

 Web Comments 10.15.21 - 10.16.21			
Submitted Time	Full Name	Subject	Message
10/15/2021 - 06:20	Mark W. Knecht	LD & CD Test Maps - Version 2.0	<p>With respect to the new proposal for the Legislative Map, I don't love it but I think it's reasonably fair, competitive and does a reasonable job at representing minorities in Arizona. If this map was put into effect then I think Arizona would be reasonably well served and there's a 50/50 chance that state government would come to represent the interests of the citizens of Arizona over time, or at least would not be harmed by the effects of this map.</p> <p>With respect to the 3 new proposals for the Congressional map, I could not be more disappointed in these maps. All 3 of these maps are clearly gerrymandered in ways that are simply not necessary. Maricopa County has enough people for 5 congressional districts and yet you only created 4 districts within the county lines. And while you seem to have respected the people of Phoenix by creating districts that are local, these maps disrespect the people of Pima County where you appear to be 'giving away' the population of Pima County to districts created by starting in Yuma and Cochise Counties and cracking Pima County's strongly Democratic majority voters into two groups and building a Republican District 6. In District 2 you have clearly Gerrymandered the town of Maricopa into the district by connecting it through a single census block with a population of 9 voters.</p> <p>I truly hope you will throw out ALL three of these Congressional test maps and go back to basics. These maps are supposed to be for the people. If anyone actually responsible for the maps, meaning the 5 commissioners, is actually reading this then please ask for something better. These maps will divide the people of Arizona, not bring us together.</p> <p>Mark Knecht Tucson</p>
10/15/2021 - 07:27	Robert Lefrancois	Re-Districting	I would prefer the Districts remain as they are! I am perfectly happy with the Districts the way they are!
10/15/2021 - 08:43	Jane Anne Shimizuq	Redistricting Yavapai County	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>The legislative district for Prescott should encompass Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley and the surrounding communities. Yavapai has nothing in common with Flagstaff AZ. nor Black Canyon. Decisions for Yavapai should be made by Yavapai county communities.</p>
10/15/2021 - 08:43	Mark W. Knecht	Oct. 15th meeting volume	For whatever reason the volume on the meeting this morning is quite low. My system is now at 100% and it's still quite soft.
10/15/2021 - 10:04	Joni Adams	Voting	No gerrymandering
10/15/2021 - 11:18	Mark David Smith	redistricting proposed maps	I am opposed to the current proposed maps. I want Yavapai County to remain all in Yavapai county. Do not split the county into other areas
10/15/2021 - 11:46	Brian Paul Amidei	Arizona Congressional District Redistricting	Regarding the Arizona Congressional District redistricting I believe the best map follows County lines as much as possible because the Counties have taxation authority which affects all within the boundary. Yavapai County should be kept together.
10/15/2021 - 11:53	Brian Paul Amidei	Redistricting Legislative District	<p>I currently reside in Yavapai County and I believe Counties should be kept together wherever possible. Taxpayers should not be aligned with another county that will not provide for their needs. The community of interest is with the county of residence, where they pay their taxes. Those taxes provide for broadband, road maintenance, enforcement, land use designation and other county needs and authority. Splitting the county's efforts on these issues at the Legislative level will dilute quick and reasonable solutions to problems requiring the need of a State response.</p> <p>I think Black Canyon City should not be divided by I-17. Keep the city whole and align with Prescott/Prescott Valley with rural, western values/interests. I do not believe the current proposed redistricting plan is in the best interest of Yavapai County and my Family in particular.</p>
10/15/2021 - 13:06	Blair Tarman	Meeting regarding locations for Draft Map listening tour	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am listening to the IRC meeting today and there was mention that meetings took place to discuss possible locations for the Draft Map listening tour. Were those meetings advertised to the public, and if so, where can I find information on those meetings?</p> <p>Thank you!</p>

10/15/2021 - 15:55	Ken Love	LD01 Map	Here is a link (https://www.representable.org/submission/917db3cf-f946-45d1-b932-f1f2140072d9) to a redistricting map I have drawn that creates a north-central Phoenix legislative district that surrounds the Phoenix Mountain Preserves. The Preserves are a community of interest that draw residents and non-residents to hike, bike, ride horses and learn about Arizona plants, animals, and desert terrain. Voters choose to live near the preserves for their proximity and views. Established HOAs deal with unique preserve issues. Just try to establish parking rules and watch the rabid turnout! For me, the mapped area also represents the commonality of smaller, conservative Jewish congregations in the southern part of the proposed district and larger, mainstream congregations in the northern portion. I'd estimate that the proposed district has the greatest density of Jewish voters in the state.
