

 <b>Web Comments 9.23.21 - 9.30.21</b>				
Submitted Time	Completed Time	Full Name	Subject	Message
09/23/2021 - 04:29	09/23/2021 - 04:29	Jan Decock	Mapping tool	Hello, The IRC'S mapping tool is confusing and not user friendly at all. Thus need to be simpler. Jan Decock
09/23/2021 - 04:57	09/23/2021 - 04:57	Joyce Jones-Ivey	Redistricting	Please make your website more user friendly,
09/23/2021 - 06:01	09/23/2021 - 06:01	Jan Decock	Mapping tool	Hello, The IRC'S mapping tool is confusing and not user friendly at all. Thus need to be simpler. Jan Decock
09/23/2021 - 09:17	09/23/2021 - 09:17	Joanne Frerking	Redistricting	Redistricting is supposed to be a public process but the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair & competitive maps. Clean up the site so it can be easily understood by the general public.
09/23/2021 - 09:31	09/23/2021 - 09:31	Joanne VanNatter	Redistricting	Redistricting needs to be transparent to Arizona citizens!
09/23/2021 - 10:19	09/23/2021 - 10:19	James Frank Minno	Redistricting	Redistricting is supposed to be a public process but the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair & competitive maps.
09/23/2021 - 10:58	09/23/2021 - 10:58	Jennifer Dawson	IRC mapping tool	The IRC mapping tool is NOT user friendly - it makes public input very difficult, and jeopardizes creating fair and competitive maps. Fix it ASAP, please. Arizonans deserve the right to be involved in the creation of their community maps.
09/23/2021 - 11:07	09/23/2021 - 11:07	Thomas W. Sonandres	Not User Friendly Redistricting Map Software	The Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. If you truly want broad public comment to input in creating fair AND COMPETITIVE maps, please provide a user-friendly mapping tool as was provided for the first round of public map input. My five pages of notes from the IRC mapper's online tutorial do not begin to enable me to submit a map. Also, please provide us mapping tool users, who are taxpayers who fund the IRC, an online assistance link properly staffed to answer our questions. Thank you for your consideration.
09/23/2021 - 11:34	09/23/2021 - 11:34	Pat Rorabaugh	Redistricting/mapping	Redistricting is supposed to be a public process but the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair & competitive maps. Make the mapping tool MORE user-friendly. Make redistricting FAIR!
09/23/2021 - 11:54	09/23/2021 - 11:54	Martha S O'Connor	Redistricting is a public process	Redistricting is supposed to be a public process but the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair & competitive maps. Is that the intention?
09/23/2021 - 13:29	09/23/2021 - 13:29	Peggy Hughes	Redistricting	Redistricting is supposed to be a public process but the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair & competitive maps.
09/23/2021 - 13:51	09/23/2021 - 13:51	Mary-Jeanne Fincher	grid map listening tour	On Tuesday and again today, I could not access the meeting via WebEx, even after reinstalling the app. Listening by phone is a poor substitute. Last night the AZ Corporation Commission held a Town Hall via zoom, and it was very simple to join the meeting, raise one's hand to speak and the speakers could be heard clearly. Please consider using zoom instead of webex. Thank you.

09/23/2021 - 14:06	09/23/2021 - 14:06	Leslie L Hunten	Make redistricting fair!	Dear IRC, I'm deeply interested in the redistricting process, and have been following the meetings for most of this year. However I'm not strong on technical or computer skills, and I'm not competent to draw a map in your mapping program. This was not well-thought out for public input, and I'm angry about being left out and discounted. What I mainly care about is that the redistricting process is FAIR. Districts are supposed to be equally divided according to your guidelines: population, contiguous and competitive, and prevent gerrymandering. All the people of Arizona deserve to be heard and counted fairly, no matter where the particular boundaries end up. You need to find a way to include non-technical citizens in this process. Thank you
09/23/2021 - 14:12	09/23/2021 - 14:12	Lucky perry	NEW REDISTRICTING MAPS	CONGRATULATIONS NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS AND CHAIR. IM A MEMBER OF PALO VERDE REPUBLICAN WOMENS GROUP AND A LD23 P.C. LET'S GET THIS DONE "FAIRLY" AND GET IT DONE RIGHT THIS TIME. RESPECTLY SUBMITTED. LUCKY PERRY. WE ARE WATCHING YOU WITH GREAT EXPECTATIONS. .
09/23/2021 - 14:33	09/23/2021 - 14:33	Debra K Gallaway	Redistricting in AZ	Redistricting is supposed to be a public process but the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair and competitive maps.
09/23/2021 - 14:48	09/23/2021 - 14:48	Carolyn Shafer	Restricting	I have never been so frustrated as trying to use the map feature of this process. PLEASE CHANGE to make it user friendly
09/23/2021 - 14:51	09/23/2021 - 14:51	Deila W Mangold	LD 23 - LD4?	I was just able to pull up and enlarge the maps. Could you please explain how my voice will be heard in the election box if my urbanized area of Scottsdale is paired with New River and tons of rural areas? My district has had no Democrat or Independent candidate win in the entire 26 years I've lived here even though Dem, Indep. and Repub, registrations are now pretty equal. Will this rural area be better for inclusion?
09/23/2021 - 14:56	09/23/2021 - 14:56	Debbie Cotton	Redistricting Maps	Our American Democracy has never been under attack as it is right now. We need to protect our democratic institutions. Our biggest freedom is a right to vote and the right to decide who will govern the state and country we live in. Making access to voting should be one of our highest priorities. That is access to everyone of voting age. Each person having a vote and those votes having equal impact is the very core of our democracy. Stop legislation that limits access to voting and stop legislation and actions that gerrymander our legislative districts to provide advantage for one party over another. This gerrymandering and attempts to control our state elections in a partisan way is an attack on our democracy. If rules, regulations and laws aren't passing the equality test, then don't pass them. Strive for equality in our redistricting maps.
09/23/2021 - 15:48	09/23/2021 - 15:48	Marsha A Beery	Redistricting	Hi: I'm a registered voter and am concerned that the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission mapping tool is not user friendly so will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair & competitive maps. I thought that redistricting was supposed to be a public process, but it isn't for the reasons as described above.

09/23/2021 - 16:13	09/23/2021 - 16:13	Jerald H Lewis	Public Comment	<p>Dear IRC Commissioners:</p> <p>Thank you for your service on the Independent Redistricting Commission. As a former member of the Arizona Legislature, I know how important your work is for the future of our state. In fact, it will have a bigger impact on Arizona's political environment than most anything else.</p> <p>That is important because our political environment continues to become increasingly polarized. Since my time in the legislature, the ideological divide between the two parties has expanded at a faster rate than any other time I can remember in our state's, and perhaps nation's, history. This has led to a breakdown in civic discourse and the ability for legislators to effectively work together across partisan lines to address Arizona's biggest concerns. More importantly, it has led to an even higher level of societal mistrust and disdain for those entrusted to legislate and govern. Unless something changes now, that mistrust and disdain will lead to a further breakdown of the very norms that make our state and nation great.</p> <p>At the state level, I believe one of the biggest contributors to this trend is that most of our legislative districts are not competitive, but are instead, dominated by either the Democrat or Republican Parties. Unfortunately, this means the vast majority of these races are decided in the primary election, which, as you know, has very low overall voter participation and favors extreme and polarizing candidates in both Parties. With a lopsided percent of voters from either Party in a single district, the votes cast in the general election are essentially irrelevant and candidates can cater to their Party's base while disenfranchising all others. Redistricting offers us a chance to rectify this and chart a new course.</p> <p>I know that competitiveness isn't the only factor you must consider when creating the new maps, but competitive districts should be a natural outcome of all other considered factors. As Arizona has continued to grow in size, our political affiliations have become more diverse as well. The final maps need to take this diversity into account and accurately reflect the population of our great state, incentivize each candidate to represent all voters in the district, and empower each voter in each district, regardless of Party affiliation, with a voice in how they'll be governed.</p> <p>I am a lifelong Republican who, because of the disproportionate number of registered Democrats in my district (LD26), have switched to a "No Party" affiliation to ensure that I have a voice in the primary, which, because of that disproportionality, makes it nearly impossible, for even a moderate Republican to win in the general. I firmly believe gerrymandering for either Party is detrimental to the long-term interests of our state. The voters created the Independent Redistricting Commission to reduce the influence of partisan politics....I pray that you will have the courage to honor those voters.</p> <p>Thank you again for your service on the Independent Redistricting Commission.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Former Senator Jerry Lewis</p>
09/23/2021 - 16:17	09/23/2021 - 16:17	Jamie Zimmerman	Redistricting mapping tool	Redistricting is supposed to be a public process, but the AZ IRC mapping tool is not user-friendly to the public. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair and competitive maps.
09/23/2021 - 17:13	09/23/2021 - 17:13	Mary Welch	Redistricting	Please set our voting districts fairly. Anyone, Republican, Democrat, or Independent should be able to win a political race in ANY DISTRICT in Arizona. Gerrymandering is not democratic.
09/23/2021 - 19:35	09/23/2021 - 19:35	Joan Ann Murphy	NDC to draw maps	I am originally from New Jersey but I've lived here on and off almost 30 years. I retired from the State of NJ where I was a probation officer. Having lived here in the 70s and part of the 80s and now again since 2001 I can't but notice how redistricting seems to have resulted in Cochise County becoming a Republican bastion of power which has resulted in races in which several offices have not had opposition candidates. This does not seem to fit well with voting rights, the constitution or the purpose of an Independent Redistricting Commission. Sierra Vista, Ft Huachuca, Bisbee and Douglas seem to offer a good mix and if tied in with Tucson might make the district more fair - in my opinion.

