Interest should be left intact and associated with Metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates.
10/12/2021 - 00:04	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	The draft map gerrymanders a piece of a heavily right wing Republican district between Whiteriver and its commercial hub of ShowLow-Pinetop. This is where many tribal members conduct their business, send their children to school, and even where their main source of income – the casino – is located. This assures that a district designed to include four tribes will be weakened in its legislative representation.

10/12/2021 - 00:05	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	One of the two Minority Majority districts in Pima County depends heavily on Santa Cruz County's Hispanic population to meet the federal requirements. By removing this area, the minority-majority status is threatened. The reason for this appears not only to disrespect the TO, but also to protect Republican bigots in Green Valley/Sahuarita from having to associate with people different from them.
10/12/2021 - 00:08	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.
10/12/2021 - 00:09	Eva Carrillo Dong	Redistricting	Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.
10/12/2021 - 00:26	Cathy Della Penta	Current IRC maps	Tucson and surrounding areas represent a diverse population. Ignore the proposal to separate out the wealthier white suburbs that surround the city. Tucson's LD should reflect the diversity of neighborhoods and include all income brackets.
10/12/2021 - 00:31	Cathy Della Penta	Current IRC draft map-second point	Avra Valley representatives have made it clear that their community of interest should be left intact, and associated with metro Tucson. Your draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates. Tucson's water replenishment is in Avra Valley as well. These communities are tied together.
10/12/2021 - 00:32	Cathy Della Penta	Current IRC draft map-second point	Avra Valley representatives have made it clear that their community of interest should be left intact, and associated with metro Tucson. Your draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates. Tucson's water replenishment is in Avra Valley as well. These communities are tied together.
10/12/2021 - 00:38	Cathy Della Penta	Current IRC draft map-third point	The Tohono O'Odham tribe has expressed the desire to be associated with metro Pima County. They have economic and historic ties with Pima County. This shows disrespect for the Tohono O'Odham nation, and does not give them proper representation. Your map has the representative of the nation I rely to be from Santa Cruz County, which has nothing to do with the Tohono O'Odham nation.
10/12/2021 - 00:41	Cathy Della Penta	Current IRC draft map-fourth point	The mapping tool for ordinary citizens is nearly impossible to navigate. Training needs to be better; there is no FAQ section; and there is no one to contact, either by phone or by Chat.
10/12/2021 - 00:43	Cathy Della Penta	Current IRC draft map-fifth point	David Mehl only represents a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County, it creates the appearance of bias.
10/12/2021 - 00:48	c	Current IRC draft map-sixth point	According to PlanScore, which was an analysis website highly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the map are biased in favor of the Republican Party. The metrics show that for the LD map, Republicans are favored between 68 and 83% of the possible scenarios. This is unacceptable. The current version should be scrapped and new maps drawn with more competitive districts.
10/12/2021 - 01:10	Patricia Gordon	Draft of 10 voting districts5	These favor in 8 out of 10 cases one Party over another in their configuration do not certify
10/12/2021 - 01:11	Margie Leitch	Redistricting maps	The IRC is to create districts that are truly competitive. The draft maps as drawn appear not to create homogeneous groups of voters, but, instead favor one party over another. I strongly suggest the members return to the "drawing board" and create districts that the voters favored when creating the Independent Committee. Our State Legislature is already working to tilt the election in favor on one party. This committee needs to balance the playing field.
10/12/2021 - 01:58	Christopher Deyoung	IRC is making partisan decisions	You assigned David Mehl to create the district lines for Pima County. He has done so in a partisan fashion. I don't know why you asked the public for detailed recommendations if you were going to ignore them. The residents of Pima county are being shortchanged. How can the commission can be considered "independent" if a county of 1 million can be handed to a single commissioner who also may have a personal financial interest as a real estate developer in specific district lines. You are embarrassing yourself and the state of Arizona with this transparently biased move.

10/12/2021 - 04:13	Tina Whitley	Proposed Redistricting Maps	<p>Dear IRC Commissioners,</p> <p>In reviewing the proposed maps, I am struck by how little the Commission has respected its mandate. Arizona voters demanded that the redistricting process be truly independent, and result in competitive districts that represent communities of interest and genuinely reflect AZ's electorate. This is not reflected in the proposed maps.</p> <p>As a normal citizen who wants to participate in the process of making our election districts as fair and competitive as possible, I find the way the IRC is handling this process exasperatingly disappointing. It appears to me that a fair and competitive redistricting is not the true goal of this Commission.</p> <p>Here is why:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Much of the Commissions meeting time has been spent in Executive Sessions, and lacking transparency on decision making. -The GIS maps for public input are confusing to use, and there was little or no guidance from the Commission on how to use them. Therefore, the Commission has not had the benefit of learning about the needs of communities of interest. - Presently, the Plan Score for these maps places one party at a minimum of a 6% advantage over the other. That score in itself should be enough to tell you to go back to the drawing board. -It has been proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Again, this proposal blatantly ignores the mandate of creating fair, competitive districts, that represent multiple communities of interest. -The wishes of the Tohono O'odam Nation are rejected in these draft maps. The Tohono O'odam have historic and economic roots in metro Pima County, not Santa Cruz County. These roots must be respected. <p>I urge the IRC to stick with the mandate of ensuring the districts are not skewed toward one party. I urge the IRC to show Arizona voters it is listening to all of the communities of interest, and to make it easier for these communities to give their feedback. I urge the IRC to be more transparent in its communications with the public.</p> <p>Tina Whitley</p>
10/12/2021 - 04:41	Susan B Blaney	Redistricting	<p>The Commission has one job and one job only to independently and fairly redraw district boundaries. Please undertake this job seriously and committed to independence!</p>
10/12/2021 - 06:42	Riley Merline	Concern about Redistricting in Pima County	<p>Dear Erika Neuberg and other IRC Members,</p> <p>I am writing with concern about the fairness of proposed new districts in Pima County, which have been shown to heavily favor Republican voters and separate affluent white suburban voters from their lower income neighbors. I'm also concerned by what I've seen as undue and unfair influence by David Mehl, who is a wealthy suburbanite. All my family lives near the Tucson city center on the west side and we are all working class and surrounded by working class families. David Mehl does not represent us or the majority of Tucson residents and I fear he is using his influence to favor his own interests. Please do more to be inclusive and fair in this process.</p> <p>Thank you, Riley Merline</p>
10/12/2021 - 06:43	Steven Marks	better maps are fully competitive	<p>Please make the maps competitive and not favoring any one party. Please honor Avra Valley and Tohono O'odham voters with boundaries that reflect their wishes. Please please make the process more accessible to lay people as the current tools are too GIS intense and takes too much training. The overall effect of what you have done to date is disempower Native voters and give as gifts districts to Republicans... We need more meetings and at more times and places and with more access to working people.</p>
10/12/2021 - 06:45	Cheryl Purvis	Draft IRC maps aren't competitive, instead favor Republicans	<p>The current draft maps, according to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Due to the heavy bias toward the Republican party, the current maps need to be discarded, and new and competitive maps drawn.</p>

