

THE STATE OF ARIZONA
INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF LISTENING TOUR PUBLIC MEETING

Mesa, Arizona

Online via WebEx

December 2, 2021

6:03 p.m.

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1 LISTENING TOUR PUBLIC MEETING, BEFORE THE
2 INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION, convened at 6:03 p.m.
3 on December 2, 2021, at Mesa Public Schools, 855 West 8th
4 Avenue, Mesa, Arizona, and online via WebEx.

5
6 COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

7 Ms. Erika Neuberg
8 Ms. Shereen Lerner

9 STAFF PRESENT:

10 Mr. Brian Schmitt, Executive Director
11 Ms. Loriandra Van Haren, Deputy Director
12 Ms. Valerie Neumann, Executive Assistant
13 Ms. Michele Crank, Public Information Officer
14 Ms. Marie Camacho, Public Outreach Coordinator
15 Mr. Roy Herrera, Ballard Spahr
16 Mr. Ryan Regula, Snell & Wilmer
17 Mr. Mark Flahan, Timmons Group

18 PUBLIC COMMENT SPEAKERS:

19 SPEAKER NAME:

20 Terry Roe
21 May Tiwamangkala
22 Elizabeth Nguyen
23 Nola Perkins
24 Brenda Gifford
25 Vicky McLaughlin
Brandy Reese
Carrie Goode
Judith Simons
Michael Tennant
Gwynda Allen
Bonnie Degrenier
Patricia Pitman
April Smith
Kathryn Bean
Sid Stephen
Jimmy Wiggins
Richard Young
Craig Ray
Bruce Linker

1 PUBLIC COMMENT SPEAKERS (continued):

2 SPEAKER NAME:

3 Marcia Weiss
4 LouAnn Sedgwick
5 Joshua Heywood
6 Judith Robbins
7 Tram Bui
8 Diane Andersen
9 Wallace Taylor
10 Jeff Smith
11 Paul Weich
12 Steve Hetsler
13 Nancy Cottle
14 Laurie Gonzalez
15 Tim Schalick
16 Lina Hatch
17 Jackie Mesa
18 Michelle Wood
19 Roberta Miller
20 Tempest Shires
21 Jen Miller
22 William Bodine
23 Kathleen Pettycrew
24 Mickie Niland
25 Catherine Kissler
Morgan Perry
Darla Gonzalez
Jared Taylor
Frank Pabian
Jeffrey Tucker
Kelly Townsend
Kyle Powell
Leslee Wilson
Traci Robb
Summer Baker
Jesse Bryant
Jamie Jones
Marcus North
Richard Newhauser
Jana Ochs
Lawrence Moody
Perry Bradford
Allan Chasey
Eddie Farnsworth
Bert Moll
Darrell Covert

25 * American Sign language interpreters and a Spanish interpreter are present.

P R O C E E D I N G

1
2
3 MS. CRANK: At this time we would like to introduce
4 our Spanish interpreter.

5 THE INTERPRETER: Okay, hi, my name is Miriam, I'm
6 the Spanish interpreter for this evening. I will be in the
7 back of the room if you guys know of anyone who needs the
8 services.

9 (Spanish language.)

10 MS. CRANK: Now we'll turn it back over to our
11 Deputy Director Lori.

12 MS. VAN HAREN: Thank you.

13 If you will now, everybody, stand and say the
14 Pledge of Allegiance with me.

15 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance is recited.)
16

17 MS. CRANK: Thank you.

18 At this time I would like to welcome Mesa City
19 Council member Kevin Thompson for some welcome remarks.

20 SPEAKER THOMPSON: Good evening, everyone, I wanted
21 to welcome you to Mesa and thank you for signing on to the
22 letter. It was because of all of you that we were able to
23 convince the IRC that they should hold a meeting out here
24 for us. So I want to thank the IRC members as well for
25 recognizing us in the East Valley.

1 I would like to remind everybody to please be
2 respectful tonight. This is really an educational
3 opportunity for us to learn as well as provide input on what
4 our concerns and what our issues are as communities.

5 And so with that, I will turn it over to
6 Commissioner Lerner and say thank you again for being here
7 tonight and God bless.

8 COMMISSIONER LERNER: Welcome, everybody. Thank
9 you all for being here. It's impressive how many of you
10 came with just a couple of days' notice, so we appreciate
11 that.

12 I now call to order the public hearing. We are
13 also streaming the meetings online via WebEx and will be
14 posted online afterwards via YouTube.

15 We ask that you follow the Arizona Department of
16 Health guidelines regarding COVID-19. If you're not fully
17 vaccinated, you should wear a mask in public space.

18 If you would like to make a public comment, you may
19 do so by signing in with staff and filling out the public
20 comment card. Even though this meeting began or is
21 beginning at 6:00 p.m., anyone can attend and submit a
22 public speaker card at any time and we will stay until the
23 last speaker is heard.

24 There is an American Sign Language interpreter and
25 a transcriptionist who will be transcribing at each of our

1 meetings. Please speak slowly and clearly so we have a
2 clear record of your input.

3 At this time we will introduce ourselves.

4 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Hello, everyone. I'm
5 Chairwoman Erika Neuberg. I live in Chandler, I represent
6 Maricopa County although I represent the entire State, and
7 it's a delight to be here, very close to my home.

8 COMMISSIONER LERNER: And good evening. I am
9 Commissioner Lerner, Shereen Lerner. I'm also an East
10 Valley resident and I'm one of the Commissioners here.
11 Thank you.

12 So now we are going to move to Agenda Item II and
13 staff will read the rules of the meeting.

14 MS. VAN HAREN: Thank you, Commissioner Lerner.

15 Citizens may only speak when recognized by the
16 Chair or the presiding officer of the meeting if the Chair
17 is absent or has otherwise delegated hearing administration
18 authority.

19 In compliance with Arizona's opening meeting laws,
20 speakers should confine their statements to the issue on the
21 posted agenda which is before the Commission. Speakers are
22 also requested to limit their comments to approximately two
23 minutes. In an effort to allow for as many speakers as
24 possible, the Commission may adjust the time limits
25 depending on the amount of speakers requesting to be heard.

1 Additionally, speakers are required to follow
2 proper decorum. Speakers must use appropriate language.
3 Foul and/or abusive language will not be tolerated. Any
4 speaker failing to follow proper decorum or any other
5 guidelines may be asked to leave.

6 Any breach of the peace or disruption of the
7 Commission public hearing may be the cause of report to law
8 enforcement.

9 If someone has already expressed the same sentiment
10 you wish to express, you may say so and your comments will
11 be recorded. If you have already expressed your thoughts at
12 a previous meeting, you do not need to speak again. Your
13 comments were recorded in the public sector.

14 This is a nonpartisan meeting. Please do not
15 distribute political material in the meeting room.

16 Opposing viewpoints may be expressed by the
17 citizens present. As a courtesy, citizens are reminded to
18 address their comments to the Chair and Commission and not
19 to the audience present. Please show respect for all
20 speakers and avoid personal comments.

21 Remember, the Commission must hear all sides of an
22 issue to make an informed decision.

23 We will now begin public comment.

24 MS. CRANK: Madam Chair and Commissioner Lerner,
25 the listening audience. I am going to read the first ten

1 names and if you will line up accordingly behind me and I
2 will read your name only one time.

3 The first speaker is Terry Roe, council member from
4 Chandler; May Tiwamangkala, I'm sorry if I mispronounce your
5 name; Elizabeth Nguyen, Nola Perkins, Brenda Gifford, Vicky
6 McLaughlin, Brandy Reese, Carrie Goode, Judith Simons,
7 Michael Tennant.

8 Please say -- state your name when you come up to
9 the podium.

10 SPEAKER ROE: Good evening, Commissioners. Thank
11 you for being here tonight. Thank you for taking time to
12 listen to these folks. There will be a lot of input, I'm
13 sure.

14 I will -- I'm a council member, Chandler, Arizona.
15 Largely I'm here on behalf of Gilbert, believe it or not.
16 They are a good sister city, we get along with them, they're
17 a good partner and they have a great concern about just
18 having so many different districts represent their
19 community. And so it is a concern and -- and you have some
20 very heavy lifting to do, but -- but if you could take that
21 into consideration and you'll hear some of that I'm sure.

22 It would be nice if you could somehow honor some of
23 the requests that you hear tonight, whether that's Mesa's or
24 Gilbert's. And Chandler is pretty happy to have just a
25 couple of districts and -- and we don't want to change that

1 too much, so.

2 Thank you so much and enjoy the rest of your
3 evening, right?

4 Thank you.

5 MS. VAN HAREN: I will just make an announcement
6 for any of the other speakers. Feel free to adjust the mic
7 to your level when you come up. You can go ahead and move
8 it.

9 SPEAKER TIWAMANGKALA: Sure. This should be fine.

10 Hello, Commissioners, thank you for having us and
11 listening to what we have to say today.

12 I just want to talk to you about I live in
13 District 1, also LD-1, located Central Phoenix. In the
14 recent U.S. census, numbers show that Arizona continues to
15 be the fastest growing state, with Maricopa County growing
16 16 percent in the past decade.

17 What also was shown on the census is that Maricopa
18 County increased in diversity, growing in the Latino
19 population and also the Asian American population. With
20 that said, we need to consider the representation of
21 communities of color.

22 I'm suggesting that there should be a
23 Central Phoenix district that gives the city and its
24 residents proper representation in Congress. As one of the
25 largest growing metropolitan areas in the country, Phoenix

1 should be an anchor to the congressional district so it can
2 receive the services and representation it needs to secure
3 federal grants and federal -- and funding for critical
4 transportation and infrastructure projects needed for a city
5 of this size.

6 The district should include Downtown Phoenix,
7 Encanto, the historic neighborhoods north of downtown and
8 the northern Phoenix neighborhoods up to the 101. This
9 would keep these Phoenix communities together and give them
10 the ability to influence an election and have a
11 representative that serves this growing area.

12 This configuration would support and keep whole
13 small business -- or whole small business communities,
14 historic neighborhoods and the LGBTQ communities that have
15 all asked to be kept together.

16 I also -- I moved to this area because I'm LGBTQ
17 and also a person of color, and I would hope that you
18 consider that.

19 So thank you.

20 SPEAKER NGUYEN: Hello? Okay.

21 Hello Commissioners, thank you for your time in
22 doing this difficult job. My name is Elizabeth Nguyen, I
23 was raised in Arizona, attending public schools in Mesa and
24 Gilbert. I also got my masters and bachelors at the U of A.

25 Being here in Arizona through my adolescence and

1 adulthood, I've seen how much Arizona and its East Valley
2 grown alongside me. Thus I am here today to have my voice
3 be heard about the redistricting.

4 I live in Gilbert and so does my parents. We live
5 about ten minutes apart and are currently located in the
6 proposed CD-5; thus I would like to see Gilbert as a whole
7 be kept together within a district and not split between
8 two.

9 The Gilbert and San Tan and surrounding communities
10 are growing, with an increased interest and growth in tech
11 industries. So keeping East Valley suburban communities and
12 surrounding communities south of the US-60 together makes
13 sense, so please keep the CD-5 map as-is.

14 As for the legislative districts, I ask that
15 you-all reconsider LD-12 and LD-13. I currently live in the
16 proposed LD-13 and I would like to see the LD-12 arm
17 reaching over to Gilbert and those draft maps be removed.
18 With the current draft of LD-12 and 13, it will be splitting
19 these communities and undermining our voices.

20 Although the Asian communities don't hold the
21 majority in the area, we are a fast-growing group in the
22 East Valley and in Arizona. It is important that the
23 districts remain as competitive as possible for us to elect
24 officials that hear us and represent us.

25 Thank you for your time and your work.

1 (Applause.)

2 SPEAKER PERKINS: You guys have got to be tired of
3 doing this. I keep seeing you. I have spoken before and
4 I've learned a whole lot since I spoke the first time and
5 the second time; and going back over it, I realize that
6 compactness is one of the most important things in your job.

7 And so since there is time to make some revisions,
8 I would heartfully request that you keep Apache Junction
9 intact, that we are a close-knit community and we should all
10 be in one district.

11 Thank you.

12 MS. VAN HAREN: I'm sorry. Could you state your
13 name for the record.

14 SPEAKER PERKINS: You should know me by now. My
15 name is Nola Perkins and I am from Apache Junction. Thank
16 you.

17 SPEAKER GIFFORD: Hello. Thank you for all the
18 hard work you're doing. I'm Brenda Gifford, also from
19 Apache Junction. That's my mom.

20 We've really tried to attend as many of these
21 meetings as we can and to study and learn; and you have an
22 unenviable job, I can't imagine how difficult it is to do
23 what you do.

