

# ARIZONA

INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

## Comment Form for Adopted Draft Map / Forma para Comentario cerca de Mapa Preliminar Adoptado

The Adopted Draft Maps are available for public comment through Saturday, December 4, 2021. After this period, the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission will meet to finalize the boundaries for Arizona's 9 congressional and 30 state legislative districts.

Los mapas preliminares adoptados están disponibles para comentarios públicos hasta el sábado 4 de diciembre de 2021. Después de este período, la Comisión Independiente de Redistribución de Distritos de Arizona se reunirá para finalizar los límites de los 9 del Congreso y los 30 distritos legislativos estatales de Arizona.

1. If relevant, please circle the area on the map corresponding to your comments.

Si es relevante, marque con un círculo el área en el mapa correspondiente a sus comentarios.

2. District number for Congressional (CD) or legislative (LD) map /

Número de distrito para Mapa del Congreso (CD) o legislativo (LD) LD 18

3. Your name / Su nombre (optional / opcional):

(HENDER) BRAD BARBER

4. Community of residence / comunidad de residencia: CASA ADAMS

5. Are you with an organization? ¿Estás con una organización?  Yes/Sí - No

a. Are you a paid representative? ¿Eres un representante pagado? Yes/Sí  No

b. Name of organization / Nombre de la organización: LD 9 DISTRICT CLUB

Comments / Comentarios:

A BIG PROBLEM WITH THIS PROCESS IS THAT THE IRC  
APPEARS TO BE USING A BODGY DEFINITION OF  
COMPETITIVENESS (PULG). YOU ARE DIVIDING A  
50:50 STATE INTO "SAFE" DEMOCRATIC AND  
REPUBLICAN DISTRICTS WITH A SMALL REPUBLICAN EDGE.  
THIS DOES NOT MAKE THINGS MORE COMPETITIVE,  
INSTEAD IT CORRESPONDS TO THE BASIC DEFINITION  
OR GERRYMANDERING. PLEASE DON'T DO THIS!

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2. District number for Congressional (CD) or legislative (LD) map /

Número de distrito para Mapa del Congreso (CD) o legislativo (LD) LD-17

3. Your name / Su nombre (optional / opcional):

BRAD BARBER

4. Community of residence / comunidad de residencia: CASAS ADIDAS

5. Are you with an organization? ¿Estás con una organización?  Yes/Sí - No

a. Are you a paid representative? ¿Eres un representante pagado? Yes/Sí - No

b. Name of organization / Nombre de la organización: LD9 DEMOCRATS

Comments / Comentarios:

DRAFT LD-17 IS AN OUTRAGEOUS EXAMPLE  
OF WHAT NOT TO DO, IT CORRESPONDS  
TO THE VERY DEFINITION OF GERRYMANDERING.  
TWO REGIONS ARE CONNECTED BY A GIANT  
NATIONAL FOREST THAT IS BASICALLY UNPOPULATED. THE  
TWO REGIONS OF VOTERS HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON:  
COMMUNITY, CHURCHES, SHOPPING AREAS OR INTERESTS.  
(over / siguiente)  
THE SOLE COMMONALITY IS THEY TEND TO VOTE  
REPUBLICAN. THIS DISTRICT DOES VIOLATE THE  
CONCEPT THAT DROVE FOUNDING OF THE I.R.C.

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2. District number for Congressional (CD) or legislative (LD) map /

Número de distrito para Mapa del Congreso (CD) o legislativo (LD) LD 17

3. Your name / Su nombre (optional / opcional):

MARGARET NICHOLS

4. Community of residence / comunidad de residencia: ORO VALLEY

5. Are you with an organization? ¿Estás con una organización? Yes/Sí  No

a. Are you a paid representative? ¿Eres un representante pagado? Yes/Sí  No

b. Name of organization / Nombre de la organización: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments / Comentarios:

The voters created the IRC to create fair and competitive districts. LD Map 10 has only 6 competitive districts. It ~~is~~ makes LD 17 look like a jigsaw puzzle piece + leaves out Pima County communities like Piatras Rock which shares water + school resources with Pima. Oro Valley has no <sup>(over / siguiente)</sup> community with Tanque Verde or Vail. Map 9.0 meets the factors for better. Do the right thing for better governance.

