| ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION | Web Comments 9.3.21 - 9.9.21 | | | |
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| Submitted Time | Completed Time | Full Name | Subject | Message |
| 09/07/2021 - 14:56 | 09/07/2021 - 14:56 | Gary E Robbins | Community of Interests | I believe that it is critical for Northern Arizona to have one Congressional District that does not touch Maricopa, Pinal or Pima County. It would essentially be the I-40 district, and would compromise Mohave, Yavapai, Coconino, Navajo and Apache Counties. To subtract voters, delete the White Mountain and San Carlos Apache Tribes. To add more voters, add the White Mountain and San Carlos Apache Tribes. You could also add Greenlee, then LaPaz Counties and then Gila Counties to add more voters. What is essential is that this be a rural congressional district with absolutely no part of Maricopa, Pinal or Pima Counties in it. Rural Arizona is entitled to have a single congressional district of it own, without touching Arizona's three urban counties. |
| 09/08/2021 - 18:20 | 09/08/2021 - 18:20 | Susan Bickel | environment concerns | Sarah Porter of the Kyl Center gave a good presentation on water use in Arizona. Importantly, she noted that there really aren't any particular boundaries or communities of interest that she would recommend, because everyone in AZ has water concerns and even differing concerns within regional communities. It is interesting that the Arizona Farm Bureau (the agricultural industry lobbyists) were given such a privileged amount of time to present and advocate for their specified communities of interests. - They (purposely) did not address the point that Sarah Porter made that even within rural areas, there are different opinions and values. For example, the smaller "legacy" farmers who are seeing their wells dry up from the new large agricultural activities that come in and drill deeper wells (and which AFB represents). - Commissioner Mehl made a good point that the increased technologies and efficiencies in farming means there are fewer people in these farming areas. I believe that the commission should consider hearing from other important interests, not just industries. For example, as Sarah Porter mentioned, the environment is an important water user that doesn't have many people speaking for it. The IRC could/should broaden the voices they hear from to include such constituencies. I suggest that you reach out to The Nature Conservancy, especially the Malpai Borderlands of southern Arizona. This link will give you an idea of their interests. I suggest that you ask Bill McDonald to speak to the commission as a representative of this group. https://www.nature.org/en-us/magazine/magazine-articles/new-life-in-the-badlands/ |
| 09/08/2021 - 19:16 | 09/08/2021 - 19:16 | Cindy Wagner | Gridmaps and budget | With such a large budget, it should be made public, including all line items. A process by which the public can provide direct, in real time, feedback on the grid maps and following the draft maps and after that the final proposed maps, must be a top priority. |
| 09/08/2021 - 22:15 | 09/08/2021 - 22:15 | Julie Pindzola | mapping and Community of Interest, #2 | Thank you for the latest COI info. These heat maps are interesting but it is unclear if they are only the clusters of COI survey maps, or if they also include the paper-based info you received, converted to map shapes. There is a statement on the site that the Overlay Maps use "all the shapes created by the public." Can you please clarify? I wonder because when I read through all of the Yavapai COI submittals with maps, the written comments appeared to be evenly split between keeping the Verde Valley in with Central Yavapai County vs. putting the Verde Valley with Flagstaff, as it is now. The Overlay (heat) map shows all but Sedona included in with Central Yavapai County in the darkest most commonly indicated color. This is surprising, Also today the Story Map Overlap Maps are having technical issues. Last night I could get the whole Yavapai County area mapped but today there are encroaching overlays from adjacent areas and seemingly no way to clean these off. Hopefully this will be corrected on Thursday. It seems like some of the mapping program functions do not engage right now. Thank you very much! It is good to see things progressing but we are still concerned about the rough presentation of the data. Looking forward to the TImmons/NDC COI Report presentation - beyond the posted shapes and raw comments. |

| 09/08/2021 - 22:36 | 09/08/2021 - 22:36 | Julie Pindzola | Mapping Training #2 | Hello, We are looking forward to the Timmons' provided mapping training. Please post the date and time as soon as possible so the interested public can plan to join in. I would hope that you plan to permit live questions as the training goes along, probably through your existing public comment portal, if not by some other means. At a minimum, please plan to post the video of the live training on your YouTube feed. THANK YOU again. |
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| 09/09/2021 - 08:54 | 09/09/2021 - 08:54 | James Fox | Test for Gerrymandering | Thank you for the critical public service you are providing though your work on redistricting. Please consider including a test for gerrymandering during your important deliberations. See the updated Guide to Fair Redistricting. https://preprints.apsanet.org/engage/api-gateway/apsa/assets/orp/resource/item/6138e4f565db1ec5eab053ec/original/fair-and-square-redistricting.pdf (More than 1650 views and 950 downloads on the American Political Science Association Preprints Page) Respectfully and Gratefully, Jim Fox |