24 My primary concern as I followed this process --
25 and unfortunately everything we've learned will be obsolete

1 when you finish and it will be 10 years before we use it
2 again. But as I look at the map of District 7, there are
3 five counties represented, and as I've followed this I see
4 so much emphasis being placed on the number six of the list
5 of constitutional requirements, competitive districts. But
6 it says: Competitive districts as long as the other five
7 are prioritized.

8 And as I look at this map I don't see any of the
9 other five prior -- items being prioritized. With five
10 counties there, there is absolutely no community of interest
11 relationship between Flagstaff and Sedona and Apache
12 Junction.

13 And I realize that at this point these are final
14 draft maps and you guys are just tweaking a little bit, but
15 this is really problematic. Anybody representing this
16 district is going to spend half of their life driving in a
17 car or have no opportunity to have face time with all of
18 their constituents. So I just ask you to deprioritize the
19 competitiveness that has been overemphasized in my view and
20 look more at contiguous and communities of interest from a
21 priority perspective.

22 Thank you.

23 SPEAKER McLAUGHLIN: Hello, Commissioners. I also
24 would like to say thank you for the job you've done, the --
25 the length of it and what a hard job this would have to be

1 as I've followed --

2 Oh, I'm sorry. Thank you. Vicky McLaughlin and
3 I'm from Apache Junction.

4 And have followed this through the process, and
5 I've been dismayed with every map that has come out because
6 I've felt also that so many of the constitutional
7 requirements that have been stated, the six requirements, it
8 looks to me like most of them haven't been.

9 We are very used to seeing our representatives and
10 I am in the LD-7 and the map that you currently have put
11 out, and in all real -- realistic thought, I cannot believe
12 that I will be seeing or we will be seeing our
13 representative at our monthly district meetings with this
14 kind of a spread.

15 And from what I have seen in the -- in the
16 requirements that the communities of interest, contiguous
17 and compact, that all of the top five are supposed to be
18 considered before competitiveness.

19 I think with the -- with the varieties of people
20 that we have in Arizona, we're going to develop our own
21 competitiveness, we don't need to be placed so that we have
22 a lot of competitiveness within the -- the areas and the
23 boundaries that have been selected.

24 So I hope you will also consider keeping Apache
25 Junction and Gold Canyon together because we are a like

1 community.

2 Thank you.

3 SPEAKER REESE: Good evening, my name is Brandy
4 Reese, I'm from Gilbert; and to comment on that, the
5 requirements are not numbered in order of priority, they're
6 all lettered because they are all equally important.

7 I have seen some of the comments about the current
8 draft map 10, specifically how perfect or ideal the new
9 proposed new LD-13 will be because it's so square.

10 I echo the previous commenter that squares don't
11 vote. The consequence of this is the unfortunate noncompact
12 and realistically noncompetitive LD-12 with the panhandle.
13 This engulfing of what should logically probably be part of
14 LD-13 or LD-9 does not make sense to be included in --
15 lumped in with LD-12, in my opinion.

16 Fortunately though, submitted map LDF034 shows what
17 a fair, competitive and compact district could look like.

18 And thank you for your time and dedication to this
19 process and I appreciate the opportunity to speak.

20 Thank you.

21 SPEAKER GOODE: I probably need to bring this down.

22 My name is Carrie Goode; I live in Gilbert,
23 southeast Gilbert. I wanted to comment on the new lines for
24 the new LD-12 as well. Adding that bump-out rectangle
25 eastward, it's going to make that district less competitive

1 than it is. Right now it's a pretty competitive district
2 and adding that extra section of Gilbert into this primarily
3 Chandler district does not make sense to me.

4 I also support the map LDF034 which keeps this
5 district more contiguous.

6 The other thing I'd like to comment on is where I
7 live in far southeast Gilbert, I'm no longer going to be in
8 a district with Gilbert, we'll be with Queen Creek. I
9 really think that the way that you guys had to split up
10 Gilbert, I -- I'm just wondering if there was any way to
11 just try to keep the peop- -- the residents of Gilbert with
12 Gilbert because by having us with Queen Creek, I don't know
13 how to say this, it's -- it's already pretty uncompetitive
14 and now it's going to be very uncompetitive, and I just feel
15 that having these uncompetitive districts just allows the
16 most extreme candidates to dominate our politics.

17 Thank you very much for letting me speak and for
18 all your work.

19 SPEAKER SIMONS: Good evening. Long day.

20 My name is Judith Simons, I live in Chandler, I've
21 lived there for over 25 years and the map that I'm speaking
22 in support of is also LDF034. I did ask for a handout, you
23 had it showing just a minute ago, the overlay -- yes.

24 So I've heard one aspect of LD-13 that some
25 Commissioners like is that it's a square but, you know,

1 there's another meaning of the word "square" as in not cool.
2 And that's my assessment of it, its not cool.

3 The draft maps for LD-12, 9, 13, and 14 split up
4 the city of Chandler and also the town of Gilbert among too
5 many districts. It would be better to keep them within only
6 two districts so issues relevant to the cities, businesses,
7 and school districts, which are my communities of interest,
8 can be addressed better by the legislators we choose.

9 The LD-13 borders and also that LD-12 panhandle
10 seem artificial and arbitrary when there are city, county,
11 and existing precinct lines in every direction that make
12 more sense.

13 They dilute the Latino community of interest by
14 separating voters north of Ray Road from the downtown
15 Chandler areas.

16 They reduce competitiveness, which discourages both
17 candidate and voter participation and that concerns me
18 greatly.

19 Hearing some of the presentations this afternoon by
20 sitting legislators, which also kind of dismayed me,
21 competitiveness is an important issue.

22 So I urge you to adopt LDF034 which is still
23 compact and contiguous with reasonable boundaries. It does
24 respect the voting rights of minority communities and it
25 maintains competitiveness.

1 I appreciate your time and efforts and thank you
2 for considering mine.

3 SPEAKER TENNANT: Hello, my name is Michael
4 Tennant, I'm a -- a resident of Sun Lakes. We moved here in
5 2000 and we moved here so that I could go to work. And when
6 I finished I retired and I've been retired now ten years,
7 and it's the retirement community that I'm worried about.

8 Taking us away from the Chandler area where we do
9 all our business, all our grocery shopping, all our car
10 repairs and things like that. I understand you might be
11 moving us to Ahwatukee, and moving us across the interstate
12 would not be a very good thing for the people in the
13 Sun Lakes area that are retired and don't like the fast life
14 of the Interstate 10 and the -- the people that go to work
15 every day in Ahwatukee, because obviously we don't go to
16 work every day, we're retired, we play golf.

17 And it would be good if we just were left alone,
18 keep us with Chandler.

19 And I thank you for your hard work but think about
20 the retired people in this community that moved here a long
21 time ago.

22 Thank you.

23
24 MS. CRANK: I will be reading the next ten speakers
25 and I will only read your name one time.

1 Gwynda Allen, Bonnie Degrenier, Patricia Pitman,
2 April Smith, Kathryn Bean, Sid Stephen, Jimmy Wiggins,
3 Richard Young, Craig Ray, Bruce Linker.

4 Please state your name when you come up to the
5 microphone.

6 SPEAKER ALLEN: Hello, my name is Gwynda Allen.
7 I've been a resident on and off for 20 years in Sun Lakes,
8 Arizona. I moved here because I wanted to be in a senior
9 community.

10 I am presently living in the community of my dreams
11 and you're shaking it up. I understand this is a hard
12 decision, but I want you to know that it took 20 years for
13 me to confirm that I was going to live in this area.

14 One of the things I'm concerned about and I tried
15 to realize is everyone in my area in Sun Lakes, there's
16 several different communities but we're all -- it's
17 Cottonwood, it's Oakwood -- we have thousands of residents
18 here -- Palo Verde, Oakwood Hills. All we're asking is you
19 let us remain the way we were.

20 We are a community with seniors. You're taking a
21 community where we are the most vulnerable people in the
22 position that many of us do not travel and transportation is
23 difficult for us.

24 We moved to a community where we can use a golf
25 course, golf carts, walk and bike. You're putting us into a

1 community where we will have to drive. That means many of
2 us will not be able to vote by going there; that means that
3 you're putting us to where we will have to use mail-in and
4 there's more fraud with mail-in than anything else.

5 I'm a representative of that. My vote I never got
6 in the mail. When I went to vote at a place that was not
7 right inside my area, they told me someone had already
8 voted. So I ended up voting as a provisional vote. So you
9 see, I have a very serious individual personal attitude
10 where this is all concerned.

11 In the same way, transportation is going -- as I
12 said, going to be very difficult. Our population does not
13 move around and we are not as mobile as the rest of the
14 population. We are elderly and I respectfully ask you to
15 take that into consideration, that you're moving a
16 population that it will be the hardest on.

17 Thank you.

18 SPEAKER DeGRENIER: Hi, I'm Bonnie DeGrenier and I
19 am also a resident of Sun Lakes and my ZIP Code is only
20 recognized as a Chandler resident.

21 I pay taxes to the Chandler school district, and I
22 believe that the knowledge of our community and its
23 residents enhance voter integrity.

24 I support keeping the district lines for Chandler
25 and Sun Lakes remain intact and not include Ahwatukee. I

1 support keeping CD-5 as it is.

2 Thank you.

3 SPEAKER PITTMAN: Hello, my name is Patricia
4 Pittman and thank you for -- very much for letting me speak
5 today.

6 This is new for me, so bear with me.

7 I'm also a resident of Sun Lakes, and as a resident
8 of Sun Lakes, we pay taxes for Chandler; we also support the
9 schools, the hospitals, and all the different communities.
10 It's important for our community to have easy access to
11 Chandler. They go to the Chandler Center for the Arts, the
12 schools, and one of the schools that we really support is
13 the -- one of the schools is Hamilton High where they have
14 over a thousand children that are under -- I guess they
15 would call it disadvantaged children, and so we try very
16 hard to support them with food, water, school supplies.

17 And currently our new project is to -- is called
18 the -- we call it The Christmas Stocking, and for that we're
19 filling up many, many gifts for these children so that they
20 can know they're appreciated.

21 But for our seniors it's very difficult to have to
22 go to a different district. It doesn't really -- I can't
23 get my mind around how that makes sense. We're right there
24 in Chandler. We're part of Chandler and why would we move
25 our people to another district which currently they have

1 access to easy transportation, they go to the easy
2 restaurants, they support the community in Chandler, and we
3 support the -- the -- all the different activities that our
4 people like to do. And if we have to move to another
5 District 13, I can't get my mind around why that makes sense
6 when we are -- we are Chandler, Sun Lakes.

7 And we are that adult community. Thank you so much
8 and have a great day. Happy holiday.

9 SPEAKER SMITH: My name is April Smith. Good
10 evening, Commissioners. I am here tonight to give my input
11 on this constitutional process in redrawing our legislative
12 and congressional district maps following the completion of
13 the 2020 census.

14 When reviewing the constitutional criteria required
15 and the maps involving the redistricting, there's essential
16 criteria that should be weighed heavily. The first four
17 criteria requirements are: Compliance with the U.S.
18 Constitution and U.S. Voting Rights Act, equal population,
19 compactness, and communities of interest. As pertains to
20 the East Valley and legislative district, the consolidated
21 district Gilbert map, which is map number 0058, is an
22 excellent resource to look at. Why is Gilbert split up into
23 five separate districts? How does this follow the criteria
24 I mentioned earlier?

25 Baseline Road via practical southern border of Mesa

1 Districts 9 and 10 which also allows for more of Gilbert to
2 remain together.

3 Val Vista is a sensible dividing line to create the
4 east and west boundary between those districts.

5 Tempe has a different community of interest than
6 Mesa and should not be included with the East Valley. There
7 is a different age demographic as well as a different night
8 scene in Tempe compared to in Mesa, which has many families
9 with several churches around the city.

10 The interest of these communities are not the same,
11 the East Valley should be kept intact for both the
12 legislative and congressional districts. Sun Lakes should
13 also be kept with south Chandler as they are similar of
14 interest in those communities. Retirement areas inclusive
15 of Sun Lakes or Leisure World have strong like interest in
16 their communities and should be kept together in their
17 congressional districts. Their representatives can then
18 work towards that large demographic to the best way that are
19 able.

20 Please review the essential criteria of our
21 Constitution and thank you for this opportunity to speak in
22 this process.

23 SPEAKER BEAN: Katherine Bean. Thank you,
24 Commissioners, for this opportunity to speak.

25 I've been a resident of Mesa since 1983; I've lived

1 in our home on the west side of Mesa since 1992. I have
2 worked in the Mesa public school system, banking, and
3 presently in a small business as well as participating in
4 community service groups. Some of my children attended this
5 school that we are meeting in this evening, which was the
6 old Powell Jr. High.