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2. District number for Congressional (CD) or legislative (LD) map /

Número de distrito para Mapa del Congreso (CD) o legislativo (LD) LD 17

3. Your name / Su nombre (optional / opcional):

Dr. J B Marshall

4. Community of residence / comunidad de residencia: Old Valley

5. Are you with an organization? ¿Estás con una organización? Yes/Sí  No

a. Are you a paid representative? ¿Eres un representante pagado? Yes/Sí  No

b. Name of organization / Nombre de la organización: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments / Comentarios:

LD 17 does not meet the compact and contiguous requirement.

Does not meet the communities of interest requirement.

Does not meet the standard of competitiveness.

LD 17 Adopted Draft Map is a prime example of the type of blatant

gerrymandering the IRC was created to prevent, and so it should

(over / siguiente)

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2. District number for Congressional (CD) or legislative (LD) map / 11/17 proposed

Número de distrito para Mapa del Congreso (CD) o legislativo (LD) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Your name / Su nombre (optional / opcional):

Eileen Hollowell

4. Community of residence / comunidad de residencia: oro Valley

5. Are you with an organization? ¿Estás con una organización? Yes/Sí  No

a. Are you a paid representative? ¿Eres un representante pagado? Yes/Sí  No

b. Name of organization / Nombre de la organización: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments / Comentarios: map 10.0

I oppose proposed LD 17 because it does not reflect my community of interest - it cuts across two mountain ranges + multiple school districts. The guidelines for creation of legislative districts should not be ignored in order to create a "safe" district for either party. Please have the courage to follow the rules and adopt map 9.0 -  
(over / siguientes)

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2. District number for Congressional (CD) or legislative (LD) map: 17

Número de distrito para Mapa del Congreso (CD) o legislativo (LD) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Your name / Su nombre (optional / opcional):

Steven Marks

4. Community of residence / comunidad de residencia: Tanque Verde / Tucson

5. Are you with an organization? ¿Estás con una organización? Yes/Sí  No

a. Are you a paid representative? ¿Eres un representante pagado? Yes/Sí  No

b. Name of organization / Nombre de la organización: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments / Comentarios:

Tanque Verde is NOT part of Oro Valley and Marana  
This is classic gerrymandering - it's in every  
US history textbook. Competitive, Rational  
linked to our community, it is NOT  
Besides mayor of Marana + Rep Leach are  
conspiring to rig this. Make it

(over / siguiente)

competitive to  
make it good  
for ALL of us.

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Número de distrito para Mapa del Congreso (CD) o legislativo (LD) LD 18

3. Your name / Su nombre (optional / opcional):

KATHY DORAN

4. Community of residence / comunidad de residencia: north east of Fort Lowell &

AWECON in Tucson

5. Are you with an organization? ¿Estás con una organización? Yes/Sí  No

a. Are you a paid representative? ¿Eres un representante pagado? Yes/Sí  No

b. Name of organization / Nombre de la organización: Jobs with Justice

Comments / Comentarios:

As the maps are currently drawn my midtown neighborhood is in LD18, which includes the foothills, or a valley to part of midtown. I feel my interest won't be represented there. I'd rather be part of LD20. the active Coalition for fair Redistricting CD0073 please include more of downtown & midtown by moving the eastern <sup>north/south</sup> ~~over~~ <sup>siguiente</sup> boundary east to Craigcroft. I want the city of Tucson to be it's own district or two for better representation.

Comments to the AZ Redistricting Commission:

The approved Congressional draft map (7.1) is a clear example of gerrymandering. This map that pretty much guarantees the Republican party 5 safe districts, while it makes Democratic districts a lot more competitive. These changes are not justified by the 2020 census data.