09/23/2021 - 19:36	09/23/2021 - 19:36	Michael Gessner	IRC Mapping	The IRC Mapping tool is too difficult for most to use successfully and impairs public input.
09/23/2021 - 21:09	09/23/2021 - 21:09	Andrew L Tuttle	Redistricting maps	Redistricting is a public process but the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair district maps.  I request the IRC to: 1.) change its mapping tool to make it more user friendly 2.) accept paper maps 3.) accept comments that don't contain a map
09/24/2021 - 09:59	09/24/2021 - 09:59	Sharron Bacino	redistricting	I live in Las Sendas and would like to request that we stay in the Mesa District..
09/24/2021 - 11:24	09/24/2021 - 11:24	Ruth Ellen Kuyper	redistricting	The tool put forth is not user friendly. Makes me think the designers don't want it used and don't want a democratic process.
09/24/2021 - 11:27	09/24/2021 - 11:27	Robin Zenger	Redistricting Map	The IRC mapping tool is not easy to use. This will in effect pose a barrier to full participation by the voting public in its ability to comment on the process. In turn maps may not represent voters fairly and allow them to compete fairly in elections.
09/24/2021 - 15:48	09/24/2021 - 15:48	RoJean Madsen	PRESCOTT should have a Redistricting listening tour	PLEASE respect the input that PRESCOTT Area residents want to provide on REDISTRICTING by holding a LISTENING Tour session in PRESCOTT.
09/24/2021 - 15:53	09/24/2021 - 15:53	Ro Madsen	Select PRESCOTT for a Redistricting listening tour	Listening tours for Redistricting will not have fair opportunity to comment without PRESCOTT as the 3rd remaining location.
09/24/2021 - 15:57	09/24/2021 - 15:57	Martha Boose	Problems with Redistricting Tool	If this is going to be a fair and equitable process, than the redistricting tool being used by the IRC needs hefty changes so all May view and comment.
09/24/2021 - 16:52	09/24/2021 - 16:52	Maria A Lynam	Hearings for the Final Maps	Please have an in person session in Prescott. Thank you for your consideration.
09/24/2021 - 21:30	09/24/2021 - 21:30	Cindy Wagner	Listening tour	I request that one of third and final listening tours in November be held in PRESCOTT. Thank you.
09/25/2021 - 00:18	09/25/2021 - 00:18	Julie Pindzola	Grid maps and ESRI mapping tool	Hello Sorry to miss the Prescott public testimony meeting due to out of state travel. My intention is to have a map finished and submitted before testifying at the Flagstaff meeting.  I appreciate the complexity of you job given all the vying objectives and technical aspects of data gathering and synthesis. But the challenges of the mapping software is a real issue for MANY of those wishing to participate. Can an easier to use version be put up on the IRC's site? And can you provide a decent set of base maps that can be printed off by region - to then be marked up and submitted by interested citizens? A few extra days would also be helpful as folks self train on using this mapping software. There is a lot of trial and error as one learns to use the different functions.  Thank you for considering the varying skill levels and WIFI access of your AZ constituents. Everyone deserves to be heard. Fair andCompetitive districts do not happen by accident; it takes care and study. And since you require a population-balanced statewide map, users are compelled to hunt and peck for the needed offsetting geographies in adjacent districts. While tedious, at least this does help us understand the challenges for the Commission and their mapping team.  Please help the average citizen user at this important stage. Make it easier and less daunting. Thank you. Sincerely, thank you.

09/25/2021 - 02:01	09/25/2021 - 02:01	Merissa Hamilton	Public Comment: Grid Maps for Current CD6 (Future CD1) & CD8 Have Major Concerns	<p>Please accept the following as my public comment on the grid maps.</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with their nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 08:35	09/25/2021 - 08:35	Tiffany	Fix the New Districts	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p>
09/25/2021 - 08:38	09/25/2021 - 08:38	Eric Lovelis	Current Congressional District 6 - Proposed CD 1	<p>I live in Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p>
09/25/2021 - 08:39	09/25/2021 - 08:39	Diane Spence	Congressional Districts	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 08:40	09/25/2021 - 08:40	Maryann Watson	Congressional Districty 8	<p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 08:41	09/25/2021 - 08:41	Ann McAnerny	Redistricting	<p>I live in rural Arizona. I don't want my district mingled with urban Arizona districts. Our needs are different. We need our voices heard and represented.</p>

09/25/2021 - 08:42	09/25/2021 - 08:42	David Schultz	Oppose redistricting	<p>I and many others oppose these proposals of redistricting for it will rob certain communities of there representation. Thank you.</p>
09/25/2021 - 08:43	09/25/2021 - 08:43	Maria Elena Milton	Independent Redistricting Commission:	<p>I am a resident of Leg. Dist.23. in CD6 (Future CD1).</p> <p>The current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills.</p> <p>Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>Also noted: CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p> <p>Do not rob us of adequate representation.</p> <p>Respectfully, Maria E. Milton</p>
09/25/2021 - 08:46	09/25/2021 - 08:46	Sarica Cernohous	Redistricting	<p>Can't see this message? <a href="#">View in a browser</a></p> <p>CHIP IN \$10 TO HELP US TRAIN 5,000 ACTIVISTS FOR 2022</p> <p>YOUR</p> <p>When I see the proposed redistrict, I wonder if you live in state, or listened to the wise comments of the people at the meetings.</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p> <p>Please get this right, based off the wishes of the people who live here. The proposals in this report make one wonder what other influences are at play.</p>

09/25/2021 - 08:47	09/25/2021 - 08:47	Cathy Ravetto	Redistricting	Stop ruining our state and cheating our voters.
09/25/2021 - 09:00	09/25/2021 - 09:00	Suzanne Blanck	STOP!! BREAKING UP THE EXISTING LD23 DISTRICT!	Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district. STOP THIS MADNESS. STOP TRYNG TO CHANGE WHAT IS!!!
09/25/2021 - 09:06	09/25/2021 - 09:06	Marsha Klinger	Redistriction	If it isn't broke, then why fix it? I see absolutely no sense in mixes suburban areas with rural areas. Neither have any thing in common and face different problems. Leave it to the government to screw things up. Please keep your fingers out of the area districts and make sense when you want to change things.
09/25/2021 - 09:12	09/25/2021 - 09:12	Kim Hochschuler	Redistricting	Scottsdale, Cave Creek/Carefree, Fountain Hills, Paradise Valley are all similar in demographics and hence "communities of interest" and need to be in the same district.
09/25/2021 - 09:16	09/25/2021 - 09:16	Alexander Gayle Homan	Redistricting Proposals	The current plan to include the current CD6 and CD8 districts with rural communities would Rob them of their representation. They should be included with the communities around them that are similar demographically and culturally. LD23 also should not be broken up. The communities of Scottsdale and fountain hills are similar and this would deprive them of their current representation.
09/25/2021 - 09:16	09/25/2021 - 09:16	JAMES BUSH	Redistricting	Districts should be kept with areas of similar wealth, age and social structure. It is easier for legislators to help their assigned constituents, when their needs are closely tied together; Sun City residents do not care about child care needs for their population. Districts should be left as they are currently drawn out.
09/25/2021 - 09:23	09/25/2021 - 09:23	Angela Moffatt	Redistricting of North Scottsdale Area	I live in North Scottsdale, near the border of Cave Creek (current CD6 (Future CD1): I STRONGLY DISAGREE with placing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, it will rob the citizens of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. This is NOT RIGHT and DOES NOT correctly represent these communities. They need to be placed in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, CENTRAL PHOENIX and LOWER ARCADIA are culturally and demographically different and SHOULD NOT be drawn into this district either. They would not be properly represented by being placed into a suburban district.  The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.
09/25/2021 - 09:34	09/25/2021 - 09:34	Conay Huizar	Redistricting	Don't rob people of their voice by drawing lines that mute their voices. Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.  The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.  CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.

09/25/2021 - 09:56	09/25/2021 - 09:56	Julia Gresham	Redistricting	<p>Please do not break up LD23 in Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 10:06	09/25/2021 - 10:06	candace czarny	redistricting	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills.</p> <p>Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p>
09/25/2021 - 11:20	09/25/2021 - 11:20	Marla E Neely	CD6 and 8	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with their nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>



09/25/2021 - 11:21	09/25/2021 - 11:21	Linda Tucker	New Congressional Districts misalign rural, suburban, and urban areas of proper representation	<p>The new Congressional Districts misalign rural, suburban, and urban areas which will rob communities of interest of their proper representation in two key districts of 8 and 6 (existing).</p> <p>WHY IT MATTERS</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income.</p> <p>Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 11:22	09/25/2021 - 11:22	Michael Neely	CD6 and CD8	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with their nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 11:54	09/25/2021 - 11:54	Debra Bernoff	redistricting	<p>Please accept my public comments to express my request that redistricting proposed to break up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. I am against this as it will deprive representation by turning this into a suburban district. I also oppose redistricting CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix redistricting. As logical, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 11:57	09/25/2021 - 11:57	Barbara Dickerson	Redistricting CD6	<p>Scottsdale and Fountain Hills should remain together as they are similar communities. Scottsdale should not be grouped with urban communities.</p>
09/25/2021 - 12:07	09/25/2021 - 12:07	Michael Bernoff	Redistricting	<p>Please accept my public comments to express my request that redistricting proposed to break up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. I am against this as it will deprive representation by turning this into a suburban district. I also oppose redistricting CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix redistricting. As logical, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>

09/25/2021 - 12:15	09/25/2021 - 12:15	Cherie Calbom	Redistricting	I am totally opposed to the new redistricting maps. This would hinder numerous areas from proper representation.
09/25/2021 - 12:42	09/25/2021 - 12:42	Linda Chadwick	Redistricting	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 12:46	09/25/2021 - 12:46	Lisa Rego	Redistricting AZ	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with their nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 13:43	09/25/2021 - 13:43	Diana Corry	New Re-Districting Maps	<p>The new Congressional Districts misalign rural, suburban, and urban areas which will rob communities of interest of their proper representation in two key districts of 8 and 6 (existing). I live in CD6 and want to make sure this does not happen.</p> <p>Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs us of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Our suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>Please do not make these changes to my district and the districts as well.</p> <p>Diana Corry</p>
09/25/2021 - 13:46	09/25/2021 - 13:46	Deborah Bigler	Redistricting Fountain Hills	Fountain Hills and Scottsdale should not be divided up in voting districts. We are both suburban communities, which are similar in demographics and income. Dividing us up into a rural district is putting dislike communities together, stripping both communities of true representation. If we are divided up into urban communities, it is then silencing the citizens from the suburban areas. We should be kept together in the districting. If there needs to be a drawing out from this district, please consider looking south of Thomas as they are more alike to the culture and demographics of the urban areas.