7 The west side of Mesa as well as the -- as well as
8 Mesa consists of diverse communities such as race,
9 ethnicity, income levels, individual homes, generational
10 homes, apartments and retirement communities, all ages from
11 young to old, and those that are in between.

12 These communities share the same schools, churches,
13 recreation, school boards, to say the least. The families
14 work hard to provide for their needs and wants and what is
15 best for their children.

16 Most important -- importantly, we want to have our
17 voice heard. It is important that we do not combine with
18 Tempe, we want to be able to address the needs of Mesa
19 communities and the individuals which have common interests.
20 Combining as a legislative district with Tempe would not be
21 a positive outcome for Mesa.

22 I propose that we move boundary District 9 on the
23 southern side to Baseline and to the east side to Val Vista.

24 And as for the congressional districts as presently
25 proposed will even intensify the great divides of our

1 community. Most importantly our voice would not be heard.

2 We do not share common interests with Tempe or
3 Ahwatukee. This combination would overpower the desires of
4 the Mesa residents.

5 I respectfully ask -- respectfully ask that you
6 hear my voice and the voice of my community.

7 SPEAKER STEPHEN: My name is Sid Stephen and I'm
8 from Sun Lakes.

9 First, I'd like to thank you as everyone else has
10 for the opportunity to share our opinions here tonight.

11 Of the stated factors your Commission has been
12 mandated to consider, I believe the most important is
13 respect for communities of interest, since in my experience
14 that factor is what drives most citizens to become involved
15 in political and community matters in the first place.

16 My Legislative District 17 has components, several
17 components, but Sun Lakes is closest to south Chandler both
18 geographically and in terms of common interests. This is
19 where I have lived, worked as a teacher, and involved myself
20 in community activities since moving here 15 years ago.

21 I know my community's history, residential and
22 commercial makeup and the religious, educational and
23 recreational institutions developed here over many decades.
24 There's been a lot of changes in my neighborhood and more to
25 come I'm sure as it becomes more diverse, prosperous and

1 served by an increasingly more efficient infrastructure.

2 The fabric of my community depends on diversity of
3 its makeup. Sun Lakes is a 55-plus community populated by
4 people from all over the United States, part of a larger and
5 energetic body of citizens who've become used to working
6 together. Yes, we have local Republican and Democratic
7 clubs, but these are complimented by an active engagement
8 with our neighbors to the north. For example, most recently
9 we focused on the changes taking place involving another
10 neighbor, the growing Intel campus and the impact on our
11 futures.

12 So please do not disrupt what we have built here
13 over the years by moving part of our community like a piece
14 on the chessboard into a new district. We're just fine
15 right where we are.

16 (Applause.)

17 SPEAKER WIGGINS: Thank you, ladies. I'm Jim
18 Wiggins, I'm also a Sun Lake resident.

19 Several years ago, roughly two years ago, I decided
20 to retire from Honeywell. My original home was in Chandler
21 and after 43 years, after retirement, I decided to move to
22 Sun Lakes. I find Sun Lakes is a very fascinating
23 community. It is unique in its own style in such a manner
24 that the residents of Sun Lakes are -- are very vibrant and
25 are very active in their community, even though they are

1 retired. I find that they have a great relationship with
2 Chandler police departments, the sheriff, the schools there,
3 also the government community. The churches are also very
4 tied in close with Sun Lake residents.

5 Then I look at the redistricting of District 13 and
6 I feel that it extends too far east into the -- to the
7 Gilbert community in such a manner that you may want to
8 consider that probably the -- the eastern boundary of this
9 district should not extend past Gilbert Road.

10 But please consider the people of Sun Lakes in that
11 how they contribute a valuable voluntary effort to our
12 community especially tied in with Chandler.

13 Thank you for your time.

14 SPEAKER YOUNG: Richard Young, LD-12, Gilbert.

15 This came on me very suddenly so I'm not as
16 prepared as I should like to be, so I'm going to make it up
17 as I go along.

18 I have two issues that came to mind. One is the
19 idea of mixing Tempe with Gilbert or Mesa. Yesterday in the
20 news I saw an ASU student holding up a sign "death to
21 America." I have contacts on campus, those views are shared
22 not merely by students but also too many of the faculty and
23 far too many of the administration, they are not compatible
24 with the people of Gilbert and Mesa who tend to be very
25 patriotic and loyal to America. On the one hand you have

1 "death to America"; on the other hand you have "God bless
2 America." Mixing those two together is not mixing oil and
3 water, that's mixing gasoline and fire and it is a bad idea.

4 My second point regards LD-12, which I'm surprised
5 to learn I'm a part of. It's a happy community. You're
6 thinking of breaking it into five different sections. Why?
7 Nationwide and to some degree on the state level, we're
8 seeing institutions collapse, division, separation and
9 locally we're trying to hold things together, to work
10 together.

11 Gilbert does that. It's a happy, compatible
12 community. Democrats, Republicans, different points of
13 views, but basically shared values.

14 Breaking it up simply continues the rot that we're
15 seeing on a broader scale in this community, in this
16 country, and it is not a desirable thing to do.

17 Please retain LD-12 intact.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 SPEAKER RAY: My name is Craig Ray. I live in
21 Mesa; I'm glad I don't live in Ahwatukee, nobody wants them.

22 So if you can extend the borders to the east of --
23 of Gilbert Road to Val Vista, it would make more sense to
24 add more of that group of people into the downtown part of
25 Mesa and leave the boundaries, the 101 on the west side, and

1 that would be great.

2 Thank you.

3 SPEAKER LINKER: Hi, my name is Bruce Linker, I'm
4 from Scottsdale. Many thanks to the IRC board for their
5 time and effort that you have spent on this project. We
6 moved, disgusted with the big city, over 25 years ago. We
7 live in a patio home.

8 My suggestion is for our CD-1 lines, northern
9 boundary, the boundary above Cave Creek, Carefree, Desert
10 Mountain, extending south to Osborn Road and Scottsdale,
11 east from Beeline Highway to include Fountain Hills going
12 west to I-17.

13 For LD-4 lines in the east, the Beeline Highway
14 west through Fountain Hills and Scottsdale -- to Scottsdale
15 Road. In the north from the northern boundary of Rio Verde
16 south through Carefree and Scottsdale to the Osborn Road in
17 the south.

18 We hope the IRC does not break up Scottsdale and
19 the surrounding suburban communities with these maps.
20 Scottsdale, Carefree, Cave Creek, Rio Verde, Fountain Hills,
21 and Desert Ridge are contiguous and compact suburban
22 communities. We should be kept together since our residents
23 act together as a community. The tax dollars that we
24 generate along with our tax dollars are responsible for this
25 tourist attraction and community that is the money-making

1 gem for Arizona's treasury.

2 Please redo these maps with consideration for
3 compactness, communities and contiguousness. Keep
4 Scottsdale, Carefree, Cave Creek, Rio Verde, Fountain Hills,
5 Desert Ridge together as a single CD. The residents of
6 these communities intermingle in their daily activities,
7 medical needs, entertainment, education, shopping and
8 worship. The current maps seem to reflect urban sprawl
9 surrounding and choking off the suburban areas which have
10 made Arizona so appealing and attractive to tourists,
11 snowbirds, conventions, outdoor as well as indoor events.
12 And the biggest most consistent moneymaker for the state is
13 Scottsdale.

14 Redraw these lines and keep this gem the special
15 attraction it is.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. CRANK: The next ten speakers; again, I'll read
19 your name only once.

20 Marcia Weiss, LouAnn Sedgwick, Joshua Heywood,
21 Judith Robbins, Tram Bui, Diane Andersen, Wallace Taylor,
22 Jeff Smith, Paul Weich, Steve Hetsler.

23 Marcia.

24 SPEAKER WEISS: Good evening and thank you so much
25 for the opportunity to speak.

1 My name is a Marcia Weiss and I'm a resident of
2 Chandler, Arizona. I've lived there for nearly ten years;
3 prior I was living in Gilbert for four.

4 I'm a retired military member who has traveled the
5 world and I chose Chandler because it's a place of safe
6 haven to me and my family. I have elderly parents, I'm a
7 full-time caregiver to them and Chandler was my place of
8 preference. When I looked at real estate they say
9 location-location-location. It's because of the people and
10 my church that I'm involved with and the like-mindedness of
11 the people that live in my immediate community.

12 We went from a very agricultural, equine, sheep,
13 every kind of -- type of agricultural piece to a very
14 high-tech hyper explosion of residential and luxury
15 residential apartments in our community. We've grown to
16 over 250,000 within that short time frame. Please keep our
17 Congressional District 5 intact and Legislative District 17
18 intact.

19 We like where we are. I chose the area because of
20 the community resolution to help each other and come up with
21 solutions to help, not just our new incoming families that
22 support the high-tech community but also our senior
23 community. And we come together, we come up with solutions,
24 so let us come up with the best way of life retaining our
25 congressional districts and legislative districts.

1 Thank you so much.

2 (Applause.)

3 SPEAKER SEDGWICK: Good evening, my name is LouAnn
4 Sedgwick and I live in south Chandler and I've been there
5 for the past 16 years.

6 I'm here tonight to talk about same thing Marcia
7 said, to keep 17 intact and CD-5. But specifically I want
8 to talk about Sun Lakes. I live in south Chandler very
9 close to Sun Lakes. I have spent many years volunteering in
10 Sun Lakes, my children went through the Chandler school
11 district and they all -- when they were Girl Scouts we went
12 to Sun Lakes to go to the communities and we -- through
13 Hamilton High School, they have the seniors come over to
14 football games, they go to the plays, they go to the
15 musicals, they are part of south Chandler and I do not want
16 to see them separated, that is not the right thing to
17 happen.

18 And I would also like to say that as far as
19 Gilbert, I just don't think that taking a community and
20 splitting it into five different areas could possibly be the
21 best thing for them.

22 So thank you very much for your time.

23 (Applause.)

24 SPEAKER HEYWOOD: Joshua Heywood. I've been in
25 Mesa for my entire life, my great great great grandfather

1 moved to Arizona so we've been here for --

2 COMMISSIONER LERNER: Could you speak closer to the
3 mic.

4 SPEAKER HEYWOOD: We've been here a very long time
5 and have a deep appreciation for Arizona history and where
6 we came from. Living in Mesa is a totally different
7 experience than living in Tempe or Ahwatukee. I worked in
8 Tempe quite -- quite a long time and when I tell people,
9 yeah, I own a cow and they go oh, is it a pet? No, we
10 butcher it and eat it, and they all make fun of me and think
11 that's weird. And I was like, no, that's just the way I was
12 raised; we're just -- we're different.

13 Arizona is a community where -- or Mesa is a
14 community where you grew up in orange groves and you played
15 in orange groves and hay fields and you have a community
16 that understands that.

17 In Ahwatukee they don't -- they don't irrigate
18 their yards, they don't know how it works on the other side.
19 That 101 between Tempe and Mesa is a huge difference. If
20 you drive down University there's a stark difference when
21 you leave Mesa and go into Tempe. That's not a bad thing,
22 but they have different priorities than we do.

23 And I can -- I know when we look at the East
24 Valley, you look at the Mesa and Gilbert. All my friends
25 that were born in Mesa have all moved to Gilbert, Chandler,

1 Mesa because those are the communities we grew up in. I
2 mean, there was hardly a difference between Mesa and Gilbert
3 until they started building more and more housing
4 structures. It was literally you just kept going down the
5 same dirt road. I mean, the name are even the same on a lot
6 of the streets because it's the same community in a lot of
7 our minds.

8 So I hope that as you're looking at these maps you
9 consider not just the lines and the people, but the
10 long-standing history and traditions of people who have been
11 there for many generations.

12 Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 SPEAKER ROBBINS: Good evening. My name is Judy
15 Robbins and I'm an educator here in the largest school
16 district of the state, Mesa public schools.

17 I'm speaking directly about Mesa as a community --
18 Mesa public schools as a community of interest.

19 In my review of the draft maps I believe that the
20 IRC needs to reconfigure LD-9, 10, 12, 14, and 15.

21 I'm very concerned that there is far too much
22 fracturing of the Mesa public schools' community of
23 interest.

24 I suggest keeping the legislative district for Mesa
25 to three larger, more populace and more competitive

1 districts. Right now the draft maps has our educational
2 community of interest in five different legislative
3 districts through the draft map.

4 Please also reduce Gilbert to one legislative
5 district map and keep Mesa as a community of -- a compact
6 community of interest separate from Gilbert or Chandler.
7 This would support working with fewer representatives when
8 it comes to developing critical educational policy developed
9 through our edu- -- our elected state officials.

10 Thank you very much for doing what you do, it is a
11 thankless job and I understand that you have gone through a
12 lot.

