

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

MICHAEL BANERIAN, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

JOCELYN BENSON, et al.,

Defendants

and JOAN SWARTZ MCKAY, et al.,

Intervenor-Defendants.

Case No. 1:22-CV-00054-PLM-SJB

**DEFENDANTS' SUPPLEMENTAL  
MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION  
TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR  
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

## SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM

The Defendant members of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (the Commission) submit this supplemental memorandum at the Court's request. It and the accompanying appendix identify 546 public comments in the Commission's record that support the district-specific attestations of Commissioner Anthony Eid and other relevant sections of the legislative record. The appendix (App.) is organized into thirteen sections, one for each of the Chestnut plan's thirteen congressional districts. A fourteenth section identifies additional relevant sections of the legislative record. The appendix shows that Commissioner Eid's declaration cannot plausibly be deemed "a post-hoc justification for the district lines." ECF No. 53 at 6 (PageID.1085).

The record shows that the Commission made "a good-faith effort to achieve absolute equality" and that the small "population differences 'were necessary to achieve some legitimate state objective.'" *Tennant v. Jefferson Cty. Comm'n*, 567 U.S. 758, 760 (2012) (citations omitted). The Chestnut plan had the lowest population deviation of any plan submitted for the 45-day notice-and-comment period, which is required of any plan eligible for a vote of the Commission, *see* Mich. Const. art. IV, § 6(14)(b). App. 787. The record also shows that the Chestnut plan was the product of a good-faith effort to draw the deviation down. When Commissioner Eid first presented the Chestnut plan, it had a deviation of "plus or minus .37%." App. 763. By the time of its adoption, the deviation had been significantly reduced.

The record shows that Commissioner Eid collaborated with colleagues to craft the Chestnut plan and was generous in sharing the purposes behind the plan and soliciting the feedback that would be implemented into the final plan. *See* App. 761–73 (Commissioner Eid presenting the draft Chestnut plan); App. 775–86. The record further shows that

Commissioner Eid’s purposes were informed to a large extent by public comments, as the Michigan Constitution contemplates, *see* Mich. Const. art. IV, § 6(8), (9), (13)(c), & (14)(b).

1. The legislative record amply supports Commissioner Eid’s attestation that District 1 was drawn to preserve “northern regions of the State” that “are more rural and agricultural in nature.” Eid. Decl. ¶ 5 (PageID.779). Public commenters told the Commission that these communities “are of similar interests and share demographics: religion, ethnicity, economics, culture.” App. 008; *see also* App. 010 The record also supports Commissioner Eid’s assertion that the district also serves the interests of “Native American communities.” Eid. Decl. ¶ 5 (PageID.779); *see* App. 022; App. 022–23. At least 24 public comments support Commissioner Eid’s testimony as to this district. App. 001–28.

2. The record also shows that District 2 was intended “to create a mid-Michigan district that included Barry County with other rural communities,” like “Ionia, Montcalm, Gratiot, and Isabella.” Eid. Decl. ¶ 5 (PageID.779). Commenters told the Commission that “Barry [C]ounty . . . is very rural and inland,” does not “have the same economic base as the urban areas of Kalamazoo or Battle Creek,” and “would go much better with counties like Ionia, Montcalm, and Gratiot that are also rural and face similar concerns such as flooding.” App. 44. At least 16 public comments support Commissioner Eid’s testimony as to this district. App. 029–49.

3. The general public overwhelmingly desired a district uniting “Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Grand Haven, and Rockford,” and the Commission obliged with District 3. Eid. Decl. ¶ 8 (PageID.780). Commenters again and again stated that “Grand Rapids and Muskegon have similar concerns,” App. 103, that “Muskegon and Grand Rapids are connected by the economically important I-96 corridor,” App. 102, and that “[p]utting Grand Rapids in its own district with the Western part of West Michigan is critical to aligning values of

districts” because there are “[l]ots of religious, cultural, and geographical similarities among this district.” App. 101. Commenters also opined that connecting “Grand Rapids and Muskegon[] create[s] a voice for the minority populations” in both cities. App. 090; *see also* App. 093. At least 47 public comments support Commissioner Eid’s testimony as to this district. App. 050–103.

4. The purpose of District 4 was to unite areas in and around Battle Creek and Kalamazoo in “a western Michigan district” and *not* to include those cities with nearby rural regions having a different community of interest. Eid Decl. ¶ 10 (PageID.780). Again, the Commission adopted this configuration based on public input. The Commission was advised not to include Kalamazoo in a district with rural areas, *see* App. 122, to “consider Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County as a community of interest,” App. 107, that “put[ting] Kalamazoo and Battle Creek in the same district, . . . is the most representative for SW Michigan,” App. 175, and that there was “a group which has been advocating for Battle Creek and Kalamazoo to be together in the same Congressional district . . . .” App. 178; *see also* App. 108–09. At least 64 public comments support Commissioner Eid’s testimony as to this district. App. 104–78.

5. Perhaps no other configuration in the Chestnut plan enjoyed as much support as the decision to combine the southern border counties in District 5, as “many individuals spoke about living in Michigan but working, shopping, and praying across the border or dealing with interstate transportation.” Eid Decl. ¶ 12 (PageID.781). The configuration, first, was proposed in the “heat maps” report of the Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group (MGGG) Redistricting Lab, which reported to the Commission that 36 submissions cited a strong community of interest along the border, based on a “[r]ural identity,” “[s]hared concerns about interest commerce across with Ohio and Indiana,” “[a]gricultural industries,

shared health care services, and recreation opportunities.” App. 625. Commenters implored the Commission to pay “attention [to] the all too often overlooked border county community,” because “[c]ounties along the Ohio and Indiana borders share similarities that no other counties can relate to”—that “residents on both sides of the state commute across the state line twice a day for work,” “deal with tax disparities unique to the daily life of our border county residents,” “shop, dine, and enjoy outdoor areas in each state,” and “often share resources, state police posts, union regions, hospital systems[,] health departments[,] environmental concerns[,] infrastructure projects, broadcast media, print media and much more.” App. 208–09; *see also* App. 210–11 (citing “[s]hared infrastructure, unions, United Way, print, broadcast media”). Commenters could not have been clearer that: “[l]iving in order counties many don’t realize how much [we] rely on newspaper and stations for our local news.” App. 196. Commenters also explained that “Monroe County” on the eastern end of District 5 “is much more tied together with other border counties than it is alike [to] the large cities to the North like Detroit . . . .” App. 199. Indeed, its residents observed that “[w]e are more similar to Toledo than we are to Detroit,” in part because of “print and broadcast media” shared across state lines. App. 180. Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 5 are supported by at least 51 comments. App. 179–238.

6. The Commission intended District 6 to be “a district around Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, and the University of Michigan” that did not include “Jackson and Livingston Counties,” “as they shared different values,” but did include Novi based on its community of interest with Ann Arbor. Eid Decl. ¶ 14 (PageID.781). The public record supported this choice. Commenters consistently observed that “[t]here is no apparent at all connection between” Jackson County and Ann Arbor, App. 272, because they don’t share common values, *see* App. 286; *see also* App. 290 (“I further oppose any plans that place Jackson with

Washtenaw”); App. 277 (“I don’t really think Ann Arbor and Jackson go together either. I just don’t like it.”); App. 271 (“Anyone that would marry the communities of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti with Jackson County needs to go back to the drawing board.”). The record also confirms Commissioner Eid’s attestation that commenters favored including Novi in a district with Ann Arbor. *See* App. 243; App. 245. Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 6 are supported by at least 72 comments. App. 239–307.

7. District 7 was drawn as “a tri-county district consisting of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties” with the additional purpose of “keeping Shiawassee County whole.” Eid Decl. ¶ 16 (PageID.782). The record confirms that these choices were made “in response to public comment.” *Id.* Commenters opined that “Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton should be in the same district, as a Lansing-centric Community of Interest,” App. 308, and discouraged “breaking Shiawassee County up into different districts,” App. 331; *see also* App. 338 (“The counties of Clinton, Eaton, and Shiawassee share a community of interest.”); App. 339 (“Clinton, Eaton County, and Ingham County together is something that needs to happen.”); App. 308–09 (“I agree that Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties constitute a Community of Interest.”). Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 7 are supported by at least 37 comments. App. 308–59.

8. District 8 was intended to achieve a difficult compromise necessitated by differing views about how to recognize communities of interest in and around Midland County. Eid Decl. ¶ 18 (PageID.782). As Commissioner Eid attested, some commenters “asked that Midland be included with Gladwin County, while others asked for Midland to be included with the cities of Flint, Bay City, and Saginaw.” *Id.* The legislative record shows this divide of views, as commenters opined both that “Saginaw Bay City[,] Midland[,] and Flint should be together,” App. 393, and “that Midland should be put in the same legislative District as

Gladwin,” App. 396. Comments along these lines were sharply divided. App. 402 (“Do NOT split up Midland County and align any of it with Saginaw, Bay City and Flint.”); App. 404 (“Please keep the counties of Midland and Gladwin together in the redistricting plan.”); App. 410 (“Keep Midland County with Gladwin County in a separate District from Flint.”); App. 415; App. 417 (“Midland is one of the tri-cities, and local issues tend to revolve around the three as a whole instead of separate entities.”). Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 8 are supported by at least 67 comments. App. 360–429.

9. Commissioner Eid configured District 9 “around the ‘thumb’ of Michigan,” which he identified “as a community of interest due to its rural, agricultural nature,” and he purposefully excluded “the cities of Wixom, Walled Lake, and Commerce Township,” which “identified much more closely with the suburban metro-Detroit portions of Oakland County.” Eid. Decl. ¶ 20 (PageID.783). The legislative record fully supports this choice. Commenters explained that “Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison, & Brandon townships all share alike objectives of their communities,” App. 430, and that the interests of “thumb” communities “are absolutely separate from that of Oakland or Genesee Counties,” App. 433; *see also* App. 434 (“We are a rural community that should never be part of Genesee or Oakland County.”); App. 438 (“[T]ell me how someone from the thumb, farming and working the land, has the same concerns and issues as someone living the city life.”); App. 439 (“North Oakland County consists mainly of bedroom of communities have strong associations with Flint and Genesee County” and “[h]as little in common with the northeastern part of the state”); App. 441 (“Please, for the love of God, stop lumping in Western Oakland County with the thumb district.”). Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 9 are supported by at least 12 comments. App. 430–45.

10. District 10 was configured “to preserve communities of interest between Rochester Hills and the Macomb County communities of Sterling Heights, Warren, and St. Clair Shores because of shared cultural communities.” Eid Decl. ¶ 22 (PageID.784). Residents of the area “express[ed] . . . support for having Warren and Sterling Heights in the same district,” because of an “extensive communal and demographic connection” including through a shared “Arab and Chaldean community.” App. 446; *see also* App. 452 (“Please give the Chaldean community a voice in one District.”); App. 452 (“I’m asking the Commission to give Chaldeans a voice in one District.”); App. 454 (“[P]ut Chaldeans in one Congressional District.”). The Commission heard from commenters that Warren “should be kept with other industrial areas in Macomb and Oakland like Sterling Heights, Troy, and Rochester Hills.” App. 450; *see also* App. 451 (“I find the inclusion of suburbs ranging from Rochester Hills to Royal Oak and Troy to Mt. Clemens to give us a diverse but connected constituency.”); App. 456 (“Include cities of Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Twp, Troy, Rochester Hills, Sterling Heights and Shelby Twp together.”); App. 457 (“In my map Sterling Heights Troy and parts of Rochester Hills are in one District as they should be.”). Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 10 are supported by at least 12 comments. App. 446–60.

11. District 11 was designed “to preserve communities in and around Oakland County such as the cities of Wixom, Walled Lake, Commerce, West Bloomfield, Troy, and Farmington Hills.” Eid. Decl. ¶ 24 (PageID.784). Additional goals included “to preserve the LGBTQ communities in the cities of Royal Oak, Ferndale, and Oak Park” and “to exclude Southfield from Congressional District 11 because individuals expressed that Southfield felt more closely aligned with the communities of Detroit than Oakland County.” *Id.* The legislative record supports these choices. Residents argued that “the communities of Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, and West Bloomfield should be in the same district.” App. 461;

*see also* App. 462 (“I strongly support the communities of interest (West Bloomfield Township, Keego Harbor, the City of Village of Orchard Lake, and Sylvan Lake”); App. 471 (“And I think Troy should be moved back in with other local areas to the south and west of our City like Clawson, Royal Oak Berkeley Birmingham, Bloomfield et cetera”); App. 469 (“I urge the Commission to link Troy with municipalities to our south and west, whether it’s visiting parks, attending youth sports or classes, commuting, looking at places we shop or visit for entertainment.”); App. 472 (“Troy is the largest economy in Oakland County and I think it’s important it stays within this community.”); App. 474 (“Troy must stay with Rochester, Rochester Hills, & Bloomfield in Oakland county as it is today.”). Commenters also asked the Commission to be attentive to “the concerns of the LGBTQ community in Ferndale, Southfield, Pleasant Ridge, Hazel Park, Oak Park and Huntington Woods.” App. 463; App. 465 (“Southeast Oakland County without a doubt is an LGBT community of interest as it holds the largest number of LGBT residents in our state.”); App. 466 (“The LGBTQ is a community of interest that requires a fair representation.”). Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 11 are supported by at least 33 comments. App. 461–98.

12. District 12 was crafted “to create a district featuring the east side of Detroit with Dearborn and other similar communities, . . . to preserve the historical neighborhoods in and around Detroit,” and “to include Livonia . . . because of Livonia’s blue-collar workforce that aligned more with the communities in Detroit, Dearborn, and Southfield.” Eid. Decl. ¶ 26 (PageID.785). Residents informed the Commission that “there is some commonality (e.g., average income, age of houses and infrastructure, home value, educational attainment, etc.) among inner ring/older suburbs like Redford, Livonia, and Dearborn as well as long-established western communities like Plymouth, Northville, and Farmington, which are a popular destinations for those living in the western suburbs.” App. 502; *see also* App. 506; App. 507

(“As a community of interest people commute to Southfield or Detroit, but live in suburban neighborhoods and send their kids to the surrounding schools.”); App. 510; App. 511 (“It is bizarre that so[] many Congressional maps refuse to add Southfield, Oak Park and Royal Oak Township to the west side Detroit district . . .”). Comments overwhelmingly favored inclusion of Livonia with these similar communities. *See, e.g.*, App. 551 (“Our Community of Interest . . . primarily lives in Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, West Detroit, and Melvindale, as well as other parts of Michigan such as Hamtramck, Sterling Heights, Flint, Livonia, Canton, Ferndale, Ypsilanti, [and] Ann Arbor”); App. 240 (“The predominant features tying the community of Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti, Plymouth-Canton-Northville, Novi, and Livonia are the similar lifestyles, historical ties, and drivers of the economy.”); App. 243 (“I would like the commission to consider my community of interest which incorporates the areas of Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Plymouth, Canton, Novi, and Livonia.”); App. 502 (“[M]y map encompasses the Wayne-Westland school district, which now includes parts of Wayne, Westland, and Inkster; it also includes the Livonia district, which includes parts of Westland, and the Plymouth-Canton district, among others[.]”); App. 510. Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 12 are supported by at least 22 comments. App. 499–524.

13. Commission Eid configured District 13 “to create a Detroit centered district and to preserve the townships of Wayne and the southern portion of Dearborn Heights in order to keep minority communities whole.” Eid Decl. ¶ 28 (PageID.785). Commenters urged the Commission to adopt a district of this genre, noting that it preserved Asian American, App. 528–38, Eastern European, App. 538, and Arab, App. 545; App. 551–53, populations. They observed that a “District of Dearborn, Hamtramck and parts of the north of Dearborn Heights” would preserve communities of interest. App. 557; *see also* App. 564 (“As you might know, cities like Dearborn and Dearborn Heights, are home to huge Arab American

populations.”); App. 580 (“It is essential that our central communities in Dearborn and Dearborn Heights are not fragmented in the making of legislative districts.”); App. 584; App. 585. Commissioner Eid’s attestations concerning District 13 are supported by at least 89 comments. App. 525–90.

For these reasons and those stated in the Commission’s prior opposition brief, the motion should be denied.<sup>1</sup> The Commission recognizes that some public commenters may have preferred different configurations from what the Commission ultimately chose, but this is unremarkable and unavoidable. To redistrict is, at its essence, to “balance competing interests,” which is an “exercise of political judgment.” *Miller v. Johnson*, 515 U.S. 900, 915 (1995). Plaintiffs appear to believe that the justification analysis requires a legislative body to adhere to the “judicially discoverable and manageable standards” that control judicial action, *see Rucho v. Common Cause*, 139 S. Ct. 2484, 2494 (2019), but legislative will is not so limited, *see, e.g., Voinovich v. Quilter*, 507 U.S. 146, 156 (1993); *Perry v. Perez*, 565 U.S. 388, 392–93 (2012); *see also* The Federalist No. 78 at 523 (Hamilton) (Jacob Cooke ed., 1961). Finally, because Plaintiffs (like the other parties) formally chose not to “seek[] expedited discovery prior to the [preliminary-injunction] hearing on March 16, 2022.” ECF No. 56 at 17 (PageID.1144), the Commission respectfully submits that the proper avenue for Plaintiffs to challenge evidentiary weight would have been to seek discovery and that no further factual development is warranted on the outstanding motion.

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<sup>1</sup> The Commission’s justifications for the deviations are not limited to the communities-of-interest goals under Subsection 13(c). The Commission focused on obvious communities-of-interest differences between the Chestnut plan and Plaintiffs’ proposed remedy in opposing the preliminary injunction because the justification inquiry compares the enacted plan against “alternatives,” *Tennant*, 567 U.S. at 763 (citation omitted), such that different alternatives may elicit a different defense strategy, *see id.* at 765 (“None of the alternative plans came close to vindicating *all three* of the State’s legitimate objectives . . . .” (emphasis added)). A different hypothetical alternative might implicate different constitutional criteria, like compactness or partisan fairness. But all the criteria are justifications for the minor population deviation, since all criteria had to be achieved in a single, integrated plan.

Dated: March 22, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

Pursuant to Local Rule 7.3(b)(ii), Counsel for the Commission certifies that this brief contains no more than 10 pages, inclusive of any headings, footnotes, citations, and quotations, and exclusive of the caption, cover sheets, signature block, any certificate, and any accompanying documents.

Dated: March 22, 2022

/s/ David H. Fink  
David H. Fink

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on March 22, 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed via the Court's CM/ECF system and served via electronic filing upon all counsel of record in this case.

/s/Nathan J. Fink  
Nathan J. Fink

# **APPENDIX**

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**DISTRICT 1**

**DISTRICT 1**

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# The UP is a Community of Interest

## Basic Info

Submitter: Phil Britton  
Location: Chocolay Township  
Submitted: 5/18/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c274

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#yoopers](#) [#upper peninsula](#) [#up](#)

## More Info

To state the obvious, the UP is a strong community of interest. We have unique needs, a unique people, and often feel our voice is underrepresented. I would encourage the commission to not treat Michigan's northern district as an "everything else" category. Consider that, even though they are in the same district, it takes almost as much time to drive from Ironwood to Traverse City as it does to drive from Detroit to Washington DC.

## Comments & Feedback

6/22/2021 - **Rosemary Cotter** (Kalamazoo): I concur with this assessment. The communities in the Upper half of the Mitten share an interest with those in the U.P. in maintaining wildlife and natural resources so as to benefit the local tourism industry and lifestyle. However, the social perspectives, economic needs, desire for small government and independent way of life are seen VERY differently between the Upper Mitten and U.P. communities. I believe that the Upper Mitten area has more in common with the Grand Rapids area and/or the Clinton/Gratiot/ Montcalm areas. I also

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MICRC Public Comment Portal

concur that the U.P. communities feel largely ignored and unheard at both the state and federal levels.

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# Districting Plan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Sarah  
Location: Chippewa County  
Submitted: 9/17/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w4767

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Keep the Upper Peninsula whole.

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# Natural Environment quality of life

## Basic Info

Submitter: Susan Thiel  
Location: Grayling  
Submitted: 6/28/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1161

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Quality of Life and Naural Environment in Northern Lower MI- people migrate to northern MI largely due to loving the natural environment, whether they come for a weekend or decide to stay and live up here. The vast public forests, rivers, and lakes provide quality recreational opportunities, great tourism, clean air, peace and quiet, clean water, and wildlife providing a higher quality of life for many.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Communities of Interest, Grand Traverse

## Basic Info

Submitter: Whitney Roberts  
Location: Elmwood Township/Leelanau County  
Submitted: 6/29/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w1166

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

My Name is Whitney Roberts. I am a resident of Elmwood Township in Leelanau County and a member of the township planning commission. I am on the board of The Maritime Heritage Alliance.

I support the efforts of the Commission as you work toward establishing a framework for fair and equal elections. I encourage the Commission to begin afresh to redistrict our state’s electoral boundaries. I am particularly struck by the fact that we in Leelanau share so much waterfront and common issues with Grand Traverse, our neighboring county. We would do well with common representation in the legislative systems of our state and nation. We are more tourist driven than our present district partners of Benzie and the Upper Peninsula. We exhibit the same pressures on housing and infrastructure as Grand Traverse and we share the common water which we seek to protect.

Our present representatives, state and federal, are confronted with a mix of urban and rural of agriculture and parkland making representation difficult. While our present boundaries place us with more rural areas, the U.P. and Benzie, Manistee counties, we are a bedroom community to Grand Traverse and have more rapidly expanding villages to work with. We share the common dependence on the waters of Grand Traverse Bay. More accurate representation by our legislators would be helpful. Our present, gerrymandered districts do not permit this.

Combining Leelanau County with Grand Traverse County or a portion thereof

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MICRC Public Comment Portal

would certainly enhance the power of our electorate to protect our waters, respond to the ever increasing pressures of urbanization and enable more focused attention to our common problems.

Thank you

Whitney Roberts.

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# Mary's Upper and Lower plan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mary O'Neill  
Location: Presque Isle  
Submitted: 7/20/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1571

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Rural, farm, Near Lakes, streams and rivers, tourist area, logging, mining and small businesses

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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# Northern Michigan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Dennis Lennox  
Location: Topinabee  
Submitted: 7/26/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1688

## Tags

## More Info

The communities on this map are of similar interests and share demographics: religion, ethnicity, economics, culture. They are also linked by Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant by and through its public TV station. Together, the communities have the approximate population of a congressional district.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

Our lives are integral to what goes on in Traverse City and we would love to be in a District.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is number two.