10/12/2021 - 06:47	Cheryl Purvis	Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson	In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets. They should NOT be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts.
10/12/2021 - 06:49	Cheryl Purvis	David Mehl CAN NOT speak for all of Pima County	David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. He can not speak for all of Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.
10/12/2021 - 06:50	Cheryl Purvis	The current mapping tool is inadequate for the task & poorly supported	The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.
10/12/2021 - 06:51	Cheryl Purvis	The new version of the map doesn't respect Tohono O'Odham	The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.
10/12/2021 - 06:52	Cheryl Purvis	Draft maps don't respect Avra Valley wishes	Representatives of Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. The draft map splits them in half just west of Tucson Estates.
10/12/2021 - 06:56	mark ehrlich	redistricting thoughts	<p>Er ka Neuberg</p> <p>I've decided to take you up on the offer you wrote in your AZ Republic editorial, and and give you my two cents worth on redistricting.</p> <p>Short history about myself. I've been a citizen of Arizona since 1964. I grew up in Tempe, when there were stretches of desert and farmland between the various suburbs. Immediately after graduating from high school, I served 20 years in the Army. Upon my retirement from the Army [in 1996], I made a conscious decision to live in Mesa and not Tempe. Mesa was politically and socially more to my way of thinking and lifestyle. The Tempe of 1996 was just too liberal and politically correct for me to replant my roots in. I would never even consider living in Today's Tempe. Enough about that. Let's get on to how I believe the Commission should go about redistricting.</p> <p>First. By and large, the citizens of Arizona live where they choose to [city and county]. Therefore, the incorporation of entire counties and cities within a Congressional district should be the primary goal.</p> <p>Second. If a county or city must be split apart, it should be done along boundaries that make sense. Easily identifiable landmarks such as rivers, mountains, canals, freeways, major streets, or even school districts.</p> <p>Third. The congressional districts DO NOT to have a precisely identical population. I think that was one of the contributing factors to our current crazy looking districts. As long as the populations of the districts were very similar [say no more than 0.5% different] I think the citizenry would be much happier with boundaries that fit the above two paragraphs.</p> <p>I currently live in the sliver of Mesa that is forced to be represented by the very liberal Tempe and ASU centric 9th district. I would love to be returned to a Mesa district.</p> <p>No one will ever convince me that the 9th district wasn't gerrymandered to ensure that Kyrsten Sinema had a place to be elected from. Her entire political career was further north, in a more conservative congressional district, WHERE SHE LIVED. Within seconds of the 9th district's boundary being announced, she carpetbagged herself there.</p>

10/12/2021 - 06:56	Sharon OBrien	IRC Maps	<p>We need maps that are organic and do not favor either party. Upon reading the analysis of the website, I noticed that the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned, and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Keep LD diverse! Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets. Respect for indigenous people. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p>
10/12/2021 - 07:04	Wendy Gough	Voting access	We need to give MORE people not less access to voting!!!!
10/12/2021 - 07:12	Marc Cahill Frost	Independent Redistricting commission comments	After looking over the proposal, I have a few comments: 1. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. 2. Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. 3. Disrespect for Tohono O'Odham. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. 4. Representatives of Avra Valley, which is located between the Tohono O'Odham Nation boundary and metro Tucson, very clearly stated that their community of interest should be left intact and associated with metro Tucson. Thank you
10/12/2021 - 07:16	Keith Constable	Election map	Districts drawn as close to 50/50 Republican and Democrat. Let the person who can convince voters of the other party and independents that they are the best person to represent them.
10/12/2021 - 07:27	Paula Schlusberg	Need to rework the politically tilted draft maps	The currently proposed maps will disproportionately favor a single party. This outcome would clearly be inconsistent with the intent of Arizona voters, who so far have been proud that our redistricting process has been truly independent. We again want competitive districts that represent communities of interest and genuinely reflect AZ's electorate. To do so, please do NOT isolate predominantly white suburbs of Tucson from the urban areas. You need to create districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets and racial groups. Also, respect the clearly expressed desire of Tohono O'odham advocates to be in a district that keeps them primarily associated with Pima County. And do not keep the draft map's split of Avra Valley but rather respect their desire to keep their community of interest intact and associated with metro Tucson.
10/12/2021 - 07:31	Cynthia Bistrain	Redistrictng	Draft Maps favor one party. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.

10/12/2021 - 07:37	joy Fischer williams	IRC....	<p>I moved to Tucson in 1987 for work and school and the reason I stayed is because of the community. We have the opportunity, if we so choose, to build relationships with people from all walks of life. We build connectivity and trust in our communities when we are not compartmentalized into silos. My children had a wonderful education at our local public schools. They played sports and learned about shared values and how to support others in a team environment. They also learned how to be sensitive to others and when offered, took the challenge to demonstrate leadership..with team support. This is just one basic example of a type of community but, it speaks to what can be accomplished when you create a community's boundaries. Are you allowing for competitiveness? Are you being unbiased? Are you being fair? Are you taking into consideration the ethos of a democratic republic?</p> <p>We get a once in a decade opportunity to demonstrate leadership with this process of creating 'political communities'. What that means is apparently different to different people pending their "interests". From what I have read, it appears that there is a serious concern that the changes suggested by some on the committee will create silos of I ke-kind-voters while at the same time not taking into consideration the request by the Tohono O'Odham to stay connected to Pima County. If the partisan members on this committee convince the Independent Chair to create maps that favor one side over the other, then the Independent Chair is not fulfilling her duties to a Fair process.</p> <p>Please do not segregate areas based on party bias. If the "independent" feature of the IRC is being questioned then we have lost before we have even started.</p>
10/12/2021 - 07:47	Marcia Mack	Political maps	<p>Thank you for giving the public a chance to comment. It is time to stop gerrymandering the district lines favoring the political parties. Just divide them in a truly transparent manner with ethical and logical lines that reflect the citizen's right to representation.</p>
10/12/2021 - 07:47	Pat Hammes	Communities of Interest	<p>The high income white people in the Catalina Foothills are protected from lower income people south of the Rillito River according to the draft map. This is a bias in favor of rich white people and not representative of the interests of both.</p>
10/12/2021 - 07:52	Leslie Hunten	Avoid gerrymandered districts!	<p>DEAR IRC members, i`m deeply concerned about the direction of the mapping process. The currently proposed maps heavily favor the Republican party, yet they`re only 34% of the Arizona population. The redistricting process is supposed to be fair, but I see it heading into gerrymandering. The new districts are designed to break up communities of affiliation, such as the Tohono Oodham nation, and draw boundaries between contiguous areas such as Tucson and Avra Valley. This is against your own stated policies. David Mehl, who does not represent the majority of Southern Arizona, is being given too much power.</p> <p>The entire point of redistricting is to draw fair, competitive districts so that the true will of the citizens is represented. Currently we have a heavily gerrymandered legislature, which is why our laws and our state budget are skewed . Do you think the majority of Arizonans want to be at the bottom of the nation. In education? Do we want our cities to be underfunded? Of course not, but this is where we are when a minority takes over.</p> <p>Every Arizonan deserves a fair and equal vote, not overridden by political games. I ask the Commission to stand by its principles, not partisan politics. Do what you were hired to do. Draw districts that are fairly divided by population, and competitive by party, NOT gerrymandered! I call on the chairwoman to be the independent head that she was appointed as. The whole nation is watching this process, so be aware of your responsibility.</p> <p>Sincerely, Leslie Hunten Tucson, arizona</p>
10/12/2021 - 07:57	Gina Santos	Redistricting maps	<p>The purpose of this message encourage this commission to create maps in fairness & with the goal of maintaining a society that is representative of our communities. Please.</p>
10/12/2021 - 08:01	Nancy Wexler	Mapping Tools and PDF Draft Maps	<p>The pdf format of the grid map is imposs ble for the average person to read. Boundaries are unclear and there is no way to export to see more detail. Since ESRI has a web-based system is capable of making exportable close-up and detailed maps this current PDF version seems to have been chosen to provide less insight to the public which means, fewer specific public comments and critiques are received. Is that the commission's intent? Also, the mapping system itself is way too cumbersome and confusing to the general public. Again, inhibiting community participation in the once a decade mapping process. Please address these issues immediately.</p>