13 So thank you again and I appreciate being heard
14 today.

15 (Applause.)

16 SPEAKER BUI: First off, thank you very much
17 Ms. Erika Neuberg and Ms. Shereen Lerner, I don't have the
18 name tags for the other people. My name is Tram Bui and I'm
19 a resident of Gilbert so I'm hear to speak about
20 Congressional District 5.

21 The communities in District 5 makes sense together,
22 the East Valley and suburban communities are rapidly growing
23 areas of Maricopa County with large growth in tech
24 industries that will continue to populate this area and be
25 an economic driver for the region. Keeping Gilbert,

1 San Tan, and surrounding communities south of the US-60
2 together makes sense.

3 And I'm also represented with Legislative District
4 12, so this is what I would like to see for the East Valley:
5 Move LD-12 and LD-13 so they are side by side to respect the
6 communities in Gilbert and Chandler; to remove an arm in
7 LD-12, reaching over to Gilbert through Chandler in the
8 draft maps, splitting these communities and undermining the
9 representation.

10 Keep LD-12 focused on the Kyrene School District,
11 this was requested in a lot of previous public comment. And
12 south Tempe, which is culturally similar to the rest of the
13 district, satisfies substantial community of interest
14 testimony.

15 Likewise, a compact LD-13 would focus a district on
16 the new families in the suburban-exurban bedroom communities
17 in Chandler and northwest Gilbert. Add Sun Lakes to LD-12
18 to keep these residents with similar voters in Ahwatukee.
19 This would also lead to a more competitive district so that
20 communities in this area are better represented.

21 So thank you so much for allowing us to speak today
22 and also thank you for your time and effort. I really
23 appreciate it.

24 (Applause.)

25 SPEAKER ANDERSEN: My name is Diane Andersen.

1 Madam Chair and members of the panel, thank you for all your
2 hard work. I know this is not an easy task. I especially
3 want to thank you for carving time out of your busy schedule
4 For this, the citizens of Mesa to speak here this evening.

5 My concern this evening is with the congressional
6 draft map. Mesa is a heavily retirement area. Did I say I
7 live in Leisure World? I am certainly a part of Mesa.

8 And that goes all the way down to our neighbors in
9 Sun Lakes. We like to think we are communities of interest.
10 I am distressed at the southern border that has been sharply
11 cut off at Elliott Road. More so, you have gathered Tempe
12 in with our elderly population. I fail to see the
13 communities of interest there. After all, our entertainment
14 is golfing and swimming and going to church, we have a lot
15 of churches in Mesa.

16 The college town residents' entertainment is
17 perhaps a might different and it could possibly include
18 strip clubs, bars, and pubs. I don't know that firsthand,
19 but there are no commonalities there.

20 Then, the newly formed district would take a sharp
21 and narrow sliver straight across I-10 to Ahwatukee, which
22 is far removed from the elderly population of Mesa.

23 I implore you, keep District 5 the same as it is.

24 Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 SPEAKER TAYLOR: My name is Wallace Taylor. I've
2 been a resident of Gilbert for 34 years. Much of what I
3 would express tonight has already been well said by others.
4 I would encourage a more careful consideration of our
5 community of interest in Gilbert.

6 I do believe we breathe the same air as the people
7 in Ahwatukee and elsewhere, but there's something
8 significant about it as a community of interest and I
9 believe that it would be a mistake for our contribution to
10 be diluted by being divided among five different districts,
11 and ask you to consider that as you move forward with the
12 districting.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 SPEAKER SMITH: Hi, I'm Jeff Smith, I live in
16 Gilbert and I'm here to speak on behalf of Gilbert as a
17 community of interest.

18 My wife and I have lived here in -- in Gilbert for
19 18 years, we chose Gilbert specifically because it's the
20 kind of community that shares our values and where we wanted
21 to live and raise our family. We have a Gilbert address,
22 our children attended Gilbert schools, we attend church
23 there, we live, shop and recreate primarily in Gilbert.

24 The proposed legislative district map has Gilbert
25 arbitrarily carved into five different districts. This

1 would seem to fly in the face of one of the primary
2 directives of this Commission, which is to respect
3 communities of interest.

4 Similarly the proposed congressional district map
5 divides Gilbert into two different congressional districts.
6 There's simply no reason to split up a relatively small
7 geographic community like Gilbert into two different CDs and
8 five different LDs other than for partisan reasons.

9 These new boundaries will only serve to
10 dramatically dilute Gilbert's voice in both the state
11 legislature and U.S. House of Representatives. These lines
12 proposed do not show respect for my community of interest
13 and I ask that the Commission start over as it relates to
14 the town of Gilbert.

15 Please keep Gilbert together and maintain our
16 community of interest.

17 Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 SPEAKER WEICH: Good evening, Madam Chair,
20 Commissioner Lerner. My name is Paul Weich and I proudly
21 live in Ahwatukee and I'm glad to hear that gentleman
22 acknowledge that he -- that we breathe the same air.

23 Before -- I'm going to be addressing submitted map
24 LD0061 but before I address that and how that -- how the
25 legislative maps in the East Valley can improve, I'd like to

1 comment briefly on your meeting earlier today.

2 I am concerned. Probably the key purposes behind
3 creating the IRC 20 years ago was to: One, promote
4 transparency; and two, to remove incumbents from having
5 influence and being able to pick their voters. And whether
6 or not people are intentionally misrepresenting where
7 proposed changes are coming from, we have a problem when an
8 incumbent and a Commissioner seem to be working in concert.
9 Please do not let an incumbent try to make a safe district
10 for him or herself.

11 In full disclosure, unlike some others, I am
12 running for a legislative seat next year. However, my
13 testimony is actually against my self-interest.

14 The changes I am advocating for would make the
15 district where I live in Ahwatukee more competitive for
16 candidates of the opposing party and that is how strongly I
17 believe that competitiveness makes our legislature more
18 effective and more representative.

19 Contrary to what the House Speaker may have said
20 today, the way to lessen the extremism that is dangerous to
21 our democracy is to make as many competitive districts as
22 possible.

23 (Applause.)

24 SPEAKER WEICH: Sean Bowie -- Sean Bowie, our
25 current state senator for our district, is a testament to

1 that. Our district has been competitive this past decade
2 and he works across the aisle.

3 The East Valley, the submitted map identified as
4 LD0061, is a perfect example of making the East Valley more
5 competitive and it splits the East Valley cities as few
6 times as possible, including Gilbert as we talked about, and
7 it respects the communities of interest.

8 Again, thank you for your time and effort that you
9 are voluntarily putting into this transparent effort.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Thank you. I have a
12 follow-up question, Mr. Weick. I asked a question -- if you
13 listened this afternoon, I asked a question to the minority
14 leaders and I'd like to ask it of you.

15 It has to do with competitiveness. It's a
16 mathematical reality that when we honor the very first
17 responsibility of the constitutional criteria honoring the
18 VRA in our state, whether that's going to be eight, nine
19 districts, they happen to be disproportionately Democratic,
20 just randomly that's what it is.

21 And when you begin to strive to carve out
22 competitive districts for the rest of the population, it's
23 no longer a representative sample.

24 When you ask for competitive districts, are you
25 asking for the rest of the entirety of those districts to be

1 a close as possible in their spread, are you asking for a
2 minority of districts to be as close as possible where any
3 party could win?

4 And the reason why I ask that is it literally pits
5 communities of interest against competitiveness and we're
6 soliciting input from those who want the competitive
7 districts, what your preference is here.

8 Because we cannot do it all.

9 SPEAKER WEICH: There is obviously a tension
10 between competitiveness and -- and the VRA and other -- the
11 other criteria. The way that the -- the way that the
12 Constitution Prop 206 (verbatim) was passed is that we want
13 to make competitiveness -- as -- as many competitive
14 districts as possible as long as it doesn't -- does not
15 cause detriment to the other criteria. And I think what I
16 am saying and what people that are talking about competitive
17 districts are saying, is that yes, there -- you do have to
18 respect the VRA and you do have to make a certain number of
19 VRA districts; and yes, that does change the rest of the
20 sample, the rest of the population, but you can still make
21 as many competitive districts as possible with all the
22 communities of interest.

23 For instance, the LD0061 map that is submitted, it
24 makes the East Valley as a whole more competitive and it
25 does not do detriment to -- to the VRA, it benefits the

1 communities of interest, it benefits the other criteria. So
2 I think that what we are saying is that you -- yes, you --
3 there is tension, but you have to respect competitiveness
4 and make as many other competitive districts as possible
5 after the VRA districts, after the other criteria.

6 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Thank you.

7 SPEAKER WEICH: Right. Exactly, after. Yes. But
8 it does not cause detriment to the other criteria as long as
9 you are -- as long as you are working on that. And there
10 are ways to do that and that's what this map, for example,
11 does for the East Valley.

12 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Thank you.

13 SPEAKER WEICH: Thank you.

14 Good seeing you.

15 (Applause.)

16 SPEAKER HETSLER: Do I get three minutes?

17 I'm Steve Hetsler, I've spent most my life in this
18 area, the Dobson Ranch area, and I was -- used to be in
19 LD-18 where it stretched all the way to Ahwatukee and I
20 thought that was a problem but it went across four
21 districts, cut Mesa in half and four different parts, I
22 thought that was a problem.

23 Then I moved -- when I moved to Gold Canyon in the
24 beginning of last year I was in LD-16, that was with
25 Gold Canyon, Apache Junction, east Mesa and split down a

1 county line but it was still -- I didn't know how lucky I
2 was there, too.

3 Now, with this latest LD-7 map, I'm ten miles from
4 the Maricopa County line where I'm in a district with Concho
5 and Ash Fork and places hundreds of miles and hours away.
6 We are an urban -- we are an urban district.

7 I say -- I know this hearing is focused on Maricopa
8 County but the Pinal decisions are impacted by Mesa,
9 Gilbert, and Queen Creek. In addressing those concerns, we
10 should recognize Apache Junction and Gold Canyon, our urban
11 neighbors with common interest, even if we don't get a pure
12 split among county lines.

13 I reminded legislators from the north that they
14 still will be responsible for adhering to Pinal County even
15 though we'll be 40 percent of this district, even if they're
16 hundred of miles away.

17 One solution I found was the five-plus eastern
18 county plan which had addressed Apache Junction unity by
19 putting it all in LD-15, and I was talking to some people
20 and they would modify that to add Gold Canyon to that as
21 well.

22 I studied the maps, public submissions and public
23 comments and have tried scenarios of my own and know that's
24 not easy.

25 My last formal college class was in mathematical

1 optimization. In the simplest form, one knows that the more
2 constraints on the problem, the more difficult it is to
3 solve. Removing a constraint makes it easier, leaving the
4 goal of competitiveness out of the equation. So with my
5 extra half minute I would like to say that six criteria
6 cannot overrule the other four.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. CRANK: The next ten speakers: Nancy Cottle,
10 Laurie Gonzalez, Tim Schalick, Lina Hatch, Jackie Mesa,
11 Michelle Wood, Roberta Miller, Tempest Shires, Jen Miller,
12 William Bodine.

13 Nancy?

14 SPEAKER COTTLE: Thank you. I'd like to express my
15 appreciation to Chairwoman Neuberg and the Commission for
16 your tireless work to redraw -- redraw Arizona's legislative
17 and congressional districts lines; and more importantly, for
18 scheduling an opportunity for the East Valley to be heard.

19 My name is Nancy Cottle, I've lived in Maricopa
20 County for 41 years, the past 35 in Mesa. I consider the
21 East Valley, as many of my colleagues have talked about, my
22 community of interest, having worked in the aerospace
23 sector, volunteered in Mesa and surrounding communities,
24 substitute taught in Mesa public schools, and served in
25 several civic-minded projects in the district and for the

1 city of Mesa.

2 I've studied the proposed Arizona draft 10 map for
3 District 10. It's clear to me, many I've spoken with, with
4 respect to the East Valley district, Commission would be
5 wise to consider revisiting the mapping activity to keep
6 Mesa compact, meaning not to include parts of Tempe or
7 Gilbert.

8 My recommendation is establish a boundary in
9 District 10 that includes Val Vista as a boundary running
10 east to the Pinal County line and south to Baseline. This
11 affords equal population, communities of interest such as
12 church, school, shopping services, and incorporates a county
13 boundary to the east.

14 I would also recommend that the current District 12
15 extension to Gilbert be moved to the 101, this would ensure
16 compactness in that district as well.

17 Please consider using the recently submitted
18 Gilbert consolidated map which shows Gilbert in two
19 districts versus five. A vast majority of east Mesa
20 residents pay taxes to support the city and Maricopa County
21 services, and we want to be represented by people who are
22 affected by the actions of those that serve, especially when
23 it comes to Mesa public schools.