>> Good evening.

Are you hearing me?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Okay great. My name is Barb Conley. I'm from Northport in Leelanau County. And forgive me for reading this but I want to be efficient. I first of all want to thank the Commissioners for all the work that they are go doing and for allowing me to speak. I just want for say Michigan has the constitutional amendment in 2018, which removed the redrawing of the district from the legislature and put it in the hands of you, our Independent Commission. We have been subjected to gerrymandering, including in the recent past. And Michigan citizens deserve the right to have their vote counted no matter where they live.

So I do urge you to draw districts that do not lead to one party rule in any District. And that includes the first Congressional District as well as districts for the State House and the State Senate.

I would like to see maps drawn with as much as close to zero partisanship as possible.

I also want to note some communities of interest along the Northern Michigan coast, which shares tourism, fruit growing water directed activities, fishing, and sometimes medical care, transportation, and intermediate school districts. For example, our State Senate District could possibly encompass the northern coast of lower Michigan. And many of those communities of interest would be included. Our State House District, as said by the previous speaker, could compare northern Grand Traverse County with Leelanau County and encompass wine growers, fruit growers, mass transports, medical care, and the intermediate school districts, as well as tourists.

And in our Congressional District we could unite the water-related communities in the upper, lower, the lower upper and the Upper Peninsula.

Then just one minor note, I'm disappointed the MICRC chose a partisan law firm to represent this body in lawsuits.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number three? You may now address the Commission.

>> Thank you.

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# Community of Interest

## Basic Info

Submitter: Micheal Cromley

Location: Afton

Submitted: 8/29/2021

Type: written

ID: w3188

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I live in Cheboygan County and want to explain why its crucial that our county be aligned or put with Emmet County. While my wife and I live in Cheboygan County we do much of our business in Emmet County. We do all of our weekly grocery shopping in Emmet, all of our medical doctors: general practitioner, orthopedic, dermatologist, eye doctor, vet etc... are in Emmet. Much of our social life is also spent in Emmet. Also of major import is that we share the economic, tourism, boating, swimming, fishing, etc.. with the Straits of Mackinaw, where Lake Michigan and Lake Huron meet. This is what a "community of Interest" is all about. The Straits of Mackinaw as well as Lake Michigan & Lake Huron also tie Mackinaw County and Preque Isle County with Cheboygan & Emmet. Please consider these important factors when creating the maps for this region.

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# Giving a fair voice to each district

## Basic Info

Submitter: Gregory Putalik  
Location: Harbor Springs/emmet  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5228

## Tags

## More Info

MI-01 contains four COI clusters and maintains the integrity of the Upper Peninsula regional identity while keeping the “Upper Mitten” community intact. The district is linked together by a robust tourism and leisure industry, coupled with its strong agricultural roots.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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## Better Upper Michigan map

### Basic Info

Submitter: Jennifer Hill  
Location: Marquette City  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5186

### Tags

### More Info

This map draws a MI-01 House District that includes four Community of Interest (COI) clusters as outlined to the commission: A1, A2, A3, and A4. Using this map will keep the Upper Peninsula intact, while also keeping the “Upper Mitten” together in a more cohesive way. Using these boundaries, the MI-01 House district would share a robust tourism and recreation industry, together with its valuable agricultural economy.

I was one of the majority that voted to create Michigan’s independent commission. The MICRC is in an excellent position end partisan gerrymandering and instead develop a map that reflects communities of interest, partisan fairness, and federal law compliance. The map below meticulously avoids city splits whenever possible, reflects economic and cultural ties between towns and counties, and yields several competitive districts from a partisan perspective. In fact, MI-03, MI-04, MI-06, MI-08, and MI-10 would all invite immediate, serious, and spirited challenges from both sides of the party divide. This level of competitive and fairness would have few parallels from

### Map

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states throughout the country, all while cleaning up our state's lines and prioritizing communities of interest.

**Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# District 1

## Basic Info

Submitter: Joanne Cromley  
Location: Cheboygan  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5205

## Tags

## More Info

The entire Upper Peninsula and Northern Lower Michigan must stay intact. We share shoreline from both Lake Michigan and Lake Huron and the Straits of Mackinaw. Our District 1's economy is based on tourism, fishing, hunting, and agriculture which makes this a very strong community of interest.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

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# First Congressional District Plan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jon LaSalle  
Location: Marquette City  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5232

## Tags

## More Info

This configuration of the northern-most congressional district very well captures an area with many similar interests, both economically and cultural. This areas economy is agricultural, Forest Products and an ever flourishing and growing Tourism industry. Culturally, most of the area is rural, with rural way of life common across the district; the Upper Peninsula has mainly people of Finnish, French, Swedish, and German descent. The Lower Peninsula part of the district is more mixed.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# 1st Congressional District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jaime Brants  
Location: PETOSKEY  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5195

## Tags

## More Info

This congressional district would keep the Upper Peninsula and northern Michigan together. These areas have much in common with tourism, lakes and waterways, and agriculture.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# Competitive MI-01 Congressional District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Evan Bonsall  
Location: Marquette City  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5189

## Tags

## More Info

This district would keep communities of interest in the Upper Peninsula and Northern Lower Peninsula united, while also creating a fairly competitive district in which (all else being equal) candidates from either of the two major political parties could have a realistic chance of being elected. I feel that this district would provide residents of the district with a genuine choice in congressional elections, promote meaningful debate about local and regional issues in Northern Michigan, elevate local concerns about agriculture, mining, forestry, conservation, climate change, American Indian affairs, and rural poverty and development. This district would contain 36 counties, and unlike current or previous iterations of MI-01, this district would be geographically balanced (i.e., not reaching far down the west or east coasts of the Lower Peninsula solely to advantage one political party over another), and would divide only one county (Wexford County), with the other 35 counties being entirely contained within the same congressional district.

## Map

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3/20/22, 11:53 AM

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**Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# The Districting plan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mary Reilly

Location: Emmet

Submitted: 9/21/2021

Type: plan

Congressional Districts

ID: p5202

## Tags

## More Info

This plan honors the integrity of the Upper Peninsula while realizing the upper mitten is a tourism and business area that also needs representation. We are also an agricultural area and have that identity as well.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# Balanced district mapping plan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jane Milkie  
Location: Marquette City  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5235

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#upper peninsula #partisan

## More Info

The attached mapping plan provides many advantages for partisan balance in the #Upper Peninsula and Northern Mitten counties. The Upper Peninsula has its own identity, distinct from counties below the bridge. Tourism and farming support the economies of these northern rural counties.

This map properly supports communities of interest including four clusters (A1, A2, A3, A4). Furthermore, it maintains fairness from a #partisan perspective, a shining exemplar that other states and other Michigan districts could emulate.

[View in Districtr](#)

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# <https://www.michigan-mapping.org/>

## Basic Info

Submitter: Sarah Gurney  
Location: Emmet  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5204

## Tags

## More Info

MI-01 contains four COI clusters and maintains the integrity of the Upper Peninsula regional identity while keeping the “Upper Mitten” community intact. The district is linked together by a robust tourism and leisure industry, coupled with its strong agricultural roots

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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In that time I have never seen a more disconcerted effort to destroy local communities through our Counties of which I went through the Manistee County reapportionment and everything.

I looked at what's going on in the schools as well as in the local villages and Townships. I feel that you have not taken due diligence in honoring we the people of this state.

You on the other hand have a responsibility to do that.

You have failed.

So please and I admonish the board for not mandating all of your members be at all meetings.

This is that important.

And for you to short your duty to us the people is a slap in the face.

Keep our Counties and districts as whole as you can.

There's not a reason.

There may be a fluctuate in population.

I understand that.

Having experienced that through my own Counties.

On the other hand you need to keep us whole.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 63.

>> Good afternoon, my name is David Steele.

While you do this good work, we ask you to recognize the indigenous populations of Michigan as a community of interest.

Per the C.D.C. there are 80,000 tribal peoples in our state.

This is a gross under count as it does not include those who have been disenfranchised due to broken treaties and forced assimilation practices.

This map encompass the sovereign nations of little Travis Bay band of Indians and Grand Traverse Chippewa and Ottawa Indians.

Delineated reservation boundaries and includes vital services tribal and housing complex, community centers and the Indian health services clinics and oversee the well be original of our people with mental health, vision, primary doctor care, maternal health and many more.

It is important to site these places in the creation of the see of this County map.

As we receive basic services within these areas and typically have to live within these areas to receive services.

This map is much more fair and equitable than the one the MICRC has proposed and I request it be used instead thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. . Number 64.

>> Hello. My name is Cara Hunt from Little Traverse Bay of Indians and from Petoskey.

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While you do this good work, we ask you consider us as population of interest per C.D.C. there are approximately 80,000 tribal people in the state.

This is a gross under cut and does not include those disenfranchised due to broken treaties and forced assimilation practices.

It has sovereign nations of Travis Bay Grand Traverse of Chippewa and Ottawa Indians and their reservation boundaries.

This map includes vital services for the tribal communities including housing, complexes, community centers and also the Indian health services clinic issues.

These clinics oversee the well-being of our peoples with a variety of services including mental health vision primary doctor care maternal health and many more.

It's important to cite these places and the creation of this map as we receive basic need services within this area and typically have to live within the service areas to receive.

This map is much more fair and equitable than the that proposed and I request that it be used instead.

I thank you for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 66 or do we have 65.

65.

Okay.

>> Good evening my name is Sarah I'm from grand Michigan.

I'd like to thank the Commissioners for your efforts and for the time to speak to you tonight.

I can understand that this is a difficult process.

And people from communities all across Michigan greatly appreciate you taking the time to listen and consider our input.

Tonight I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of the Commission in working to keep the communities of northern Michigan cohesive.

Northern Michigan is comprised of small agricultural and tourist communities.

The people who reside in communities have shared values that support and help to sustain our small town Northern Michigan vitality that thrives on industries.

We are a unique community and have different values than that of cities a Metropolitan areas please keep Northern Michigan communities together and avoid combining our communities with urban areas to the south.

As an example you can view the proposed Senate lines on the cherry map which places small northern communities Thompsonville and Lake Ion in the same District of Muskegon which share little to no commonality in terms of economic and other interests.

I would like to remind the Commissioners this is a population based issue, not a political issue.

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Considering all the facts and data in your Voting Rights Act analysis is leading down a path of disenfranchise M of the communities of colors despite your best intentions. It's more important to get this done right now than to get this done fast. Please be thoughtful and how you draw Detroit, Flint and other communities across the state.

We have large indigenous populations in those communities also.

The Voting Rights Act is meant to help voters of colors elect representatives of their choice so that those representatives can make a difference in the legislature.

Cracking the Black indigenous people of color communities and tilting the playing field towards one political party on your maps fails.

Map holds our values and is much more fair and equitable than the one the MICRC provides.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you sir.

Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 71 please.

>> My name is staff agent retired Tracey Ann Smith and proudly served the national guard for 22 years and in Afghanistan.

I'm here in reference to P6784.

Communities of interest which I am part of.

I am Little Traverse Bay band Odawa Indian and part of obviously a veteran.

While you do this good work, we ask you to recognize the indigenous populations of Michigan as a community of interest to the C.D.C. there are approximately 80,000 tribal peoples in our state that this is a gross under count as it does not include those who have been disenfranchised due to broken treaties and forced assimilation practice which I am part of.

With regard to communities of interest it is not clear where the Commission has followed a systematic way to choose among COI or the draft proposed plans reflect the COI maps.

Some districts appear to break down a part communities and others don't communities of interest is not an excuse to pack voters of a particular party into fewer and fewer districts to weaken their voice in the state of legislature, look at maps and ideas to get to partisan fairness while respecting real communities of interest.

The Commission should accompany any proposed map with an explanation of how the map redistricts.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. At this time do we have number 72? Is there a 72? Okay, until we do have a number 72, we will turn back to our live remote public comment.

And I believe we are on number 6.

Kevin Webber.

>> I'm Kevin Webber Leelanau County.

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# UP District Map Concerns

## Basic Info

Submitter: David Guizzetti  
Location: Chocolay Township  
Submitted: 10/26/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w7408

## Tags

[#yooper](#) [#upper peninsula](#) [#up](#)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

To the Commission:  
I've looked over many of the proposed maps for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and I have some serious concerns. It appears as though many UP counties are being proposed to be split up. This does NOT work well for us as here in the rural UP, counties are our communities. There is such vast distance between populated areas and each county usually has just one population center with smaller communities scattered throughout. It's most common for these population centers to be in excess of 80-100 miles apart. As such, each county has challenges unique to them. That large distance between them and their neighbors changes a lot of things. Up here our highways are nearly all simple two-lane roads with 55mph speed limits and during the winter months travel between can be excessively dangerous and very slow. Splitting the districts and counties would appear to cause our representatives to drive an extensive amount of time and would severely limit the already low representation we already have up here. It will be difficult for constituents to have access to their representatives, especially the elderly and those with mobility issues. These are the citizens who need assistance from their representatives the most.  
I implore your committee to re-draw and keep the UP counties and communities together. Thank you.  
Respectfully,  
David L. Guizzetti  
Marquette, MI

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# Upper Peninsula Concerns

## Basic Info

Submitter: Nicholas Smaby

Location: Marquette

Submitted: 10/28/2021

Type: written

ID: w7939

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Admittedly not my words, but as a resident of the U.P. and Marquette County--I completely concur with this assessment by a friend:

- 1) Our counties are extensively the most apparent communities of interest in the UP. They each have the same sheriffs, taxes, judges, prosecutors, clerk, jail, road commission, hospitals and health departments, and basic school districts and ISDs.
- 2) Divided counties, especially heavily divided ones, diminishes the political power of the people and their local governments to advocate for policy from state lawmakers. Commissioners and lawmakers will have to make more contacts, may split their efforts amongst legislators rather than be unified, creating controversy that will make advocacy for each county's position far less impactful.
- 3) Current draft districts in the UP fail to consider the negative impact to the service and representation the citizens receive by unnecessarily creating enormous distances for the representatives to travel to accomplish their jobs.
- 4) Unnecessary county divisions also create significant additional workloads for representatives in meeting more government leaders and persons, which then leaves less time for them to serve other counties. For example, the proposed 108th District has huge travel requirements and far more twps, cities, schools, county boards, judges, police, ISDs, villages, mental health boards, job boards, etc.
- 5) The proposed 38th District change unnecessarily adds multiple twps, county boards, sheriffs, cities, tribes, schools and other entities greatly diminishing the time and bandwidth available for those same entities in the other 13 counties necessary to meet population requirements.
- 6) Creating unnecessarily large districts unduly impinges on citizens' access to their representatives due to the necessities of travel. This creates a very unfair difference for our citizens and communities which, while somewhat expected due to population, is being enhanced by the unnecessary divisions of counties and sizes of districts created.

3/18/22, 11:49 AM

MICRC Public Comment Portal

7) The size and distances any UP legislator must cover by themselves, plus the complexity and sheer number of local governments, schools, and other organizations, along with the winter weather, are important reasons why UP districts should be allowed to have population deviations that allow the districts to be smaller, and with no split counties.

#NonPartisanMyRearEnd #GerrymanderingByAnyOtherNameIsStillGerrymandering

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# Upper Peninsula Input

## Basic Info

Submitter: Follow Impartial Mandate

Location: Delta County

Submitted: 11/5/2021

Type: written

ID: w8828

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

The Upper Peninsula would like to see that local communities remain intact. The current district lines before any redrawing are working as is. Proposed new maps with east-west drawn lines cut many communities into pieces and would lessen and dilute our votes and voices. Representatives would need to travel far distances, represent diverse areas and thus be less ineffective.

The commission must represent the U.P. fairly, even if no commissioners are from the Upper Peninsula.

Also, the commission itself should be composed of Republicans and Democrats equally. Independent commissioners must be 'truly independent'. Currently a strong Democratic leaning is apparent and that must be corrected. All Michiganders deserve a fair commission. Residents of our purple state deserve that each person's vote has the ability to be counted and not diluted over distant communities. Rural resident voices must be able to fairly compete with those of more densely populated areas. Rural communities should remain whole as they currently are.

We require a balanced commission to create fair maps. Follow your mandate of a Balanced Commission creating Fair Maps along with providing public meetings, considering resident input, while providing full transparency and by following the constitution.

# DISTRICT 2

# DISTRICT 2

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# Central Michigan State House Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Michael Heitman  
Location: Mt Pleasant  
Submitted: 7/11/2021  
Type: plan  
State House Districts  
ID: p1439

## Tags

## More Info

I draw a state house district for the Central Michigan region that includes Isabella County and the northern portion of Gratiot County. There are numerous communities of interest linking the two areas, a few examples being education, transportation, watersheds and tribal land. Also this makes a competitive district with no party having an advantage.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# Central Michigan State House district

## Basic Info

Submitter: Amy Perschbacher  
Location: Mount Pleasant City  
Submitted: 8/10/2021  
Type: plan  
State House Districts  
ID: p2250

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#isabella #gratiot

## More Info

The redistricting of the state is a large burden but a necessary one deemed by the voters. I have created a map for the central Michigan district that includes all of Isabella county and the northern half of Gratiot county. These area are tied together by various means. We share the RESD, the Chippewa River watershed, and tribal community to name a few. Our economic ties are shared with the 127 highway which is a key transportation route and large infrastructure projects such as the wind turbines. This makes it a reasonable district as we share many aspects of community.

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Isabella and Gratiot State House Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Patricia Heitman  
Location: Mt Pleasant  
Submitted: 8/10/2021  
Type: plan  
State House Districts  
ID: p2259

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#isabella #gratiot

## More Info

This is a tough job that has been tasked to the commission by the people of Michigan. We have an opportunity to create a fair map for our citizens to have an equal vote for our government. As a resident of Mt Pleasant in Isabella County, I feel the best way to represent Central Michigan is by having a state house district include Isabella County and the northern portion of Gratiot County, around Alma and St Louis. Our economic ties are particularly strong between Mt Pleasant and Alma, with our transportation, agriculture, and infrastructure. Education is an important connection between the two communities with Central Michigan University and Alma College in close proximity. And the Gratiot- Isabella RESD services the educational needs in both counties. The job is yours to produce a fair map. Combining Isabella and a portion of Gratiot county would create a fair chance for the citizens to have their voices heard.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

## Comments & Feedback

3/14/22, 1:13 PM

MICRC Public Comment Portal

No comments have been submitted.

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# New 99th State house

## Basic Info

Submitter: Steve Swaney  
Location: MT PLEASANT  
Submitted: 8/11/2021  
Type: plan  
State House Districts  
ID: p2323

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#isabella](#) [#alma](#) [#ithica](#) [#us127](#)

## More Info

I am asking you to consider pairing Isabella county and the northern part of Gratiot county in Michigan House District for 99th. There are a lot more ties between Isabella and northern Gratiot. The Gratiot- Isabella Regional Education Service district serves students in public, private and parochial schools in our community. Higher education is an economic and cultural driver. Central Michigan University , Alma College, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and Mid-Michigan College are located here. The Chippewa Watershed Conservancy strives to protect land, water and wildlife in Isabella and Gratiot Counties. In Addition, US-127 corridor firmly impacts us all as a single community.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Higher Ed in Rural Central Mi

## Basic Info

Submitter: David Eisler  
Location: Big Rapids Township  
Submitted: 8/28/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3147

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

As you consider Michigan state senate redistricting, I would encourage you to strongly consider the community of interest created around higher education for the 33rd Senate district. There is strong consensus around the importance of higher education for the future of our state and citizens, but it can be difficult to create support for this in Lansing. As currently constructed, this district encompasses Clare, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta and Montcalm counties. These are mostly rural, contiguous counties but with the commonality of encompassing five institutions of higher education. Each county is the home for a public post-secondary education institution. These include public universities Central Michigan University (Isabella County) and Ferris State University (Mecosta County), community colleges Mid-Michigan College (Clare County), Montcalm Community College (Montcalm County) and the private institution, Alma College (Gratiot County). Grouping these institutions has helped promote collaboration on degree programs, transfer credits, and shared efforts. This helps each institution use the funds effectively and ultimately benefits students throughout these areas and beyond. This critical mass of higher education institutions has helped promote support for these rural institutions in our state.

Thank you for considering this input and for the important work you are leading for Michigan. Please contact me if I may be of additional support to your committee in this process.

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All right. Moving back to the agenda as amended, is there any debate or discussion about the agenda? Hearing none, let's move forward with our motion to approve the agenda. As indicated, we have a motion by Commissioner Witjes to approve the meeting agenda. All in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail and the agenda is adopted.

Public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of our meeting.

Hearing no objection, we will now proceed with the public comment pertaining to agenda topics. Individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide in person public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so.

Please step to the microphone when I call your name or number. You will have two minutes to address the Commission. And please conclude remarks when you hear the timer. And, Department of State staff, how many live persons do we have today?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: We have five in person public comments.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So five total, so six with the second?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Correct.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right, so, number one if you could please approach the microphone and speak.

>> Hi. Name is Mike Williams and I'm a sheriff.

Before I start, thank you all for your service.

I think sometimes we can do thankless jobs and welcome to that brotherhood.

I was disappointed to see the Commission did not keep communities of Gratiot and Isabella and Clare per a comment I made earlier.

I recognize the Commission is under very strict deadline and any major modifications to a draft District are unlikely at this time.

However I submitted a map last night and I'm posing a small change to the draft of District 33 and 35.

A change will make a big impact on keeping communities of interest together without requiring a wholesale redrawing of what the Commission has already done.

My suggestion is very simple somewhat, Newaygo in District 35 and move Gratiot in District 33. Additionally, drop the two Townships on to District 35 for Dade County and that is the changes that I'm suggesting.

What will this accomplish? Newaygo associates more closely with Lake, Osceola. And Gratiot associates with Montcalm and Ionia counties. As the County sheriff I can tell you these three counties in my county, additionally all three counties, have prisons, state prisons, in them. So we have a large population of corrections officers living in our community. Montcalm, Ionia and Gratiot Counties also work together with economic development and decisions.

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There are numerous ties between Montcalm and Gratiot along the M14 corridor and 57 lake corridor for the communities.

I would like that the larger change, I'm at least willing to make this small improvement, which would allow districts 35 and 33 to better represent the communities.