10/15/2021 - 16:51	LORI MARTINEZ	Comment on redistricting in Yavapai County	It is a ridiculous idea to have Black Canyon City divided by I-17. We are a small, unincorporated community and we should keep the city whole and align with Prescott/Prescott Valley that have the same rural, western values/interests.
10/15/2021 - 17:03	Blake Sacha	Redistricting input	<p>Dear Commissioners,</p> <p>The creation of congressional and legislative maps is a complicated process that can often be overshadowed by politics and special interests. This is why Arizona voters created the Independent Redistricting Commission - to remove the undue influence of political parties and politicians.</p> <p>The main factor that should influence the process is data. As an Adjunct Instructor of Chemistry at Grand Canyon University, I understand the importance of utilizing and understanding data. In science, data mitigates the potential of bias and leads to accurate and verifiable results. The redistricting process should be no different. Analyzing and understanding the composition of Arizona voters should be the driving force in creating the maps. Not politicians. Not political parties. Just data, pure and simple.</p> <p>And if you look at the data of Arizona voters the picture is clear: we are a state that is almost evenly divided between Republicans, Democrats, and Independents. In fact, since the last redistricting process, the three categories are almost evenly divided into thirds. This can't be ignored and has many implications for the final results.</p> <p>The most obvious implication is that no one political party should have a significant advantage. Metrics such as efficiency gap and partisan efficiency provide critical, data-based tools to evaluate the competitiveness of various options. If the final maps do not create a competitive environment where many districts are decided in the general election, they are not representative of the state. The data does not lie.</p> <p>I understand there are other criteria in addition to competitiveness that must be considered by the commission. However, they should not be used as an excuse to forego competitive maps. None of the other required criteria are mutually exclusive of competitiveness. In fact, meeting the other criteria should result in competitive maps due to the nature of Arizona's electorate. As the census showed, we are an increasingly diverse state, and that diversity is not limited to one or two geographic areas. It is taking place across our state. The final maps must honor and reflect this diversity so that every Arizonan has an opportunity to have their vote counted in a meaningful way.</p> <p>As you continue your work in drawing congressional and legislative maps, I once again urge you to focus on the one thing that matters the most: the data. It will be the impartial barometer that will create fair and justifiable maps for Arizona's next ten years, and it will be a legacy of this commission's work for decades to come.</p> <p>Thank you for your willingness to serve on this vitally important commission. Arizonans across the state are following your work with optimism and hope that partisan politics can be set aside for the good of the state.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Blake Sacha</p>
10/15/2021 - 18:30	Carol Schloff	Tucson Communities of Interest	I live in LD3, Precinct 021. I live 2 miles west of the Tucson city limits. This is currently part of a Tucson Metro Legislative District. My life is connected to the city of Tucson. I shop there, take advantage of their cultural activities, and it's where I spend my money. All of my neighbors, Democrats and Republicans, are as invested in the Tucson Metro area as I am. Your newest draft map, lumps my area in with Picture Rocks and Marana, which my neighbors and I have no affiliation with. I urge you to approve maps that respect communities of interest. Keep neighbors together in their home community. Thanks.
10/15/2021 - 19:06	Sharon Singer	Redistricting	I want fair redistricting in AZ
10/16/2021 - 09:52	Ruth Wootten	Comparison	Do you have a map comparing the boundaries of Distr. 18, for example, of present and proposed district? Thanks.