For those of us familiar with the statistical concept of "efficiency gap", it is clear that the intention was to diminish the importance of the Native American and Latino vote. This is done by concentrating Democratic votes in only two districts (Proposed 7th and 3rd), while making two districts that leaned Democratic (4th and 6th) more competitive. Fair and competitive districts should be a goal, and in that regard the old congressional map is much better. What does Casa Grande have to do with Tucson? The shapes of the proposed Districts 2 and 6 can only be explained by the goal to keep Republican votes together. Proposed District 2 has a border with every single other district except D8! What does Prescott have to do with the Gila Reservation? Proposed District 2 is almost geographically disconnected from itself.

In the Arizona Constitution it is clearly indicated to follow a grid-like pattern, with six goals:

- 1) Districts shall comply with the United States Constitution and the United States voting rights act;
- 2) Congressional districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable, and state legislative districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable;
- 3) Districts shall be geographically compact and contiguous to the extent practicable;
- 4) District boundaries shall respect communities of interest to the extent practicable;
- 5) To the extent practicable, district lines shall use visible geographic features, city, town and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts; and
- 6) To the extent practicable, competitive districts should be favored where to do so would create no significant detriment to the other goals.

Proposed Districts 2 and 6 clearly do not satisfy goals 1,3,4,5,6, let alone following a grid like pattern. As a Latino voter from proposed District 6, I am deeply concerned that this map will certainly lead to retrogression both for Native Americans and for Latinos.

Cristina Soto-Weibel

Tucson, AZ 85718.



Vince Leach, Grant Hanna, Galen Kimmick, Anna Clark. What do these people have in common? If you guessed "Republican operatives who acted behind closed doors to submit a map of their choice and promote it via the Marana mayor's office and then proceed to have the same delivered to the IRC's Chairperson without revealing the true authors of the map" you'd be right. If you were asked who pushed this map forward "to tell the IRC that the maps for south AZ provide us with the opportunity to send a Republican to the AZ Legislature"? (Hint: the map would guarantee his own reelection.) Congratulations, you're right! Its our very own Senator Vincent Leach!

One of the primary goals of the Independent Redistricting Commission law was to remove politicians from the redistricting process, especially incumbents. Leach's interference in the system with the knowledge and cooperation of the other Republicans is the very definition of gerrymandering, the very thing the IRC was enacted to prevent. To then pretend that the map was supported by a local mayor by writing the letter of support for the Mayor's signature shows there are no limits to what they will do to retain power.

The Constitution, common sense and fairness require that Oro Valley be placed with its actual community of interest: Casa Adobes, Marana, and northern Tucson. To allow Sen. Leach and his cronies to shape a district to their liking is gerrymandering and will assure just one thing, long, drawn out litigation.

Thomas Meconi

Oro Valley, AZ

Hello, my name is Jean Meconi and I am a resident of Oro Valley. In the adopted Legislative Map, Oro Valley would be found in LD17 and it should not be.

I almost decided not to testify today. It just doesn't seem that you are listening: not to the 60 people who testified against LD17 on November 6th, or to the 20 who testified on November 12th, and certainly not to the innumerable concerned citizens who have written comments against LD17 on the IRC comment sites.

But, given what's at stake, I've decided to give it one last try.

Oro Valley is currently in LD11, a safe Republican District, and has elected Republican state legislators for the last ten years. These legislators have ignored Oro Valley voices and best interests in the past. According to the Official Canvass of the November 3, 2020 General election, Oro Valley supported Proposition 208 to fully fund schools with 53% of the vote. Our representation immediately passed laws to undermine it. Oro Valley gets its clean water from multiple sources. And yet, they weakened water quality requirements and passed a law that limits the use of new data for assured water supplies for development. Recently, Oro Valley along with Tucson Electric completed a solar overhang at Naranja Park that generates enough solar energy to power 50 homes. But again, they passed a law to undermine the work of the ACC and to tried to curb renewable energy sources.

Oro Valley is not represented in the current Republican leaning LD.