24 With respect to version 7 congressional maps,
25 residents of retirement communities of interest such as

1 Leisure World and Sun Lakes should remain within the
2 congressional boundaries of CD-5. They have very little in
3 common with Tempe.

4 I just want to say thank you again for your time.

5 (Applause.)

6 SPEAKER GONZALEZ: My name is Lauri Gonzalez and I
7 live in Gilbert, Arizona. I'm a pretty good example of
8 maybe living in both worlds.

9 I lived in Mesa, went to university, was there for
10 quite a while when I was -- way back when, about I'd say
11 20 years ago or so; and then once I decided to have a family
12 I decided to move over to where it was more quiet,
13 conservative, better schools, where I can basically just
14 have everything nice and quiet. And now that my daughter is
15 in college, I really want to be able to just continue my
16 life in a quiet and peaceful way.

17 I'm very disturbed about Gilbert being broken up
18 into five different sections. That just does not represent
19 me at all. I think Gilbert was -- was originally set up to
20 be its own town, it's own small little community. And I
21 like -- I'm preservative, I like to keep everything the
22 same -- I would like to go ahead and finish reading what I
23 have to say about this.

24 In 2019 our amazing little town of Gilbert was
25 featured on three highly respected and reputable nation

1 surveys. It was ranked nationally against 182 communities
2 for safety, livability, and family life. It was named the
3 4th safest of 182 communities, 12th most livable town, and
4 7th best place to raise a family in the United States.

5 The reason for these excellent rankings is because
6 Gilbert has been able to maintain its small town appeal,
7 safe neighborhoods, and excellent schools.

8 Expanding the boundaries of our community to
9 Ahwatukee is ridiculous. This redistricting plan will bring
10 more crime into our community, lower our property values and
11 strip us of our small town identity. I believe splitting up
12 Gilbert is more political than practical. Our downtown area
13 is already too busy and invites a different crowd every
14 weekend. Gilbert needs to stay exactly where it is.

15 I would like to also add that I have researched the
16 supposedly nonpartisan IRC board members and I'm deeply,
17 deeply troubled that your background lack any conservative
18 leanings and that's all I want to say.

19 Thank you so much for your time. I really
20 appreciate it.

21 (Applause.)

22 SPEAKER SCHALICK: Hello, I'm Tim Schalick and I am
23 also part of the LD-12 grievance for Gilbert committee.

24 I've lived in LD-12 in northwest Gilbert for almost
25 14 years, before that I lived in Mesa for five years, before

1 that I was in the Air Force for 24 years. In all the
2 travels we had, we loved Arizona the best, including
3 graduating from ASU 30 years ago this month which I find
4 shocking.

5 Your proposed map of LD-12 removes a two-mile strip
6 of northern Gilbert, a section that contains the heart of
7 downtown Gilbert and places it in Mesa's LD to the north.

8 It also separates another two-mile strip into this
9 panhandle that contains our Gilbert civic center, which is
10 our City Hall and police department, again separate from the
11 downtown, and places it in a panhandle that now extends --
12 LD-12 extends 20 miles west through Chandler all the way to
13 Ahwatukee -- which I'm sure the air is fine out there, but I
14 prefer that -- I prefer Gilbert to stay Gilbert.

15 It's an incoherent collection of disparate
16 communities of interest. These five districts really --
17 disassembling Gilbert is discomfoting.

18 This proposed map goes against two of the
19 redistricting goals in the Arizona Constitution -- you've
20 heard this -- the respecting the communities of interest;
21 and my big beef is the -- is the town boundaries. There's
22 no reason that the northern boundary of LD-12 shouldn't go
23 to Baseline, the boundary of Gilbert.

24 The western border is Arizona Avenue, as I said
25 that makes -- that makes sense and put the eastern -- excuse

1 me -- the eastern borders Baseline -- Val Vista, the western
2 border is 20 miles away in Ahwatukee and I'd ask that you
3 please follow the natural city lines -- town lines for LD
4 separation. Keep Gilbert together.

5 And again, thank you for your time. I know you've
6 heard that many times and I do appreciate your time.
7 Appreciate it.

8 (Applause.)

9 SPEAKER HATCH: Hello, my name is Lina Hatch, I
10 live in Gilbert and I'm speaking about my community of
11 interest.

12 My family has lived in Gilbert for 45 years. Our
13 ZIP Code is 85233. My husband has been a Realtor for
14 40 years, specializing in the Gilbert area. We have a
15 Gilbert address, our children and grandchildren attend
16 Gilbert schools, we attend a Gilbert church, we shop mostly
17 in Gilbert, our healthcare providers and clinics are in
18 Gilbert, we vote for Gilbert town council, we vote for
19 Gilbert school board, we bank in Gilbert.

20 Since the 2010 census, our small area west of
21 Cooper and south of Baseline was carved out of LD-22 and
22 this little sliver was put into Chandler District 17. Since
23 then, we do not feel like we belong. We have no influence.
24 This has not given our small area adequate representation or
25 cohesion. We do not associate with Gilbert schools,

1 churches, town council, school board, shopping, medical,
2 bank, et cetera. We have been divided from our community of
3 interest for these past ten years.

4 The latest proposed legislative district map is
5 much worse. Gilbert is dissected into five pieces, this
6 does not represent a community of interest. Cities should
7 be kept as whole as possible. We want our legislative
8 district to include all of Gilbert, to keep our city whole.

9 Our congressional districts should also be whole
10 with Gilbert as a single CD. The proposed CD map divides
11 Gilbert between both CD-4 and CD-5. Please keep Gilbert and
12 Mesa together in CD-5 with -- within Maricopa County, that
13 will represent our community of interest.

14 We handpicked Gilbert as our place of residence
15 45 years ago because we had the hometown cohesion.

16 Thank you for your time.

17 (Applause.)

18 SPEAKER MESA: My name is Jackie Mesa.

19 Hello, committee members and a special thanks to
20 Chairwoman Neuberg for your dedication throughout this long
21 process.

22 I've enjoyed living in the Valley for close to six
23 years now. I've always loved the vibrant downtown and the
24 people that make up the surrounding residential
25 neighborhoods. The two lend completely different vibes and

1 lifestyles, from Tempe's highly social culture due to its
2 college influence, compared to a more rooted, domestic,
3 family-oriented culture throughout the rest of the East
4 Valley.

5 It's due to these stark contrasts between
6 communities of interest that all of Tempe should remain
7 intact and separate from the East Valley, please.

8 As far as dividing up the rest of the East Valley,
9 please keep Gilbert as intact as possible. Five
10 legislative -- legislative districts is a lot for one
11 community.

12 Moving the southern border of LDs 9 and 10 to the
13 Baseline or the 60 would help reunite Gilbert and setting
14 Val Vista as the 9 and 10 east-west boundary would ensure
15 those two maintain equal population. It would also keep the
16 retirement communities together, whereby nature of residents
17 have the most interest in common.

18 For reference, Gilbert consolidated map illustrates
19 all this well.

20 Similarly keeping Sun Lakes with south Chandler
21 like you have it appropriately reflects their inherent
22 sameness. It sounds like the residents agree and moving
23 them would definitely be to their detriment.

24 Thank you again for your time and consideration.

25 (Applause.)

1 SPEAKER WOOD: Hello, my name is Michelle Wood. I
2 am a lifetime resident -- oh gosh, I shouldn't say lifetime
3 -- I'm a 35-year resident of the East Valley. I did live in
4 Tempe for several years and I currently live in west Mesa.

5 I'm here today to speak in support of LD61 --
6 excuse me -- the map LD0061, and the reason I want to speak
7 in favor of it is because the current final draft divides
8 Mesa up into five districts. You've heard people on all
9 sides of the line share a similar view that that needs to be
10 diminished. And I think that map 0061 does a better job of
11 that because it divides Mesa up into just three districts,
12 and one of those districts is fully Mesa residents with no
13 other communities involved.

14 It also -- map LD0061 does a better job of adhering
15 to the principle of being compact in that it divides
16 Chandler, Mesa, and Tempe into just two districts as opposed
17 to the multiple districts which again everybody here agrees
18 the East Valley has been divided up into far too many
19 districts to be palatable to any side of the equation.

20 The other reason I support LD0061 is because it
21 creates two more competitive districts in LD-12 and 13, and
22 I think it does a -- a better job of aligning the Honda
23 precinct with proposed LD-9 because those folks who live in
24 the Honda precinct, a good majority of them send their
25 children to school in the Mesa school districts and placing

1 them from 8 into 9 would be a better alignment of interest.

2 Last, I think that the map that is proposed does a
3 very good job of aligning Latino communities in LD-9, but I
4 think 0061 does a better job of aligning those communities
5 in both LD-9 and 13.

6 So thank you for your time and thank you for your
7 contributions to the Commission.

8 (Applause.)

9 SPEAKER MILLER: Good evening, Madam Chair and
10 Commissioner Lerner. Thank you very much for listening to
11 us tonight and being here. I'm sure this has not been an
12 easy slog for you.

13 I'm a fan of map LD0061 as well. I'm going to make
14 my comments relatively brief here. I'm in the same ZIP.

15 I noticed listening to all of these -- all of these
16 speakers here tonight, even though I didn't necessarily
17 agree with everyone, there appears to be a consensus that we
18 all don't want our cities to be split up as much as they are
19 in the present legislative approved draft map. LD0061 does
20 a good job of minimizing those splits and I think that's
21 consistent with what you need to do as the Commissioners. I
22 mean, it's consistent with -- with creating districts that
23 are compact, contiguous, competitive and that respect the
24 communities of interest.

25 So please, if you would, I'm going to ask you --

1 let me take off this -- take this off, I feel like I can't
2 breathe when I have that mask on in front of you here.

3 But please consider looking at LD0061. I think it
4 solves a lot of problems and I think it also is consistent
5 with a lot of the -- the concerns and the statements you've
6 heard here tonight from a lot of people on both sides of the
7 aisle.

8 Thank you very much.

9 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Just as a matter of a very
10 practical question, is this a recent map submission so I
11 know where to look for it? When --

12 SPEAKER MILLER: It's not recent. I think it
13 was -- I think it was submitted -- submitted about a month
14 ago. I know I talked about it when I was here -- when I was
15 in front of you in Scottsdale, I actually mentioned it
16 there. So it was -- it had been published at that point as
17 well.

18 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Okay.

19 SPEAKER MILLER: Take a look at it.

20 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: We can find it.

21 SPEAKER MILLER: Yeah. Thanks very much.

22 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 SPEAKER SHIRES: Hello, Madam Chair and
25 Commissioners. My name is Tempest Shires and I've lived in

1 Chandler for 12 years. I'm here to speak in favor of
2 LD0061, and it's quite interesting that a few of us are.

3 I've previously only been able to outline the
4 issues. I've had problems with the draft map, there wasn't
5 a map submitted when I last talked to you about -- that
6 satisfies my concerns and satisfies your six constitutional
7 requirements. LD0061 now exists and it provides solutions
8 for the East Valley and beyond that keeps communities of
9 interest together, balances populations, and creates compact
10 and competitive districts.

11 I was very interested listening to your meeting
12 earlier today that one of your main areas that you're
13 grappling with is how to achieve competitiveness without
14 undermining the needs of communities of interest.

15 LD0061 looks at the East Valley as a whole. LD-12
16 is pretty blue, LD-14 is solidly red, they balance each
17 other out. In between them you have the opportunity to make
18 LD-13, where I live, a properly competitive district with a
19 near 50/50 split so the voters are infused about elections
20 and representatives can -- don't have to rest on their
21 laurels.

22 The competitiveness shouldn't undermine communities
23 of interest in LD-13. I was very concerned watching the
24 business meeting before Thanksgiving, it felt like the
25 Commissioners see the draft map version of LD-13 as a done

1 deal. In an ideal world it would be lovely to have a
2 perfectly square, perfectly compact district. LD-13 looks
3 great on paper, but the square cuts right through the heart
4 of a very important community of interest in north Chandler.

5 Although our Latino community isn't large enough to
6 make LD-13 a VRA district, it's very sizable and incredibly
7 important to the makeup of the city of Chandler that I love.

8 I urge the Commissioners when dividing up the
9 unloved panhandle to reunite the north of Chandler with the
10 rest of the city.

11 Map LD0061 shows how this can be done and how the
12 East Valley districts as a whole can meet the requirements
13 of competitive and not undermining communities of interest.

14 I appreciate the time you're taking to listen to
15 all of us. Happy Christmas.

16 (Applause.)

17 SPEAKER MILLER: Hello, my name is Jan Miller.
18 I've lived in Arizona for 33 years, most of that in
19 Chandler, and I had a whole list of points of which have
20 been made repeatedly this evening from a -- a multitude of
21 people, so I will just kind of cut to the -- the chase from
22 my point.