A side benefit is the District also becomes more aesthetically pleasing. And the constitutional requirement, the public to see districts that are a little more intuitive in their shapes.

And that's what I've created. I submitted a plan last night to your portal, so you can look at it there.

Thank you for your consideration. And, again, thank you for your service in this process.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number two you may now address the microphone to address the Commissioner.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Madam Chair, apologies, we are experiencing audio issues. Can you hold on for just one moment?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Certainly.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I think we are good to proceed. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Number two, you may go ahead.

>> Sorry. Hello. I'm Stacy Young, president of Montcalm Community College in Montcalm community.

I appreciate all the work you are doing.

It's certainly a difficult task and also thankless and very important to all of us and the public.

I understand that when the Commission was created in the current draft of District 33 the higher education community that exists here in Mid-Michigan was taken into consideration.

Ferris State, Central Michigan, Mid-Michigan Community College and Alma College are all included in draft District 33.

However, Montcalm County and, therefore, Montcalm Community College has been excluded from this community under the current draft proposal.

I submitted a map on the portal last night and comments through the portal for your consideration.

That fixes the problem by reuniting Montcalm County with Mecosta, Isabella, Gratiot and Clare Counties. I'm making these comments in person as well because. I believe this issue is very important and worthy of your thoughtfulness and attention. Having five of the higher education institutions in one Senate District has allowed the voice and therefore the voice of our students and our community to be heard in a unified station in Lansing for the last decade and will benefit or community and will consider as the redistricting proposals are refined and finalized.

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# Keep Gratiot Whole/in Central Michigan

## Basic Info

Submitter: M  
Location: Gratiot  
Submitted: 9/20/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w5114

## Tags

#gratiot #central michigan

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I am writing to the Commission in regard to the disposition of Gratiot County and its townships in the proposed Congressional Maps of your September 20, 2021, session.

Firstly, I believe that the division of four eastern townships (Wheeler, Lafayette, Hamilton, and Elba Townships) of Gratiot County to be included in Proposed District 11 with Saginaw/Flint areas is not reflective of communities of interest in Gratiot County. The proposed split of these townships from the rest of the county would remove some of the largest towns from the county, such as Breckenridge and Ashley, which are key parts of the community. The removal of those townships would remove one-third of the incorporated towns of Gratiot County from being in the same Congressional district (2/6). The proposed map removing townships, that include Breckenridge and Ashley, from Gratiot County would also not reflect current communities of interest in terms of education, commerce, activities, and community relationships. For example, the Gratiot-Isabella Technical Education Center (GI-TEC) is located in Alma and serves high school students from Alma, Ashley, Beal City, Breckenridge, Fulton, Ithaca, Mt. Pleasant, Shepherd, and St. Louis in technical education courses (e.g. welding, mechatronics, agri-science, and health professions). Students and community members interested in similar issues of professional training and education within the same academic program would be in two completely different and unrelated Congressional Districts. In this very rural and agriculture

3/18/22, 1:20 PM

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focused county, there exists more of a relationship and community of interest, in terms of those commerce and community activities, connected to central Michigan than the Saginaw or Lansing areas. Here I think the Commission could reexamine the northeastern portions of District 11 to recoup the needed population instead of dividing significant communities of eastern Gratiot County.

Secondly, I would continue to encourage the Commission to retain Gratiot County within the confines of District 13 and the counties of central/north central Michigan. Previous discussion by the Commission and map drafts proposed the inclusion of Gratiot County with Lansing and other major metro areas. That would simply not be representative of Gratiot County and its relationships with surrounding more rural central Michigan communities. Our schools completed with those in Isabella, Mecosta, Clare, Gladwin, and Midland counties. Business is conducted in the major cities of Clare, Big Rapids, Alma, and Mount Pleasant. Young adults attend locally in the regional population centers where Alma College and Central Michigan University are located, where there is deep connection between those small universities and the communities. For example, Alma College has the Alma College Community Engagement Scholarship where 13 full tuition scholarships are given to Gratiot County, Isabella, and Montcalm students who “desire to pursue a life-changing, liberal arts education” and want to “think critically, serve generously, lead purposefully and live responsibly as stewards of the world they bequeath to future generations.” If Gratiot County was not in District 13, some of those students would be represented by a district different from the local communities they come from and seek to serve in the future.

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I would encourage the Commission to not fall victim of doing what is easiest for the congressional population sizes and adjusting more metropolitan proposed districts, but to recognize that Gratiot County plays an important role within the Central Michigan community (Isabella, Mecosta, Clare, Montcalm, Gladwin, Midland counties, etc.) for which it should not be separated.

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As students here we contribute vastly to this community. We not only learn here. We work and eat and play and sleep and live in this community.

This is also our community.

We want the best for it.

And if we keep fair districts here, we encourage civic engagement with young people all across the state.

There is potential to break up campus itself, not to mention our various apartment communities, housed almost entirely off campus students, as well as separate campus from our downtown full of coffee shops and mom and pop restaurants, all deeply tied to Central Michigan University's community itself.

These establishments often started by CMU alumni and attended by current students are in what I would best describe as a symbiotic relationship. We help each other. We benefit from each other. And we probably would not exist let alone thrive without each other. And to separate CMU from our community would be, to put it plainly, unjust.

Today I ask you to please consider the rights of the citizens of Mount Pleasant to elect folks who represent local values and understand local issues. And the best way to do this is by keeping the lines fair.

Finally, I'd like to thank the Commission greatly for time and consideration in this very important issue.

I also like to thank members of the community who will be making their voices heard alongside my own tonight. I implore you to keep this community together as this nonpartisan commission works hard making Michigan more fair and just. The fair and just thing to do is keep communities together. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number two?

>> Oops, good evening, Commissioners. My name is Caroline Ross.

I live in Gratiot County, St. Louis, Michigan. I'm a lifelong Michigander and a lifelong resident of this region. I'm also a proud member of the UAW local 6,000 State of Michigan employees, now retired since 1985.

I want to address this Commission on two points.

The first thing being our State House representative in Lansing.

I believe that due to many commonalities between Isabella County and Gratiot County we should share a seat in Lansing.

First, the environmental issues surrounding waterways and agricultural are a constant concern for this region.

Secondly, we share the concern for renewable energy and jobs it creates both in wind and in solar.

Lastly, is our educational institutions in both Mount Pleasant and Alma as well as our regional school districts.

Please consider this when drawing this District.

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We need united representation to work for fair Federal loan and Pell grant policies for fair access for lower income students and for Veterans who deserve to have GI benefits supported.

These colleges also revitalize our downtown and would be helped by a unified Congressional voice representing these urban areas. This would be a fair, nonpartisan District and I urge you to consider again aligning the City of Midland, Bay, Saginaw and Genesee Counties in a Congressional District.

I thank you for listening well to us at these forums and wish you the best in your process.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commissioner number six.

>> Thank you for dropping by.

Last time that U.S. Senator Moolenaar was here, there were law enforcement officers were guarding him.

You ask why?

He did not represent Isabella County.

The reason why he didn't, why he was representing us was because there is a strip of Midland County had been attached to Isabella County.

That is the only reason why he was elected.

There is no commonality.

If you go east on M20 you see that.

Isabella County is a very educated County.

I agree, we should be attached to Gratiot County, not with Midland County.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number seven.

>> Hi. My name is Niki.

I'm from Lansing.

I just want to say thank you, appreciate the work.

I worked on census 2020 throughout the whole year, so I know how hard stuff like this is.

I want to comment on the Senate districts for Lansing and the Congressional districts as well. I think that those drafts do a good job of making fair maps. And I would like to see the same ideas for State House Districts. Greater Lansing is growing and compared to 10 years ago, there are more businesses, places to go, and things to do in the Greater Lansing, especially with CATA running into Ingham, Eaton and Clinton Counties. My House District could be Downtown Lansing, Old Towne and up to Dewitt. A lot of people who work at the main Lansing hospital, Sparrow, commute from Clinton.

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Other speakers have detailed these ties and I hope you will consider these in your decision making.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number 12.

>> I'm Elizabeth Scott, a fifth generation Midlander.

Thank you for hearing our public comments and drawing a map that keeps Midland County whole.

The City of Midland should not be cut out or sanctioned out of the rural District.

I support the map removing Midland from the proposed 11th District with Saginaw, Bay City and Flint and keeping it with like rural communities in the 13th.

The City of Midland should not be sanctioned out of the rural District.

To do so would harm the rural counties that need to be connected to Midland.

There is a Midland area watershed.

We saw this from the flooding in Midland in 2017.

That was from the waters coming from Isabella and Gladwin, and then the catastrophic flood in 2020 from Gladwin where over 800 residential homes were either affected or destroyed.

Midland and its rural neighboring counties of Gladwin, Isabella, Clare and Gratiot clearly have different concerns than Flint, Bay City and Saginaw. Each area has its own unique set of concerns as reflected in its population and industry.

It is to everyone's advantage to respect these unique districts and represent them appropriately.

I support the map drawn by Commissioner Lange that keeps Midland County and neighboring rural communities together.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number 13.

>> Hello. My name is Michael. I live in Union Township here in Isabella County.

This is a complex region for the legislative maps.

Former redistricting cycles have placed Isabella County in different districts for both the State Senate and the State House.

At various times in the last 40 years the State House has seen Isabella tied with Mecosta and Clare and Midland Counties. Past decisions have been political with a little care for the manner of representing the people of Central Michigan.

I'm asking you to consider pairing Isabella County and the northern of Gratiot County into the Michigan House District. The numerous ties between Isabella and Gratiot Counties are greater than most in Central Michigan. For example, the Gratiot, Isabella regional educational services students in public, private and parochial schools in both counties. Higher education is an economic and cultural driver. And Central Michigan

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University, Alma College, Saginaw, Chippewa Tribal College and Mid-Michigan College are located here.

The Chippewa watershed conservancy protects the land, water and the wildlife in Isabella and Gratiot Counties. Agricultural, recreation and health are impacted by the rivers in both counties.

Wind farms dot the landscape in both counties. One time Gratiot and Isabella Counties had separate United Ways, but now we are two counties, working cooperatively in the Gratiot, Isabella United Way. Isabella and Gratiot Counties have culture, historic, environmental and educational and economic connections. Together Isabella and Gratiot Counties form a community of interest.

I hope that my perspective has been some help as you, excuse me, strive to draw maps. And I hope that you take this into consideration, so thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number 14.

>> Hi. My name is Lauren Hall. I'm a student here at CMU, but I'm originally from Bay City, Michigan.

Tonight I just want to talk about Bay County a little bit.

For me it's really important that Bay, Midland and Saginaw stay together first and foremost because that is primarily how we self-identify as a community. We are the Tri-Cities, that is how I tell people where I'm from when I'm on campus or around Michigan.

Secondly, I would also state that the number two employer of Bay County is Dow Chemical, which is located in Michigan or it's located in Midland.

So there is an economic interest in keeping the communities together.

Finally, when we mention Delta College, how we elect board of trustees to Delta College is through whether or not they live in Saginaw, Bay and Midland.

We have specific designators for those delegates to the board of trustees in our elections.

And then finally I graduated from western high school.

Which for those of you who are not familiar with the area is about halfway between Midland County and Bay County.

And I can tell you first and foremost from experience that a majority of my classmates were from Midland County even though the school that I went to was in Bay County simply because it was closer to rural Midland County. So there is a vested educational interest in keeping the Tri-Cities together as well.

And I hope that you will consider that as you make your maps.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number 15.

>> Hi, everyone. My name is Isabella.

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# Barry with other Rural Inland

## Basic Info

Submitter: Benjamin Kupper  
Location: Delton  
Submitted: 9/28/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c5587

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#barry #rural #flooding

## More Info

Barry county does not belong in the District 9 that the commission has drawn. It is very rural and inland. We do not have the same economic base as the urban areas of Kalamazoo or Battle Creek to our south nor the shoreland counties that have large tourism and fishing industries to our West. We would go much better with counties like Ionia, Montcalm and Gratiot that are also rural and face similar concerns such as flooding.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Redistricting

## Basic Info

Submitter: Ed Brown  
Location: Shelbyville/Barry  
Submitted: 12/4/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9232

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Barry County should not be split 3 ways, that seems insane. We're not part of Kent County, no where near alike, totally different. Urban vs rural. Don't do that! Please!

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# Chestnut Best Plan for Rural Interests

## Basic Info

Submitter: Maxwell Bosman

Location: Nashville

Submitted: 12/17/2021

Type: written

ID: w9445

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Barry is a rural county and so it is best if our district is included in a rural district. Chestnut is the only one of the three plans that puts us in a rural district. In Birch we're grouped with Kalamazoo and in Apple we're grouped with Lansing. Neither makes much sense for us.

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# Chestnut Best for Rural Representation

## Basic Info

Submitter: Douglas Barsness  
Location: Howard Township  
Submitted: 12/18/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c9455

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Hello. My name is Douglas Barsness and I am a farmer and lifelong resident of Montcalm County. I would like to express my preference for the "Chestnut Plan." This is the only plan that gives us a truly rural 2nd district. In Birch, our district is lumped with urban areas like Muskegon and in Apple we're given too much of the Grand Rapids suburbs. It is too often in Congress that our rural voices are drowned out by people who live in the cities and suburbs. We have unique challenges that deserve to be heard and supported including agriculture, infrastructure, broadband, healthcare, drug addiction, and more. However, I worry that it will be too easy for candidates to ignore us if we are lumped with urban and suburban areas. For that reason, I think you should choose the "Chestnut Plan." I appreciate your service and hope you will consider my two cents.  
-Doug

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## Comments & Feedback

12/21/2021 - **Trenton Berry** (Midland): I would have to agree with you Mr. Barsness, I always thought that putting my city of

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Midland with rural Central Michigan seemed odd and gave us much more control over who our representative was. With this district, it takes out the bigger cities and allows for your rural areas to elect someone with your areas rural interests and needs. This isn't to say that rural areas should always be kept separate from cities, but in this case if we can allow for more rural areas to be represented with each other and cities be represented with each other makes the most sense. I just believe that Midland would be better represented by other local cities in the area than your rural areas as well as Muskegon being represented by their local cities than the same rural area as well. Chestnut is the best for our areas, and I too believe that this is the best map for the commissioner's to pick as well.

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# Central MI

## Basic Info

Submitter: Lionel Gibbon  
Location: St. Louis  
Submitted: 12/23/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c9483

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

This is my "community of interest" for Central Michigan. Most of this area is currently included in District 4 which makes sure our rural voice is represented. Of the new maps, I think Chestnut does the best job of representing our rural community. Birch ties us to Muskegon which we have nothing in common with. Apple is okay but it's kind of more suburban than Chestnut with the parts of Kent and Midland counties included in our district. Thank you for your service. Merry Christmas and God Bless.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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PART 1**

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# DISTRICT 3

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## suggestions for Federal districts

### Basic Info

Submitter: joy murphy

Location: kentwood

Submitted: 7/3/2021

Type: written

ID: w1371

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

I would like to suggest when District 3 is re drawn that Grand Rapids be grouped with Muskegon or Lowell - I think along the Interstate highway corridors makes more sense then the vertical current District 3.

Also, the I-94 corridor should also be respected. Such as Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Jackson, Benton Harbor have more in common culturally then Grand Rapids.

Historically they have always been working towns. I grew up in Battle Creek and had never been to Grand Rapids until I moved here. I had been to Kalamazoo, Jackson, Lansing many many times.

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# Kent County-based Congressional District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jeff Winston  
Location: Grand Rapids City  
Submitted: 7/29/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1825

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

With Grand Rapids being the regional economic anchor, a Kent County-based Congressional District that keeps the county whole is essential. Muskegon County's demographics best align with Kent County in both rural and urban settings. This district outline represents the best alignment while including whole municipalities and by only splitting one county (Muskegon). \*This map reinforces my previously submitted written testimony\*

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Muskegon to Grand Rapids I96 Area

## Basic Info

Submitter: Murielle Davis

Location: Muskegon

Submitted: 8/31/2021

Type: coi

ID: c3354

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#muskegon](#) [#grand rapids city](#)

## More Info

I think the communities around I96 from Muskegon to Grand Rapids are a community of shared interests. Many people in this area commute into Grand Rapids and access services like the hospitals and colleges there. Many people also access amenities and recreation in Muskegon. We also have shared interests regarding the Grand River. Also many Black residents of Muskegon have relatives in Grand Rapids (a lot of our kids move there when they reach adult age). Please consider this my community of shared interests when drawing your maps.

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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>> I may be a little late, but I did attend this hearing yesterday when you were working on Northwest Michigan.

And, in particular, I did submit some drawings for you regarding the 92nd State House. And I just want to reemphasize that the City of Muskegon and Muskegon Heights are home to the largest population of African/Americans in West Michigan.

This cities are together and they should never be separated in accordance with Section Two of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which states no voting qualification or for lack of a prerequisite to voting or standard practice or procedure shall be imposed or applied by any state or political subdivision to deny or abridge a right of any citizen of the United States to vote on the count of race or color.

So, therefore, we are thinking that any attempt to redistrict Muskegon Heights will diminish the voting power of the African/Americans in West Michigan.

Now, it was actually very interesting to watch you reconfigure the 92nd State House because if I was correct what it did is it appeared as though at the end of the thing yesterday it appeared as though you took Newaygo County out of the 92nd State House.

And that you went directly north on the coastline of Lake Michigan and added two more counties.

Now, I have not crunched the numbers yet.

And it all went down too quick for me to look at.

But I just wanted to be assured that, you know.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Your time has expired.

Next in line to provide public comment is Matt Dame.

>> Hello. Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Matt Dame from Jackson County. I spoke with you one other time at the Commission's very first public hearing in Jackson, Michigan.

Being that the Jackson hearing was way back in May and seeing now how fall is almost already upon us, I wanted to take a moment to reiterate the prominent communities of interest that came out of your very first hearing.

As a board member of the region two area agency on aging I personally shared how the R2AAA provides services to the elderly in Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee Counties by Federal and state statutes.

At that hearing I also -- was also surprised to hear how many folks came to the microphone to share the same Tri-County area in Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee as they are communities of interest.

One lady mentioned the Irish Hills Chamber of Tourism Group and incorporated the same Tri-County area.

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# Congressional Proposal 9/18

## Basic Info

Submitter: Zachary Solomon  
Location: Ann Arbor City  
Submitted: 9/18/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p4839

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

For some reason the portal says my map is 14 districts, but it is the correct 13. It includes 1 majority-black district and a majority-minority district with around a 45% African American population which will still allow the African American population to have a significant voice in the nominating processs and election. One unique proposal I have put in is my 3rd congressional district which would include Muskegon, Grand Haven, and Grand Rapids. This district could ensure a partisan fair map ensuring all statewide officials must win about 7/13 districts to win statewide.

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Don't Do Muskegon Dirty

## Basic Info

Submitter: Karyn Macey  
Location: Muskegon  
Submitted: 9/19/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c4923

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#muskegon](#) [#muskegon heights city](#)

## More Info

Please don't put us in a district that is so heavily rural and white. We should be in a more diverse district with other mid-size cities.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Muskegon is Diverse

## Basic Info

Submitter: Sandra Bowman  
Location: Muskegon City  
Submitted: 9/19/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c4915

## Tags

## More Info

Please be more thoughtful with the placement of Muskegon. We are a very diverse community whereas the rest our district is not. This is just not fair to place us in such a rural, non-diverse district when we are in fact close to other diverse communities including Holland and Grand Rapids. Please don't crack us off from other diverse communities. We deserve to be more than an afterthought to this commission.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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## Proposed Mi -03

### Basic Info

Submitter: Fredric Overeem

Location: Rockford

Submitted: 9/23/2021

Type: written

ID: w5381

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

When examining the proposed for district three map. I could see that the district includes mostly urban areas centering around Grand Rapids, extending to Grand Haven. Which maintains a consistent urban character for the district. This will allow a representative to plan projects consistent with his/her constituency . On the proposed map I saw that the community of Rockford was include with the more rural second district. As a resident of Rockford I can say with authority that Rockford is not a rural small town. Educationally, and vocationally Rockford residents have many more common interests with Grand

Rapids and its surrounding suburbs than the rural towns to the north.

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## Statewide map of Michigan proposal.

### Basic Info

Submitter: Aidan

Location: Richmond

Submitted: 9/28/2021

Type: plan

Congressional Districts

ID: p5588

### Tags

[#black](#)

[#districtmap](#)

[#minority](#)

[#fullmap](#)

### More Info

This plan, i have drawn in Districtr, is meant to group communities together that should be together, many communities statewide have many different reasons for voting one way or the other, and i attempted to take these into account while drawing districts. I viewed many of your earlier proposals and the way they split counties like Macomb and Oakland, and i feel that it is wrong to put the Heavily unionized areas of Southern Macomb with more conservative suburbs to their north, and thus, in my proposal, i have fixed that Grand Rapids and Muskeon should have a district together, as both share common interests, and as such i have put them together, however i made them more compact and all seats contiguous over land only, in comparison to your previous map

This map preserves the 2 Maj-Min seats required in detroit, leading to both of them getting better representation than any of the other proposals have Flint and Saginaw have wildly differing interests from the rural towns around

### Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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3/17/22, 8:31 PM

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them, and so a district with them and Midland and Pleasant mound would be beneficial, due to the fact that Pleasant Mound and Midland are also mid sized towns and not rural areas, and so will have more to do with Flint and Saginaw. I made a district running from Northwest to Central Michigan, which is almost entirely rural, which could elect a representative to focus on issues that specifically impact rural communities, instead of having to share with more urban or suburban communities. And I think that keeping Battle Creek and Kalamazoo together should be a priority, as the two towns are quite similar, and so i made a seat running in southern michigan to keep them together. As for Ann Arbor, Both them and Monroe are mid sized cities outside of Detroit, and i think they would be better represented together than placed in with expansive rural areas or inner detroit as they are on the current map. Thank you for considering this proposal.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

[← Next](#)

[Previous →](#)

# Muskegon and Muskegon Heights

## Basic Info

Submitter: DeVonte Wright  
Location: Muskegon Heights City  
Submitted: 9/28/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c5562

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Muskegon and Muskegon Heights have one of the highest share of Black residents of anywhere outside of metro Detroit and Flint. It would not serve our interests to be in a 90% white district. We belong with a more diverse district like the one encompassing Grand Rapids. This is important so that we can elect candidates that fight for civil rights, voting rights, criminal justice reform, public education, and supporting Black-owned business. If we are deluded in a very White district our interests will be ignored.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

[← Next](#)

[Previous →](#)

# West MI I-96 Corridor Congressional Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Will F.

Location:

Submitted: 10/12/2021

Type: plan

Congressional Districts

ID: p6507

## Tags

#west michigan

## More Info

It's become clear to me that the only way to respect the wishes and natural connection of Grand Rapids to the coast as well as keeping Holland with a Southwest Michigan coastal district and the wishes of Muskegon not to be diluted with areas to the north is a Congressional map that connects Grand Rapids and Muskegon and adds in progressive Grand Haven. This mostly respects the divides within Ottawa itself better than most of the collaborative maps, and keeps Grand Rapids from having that weird thing where it takes in tiers of townships in Ionia and Ottawa but not actual Ionia city, itself. Commissioner's Eid individual maps seems to do this the best, and I have submitted my own version of this. It doesn't have to look weird; there doesn't have to be a robot arm. It just has to include Grand Haven. I've drawn the districts that it would border it to show you how you can do this within a larger context. But, unless you do this GR-Muskegon connection the only other options are the two that have been submitted with the collaborative maps: 1. The one that splits Ottawa County is a

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

way it shouldn't be split, or 2. the GR-Kalamazoo district whose borders beggar's belief. I think this is the compromise, in fact, the only compromise that works to give every one something.