10/16/2021 - 09:59	Robert Pifke	Legislative & Congressional Districts	<p>I am a resident of Sedona and located in Coconino County. ALL the residents of Sedona should be included in the same congressional and legislative districts because of common interests. And, that district should be part of the entire Verde Valley - NOT part of Flagstaff or other areas of Northern Arizona - for the same reason.</p> <p>The residents of Sedona, Cottonwood, Camp Verde, Village of Oak Creek, Prescott Valley and Prescott and other nearby communities share similar problems such as too many short term rentals, lack of low cost housing, water issues, protection of the local environment, tourism, traffic, and so many other common issues that we should be kept within one legislative and one congressional district so the leaders we elect represent our concerns.</p>
10/16/2021 - 10:32	Ignacio R. Cytrynowicz	Redistricting Yavapai County - Legislative and Congressional Districts Draft Maps	<p>My comment is for both, the Legislative and Congressional Districts draft maps.</p> <p>I am a senior citizen living in Sedona. The coherence of life in Yavapai County was is the main reason I chose to live here. I am very involved in the community and I have easy access to county meetings. I can easily speak up and I am listened to. I get most of my services from the Verde Valley and from Prescott/Prescott Valley. I have no connection to Flagstaff and Coconino County. I feel that redistricting would totally dilute my voice as it would be joined to a population less than half my age.</p>
10/16/2021 - 11:25	Maureen Costa	Re-districting	<p>As a taxpayer in Yavapai County I want to stay aligned with Prescott & Prescott Valley. I do not want to realign with Flagstaff & Coconino County. There is no reason for it. Please keep the Verde Valley together. We have access to Yavapai College. Many of our HS students take classes at Yavapai College. Flagstaff is not part of the Verde Watershed. We wish to remain aligned with Prescott & Prescott Valley. The median age in Flagstaff is 25, while the median age in Sedona is 61 and the median age in Prescott is 58.</p>
10/16/2021 - 11:26	James waring	Hosting a meeting in Phoenix city council district 2	<p>Dear IRC:</p> <p>As a city representative in north Phoenix, I would respectfully ask that you host a meeting in our area. I believe citizens would appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on the ongoing process.</p> <p>Jim Waring Phoenix City Councilman</p>
10/16/2021 - 11:34	Dennis Vogler	Redistricting	<p>Please keep Cottowood in Yavapai County. We are not citizens of Coconino County. I live here, I vote here and I participate in Cottonwood and Yavapai County. I also pay taxes in Yavapai. I look forward to your decision. Dennis</p>
10/16/2021 - 11:41	David Marsh	redistricting and Yavapai County	<p>Hello. Please maintain the integrity of Yavapai County in districting. I reside in Sedona, and my cultural, social and other ties are towards Prescott, not Flagstaff. I truly enjoy the drive over Mingus Mountain. Have a nice day.</p>
10/16/2021 - 12:08	JJ Kohlson	No gerrymandering-fair districting	<p>Fair districting throughout the state</p>
10/16/2021 - 12:25	Christina Cytrynowicz	Redistricting of Northern Arizona	<p>I am a resident of Sedona in Yavapai county. I get my services from Prescott and the Prescott Valley. My life is in Sedona, Cornville and Cottonwood. There is no connection to Flagstaff and the residents of Flagstaff. Our area, and The Verde Valley residents are represented by Yavapai County and need to remain that way. Flagstaff is not part of our water shed, our schools nor our needs for our community. They are an hour away in distance. Our voice must remain in our community.</p>
10/16/2021 - 14:51	Donna Knipschild	Redistricting Cottonwood area	<p>No only NO, but hell NO!!!! If it's not broke don't fix it. If you don't like living in the Yavapai County, then MOVE.</p>
10/16/2021 - 15:50	Sharon Pannell	Redistricting	<p>Please don't redistrict the Verde Valley to align with Flagstaff! We don't want Flagstaff policies to apply to our area. Keep the voting district in its current form. Thank you.</p>