23 I also am here to support LD map -- or map LD0061
24 for the reasons that have been so eloquently articulated. I
25 believe it is an example of how to optimize many of these,

1 if not all of these, different competing interests.

2 While people may not love every part of it, it does
3 a much better job of holding the communities of interest,
4 the cities, into much -- two, maybe three districts that
5 make more sense and keep those groups -- those communities
6 of interest together, supports the Latino areas, it keeps
7 the retirement communities together, keeps school
8 districts -- Kyrene School District, which is important to
9 me, together, and I think it also creates more competitive
10 districts as well which I think is -- should be equally
11 important. Obviously it has to be balanced with all of
12 them.

13 So thank you very much.

14 (Applause.)

15 SPEAKER BODINE: Hello, my name is William Bodine,
16 I'm a third generation Native Arizonan. I actually built
17 the home that my 101-year-old mother lives in in west Mesa
18 and we've been here in Mesa for 55 years. I recognize and
19 understand the need to split Mesa because the population has
20 grown, but I'm opposed to splitting it off four or five
21 different ways, whatever the map is showing.

22 I think that we live in Mesa because we have a
23 shared value and interest. We pay our taxes for our schools
24 in Mesa, our churches are in Mesa, we have the same
25 values -- much of the same values of family and faith in

1 Mesa, that's why people live here. We don't want to be
2 lumped with different areas that don't share those same
3 values. And I don't think it's appropriate to disassemble
4 Mesa to pursue a political or a social agenda. The most
5 important thing is to keep it as a community of interest as
6 much as possible.

7 I ask the board to follow the Constitution, look at
8 those areas that you can do before you look at political
9 competitiveness. Look at that community of interest because
10 that's why we live here, we're part of the community. I
11 personally know many in my city, state, and national
12 political representatives because they live in my
13 neighborhood, I know them. You break us up and it won't
14 happen, it won't be the same.

15 So I recommend for LD-10 to keep the I- -- make
16 I-60 freeway as the southern boundary and the eastern
17 boundary as Meridian and that will keep -- that will help
18 reduce breaking up Gilbert and it makes a nice geographic
19 section, keeping Mesa in one district and Gilbert in
20 another.

21 And then for Congressional District 5, I ask you to
22 follow the natural boundaries and move the east-west
23 boundary line perhaps Stapley and -- Stapley Road, and this
24 will keep Chandler and downtown Mesa.

25 Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. CRANK: I think we're going to take a
3 five-minute break right now. The -- our transcriptionist
4 needs a -- a break. So we can take a five-minute break.

5 (Recess taken from 7:27 p.m. to 7:31 p.m.)

6
7 MS. CRANK: I will be calling the next ten
8 speakers.

9 Next ten speakers: Kathleen Pettycrew, Mickie
10 Niland, Catherine Kissler, Morgan Perry, Tram Bui, Darla
11 Gonzalez, Jared Taylor, Frank Pabian, Jeffrey Tucker, Kitty
12 (verbatim) I can't read her -- your writing, Kitty. Kitty
13 Powell? Kathleen Pettycrew? Kathleen?

14 SPEAKER PETTYCREW: There's nobody up there.

15 MS. CRANK: Yeah, just wait. Just wait.

16 SPEAKER PETTYCREW: Good evening, thank you for
17 this opportunity. I appreciate your work.

18 I voted for the Independent Redistricting Committee
19 20 years ago with the idea this will be competitive
20 districts. There are other criteria, I understand, but
21 competitiveness was the main reason I voted for it and was
22 very proud of Arizona for having been a leader in this and
23 still is.

24 Communities of color are very important to us. The
25 minorities, the special people, those are the communities

1 that we need to protect. Not necessarily cities, not
2 necessarily counties.

3 I have lived in Phoenix for 47 years, my children
4 go to school in Tempe. None of the redistricting has ever
5 made any difference to how I act with my city or how I act
6 with the Tempe School District. Those things are not the
7 important things, the important things to me are protecting
8 the communities of color and competitiveness.

9 I have worked hard for the -- for -- for the party
10 that I support and for the candidates that I have supported,
11 I'll continue to do that. I doesn't matter whether I'm in
12 district A or B or C, I will do it in the district that I'm
13 redistricted to. I've been redistricted before, I'll be
14 redistricted again, it's okay.

15 I'm not a community of color, I'm not anybody
16 special, I am a voter and I want competitiveness.

17 Thank you very much.

18 (Applause.)

19 SPEAKER NILAND: Good evening, Madam Chairman and
20 Commissioners. Thank you for your service and thank you for
21 coming to the East Valley. We're glad to be here.

22 Most of my concerns have already been addressed by
23 people so I'll just briefly mention, I live in Gilbert and I
24 of course don't want five districts but I want to speak
25 mostly about the congressional district map tonight.

1 I would encourage you to keep Mesa whole and to
2 keep Gilbert whole. We have enough in common that we
3 would have our communities of interest represented by being
4 together with -- also with Gilbert and some of the
5 retirement communities. This would help us to be compact
6 and contiguous and to be able to have our communities of
7 interest.

8 Thank you very much. Good night.

9 (Applause.)

10 SPEAKER KOSSLER: Hi, I'm Catherine Kossler, I've
11 lived in Mesa for over 30 years.

12 And primarily all the districts need to be compact
13 and unite together communities of interest so they may be
14 effectively represented by their elected officials.

15 Specifically regarding Districts 9 and 10, the
16 southern boundary should be the US-60, particularly for
17 District 9 in order to keep Dobson Ranch together, and
18 Val Vista Drive should be the dividing line between the two
19 Districts, 9 and 10.

20 The consolidated Gilbert map should be used for the
21 East Valley as this map addresses all the Gilbert problems.

22 Splitting Gilbert into five different districts
23 would disregard communities of interest as it is a very
24 family- and church-oriented community as a whole.

25 Mesa should be kept separate from Tempe as they are

1 two distinct communities with different interests. Tempe is
2 generally the younger crowd and more focused on the
3 university and the night life, whereas Mesa has more
4 families and retirees.

5 Retirement communities should stay together,
6 specifically Leisure World should not be included with Tempe
7 or Gilbert. Similarly, Sun Lakes should be joined with
8 south Chandler in order to respect their communities of
9 interest as they have more in common with south Chandler
10 than with Tempe.

11 Communities of interest are more important than
12 competitiveness and therefore should be given higher
13 priority in redistricting considerations.

14 Thank you very much for being here tonight and for
15 listening to my concerns.

16 (Applause.)

17 SPEAKER PERRY: I'm Morgan Perry, a registered
18 voter in Maricopa County living near Paradise Valley mall.

19 I'm an aviation industry entrepreneur and routinely
20 interact with business contacts from various parts of our
21 metro area, especially Stellar Airpark.

22 I urge you, the IRC, to follow rather than overstep
23 your mandate. We've had far too much overstepping in the
24 recent past by Arizona officials with sacred responsibility
25 for our democratic processes. This must end and end with

1 you here and now.

2 The IRC must prioritize grid-like, equal-sized and
3 interest-connected districts and do so over other concerns,
4 including competitiveness.

5 For my communities of interest you have failed to
6 follow your mandate in the current draft maps, specifically
7 in two ways.

8 One, in draft CD-1 you have lumped the outskirts of
9 Black Canyon City and Government Hill with the dense urban
10 community around the intersection of Interstate 10 and North
11 Central Avenue in the heart of Phoenix. That is, frankly,
12 absurd.

13 You have an obvious fix. Join the highly urbanized
14 northern portion of Central Phoenix with the rest of the
15 central urban area of Phoenix and replace CD-1 population
16 with other dominantly suburban communities that characterize
17 CD-1. Your draft has inappropriately elevated
18 competitiveness over the higher priorities that you are
19 legally duty bound to prioritize. Fix this.

20 Two, the LD-12 spur prominently sticking
21 nongridlike out to the east of the 101 loop does not
22 reasonably share interest with the rest of your draft LD-12
23 and clearly belongs with its geographically adjacent and
24 interest-sharing neighbors -- neighboring LDs, such as LD-9
25 and LD-13. You need to fix this to fulfill your

1 constitutional mandate.

2 (Applause.)

3 SPEAKER GONZALEZ: Hello, my name is Darla
4 Gonzalez. I'm from Chandler, Arizona, I moved there
5 18 years ago sight unseen. I live in the same house and I
6 love Chandler.

7 Thank you for being here, I know it's been a really
8 long haul for everyone. So I appreciate the -- the hearing
9 today.

10 So I'm going to make a lot of my -- I heard a lot
11 of similar comments so I don't want to duplicate, but I do
12 want to go on the record that I looked at a lot of these
13 maps and I believe that map 0058 which is the Gilbert
14 consolidated map meets the six criteria, it unites Gilbert,
15 unites Mesa, it keeps retirement communities together, which
16 I think is important.

17 I also think Sun Lakes need to be with south
18 Chandler; I live in south Chandler, they are a community of
19 interest for us.

20 I also worked at a church for seven years in
21 Ahwatukee, and Ahwatukee is very different from Chandler.
22 Not bad different, just different. So I feel like -- so I
23 love Ahwatukee, everybody, but it is different.

24 And so I just ask you to look at map 0058.

25 The only -- I don't like about the 0061 map that I

1 saw is it does separate Sun Lakes from south Chandler and I
2 feel like that community should stay together.

3 So thank you for hearing me out and thank you for
4 having this hearing.

5 (Applause.)

6 SPEAKER TAYLOR: Madam Chair, members of the
7 Commission, my name is Jared Taylor. Thank you for letting
8 me speak for a few minutes on a couple of items.

9 Really just two things. One is my ask tonight
10 would be to keep the Congressional District 5 map as close
11 as it can be to the existing lines. I know there'll
12 probably need to be some adjustments, but I think there's
13 some good reflection and -- and continuity that's -- that's
14 very important and will maintain the -- the guidelines as
15 set forth in the redistricting committee's various mandates.

16 The second thing is regarding the legislative
17 district in Gilbert, lived in Gilbert for 25 years, served
18 on the town council in Gilbert for eight years, and to see
19 the -- the district boundaries broken up into five pieces I
20 thought I'd just share with you what that would mean.

21 You heard from somebody earlier that they were --
22 the northwest corner when it's carved into what's called
23 LD-17 now, it was off of 22, there was a lot of -- in the
24 northwest corner, a lot of those residents have disconnected
25 with the civic engagement of the town and the legislative

1 process regardless of party because of that carve-out, and
2 that would only fracture and multiply more if there's five
3 legislative districts. So I get Gilbert's growing, we're
4 about 260,000 and -- and growing, so probably not one but
5 not more than two I think would maintain that continuity.

6 And the only -- the only other thing I'd mention is
7 with regards to school. I served on the State Board of Ed
8 for four years and I would just mention that it's very
9 important for the governing boards to have positive
10 relationships with their legislative district
11 representatives, and if it's fractured among, you know, four
12 or five legislative districts, that would be very difficult,
13 almost impossible for that to happen; and given the size of
14 education's budget, we've got to have that continuity.

15 Largely Gilbert School District is north of the
16 202. South of the 202 is Chandler and Higley School
17 District so I see that as a nice break to help with that
18 continuity.

19 So thank you again for your time and appreciate
20 your service.

21 (Applause.)

22 SPEAKER PABIAN: Hello, my name is Frank Pabian, I
23 live in east Mesa, I'm a certified mapping scientist and I'm
24 a former United Nations nuclear chief inspector.

25 I'm here primarily to -- and that's why I'm wearing

1 the hat. I'm here primarily to talk about district map --
2 Congressional District map 7.1, particularly the division of
3 Districts 4 and 5. I recommend the map produced by Ayden
4 Young (phonetic) as part of the submitted plan and name.
5 AFY-CD5 proposal two. I think it's a better potential
6 layout than what you have now in the map 7.1.

7 While we're a diverse community out in east Mesa --
8 we have a lot of retirees, for instance, but there is a
9 general cohesive sense of place and shared interests that
10 are consistent across the East Valley from east Mesa to
11 Gilbert to Queen Creek.

12 Among the shared goals is maintaining a nice place
13 to live without having to worry about disenfranchisement
14 through potentially unfair and divisive redistricting that
15 does not consider those shared and common community
16 interests and values.

17 In an earlier place and time I lived in another
18 state in a county of only about 20,000 people and what was
19 for the most part a one-company town, not unlike the
20 Globe-Superior mining district, but our community was cut
21 into three pieces in an unabashed gerrymandering effort that
22 ensured the complete disenfranchisement of the people living
23 in that county by dilution when combined with other
24 communities having differing -- differing political
25 priorities.