### **Comments & Feedback**

10/13/2021 - **Anthony** (Detroit): suburban Wayne county with Allegan county ?

10/13/2021 - **Will** : Draw that district however you want, Tony; it's literally not the point of the post which is made clear in the post. But, mostly, just leave me alone.

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MICRC

10/22/21 1:00 pm Meeting/Public Hearing

Captioned by Q&A Reporting, Inc., [www.qacaptions.com](http://www.qacaptions.com)

>> CHAIR SZETELA: As Chair of the Commission, we will bring the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 1:11 p.m.

This Zoom webinar is being live streamed on YouTube at [www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC) YouTube channel.

For anyone in the public watching who would prefer to watch via a different platform than they are currently using, please visit our social media at Redistricting MI to find the link for viewing on YouTube.

Our live stream today includes closed captioning. Closed captioning, ASL interpretation, and Spanish and Arabic and Bengali translation services will be provided for effective participation in this meeting. Please E-mail us at [Redistricting@Michigan.Gov](mailto:Redistricting@Michigan.Gov) for additional viewing options or details on accessing language translation services for this meeting.

People with disabilities or needing other specific accommodations should also contact Redistricting at [Michigan.gov](http://Michigan.gov).

This meeting is also being recorded and will be available at [www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC) for viewing at a later date and this meeting also is being transcribed and those closed captioned transcriptions will be made available and posted on [Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://Michigan.gov/MICRC) along with the written public comment submissions.

There is also a public comment portal that may be accessed by visiting [Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://Michigan.gov/MICRC), this portal can be utilized to post maps and comments which can be viewed by both the Commission and the public.

Members of the media who may have questions before, during or after the meeting should direct those questions to Edward Woods III, our Communications and Outreach Director for the Commission at [WoodsE3@Michigan.gov](mailto:WoodsE3@Michigan.gov) or 517-331-6309.

For the purposes of the public watching and for the public record I will now turn to the Department of State staff to take note of the Commissioners present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Please say present when I call your name. If you are attending Today's meeting remotely, please disclose during roll call you are attending remotely and where you are attending from, I will call on Commissioners in alphabetical order starting with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

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Just want to quickly address the issue of you know Ottawa County is the fastest growing County in the State of Michigan and Kent County is the second growing fastest second fastest growing County in the State of Michigan.

So it's frustrating to see us be split.

Unnecessarily.

And when you look at the map, I thought some of the comments today are clever.

The apple map actually increases the partisan advantage.

It's just to a different party.

And so it's a clever way for some of the speakers today to talk about how it's bringing it together when it actually increases the partisan advantage and it happens to advantage a particular party.

When you look at the Senate maps or back on the Congressional side, it's also frustrating to see our communities like Rockford lumped in with Midland County to all the sudden have a two hour discrepancy when it's unnecessary to do it.

So I really do implore you to keep us intact.

I find it ironic in some of the speakers advocating to keep Cascade in Kent County.

But then turning around and supporting the apple map and putting Grand Rapids with Kalamazoo.

So there is a little bit of irony and hypocrisy going on here and I understand your job is very difficult but implore you to try to keep us intact and reward us for our great economic policies making us the fastest growing region in the State of Michigan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 55.

>> Actually I'm 56.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead sir.

>> Thank you.

My name is Larry Moss.

I'm mayor pro tem of the City of Greenville.

I serve as a nonpartisan member of the planning Commission and the Greenville City Council.

Greenville is a community about 35 miles north and east of Grand Rapids.

I would like to first thank you all for your commitment and your hard work.

I know this is not an easy job.

And you're getting advice from lots of different directions.

And good luck with all of that.

Oh, is it possible to get a map up? Or is it too late?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead which map do you want.

>> Number 230 the birch map.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Could we bring up 230, birch?

>> I'll keep talking while you're doing that Greenville is very definitely a West Michigan community.

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Don't know that people are actually controlling how the maps will look for the next ten years.

But complaining about the power structure here in the State of Michigan.

So I ask that you guys think about the other people that don't know about these meetings regardless of ethnicity.

That you guys make it fair and equitable for everyone.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 130 or 131.

>> Good evening I'm 131 and my name is Tom and I'm a City Commissioner for Kentwood.

I literally spent 14.5 years driving down 131 working in Allegan for 14.5 years.

And worked with people from Kalamazoo and the lakeshore.

And Kalamazoo is by no means a community of interest with Grand Rapids.

So the map, the apple map does not reflect what you're targeting and it does not accomplish your goals.

That map I've worked with people in Rockford and Ada, they consider themselves part of Grand Rapids.

Where people in Kalamazoo they do not consider themselves part of the Grand Rapids area.

So the Congressional map apple I'm opposed to.

The State Senate and State House we ask you consider keeping the City of Grand Rapids as a whole.

And putting together Kentwood and East Grand Rapids in that Senate and House Districts.

We share 28th Street and 44th Street with the City of Grand Rapids.

So the decisions they make on their side of the street effects our side of the street.

If you were to drive down 28th Street there is two major malls on the corner of 28th.

And Beltline which is the highest tax revenue corner in the State of Michigan.

But we have center point mall which is on the east side which is managed by the City of Grand Rapids.

We have wood land mall on the west side which is Kentwood.

So the decisions we make and the police we send to the accident and fire we send to an accident we share those resources as a group so thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 132.

>> I'm 132.

My name is Roy.

And I'd like to commend the Commission for coming to Grand Rapids to have a listening.

And the maps of the State House I appreciate what you've done with the community of Kent County the Grand Rapids environments.

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And when I looked at it, I was kind of shocked.

And it was clear to me what your motive is.

And it's obviously more clear that there is no one from this side of western Michigan on this Commission.

What your motive is.

Obviously, you're trying to fix what you call gerrymandering with more gerrymandering.

It can't be any clearer.

I would like everyone to know that I happen to live exactly at a point where Grand Rapids or Ada Cascade Townships and Lowell Townships all come together in the corner and I'm right there.

I have a Lowell phone.

I have Ada address but I vote in Cascade.

We are in the forest hill school District.

All this area, all these schools they all play together.

They all pay sports together.

We all see each other.

I have family that lives in Rockford.

I have people and friends that are in Lowell.

We spend a lot of time in Lowell.

And you are splitting all this up this is true not just in Grand Rapids but other areas.

And so to me I'd like to say it's pretty clear what you're trying to do.

And we are on to it.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 135.

>> I'm number 135 my name is Carla.

I'm a real estate agent I lived in Michigan all my life.

Most of it about 50 years in Ottawa County the last ten in Kent County.

I don't even know what to say.

I'm so disappointed in all of the maps as the lady prior to me said.

This is just more gerrymandering to end gerrymandering.

I thought your job was to take the census data and keep and sort out a population.

Keep municipalities whole.

Try to keep lines as straight as possible.

There is no way that you can figure into every one's communities of interest if there is ten million people in Michigan you will have ten million communities of interest.

Keep the lines as straight as possible.

Keep the districts together.

Specifically the apple map just blows my mind.

I live in Rockford.

I don't think I've ever been to Midland.

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I don't want to be a part of that area.

I consider myself just north of Grand Rapids.

I go to Grand Rapids all the time.

Don't do much up north further than that.

Also Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo in the same District, I don't even see the feasibility of that at all.

I don't know what you're thinking with that.

These maps need to be redone.

You're not here to dictate where people -- it's like people will live where they want to live.

They choose to live around a school District or on a Lake front or they choose to live on the east or the west or the northern part of Michigan.

You can't draw lines to suit where these people choose to live.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 136.

>> I was at the TCF Wednesday evening.

In the meantime I did more research and my astonishment, I ran into something with the Commission.

The Commission is made up four republicans, four democrats and two of the self-identified Ms. Szetela and Mr. Eid their political actives align with the democratic party candidates and the democratic party policies.

So I respectfully ask the Commission to fix this first.

And then to put a better fitting process in place because self-identification doesn't work.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Commissioner Kellom?

>> CHAIR KELLOM: This is Commissioner Kellom I would just like to make a friendly reminder that we welcome all comments.

But please be aware that you should be addressing the entire Commission.

And not any individuals.

Thank you so much and we welcome to hear from the rest of you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you Commissioner Kellom.

137.

>> Good evening I'm number 137.

My name is Ivan.

I was born and raised in Grand Rapids.

I've lived in the rose village park neighborhood.

Wyoming and I was born in the Birmingham neighborhood.

My vibes I think you are interested in specifics so I want to draw your attention to a little more particular streets and lines.

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communities whole. So consider moving Ottawa, extend the GR to wealthy and District 24, thanks for all the work you are doing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 61, Henrietta.

>> Good morning can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Good morning, Commission. Thank you so much for letting me to come in and speak. My name is Henrietta I'm a community organizer out of the City of Detroit. And I just want to say thank you for all the hard work that you have been doing. And we truly, truly appreciate the fact that you, you know, we are happy with what you did with the map for the house, for the State House and Senate house seats. And we are asking that you continue the course when you are redistricting the State House map for citizens in the City of Detroit. Partisan fairness is very important. For the voting power and the people of interest in the City of Detroit. Those community of interest would be neighborhoods hit by gentrification, and neighborhoods in the lower west side and the lower east side. So when you are redistricting the Congressional house map, please stay the course. Don't be bullied by the people whose trying to pull the strings for you to pull in their direction.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. James Fisher, number 62.

>> Hi, I'm James Fisher, I'm a lifelong resident of Midland County. I'd like to urge you to keep the City and County of Midland together and associate to the north and west and Midland and Counties to the west and north have strong shared interests and long histories of cooperation and agricultural, healthcare, education and economics. And we share a common interest in flood mitigation and restoration of the failed Dams and urging the Commission to keep the City and County of Midland whole and connect the counties to the north and west. Now more than ever we need to be able to speak with a single voice in Government. I also think the Lange Congressional map is a good start. So thank you for listening and thank you for serving.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 64, Art, Reyes.

>> Unmute, okay thank you very much. For taking the time to listen to the public my name is art Reyes resident of Genesee County. I'm asking that you do take into consideration partisan fairness when we go. You know the thing that we voted for prop two in 2018 to rid Michigan of the rigged system. And the work that you're doing is going a long way towards doing that but we want fair maps that will create a level playing field which will hopefully have our representatives work more for compromise versus telling to the political extremes. So please take into consideration as much as you can political or partisan fairness. Thank you.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Janine Iyer.

>> Yes. I'm Janine, Genoa, Livingston County. I want to thank you all for the service to our state and not Districting to Genoa or any southern Townships of Livingston with parts of Ann Arbor for the State Senate map. I encourage you to also refrain from Districting Genoa with parts of Ann Arbor for the State House map as well. Our Genoa community is tightly knit with other neighboring rural Livingston Townships and Marian and Brighton and not with Ann Arbor. My community service groups are based in Howell and serve the local Livingston County areas and shop and recreate in Howell and Brighton not Ann Arbor it takes ten minutes from my home to drive to Howell grocery stores or restaurants. Whereas it takes me 40-45 minutes to drive to any store or restaurant in Ann Arbor. I rarely if ever make the trip down there. There is neither proximity nor association or community commonality with Ann Arbor. So please keep this in mind when drawing State House maps. Thanks for your attention. Have a great day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Chris M, number 66.

>> Hi, thank you for the work you are doing on the Commission. It's very much appreciated. I'd like to draw your attention to the Maple syrup map that I posted on the portal. This is a tweaked version of your Maple Congressional map which provided a great base line of however this map, Maple syrup, gets you in compliance with the constitutional rules including with unperson one vote. VRA compliant communities of interest and has good partisan fairness while honoring the rest of the constitutional priorities. The efficiency gap may be higher than some folks would like it allows for the state as a whole to be competitive. Again I would encourage you to take a look at the Maple syrup map and appreciate all the work that you are doing. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Kristi Cox, number 67.

>> Yes, I'm Kristi from Genoa Township, Livingston County. Thank you for the work you are doing. It's a thankless task. And thanks last Friday keeping Genoa with the rest of Livingston and keep us here. And I was born and raised here. We are a rural community with rural ideals. We still have a great deal of agricultural and we tend to conduct our business locally, and socially locally. We recreate locally. These values have enabled us to keep a low tax base with high standard of living.

it's important we receive representation that is particular to our community since we are like any that border us. Again thank you for your consideration. And the inordinate amount of time you are spending on this very important issue.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Josh Volk.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

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>> Hello, Commissioners. Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> My name is Yousif from Troy and nice to see you again. I heard Commissioners Szetela dismissing the idea to include the east of Sterling heights to west of Sterling Heights in Troy. And Chaldean voices living in eastern Sterling Heights I respectfully disagree with Commissioner Szetela. District 6 has not done well. What is COI between Sterling Heights and Detroit. Just because Chaldeans don't show up on the map it does not mean we don't exist I assure you we are real. Thank you, Commissioner Kellom and Eid, to speak up for the Chaldeans in West Bloomfield and sign up for the minority who are unfairly registered as whites and give us a voice. I do appreciate all the hard work you have done. Commissioners Szetela. But please do not dismiss our voices. Please do not dilute Chaldean voices living in east Sterling Heights thank you and I will continue to pray for each one of you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Michelle.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> I'm a 17 year of Livingston and live in Genoa Township and want to thank you for keeping us together as a County with your redistricting map. And also ask that you would continue to do that when you go to the State Senate and house state maps when you redistrict those. Just we very rarely go to Washtenaw County or Ann Arbor. We shop locally. We recreate locally. Our friends and neighbors are here and they all do the same. And we just want to keep our small town feel to our communities and we thank you so much for your time and all your attention to this effort. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 75, Joe Watza.

>> Thank you for taking time to listen to us. I'm Joe Watza I live in Livingston in Hamburg Township. I won't...I'll be quick. Livingston County thank you for keeping us whole. As an example I live in Hamburg Township but a Brighton phone number, the school District in Pickney, my mail is in Howell, and keeping us whole keep representatives that have issues and represent us better and we know all about having good representation regardless of party affiliation is critical to a strong and healthy society. Also we in Livingston Township County cheer for U of M and MSU.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Kevin Green, number 76.

>> Good morning.

My name is Kevin. Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Good morning my name is Kevin Green. I'm the Algoma supervisor in Kent County. Algoma has been working closely and collaboratively with Plainfield Township and City of Rockford to bring clean drinking water into our communities for our residents

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. That concludes our public comment for this morning however I'd like to mention that all e-mailed and mailed public comment is provided to the Commission before each meeting and the Commissioners review the public comment portal on [www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC) website on a regular basis. We appreciate everyone who provides public comment in whatever way they choose to do so and share your thoughts communities of interest and maps. At this point we will move to unfinished business deliberations regarding pose proposed maps but before we do that, we are going to take a brief recess. Without objection we will recess for 15 minutes. Hearing no objections it is currently we will say 11:38 so we will stand in recess until 11:55.

[ All right we are in recess until 11:55.

[ Recess ]

>> CHAIR SZETELA: As Chair of the Commission I call the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 11:58 p.m. will the secretary please call the roll.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Absolutely Madam Chair. Commissioners, please say present when I call your name. If you are attending the meeting remotely, please disclose you are attending remotely and disclose your physically attending from. I will start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Present; attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?  
Brittini Kellom?

>> COMMISSIONER KELLOM: Present; and attending remotely from Wayne County, Michigan.

Rhonda Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Present; attending remotely from Reed City, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> VICE COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

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for the renaming of Grandville avenue for Chavez. It is in Wyoming a majority of Hispanics live. So our voice will be heard in Lansing, you have the ability to make a State House District that has the largest population of Hispanics possible right here in Kent County. And you can do that by drawing a District made up of all of Wyoming. And at the most.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Ellen Beal number 41.

>> Good morning can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Okay, my name is Ellen Beal and reside in Fruitport village in the County of Muskegon and I'm here to talk today about the chestnut map which I'm in strong support of. It puts together Grand Rapids Kentwood and Muskegon and recognizes we all share I-96 as an economic corridor and I think it's absolutely brilliant. While Muskegon is on the lakeshore, we are the only City on the lakeshore that is racially and economically diverse. And so I think that it is very important that we are joined more with people that we have things in common with. We also have a high poverty rate in Muskegon. The median income for households is 32000. Compared to Holland which is 57,000. I think it is very important that we are in the Congressional District with Grand Rapids and Kentwood because this would give our minority population and our people in poverty more voice.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Lena.

QUESTION:

>> Glenna.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Glenna are you ready.

>> Yes, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> I would like to thank this Commission for their hard work and hearing feedback I know it's tedious but it's really important to internalize this feedback as you finalize your maps. I live in Saugatuck and would like to comment on the proposed Pine State House map. I like that the new lakeshore House District 87 includes communities from New Buffalo in the south all the way up there Ganges in the north but stops short of including Saugatuck and Douglas. We are lumped in District 87 with inland agricultural communities. I ask that Saugatuck Douglas be included in District 87 lakeshore communities have unique needs and issues. And we makeup obvious communities of interest. So thank you. I also think the State Senate map should include communities all the way from Holland down south through New Buffalo. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Abby Clark.

>> Good morning, Commission thank you for the opportunity to speak. I have been watching a lot of your work over the past many months and have tremendous respect

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on the current State House maps you are working on. I'm very upset that yesterday Commissioners sent to the breaking up of the Albion Battle Creek House District. It has an incredibly strong community of interest and I know this because I attempted Albion college where I earned my degree for four years and went to Battle Creek for meetings and going out for the beauty. They are willing to break up the African/American in the two cities alluded to by other commenters this is wrong. Watching the individual precincts of other minority groups in Grand Rapids and Oakland County at the house level and completely disregard a community of interest that has been repeatedly been spoken in favor of is not taking into consideration the Black interest. The shape of the District should not matter please put Battle Creek and Albion together thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 48, Jason Colella.

>> We can see you Jason but we can't hear you. No we are not hearing you, Jason. There we go, yes.

>> Hello, my name is Jason. I'm from Muskegon Michigan. And I am speaking today about the Congressional maps. First in favor of the chestnut map but more so against a lot of the other variations of the map in which Muskegon County is placed in connection with rural Counties going all the way in some versions all the way to Lake Huron. The community of interest here in Muskegon County is West Michigan. Not rural counties and not the coast of Lake Huron. So the chestnut map which has Muskegon County in connection with Grand Rapids, contrary to one of the previous public comments just a second ago is the strongest community of interest. I-96 the major highway connects Muskegon directly to Grand Rapids. I know countless folks who live in Muskegon work in Grand Rapids and vice versa. A lot of times people are going out to Grand Rapids, keep West Michigan together with Muskegon with Grand Rapids.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 49, John Poelstra.

>> Do you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we do.

>> All right very good. My name is John. I'm a resident of Hamburg Township which is in Livingston Township County. I believe that Livingston County fits the direction of a community of interest much like Clinton County. As a relative medium sized County population all of our school Directors intercom Pete with each other annually. Our children County wide play on the same club sport teams and drive regularly to other Livingston County stores churches and family and friends outside of our Township. In short, we know each other and developed close relationships with one another at a County level. But the you wish to divide up Livingston County into other districts specifically Senate District 22, contrary to others oppose such action I myself would more than be happy with that decision from a political perspective. It would give.

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Michigan is not acceptable. The map already what's a high bias in favor of the republican party. And completely disenfranchises minority communities in Muskegon, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids. I supported Voters Not Politicians and support the work you are doing on the Commission. I urge you to please fix West Michigan, the apple and chestnut maps provide some options for how to do this. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 73, Andrew.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> I want to thank you guys for the work you are doing and letting me speak. I do want to push back against some of these assertions that these partisanly fair maps are somehow gerrymandered. I think folks are used to have the maps stacked in their favor and if they can't win on fair maps that is theirs to deal with. I want to you know I know I'm beating a dead horse saying partisan fairness is important and that a 4.3% efficiency gap is just unacceptable. We you got close to it close to 0 on the Senate map and I think we can do it on the house map as well. Let's just get those numbers down to 0.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 74, Sonya Patrick.

>> That participant is not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do we have number 75, Mari-Rymar.

>> Hello, hi my name is Mari-Rymar from Ypsilanti I would like to thank you for your work in drawing a more partisanly fair State Senate map. Thank you for taking our feedback seriously and making connections. I ask you please do the same with the State House map and reduce the 4.3 efficiency gap. Our Constitution mandates that districts shall not provide a disproportionate advantage to any political party. A 4.3 efficiency gap in favor of one party is still too high. I also thank you for listening to the voices of residents in Detroit and to please continue complying with the Voting Rights Act while drawing the maps. Another way to improve democracy is to stop the process of prison gerrymandering at least in the State House and stat State Senate if not at the Congressional level because our state laws already require Counties cities and towns to exclude people in state prisons who are not residences and it should be the same on the state and house Senate levels. Redistricting community in Pennsylvania has already acted on its own account incarcerated people.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 76, Max Lewis.