10/12/2021 - 08:02	Marcy Albert	Redistricting	Redistricting is critically important to all citizens of the state. I implore you to consider ALL citizens when drawing your lines. Drawing a district that carves out most of metropolitan Tucson is one that seeks to favorite one group over another. We are a heterogeneous community and our districts should reflect that.
10/12/2021 - 08:06	Dorothy Marie Barth	Redistricting	The current plan does not reflect the voters of Arizona. This state has become increasingly Democratic, yet the maps as drawn project overwhelming wins by Republicans.
10/12/2021 - 08:09	Rebecca Hoy	Redistricting	These maps do NOT represent the voters of Arizona. Any party or person who the voters truly chose and who deserves to win should be able to do so without gerrymandering! Voting maps should make sense and should not be divided by affluence.
10/12/2021 - 08:16	John Wrenn	Redistricting	Respect for Tohono O'Odham. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.
10/12/2021 - 08:17	Judith Reisman	redistricting- keep OV in Pima!	"I have lived and owned property in Oro Valley for 13 years and am registered to vote here. I object to the proposed redistricting that would put us with Pinal Country. We are part of Pima County, we are urban not rural, and have nothing in common with Pinal Country. Our connection is with areas south and slightly west. We also have a sizeable minority population whose vote you will dilute if we are placed with Pinal Country. There is no legitimate reason to put us with Pinal Country or any other area north of us. If you need more voters in the Pinal Country legislative district, why not expand it north, not south?"
10/12/2021 - 08:25	Nancy Wexler	Pima County Minority-Majority Districts	One of the two Minority Majority districts in Pima County depends heavily on Santa Cruz County's Hispanic population to meet the federal requirements. By removing this area, the minority-majority status is threatened.
10/12/2021 - 08:27	Molly McKasson	The proposed redistricting maps	Thank you for your work. In looking at the draft maps it appears that they significantly favor one party over the other--the Republican Party. This is not good for Democracy and it is not fair. Please continue to work for a parity between the parties and between the "haves" and the "have nots", and between urban populations and rural populations. Districts are most fair when they represent our diversity. This fair assessment is more critical now than ever. Thank in advance for creating more equitable and realistic maps.

10/12/2021 - 08:31	Lisa E Wolfe	Redistricting vs. gerrymandering	<p>The IRC had meetings throughout the State, which centered largely on artificial communities of interest. The COI speakers from some areas were as gerrymandered as the maps you have created.</p> <p>One contingent of wealthy white voters attended meetings as a specific and selective contingent, displaying disdain for Tucson, political divisiveness, and bigotry. This group wants to be cocooned outside of Tucson, which is actually its primary community of interest - this contingent, despite its disdain, uses City services, infrastructure, medical services, and amenities. Members of this contingent were permitted to speak at length, while the many Democrats in the same geographic community of interest were given little time or attention.</p> <p>Another contingent wants to put Oro Valley into Pinal County even though it is clearly in Pima county and grew up as part of Tucson.</p> <p>Tucson and the unincorporated parts of Pima County surrounding the City are a diverse mix of urban and foothills residents; Black, White, Native, and Hispanic ethnicities; wealthy, middle class, and poverty-stricken.</p> <p>I have lived in Tucson for 67 years and have watched the development of the Foothills, Casas Adobes, Oro Valley, and the Tanque Verde area. I have lived in some of those areas, while in high school and then later as an adult. These areas have always been part of and integrally connected to Tucson. I have friends and colleagues in all those areas, and they do not want to be in a cocoon removed from Tucson, City residents, Tucson history, or city amenities. Nor do they connect to Pinal County.</p> <p>It has become apparent that you are drawing maps to favor Republicans, instead of drawing maps representing contiguous areas comprising the diverse population of Tucson and its environs. You have disregarded the wishes of Arizona's tribal entities, as well as the wishes of a majority of Tucson and Pima County residents.</p> <p>The supposedly independent chair is not particularly independent if she allows herself to be disproportionately influenced by the Republican members of the IRC, particularly Mehl, who is a part of the cocoon contingent and depends on that contingent for his own livelihood and best interests.</p> <p>Most voters in Pima County, and many that you heard from, want you to follow the rules and criteria for redistricting — contiguous and competitive communities of interest. There are many Democrats in Pima County. Redistricting to dilute Democratic voters, indigenous people, people of color, and those of us south of River Rd. is blatant gerrymandering. The Independent Commission was created specifically to do away with partisan gerrymandering. Your maps display a lack of respect for the goals of the Commission and for Arizona voters.</p> <p>Please start over and redraw the maps with integrity.</p>
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10/12/2021 - 08:32	Maria Guadalupe Hidalgo	Public Comment on Draft Maps for Oct 12 2021 IRC Meeting	<p>In the last couple of meetings, it appears the IRC commissioners are overwhelmed. Additionally, it is disconcerting to observe what seems as inadequate strength in the leadership. Overwhelmed commissioners appear to have opened the door for dominance by Republicans, to a process which must be NON-PARISION, EQUITABLE and FAIR. The following issues are of profound concern to me, which the IRC must correct to meet its sworn duty to ALL the citizens of Arizona:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.DRAFT MAPS FAVOR ONE PARTY. The new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. In particular the LD map metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68% and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they MUST be abandoned, and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts. 2.SEGREGATING AFFLUENT WHITE SUBURBS FROM URBAN TUCSON IS WRONG. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LDs should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets. 3.COMMISSIONER MEHL'S INFLUENCE. David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair Neuberg defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias. 4.ORDINARY CITIZENS MUST HAVE A BETTER MAPPING TOOL. The IRC has heard countless public comments about the extreme difficulty of the mapping tool. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is difficult to use for inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many have given up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and still no one to contact for help. 5.TOHONO O'ODHAM'S VOICE MUST BE RESPECTED. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County, which is not part of tribe's community of interest. 6.ABILITY TO EXPRESS OPINIONS. By limiting people's ability to submit opinions to live meeting times, you have again favored the retired and people who don't have to work for a living.
10/12/2021 - 08:33	Lucia	Potential New Electoral Maps of Arizona	<p>I have found that the currently proposed maps will disproportionately favor a single party in as many as 8 out of 10 elections. This outcome would clearly be inconsistent with the intent of Arizona voters, who demanded that the redistricting process be truly independent, and result in competitive districts that represent communities of interest and genuinely reflect AZ's electorate. I am also disappointed that the commission is ignoring and disrespecting the Tohono O'Odham nation's to continue their political association with Tucson and Pima County. I hope that the final map proposed will rectify these current mistakes being made.</p>
10/12/2021 - 08:33	Sharon Otstot	Design of 10 year redistricting for Arizona	<p>Arizona is becoming more and more like Ohio whose most famous district extends across its northern border like a snake. Now we are embracing Trumpyandering or Duceymandering to obliterate the blue in our state. C'mon, guys. Do the redistricting in a way that shows you are listening to the will of the people, not special interest groups. This will be our map for the next decade. Don't make Tucson a donut. And I wish that you had included some "common folks" with common sense on your panel. Thank you.</p>
10/12/2021 - 08:40	Nancy Wexler	Communities of Interest Bias	<p>Making Communities of Interest the entire focus of the first set of hearings amplified racial, partisan, and economic divisiveness. Given where the hearings were held and and the narrow focus of these hearings, the loudest voices (though not representative or supported by most people) made separatist arguments -not what Arizonans want or need to thrive. Further, the Commission's preference of COI over competitiveness is elevating this division and crippling the objectivity in this process and the promotion of a unified Arizona</p>