09/25/2021 - 13:58	09/25/2021 - 13:58	Eugene Slutskiy	Congressional District 6	<p>Hi there I live in CD6 and my zip code is 85032. As a resident here I am asking that you do not redraw my district to exclude the communities of: Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills. Also, I am asking that you do not draw Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia into our district, CD6. I am concerned that if you make the above changes the current residents of CD6 will lose their representation. Please keep CD6 as it is currently, as much as possible.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>
09/25/2021 - 14:04	09/25/2021 - 14:04	Daniel M Conway	Authority to save	<p>I began preparation of a 30 District map and when I attempted to save my work, I received a message that I did not have authority to save,</p> <p>Please advise.</p>
09/25/2021 - 14:08	09/25/2021 - 14:08	Andrea Wolverton	Redistricting Maps	<p>Members of the Redistricting Commission,</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale, Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, Paradise Valley, and Fountain Hills. Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either as they are not suburban. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration, Andrea Wolverton</p>
09/25/2021 - 14:22	09/25/2021 - 14:22	Martha S O'Connor	maps	<p>Please post maps submitted on paper and organize them so that the public can submit comments.</p>

09/25/2021 - 15:01	09/25/2021 - 15:01	Deborah Howard	Lack of responsiveness to public record requests	<p>I have filed public records requests via the form on the IRC's website and through the "contact us" link when the public records request form was not working. I summarize those requests below. If the request received a pro-forma acknowledgment and public records act request number from the IRC, I have noted it. If no such number is noted, no acknowledgment was received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* June 21 - seeking the list of all public record requests to date (#984 - in response to repeated request on 8/25)</li> <li>* July 12 - emails between Erica Neuberg and Brian Schmitt for the dates 4/1- 6/30</li> <li>* August 4 - seeking meeting transcripts for the dates June 22 - August 3</li> <li>* August 4 - calendars of all five commissioners and Brian Schmitt</li> <li>* August 4 -expense reports of all five commissioners for the month of July (#986)</li> <li>* August 4 - Invoices for the months of April, May, June, and July for 1) Timmons Group, 2) NDC Doug Johnson; 3) Ballard Spahr and 4) Snell and Wilmer (#983)</li> <li>* August 25 - copies of all paper map submissions received during the Round 1 Listening Tour (July 9 - August 10)</li> </ul> <p>Some speakers handed the IRC staff their presentation and talking points. I believe these documents should fall under the framework of minutes and should have been made publicly available within 3 working days of the meeting. Given that these documents were not yet publicly available I submitted this request.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* August 25 - The contact list, and contacts made by Outreach Coordinator Marie Chapel-Camacho of local elected officials, governments, government officials, and civic engagement groups - for period of August 1 - 25.</li> <li>* August 25 - a copy of the excel spreadsheet with comments from the 910 COI submissions (not a pdf version which does not provide a full record of all comments.) Time period July 1 - August 11. (#981)</li> <li>* August 25 - notes, emails and other documents used to inform the selection of specific locales and sites for the Round 1 listening tour. Time Period June 1 - July 31. (#982)</li> <li>* August 25 - REPEAT of August 4 request of monthly invoices for mapping and legal consultants. (#975)</li> <li>* August 25 - AMENDED request for meeting transcripts to include all dates - January 21 - August 24. (#985)</li> <li>* August 25 - Calendars of all commissioners and staff members Schmitt, Van Haren, Neumann, Crank, Chapel-Camacho, and Pena reflecting all meetings and discussions with interested third parties related to the business of redistricting. This request included a suggested broad definition of "interested third parties" to indicate the request was for the most expansive definition. (#988)</li> <li>* August 25 - copies of emails, phone logs and other documentation of communications between executive director Brian Schmitt and the Arizona Governor's office pertaining to IRC 2022 budget negotiations. (#990)</li> <li>* September 18 - copies of the sign-in sheets for each of the Round 1 Listening tour hearings.</li> </ul> <p>September 18 - REPEAT request for excel spreadsheet of 910 COI submissions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* September 18 - REPEAT request for calendars of all five commissioners reflecting meetings and conversations with interested third party stakeholders related to redistricting. Time frame: August 26- September 17.</li> <li>* September 18 - REPEAT: requesting transcripts of IRC business meetings 8/24 - 9/14) (#995)</li> <li>* September 18 - REPEAT - request for invoices of mapping and legal consultants for August. (#996)</li> <li>* September 18 - REPEAT - request for list of all public record act requests. Time period: January 21 - September 18</li> <li>* September 18 - requesting copies of August expense statements for each of the five commissioners and staff members Brian Schmitt and Lori Van Halen.</li> <li>* September 18 - a request for a record of all IRC expenditures for the month of August.</li> </ul> <p>Note: For records requested on September 18 I received email responses noting that the request was received, and numbers were assigned, but the response did not include the request itself, so I am uncertain which number goes with which request. These include numbers 994, 999, 993, 992, 997, and 998.)</p> <p>These records are not voluminous. Responding to them should not be an arduous task. To date I have not received any of the records requested. None.</p> <p>At its September 21 meeting, Chair Neuberg announced that the IRC staff is working on processing public records requests and hopes to be ready to respond in three to six weeks. She gave no reason for the delays. Under established case law, the IRC must provide a written notice of the delay along with a "legally sufficient" reason for it in order to prove that the IRC is attempting in good faith to comply with the law's "promptness" requirement. The Chair's casual comment does not constitute any legally sufficient reason for the delays.</p> <p>Since the IRC provided a place on its website for public records requests to be made, it is reasonable to conclude that the IRC anticipated requests to be made. It is also reasonable to conclude that, given the high visibility of its work, the IRC expected the number of requests to be significant. The fact that the Chair acknowledged general delays in processing records requests – presumably even the easy ones – suggests that the IRC didn't have a processing plan in place at the outset of its work and places a low priority on compliance.</p> <p>This is in stark contrast to the responsiveness of ADOA prior to the IRC adopting the public records act policy</p>
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09/25/2021 - 15:30	09/25/2021 - 15:30	Deborah J Dyjak	Redistricting CD 6 and CD 8	<p>I am concerned about current plans for redistricting CD 6 and CD 8: Please see below  Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 16:40	09/25/2021 - 16:40	Deborah Howard	Integration of public comment regardless of format	<p>I applaud the decision announced today at the 3rd grid map hearing that the IRC plans to provide guidance to the public on how to upload shape files to the IRC Redistricting Hub and that the IRC will be providing a form or direction on how to submit paper maps as well. This is both responsible and responsive.</p> <p>As part of that instruction, please include the specifics of how these submissions (both electronic and paper) will be integrated into the redistricting hub for evaluation and consideration by the commissioners. It is inadequate to offer repeated assurances. The public deserves to know exactly what processes will be in place - what pathways will be created so that no matter how the public provides mapping suggestions it is received equally to all other mapping suggestions received.</p> <p>The very fact that this change is being made within two weeks of the reveal of the "free" IRC redistricting tool is evidence that inadequate care and attention was given to public usability. Please do not repeat the same mistake now as you act to correct the past oversight.</p> <p>Doug Johnson has consistently said it is the quality of the idea that matters. He has made multiple statements to that end referencing duplications that could reflect organized campaigns by partisan and other special interests. The same holds true for the form in which those ideas are submitted. The only acceptable assurance is to tell the public - explicitly and in lay language - how it will be reviewed, cataloged, integrated, and retrieved. Basically - what system do you have in place?</p>

09/25/2021 - 16:51	09/25/2021 - 16:51	Catherine Tunget	Redistricting Maps	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/25/2021 - 17:02	09/25/2021 - 17:02	Cheryl Dubois	Redistributing of 23	<p>Dear commission members,</p> <p>It seems clear to me that "common sense" is no where to be found in government. One would think that at the local level, common sense would be the norm...but it is not. Stop using our votes as pawns in your chess game . Just another example of ignoring WE THE PEOPLE. We are watching</p>
09/25/2021 - 18:19	09/25/2021 - 18:19	Deborah Howard	Use of executive session	<p>During the Sept. 21 meeting Chairwoman Neuberg in seeking a motion to move into executive session said they (the Commissioners) would cover "principles relating to majority-minority districts as they were used by IRC v2 and then also the current grid map." The executive session she said would be to "obtain legal advice to further implement and advance our understanding of mapping for majority-minority districts."</p> <p>I offer that "advancing understanding" and how majority-minority districts were drawn historically are not appropriate topics for executive session.</p> <p>The AZ open meeting law is toothless. Conversely, the lawsuits that will inevitably come, enhanced by the lack of transparency in the thought and deliberation this commission, will be quite punishing. Good maps or bad maps, the IRC - and the public - will be protected by transparency, not executive sessions.</p> <p>If your current legal counsel can not explain this to you, I suggest you seek outside counsel on the matter. You are moving into delicate -0 and dangerous -territory. Again, the IRC itself, its final maps, and the public will be best-served by transparency in the process and commission deliberations.</p>
09/25/2021 - 18:26	09/25/2021 - 18:26	Deborah Howard	Posting of presentations	<p>As the commissioners know oh so well, you have been meeting since January. The IRC has a \$7.9 million dollar budget; six full time staff members; and the full force and weight of the state of Arizona behind it. It is time to start operating as amateur organization. One aspect of this is posting presentations to be presented during regular business meetings to the website - before the meeting itself.</p> <p>Ideally, this would be at the same time as the agenda itself is posted. Many city governments offer hyperlinks to such background documents as a matter of course. That might a bridge too far.</p> <p>I ask that the IRC get in front of this curve for hte remaining 12 weeks. You are busy and have a lot of important decisions to make and data to consider. This information is no less important and valuable to the public who have been engaged with you since January.</p> <p>This is an easy ask. I seek your support for this very small step towards improved transparency.</p>