>> Hi, Commissioners, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> I just want to start by saying thank you all so much for the incredible amount of work you have put into it at this point. I know this has been a long slog of a process but we are really grateful for your dedication as the maps get more complicated and the decisions get harder. I do want to remind you all that partisan fairness should not be

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you draw Kent County districts, please do not combine fair outline farmland with downtown Grand Rapids. They do not share much in common. Rather include the gather Rockford school District which is largely composed of suburban developments. This is a much better community of interest. Map P7 excuse me map P8747 best achieves this. Again thank you for your work creating Pine map version five for the State House. Please carry that same attention to detail to your state Senate map and refer to P8747. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Next in line is number 115, Robert Dindoffer.

>> I am on, but I don't have the link. It's not.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can hear you so we can hear you.

>> Okay great, thank you. So let's start. I would like to request that you take a look at some of the Detroit neighborhoods and some of the Macomb County neighborhoods in the State Senate map to make a few minor shifts that will make some communities whole. The first one is in the north end of Detroit. North end neighborhoods should be made whole. You could do this by shifting a little bit of population from five to six basically making those Detroit neighbors on the north end whole which was requested at the TCF center. The end result of this, these shifts will be more of the Chaldean community can be put together in Sterling Heights as well but step two is to make Macomb Township whole by moving population from five to two. That will make another community whole. Third step either make Shelby or Oakland Township whole moving population from 16 to or from 16 to 2 in the State Senate and the fourth one with move population in Sterling Heights from 6-16 to move more of the Chaldean.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 116 Meagan R.

>> Good morning, Commissioners first and Foremost I want to thank you for everything that you have been doing so far in this process. I'm not here to talk specifically about maps but more about the process. You guys moving forward. I know that the Commission is going to have a conversation today related to individual Commissioner submitting maps for the Monday deadline. And I just would encourage you under the wonderful stance of transparency you have so far that if you guys continue to have the deadline Monday at Noon that Monday afternoon that those shape files and all of the information for the maps submitted by the individual Commissioners be published on the website for the public. Thank you, guys, for your time and appreciate all that you're doing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 117, Yousif-Yousif.

>> Hello Commissioners. Good morning. It's Yousif. I support apple V2 and Magnolia for house map. I appreciate Commissioner Eid for being persistent and giving Chaldeans a bigger voice. Thank you, all Commissioners, for approving Magnolia for publication. I want to thank you all for all your hard work. You Commissioners did a

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# Chestnut Map is Best!

## Basic Info

Submitter: Frankie Hill  
Location: Muskegon  
Submitted: 11/7/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w8909

## Tags

#muskegon #muskegon city  
#muskegon heights city  
#muskegon township  
#grand rapids charter township  
#grand rapids city #chestnut #eid

## Written Testimony

Of the three maps moving forward, I strongly prefer the Chestnut Map. I grew up in Muskegon, and I believe that it belongs with Grand Rapids in one congressional district. I encourage all commissioners to vote for Chestnut!

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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[Previous →](#)

# Support for Chestnut Finalist Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Anthony P  
Location: Van Buren Township  
Submitted: 11/8/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w8949

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Hello! I've been following the congressional redistricting process closely over the past few months and I felt compelled to submit a quick comment in support of the Chestnut finalist map, which I view as far superior to the other two. I've been looking at all of the draft maps that have come out with a critical eye for two main things: to see if the map reflects Michigan's partisan lean, and to accurately group communities that make sense to be together. While all three finalists have a good partisan balance, Chestnut is the only one that I believe groups the different areas of Michigan together in an effective way. Both the Grand Rapids/Muskegon and

Macomb-area districts are best drawn here, and I fear that under the other two maps, each of these communities become diluted and do not end up with a representative that aligns with their interests. A Democratic-leaning Macomb district absorbs areas of Oakland County that tend not to align with those voters' interests, and drawing Grand Rapids with other cities besides Muskegon tends to exclude areas that vote alongside GR (Specifically Allendale, which is siloed to a solidly Republican district under any map besides Chestnut). I am happy to provide further comment, but I hope this sheds a bit of light on why I see the Chestnut map as best for Michigan voters' interests.

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# Chestnut doesn't disenfranchise Muskegon

## Basic Info

Submitter: Andre Matthews  
Location: Muskegon Heights City  
Submitted: 11/14/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c9003

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Chestnut is the only plan that doesn't disenfranchise voters of color in Muskegon and Muskegon Heights. It makes a lot of sense for us to be in a district with other communities of color in the greater GR area as well as connected to other communities along the I96. A lot of people who live in these communities commute either to Grand Rapids or to Muskegon. The other plans don't really reflect mobility patterns or demographics in the area.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 74, which is Rae-Ann-Weymouth.

>> Rae-Ann-Weymouth, Ann Arbor, Michigan. I spoke before the person in person at Cadillac Place in September.

My message today is essentially the same.

We need fair maps without partisan bias.

The lines you establish are for the next ten years.

I'm 73 years old.

I want my vote to carry its proper weight during the next decade.

To meet the mandates of the Constitution, preferable maps are for U.S. Congress Birch and Szetela. State Senate, Linden and Cherry. State House Hickory is the least objectionable, but still heavily skewed republican.

Vote for fair maps, veto unfair maps, that is your constitutional imperative.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 75, Robert Kennedy.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> We are currently at a tipping point in our state and our country we can either strengthen our representative democracy or we can let it slide backwards. In 2018 over 60% of us believe we were adding strength passing by proposal two, designed to take the redistricting process out of the hands of politicians where the districts have been stacked and packed to the point of giving the vote of one person more value than the vote of other.

One half of the goal has been accomplished. We have you, 13 Michigan residents asked to draw new and fair districts for the next decade. Now it's up to you whether you choose to implement the other half and give each person's vote the same value. To do this, please choose the maps with the lowest value in the partisan fairness matrix. Efficiency gap, lopsided margins and mean median comparison. I recommend Senate would be the Linden map. Reject the Palm map. And House, Hickory, although that is the least bad, you can refine that one. And Chestnut for the Congress.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 76, Daniel Hess.

>> That participant is not present. We can move to 77.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 77 is Karen Obits.

>> My name is Karen Obits. I'm a resident of Spring Lake, which is the north Ottawa County, part of the Tri-Cities.

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And I like the Chestnut Congressional map because it encompasses my community of interest, which is both the area of my residents and the Grand Rapids and Muskegon urban areas, which I frequent regular for recreational purposes.

Of the collaborative state maps, I prefer the Linden. But I also endorse Commissioner Kellom's Senate map because it scores equally well as the Linden with partisan fairness while potentially increasing the opportunity for African/Americans to elect candidates of choice.

The Palm map is bad for the Mitten state. Of the House maps, I request that you only consider the fairest option if you are not going to do any more drawing, and that would be the Hickory map.

If more drawing is allowed, I'm hopeful that you can do your very best to give fair representation for historically marginalized communities because that is an outcome I would like the Commission to prioritize as much as possible. And I thank you very much for your work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 78, Kathleen-Curell.

>> I want to say right on and bravo for Nick O'Keefe for his comments. Hi, I'm Kathleen-Curell from Midland and I want to say I appreciate the work you are doing would be putting it very lightly.

Excuse me.

I have the upmost respect for your services to the citizens of Michigan.

As I've listened and participated in comments, there is no getting away of the fact the huge majority of citizens are imploring you to improve partisan fairness of the maps. It's really the whole reason proposal two was started when Katie Fahey made a Facebook post that said who wants that take on gerrymandering? You will never make everyone happy, but please take whatever extra time you need to improve the message of partisan fairness.

I'm asking for the Hickory map with more work on removing the republican lean. And Chestnut for Congress and Linden for Senate.

And thank you again. What you are doing gives me hope for the future of democracy.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 79, Dusty Horwitt.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> I'm Dusty Horwitt from Lansing and want to thank the Commission for listening to the Lansing community while drawing your maps.

As the Commission knows from its own analysis, every map has a measurable republican bias.

The Commission should work to reduce and eliminate any partisan bias from their maps.

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# Apple/Chestnut Hybrid plan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jack Bengtsson  
Location: Kentwood  
Submitted: 12/14/2021  
Type: other  
ID: o9327

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## External Link

Link:  
<https://davesredistricting.org/join/aa07bc3e-e079-4d7f-893e-13a792d37348>

## Written Testimony

Being from West Michigan, either the Chestnut, or the Apple seem to be the best options. Personally, I prefer the Chestnut. I think Muskegon may have more in common with Grand Rapids than Kalamazoo, and Chestnut has more competitive districts than Apple. But there are detractors with both plans, as well as the others. And, I have problems with both plans myself. In fact, I've submitted a slightly tweaked version of Chestnut already. So, maybe, the answer is an Apple/Chestnut hybrid, which I have done on Dave's Redistricting app. This hybrid looks more like Apple in West Michigan and Chestnut in Southeast Michigan with some revisions. I think you'll find that most metrics are better with the hybrid than they are with either original plan. Should the commission become deadlocked on the existing plans, perhaps, this plan might serve as a possible compromise or alternative. In Southeast Michigan, I've taken Southfield Township out of the 12th and added Oak Park and Royal Oak Township, and a couple other changes to accommodate those moves. And just as I did with the revised Chestnut plan, I moved Dearborn into the 13th. While I'm not from that part of the state, it just seemed to make more sense to me to do it that way.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Do we have any more or is that it?

Okay, so we have completed the in person comment for this morning. At this point we will move on for remote public comment. We are supposed to break before Noon, but we will try to get a few in before then.

So individuals who have signed up and indicated they would like to provide live, remote commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so.

If you are on a computer, you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak. If you are on the phone a voice will say that the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute.

I will call on you by your name or last four digits of your phone number. Also please note if you experience technical or audio issues or we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move on to the next person in line and return to you after they are done speaking.

If your audio still does not work, you can e-mail us at [redistricting@Michigan.gov](mailto:redistricting@Michigan.gov) and we will help you troubleshoot so you can participate during the next public comment period, at a later hearing or meeting.

You will have one minute to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

First in line to provide public comment is Mr. James Gallant.

>> Hello. This is James Gallant, Marquette, these are my opinions. Your September 17, 2020, transcripts reveal Secretary of State Joyce Benson has disoriented the MICRC concerning the requirements of Roberts Rules of Order by sowing disinformation and misinformation in the public record and the elections process in Michigan to benefit the democratic party.

Your actions to schedule a formal vote on a specific future date is not trauma-informed practices.

Because the fundamental pennant is empathy, which is understanding and responding to the rights of others.

As I identify as a person of color myself, breaking the rules is systematically being systemic racism on its face and on the face of this Commission.

So please cancel the first future final vote until the work is actually done.

And please do not support the Promote the Vote maps if they address that prison gerrymandering thing, like the other speaker said. Because the other states changed their state laws to allow for that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number two, Chris Andrews.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you. Good morning.

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I'm Chris Andrews from Haslett.

I ask you to analyze individual elections to accurately assess the fairness of each map. You're reliance on composite data for ten years may be a crucial mistake.

If it is, we face another ten years of flawed democracy.

For instance your analysis of Hickory projects a democratic majority but Next Vote looked at 2016 and 2020 separately and found a huge republican majority and a small republican majority.

This is easy to test.

I ask that your consultants analyze fairness separately for 2016, 2018 and 2020.

Here are the results of the individual districts as well.

Please read my comment W9304 for additional information.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next is Rich Thrush.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Hi. Good morning. My name is Rich Thrush. I want to encourage the Commission not to select the Birch Congressional map.

It guarantees one party representation everywhere in West Michigan.

It disenfranchises the 210,000 minorities and almost one half million urban people population in the second largest Metropolitan area in Michigan.

The Grand Rapids six City area.

This map also splits up the three large West Michigan cities in separate districts.

Chestnut is the best map for Michigan overall and the Grand Rapids six City area in terms of minority and urban representation.

Chestnut provides a District with many commonalities in West Michigan such as center of higher education, industry and business, urban needs and issues and concentration of minorities.

Thanks for your diligent efforts to create fair District maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Joel Ombry.

>> Hi, my name is Joel Ombry from Grand Rapids.

I have comments on your maps on two levels.

First, at the Congressional level, I urge you to adopt the Chestnut map.

This map is a good choice because it does a good job of giving minority populations in West Michigan a voice in Washington.

It also combines Grand Rapids and Muskegon areas, which are already considered combined statistical areas.

Please reject the Birch map as it breaks up the lakeshore region and it's very poor from a partisan fairness perspective.

At the State House level, please approve the Hickory map.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Sarah, number 7.

>> Hello, Commissioners. Thank you for the time today. I live in Grand Rapids and want to speak today on the maps affecting us here in West Michigan. For the State House I'm very concerned about the Szetela map. It splits up the communities of interest across Kent County including Hispanic community in Grand Rapids and Wyoming and Suburban Townships on the east side of the state. And links Wyoming, the second largest in the Metro, with unrelated rural communities.

Support the Hickory state map and effective job of representing the comments I've heard from citizens in the count at public hearings and meetings and keeps Community of Interest here in West Michigan together.

For Congressional maps I strongly encourage you to support the Chestnut map. It's the most balanced and fair map in West Michigan and connects Grand Rapids and Muskegon who share similar issues, concerns and economic resources.

For Congressional maps, I'm particularly concerned about the Birch map and does not give a voice to the large minority population here in West Michigan and dilutes the voices of residents.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to citizens today on the desire for fair maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Rebecca Grayson.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> Okay, this is Rebecca Grayson. I live in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Kent County.

The fair maps in my opinion in the Senate would be the Linden and Cherry maps, which are much better in terms of the partisan fairness than the Palm map, which is most unfair map in front of the Commission at this point.

Palm has a high republican bias and would create an unfair playing field.

But in the State House I support the Hickory map, that has the best partisan fairness scores of the three options in front of the Commission and the most majority for the Black American community.

Thank you so much for your time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 10, Diana Abouali.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Diana, you are unmuted and free to address the Commission.

>> I live in Dearborn with access and have Arab ancestry within the African MENA origins within the white racial category.

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The Grand Rapids area includes 492,000 people in the six City area.

This is a significant.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 38, Onida.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Numbers 38 and 39 are not currently present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

We will move on to number 40, Joan Long.

>> Good afternoon. I'm Joan Long, a lifetime resident of the Metro Grand Rapids area.

I would like to respectfully submit the following comments regarding the proposed map. Regarding Congressional map Chestnut, I approve of this map because of the strong partisan fairness of connecting Grand Rapids, Kentwood and Muskegon, which all have common -- which have strong communities of interest.

Regarding Congressional map Birch, however, I strongly disapprove of this map for several reasons.

Most importantly Metro Grand Rapids did not belong with the rural Counties of Ottawa and Ionia.

Regarding the State House map, Hickory, I approve of this map.

Because of its overall fairness.

But regarding State House map Szetela, I strongly disapprove of this map as one of the reasons being that Ada is a suburban Township and should be linked to the Metro Grand Rapids area.

Regarding state map Linden, I approve of this map because it puts Grand Rapids airport with the Metro.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 41, Joanne.

>> My name is Joanne Bird and I'm calling today from Park Township. I'm a Holland resident, a long time Michigan resident and lived here my whole life and active voter. I believe in fairness above all things and find the Linden map in the Senate the most fair map.

The most unfair map in the Senate is the Palm map.

Oops, it says start my video. I guess I did not have the button. On Linden map in the Senate I find is the most fair map and most unfair map is the Palm map.

In the house the Hickory is the most fair and creates most majority minority seats. And I thank you for your work on the Commission.

And, like I say, I'm just all concerned that fairness and voting is for everybody in the State of Michigan.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.  
Number 43, Julie Dye.

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## Finish Strong, choose collaborative maps

### Basic Info

Submitter: Tim King  
Location: Livonia City  
Submitted: 12/27/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9626

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Commissioners, from the beginning of your work together as a Commission, I have been impressed with your commitment to working in a collaborative way to produce maps based on adherence to federal law and the constitutional criteria set forth in the amendment, and without regard to the interests of current office holders or political parties in general. From what I have observed, you have all have listened respectfully to fellow commissioners and the public, and have diligently sought to incorporate often contradicting testimony in your collaborative maps. I urge you to finish your work in a manner consistent with your efforts to date: vote for

collaborative maps! That will, no doubt, come down to voting for a second choice in some cases. Solid majority votes for collaborative maps will bolster the public's confidence in your work. I have looked at and studied some of the criteria used in assessing all of the proposed collaborative maps. The analyses of Michigan State University's IPPSR and comments others have left on this portal have influenced my personal preferences. I like Chestnut for the Congressional map as it seems to achieve the best marks on the metrics the IPPSR has measured. I like the Grand Rapids-Muskegon, Kalamazo-Battle Creek and Midland to Tri-Cities links. The border counties district is great and obviously a response to community input from that area. I like the Hispanic COI incorporated in the SW Detroit/downriver area. I would also give the nod to Linden for state senate districts and Hickory for the state house. I

really like the districts that hug lakeshores on the west and east sides and the efforts to create compromise district lines in the Midland area. Unpacking Detroit was a radical change in the status quo. I applaud you for persisting in creating new districts, especially in the Detroit metro area, that are compliant with the constitution's new criteria. I thank each of you for your dedicated service on this inaugural independent citizens redistricting commission!

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# Birch Map is a Mess for Muskegon

## Basic Info

Submitter: Kelsey Bernadette  
Location: Muskegon Heights  
Submitted: 12/18/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9456

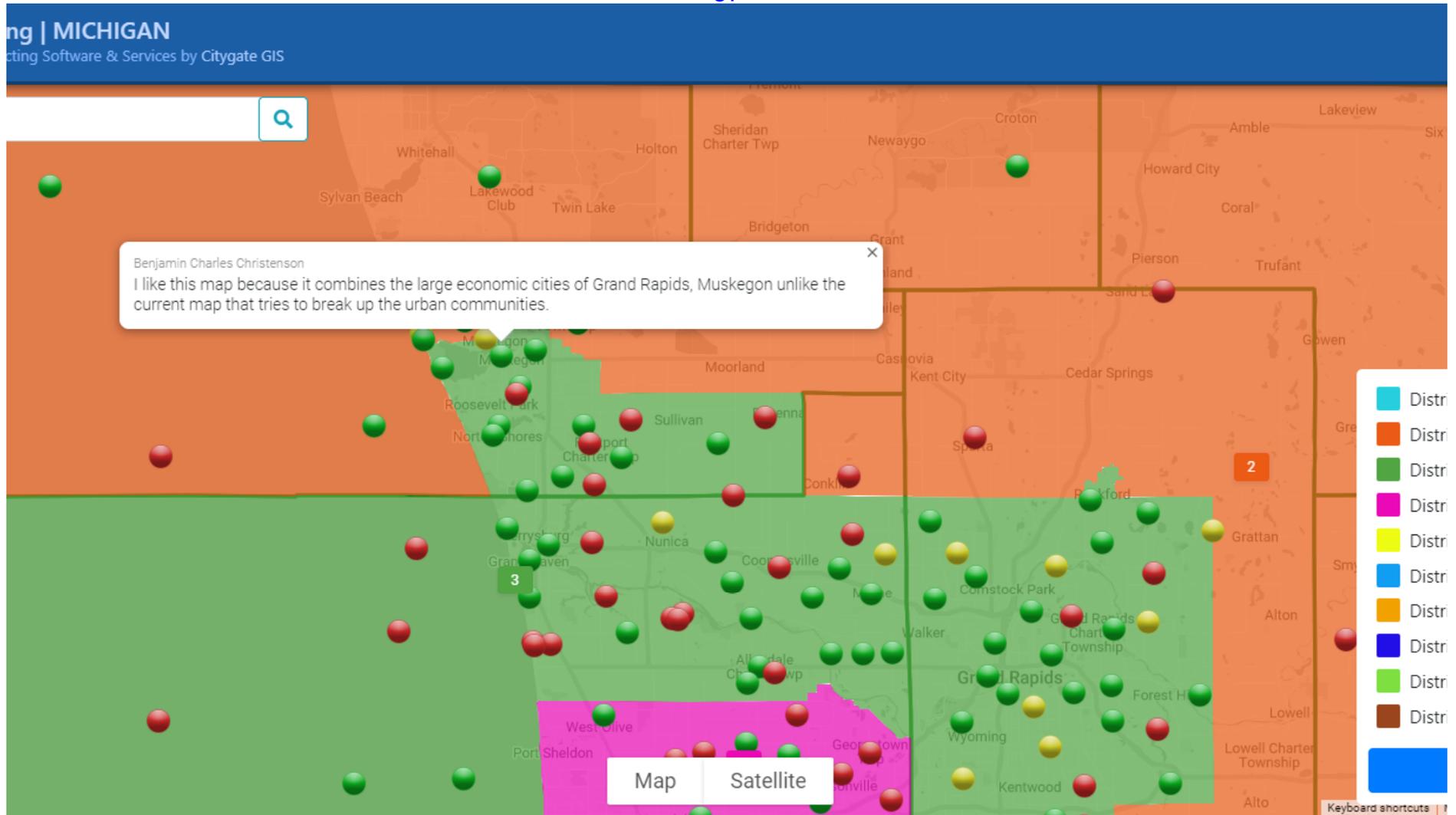
## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

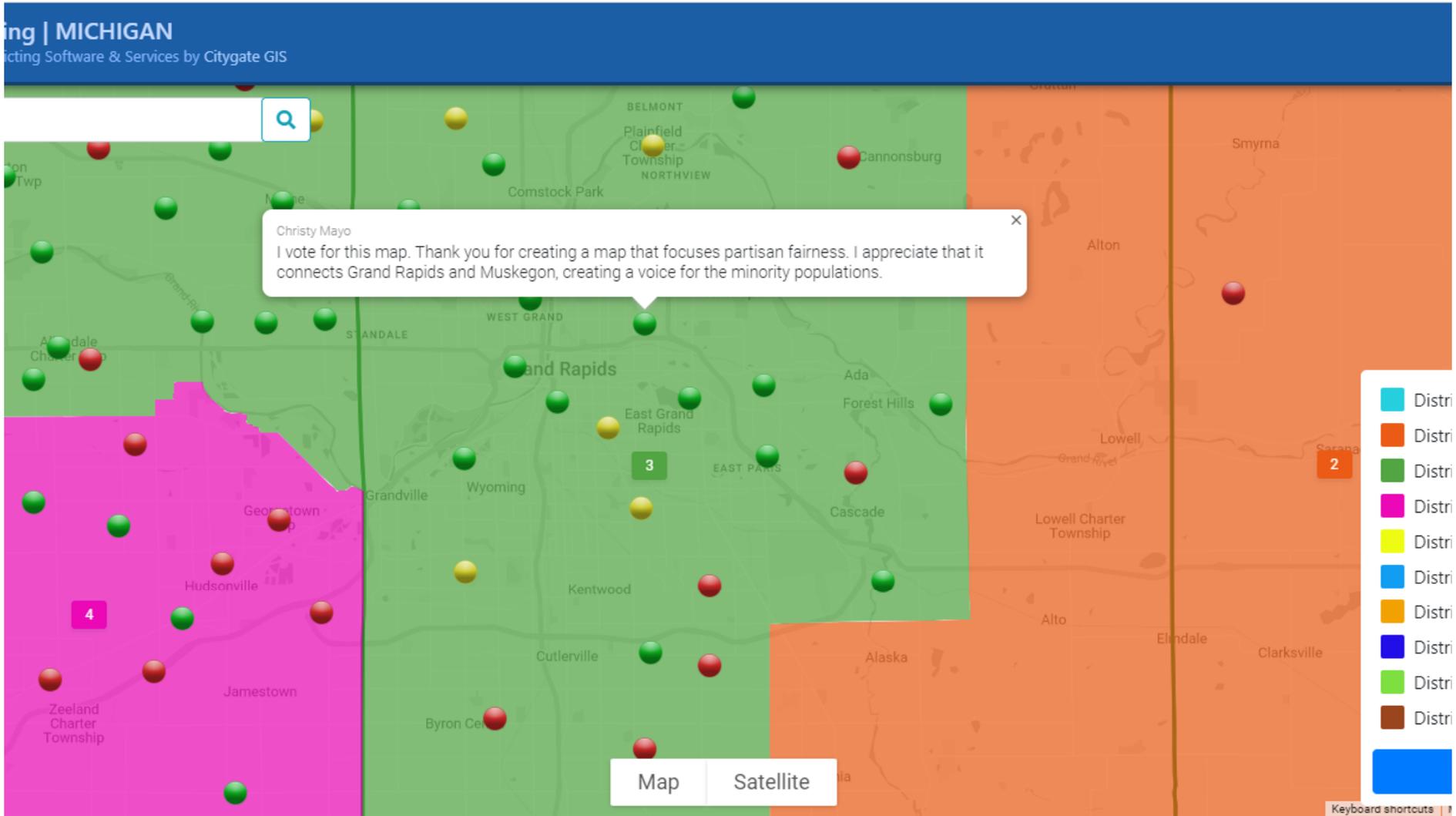
No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I live in Muskegon and don't like the Birch map one bit. The lines around us make no sense at all with them zig zagging all around. Muskegon ends up in a district with central Michigan and we have nothing in common with that place. I want us to be in a district with Grand Rapids like in the Walnut plan please.