10/12/2021 - 08:42	Rose Verbout	Redistricting	<p data-bbox="842 144 1171 168">Public participation in IRC meetings</p> <p data-bbox="842 191 1927 313">By moving from YouTube to WebEx, you have made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. Rather than finding methods of including more people, you restrict community involvement to those with time and resources to participate. You are clearly not hearing from wide swaths of Arizonans who would otherwise see and weigh in on your deliberations.</p> <p data-bbox="842 362 1285 386">Do not create separatist communities of interest</p> <p data-bbox="842 410 1963 532">I am a Pima County Resident and voter. I am very concerned that your latest grid maps followed the rhetoric of the separatist that showed up in large and unified numbers at the first Pima hearing, requesting COI over competitiveness be emphasized. The request was to make sure they could be represented free from people of color diluting their influence. This is NOT what most residents of the area want. We are a connected greater Tucson community and all income levels are well served when representation has to consider the needs of all.</p> <p data-bbox="842 605 1478 630">On Indigenous People's Day-Respect the Tribal Communities (Pima)</p> <p data-bbox="842 654 1955 865">What we are seeing in the maps so far disrespects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with Metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots and contribute greatly to the richness and diversity of the greater metro area. Do not restrict these populations to the nation boundaries where they would have split representation between two counties rather than pulling these communities closer to Tucson and divorcing the major source of casino income from unified representation. This weakens tribal influence and is in direct contradiction to what matters most to the vast majority of people living in the area -inclusion and civic cooperation. Disenfranchising the nations is immoral and constitutionally prohibited. Thank you for your consideration Rose Verbout</p>
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10/12/2021 - 08:47	Rose Verbout	Redistricting	<p>Public participation in IRC meetings</p> <p>By moving from YouTube to WebEx, you have made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. Rather than finding methods of including more people, you restrict community involvement to those with time and resources to participate. You are clearly not hearing from wide swaths of Arizonans who would otherwise see and weigh in on your deliberations.</p> <p>Do not create separatist communities of interest</p> <p>I am a Pima County Resident and voter. I am very concerned that your latest grid maps followed the rhetoric of the separatist that showed up in large and unified numbers at the first Pima hearing, requesting COI over competitiveness be emphasized. The request was to make sure they could be represented free from people of color diluting their influence. This is NOT what most residents of the area want. We are a connected greater Tucson community and all income levels are well served when representation has to consider the needs of all.</p> <p>On Indigenous People's Day-Respect the Tribal Communities (Pima)</p> <p>What we are seeing in the maps so far disrespects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with Metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots and contribute greatly to the richness and diversity of the greater metro area. Do not restrict these populations to the nation boundaries where they would have split representation between two counties rather than pulling these communities closer to Tucson and divorcing the major source of casino income from unified representation. This weakens tribal influence and is in direct contradiction to what matters most to the vast majority of people living in the area -inclusion and civic cooperation. Disenfranchising the nations is immoral and constitutionally corrupt. Thank you for your service Rose Verbout</p>
10/12/2021 - 08:49	Nancy Norton	The Drawing of Voter Maps	<p>You have been given the charge of creating fair and competitive voter districts. PLAN SCORE has analyzed your maps and notes that the new versions are biased to favor the Republican Party. They may wear the red shirts and yell the loudest but clearly do not understand the voting rights we have been granted in our CONSTITUTION. Competitive districts encourage voter turnout. These maps need to be discarded and redone in a fair way that encourages the vote. White suburbs and urban areas need to be mixed. This is wealth segregation plain and simple and I am leaving out the suggested religious segregation that popped up at one meeting. We live in communities and share services. In a recent article that I read, the white population in AZ is now at 60%. By not drawing fair, diverse, inclusive maps, we are looking at a power grab for white control. I live in one of those suburbs and relate to Tucson for entertainment, festivals, restaurants, etc. and it is not, as some would want you to believe, a crime ridden city but one of charity, diversity and a wonderful heritage.</p> <p>David Mehl's influence is colored by his background representation of a segment of voters who happen to be suburban. The Independent Chair would do well to consult with others not so suburban. Tucson is urban so how would he know. Again this appears as bias.</p> <p>We need a better mapping tool that ordinary citizens can navigate. This is a simple request and one that needs to be addressed in an urgent manner.</p> <p>The Tohono O'Odham were here before white suburbia. Their history, and economic roots rest with metro Pima County. Their voting district should reflect that. Their representative is their voice and by not being tied to Santa Cruz County you have silenced them. They have requested this for a reason, they want to be heard and deserve to be heard.</p> <p>The goal of good map drawing is to encourage the voter turnout, find good candidates that support our state and national CONSTITUTION and honor our democratic way of governing. Biased maps are irresponsible and do not follow the charge given by the voters.</p>

10/12/2021 - 08:51	Kenneth Taylor	Redistricting	<p>Dear Commissioners,</p> <p>Currently proposed districts in Southern Arizona are not sufficiently competitive or compact.</p> <p>I am particularly concerned that suburban and urban Pima County are divided in a way that exacerbates economic class divisions. A circular suburban district should not surround the urban area. A more "pie" like arrangements should create electoral competition.</p> <p>One suburban commissioner does not represent the thinking of Pima County residents. Look to broader input for PC views.</p> <p>I have found the mapping tool difficult to use. Please make it more user friendly.</p> <p>Political partisanship will always make redistricting contentious but the commission was created to represent the interests of voters, not political partisans. Please rise to the occasion.</p> <p>Regards, Ken Taylor</p>
10/12/2021 - 08:53	Deborah Howard	Transparency	<p>https://aztransportationboard.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2021/10/2021-101521-Agenda.pdf</p> <p>I share with you an agenda for a meeting this Friday that includes a transcript of the previous meeting, documents related to discussion on the agenda and a conceit agenda.</p> <p>The IRC (i.e., Arizonans) are paying for transcription services at every meeting and hearing. Your refusal to share these documents with the public is inexplicable. Additionally it is easy to request presenters provide the IRC with a copy of their presentation 12 - 24 hours before the meeting - that would allow that presentation to be made available to the public during the discussion. Screen share is not an equivalent level of access.</p> <p>I appreciate your consideration of these suggestions.</p>