09/25/2021 - 21:57	09/25/2021 - 21:57	Rev. Dr. Kaye E Skinner RN	Redistricting	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p> <p>Please come up with something else that is more workable and ameanable to all.</p>
09/25/2021 - 22:28	09/25/2021 - 22:28	Patricia Oricht	Redistricting	<p>Please know that the people of Arizona are tired. Not too tired to fight what is before us as a Communist agenda weaves it way through our state. What we are tired of are the weak politicians who are supposed to represent us in this great state, and we are not going away any time soon.</p> <p>The proposed redistricting, thus far, is an atrocious attack on the Conservative party that we will not sit down for. If the people who have moved to this state from the travesty State of California want to overrun us here as they did to conservatives in that hole, we are NOT going to sit back and watch it quietly. Redistricting is not a handy little leftist tool created to be used to take over this state and it is YOUR JOB to make sure it isn't used in that way. Keep Arizona beautiful, please. We can always visit California.</p>
09/26/2021 - 02:42	09/26/2021 - 02:42	Jen Bryant	Redeistricting	<p>Make sure you are following all, not one or two of these rules when making redistricting decisions and drawing lines. Otherwise it is cheating for political gain and purposefully stifles the voices of large groups of citizens. The people of Arizona deserve and demand lawful action where elections and districting are concerned.</p> <p>Six Constitutional Requirements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comply with the US Constitution and US Voting Rights Act</li> <li>2. Congressional &amp; Legislative Districts divided into equal populations</li> <li>3. Districts should be geographically compact &amp; connected</li> <li>4. District boundaries must respect communities of interest</li> <li>5. Use geographic features such as city and town boundaries and undivided census tracks</li> <li>6. Competitive Districts as long as the other five requirements are prioritized</li> </ol> <p>The Independent Redistricting Commission must follow six requirements in their process of drawing new legislative and congressional districts.</p>

09/26/2021 - 12:02	09/26/2021 - 12:02	Deborah Howard	Public Comment	<p>Local school boards and city councils are meeting late into the night over community support and/or opposition of COVID precautions being instituted at local campuses.</p> <p>The IRC is in the thicket of a once-a-decade process that can literally affect the health, wealth, and well-being of every resident of this state. It is time the IRC take a deep breath and emerge from its self-constructed cocoon of virtual business meetings with NO capacity for real-time public participation.</p> <p>The only real-time public engagement that has been allowed has been in the first round listening tour and now the public hearings on the grid maps. I will let the existing and extensive criticism on the locations, timing and exclusionary impact of these hearings stand on its own.</p> <p>Each of the five members of the commission applied for this role with the expectation that meetings would be in person and would require travel, disruption to their personal business schedules and other inconveniences. COVID made virtual meetings "the new normal."</p> <p>We are now in a post-COVID business environment and the public deserves the opportunity and to make its own choice as to how to participate in real time at the IRC business meetings and public hearings. And evermore importantly the IRC needs to prepare for and allow real time public input before and after each line drawing session with the mappers.</p> <p>I have virtually attended each of your business meetings and all but one of your public hearings to date. Technology can be either a filter or an access point. To date the IRC is using it primarily as a filter - to not convene in person and to not include live public comment as a part of your business meetings or virtually at public hearings.</p> <p>The inconsistencies in your practice belie your intent. It is time - beyond time -to fully invite the public into the discussion. By this I mean hybrid business meetings and public hearings that allow for live, in person participation as well as via telephone, or zoom-like real-time comments from the public.</p> <p>There is a difference in "reading" a comment submitted online and hearing the voice, looking into the eyes of the speaker, and seeing the speaker as a whole being - who may have chosen to attend in person -because they deemed their participation THAT important.</p> <p>If local elected school board members and city council officials can manage this, so can you. Perhaps the (unnamed) local elected officials being contacted through your outreach efforts would provide expertise to IRC staff on this front.</p>
09/26/2021 - 12:24	09/26/2021 - 12:24	Gary and Tina Hopkins	FIX THE NEW DISTRICT MAPS	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills.</p>
09/26/2021 - 13:40	09/26/2021 - 13:40	Cathy Lee	Redistricting	<p>Hi, In your congressional maps I do not believe that any of Mesa should be lumped in with AJ, Chandler, Gilbert or Queen Creek. It seems like in the far East Valley that East Mesa is always left out of the rest of the Mesa Community which results in our voices not being heard. It has also led to a lack of competition in this area and we have not been equally represented. Infrastructure, entertainment, restaurants, school decisions affects all of us in the Mesa community and not just a select few.</p> <p>The same would hold true for the legislative maps. Please consider Mesa (East Valley)(District 10 on your map) to only be in Maricopa County &amp; please do not include Mesa with Queen Creek, Gilbert, Chandler or AJ as we are very different communities and have different interests.</p>



09/26/2021 - 14:40	09/26/2021 - 14:40	Nance Harris	Voting districts	<p>People in districts need to be similar in order to get representation. If we mix rural, suburban and city; no one gets a fair say as their opinion is diluted. Rural with rural, city with city, etc. so we have some representatives actually speaking for a group of citizens; not just their own opinion.</p> <p>The new proposal doesn't follow this logic used successfully in the past. Please change. Don't draw lines to make one party or the other get most of the votes.</p>
09/26/2021 - 14:46	09/26/2021 - 14:46	Lynn Peters	Grid Maps Written Comments	<p>Is this the correct platform to submit written comments regarding AZ Grid Maps? Also, I plan to speak at the Oct 7th public hearing in Surprise, AZ. Should I also submit those comments in writing? Here? Hand in written version at the Oct 7th meeting? Thank you, Lynn Peters</p>
09/26/2021 - 16:46	09/26/2021 - 16:46	Kevin Schaefer	Redistricting Concern and Comments	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am concerned about several of the current proposed maps.</p> <p>First, the current CD6 or future CD1, GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district. Scottsdale and Fountain Hills are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please include anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>Secondly, including Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district (CD8) robs them of their representation. They should be with the nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Kevin and Jessica Schaefer</p>
09/26/2021 - 21:56	09/26/2021 - 21:56	Theresa Louise Smith	Redistricting	<p>Please keep like communities in the same legislative district. It isn't fair to mix rural, suburban and urban communities into one district-they have different needs and all will not be represented if forced to elect a legislator that will need to consider differing needs of their constituents.</p>
09/27/2021 - 09:26	09/27/2021 - 09:26	Jere Fredenburgh	Cochise County - One Congressional and One Legislative District NO split	<p>Keep Cochise County in ONE legislative and ONE Congressional district. Separating out the south west corner of the county makes it very difficult for municipalities to conduct business. They must interact with multiple local, state and federal entities, versus single entities when doing business. Focus on keeping Cochise County together for ease of government; focus on keeping Cochise County together as we all have the same values and help each other within the county. Thank you.</p>
09/27/2021 - 09:50	09/27/2021 - 09:50	Dawn Walker	Redistricting Grid Map	<p>* Oro Valley is part of a community of interest with places in Pima County not Pinal County. Oro Valley shares common demographics, urbanization, economies, cultural interests and history with Pima County places.</p> <p>* You are not happy with Oro Valley's current Legislative District since it is comprised primarily of Pinal County places. Oro Valley is in Pima County.</p> <p>* Oro Valley is competitive and should be in both Congressional and Legislative Districts that are competitive. We have not been in a competitive LD and it is time we were.</p> <p>*In the grid maps, Oro Valley is in CD5 and LD16 with 67% &amp; 66% white voting populations and 22% &amp; 25% Hispanic populations respectively. Hispanics make up 31.7% of AZ's population. Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act prohibits against voting practices and procedures (including redistricting plans) that discriminate on the basis of race, color or membership in a language minority group. Hispanic ballot power is diluted in these majority minority districts.</p>
09/27/2021 - 12:05	09/27/2021 - 12:05	Roseria Astor	Email address	<p>hello, I just left a message at [REDACTED] in regards to trying to find an email address for the Executive Director Brian Schmitt.</p> <p>He is cc'd in a correspondence from the Tribe and would like to see that he received this letter. Thank you. I could also be reached at [REDACTED]</p>
09/27/2021 - 13:24	09/27/2021 - 13:24	Jean Meconi	grid map tour	<p>There is no designated comment link for the grid map tour. It would be helpful if there was one.</p>

09/27/2021 - 14:14	09/27/2021 - 14:14	Melanie Nordin-Pyle	Submission of a redistricting map	<p>I have an idea how to redistrict the southern AZ map that represents our population. Where and how may I do this for consideration?</p> <p>Best Regards, Melanie Nordin-Pyle Elgin, AZ</p>
09/27/2021 - 14:16	09/27/2021 - 14:16	Dana Offerman	Grid maps	<p>As a resident of Oro Valley, I would like to state that the grid maps should not be the basis for the final district maps. Oro Valley is part of a community of interest with places in Pima County not Pinal County. Oro Valley shares common demographics, urbanization, economies, cultural interests and history with Pima County places. We do not relate to Pinal county in these critical areas.</p> <p>* I am not happy with Oro Valley's current Legislative District since it is comprised primarily of Pinal County places. Oro Valley is in Pima County and its residents relate much more closely with Pima County.</p> <p>* Oro Valley is competitive and should be in both Congressional and Legislative Districts that are competitive. We have not been in a competitive LD and it is time we were. Moreover, the current grid maps would violate the competitive maps requirement. Competitive districts are good for a healthy democracy and electing representatives who will listen to everyone, regardless of party.</p> <p>*In the grid maps, Oro Valley is in CD5 and LD16 with 67% &amp; 66% white voting populations and 22% &amp; 25% Hispanic populations respectively. Hispanics make up 31.7% of AZ's population. Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act prohibits against voting practices and procedures (including redistricting plans) that discriminate on the basis of race, color or membership in a language minority group. Hispanic ballot power is diluted in these majority minority districts.</p>
09/27/2021 - 14:34	09/27/2021 - 14:34	Michael Offerman	IRC Grid Maps	<p>I am very disappointed with the grid maps produced by the IRC. The maps lump Oro Valley with Pinal County. We are not only in Pima County but we are part of the Tucson Metro Area. Our issues and concerns are very different than those of people in Pinal County. And, our demographics are very different. We do not share common interests with Pinal County but do with Pima County. The grid maps make no sense.</p>
09/27/2021 - 15:25	09/27/2021 - 15:25	Jana Lynn Granillo	I can not create account due to can not get past licensing agreement	<p>Please provide instructions on how to get past licensing agreement screen in order to create and account.</p> <p>I submitted all fields and then a window with licensing agreement pops up with no way to say yes acknowledge or to move past this screen. Please advise.</p> <p>I look forward to your response.</p>
09/27/2021 - 15:27	09/27/2021 - 15:27	Norma L Bliven	Mapping Software	<p>What are you going to do to find different mapping software that will be better suited for the public? And how quickly? Tick. Tock.</p>
09/27/2021 - 15:36	09/27/2021 - 15:36	Paula Sharron Parkel	Redistricting Grid Maps	<p>Our District LD22 should belong with the Metro Phoenix Communities.</p>
09/27/2021 - 18:28	09/27/2021 - 18:28	Rebecca J Haynes	Redistricting mapping	<p>Redistricting is supposed to be a public process but the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool is not user-friendly. This will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair &amp; competitive maps.</p>
09/27/2021 - 19:12	09/27/2021 - 19:12	Elinor Brecher	redistricting	<p>My husband, a 77-year-old Navy veteran, and I, live in LD 9, CD 2, precinct 214. Please do not assume that everyone in the Tucson Foothills is a rich, conservative, white Christian. We are only one of those things - white - and we strongly support the Democratic map. There is more diversity in this area than you might imagine, and we do NOT want to be shoved into a district dominated by right-wing Republicans. They do not share our values and do not represent our interests.</p>
09/27/2021 - 20:17	09/27/2021 - 20:17	Janet L Forde	Need for an end to shaping districts to empower political parties	<p>The election process is intended to give each person an equal opportunity to have a say in their government. When districts are manipulated to give members of any one party a power advantage you are subverting the intention of "one person, one vote". Perhaps we need a statewide grid system to be the basis of our districts. One thing we need to do is get the decision making out of the hands of elected official.</p>
09/28/2021 - 08:04	09/28/2021 - 08:04	Betty G Bengtson	No sound for Valerie Neuman	<p>The public is unable to hear Ms. Neuman on the YouTube livestream this morning (9/28).</p>