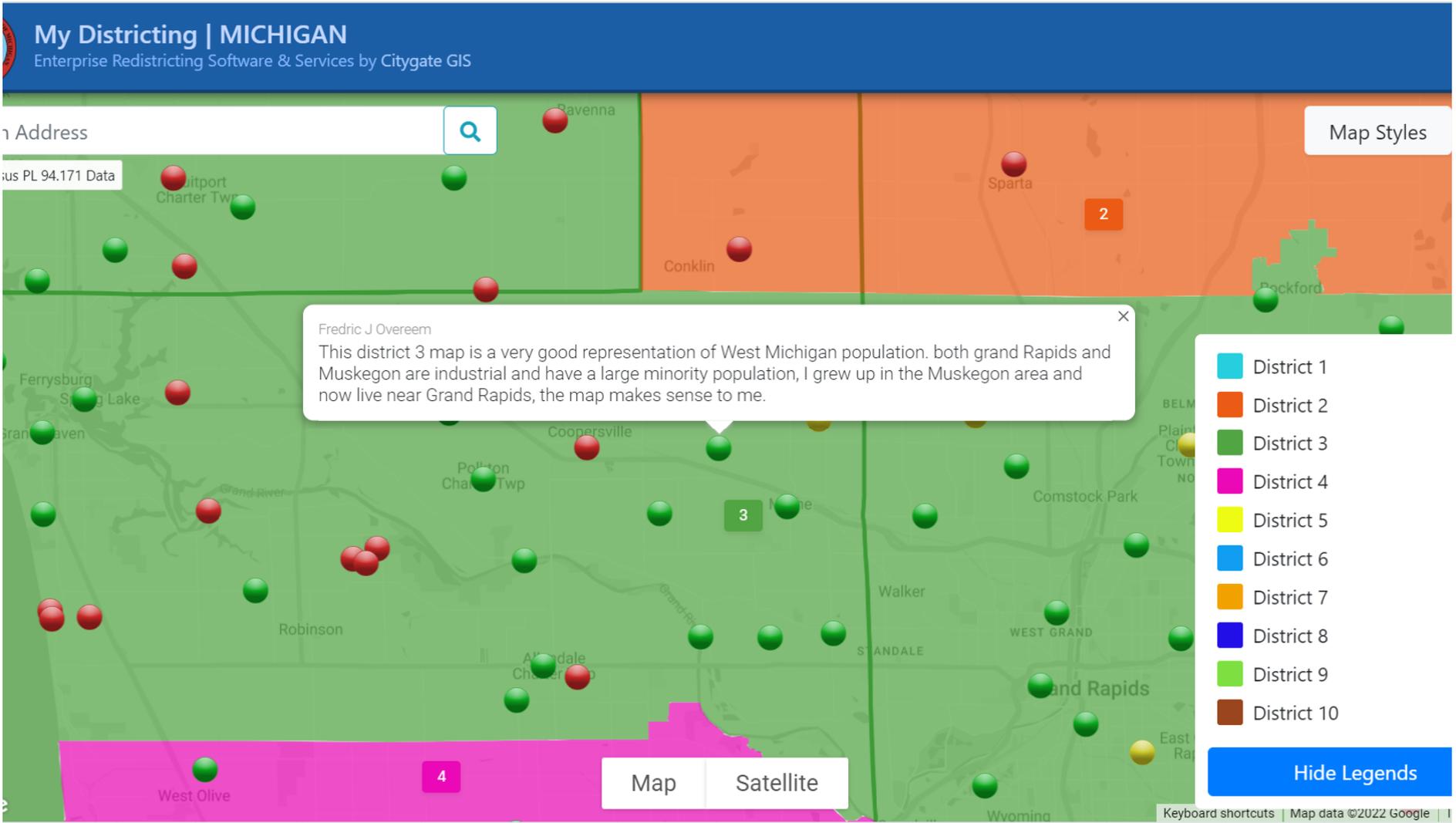
Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418



Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	771,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	11,526	1,965	118

**App. 090**

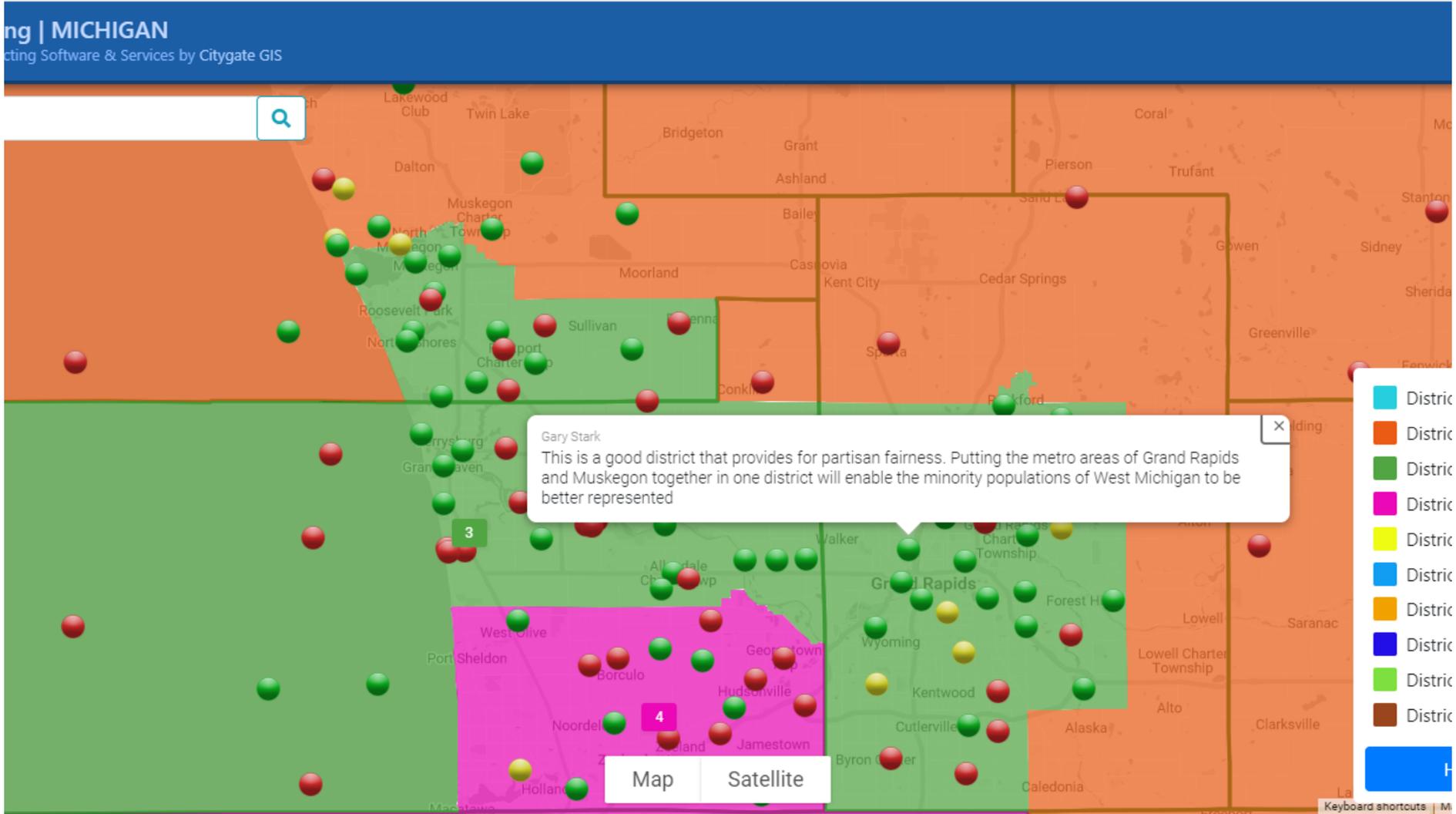




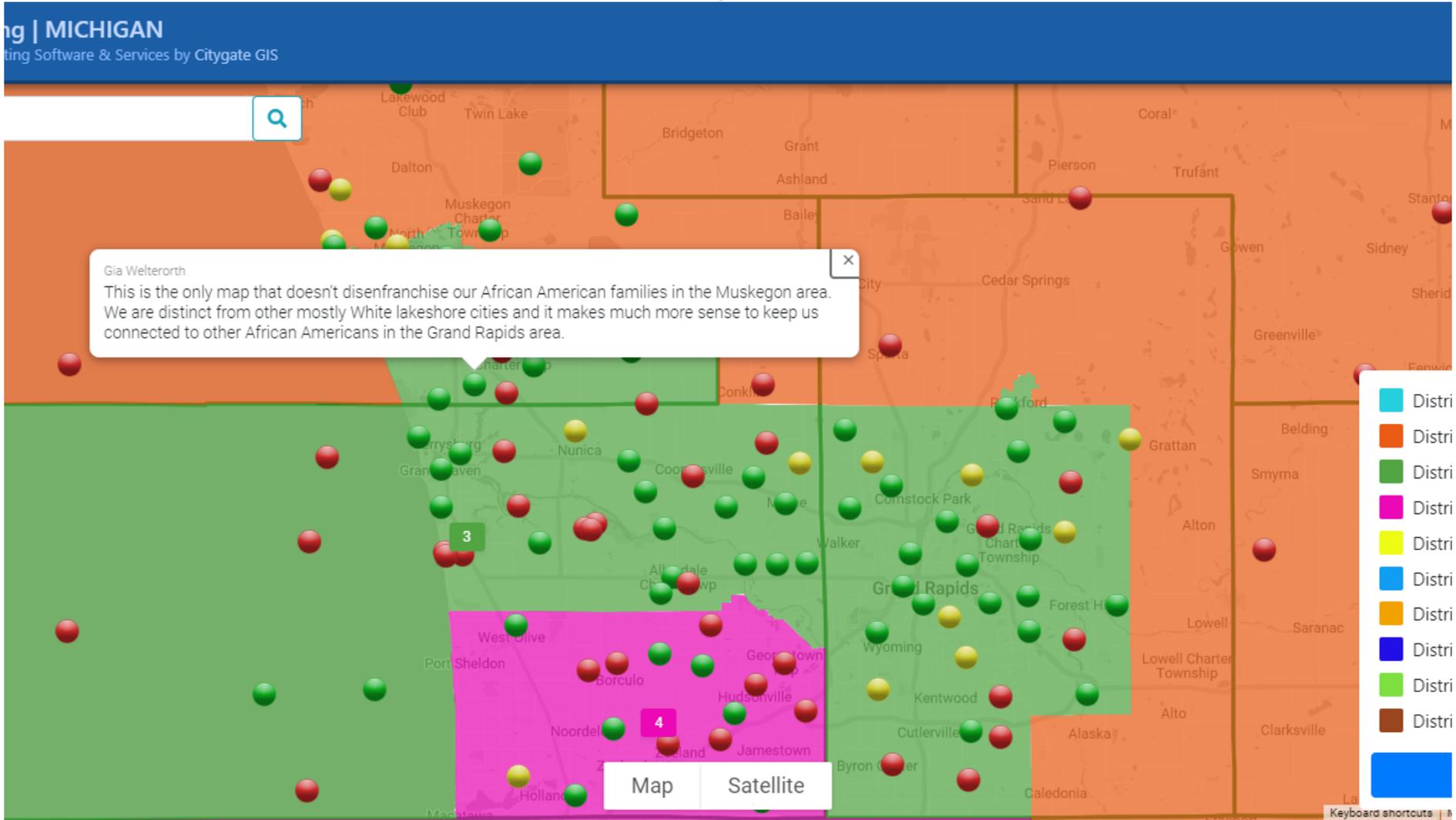
Fredric J Overeem

This district 3 map is a very good representation of West Michigan population. both grand Rapids and Muskegon are industrial and have a large minority population, I grew up in the Muskegon area and now live near Grand Rapids, the map makes sense to me.

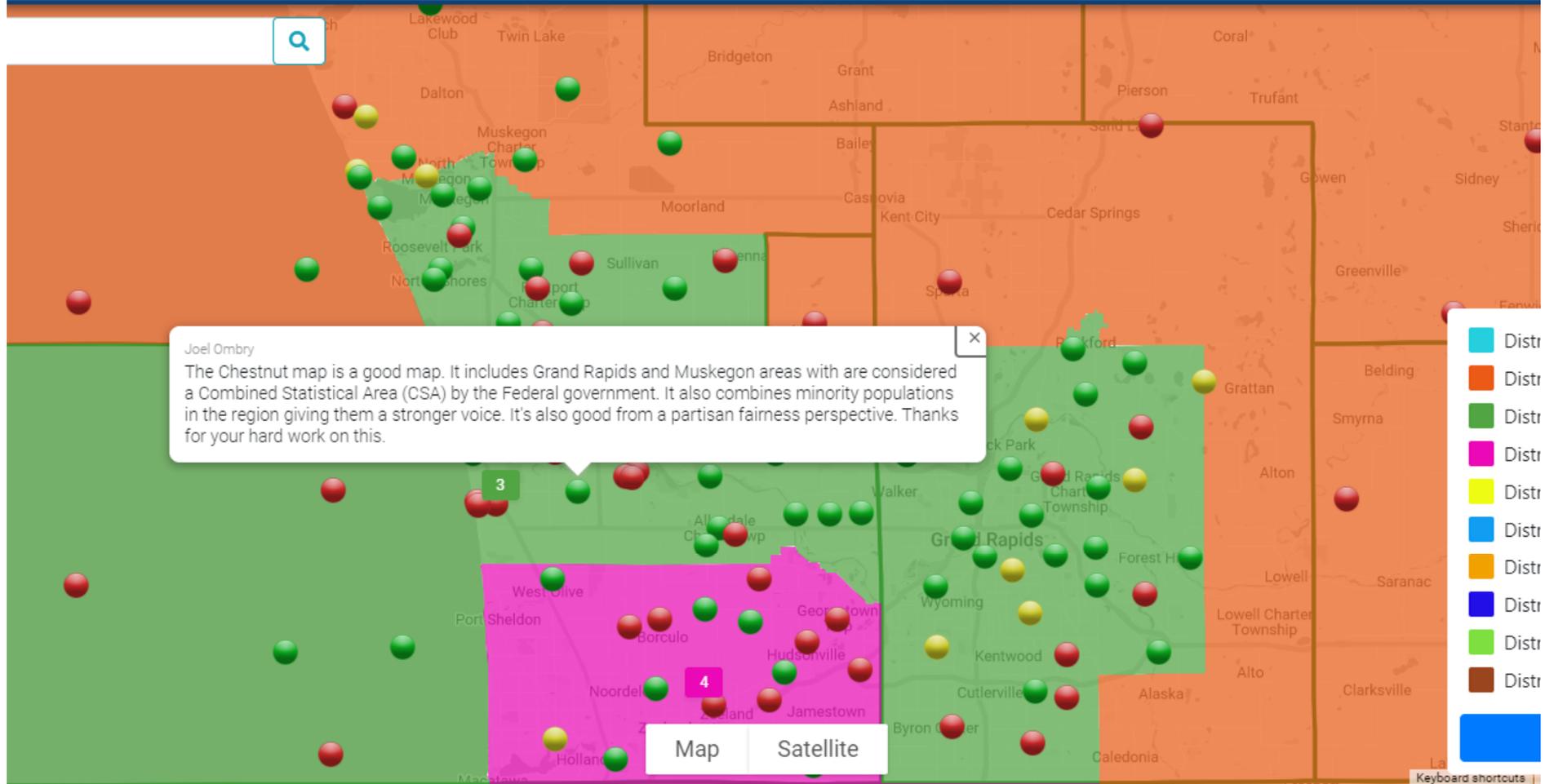
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0	Unassign	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
1	District 1	775,179	196 (0.02%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,432 (4.34%)



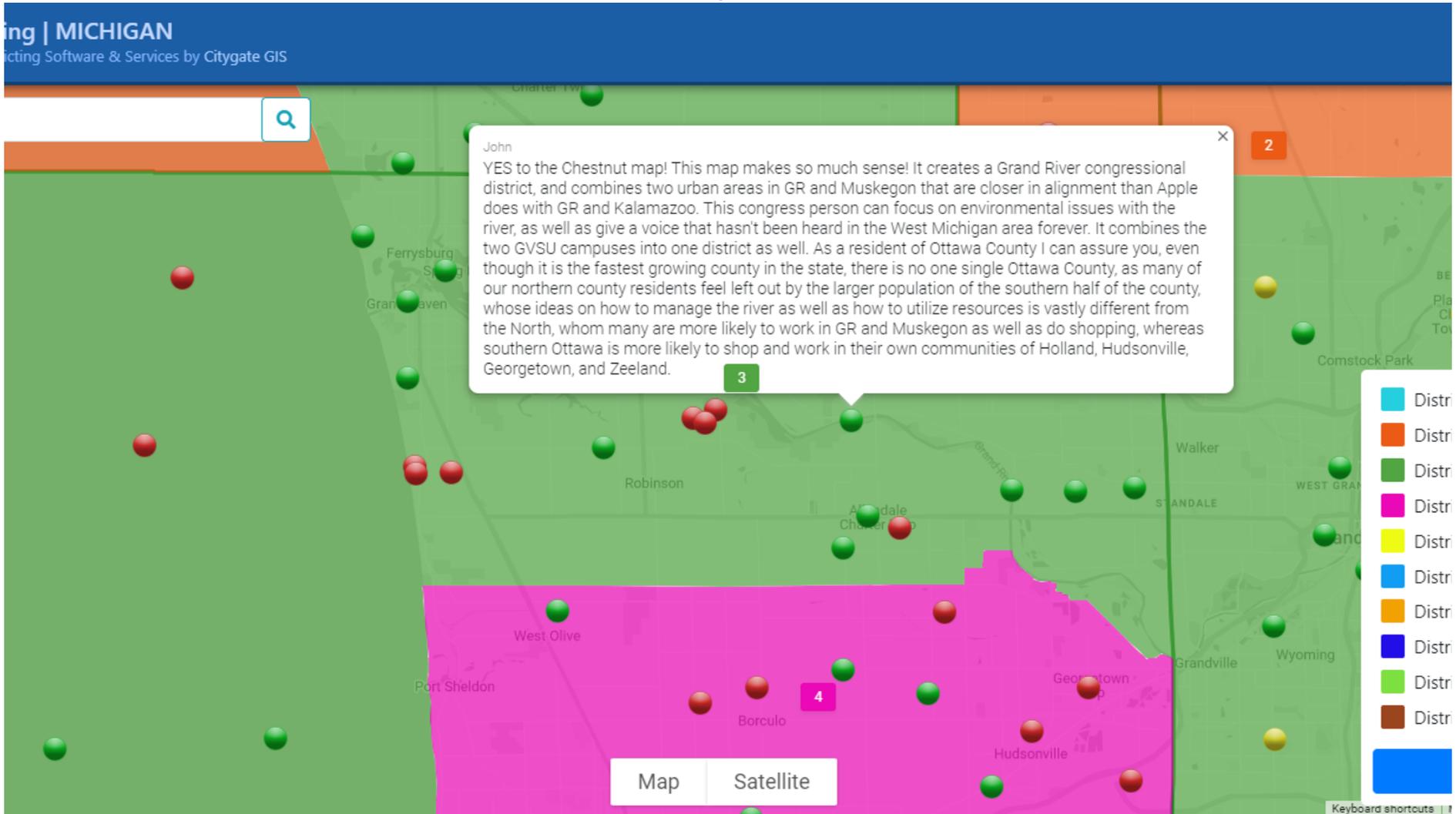
Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418



Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
75,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
75,179	196	774,007	710,000	21,627	10,027	7,252	650	10,625	26,060	606,960	560,657	16,010	14,526	4,065	410