Oro Valley's community of interest is Casas Adobes and northern Pima county, not the rural places in LD17. Oro Valley is urban-suburban with a population approaching 50,000 and a population density of 1,362 according to the last census. Oro Valley students attend Amphitheater School District along with students from Casas Adobes. We share similar demographics, economies, housing and interests as Casas Adobes and northern Pima County. We don't shop, worship or work in Tanque Verde or Vail or any of the other far flung rural areas in LD17.

Voters in Oro Valley have been disenfranchised the past ten years in the current, uncompetitive district and LD17 would assure 10 more of the same.

Thank you for your time.

Jean Meconi  
Oro Valley

Testimony for the IRC December 4, 2021

My name is Shirley Muney, and I've lived in Tucson since I retired more than 20 years ago. Since then I've been active in several community organizations, most of them nonpartisan, such as the Pima County/Tucson Women's Commission, the League of Women Voters, my HOA, the Friends of the Library, Great Decisions, and AAUW, the American Association of University Women. I've always been a supporter of "good government," and as such, I want the best kind of government for my adopted state.

That's why I'm here today-- to speak about the proposed redistricting for Arizona, and in particular that for the southern portion—and more in particular the proposed Legislative District 17. This district would be the very definition of the word "gerrymandered." (According to Webster's dictionary, to "gerrymander" is to divide a voting area in such a way as to give an unfair advantage to one political party.) As has been described in the press, it carefully skirts the city of Tucson and includes two mountain ranges, so that it's impossible to drive directly from one end of the proposed district to another without crossing another district.. Most importantly, it violates the constitutional requirements that districts be compact and contiguous. Not only that, but if the Commission is considering "communities of interest," what do the residents of, say, relatively urban Oro Valley, have in common with those in the rural area of the southeastern part of the district—other than not wanting to be considered part of the Tucson area? They don't shop, work, worship, go to civic meetings & celebrations, or to schools together.

As for the constitutionally required consideration of "fair and competitive districts," this certainly does not provide one. This part of southern Arizona, like much of the state, is roughly 1/3 Independent, with the rest split closely between Democrats and Republicans. Competitive districts almost force the voters to pay attention to the differences between candidates, as all would have an equal chance of being elected. Perhaps that's what the Republican designers of the Proposed LD17 want, in order to avoid taking stands on issues. Yet the only reason I can see for the proposed District 17 is a purely political one, designed to create yet another "safe" Republican district by avoiding the taint of a majority Democratic one in the City of Tucson. This reasoning is forbidden to the Commission, which is not supposed to consider partisan political registration of the citizens of the various areas of the state.

I urge you to favorably consider instead the map submitted as LD0059, the Equitable Legislative Map, rather than the present draft map. Or, failing that, perhaps LD0055.

Arizona is known for its progressive systems of Clean Elections and Independent Redistricting Commissions. Let's not regress into partisan political manipulation, but instead follow the state constitution to advance the goal of "good government."

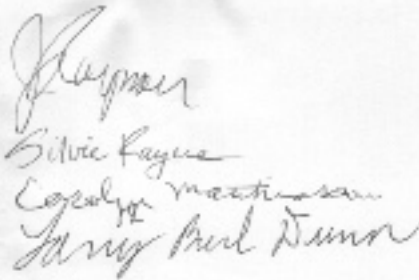
December 2, 2021

As registered voters in Pima County we desire legislative and congressional districts that allow our voices to be heard. Districts should be compact, align with the geography, communities of interest and be competitive when possible.

We have concerns that map 1D was revealed so late in the draft map process that there have not been adequate chances to discuss its implications. There is no evidence that the many other maps submitted by individuals and groups have been given enough consideration.

We are asking that the public comment period be extended and all parts of the state be given a chance to be heard. We would also like information on whether online comments are being read and considered.

Thank you

  
Jayme  
Silvia Payne  
Carolyn Mathison  
Larry Paul Simon

Judith Alkire

Green Valley, AZ 85622

Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission Listening Tour

December 4, 2021

Chairwoman Neuberg and members of the commission,

My name is Judith Alkire. I live in Green Valley AZ.

Chairwoman Neuberg thank you for your time and dedication to attend each and every one of these "listening tours" personally.

