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Contact: Michele J. Crank, Public Information Officer
        P: 602.364.0253
        C: 602.299.9967
        E-mail: michele.crank@irc.az.gov

Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission approves Adopted Draft Maps for Arizona’s Congressional and Legislative Districts

After Nine Days of Deliberation in the Eyes of the Public

Phoenix, AZ - After nine days of deliberation and viewing multiple versions of drafts maps, the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission approved draft maps for Arizona’s nine congressional districts 7.1 and 30 state legislative districts 10.0 by a vote of the five commissioners, Thursday Oct. 28, 2021.

The adopted draft maps are posted to adopted congressional and legislative draft maps.

The adopted draft maps are the third of a four phase process to draw new district boundaries. After a 30-day public comment period, the IRC will meet again to establish final district boundaries. This fourth and final phase is expected to conclude in December 2021.
With the approval of the two adopted draft maps, a 30-day public comment period begins Thursday, Oct. 28 and continues through Saturday, Nov. 20. The commission will travel to various communities throughout the state to hold public hearings that the public can attend in person or participate in remotely. The dates, times and locations are still to be determined.

The IRC commissioners deliberated on October 4, 5, 15, 18 - 21, 26 and 28th, reviewed more than seven series of congressional maps and ten series of legislative maps before adopting the draft maps.

The first phase of the process began in mid-September with the creation of Grid Maps of Equal Populations which was followed by the second phase that adjusted the Grid Maps using six goals mandated by the Arizona Constitution.

Hundreds of Arizonans have participated in the process both in person and online and 143 maps have been submitted from individuals and groups with suggestions on where to locate the district boundaries.

The Independent Redistricting Commission is asking the public to please visit the website: IRC Public meetings to watch for locations, time and dates for upcoming meetings. In-person comments can be made at these meetings.

“The Princeton Gerrymandering Project, which rates new map proposals on factors such as partisan fairness, geographical compactness, and avoidance of split jurisdictions, gives high marks to the commission in Arizona …” “What is redistricting? And why should voters care? PolitiFact

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

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

Read more on our website: https://irc.az.gov/

1110 W. Washington St. Suite 127, Phoenix, AZ 85007