09/28/2021 - 09:31	09/28/2021 - 09:31	Bridget B Nelke	<p>Concern redistricting map for my district CD 8</p>	<p>Commissioners,</p> <p>I have been a west valley resident since 1973. We owned a west valley business for over 30 years. We have extended family in several west valley communities.</p> <p>We are closely intertwined cities for every facet of our lives and needs. We “go into town” or “up the road” referring to upper Glendale and Peoria for entertainment, recreation, healthcare, upper education, shopping and dining. Literally ALL our lifestyle needs. We don’t give a second thought to driving one more block, which might change towns, for our kids to join youth sports leagues and school sports games.</p> <p>Whether we use the 101 or the 303, we consider these “curves” OUR northwest valley, where we identify as OUR part of town.</p> <p>I’m sure the fine people in more rural areas are closely connected to their needs, BUT our more urban needs are not the same and not where we should be aligned.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
09/28/2021 - 10:11	09/28/2021 - 10:11	Alison H Jones	<p>Counties are communities of interest</p>	<p>My name is Alison Jones and I live in LD 9 in Pima County. I live in Tucson and I work here as a hydrogeologist on environmental and water supply issues. Thank you for the work you are doing to prevent the scourge of gerrymandering. Yours is a thankless but important job, as evidenced by the crowd here today.</p> <p>First I would like to speak to one of the strongest types of communities of interest: COUNTIES. School districts, water districts, fire districts, development plans, are at least partially based on county lines. I urge you, where possible, to avoid LDs crossing county lines. LDs 14, 11, and 4 in Pima all cross county lines. LD14 is spread among 4 counties. A small section of LD14 in Pima County. Those folks in Pima LD14 feel somewhat marginalized and disconnected being tacked onto this mostly rural district. In reality, these are folks are part of the greater Tucson community.</p> <p>Second: Arizona is a politically competitive state. As of July the party registration is very close to 1/3 Dem, 1/3 Rep, and 1/3 Other. Ultimately, a successful redistricting should end up with 1/3 Dem Majority districts, 1/3 R majority districts, and 1/3 competitive districts. These competitive districts will be the ones to watch. Because of independent voters and those willing to cross party lines, the candidate who connects best with the voters in these districts-- wins. What a concept.</p> <p>Finally, it has been proposed by some that the area now in LD9 north of River Road in the foothills be separated from districts in the City and instead be rolled into a district with Marana and Oro Valley. Not only would this NOT be compact (I would describe it as serpentine), the folks who live in the foothills are much more connected and have much more in common with Tucson than they do with Marana and Oro Valley. The Catalina Foothills really are a part of TUCSON.</p> <p>My ASKS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1—Counties are Strong Communities of interest. Please honor county lines when drawing legislative districts wherever possible.</li> <li>2—Aim for a mix of districts that are 1/3 Dem majority, 1/3 R Majority, and 1/3 competitive. In competitive districts, may the best candidate win. The creation of fair and competitive districts is the reason for this commission.</li> <li>3—Segregating the Catalina foothills from the City of Tucson is like splitting up a close-knit family. Don’t do it.</li> </ol>

09/28/2021 - 10:26	09/28/2021 - 10:26	Mark W. Knecht	Arizona Native American contact?	<p>I am watching all the IRC meetings live on YouTube and have submitted a couple of maps. I'm interested in making contact with someone in the Native American community here in Arizona to discuss how they might feel about the maps I've drawn, what they see the issues are from their perspective, and getting input on how to better represent their interests.</p> <p>If the IRC can put me in touch with some directly, or with Commissioner Watchman, I would be very appreciative.</p> <p>Thank you, Mark Knecht</p>
09/28/2021 - 12:02	09/28/2021 - 12:02	Blair Tarman	Grid Map Listening Tour - 9.25.21	<p>Will a recording of the Grid Map hearing from Saturday, September 25 be uploaded to the Commission's YouTube page?</p> <p>Thank you for your work,</p> <p>Blair</p>
09/28/2021 - 14:54	09/28/2021 - 14:54	Jean Meconi	grid maps	<p>I am a resident of Oro Valley and am alarmed that the grid maps put Oro Valley in both Congressional and Legislative Districts in Pinal County. Oro Valley is in Pima County and our town's community of interest includes Marana and Casa Adobes, not places in Pinal County. Oro Valley has little in common with places in Pinal. We are more diverse economically, demographically and politically than the other places in the CD5 and LD16 grid maps. Besides population, compactness and contiguousness criteria, you should be considering boundaries and community of interest criteria. Oro Valley is in Pima County and has little in common with places in Pinal county.</p>
09/28/2021 - 15:58	09/28/2021 - 15:58	Ari Bradshaw	Map Submission Error	<p>I had a submission error with the map I've been working on for the past week.</p> <p>It said to contact the system administrator. I'm not sure exactly what it means by that.</p> <p>Here is a link to a Google Drive with a shape file, kmz, and detailed description of the submitted map.</p> <p><a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yqM-Jgi5qLRmw3Ub-VMnMaHZETxfjR9p?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yqM-Jgi5qLRmw3Ub-VMnMaHZETxfjR9p?usp=sharing</a></p> <p>Thank you so much. Best, Ari Bradshaw Abraham Farooqui</p>
09/28/2021 - 18:59	09/28/2021 - 18:59	Linda Tucker	Voting districts need to contain areas with like minded areas and goals.	<p>The legislative redistricting proposals would negatively affect voting outcomes in Arizona. Proposed redistricting makes districts too big and groups areas into large districts with dissimilar goals. Bad for voters.</p> <p>Linda Tucker</p>
09/28/2021 - 18:59	09/28/2021 - 18:59	Linda Tucker	Voting districts need to contain areas with like minded areas and goals.	<p>The legislative redistricting proposals would negatively affect voting outcomes in Arizona. Proposed redistricting makes districts too big and groups areas into large districts with dissimilar goals. Bad for voters.</p> <p>Linda Tucker</p>
09/28/2021 - 19:12	09/28/2021 - 19:12	Cherie Calbom	Redistricting	<p>New district maps proposed for Arizona misalign rural, suburban and urban areas. New lines directly impact who can win the outcomes of elections, based on the partisan identity of registered voters and district boundaries. We are totally against this.</p>

09/28/2021 - 20:01	09/28/2021 - 20:01	Stephen Robinson	Redistricting	<p>My name is Steve Robinson, and thank you for giving me, a new Arizona resident, the opportunity to speak with you.</p> <p>My wife and I moved to Oro Valley less than a year ago, and in that short time we have been pleased to see first-hand the diversity that defines Pima County. At the same time, we have been disappointed to learn that the legislative and Congressional districts surrounding us do not reflect that diversity, nor are these districts drawn with some measure of party, race, ethnicity and overall demographic balance.</p> <p>The result is that candidates running in one of these skewed districts need only cater to one group or one segment of the electorate.</p> <p>When a candidate espouses views to satisfy only one group, the result is that the winner is likely to embrace extreme positions in order to win the votes of that one portion of the electorate.</p> <p>Like so many Americans, I am alarmed at the polarization that has engulfed our political life, and I fear the growing number of politicians who are comfortable espousing extreme views because they know they have the support of an unrealistically uniform district. The solution, it seems to me, is to encourage the candidacy of men and women whose views appeal to a broad range of voters in their district, not the extremists on either fringe. The way forward for Arizona and for our country is to give voters in that diverse middle a balanced opportunity to support candidates who share their hopes and concerns.</p> <p>Thank you again for the difficult, but essential work you are doing.</p>
09/28/2021 - 21:02	09/28/2021 - 21:02	Leslie Duffy	Redistricting in Arizona	<p>New district maps proposed for Arizona misalign rural, suburban and urban areas. New lines directly impact who can win the outcomes of elections, based on the partisan identity of registered voters and district boundaries. These new maps need to ended.</p>
09/28/2021 - 22:25	09/28/2021 - 22:25	Hope	Dates for 30-Day Public Hearings on Draft Maps	<p>Dear Commissioners,</p> <p>What are the anticipated dates for the 30 days of public hearings after it the draft maps are approved?</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
09/28/2021 - 22:25	09/28/2021 - 22:25	Ryan Martin	Error in submitting Map	<p>Hello,</p> <p>This evening I tried to submit my congressional map and when submitting, an error appeared that said that my email was not sent and to contact an administrator. Did you receive my map? Or how should I resubmit?</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Ryan Martin</p>