10/16/2021 - 17:07	Margaret (Peggy) J. Turk Boyer	Rich White People Community of Interest	<p>This COI drew a lot of attention. The map appears to be protecting high income, white people of the Catalina Foothills from the lower income people south of the Rillito River, creating a long horizontal BIASed district of rich white people. Should not be permitted.</p>
10/16/2021 - 17:13	Margaret (Peggy) J. Turk Boyer	Disrespect for Tohono O'Odham	<p>The first draft map directly contradicts what tribal advocates of the Tohono O'Odham Nation requested in the mapping process. They clearly wanted to be primarily associated with Metro Pima County where they have historic and economic roots. The way the map is drawn 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 restricting their representation within Pima County boundaries, you will force them to be represented by legislators from 2 other districts, one with a casino, limiting their influence. Mr. Watchman should actively speak up for all tribal interests.</p>
10/16/2021 - 17:15	Margaret (Peggy) J. Turk Boyer	Avra Valley	<p>Representatives of 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.</p>
10/16/2021 - 17:18	Margaret (Peggy) J. Turk Boyer	Apache Interests	<p>The draft map presented gerrymanders a piece of a heavily right wing Republican district between Whiteriver and its commercial hub of ShowLow-Pinetop. This is where many Apache 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. NOT FAIR.</p>

10/16/2021 - 17:21	Margaret (Peggy) J. Turk Boyer	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. It appears that this is done to protect the Green Valley/Sahuarita Republican group from having to associate with people different from them, including the Tohono O'odham and hispanics.
10/16/2021 - 17:24	Margaret (Peggy) J. Turk Boyer	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?
10/16/2021 - 17:26	Margaret (Peggy)J. Turk Boyer	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. And in recognizing people's communities, you seem to be cherry-picking and zeroing in on communities based largely on party and bigotry.
10/16/2021 - 17:29	Margaret (Peggy) J. Turk Boyer	Expressing opinions	By limiting people's to live meeting times for submitting opinions, you give preference to retired people and exclude many who have to work for a living.
10/16/2021 - 17:31	Margaret (Peggy) J. Turk Boyer	Meeting format	By changing from YouTube to WebEx formats, 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 where people can watch meetings on their own time frame. Now your audience is limited to retired people and others who don't have to work for a living.
10/16/2021 - 17:48	Ralph Young	Redistrict	The Verde Valley has much much in common with Prescott and Prescott Valley than it does with Flagstaff. Indeed, the Verde River's source is in Paulden, just north of Chino Valley and Prescott. Travel time, convenience, and traffic make the trip from the Verde Valley to Flagstaff more problematic than to the Prescott area. Please district the Verde Valley with that area and not with Flagstaff. Thanks
10/16/2021 - 19:19	France-Marie & Geoff Martikonis	Arizona Redistricting	Hello, We are very concerned by the attempt of redistricting our county. We chose to live in Sedona because it fits our needs and our lifestyle. We have absolutely nothing in common with Flagstaff and never go there because it is not safe, because the traffic is horrible, because the young crowd is not of our liking and because people have different values. We do not want to be "assimilated" with Flagstaff. These two places have nothing in common. We, inSedona, do not want to pay taxes that would provide for Flagstaff. Thank you for your time, Best regards.
10/16/2021 - 19:51	Christine McGrath	Redistricting	I am a resident of Camp Verde and just want to voice my hope that the Verde Valley would be kept together. Prescott would seem to me to be a better fit than Flagstaff as it's closer and easier to travel to especially in the winter months.
10/16/2021 - 20:47	No kaye	Fair redistricting k&	Fair redistricting not favoring any political party
10/16/2021 - 20:51	Sharon Bennett	Redistricting	Be honest!!!
10/16/2021 - 21:30	Tania Malven	Redistricting	Please allow for districts that are fair to the poor, BIPOC!!!!!!