10/12/2021 - 08:54	Esteban Hidalgo	Public Comment on Draft Maps for Oct 12 2021 IRC Meeting	<p>The following issues are of profound concern to me, which the IRC must correct to meet its sworn duty to the citizens of Arizona:</p> <p>1. FORMAT FOR MEETINGS: Moving from YouTube to WebEx, has made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. You have limited your audience to retired people and others who don't have to work for a living.</p> <p>2. ABILITY TO EXPRESS COMMENTS. Limiting people's ability to submit opinions to live meeting times, the IRC has again favored the retired and people who don't have to work for a living.</p> <p>3. RICH WHITE PEOPLE'S COI. This COI appears to be the most important one in the new map. The white high-income people in the Catalina Foothills are segregated from the lower income people south of the Rillito River according to the draft map. This long horizontal district of rich white people is a clear bias and has an adverse impact. For the record I live in Catalina Foothills (zip code 85750) and this draft map is completely unacceptable.</p> <p>4. DRAFT MAP. The draft map is completely defective and must be scrapped with the consultants instructed to start over. The map demonstrated little knowledge of areas outside Maricopa County and demonstrates clear Republican party bias. It also would not pass the same population test that citizen mappers must undergo. Mappers appear to misunderstand Maricopa County's distinct areas, such as Anthem, which is split.</p> <p>5. DISRESPECT FOR TOHONO O'ODHAM. The first draft map goes directly in the face of clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with Metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By giving the native community as little as possible of Pima County outside nation boundaries the IRC has shown that they should be satisfied with representation in the Legislature from some other county, most likely Santa Cruz. I urge Mr. Watchman to actively speak up for all tribal interests.</p> <p>6. MINORITY-MAJORITY DISTRICTS. One of the two Minority Majority districts in Pima County depends heavily on Santa Cruz County's Hispanic population to meet the federal requirements. By removing this area, the minority-majority status is threatened. The reason for this appears not only to disrespect the Tohono O'odham, but also to protect Republican bigots in Green Valley/Sahuarita from having to associate with people different from them.</p> <p>7. OBJECTIVITY. The IRC was designed to ensure that redistricting was done in an impartial and fair way. It is evident to the average observer the IRC is demonstrating Republican bias and this has a chilling impact to participating audience. The recent Tucson on Sept 29 hearing revealed that coordinated groups of people who arrived very early, all dress in red to get the first and most attention. Most of them left after their contingent had spoken. People who had arrived only half an hour early were only allowed to speak much later in the evening. Why was Tucson not considered important enough to have a separate hearing?</p>
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10/12/2021 - 08:56	Joseph Watkins	redistricting	<p>When it comes to democratic principles, Arizona has taken groundbreaking actions in both the carrying out of elections, in performing audits, and in constructing legislative districts. Sadly, all three of these distinguished examples are under attack.</p> <p>Vigorous approaches to both early voting and same day voting have led to freer and fairer elections. I was invited to witness the audit of the 2018 elections in Pima County and saw first-hand how the reliability of the counting of votes was guaranteed by a rigorous and transparent auditing process. Arizona's Independent Redistricting Commission was a model for the country. Indeed, the University of Arizona Mathematics Department co-hosted a conference on gerrymandering. The 2010 Commission Chair, Colleen Mathis, was a prominent participant. Also in attendance were the leaders in initiative in four states who now, due to their efforts and the inspiration they received from Arizona's example, have their own Redistricting Commissions.</p> <p>The rules of the Commission are clear</p> <p>In addition to the federal requirements of one person, one vote and the Voting Rights Act, Arizona's state constitution (Art. IV Pt. 2 § 1.14-15) requires that districts be compact, contiguous, preserve communities of interest, respect geographic features and pre-existing political boundaries, and favor competitive districts. There is no protection for incumbent candidates. Party affiliation and voting history cannot be considered in creating maps, but may be used to test them.</p> <p>I could see from Ms Mathis's experience how pulls by the partisan members of the Commission could, on their own, lead to the drawing of district lines that compromised the integrity of the ballot. So, I call on the current Chair to channel Ms Mathis and show resolve against any partisan pull and to reject any feedback to the Commission that suggests anything that strays from the clear directive of the Commission.</p> <p>In particular, I have seen several attempts to breach the rules. The commission has no choice. It must consider the concerns of the Tohono O'odham Nation and the community in Avra Valley. It must allow the public to have user friendly tools to test district maps. Any final map must address these concerns to the satisfaction of the affected communities.</p> <p>Fortunately, we have the independent organization PlanScore so that we can test, as the law allows, the fairness of maps by using voting history and party affiliation. Early reports indicate that the Commission is failing to meet this test. Any final map that shows any tinge of gerrymandering will be the subject of litigation and put the quality of the 2022 election in jeopardy.</p> <p>I call on the Commission to maintain the unimpeachable history of the Independent Redistricting Commission. The voters of Arizona should spend its efforts discussing issues and promoting candidates and their policy solutions. We should not be consumed in litigation to obtain fairness in district lines because the Commission members were not up to the task.</p>
10/12/2021 - 08:58	Francesca Pardes	New versions of CD and LD redistricting maps	<p>The new CD & LD maps Favor the Republican Party between 68 & 83% of possible election scenarios. They need to be eliminated because of their Bias toward the Republican Party. I object to the proposal that combines the more affluent suburbs surrounding Tucson into One District. LDs should include areas of ALL income brackets. The IRC Needs to provide Mapping Tools that can be easily navigated by all citizens(many are unfamiliar with GIS) and include someone to contact for assistance. The Tohono O'Odham tribal advocates Clearly expressed their desire to be Primarily associated with Metro Pima County because of their historic and economic roots; this needs to be respected thus eliminating the possibility that their Rep would be from Santa Cruz County. David Mehl represents Only One part of suburban Tucson, deferring to him gives the appearance of Bias.</p>
10/12/2021 - 08:58	SUSAN WAITES	Proposed redistricting maps	<p>I am disappointed that the draft maps do nothing to ensure truly competitive districts. The proposed CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party, according to your own modeling software! This will have the effect of discouraging voter turnout. Is that the intent? Would you go to see a baseball game where one team has a 68 to 83% advantage over the other team? Do better!!!</p>

10/12/2021 - 09:05	Susan Anderson	Marana and Oro Valley	The cities of Marana and Oro Valley are in Pima County. The people here have jobs, and do business with other jurisdictions within Pima County. We are mostly suburban. Please don't make our legislative district, nor our congressional district mostly Pinal County. Pinal is primarily rural with their own unique problems to solve. You do nobody any favors lumping us together.
10/12/2021 - 09:09	Jenise Porter	Redistricting Process in Pima County	I attended the Commission hearing at the Tucson Convention Center on September 29 and I was disturbed at the number of people who described their "community of interest" as being as far from the City of Tucson as possible. Much of what was said seemed to be code words for "no black or brown people in my neighborhood." I've read about the pain that older white people are going through with the changing demographics of the state of Arizona and the country in general but I had not seen it quite so starkly as I did on September 29. I am a 74 year old white woman and I can't imagine how boring and intellectually stultifying it must be to live in a community of people who are all just like me. I am concerned that the Commission is giving credence to the "whites only" sentiment expressed by the people who want a white, Christian, affluent district because that is their "community of interest." Commissioner Mehl in particular seems inclined to think that he represents Pima County in general. He donates far more money to political causes and candidates, all Republican, than the majority of Pima County residents. I hope that Chair Neuberg realizes Mr. Mehl is not representative of the population in Pima County and understands that he appears to be aligned with the "white, Christian, affluent" community of interest expressed by the folks who wore red Trump regalia to the meeting and behaved in a rude and disrespectful way to the rest of us in the audience.
10/12/2021 - 09:12	Suzanne King	Communities of Interest	The IRC has encouraged divisiveness and racial and political divisions by making Communities of Interest the main focus of the first set of hearings. And in recognizing people's communities, the IRC seems to be cherry-picking and zeroing in on communities based largely on party and bigotry. For example, one white woman commenting at the recent public hearing in Tucson actually said she did not want diversity, arguing that the language creating the IRC does not say anything about diversity. I note that the language also does not say anything about white people or white Christians. Diversity is a fat of life and one that many people celebrate. The new map makes rich white people a community of interest by separating white high income people in the Catalina Foothills from the lower income people south of the Rillito River. This long horizontal district of rich white people is a clear and disgraceful bias.
10/12/2021 - 09:15	Suzanne King	Limiting IRC participation	By moving from YouTube to WebEx, the IRC has made it impossible for people who are not available for live meetings to know what is going on. YouTube is a flexible format in which people can see the meetings at any time. In addition, the IRC has limited people's ability to submit opinions to the times of live meetings. Thus, the IRC has limited its audience to retired people and others who don't have to work for a living. This appears to be another bias in favor of rich white people.
10/12/2021 - 09:17	Suzanne King	Bad mapping format	The pdf format of the draft map is impossible to decipher. Boundaries are unclear and there are few points of reference. The ESRI system is capable of making good maps for export and also allowing for closeup views with detail. The IRC could have used the web-based system of showing their results clearly. This appears to be an effort to keep the public from seeing detail.
10/12/2021 - 09:19	Claire E. Scheuren	Comments for AZ's Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC)	As drafted, the redistricting maps do not currently represent AZ voters. In fact, they appear to favor one party, the Republican Party, in the majority of the districts. Republicans also see the problem with this. As you well know, Arizona voters expected and wanted and needed the process to be independent and produce competitive districts that would be represent all Arizonans. These maps should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.