09/29/2021 - 07:58	09/29/2021 - 07:58	ALEXIS BUTLER	<p>The New Maps are NOT good representatives of our state!</p>	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with their nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p> <p>THIS NEEDS TO BE FIXED. Please review the above issues and redraw the maps.</p> <p>Thank you! Alexis LD28</p>
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09/29/2021 - 08:58	09/29/2021 - 08:58	Maria Guadalupe Hidalgo	Public Comment On Grid Maps - Tucson Meeting- September 29	<p>Good day, Chairperson Neuberg and members of the IRC Commission. My name is Maria Hidalgo I live in Tucson, what is currently LD 9 and CD 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First, thank you for your time and public service to the Commission.</li> <li>• I recognize the mapping process is just at the starting point. The release of the DRAFT grid maps, reflecting only equal populations based on the US Census data were received by the Commission approximately 2 weeks ago.</li> <li>• My intent today is to speak about concerns I have about the IRC's engagement of communities of color in this once in a decade process, the mapping software, and the redistricting criteria:</li> </ul> <p><b>PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT/ACCESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I cannot encourage you enough to continue to do all that you can to make these public meetings on the draft grid maps, but most importantly in the next step of public comment of proposed maps accessible to communities with high Latino/Native American voters.</li> <li>• With more than 30% of AZ's population being Latino (or 2 million Latino voters), having venues in the Latino communities promotes the importance of transparency/trust.</li> </ul> <p><b>MAPPING SOFTWARE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I consider myself savvy with technology, however I'm self-conscious to share how complicated and overwhelming I found the mapping software.</li> <li>• As of today, approximately 20+ maps have been submitted – statewide. With some mappers submitting 2-3 maps. This appears to substantiate my concern.</li> <li>• Anything you can do to increase the participation in communities with notable populations of color that either don't have internet or reliable internet access, is so important. Perhaps clear and transparent instructions on the IRC website on how to submit paper maps can go a long way to engage these communities of interest.</li> </ul> <p><b>REDISTRICTING CRITERIA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I ask that any map which immediately does not meet all six (6) redistricting factors should not be consider at all.</li> <li>• Also, it would go a long way to foster transparency and trust, to know what legal guidance the Commissioners have been provided on how to interpret and apply these six (6) factors.</li> <li>• I also ask that district boundaries reflect majority-minority districts, communities of color and their voting history. This is key to ensure these voices are heard.</li> <li>• Although I still have not been able to draw/submit a map, I was able to review the 20 maps submitted as of today and I am supportive of 2 maps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LD0006/LD Plan</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> CD009</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Lastly, I am choosing to be optimistic the IRC and AZ citizens will ensure Arizona's electoral map reflects all its diverse populations and the actual make up of its voters – which what Arizonans resoundingly voted for 20 years ago. Thank you.</p>
09/29/2021 - 09:11	09/29/2021 - 09:11	Lauren Pruett	Redistricting notes	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>

09/29/2021 - 10:00	09/29/2021 - 10:00	Margaret Barnes	ReDistricting of CD 6 and LD 23Central	<p>Existing CD 6 is made up of Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills. They are suburban communities with similar demographics and income. Moving Carefree, Cave Creek or Fountain Hills to into a rural district robs them of proper representation. These communities need to be with Paradise Valley, Scottsdale and Fountain Hills.</p> <p>Also Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and should not be drawn in this district either as they are demographically different. LD 23 district is mostly Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These communities are similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please remove anything south of Thomas which is a different community.</p>
09/29/2021 - 10:04	09/29/2021 - 10:04	Margaret Barnes	Redistricting of CD 8	<p>Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation as they are suburban. They should be with nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/29/2021 - 10:48	09/29/2021 - 10:48	Suzanne King	Maps	<p>My name is Suzanne King, and I live in LD9 in the Catalina Foothills. I write to support Legislative District map 0007; to oppose any map that would separate the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson; and to insist on competitive districts.</p> <p>LD map 0007 meets all the required criteria regarding equal population, minority-majority districts, compactness, and contiguity. Moreover, the party distribution is very close to the 2020 Presidential vote distribution including districts that went heavily for one party or the other and the districts where the margin of victory was small.</p> <p>In addition, it joins major Communities of Interest – Saddlebrooke with Oro Valley, Flagstaff with Sedona, Green Valley with Sahuarita, etc. It generally keeps small communities such as Vail, intact and keeps them with related small communities, such as Show Low with Pinetop with its associated tribal community of Whiteriver. Tribes are kept intact and in the same district as nearby tribes – Navajo, Hopi, and two Apaches tribes, for example. Ft. McDowell and Salt River tribes are together near Fountain Hills and Scottsdale.</p> <p>Counties are one of the strongest types of communities of interest—school districts, water, fire and transportation development plans are based in part on county lines. As a resident of the Catalina Foothills, I strongly object to a proposal that the area now in LD9 north of River Road be separated from districts in the City of Tucson and instead be joined with Marana and Oro Valley. I have lived here for almost 25 years and have never had more than a passing connection to Marana and Oro Valley. I shop, eat out, go to the theater, etc in the City of Tucson. Before I retired, I worked in downtown Tucson for 20 years. Splitting the County and LD9 in the proposed manner is a blatant effort to diminish the voting power of residents of the Foothills and the remainder of LD9 as it now exists.</p> <p>Map 0007, on the other hand, splits counties as little as possible and where they must join with other counties, their section is kept compact, such as western Cochise County compactly joined with the nearby eastside part of the Tucson Area and Yavapai County compactly joins with Maricopa County.</p> <p>Arizona is a politically competitive state, with party registration close to evenly divided among Democrats, Republicans and Other. Developing maps with competitive districts is the purpose of the IRC and critical to the perception of fairness.</p> <p>I ask that (1)where possible, counties be kept together, (2) the IRC not split the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson, and (3) the IRC fulfill its obligation to create competitive districts.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Suzanne King</p>



09/29/2021 - 10:59	09/29/2021 - 10:59	ANNE WARD	IRC Maps	<p>I am a concerned citizen who lives in LD( in the Catalina Foothills. I have lived and voted in this community for 33 years. I write in support of Legislative District Map 0007. I oppose any map that would separate my neighborhood from the City of Tucson, and I insist on a map with competitive districts.</p> <p>LD map 007 meets all the requirements of equal population, minority-majority districts, compactness and contiguity. And the proposed map includes different types of districts: those that went heavily for one party or another in the last election as well as those where the margin of victory was small.</p> <p>In addition, this map puts together like communities: Saddlebrook with Oro Valley, Flagstaff with Sedona, Green Valley with Sahuarita. Tribes are kept intact and in the same district as nearby tribes.</p> <p>As a more than 30 ear resident of the Catalina Foothills, I strongly object to a proposal that separates the area now in LD9 north of River Road from districts in the City of Tucson. Any proposal that severs my area's connection to the city of Tucson is wrong-headed. I and my neighbors work, eat, shop and attend all the cultural events that Tucson has to offer. When I tell people where I live, I say Tucson, and in my head I think of the countless hours I have spend driving down the hill, below River Road, to places in the city of Tucson. My husband rode his bike to work for decades, to the city of Tucson. My neighborhood encompasses Tucson, not Marana or Oro Valley.</p> <p>Finally, we need maps that are competitive. Arizona is a state with registration almost evenly divided among Republicans, Demcrats and Independents. Map 0007 fulfills that goal.</p>
09/29/2021 - 11:52	09/29/2021 - 11:52	Hope Busto-Keyes	September 29, 2021 - TESTIMONY	<p>IRC Testimony September 29, 2021</p> <p>Thank you, Chairwoman Neuberg and Distinguished Commissioners for holding public hearings on the redistricting process.</p> <p>My name is Hope Busto-Keyes. My address is [REDACTED] Tucson, however my residence is located in southern Marana, west of I-10 and Twin Peaks Road. My "community of interest" map has been submitted to the IRC Listening Tour Submission Dashboard under zip code 85743.</p> <p>Today, I want to encourage you, the gatekeepers of redistricting, to create maps that are fair - to preserve the people's voting power to elect representatives of their choice and not visa versa.</p> <p>Arizonans depend on you to create fair maps – maps that are not skewed to empower any given political party or any particular person; maps that do not crack nor pack certain communities to dilute their political power.</p> <p>Fair maps will result in fair elections, and fair elections will result in having elected officials who reflect the will of the voters and who can be held accountable by them.</p> <p>Your decisions will affect me and all Arizona voters for the next decade. Please create fair maps for Arizona - I am counting on you.</p> <p>Thank you for you consideration.</p>

09/29/2021 - 14:07	09/29/2021 - 14:07	Barbara Burstein	Redistricting maps	<p>I have lived in Tucson all my life, and Lille in . I write to support Legislative District map 0007, and to register opposition to any map that takes part of the Catalina Foothills away from the City of Tucson, and to insist on competitive districts. LD map 0007 meets the criteria of equal population, minority-majority districts, compactness and contiguity.</p> <p>It also joins major communities of interest- Saddle Brooke with Oro Valle Y, Flagstaff with Sedona, Green Valley with Sahuarita. It also keeps small communities as Vail, intact with other small communities, e.g., Show Low with Pinetop, and associated tribal communities. Counties are strong communities of interest - school districts, water, fire and transportation development plans are based on County lines. I do not live in the Catalina Foothills, but I have established family, and friends who have and do. This area is much more connected to the City of Tucson, than to Marana or Oro Valley. I strongly object to the area north of River Road being taken out of LD9. Splitting the County and LD9 is a blatant attempt to diminish the voting power of the residents of the Catalina Foothills and the remainder of LD9. In contrast, Map 0007 minimizes splitting of counties, and where they must join with other counties, their section is kept compact, such as western Cochise County compactly joined the nearby east side part of Tucson area, and Yavapai compactly joins with Maricopa County.</p> <p>Arizona is a politically competitive state, with party registration close to evenly divided among Democrats, Republicans and Other. The purpose of the IRC is to develop maps with competitive districts and this is critical to the perception of fairness.</p> <p>I ask that where possible counties be kept together, that the ITC not split the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson, and that the ITC fulfill its legal obligation to create competitive districts.</p>
09/29/2021 - 14:30	09/29/2021 - 14:30	Bonnie Angster	Redistricting	<p>The grid map came separating Sun City at Bell Rd. As a resident of Sun City I am strongly oppressed to this slit. It is of the best interest to keep Sun City united. A united community.</p> <p>Bonnie Angster</p>
09/29/2021 - 14:34	09/29/2021 - 14:34	Priya Sundareshan	Public comment on map development	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment during the redistricting process. I was born and raised in the Catalina Foothills area north of Tucson, and have seen it change over the past almost 4 decades. Our lives in the Foothills have always been intricately connected with the city of Tucson, as my parents and of my friends worked at the University or the surrounding area, and visited restaurants and entertainment in the city. Change is inevitable, and we must adapt to it. Most importantly, our districts must change to reflect our city and state's growing population in a way that gives community members the opportunity to interact meaningfully with their elected officials. This is best accomplished by ensuring that districts are drawn to be competitive, so that our representatives do not hew to the extremes, but are incentivized to listen to all of their constituents to form a winning coalition of votes. This is especially important because so many Arizonans are independent of party affiliation. It is also very important that minority communities are protected and given meaningful voting power as demanded by federal voting rights laws. Majority-minority districts are an important way that such communities are protected, and this may have to come at the expense of perfectly even population counts, which is fine. Therefore, please draw districts that do not distort our suburban connections to the cities near us, that are competitive for meaningful access to representatives, and that protect voting rights of our minority communities.</p>