1 So we are a suburban and semirural community and we
2 would prefer not to be combined with more urban and more
3 transient communities that do not accurately represent our
4 common community of interest or concern for our longer term
5 priorities. Please keep our community whole within a single
6 congressional district.

7 Furthermore, the districts -- the districts that
8 you have drawn are going to -- well, I -- my final point is:
9 Please promote unity and not division.

10 Thank you for your time today.

11 (Applause.)

12 SPEAKER POWELL: Good evening, Commissioners. I
13 appreciate the time you're taking, the sacrifice, and the
14 efforts you're making to do what's right for the people.

15 My name is Kyle Powell, I've lived in Chandler and
16 Gilbert now for 38 years. I raised my family there, I serve
17 as a precinct committeeman, I am a real estate developer and
18 a property manager and I developed three properties in the
19 town of Gilbert. Specifically Gilbert because of its focus
20 on family and traditional values.

21 I understand that the IRC is guided by six
22 constitutional principles but there's also a grandfathered
23 principle that I think we all need to keep in mind and that
24 is specifically as stated by Thomas Jefferson in the
25 Declaration of Independence. Quote, "We hold these truths

1 to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that
2 they're endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable
3 rights, that among these are life, liberty and pursuit of
4 happiness."

5 My interpretation of the pursuit of happiness is
6 the right to control and exercise property.

7 This goes on -- the Declaration of Independence
8 goes on to say that -- that "to secure these rights,
9 governments are instituted among men deriving their just
10 powers from the consent of the governed."

11 So isn't that a wonderful comment? So as
12 Commissioners, I would encourage you to keep that in mind,
13 that the more you align your final decision in -- in
14 alignment with the -- those that are being governed, the
15 happier that we are in maintaining our communities and our
16 associations, the integrity and the unity of our community,
17 then the happier the governed are.

18 So I'm sure you'd like to have the consent. We're
19 here because we're not in consent. So the whole effort here
20 is to try to find consensus. So I would -- I would
21 encourage you to do that and do so in such a way that we can
22 maintain our communities as they are.

23 Thank you very much.

24 (Applause.)

25 SPEAKER TUCKER: Hello, Commissioners. My name is

1 Jeff Tucker. Thank you for giving the East Valley the
2 opportunity to have a voice in this process and thank you
3 for giving me the opportunity to speak again.

4 I live in Tempe and I work in Chandler. My family
5 lives in Sun Lakes where I also spend a lot of my free time.

6 I'm here tonight hoping that you will please
7 examine and support map LD61. I like map LD61 because it is
8 compact, it keeps our cities together, it makes the map more
9 competitive.

10 Competition is so crucial. It is what makes
11 citizens become engaged. It gets them to be involved in
12 their community, and competition is crucial for good ideas
13 and for good public policy to become adopted.

14 Without competition we get representation that does
15 not bother to listen to voters. I think we all want
16 representation that listens to us, so we can build a better
17 society together.

18 Please look at map LD61, as it keeps cities
19 together by splitting them less. It respects the boundaries
20 of these cities. Please also consider adopting the map LD61
21 because it increases competition.

22 It allows us all to be better represented by our
23 elected leaders.

24 Thank you so much for the work that you all are
25 doing and have a happy holidays. Thank you so much.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. CRANK: I'll be calling out next ten speakers,
3 but the fiftieth speaker, Senator Kelly Townsend, Leslee
4 Wilson, Traci Robb, Summer Baker, Jesse Bryant, Jamie Jones,
5 Marcy (verbatim) North, Richard Newhauser, Jana Ochs,
6 Lawrence Moody.

7 SPEAKER TOWNSEND: Good evening. Senator Kelly
8 Townsend, current District LD-16. Thank you guys so much
9 for volunteering your time that you've been doing this.
10 That means a lot to all of us here.

11 I want to talk first about the -- the very first
12 criteria is adherence to the U.S. Constitution. All I want
13 to say about that is Article IV, Section 4, of the
14 U.S. Constitution guarantees all of us here the right to a
15 representative form of government and representative meaning
16 one person -- or three in this situation -- representing the
17 people in that district.

18 And it's important -- and I understand and hear
19 those who are arguing for competitiveness, so if you are to
20 say you have a 51/49 split, if that 51 wins, 49 percent are
21 not going to be represented when it's time to vote at the
22 Legislature.

23 Let me give you an example. In my district, I've
24 very much and thoroughly enjoyed LD-16 and it's going to be
25 sad to have that changed, but it is two distinct communities

1 of interest within one district. You have east Mesa and you
2 have Apache Junction and Gold Canyon and some
3 San Tan Valley. But the folks in east Mesa are very much
4 LDS church, you know, the more -- more urban; and then you
5 have Apache Junction, all of them similar voting habits.
6 However, on one particular issue, the issue of marijuana,
7 they were decisively split on what they wanted me to do.
8 And so that half-and-half situation and I would consistently
9 vote with one group a certain way, which very much angered
10 the other group, and it was very difficult to represent the
11 full district in that way.

12 So that's why I would argue the importance of a
13 community of interest versus competitiveness because the
14 more you have a complete community of interest, the most
15 people you can have that you're representing because when
16 you vote, you're their voice, you're not your own voice. So
17 you want to vote in the way that represents the most people
18 possible and if you have a competitive district, it's --
19 it's impossible to do that and more people are
20 disenfranchised.

21 So I hope you guys take that into consideration as
22 far as the importance of communities of interest.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 SPEAKER WILSON: Good evening, my name is Leslie

1 Wilson and I am a resident of Mesa. And I wanted to come
2 here tonight not only because I care about my community and
3 my city, my state, deeply, but I am representing my family
4 who were not able to be here, as well as a few of our
5 neighbors who wanted to come.

6 But we -- over time, we're aware of what's quietly
7 going on in the background and we over decades have watched
8 the work be done behind the scene to turn Arizona more and
9 more liberal. The boundaries that are being proposed are
10 not acceptable to us, and many folks prior to me have
11 eloquently shared my feelings and -- and the thoughts of
12 the -- our neighbors.

13 So I'm not going to repeat, but I just wanted to
14 let you know that we do not want to be combined with areas
15 that are miles away and don't have similar interests that we
16 do. We want to be represented fairly and accurately in the
17 state legislature as well as Congress and we thank you so
18 much for giving us a voice and the time here this evening to
19 speak, and I hope you have a merry Christmas.

20 (Applause.)

21 SPEAKER ROBB: Hi, my name is Traci Robb and I live
22 in the northwest part of Gilbert, that cut-out area that
23 people have spoke about.

24 We're currently in LD-17, CD-5. First of all, I do
25 appreciate you guys coming out here since I crashed your

1 meeting in Phoenix and promised you brownies and didn't have
2 time to make them, so thank you.

3 But I'm here because I want you to know that I
4 talked to many of my neighbors in the area about coming with
5 me tonight. And I have to tell you that most of them, they
6 just said: Why are you doing this? They're going to do
7 what they do. Okay? I have more faith than that and I
8 believe that you will be listening to us and all the
9 concerns and there are so many good people in the East
10 Valley when you speak about communities of interest.

11 I would like to see -- I did look on the maps, I
12 just now looked up 60 -- LD-6 -- 0061 and LD58. I could
13 live with either; 58 is probably a lot better for Gilbert
14 but you're going to have to do what you do.

15 This thing up here is a disaster. Five different
16 cut-outs in Gilbert is just not going to work and it doesn't
17 even go -- it goes against the Constitution which everybody
18 has talked about tonight.

19 Gilbert should be broken up at least from -- we
20 should use Baseline as an a natural boundary, west would be
21 Arizona Avenue.

22 I appreciate your time and I really want CD-5 kept
23 intact. There's no reason to break that up. And just
24 remember that we -- we all really do try to work the
25 together in the East Valley, we're very involved in our

1 communities and this is just not acceptable.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 SPEAKER BAKER: Hello, my name is Summer Baker.
5 I've been to a couple of these meetings before and I was cut
6 off last night but I wanted to give a couple of my
7 recommendations on the current draft map for LD-8.

8 There's a lot of -- there's a different community
9 between where the US-60 is split, and I think if you were to
10 move the boundary line for LD-12 where the north boundary
11 is, move it up to either the US-60 or to Southern, that
12 would best represent the middle-class working families that
13 live in that community versus roping them in with the
14 northern Tempe and all the way there in the Salt River
15 Indian Reservation. They just don't -- we never go into
16 that area, so it's just not really -- it doesn't make any
17 sense to kind of group us into that sort of area.

18 And I just wanted to say from last night's speaker,
19 the -- the last speaker that went, she mentioned keeping
20 the -- the cities together which is one of the requirements
21 or respecting the -- the boundary lines there and it just
22 makes sense. The cities are already of like interest and
23 have the same priorities so it's -- it just seems like it
24 makes more sense just to group them all in the same way
25 and -- I want to see if there's anything else.

1 Oh, yeah. And LD-12, just to remove that panhandle
2 right there. That -- that doesn't make any sense either.
3 That's really splitting up a lot of communities and
4 disenfranchising the -- the area of Gilbert right there.
5 Which I've grown up here, I've been here my whole life, and
6 I've been to Gilbert and they're a very tight-knit group,
7 too.

8 So just want to say thank you for your time and
9 have a good night.

10 (Applause.)

11 SPEAKER BRYANT: My name is Jesse Bryant. I'm born
12 and raised in Globe, Arizona. I'm an ASU graduate and a
13 recently licensed contractor.

14 While you have brought many of our rural towns back
15 together, you still divide the five eastern counties and
16 join pieces of our rural region to urban areas. The rural
17 areas are where the wealth of the world is produced. Raw
18 materials are harvested through great physical labor. Our
19 people work for little and tolerate greater struggle, but
20 our politics are the same: Survival.

21 Rural hospitals and schools struggle for staff,
22 finance and resources. Roads are last to be paved. Our
23 infrastructure is aged and decaying. When natural disasters
24 come, are resources are limited to respond. While
25 metropolitan areas argue over city blocks, we present an

1 entire region united by history, economy, and culture.

2 We are rural Arizona and that is not defined by
3 political party or ethnic background. All the people who
4 choose to live in our communities are equally our people and
5 while they may share a connection with other communities
6 elsewhere, it does not separate them from ours nor does it
7 force the rest of us to become connected to theirs.

8 Since city councils adopted official resolutions,
9 three more have unofficially, and countless citizens have
10 urged to protect our minority voice. We have united across
11 party, ethnic and gender lines to bring you this message:
12 We do not have the millions like the metropolitan areas, we
13 do not have political action groups lobbying for us, we do
14 not have teams of well-financed lawyers screaming threats
15 for us, but we are a people, a kindred rural race whose
16 voting rights were not protected by law.

17 If you do not defend our right to be heard, who
18 will? You have said that not everyone will get what they
19 want, but who among us must that be? The metro areas have
20 received by far the greatest amount of resources, federal
21 reservations who received millions of dollars in assistance
22 which have used that money to build state-of-the-art schools
23 and hospitals, even elegant casinos and resorts, or shall
24 the rural communities make that sacrifice who produce the
25 economic revenue of the state, the vast majority of which is

1 kept by Maricopa and Pima Counties?

2 It is easy to ignore those who have little weight
3 to begin with. I have you -- have you this final appeal,
4 the rural citizens of eastern Arizona urge you to restore
5 our rural voice to the Legislature. Please adopt the five
6 eastern counties concept solely rural and undivided.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 SPEAKER JONES: Hello, my name is Jamie Jones. I
10 grew up in Gilbert and I'm raising my family in Mesa; and
11 while I love both, they are distinctly different
12 communities.

13 As a Mesa resident, I would like to see Mesa kept
14 together. To do this I propose to have Baseline Road as a
15 southern border and the east -- and the eastern border at
16 Val Vista Road, referencing the consolidated map 0 -- 58.
17 It's closest to what we desire.

18 Thank you for removing Tempe from this proposed map
19 as their ideas don't align with those of us in Mesa.

20 Also this would keep Gilbert together and be best
21 for both -- and it would be best for both Mesa and Gilbert.

22 And regards to Congressional District 4, we request
23 that Tempe also not be included in with Mesa and this would
24 keep things more geographically compact, and we'd like to
25 see include more of Mesa and keep it all within

1 one district.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 SPEAKER NORTH: Good evening. Marcus North.

5 I moved to Gilbert with my family 15 years ago
6 after leaving the service of our country and we chose
7 Gilbert very intentionally as -- because it's a very strong
8 community of interest and aligns with our interests as a
9 family.