10/12/2021 - 09:20	Suzanne King	Independent Chair needs to be independent	David Mehl does not represent me or my Pima County. Holding the first Tucson hearing in Mehl's hotel sent an inappropriate message. Mehl represents a very specific racially and wealth-based population of the county. The Independent Chair needs to be a more independent and not defer to Mehl regarding Pima County to avoid even the appearance of bias.
10/12/2021 - 09:29	Kathryn Kean Federoff	Independent Redistricting Commission	When the legislation was originally passed it was designed to make sure that redistricting was to be done in an impartial and fair way. It was created in such a way to eliminate bias on the part of special interest groups such as political parties. That is not happening. This Commission is clearly showing Republican bias and narrows the participating audience. At the recent Tucson hearing coordinated groups of people who arrived very early got the most attention. People who arrived a half an hour early could not speak until later in the afternoon or evening. Why was MORE early more important than JUST early? Early to a meeting is just early to a meeting since the meeting has not started? If there was a "queue line" for speaking it should have been made clear to the public. Then we all could have made it a priority to be there MUCH earlier. A clear sign of bias and favoritism was exhibited by the Commission and a violation of the intent of the original legislation.
10/12/2021 - 09:36	ANNE F WARD	MAPS	I am having a problem with the pdf format of the draft map. I find it difficult to be sure where boundaries are and I can't find appropriate points of reference. I believe that there is a system that would allow for the generation of good maps with the ability to have closeup views. That is the ESRI system. Why did the IRC not use a system that would let me see the maps more clearly?
10/12/2021 - 09:38	Stephanie Johnson	GOP advantage - not fair	Everything I'm seeing gives GOP huge advantages. Also, I'm in Andy Biggs' district. Please reroute Gilbert so we're not all suffering.
10/12/2021 - 09:40	ANNE F WARD	communities of interest	I want to see a map that has diversity in my community of interest, which is central foothills. I do not want a separation of my voting area from the city of Tucson by not including areas south of the Rillito. There seems to be a very long horizontal district that is probably pretty homogeneously white and well-to-do. I welcome the diversity of living in Tucson and want my voting district to represent that, which the currently proposed map does not do.
10/12/2021 - 09:44	ANNE F WARD	Interaction with the Process	Why did the IRC move from YouTube to Webex? Youtube is a format many many voters are familiar with and allows us to see the meetings at any time. People who are not available for the live meeting times cannot see the meetings later with Webex. Also, there is no justification for only allowing comments while the meetings are in progress. Are you trying to limit comments to retired people since most people are at work during the meetings. This seems to bias any comments that you get by excluding the majority of voters.
10/12/2021 - 09:45	Katya Peterson	2021 AZ redistricting	Folks, I wanted to weigh in on your current efforts at drawing redistricting maps. It seems as though there is a disconnect between the mission of the Commission to maximize the number of competitive districts and the push by certain factions to not split up "communities of interest", where those communities are sometimes as foolish as members of a certain golf club. Grouping wealthy districts separately from others is a travesty. Likewise, to isolate the Tohono O'odham from metropolitan Tucson is ridiculous and contrary to their own wishes. It is my sincere hope that all the commissioners can put aside their party loyalties for the greater good of our community. To my mind, solution-focused political dialogue is the only way that we can govern our country, and ensuring that more districts are competitive is the only reliable way to reduce the current trend towards tribalism and away from intelligent discourse about issues. Thank you for your work !

10/12/2021 - 09:46	Sue Thorne	IRC maps do not represent AZ Voters	<p>Chairwoman Neuberg's recent article in AZ Daily Star declaring her purpose to Pima County voters to be honest and independent in supervising the IRC in developing fair maps is a farce. Her psychologist training has served her well in deceitful reassurances to us that she will judge her vote carefully while doing all she can to skew our districts into gerrymandered Republican bastions for locking in Red State politics for the next decade. Chairwoman Neuberg, your actions speak louder than your deceitful words. Preserve my competitive CD2 district instead of breaking it into pieces whose maps give advantage to Republicans. You and your inexperienced mapmakers which you have easily manipulated with your ever present smooth talking use GIS mapping tool which is VERY user unfriendly for ordinary voters like me to use, especially since you've included no instructions for use and no frequently asked questions (FAQ) help. There is no help line to contact for people needing to voice concern over their "communities of interest boundaries" Do not fragment Tucson into affluent white suburbs by gerrymandering a ring around Tucson that includes many of the rabid right wing white supremacist speakers who were demanding their own district and loudly voicing comments that are in direct opposition to the Voting Rights Act ruling that all redistricting is designed to be competitive, compact and composed of neighborhoods of all income brackets. Preserve CD2 as it was redesigned in 2011 per court order after the last IRC fiasco in 2010 to be a fair, equally balanced, competitive district. Don't monkey with my LD9 district. It, too, has diversified neighborhoods of all income brackets and is very competitive with equally balanced voters, independents being 1/3 the population who often decide election outcomes. Chairwoman N., deferring to D. Mehl's wishes who only represents a small segment of Pima County reveals your right-wing bias. You are a Republican dressed up in Independent clothing. Your actions in hiring a law firm that still donates to Republican candidates, inexperienced mapmakers and executive director who you can manipulate with your Republican co-conspirators prove your willingness to disenfranchised voters all across our state to the avowed right-wing purpose of turning our state back to a Republican, authoritarian bastion for robbing the majority to keep wealth concentrated among the few rich and powerful. Go back to your map-making drawing board. This time use a mapmaking tool that is user friendly and includes instructions, training and FAQ's for normal voters. Pay attention to Native American Communities of interest like the Tohono O'Odham who expressly commented that they be included with metro Pima County where there historic and economic roots lie. Stop gerrymandering to serve right-wing Republican election interests. Your deceitfulness is on full display with this first set of maps. No surprise, I guess, Duplicitous Ducey was in on the choices of IRC chairperson appointees(right wing all) apparently chosen to finish out his reign of Corporate American terror on Arizona.</p>
10/12/2021 - 09:47	warren kotzmann	Guiding Principle	<p>As you observe the constitutional requirements for redistricting, please, please keep this in mind. The election process and the state benefits the most by having as many contested districts as possible. An form of grouping by politics runs the risk of concentrating voters according to ideological biases and predictable outcomes. It is detrimental to a democratic process and makes Arizona an uncontested state, which stifles attention by one party or the other. Facing major issues such as the need for major water projects, immigration and housing means we need to have attention from both political parties and that only comes by having competitive elections.</p>
10/12/2021 - 09:52	Ruth Slade Kearns	Public Comment	<p>Ms. Neuberg's fine column in this morning's paper prompts me to write. Ten years ago, I attended three of the four public hearings held locally by the IRC. I was impressed by a number of comments made by our local citizens, but there was one I heard repeatedly. People pleaded with the commission to have competitive districts. One person spoke of how discouraged she felt to cast votes for candidates who had no chance of being elected. When a district is too one-sided politically, citizens feel that it's useless to vote. We want people to feel that their votes count! I hope to see as many competitive districts as possible in the new plan!</p>
10/12/2021 - 09:56	Dolores Leslie Loftin	redistricting information	<p>Attended Sun Lakes Democratic Club meeting. AJ gave a talk about what is happening. I want to know much more about this. sounds confusing.</p>