09/29/2021 - 14:54	09/29/2021 - 14:54	Eloise Gore	Redistricting Maps	<p>Good afternoon, Commissioners. Although I cannot attend your Hearing in person today, I want to pass along these comments for your consideration.</p> <p>1) In developing the new districts, I hope you will be especially focussed on the Competitiveness requirement. Arizona has become a state in which no one party dominates. In most districts, a Republican or a Democrat might win. This possibility discourages extreme positions at either end of the political spectrum. Elected officials must seek to please enough constituents to remain in office. Please avoid changing the districts to create red or blue dominated. It's terrible for the process to have a perpetually "safe" seat that discourages challengers.</p> <p>2) Please also keep in mind the VRA requirements to give a voice to people of color throughout the state. In this regard, please increase the number and locations of your Hearings to facilitate participation by Latinos, African Americans, Asians, and of course the highly significant Native American Arizonans.</p> <p>3) Here's a simple proposal: for the LDs, please adopt #LD0011 and for the CDs, please adopt #CD0009. I wish I could have drawn Maps myself, but I found the mapping tool impossible to use and the training offered impossible to follow. But whoever drew LD0011 and CD0009 seems to have captured what I would have suggested, at least for the Tucson area in which I live.</p> <p>Thank you for your hard work on this incredibly challenging and important job.</p>
09/29/2021 - 15:36	09/29/2021 - 15:36	Donna Booth	New Districts	Please include Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills with Scottsdale
09/29/2021 - 16:12	09/29/2021 - 16:12	Kerwin K Franklin	Redistricting	<p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): Residents of Scottsdale (north and south--or at least north of Thomas), Paradise Valley, Carefree, Cave Creek, and Fountain Hills are suburban "communities of interest" and similar in demographics and income. Drawing Carefree, Cave Creek, or Fountain Hills into a rural district, robs them of proper representation and shifts the population center in Northern Arizona to the south. Those suburban communities need to be in the same district as Scottsdale, PV, and Fountain Hills. Furthermore, Central Phoenix and lower Arcadia are urban areas, and thus should not be drawn into this district either. They are culturally and demographically different. They will be deprived of representation by being drawn into a suburban district.</p> <p>Current CD6 (Future CD1): The current GRID maps propose breaking up the existing LD23 district which includes the majority of Scottsdale and Fountain Hills. These two communities are very similar and should be in the same congressional district. Please "draw out" anything south of Thomas in this District.</p> <p>CD8: Drawing Sun City and the northwest suburbs of Phoenix into a rural district robs them of their representation. Instead, they should be with their nearby suburbs of Glendale, Peoria, and Sun City.</p>
09/29/2021 - 16:55	09/29/2021 - 16:55	Kay E Davis	IRC Redistricting Comments, Wed, Sept 29	<p>My name is Kay Davis. I live in the City of Tucson on the southwest side. Since moving to Tucson five years ago, I have learned much about the tribal communities of our state.</p> <p>Current district boundaries have the Tohono O'odham nation in several districts. They do not respect the community of interest of the Tohono O'odham nation.</p> <p>I urge you to consider map LD 0009. The Tohono O'odham nation needs to be primarily in a district associated with the Tucson metro area and Pima County. LD 0009 is a fair and competitive map and will ensure the voice of our Native American community is heard. I have also submitted my comments online.</p> <p>Thanks for listening and your commitment to redrawing congressional and legislative districts to ensure that districts are fair and competitive, compact and respect district boundaries.</p>

09/29/2021 - 19:10	09/29/2021 - 19:10	Senator Nancy Barto	Comments on new map lines	<p>Dear Commissioners, Thank you for choosing to serve on this critical Commission and for your dedicated efforts to align the new maps with the Voting Rights Act. The current LD15 boundaries have been extremely problematic for voters disenfranchised both from their communities and from their elected state representatives for the past 10 years. I have heard from many voters over the years who technically live in LD1, but continue to identify with and feel more appropriately represented by LD15 and Maricopa County officials. Along with equitable population, communities of interest and geographical considerations are the Constitutional priorities Commissioners should follow. Neither were well considered in the final 2010 maps, cutting off Carefree and Cave Creek voters from their natural geographies, and their State and County representatives and their historical and common communities of interest. Population growth presents challenges, but contiguous boundaries make sense to voters, engender trust in their leaders and participation in our elections process, and should be prioritized. Competitiveness and diversity may be considered, but only after the Constitutional mandates are met. I would recommend Loop 101 as a natural southern boundary; The entire Towns of Cave Creek and Carefree (Maricopa County) as a Northern boundary; Scottsdale Rd to the East and I-17 on the West, excepting Anthem and keeping it whole. Thank you again for your willingness to serve and for your consideration. Sen. Nancy Barto, LD 15</p>
09/29/2021 - 19:25	09/29/2021 - 19:25	Phyllis Smith	Written submission to the 9/29/2021 meeting at Cactus Shadows	<p>I am sending this in this manner because I was unable to submit my comments during the Public Meeting at Cactus Shadows on 9/29/2021. Following is my statement:</p> <p>To: Arizona Independent Redistricting Commissioners</p> <p>I am a 57year resident of Arizona and a 30 year resident of Cave Creek. My current districts (LD1 and CD 6) have been non-competitive during the last 10 years and longer, meaning both parties have not had the opportunity to elect their candidate of choice.</p> <p>Competitiveness was a principal criterion included in Proposition 106 which passed with bi-partisan support. Your drawing of draft maps beginning next week need to reflect the opportunity to elect a candidate from either party in all Legislative and Congressional districts. The nearly equal one third division of Arizona's voting population between Republicans, Democrats and Independents is a clear mandate to develop competitive districts.</p> <p>My community is near the northern edge of Maricopa County and geographically removed from communities in counties north of Maricopa. My current legislative district jumps the mountain divide and is combined with a southern portion of Yavapai County. We have little to no direct association with Yavapai County. My community and community of interest including Cave Creek/Carefree should be combined with those areas with whom we interact, meaning north Phoenix.</p> <p>Although Cave Creek has a small Latino population the importance of understanding the growth of this and other minority populations is significant. Minority populations and communities must be protected under the Voting Rights Act.</p> <p>Thank You Phyllis Smith</p>
09/29/2021 - 20:43	09/29/2021 - 20:43	Barbara Dunlap	Legislative redistricting	<p>The redistricting is more gerrymandering. Please stop this travesty.</p>
09/30/2021 - 05:43	09/30/2021 - 05:43	Sarah Simpson	IRC Proposed Maps	<p>My name is Sarah Simpson and I live in LD9 in the Catalina Foothills. I am writing in favor of Legislative Map 0007; to oppose any map that would separate the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson; and to insist on competitive districts.</p> <p>I ask that counties be kept together, the IRC not split the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson and the IRC fulfill its obligation to create competitive districts</p>

09/30/2021 - 07:55	09/30/2021 - 07:55	Franklyn Bergen	Tucson satellite meeting 9/29/21	<p>I can't find a way to send testimony for the record. I was at the 9-29 meeting in Tucson but after 3 1/2 hours had to leave before my name was called to present my testimony. For want of access to a more direct way to insert my testimony I'm including here my post-meeting reactions/reflection. Please assure me that it is made available to the commissioners.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Frank Bergen Tucson</p> <p>I write shortly after returning home from a meeting of the Independent Redistricting Commission. My reactions: surely Tucson deserves better than being a satellite location for a meeting held in Scottsdale. The Tucson attendance seemed to be three times that in Scottsdale. To my surprise half the room was filled with 150 red-shirted folks brought by the Pima Republican chairwoman, who later gave, instead of testimony, a rousing campaign speech castigating the City of Tucson for its mask mandate. She should have been ruled out of order but no Commissioner was present to do so. I was disheartened by the oft-repeated statement: "We have nothing in common with them", which I'll leave you to translate for yourselves. I was heartened by the woman in Scottsdale who spoke of the Senate President as the legislator you may get when a district is uncompetitive. I was heartened by Barbara Tellman's presentation of a legislative district map that appears to meet all the applicable criteria. Commissioners, comeback to Tucson. Please.</p> <p>Above in bold is letter to Star.</p>
09/30/2021 - 07:59	09/30/2021 - 07:59	Gail Kamaras	Grid maps and 9/29 hearing	<p>I attended the 9/29 hearing in Tucson but could not wait long enough to speak. I am very disappointed the Commission chose to make Tucson a satellite location and pair it with Phoenix suburbs. It shows some disrespect for both. In addition, I arrived at 3:30 pm for a 4 pm hearing to find at least 70 red-shirted, MAGA hat wearing people already seated. It would be helpful to have a "doors open at" notice so that all have a fair shot at getting to sign in early for a chance to speak.</p> <p>Further to the makeup of the audience, none of us are particularly representative of the average Arizonan. I saw no person of color with the exception of two members of the Tohono O'odham tribe. We were significantly older, whiter and more middle to upper income and thus do not represent either citizens or voters fairly. I hope the Commission will take that into account in its consideration of all our comments.</p> <p>As to the grid maps, the legislative maps for the area surrounding Tucson are so vague that it is impossible to comment on them. I tried zooming in on them and only got less focused views. I am in LD10 and believe the general outlines of our current district fairly represent the population. We have had both Democratic and Republican representation in recent years. The last election was reasonably close.</p> <p>My husband and I chose Tucson as a place to live after six years of full-time RVing around the US. We found a real community here. I have volunteered for the Community Food Bank, Literacy Volunteers and my local hiking club. I value the community feel of the greater Tucson area.</p> <p>I understand the grid maps are preliminary. Going forward, it will be critical to ensure fairness both in process and outcome. The IRC and its work is a shining example of good government process to the rest of the country. Arizona is rapidly changing its demographics. Despite the hearing audiences, Arizonans are younger, more urban and less White. Fair and competitive districts reflect the way our state is changing. People need to know that their vote matters. We need representatives who will work for all the people in their districts, not just those who vote for them.</p>