I am one of the very large number of tax paying citizens who live in the unincorporated areas of Pima County. We rely on the county Sheriff for our law enforcement and protection. We do not rely on the city of Tucson. The mayor of the city of Tucson requested that the area of the city around the University of Arizona and most of the city be placed in CD 7. This is a wonderful idea. I request that the area of Green Valley and Sahuarita be placed in CD6. Which is an equally wonderful idea. I also request that the area around Davis Monthan Air Force Base and Fort Huachuca be placed in CD6. These military installations are a very important part of the communities of Green Valley and Sahuarita.

I have not had a representative in the Arizona house of representatives, that would listen to my comments or vote for my positions, for the past ten years. By placing Green Valley in proposed LD19, you have at least given me a chance to have a representative that will listen to my concerns.

Thank you.

My name is Charles Eisner, and I have lived in Tucson approximately 50 years. I am an active member of the Tucson community, and I have owned a home repair business for over 30 years.

I am appalled at the current map, LD 10.0, being considered that will determine our Arizona legislative districts for the next ten years. This map was offered at the last minute by SALC (Southern Arizona Leadership Council), an organization originally founded by one of this Commission's members. After many hearings and input from both Latino Coalition members, as well as members of Arizona's tribes, the IRC voted for this map that not only ignored so-called solicited input, but clearly created a map completely removed from the constitutional imperatives that communities of interest be placed in contiguous and compact districts, as well in competitive districts.

One look only to Pima County where 9 districts in Tucson Estates and Avra Valley have been divided into three new legislative districts gerrymandered in snakelike fashion to provide reliably Republican Districts, the seats of which are in towns and cities hours away from these communities. The Tohono D'Odham Nation has been gerrymandered all the way to Yuma. These areas are all communities of interest in greater Tucson, not Buckeye, Goodyear, the edge of Maricopa County, or four hours away in Yuma. It is clear these districts in the LD 10.0 map have been created not in the interest of Tucson locals, only in the interest of politics, and as the majority of districts in the LD10.0 map are Republican, clearly the map is in the interest of Republican partisan politics.

I ask you to consider LD00055 as an alternative to the LD 10.0 map. And if not that map, please consider in 2020 Arizona voted for the Democratic candidate for president and sent two Democrats to the US Senate. This is a state that is competitive: Democrats, Independents, and Republicans. Not just Republican.

Sincerely,



Charles Eisner

[REDACTED]  
Tucson, AZ 85705

Margaret J Nichols  
[REDACTED]

Oro Valley, AZ 85737  
[REDACTED]

Hi, I'm Margaret Nichols. My husband and I have been in Oro Valley since 2002. We settled there to be near our son and family who live seven miles west of us.

- I call Oro Valley, Casa Adobes, and Marana "my community".
- We love our location for its closeness to the Catalina Mountains and nearby state and federal parks.
- We love the richness of nearby town parks, bike paths, restaurants, movies, plays, and other cultural activities, as well as shopping, medical and personal service providers, all within a 15-minute drive from our home.
- Catalina and Casa Adobes are easy drives on Highway 77 – Oracle Road.
- There are easy East-West routes to connect us to Marana in short order.

I am concerned with proposed map 10.0 which creates an ungainly LD17, and among other issues attempts to put my community together with Tanque Verde and Vail.

To get to those locations requires at least a 90-minute round trip drive on surface streets that go *around* the Catalina Mountains!

- There are no direct routes connecting Tanque Verde or Vail with my community.
- Residents of my community have little reason to be involved in the civic or cultural or economic activity of Tanque Verde or Vail.
- I doubt very much that the people of Tanque Verde or Vail spend much time or money in my community.

Keeping in mind the required factors for creating new legislative districts, I support Map 9.0 which

- has borders that follow the geography of the area,
- incorporates towns in my community, and

- integrates the voting interests of the Tohono O'odham community nearby.
- 9.0 also avoids the unnatural division of tiny Santa Cruz County.
- 9.0 creates fair and competitive districts.

Please support Map 9.0.

I can see that the task you have voluntarily taken on is a difficult one and I sincerely thank you.