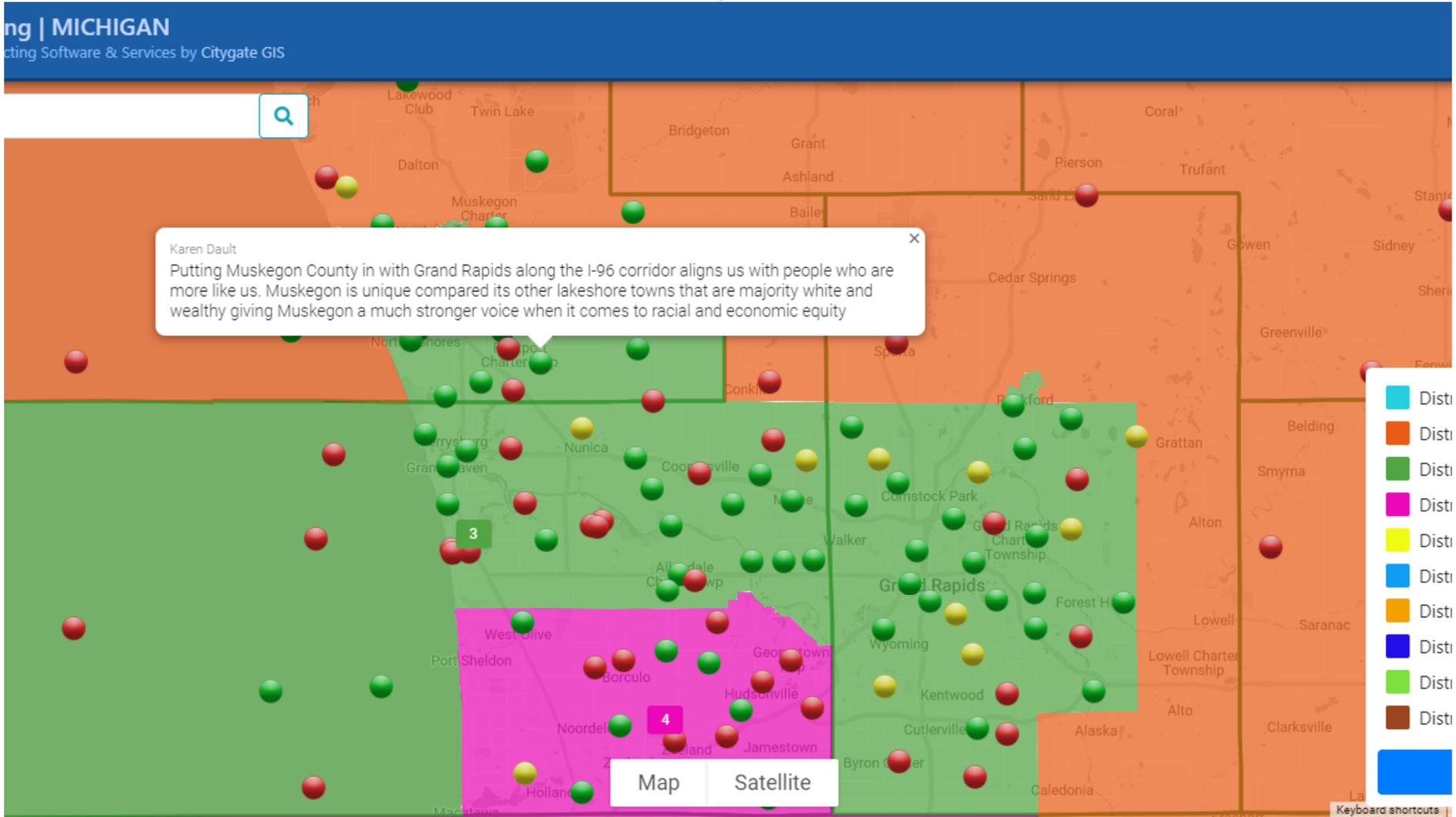


Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418



John  
 YES to the Chestnut map! This map makes so much sense! It creates a Grand River congressional district, and combines two urban areas in GR and Muskegon that are closer in alignment than Apple does with GR and Kalamazoo. This congress person can focus on environmental issues with the river, as well as give a voice that hasn't been heard in the West Michigan area forever. It combines the two GVSU campuses into one district as well. As a resident of Ottawa County I can assure you, even though it is the fastest growing county in the state, there is no one single Ottawa County, as many of our northern county residents feel left out by the larger population of the southern half of the county, whose ideas on how to manage the river as well as how to utilize resources is vastly different from the North, whom many are more likely to work in GR and Muskegon as well as do shopping, whereas southern Ottawa is more likely to shop and work in their own communities of Holland, Hudsonville, Georgetown, and Zeeland.

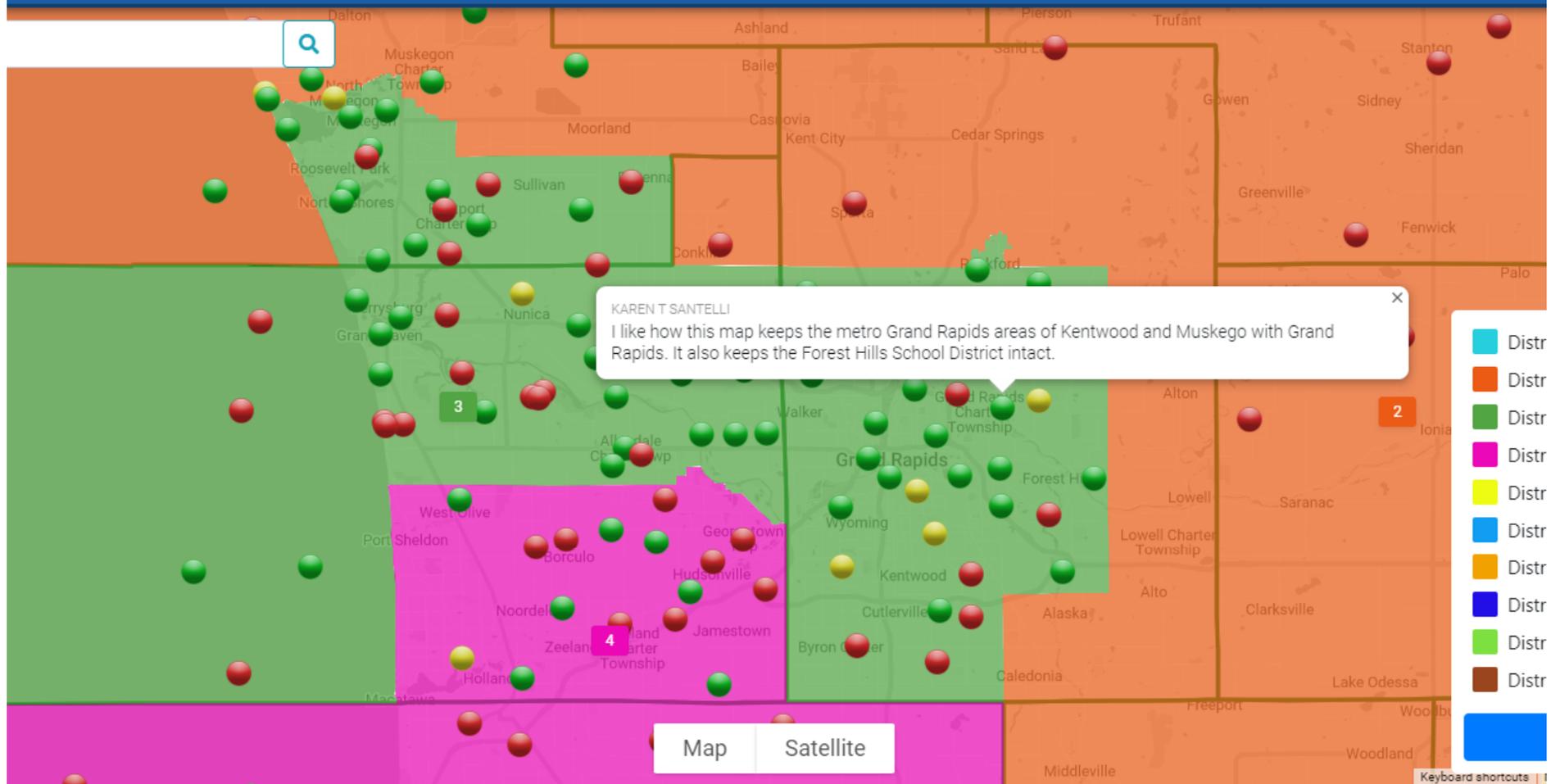
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0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418



Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

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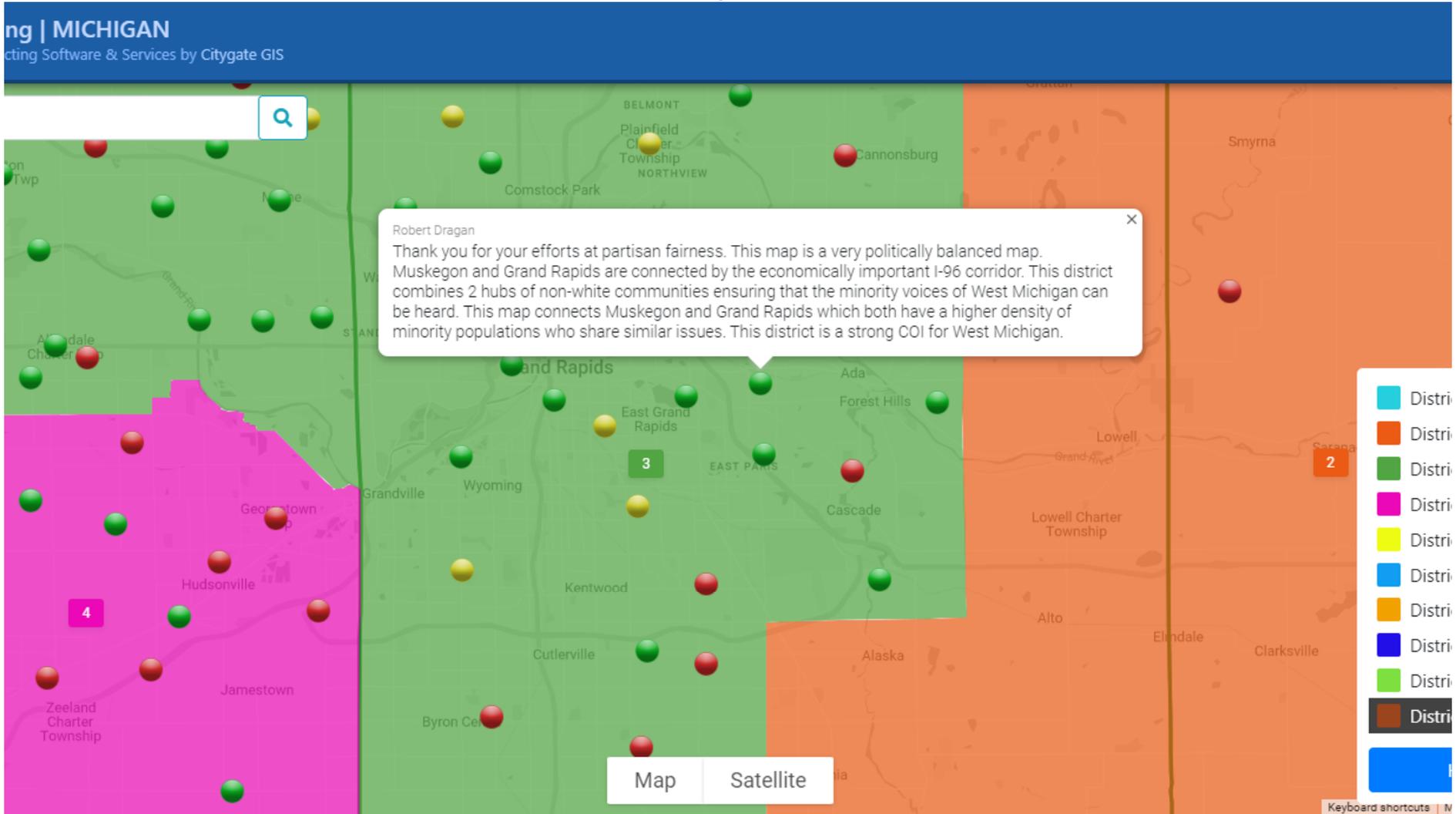


Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
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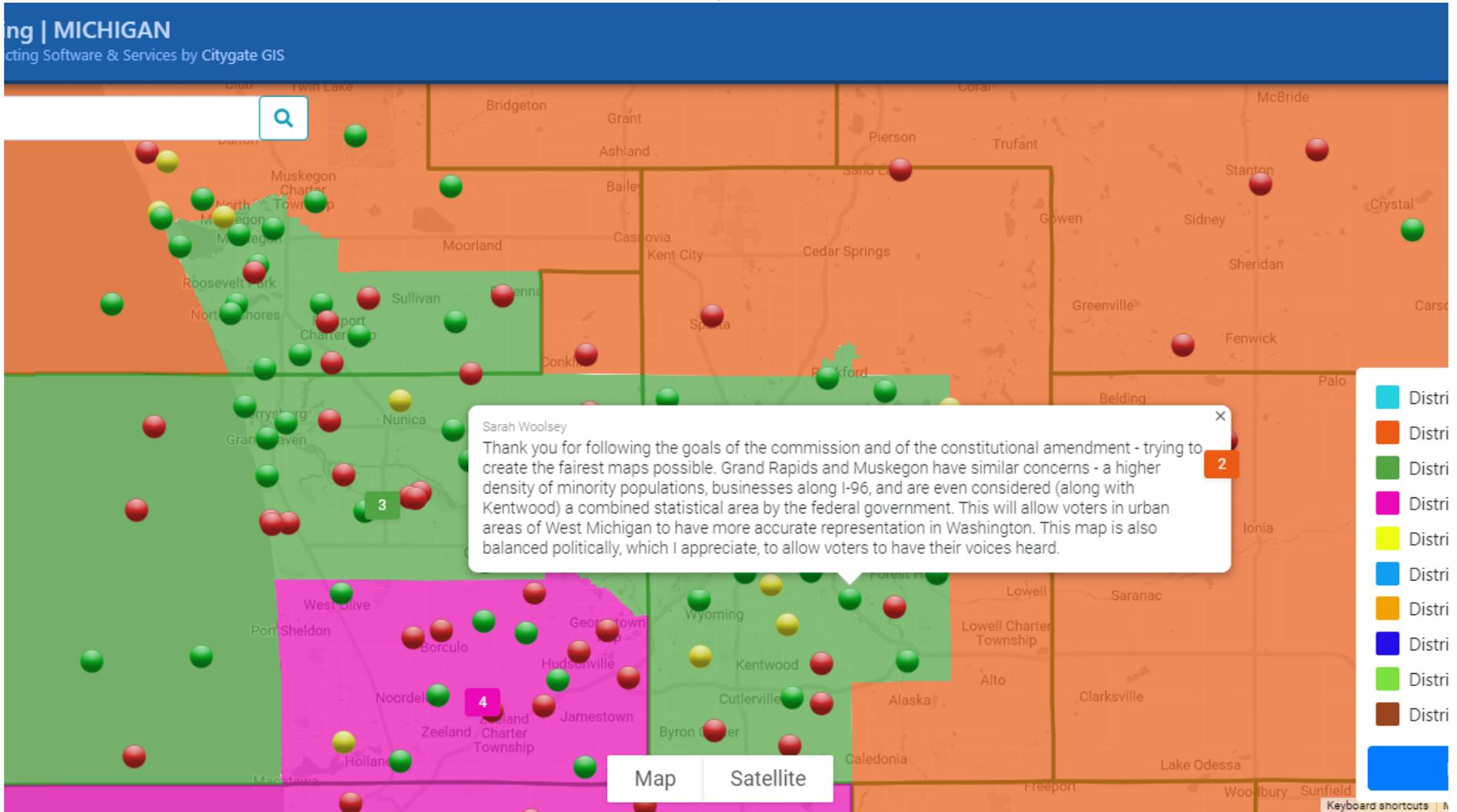








Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
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0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

**APPENDIX  
VOLUME II  
PART 2**

# DISTRICT 4

# DISTRICT 4

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

in the Detroit Area. But wherever possible I think we are best served if we have Congressional districts that are competitive and that are not dominated by one party or the other. And I think that that is much more likely to occur when you don't have gerrymandered districts.

Battle Creek particularly has suffered from that beginning in about the '80s. They were separated from Kalamazoo, then they were put in a District with southern suburbs of Lansing, then they were moved to a District where they were with Southern Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee. And now they are part of the third Congressional District, which is one of the most gerrymandered districts in the state with rural Kent County. And I think Battle Creek deserves to be in a Congressional District with a city that it shares a lot of common employment with so that their interests can best be preserved. Thank you.

>> CHAIR KELLUM: Thank you so much Marcy. 17, 18, 19 and 20.

>> Good evening, Commissioners. My name is Greg Moore. I'm a lifelong resident of Calhoun County, currently reside in Athens Township, the southwest corner of Calhoun County.

And would like to reiterate a couple of comments that were made earlier about really to the greatest extent possible maintaining current with the city, township or county boundaries as a lot of what we do as citizens is oriented around those boundaries. So it's very important from that standpoint I think to keep those intact.

I will recall back in I believe it was the 2000 reapportionment when we were split in our township between two Congressional districts, the 6th and the 7th. And it created absolute havoc for our local clerk as well as the voters of Athens Township. So I would just implore you not to put us through that again.

With respect to our house districts, I'd would like to offer up that the 62nd and the 63rd are actually drawn pretty well and do take into consideration a lot of what we are now calling...when you take a look at whether school District, community college, the very rural nature, you know. With the exception of Battle Creek Metro, which includes the city of Springfield, most of Calhoun County is very rural which is why we identify with Barry County, with the first tier we are in with Kalamazoo County as was mentioned earlier and Charleston and Climax. A lot of our agricultural community goes to Branch County where the implement dealers are currently at, as well as the Farm Bureau, which is in the first tier.

So it really makes sense to the greatest extent possible to keep the current make up of our house districts.

Then with respect to Congressional District, there is some concern with us being in with Kent County. There does not seem to be a lot of commonality between Calhoun and Grand Rapids or Kent County.

And I will tell you again because the rural makeup of the majority of Calhoun County, certainly where we were with Barry, Branch, Jackson and Hillsdale Counties, Lenawee

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>> Good evening. I'm Number 37. My name is Paul Shinkario. Thank you, Ms. Kellom, and the rest of the Commission.

I've got some simple comments. And I'm seconding what I believe number four and a couple others have said.

I would recommend that you follow existing political lines, be they county, city or township.

Significant meandering into other boundaries or significant splintering of the same municipality or boundary is confusing and viewed as suspect by the general public. And probably a big reason the general public voted to form this Commission in the first place.

I live in Antwerp Township, Van Buren County. We are a diverse agriculture, food processing, tourism, and the unique needs of the Lake Michigan coastline.

We are multi-generational families of farmers and small business owners, as well as many new families of current and former migrant workers and transplants from Chicago, et cetera. We've heard a couple of those folks tonight.

They chose to live in Van Buren county for a reason.

We are very similar in many ways to other municipality or other counties in the Southwest Michigan, including Allegan County, where we share a Veteran's Court and a Public Defenders Office with Allegan County. So where there are already existing political ties, to divide them with Congressional and House Districts, makes it pretty awkward to get things done. Thank you.

>> CHAIR KELLOM: Thank you so much. Number 39.

>> I'm number 38. My name is Abigail Wheeler and I am a current elected official in the Village of Mattawan. And I'm a former State House candidate for the 66th District.

And I have heard and seen all of the people in these communities firsthand. And I think it's really important with the State House districts that we keep in mind the demographics.

Places like South Haven and St. Joe have a lot more in common than, say, where I live in Mattawan. And, with that being said, I also think places like Mattawan and Kalamazoo have a lot more in common including, you know, places where I work in Kalamazoo. I live in Mattawan. Yes, one is a main county and one is Kalamazoo County, but they have a lot more in common than, you know, South Haven does with them like with the lakeshore communities that thrive on that tourism.

So I think when you consider these State House districts, that's a really big factor in all of it. And when it comes to the Congressional District, I think it's really important to keep...to put Kalamazoo and Battle Creek together. And also keep Van Buren in there because, once again, they are similar workforces, industries, and they are important for keeping the communities together as well.

And thank you for all that you're doing. I appreciate it.

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>> CHAIR KELLUM: Thank you. My apologies. I jumped ahead. So that was 38 so 39.

>> Hi. Thanks. That means I get twice the time, right? I'm kidding. Thank you all. My name is Beth Kelly. I'm from Battle Creek, Michigan.

And I'm here tonight to ask for fair Congressional districts to be drawn that include Kalamazoo and Battle Creek. Up until around 1992 we were in the same Congressional District. However, currently due to overtly partisan gerrymandering we are in now with the Grand Rapids area. And we don't share as much in common with that area.

I got married last year. I was really lucky and I got married in the Catholic church. And as an example Battle Creek is in the Kalamazoo Diocese. And that's not the only thing we share in common. We are connected by the Kalamazoo river. We actually share the watershed. We are connected by the local United Way here. We are connected by Amtrak and the railroad stations. We have a ton in common.

In fact, I bet you would have a really hard time finding a child in Kalamazoo or Battle Creek who wasn't born at Bronson or Burgess. We are heavily connected through our health system.

So I just ask that we be put back in with this community that we share so much. It's not just about the railroad, the transportation. It's about the people who live there. We have a very interconnected working pool. I commute to Kalamazoo every day. On that I-94 corridor. And so I just ask that you keep that in mind while drawing the lines. And I really thank you all for your work and your time.

>> CHAIR KELLUM: Thank you so much for addressing the Commission. Number 40.

>> Yes. My name is Corey King and I'm a resident here in Kalamazoo. I kind of want to Eco with what was just said about Calhoun and Kalamazoo Counties. We are certainly both similar and that as was just stated we share similar transportation, but we also share similarities in...when it comes to our education system.

A lot of Kellogg College students go to Western Michigan University. A lot of their credits transfer to Western Michigan University and able to get a four-year degree while being able to remain in Calhoun County.

We also, as we just stated, we share the same medical system with Borgess and Bronson. We also share similarities when it comes to a lot of our communities. A lot has been said tonight about rural and urban. A lot of the same urban communities in Calhoun and Kalamazoo Counties are similar as well as in Calhoun County. As was --

[ Audio and video difficulties ]

Represented by the same U.S. member of Congress. And I just believe that it's time that we correct that wrong and put Calhoun counties in the same Congressional District. Thank you.