09/30/2021 - 08:02	09/30/2021 - 08:02	Koren Sherrick	Proposed maps comments- support LD map 0007	<p>My name is Koren Sherrick, and I live in LD9 in the Catalina Foothills. I write to support Legislative District map 0007; to oppose any map that would separate the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson; and to insist on competitive districts.</p> <p>LD map 0007 meets all the required criteria regarding equal population, minority-majority districts, compactness, and contiguity.</p> <p>Counties are one of the strongest types of communities of interest—school districts, water, fire and transportation development plans are based in part on county lines. As a resident of the Catalina Foothills, I strongly object to a proposal that the area now in LD9 north of River Road be separated from districts in the City of Tucson and instead be joined with Marana and Oro Valley. I have lived here since 1977 and have never had more than a passing connection to Marana and Oro Valley. I shop, eat out, go to the theater, etc in the City of Tucson. I've worked in downtown Tucson as well. Splitting the County and LD9 in the proposed manner is a blatant effort to diminish the voting power of residents of the Foothills and the remainder of LD9 as it now exists.</p> <p>Map 0007, on the other hand, splits counties as little as possible and where they must join with other counties, their section is kept compact, such as western Cochise County compactly joined with the nearby eastside part of the Tucson Area and Yavapai County compactly joins with Maricopa County.</p> <p>Developing maps with competitive districts is the purpose of the IRC and critical to the perception of fairness.</p> <p>I ask that (1)where possible, counties be kept together, (2) the IRC not split the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson, and (3) the IRC fulfill its obligation to create competitive districts.</p>
09/30/2021 - 09:13	09/30/2021 - 09:13	Liesa Lynch	Redistricting	<p>Constitutional Requirements</p> <p>The Independent Redistricting Commission must follow six requirements in their process of drawing new legislative and congressional districts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comply with the US Constitution and US Voting Rights Act</li> <li>2. Congressional &amp; Legislative Districts divided into equal populations</li> <li>3. Districts should be geographically compact &amp; connected</li> <li>4. District boundaries must respect communities of interest</li> <li>5. Use geographic features such as city and town boundaries and undivided census tracts</li> <li>6. Competitive Districts as long as the other five requirements are prioritized</li> </ol>

09/30/2021 - 10:23	09/30/2021 - 10:23	Bradley Sowers	Legislative District Map 0007 Support	<p>To: The Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission 29 Sep 2021 Subject: Legislative District Map 0007 Support</p> <p>We are Bradley and Martha Loretta Sowers and live in LD9 in the Catalina Foothills. We write to support Legislative District Map 0007; to oppose any map that would separate the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson; and to insist on competitive districts.</p> <p>LD Map 0007 meets all the required criteria regarding equal population, minority-majority districts, compactness, and contiguity. Moreover, the party distribution is very close to the 2020 Presidential vote distribution including districts that went heavily for one party or the other and the districts where the margin of victory was small.</p> <p>In addition, it joins major Communities of Interest – Saddlebrooke with Oro Valley, Flagstaff with Sedona, Green Valley with Sahuarita, etc. It generally keeps small communities, such as Vail, intact and keeps them with related small communities, such as Show Low with Pinetop with its associated tribal community of Whiteriver. Tribes are kept intact and in the same district as nearby tribes – Navajo, Hopi, and two Apaches tribes, for example. Ft. McDowell and Salt River tribes are together near Fountain Hills and Scottsdale.</p> <p>Counties are one of the strongest types of communities of interest—school, water and fire districts as well as transportation development plans are based in part on county lines. As residents of the Catalina Foothills, we strongly object to a proposal that the area now in LD9 north of River Road be separated from districts in the City of Tucson and instead be joined with Marana and Oro Valley. We have lived here for over 25 years and have never had more than a passing connection to Marana and Oro Valley. We shop, eat out, go to the theater and receive our healthcare in the City of Tucson. Before we retired, we worked in Tucson for 15 years. Splitting the County and LD9 in the proposed manner is a blatant effort to diminish the voting power of residents of the Foothills and the remainder of LD9 as it now exists.</p> <p>Map 0007, on the other hand, splits counties as little as possible and where they must join with other counties, their section is kept compact, such as western Cochise County compactly joined with the nearby eastside part of the Tucson Area and Yavapai County compactly joins with Maricopa County.</p> <p>Arizona is a politically competitive state, with party registration close to evenly divided among Democrats, Republicans and Other. Developing maps with competitive districts is the purpose of the IRC and critical to the perception of fairness.</p> <p>We ask that (1) the IRC not split the Catalina Foothills from the City of Tucson, (2) where possible, counties be kept together and (3) the IRC fulfill its obligation to create competitive districts.</p> <p>Sincerely, Martha Loretta and Bradley Sowers [REDACTED] Tucson, AZ</p>
09/30/2021 - 12:43	09/30/2021 - 12:43	Marcee Keller	IRC mapping tool is NOT user-friendly	<p>The Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) mapping tool will severely limit public comment and jeopardize fair &amp; competitive maps. Redistricting is supposed to be a public process!</p>
09/30/2021 - 13:47	09/30/2021 - 13:47	Daniel M Conway	Maps	<p>I have two maps ready to submit but I see no purpose in submitting them with the new format which I am unable to review. I recommend returning to the original format.</p> <p>This is my third message to you. I have not received answers to my first letters which were referred to your team members.</p> <p>Sincerely, Daniel M Conway</p>

09/30/2021 - 15:12	09/30/2021 - 15:12	Marlene Verdery	Meeting 9/29/21	<p>I attended the satellite meeting in Tucson. When the commissioners first saw the gathering in Tucson, one of them gleefully remarked, "I see a sea of red." All Republicans in attendance wore red and sat together right in front of the camera. The comment by the commissioner was inappropriate.</p> <p>Also, it would help if you published a definition of "community of interest." People kept referring to people who attend their church, frequent close by businesses such as restaurants as their community of interest. People from all over can attend a specific church or dine at a specific restaurant. It's impossible to draw boundaries around places that are open to the general public and identify it as a community of interest. A good example of a community of interest would be an HOA, a group of people affected by decisions made by a board of directors.</p>
09/30/2021 - 17:00	09/30/2021 - 17:00	Rivko Knox	Communities of Interest plus Prison Gerrymandering	<p>My name is Rivko Knox, I'm a long time resident and voter in Phoenix AZ (since 1966) and participated in the 2010/11 Redistricting public hearings.</p> <p>I thought that I had submitted a public comment relating to 'communities of interest' when such were requested; however, staff could never locate the comment, so I'm going to try to reconstruct it and then add one more comment.</p> <p>#1. Communities of Interest. My community of interest is not related to geography, political boundaries, ethnicity, or economic factors. Rather my community of interest is with those who want to see AZ focus on: a) fully funding public education (from pre school to college &amp; to include technical/vocational education), b) ensuring that everyone living in AZ has access to affordable health care (to include dental, vision, hearing, mental health/addiction); c) protecting our environment/immediately addressing the negative and growing impacts of climate change and moving toward a 100% renewable energy system ASAP; d) ensuring that everyone is 'housed' and expanding the supply of affordable housing for all income levels; e) protecting our natural beauty and open spaces; f) creating a welcoming, open society in which all are welcome regardless of race, ethnicity, ability/disability, sexual orientation, language and faith or lack of such; and g) instituting a progressive/equitable tax system to fund all of the above. This as I said above, my 'community' is not based on geographic markers, boundaries, occupations etc. but on shared values. And the best way for 'my community' to protect these values is to create the most competitive districts possible. Further, to me, because of the dramatic changes that have taken place in AZ in terms of population growth and thus roads/infrastructure/new cities/towns/communities/changes in occupations, etc. basing boundaries for congressional/legislative districts on what exists today may not be relevant/meaningful in 5 years or more, let alone 10. Thus competitiveness in terms of voter registration by party/no party is the way to protect my values and thus my community of interest.</p> <p>#2. I am very concerned about prison gerrymandering, i.e., counting people in prisons, primarily in rural areas, as part of the population in those areas, which impacts funding received by those areas, which is often used for activities that do not benefit those within the prison. Instead, I would like the IRC to make every effort possible to determine the location prior to imprisonment of each individual (and most likely the place to which they will return when they are released) and ensure that resources/voting power is retained by those primarily urban areas.</p> <p>Rivko Knox   Phoenix, AZ 85053</p>



09/30/2021 - 20:06	09/30/2021 - 20:06	Rivko Knox	Location of Public Meetings and Outreach	<p>I submitted comments during the first few IRC meetings regarding the need to ensure that public meetings were held in locations that were accessible and welcoming to all Arizonans,, with a special emphasis on minority groups that have previously been unrepresented or in some cases actively discriminated against. I wrote about ensuring that organizations representing diverse populations, especially Blacks, Hispanics, Asian American &amp; Native Americans (all of whom have in the not too distant past faced both legal and cultural discrimination) were actively involved in selecting locations for public meetings and actively involved in the methods the IRC used to publicize the public meetings. Sad to say, I've recently read a number of articles/heard stories on the radio (KJZZ, which is reputable) that these historically under represented groups believe that the public hearings that have been scheduled and held so far have no been sensitive to the needs of these populations. I therefore urge you to immediately ensure that you staff reaches out to these groups, and works closely with them to ensure that future public meetings are fully accessible to such populations, and that the ways the IRC publicizes methods for public comment as well as public meetings themselves actually reach those diverse populations, keeping in mind that these populations have significantly expanded since the 2010 census both in terms of total population and the percentage of Arizonans. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.</p> <p>Rivko Knox, [REDACTED] Phoenix, AZ 85053 [REDACTED]</p>
09/30/2021 - 21:30	09/30/2021 - 21:30	Daniel M Conway	Grid Map	<p>What is the source and the significance of starting the grid map at Township Median Grand Ave., 19th Ave. and McDowell?</p>