10/12/2021 - 10:03	Lynne Hudson	Fair maps	<p>Mapping consultant Doug Johnson has said repeatedly that the best solutions are not always those heard most often or spoken most passionately. He urged commissioners to weigh, not count, when looking for the best solution. I urge commissioners to pay particular attention to this issue when considering COIs. Commissioner Mehl and a large contingent of richer, more vocal, more influential, and more White voters from areas around Tucson spoke very disparagingly about existing maps. But they did not address what was right about those maps. In fact, one of the things many consider right about those maps, that they reflected the diversity inherent in our population, was a problem for many attending the listening tour. It was especially concerning to me that the suggestions Commissioner Mehl made for redrawing these maps did not respect the interests of tribal communities in the area. The same could be said of tribal interests in other parts of the State.</p> <p>The previous maps passed legal muster and were approved. We all want our new maps to do the same. I urge the commissioners to remember their charge: to create fair maps. That cannot happen unless all voters have a seat at the table and their voices are not only heard but valued.</p>
10/12/2021 - 10:04	John L Babicz	Redistricting	<p>The redistricting process needs to be totally equal. No one party should get an advantage.</p> <p>Maps should not favor one party over another.</p> <p>Don't divide white, affluent suburbs from urban Tucson.</p> <p>Do not favor David Mehl's opinion over others</p> <p>The mapping needs to be easily navigated by ordinary citizens</p> <p>There needs to be respect for Tribal input to allow local representationj</p> <p>These are all very simple, fair Observations. We do not need further divisiveness, respect the voting rights that are in place.</p>
10/12/2021 - 10:20	Patricia Wiedhopf	competitive districts	<p>I am and a Tucson resident and respectfully request that you do not separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single Legislative District that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area Legislative Districts should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.</p>
10/12/2021 - 10:45	Winston & Marie Williams	Redistricting Proposal	<p>We disagree with the Proposal. Winston & Marie Williams</p>
10/12/2021 - 10:52	Joanna Marroquin	Consider LGBTQ+ Community as a special interest	<p>My name is Joanna Marroquin, and identify as BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ community advocate. I am a board member of the Tucson LGBT Chamber of Commerce which resides in District 9. We envision economic and social equity for all Southern Arizonans. And have been a diverse, inclusive business in community since 1996 and we believe that inclusive business is good business. Please consider the LGBTQ+ community in Tucson, AZ as a special interest group when redistricting as diving them down 4th avenue deeply impacts the LGBTQIA+ community. LGBTQIA+ individuals and the businesses that serve them will be significantly impacted as these areas in Tucson have been built and cultivated to protect and keep the community safe from interference and harm while providing supports to the LGBTQIA+ community through health & well-being resources, businesses, events, culture, and arts that have contr buted to this community (and economy) throughout the years. Its important to keep us in districts where are values are aligned. We are intersectional and have all had our share of places we can call our own and a place to call home. The downtown community for LGBTQIA+ folx has created ways for needs to be met, quality of life to increase along with surviving and thriving without threat to well-being. Many of the resources available to LGBTQ+ community happens in downtown areas and supports advocacy for the community both legislatively and federally. We've previously given maps that would allow CD 3 to keep downtown Tucson for the LGBTQ+ community and LD3 and LD 10 to keep the LGBTQ+ community in the same districts that we've worked hard to create change in these areas and empower voting to happen in these areas for resources that our community so desperately needs. I thank you for your time.</p>

10/12/2021 - 10:53	Kay E Davis	IRC Tuesday, Oct 12 Public Meeting	I attended today's IRC meeting and found the presentation by Dr. Sanchez extremely valuable. The information presented provides detail to create "minority opportunity districts." One of the two Minority Majority districts in Pima County depends heavily on Santa Cruz County's Hispanic population to meet the federal requirements. By removing this area, the minority-majority status is threatened.
10/12/2021 - 10:57	Kay Davis	IRC Tuesday, Oct 12 Public Meeting	I attended today's Oct 12 IRC meeting. The following issue was not addressed but I have a major concern. In a recent IRC joint meeting with Mesa and Tucson, it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high-income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.
10/12/2021 - 10:59	barbara miller	Oro Valley	As a long time OV resident I feel strongly that Oro Valley needs to be in PIMA COUNTY, not Pinal! We need to be rerepresented by politicians who are more in line with citizens of Pima County, not the rural region it is currently categorized with. We need to have the redistricting lines redrawn now.
10/12/2021 - 11:26	Kyle Scott G bson	District Mapping	<p>Draft Maps favor one party. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.</p> <p>David Mehl's influence. David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.</p> <p>A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p> <p>Respect for Tohono O'Odham. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p>
10/12/2021 - 14:17	Karena Endrizzi	Redistricting - do not propagate the partisan and separatist trend	<p>I'm a resident in Pima County and can't stress enough that redistricting must be non-partisan and inclusive of all communities and people. We are a melting pot nation, my dad being a first generation American citizen, but some people would like to create exclusivity and group think within their district. This is not community oriented or lawful as the redistricting rules outline. My heart breaks at the partisanship that's torn communities apart. We need to come together and work together as neighbors and people of like interest, interest in good medical care, interest in neighborhood safety, interests in the beautiful lands that make up Arizona.</p> <p>Additionally, please do not restrict tribal populations to the nation boundaries where they would have split representation between two counties rather than pulling these communities closer to Tucson and divorcing the major source of casino income from unified representation. This weakens tribal influence and is in direct contradiction to what matters most to the vast majority of people living in the area -inclusion and civic cooperation. Disenfranchising the nations is immoral and constitutionally corrupt.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>
10/12/2021 - 15:19	Valerie Medina	Potential Maps	Good afternoon, potential redistricting maps were reported in Today's News Herald (Lake Havasu City) and I am unable to find them on your website. Is it possible to get copies of the maps?