10 It seems to me that the community of interest
11 priority is in direct contradiction to the idea of
12 competition and it seems to me that the proposal as it is
13 deliberately dismantles the strong community of interest
14 that exists in Gilbert. And so I ask you very specifically
15 to keep Gilbert as one.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 SPEAKER NEWHAUSER: My name is Richard Newhauser.
19 I've lived, worked and worshipped in Tempe since 2007. I'm
20 here to commend map 0061 which you've heard about now many
21 times already.

22 In particular what concerns LD-8 or what would be
23 LD-8, it seems to do a better job of keeping ASU
24 neighborhoods together of -- including all of the Scottsdale
25 business district together; and as far as other aspects of

1 0061, you've heard probably enough by now.

2 So just let me thank you for -- and commend you for
3 staying awake all this time and listening attentively as I
4 know you have.

5 And I want to wish you and everybody a happy fifth
6 night of Hanukkah.

7 (Applause.)

8 SPEAKER OCHS: Good evening, my name is Jana Ochs.

9 I have been a resident of Gilbert for 17 and a half
10 years. I've been involved with our neighborhood social
11 committee as a Girl Scouts leader, numerous youth soccer
12 teams and as a volunteer at three daughters' various
13 schools, both public and private. My ZIP Code is 85233.

14 My ask is that you keep Gilbert mostly together. I
15 know that it is impossible to have all of Gilbert in one
16 legislative district due to its population.

17 It would make sense and be most practical if the
18 division line was drawn to separate the southern part of
19 Gilbert to go with another more rural district, whatever the
20 number of that district may be.

21 The school district lines of the Higley School
22 District and/or the Queen Creek School District could be
23 used as legislative district lines.

24 I know that you have -- I know that your committee
25 has taken school district lines into consideration when

1 drawing our new district lines in other parts of Maricopa
2 County, this could be done again here in Gilbert.

3 Currently the northwestern part of Gilbert is in
4 LD-17 and some other parts of Gilbert are also in LD-17.

5 It would just make sense and be practical to follow
6 Gilbert's staircase border with Chandler along the
7 northwestern side, with Mesa along Baseline Road as the
8 north border and the current border to the northeast side of
9 Gilbert with Mesa.

10 Please take the north, northwestern and
11 northeastern borders boundaries of Gilbert into strong
12 consideration when drawing the new legislative district
13 lines.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 SPEAKER MOODY: Hi there. Thank you for coming
17 this evening and letting my voice be heard. I hope -- I
18 know your ears are open, I hope your minds are open and
19 still awake. I know it's been a big parade for you.

20 Anyway, I live in Mesa, I used to live in Tempe,
21 and I know that both communities are very different, very
22 different in their beliefs. I'd like to keep Tempe out of
23 Mesa if I can. Everybody seems to be saying the same thing,
24 everybody wants to keep the communities together and I hope
25 that you can try to redistrict it so that you can keep our

1 communities together and try and keep Tempe out of Mesa and
2 that's all I'm asking.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. CRANK: The last speaker's name was Lawrence
5 Moody.

6 We have five more speakers left.

7 Perry Bradford, Allan Chasey, Eddie Farnsworth,
8 Bert Moll, Darrell Covert.

9 SPEAKER BRADFORD: Okay, thanks for coming and
10 listening to us all.

11 I think a lot of what I was prepared to say has
12 already been spoken. I do urge the -- the Commissioners to
13 keep the communities together. I know there are priorities
14 that you have to deal with.

15 It seems to me the priority of keeping communities
16 together makes it easier for our elected officials to be
17 consistent and to actually be attentive to the people in the
18 district; and when you split the districts apart, for
19 example LD -- I'm in LD-17 now and the new district that
20 splits across the whole city.

21 I've lived in Tempe and I've lived in Chandler and
22 Gilbert. Gilbert and Chandler are more similar than Tempe,
23 I think you've heard that before. So I suggest you just
24 basically do the best you can to keep the communities
25 together because I think the people tend to move to a

1 community because they like that place and that's -- that's
2 a collection of thoughts that if people don't like it,
3 they'll move somewhere else.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 SPEAKER CHASEY: Good evening, my name is Al
7 Chasey. Appreciate you being here this evening. I'll say
8 like everybody else, you know, I've been a resident here in
9 the Gilbert area for 20-plus years. Graduate of ASU, a
10 veteran. I'm very proud of being a veteran, I'm very proud
11 of the United States, I'm very proud of Arizona, but I have
12 a feeling it's moving in the wrong direction for me so I
13 came kind of on different tack from everybody else. I
14 didn't come here to give you any ideas, I came here to ask
15 you a lot of questions maybe.

16 What is really going to be the impact of all of
17 these hearings? I've often wondered if these are held for
18 just show or if it really does mean anything. There's been
19 some recent public hearings that I know about that were
20 basically just to check a box. It did not mean a thing.

21 You've heard an awful lot of comments here tonight,
22 and I just hope that they really have some impact on that.

23 I also want to ask: Where are the other
24 Commissioners? I went to a meeting back in -- over in
25 Phoenix three weeks ago, something like that, I heard Tracy

1 made the offer if you would come over here, but I think
2 giving us only about two-day notice isn't really quite right
3 to be able to get a good crowd of what you're going to see.

4 Are they going to see this video or are they going
5 to read the transcripts? Are they really going to see the
6 passion in the people's eyes of what they're saying about
7 what the impact of what you're trying to do is going to make
8 on all of this?

9 So really I'd like to give you probably one final
10 word and that is: Wisdom is really needed. Wisdom is
11 really needed in this whole process, and I think it's said
12 best by some ancient advice that was given that says the
13 previous generation has set boundaries in place, don't you
14 dare move them just for your benefit.

15 And I'll leave you with that. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 SPEAKER FARNSWORTH: Good evening, Madam Chair,
18 members of the committee. My name is Eddie Farnsworth, I'm
19 a resident of Gilbert, I'm a native of Arizona, my wife is a
20 native Arizonan and I served 18 years in the legislature
21 representing Gilbert. I'm not going to restate the issues
22 of communities of interest, but I am going to speak about
23 Gilbert specifically.

24 Now, I want to talk just briefly about what the
25 Constitution requires because that's what you're bound by.

1 You're not bound by those who come up here and say that they
2 want to have competitive districts because that's irrelevant
3 under the plain language of the Constitution. So what does
4 the Constitution require?

5 The priorities are that you have -- you don't
6 violate the Constitution; you have equal size in -- in CDs
7 and you have districts -- LD districts that are compact; LD
8 districts that have communities of interest, and they even
9 define what communities of interest are and that includes
10 town boundaries.

11 When you look at -- when you look at -- at the last
12 piece, which is competitiveness, there's a condition, there
13 aren't conditions on the other -- the other five, there's a
14 condition on the last one; and none of this violates the
15 Constitution or the Voting Rights Act.

16 But what we have to look at is, under the plain
17 text of the Constitution this map fails. You, under your
18 fiduciary responsibility to fulfill the constitutional
19 obligation in redistricting, you have to redraft this map,
20 especially with regards to Gilbert. There is no one that
21 believes that carving a small community like Gilbert into
22 five pieces makes any sense or is constitutional.

23 Now, I want to address the issue of having
24 competitiveness that's going to have better representation.
25 That is absolutely untrue. If you have disparate

1 communities like Tempe and Gilbert which are diametrically
2 opposed in their philosophy, the representatives cannot
3 represent both. They are diametrically opposed. So you
4 have to maintain communities of interest and that's why they
5 are the priority is because it gives better representation
6 for those communities of interest.

7 Thank you very much for your time.

8 (Applause.)

9 SPEAKER MOLL: Good evening, Madam Chair and
10 committee members. My name is Bert Moll and I want to begin
11 by thanking each of you for your tireless efforts on behalf
12 of the citizens of Arizona and for holding this hearing
13 today to allow us to give our input.

14 My wife and I, we lived in -- have lived in the
15 East Valley since moving here in 1993 after I graduated from
16 law school. In 2008 we moved to Gilbert because it had all
17 the characteristics of small-town America and we like that.
18 The Gilbert community as a whole is a family-oriented
19 community that respects traditional values in its rich
20 religious heritage. We love the sense of community that we
21 get from living in Gilbert and strongly believe our
22 interests as a community are unique from other major cities
23 in the East Valley.

24 Now, I was very troubled to learn and to look at
25 the map that's been proposed that redistricts Gilbert, the

1 state legislative redistrict map, into five territories --
2 or five districts, and as an attorney I understand and
3 appreciate the difficult task before this committee. But
4 frankly, I looked at that and I said you got a little sliver
5 going all the way down from Gilbert down to Ahwatukee. I
6 mean, you know, Ahwatukee and Tempe. And -- and as far as
7 I'm concerned, that map has all the earmarks of
8 gerrymandering because it does not appear to have any
9 rational basis whatsoever for the lines it draws.

10 I'm aware the districting map must achieve certain
11 goals, one of which is respecting communities of interest to
12 the extent practicable. The proposed map violates that
13 criteria in what appears to be an overage to create
14 competitive districts, but creating competitive districts is
15 the least important factor the committee should consider.

16 Also important is the goal of creating districts
17 that are geographic -- geographically compact and contiguous
18 and that use visible geographic features, city boundaries
19 for the district lines.

20 I'd like to ask that you consider the Gilbert
21 consolidated map number 58. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 SPEAKER COVERT: Good evening, my name is Darrell
24 Covert. Thank you so much for being here tonight. I know
25 it's how -- I'm the last one that's on here.

1 I'm a native of Arizona, I've lived in the
2 Chandler/Gilbert area since 1981, my family arrived here in
3 1934.

4 I've seen this state grow in that over the years as
5 I'm a real estate broker. As a real estate broker, I'm a
6 rarity. I'm one of the 79 lifetime Realtor Emirituses out
7 of 26,000 real estate agents. I've sold thousands and
8 thousands of houses but each individual person is not a
9 number to me. Each individual person has hopes, they have
10 the children that they want to be able to extend to, they
11 have dreams.

12 And I will tell you that each area is totally
13 different. If we're talking about Sun Lakes down here,
14 they're concerned about Medicare, their Medicaid, what's
15 going to happen with their Social Security. They are akin
16 with Chandler, they have nothing akin with agriculture area
17 12 miles away and the people in Ahwatukee.

18 I have done relocation for both Intel and for
19 Honeywell, and having done that I will tell you when we had
20 the migration from California between 1993 and 1998, the two
21 places that they were deciding to reside in was Ahwatukee
22 and Scottsdale Ranch. Had nothing to do with Chandler
23 whatsoever. To divide it up like that is just absolutely
24 crazy.

25 Another thing you're dealing with is with Gilbert.

1 We're talking about ten generations of families, good
2 families that have totally different dreams for their
3 families and different categories that they want to deal
4 with that's important to them.

5 I'm asking you to please reconsider exactly what
6 you're doing here. You have hope and prayers of people
7 behind you, they're not numbers.

8 Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10
11 MS. CRANK: Madam Chair and Commissioner Lerner and
12 listening audience, that concludes all of our speakers at
13 the Mesa location.

14 COMMISSIONER LERNER: I want to thank you all for
15 attending our meeting tonight and providing us with input.
16 I want to remind you, too, that you can continue to provide
17 us with input online. You can submit any maps that you
18 want, any comments, and please do so. We want to hear from
19 you. We really appreciate the comments that you make, we
20 appreciate your feedback, we are taking all of it very
21 seriously. We take it to heart and we do listen and we will
22 be considering all the feedback that we have done.

23 As a note we have been traveling all over the
24 state, and we are hearing from people all over about the
25 maps and we're taking all that into consideration.

1 So we appreciate your time and effort to give us
2 feedback.

3 Again, please go online and submit a map or
4 comments at any time at IRC.AZ.gov.

5 And we have a virtual meeting tomorrow online at
6 noon and we have our last meetings, one in Tucson and one in
7 Maryvale on Saturday and that will conclude our public
8 hearings at that time.

9 So thank you all and with that we are adjourned.

10 (Whereupon the meeting concludes at 8:17 p.m.)

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19 "This transcript represents an unofficial record.

20 Please consult the accompanying video for the official
21 record of IRC proceedings."

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF MARICOPA)

BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were taken before me, Angela Furniss Miller, Certified Reporter No. 50127, all done to the best of my skill and ability; that the proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced to print under my direction.

I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of the parties hereto nor am I in any way interested in the outcome thereof.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I have complied with the requirements set forth in ACJA 7-206. Dated at Litchfield Park, Arizona, this 18th of December, 2021.



Angela Furniss Miller, RPR, CR
CERTIFIED REPORTER (AZ50127)

* * *

I CERTIFY that Miller Certified Reporting, LLC, has complied with the requirements set forth in ACJA 7-201 and 7-206. Dated at LITCHFIELD PARK, Arizona, this 18th of December, 2021.



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