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NEWS RELEASE

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Arizona's Independent Redistricting Commission Grid Map and Mapping Software Go Live

The Release of the Grid Maps Begins the Next Phase of Redistricting

Phoenix, AZ- Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2021, Arizona's Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) is scheduled to make a decision on the initial maps in Arizona's 2021 legislative and congressional redistricting process. The Commission meets at 8 a.m. and is live-streamed at irc.az.gov.

The first maps are created into districts of equal population in a grid-like pattern across the state as required by the state constitution. The grid maps are an important first step in the process but are only a starting point. Arizona's citizens are encouraged to provide feedback on these initial maps.

The IRC is providing a free online mapping tool for residents to draw and submit their own proposed maps. Arizona residents will have access to the same, easy-to-use mapping tool and database utilized by the Commission. A live-streamed public training session on the mapping tool is scheduled for 10 a.m., Monday, Sept. 13, 2021. Individuals can watch the training at the following link: [Mapping Tool Training](#). The video recording of that session, and shorter step-by-step videos and other training materials, will be on the IRC website shortly after the system is live on September 14, 2021.

On the IRC website and at the upcoming public hearings, residents can review these initial grid maps along with all the maps the Commission receives from the public.

Public hearings will be scheduled for the last two weeks of September. An official announcement will be made in an additional upcoming press release.

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IRC Mission: The Independent Redistricting Commission's mission is to redraw Arizona's congressional and legislative districts to reflect the results of the most recent census. The concept of one-person, one-vote dictates that districts should be roughly equal in population. Other factors to be considered are the federal Voting Rights Act, district shape, geographical features, respect for communities of interest and potential competitiveness. The state Constitution requires the commissioners – two Republicans, two Democrats and an independent chairperson – to start from scratch rather than redraw existing districts.

A new Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission was appointed in January 2021 to adopt new congressional and legislative districts for Arizona.