10/12/2021 - 16:41	Daniel A. E. Wessels	Public Comment	<p>Hello,</p> <p>As a deeply patriotic citizen, I feel it is my duty to reach out and say simply this: Please prioritize competitiveness over everything else. I'm aware the commission has to balance multiple objectives, such as reflecting natural and historic boundaries, as well as staying within the bounds of as few different municipalities and counties as possible. It is my belief that the commission would best serve Arizona by disregarding, as much as reasonable, those, what I would call secondary, objectives. "Cracking" and "Packing" are some of the leading causes of the polarization which is tearing our country apart.</p> <p>God Bless, Dan in South Scottsdale</p>
10/12/2021 - 17:54	Andrea Haber	Redistricting	<p>I cannot express my feelings any better than the talking points included below. This is the most blatant attempt to keep our state and our country from having free and fair elections! If you allow this to move forward, you are also complicit in suppressing voter rights. Please do not be bullied or threatened by the Republicans who wish to destroy our democracy.</p> <p>Draft Maps favor one party. According to PlanScore, a districting analysis website strongly recommended in the IRC documents, the new versions of the CD and LD maps are biased in favor of the Republican Party. For the LD map, the metrics show the maps favoring Republicans between 68 and 83% of the possible election scenarios. Because the new versions of the map are biased towards the Republican Party they should be abandoned and fresh maps drawn with more competitive districts.</p> <p>Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. In a recent IRC meeting it was proposed that the affluent white suburbs surrounding Tucson be combined into a single LD that wraps around urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets.</p> <p>David Mehl's influence. David Mehl represents only a segment of suburban Pima County. When the Independent Chair defers to him regarding Pima County it creates the appearance of bias.</p> <p>A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help.</p> <p>Respect for Tohono O'Odham. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it likely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County.</p> <p>I appreciate the opportunity to express my views and plead for you to do the right thing.</p>

10/12/2021 - 18:44	Tanner Keaton Guske	Draft Map Comments	<p>Dear Members,</p> <p>Holding the conditions of high voter turnout, I believe the new district map should be optimized for the most competitive districts, not either party. In this proposal, while I applaud your addition of a new competitive district, I find it to be too Republican biased based on PlanScore, and Fivethrityeight.</p> <p>While it is not under your jurisdiction, I recommend a shift from individual districts to a state-wide multi-seat elections. https://www.nonprofitvote.org/fair-vote-methods-for-multi-seat-elections/</p> <p>Additionally:</p> <p>"Don't Separate Affluent White Suburbs From Urban Tucson. Tucson area LD's should not be segregated into high income districts and lower income districts, but instead should be compact and competitive districts that include neighborhoods of all income brackets."</p> <p>David Mehl's influence appears biased, as he only represents a segment of suburban Pima County.</p> <p>"A Better Mapping Tool for Ordinary Citizens. The IRC needs to provide a mapping tool that can be navigated by ordinary citizens. The mapping system is baffling to inexperienced users, which is demonstrated by the low number of unique users. Many give up out of frustration. Training in the system was inadequate for people unacquainted with GIS. There is no FAQ section and no one to contact for help."</p> <p>"Respect for Tohono O'Odham. The new version of the map rejects the clearly expressed desire of tribal advocates that they be primarily associated with metro Pima County where they have both historic and economic roots. By putting the Tohono O'Odham nation in a district with very little of Metro Pima County you are making it I kely that their representative would be from Santa Cruz County."</p>
10/12/2021 - 19:06	Crystal Bazarnic	LD Test Map version 2.0 - North I-17 Corridor COI	<p>Hello, I am reviewing the LD Test Map 2.0 which was published today. The North I-17 corridor community of interest is split between 3 different LDs. Anthem is back with Prescott/rural Arizona in D5, which is very undesirable. Please keep Maricopa County and Yavapai County separate. The area south of Anthem is with Fountain Hills and more rural areas to the east in D3, which is also not optimal as we have little in common with those areas. And the area just west of I-17 is in D28, which also places them with more rural areas. On a perfect map, our entire corridor from Anthem down I-17 to, or even past, the north loop 101 would be kept together, as we travel up and down our corridor for school, church, shopping, and dining. It's a very cohesive suburban area with lots of new growth and families, and similar goals of developing amenities in our area while also preserving our desert environment. Thank you for listening, and thank you for all your are doing to ensure fair representation for Arizonans.</p>
10/12/2021 - 20:57	Jacob Boenzi	Get Involved in Redistricting	<p>Hello. My name is Jacob Boenzi and I'm from Mesa, Arizona. I'm currently a Barrett student at Arizona State University and majoring in political science. One of my passions is redistricting (especially ending gerrymandering) and I aspire to have a career where I'm involved in that process. I was wondering if there will be opportunities where I can give feedback on the congressional and legislative maps, learn more about the process, and get involved other ways. If you can direct me to where I can give input, that would be great. If you cannot, I understand. Thanks to everyone for all the hard work you are doing to create electoral districts that best represent all Arizonans in this great state. Have a good day.</p>
10/13/2021 - 09:31	David Barry Gray	redistricting and the Verde Valley	<p>Just a fast note concerning redistricting for the Verde Valley. It seems historically the Verde Valley has more ties with Prescott area than with Flagstaff. If you review Jerome newspapers, references are made most frequently to Prescott. Even today with Yavapai College. YC 's main campus is in Prescott but the VV branch is in Clarkdale. Should the college be in two different districts? Just some thoughts. David Gray, Clarkdale, AZ</p>
10/13/2021 - 09:49	Katya Peterson	2021 AZ redistricting	<p>Folks,</p> <p>I wanted to weigh in on your current efforts at drawing redistricting maps. It seems as though there is a disconnect between the mission of the Commission to maximize the number of competitive districts and the push by certain factions to not split up "communities of interest", where those communities are sometimes as foolish as members of a certain golf club. Grouping wealthy districts separately from others is a travesty. Likewise, to isolate the Tohono O'odham from metropolitan Tucson is ridiculous and contrary to their own wishes. It is my sincere hope that all the commissioners can put aside their party loyalties for the greater good of our community. To my mind, solution-focused political dialogue is the only way that we can govern our country, and ensuring that more districts are competitive is the only reliable way to reduce the current trend towards tribalism and away from intelligent discourse about issues. Thank you for your work !</p>

10/13/2021 - 15:36	Laura Key	draft maps for Tucson area districts	<p>I see these problems with the draft map for the Tucson area:</p> <p>(1) Lines should Not be drawn to separate wealthy suburban areas from central or midtown Tucson. Simply put, the wealthy suburbs are Not a separate community. Fair and competitive legislative districts, which the IRC is legally charged to create, need to include a mix of neighborhoods and be comprised of citizens who are diverse in terms of income levels and race or ethnicity. Legislative districts should be compact, not sprawling, and should be as competitive as possible.</p> <p>(2) Lines should Not be drawn to separate the Tohono O'Odham from Tucson. The leadership of the Tohono O'Odham Nation is on the record as having stated plainly that they identify with Tucson through their historic roots – the very name of the city is derived from Tohono O'Odham words – and are linked to the city and Metro Pima County in general through their current economy. It is inappropriate (some would say contemptuous) to try to cut the political ties that the Desert People share with Tucson.</p>
10/13/2021 - 18:39	Barbara Tellman	Avra Community of Interest - Pima County	<p>We have asked many times, starting with the 1st Community of Interest Hearings. I see no way to attach a map to show you how the Community is defined. The community is a coherent area just west of the Tucson Metro area, accessible by a 15 minute drive. It has no COI with Yuma where you have placed part of the area on the LD map V. 2.0 (a 5 hour drive) All of its shopping and activities are in the Tucson Metro Area. It stretches from south of Tucson Mountain Park to the San Xavier boundary and from the TO Nation boundary on the west to the Tucson Mountains. Ajo Way cuts through the area. Please take this area entirely out of 23 and put as a unit in 18 or 20.</p>