>> CHAIR KELLUM: Corey, we appreciate your sharing your comment with the Commission.

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>> Hi. My name is Ryan Gilbert. I reside in the Village of Paw Paw. I'm going to start with the 6th Congressional District real quick because I don't think you are going to find a more concise, contiguous District, excluding the first District, Congressman Bergman.

But in the 6th District we have Kalamazoo, Allegan, Van Buren, Barry and Cass and St. Joe. They all touch each other. There is not one little piece that is Sectioned out to another county. It's all complete.

We share the Kalamazoo River in the 6th District. We have part of the wine trail in the 6th District, that goes all the way up to Traverse City.

We share actually Van Buren County's largest employer Charles River Labs, shares many of its employees, come from Kalamazoo County.

So I think keeping our districts together or the 6th District together is quite imperative.

And when it comes to the District I'm in, I think Allegan and Van Buren County need to stay together. I grew up, Allegan was my second backyard.

I come from a large family. I have many cousins from the area.

And I also am from a Catholic church, from a very Catholic family. And our collaboratives share. They don't see a county border. We share between Van Buren and Allegan.

And another thing, the gentleman behind me touched on about the Public Defender's Office. Criminal justice reform is a huge part of my life. And I strive to make sure people are getting proper representation. And I think Allegan and Van Buren teaming up and creating one public defender's for the two counties was a great step forward in that.

We also...Van Buren County also will spend some of its Juvenile detainees to Allegan County. And our Veteran's Court is huge as well. I take a lot of pride in that for the sole fact I have come from a long line of military men and women.

But if you can just keep those thoughts in line when you are drawing districts. I would appreciate it. Thank you all very much for your time.

>> CHAIR KELLUM: Thank you for sharing your public comment. 48, 49, 50 and 51.

>> My name is Jerry Potratz. My wife, Louis, and I live in Texas Township, which is the western part of Kalamazoo County. It is U.S. Congressional District six. It is Michigan Senate District 20. And Michigan House District 61.

I'd like to advocate tonight that you consider Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo County, Calhoun County as a community of interest. A number of other folks have talked about that this evening.

From a diversity standpoint, very similar. With Kalamazoo at around let's see 88% white and 12% Black and 5% Hispanic and so is Kalamazoo County. Both of them also have urban cities, inner cities where there is a minority population of over 30% when you look at the cities.

[← Next](#)

[Previous →](#)

# Battle Creek Kalamazoo I-94 Community

## Basic Info

Submitter: Andy Helmboldt  
Location: Battle Creek  
Submitted: 5/14/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c246

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#kalamazoo #battlecreek #i94 #i-94

## More Info

I live in Battle Creek. We are an I-94 community. Most people I know consider ourselves connected in a community of interest with Kalamazoo more so than with communities (like Jackson) to the east and much more so than with Grand Rapids to the north. I will submit written testimony that describes this connection in more detail.

## Comments & Feedback

9/6/2021 - **Susan Johnson** (Battle Creek): I support redistributing so Battle Creek is aligned with Kalamazoo - the I94 corridor - rather than Grand Rapids, as it now is. Battle Creek's connections to Kalamazoo are long and deep...our United Ways are combined. Many BC people work in Kalamazoo and vice versa. #I94 AND #Calhoun and reference the original portal submissions by Andy Helmboldt C246 and F247 and F1286

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

[← Next](#)[Previous →](#)

# Battle Creek Kalamazoo I-94 Community

## Basic Info

Submitter: Andy Helmboldt

Location: Battle Creek

Submitted: 5/14/2021

Type: file

ID: f247

## Tags

#kalamazoo #battlecreek #i94 #i-94

## Comments & Feedback

7/1/2021 - **Andy Helmboldt** (Battle Creek City): We now have over 50 people signed on to our testimony.

8/29/2021 - **Sonja** (Battle Creek): I live in Emmett Township and do not want my voice silenced because of a bigger city, which is exactly what would happen. I would never be able to speak with any elected officials about any concerns that I may have, they would be too focused on Kalamazoo. This has been proven repeatedly. The areas surrounding Detroit never have any representation because the focus is always on Detroit. Battle Creek isn't just a city, it also has several townships attached. I am an Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran who was injured during my deployment and I have had many challenges trying to navigate through the Veterans Affairs Administration. Now I do whatever I can to help Veterans across Calhoun County get the care they need which is part of the reason I love it here. Battle Creek is home to several various military establishments. Michigan is blessed to have 2 National Cemeteries and 1 of them is located right here in Battle Creek. Kalamazoo has a long history of being anti-military and by putting these 2 areas together, all the Veterans and

## Sent File to Commission

## Written Testimony

I live in Battle Creek. We are an I-94 community. Most people I know consider ourselves connected in a community of interest with Kalamazoo more so than with communities (like Jackson) to the east and much more so than with Grand Rapids to the north. Details are included in the attached PDF. The grassroots group I represent is collecting signatures of support for our testimony from individuals and organizations in the greater Battle Creek Area. We currently have 40 signed on. We will submit the document again at the end of the public hearing schedule with a list of signers included. Thank you for your time.

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military members in our my neighborhood would never have any representation and more of the programs that were designed for these men and women would continue to disappear. Every time there is a funding issue and the budget needs some adjustments to be made, it is often times a Veteran Benefit that is quietly removed with no widespread mention of it; however, the Veterans who were relying on it notice and can never ask why because their isn't anyone around who will listen to them. I really wish that I was exaggerating on this, but I'm speaking from my own personal encounters with Veterans over the past 18 years. Plus my injuries from my deployment and the many years of being in a wheelchair that followed. I'm used to never being heard. I'm short and my voice isn't very loud. It doesn't take much for practically anyone to walk right in front of me and/or talk louder. I've never been good at speaking up for myself, but I can't tolerate it when I see a Veteran who is either ignored repeatedly or is being treated badly. The other day, I was at a Battle Creek Bombers game for the last game this season and a Vietnam Veteran who was 85 was sitting by himself. A middle school age kid from the opposing Kalamazoo team began screaming at this man because the kid wanted to catch a foul ball that landing close to him. When I tried to explain to this kid what this man has done for us, the kid immediately balled up his fist and started to yell at me. I'm asking the commissioners to please keep our community of interest together. We are quiet and we live in quiet townships and rural areas. Many of us aren't able to simply move away. Many have multiple appointments in a week that keeps them bound to the VA. Many are also on a much lower income than the average person and aren't able to work due to age or an injury sustained while they were trying to protect our country, therefore they can't afford any other option. Any of the remaining programs are typically through various county organizations. Thank you for your time and dedication to this process. I wish everyone the best of luck and all I want is for all communities of interest to have a

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representative that is close to them and someone who will listen to their concerns.

9/22/2021 - **Andy Helmboldt** (Battle Creek):  
Sonja's point about being silenced is exactly what we're talking about. We in the Battle Creek area are currently in a district with Grand Rapids. We feel like an afterthought. We'd much rather be with Kalamazoo, with whom we have much closer Communities of Interest ties.

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## Battle Creek's connection and alignment

### Basic Info

Submitter: Karen Weideman  
Location: Battle Creek/Calhoun County  
Submitted: 5/24/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w348

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

I'm a Battle Creek resident. The connections between Battle Creek and Kalamazoo are strong and historic. We have far more in common economically, culturally and socially along the East/West I94 corridor than with Grand Rapids. We shop in Kalamazoo, have a shared airport, our United Ways are combined, Bronson and Borgess Hospitals serve our community, and the dining and recreational opportunities in Kalamazoo are easily accessed. For all these reasons, Battle Creek should be connected to Kalamazoo when you draw district lines.

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# I-94 Corridor Redistricting Proposal

## Basic Info

Submitter: Christine  
Location: Calhoun  
Submitted: 6/28/2021  
Type: file  
ID: f1155

## Tags

#battle creek city

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Sent File to Commission

## Written Testimony

I fully support the rationale in the attached file and strongly believe the congressional district should be drawn I-94 Corridor that encompasses the cities of Albion, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo, and Marshall. They are essentially within the same watershed, the Kalamazoo River, with the main stem of the river flowing through them.

In addition, The concept of the I-94 corridor would apply to our State Senate district boundary as well. Our community has ties up I-69 northeast to Eaton

County. We have a much stronger historical and economic connection with Eaton than with Barry or Ionia, our current district-mates to the north, or with any counties to the south.

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# Calhoun and Kalamazoo-E to W connection

## Basic Info

Submitter: Rob Lyerla  
Location: East Leroy  
Submitted: 6/29/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w1163

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

The current US house map (Congressional District 3) for Calhoun County suggests that there is more of a north/south connection for Calhoun county. However, Calhoun County has more connections with Kalamazoo County. A shared United Way, shared airport, shared news sources, shared waterway (Kalamazoo River), shared university (WMU) all make a stronger connection between the two communities of Battle Creek and Kalamazoo more reasonable than the current alignments with Grand Rapids. There is also a strong commuting community between the two communities along I-94. The same is true

for the state Senate seat. Maps for representation should be reflective of community affinities and likemindedness.

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# Greater Kalamazoo and Greater Battle Cre

## Basic Info

Submitter: Robert Weir  
Location: Kalamazoo/Kalamazoo  
Submitted: 7/19/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1535

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

The communities of Greater Kalamazoo and Greater Battle Creek share many commonalities: a 20-mile section of I-94, an international airport, economic and social services agencies, hospital systems, the Kalamazoo River, and many people commute daily because they live in one community and work in the other. Greater Kalamazoo and Greater Battle Creek need to be in the same US congressional district as they were prior to being gerrymandered apart in the 1990s.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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## SW Michigan Congressional District

### Basic Info

Submitter: Cory King

Location: Kalamazoo

Submitted: 7/1/2021

Type: written

ID: w1345

### Tags

[#kalamazoo](#) [#battle creek](#) [#calhoun](#)

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Thank you, commissioners, for allowing me to speak to you. My name is Cory King. I am a voter in the 6th congressional district here in Kalamazoo.

The reason I am submitting this testimony is because I live in a community that has been negatively impacted by gerrymandering. Historically before Kalamazoo was drawn into its current district after the 1990-91 redistricting, Kalamazoo county and Calhoun county were both in the same congressional district and had been in the same district for decades during the

1970s and 1980s. Back then, the district was much more competitive with both Republicans and Democrats alternating holding the congressional seat between 1955 to 1991 (it was called the 3rd district at the time). I believe that this historic wrong needs to be corrected. I would like to draw your attention to the common communities of interests that Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties share. Both counties share a common metro area with the cities of Kalamazoo and Battle Creek. Both counties are connected by a major highway (I-94) and residents of both counties use this highway daily to commute as many residents in Calhoun county work in Kalamazoo and vice versa as both Battle Creek and Kalamazoo are just 20 miles apart. There are many residents in both counties that work for major businesses in the other county. There are many residents in Calhoun county who work for companies and institutions in Kalamazoo county like Pfizer and Western Michigan University and there are Kalamazoo residents who work for companies and institutions in

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Calhoun county like Kellogg's and the veteran's hospital.

Both counties share a major airport with the "Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport" which is heavily used by residents of both counties.

Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties are both served by Bronson and Borgess hospitals with both hospitals having health care facilities in both communities. Both counties are also served by Western Michigan University which is the biggest four-year university in this area. Many residents of Calhoun county who have attended Kellogg Community College have transferred the credits that they received there to WMU to get a bachelor's degree while being able to remain living in Calhoun county. Both Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties also share similar racial makeup.

Kalamazoo county's African-American population makes up 9.7% of the county's overall population and Calhoun county's African-American population makes up 10.7% of the counties overall population. In counties that neighbor both Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties the population of African-American residents make up less than 5% of their overall population.

Both counties also share the same media markets with residents from both counties getting their local news from the same television and print/digital media organizations. Most of the Michigan residents east of Calhoun county share a different media market than the residents of Calhoun county do. I will conclude this testimony where I began with it. In the early 1990s, Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties were drawn into separate congressional districts after being in the same district for decades. This wrong is long overdue for a correction and both of these communities that share so many things in common, should once again have the same U.S. Representative in Congress.

Thank you for your time and

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consideration.

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# District 3 reconfiguration

## Basic Info

Submitter: Frank Skeltis  
Location: Battle Creek  
Submitted: 7/2/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w1357

## Tags

#battle creek city

## Comments & Feedback

7/2/2021 - **Sean McCormick** (Milford): I changed my redistricting plan to ensure Battle Creek and Kalamazoo are together to make District 6 more competitive and keep more communities together. Feel free to check out my map "A Proportional Congress!" Its far from perfect since I can't keep every like-minded community together with a proportional map, but I felt this was an easy fix to my map.

## Written Testimony

As a citizen of Battle Creek, it seems illogical to be included with Grand Rapids as part of district 3. Although Rep. Justin Amash offered opportunities for citizen input, the interests of Grand Rapids and Battle Creek don't mesh. BC is closer to Kalamazoo; we share an airport; WMU has a major presence in our community; Ft. Custer serves both Battle Creek and Kalamazoo. Even Channel 3 gives news from both communities. With BC leaning conservative and Kalamazoo progressive, both points of view are represented. Pair them in the new reconfiguration of voting districts. It makes much more sense.  
Thank you for your time,  
Frank M. Skeltis  
Battle Creek

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## suggestions for Federal districts

### Basic Info

Submitter: joy murphy

Location: kentwood

Submitted: 7/3/2021

Type: written

ID: w1371

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

I would like to suggest when District 3 is re drawn that Grand Rapids be grouped with Muskegon or Lowell - I think along the Interstate highway corridors makes more sense then the vertical current District 3.

Also, the I-94 corridor should also be respected. Such as Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Jackson, Benton Harbor have more in common culturally then Grand Rapids.

Historically they have always been working towns. I grew up in Battle Creek and had never been to Grand Rapids until I moved here. I had been to Kalamazoo, Jackson, Lansing many many times.

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# I-94 Corridor-Kalamazoo and Battle Creek

## Basic Info

Submitter: Rob Lyerla  
Location: EAST LEROY  
Submitted: 7/19/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1544

## Tags

## More Info

Kalamazoo and Battle Creek share many economic, non-profit, infrastructure, and news sources. They have historically been connected, and are more alike that Grand Rapids or Jackson.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# Three Southwest MI Communities

## Basic Info

Submitter: Josh P  
Location: Paw Paw Township  
Submitted: 7/31/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1943

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#allegan](#) [#van buren](#) [#holland](#)  
[#kalamazoo](#) [#battle creek city](#)

## More Info

Much of rural Michigan is similar, though in order to keep districts compact and contiguous it will need to be broken up. Allegan + Van Buren Counties + surrounding rural areas and small towns make a lot of sense as a Community of Interest. While they share similarities with rural areas to the south, the border counties have more in common and more reliance on Indiana than the counties to the north. Likewise, Kalamazoo and Battle Creek should be considered separate from the surrounding rural areas. Though these communities aren't perfectly following county lines, I believe that county lines are a good basis for determining COI-based district lines.

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Military Communities in Battle Creek

## Basic Info

Submitter: Sonja  
Location: Calhoun County  
Submitted: 8/2/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1979

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Battle Creek has a populous Veteran community. We have a large VA Hospital, Air National Guard Base, National Cemetery, and many other military establishments. Some are located in Calhoun County, but a few are in Kalamazoo County. It would be nice if all the establishments were in the same District. It would help the Veterans here with resources if we had a Representative who understands what Veterans need.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Kalamazoo and Battle Creek together

## Basic Info

Submitter: Dan Pepper  
Location: Kalamazoo Township  
Submitted: 8/8/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w2055

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

In the 20 years I've lived in Kalamazoo, we've always been kept in a separate congressional district from Battle Creek, even though the cities are very close. We share a fair number of services from the airport to various regional organizations and are even planning to connect the systems of recreational bike trails. I'd urge the commission to draw a district that takes into account the closeness and ties between the two cities.

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# caring for our community

## Basic Info

Submitter: martha schumacher  
Location: Kalamazoo  
Submitted: 8/26/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2864

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#calhoun #kalamazoo

## More Info

I am very interested in having input into how my district may be revised. While I live on the eastern edge of Kalamazoo County, I feel like my community of interest is Calhoun County, specifically the Battle creek area. After spending a 45 year career in nursing, I am retired now and finding more time to volunteer. I feel called to serving our less fortunate brothers and sisters by supporting the Battle Creek food pantry, Grace Health Center, Haven of Rest Ministries and Verona Schools. For that reason I would like our district to look like the map I am submitting. Thank you for your consideration.

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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## Battle Creek Deltas 5-13-2021 Testimony

### Basic Info

Submitter: Lynn

Location: Battle Creek

Submitted: 8/27/2021

Type: file

ID: f3063

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Sent File to Commission

### Written Testimony

Our chapter continues our advocacy for a map that aligns with the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek region and not the Grand Rapids/Battle Creek region, this for many reasons stated, does not align with our Battle Creek community of interest.

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# Beth's Calhoun/Kalamazoo Plan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Beth Byrd

Location: Calhoun

Submitted: 9/5/2021

Type: written

ID: w3677

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Battle Creek, Kalamazoo and nearby communities along the I-94 corridor together comprise an economic and cultural community of interest, and should be drawn together in the same U.S. Congressional district. Since 2012, Battle Creek has been in a district with Grand Rapids – the result of an overtly partisan gerrymander. The representative has come from Grand Rapids in all those terms. Battle Creek and Grand Rapids have few shared economic or other community interests, leaving the interests of the southern part of the District an underrepresented afterthought.

Geography

The Battle Creek area is an I-94 community. We have far more in common economically, culturally, and socially with communities along the east-west I-94 corridor than with similarly-distanced communities to the north and south. And while we do share some a nity with communities to the east, our tightest connection by far is with Kalamazoo, only 20 miles west on I-94.

Our local economies are closely tied with this east-west corridor. We have many examples of shared development efforts and major employers, and our labor pool commutes between the two cities far more than outside them. Our regional airport is the “Kalamazoo Battle Creek International Airport,” and we share a United Way, the “United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region.”

The same two major health care providers, Bronson and Borgess, serve our areas, as well as the same public four-

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year college, Western Michigan University. Battle Creekers seeking expanded shopping, dining, and recreation options are mostly likely to go to Kalamazoo to meet their needs than anywhere else.

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## District 3 reconfiguration

### Basic Info

Submitter: Frank Skeltis

Location: Battle Creek

Submitted: 9/5/2021

Type: written

ID: w3690

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Dear Commissioners,

Firstly, thank you for willingly and generously participating in this essential work. You are truly keeping democracy alive.

As a past volunteer worker for Proposal 2, I feel that it is essential that we keep communities of interest intact. My particular district, 3, was totally gerrymandered putting Battle Creek in with Grand Rapids. It is time to reconnect Battle Creek with Kalamazoo. We are about 20 miles apart; we share an airport; workers commute from each community to the other; WMU has a flight school in Battle Creek; even our local TV station shares news from each community. GR is

a fine place but has little communication or interest in the activities in Battle Creek. Even our newest elected Rep. Peter Meijer has no office in Battle Creek. In short, the most logical and truly representative configuration for District 3 is to include Battle Creek with Kalamazoo.

Thank you for your time and good work!

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## C246 and F247 and F1286

### Basic Info

Submitter: Gary Garland

Location: Battle Creek

Submitted: 9/5/2021

Type: written

ID: w3693

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

The communities of Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County belong in the same U.S. Congressional District! There are so many factors that connect these counties. Health Care Systems, Colleges, I-94 and the many people who reside in one county but work in the other, the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, United way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo region. I have lived in Calhoun County all of my life and we have so much in common with Kalamazoo county! By comparison, we have hardly anything in common with the other surrounding counties !

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# Aligning Battle Creek with Kalamazoo

## Basic Info

Submitter: Karen Weideman  
Location: Battle Creek/Calhoun  
Submitted: 9/5/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3674

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I've lived in Battle Creek 33 years. The connections between Battle Creek and Kalamazoo are long and deep. We have a shared United Way organization. We share an international airport. Retail and commerce flow easily between our communities. The I94 corridor connection flows constantly between our communities. Calhoun County and Kalamazoo County residents are connected through Western Michigan University programs. I'd also reference original portal submissions by Andy Hemboldt C246 and F247 and F1286. The alignment with Grand Rapids is a gerrymandering construct only and does not make sense in any other way.

Eliminating political considerations, Battle Creek and Kalamazoo being together makes sense.

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## C246 and F247 and F1286

### Basic Info

Submitter: Kathy Garland

Location: Battle Creek

Submitted: 9/5/2021

Type: written

ID: w3692

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

In reference to C 246 and F247 and F1286:  
The communities of Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County belong in the same US Congressional District. There are many factors that connect these counties, including economics and economic development, health care systems, I-94 and the many people who reside in one county but work in the other, the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, and the Kalamazoo River watershed, United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo region.  
I have lived in Calhoun County all of my life and we have so much more in common with Kalamazoo County than any other counties surrounding us!

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# Calhoun and Kalamazoo County Synergies

## Basic Info

Submitter: Linda Pell  
Location: Calhoun County  
Submitted: 9/5/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3672

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I am writing to support having Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties together in a Congressional District. Our local economies are closely tied within this east-west corridor. We have many examples of shared development efforts and major employers, and our labor pool commutes between the two counties far more than outside them. Our regional airport is the “Kalamazoo Battle Creek International Airport,” and we share a United Way, the “United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region.” We share the same two major health care providers, Bronson and Borgess. Albion College is building strong relationships with Western Michigan University, which

recently invested in a major expansion of their Aviation Program at the Battle Creek airport. I have lived in rural Convis Township for 40 years -- and it is apparent that a strong Battle Creek Metropolitan Area lifts the entire county and our economic, health and educational synergies with Kalamazoo County make us stronger. Having a fair, competitive Congressional District with representation accountable to the voters -- not a political party -- will work to the advantage of constituents in both counties. Significant portions of both Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties are rural and voters will have the opportunity to select good representatives who look out for both urban and rural needs.

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# I-94 Corridor Redistricting Proposal

## Basic Info

Submitter: Lyn Alban  
Location: Grand Junction / Van Buren  
Submitted: 9/5/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3679

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

The communities of Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County belong in the same US Congressional District. There are many factors that connect these counties, including economics and economic development, health care systems, I-94 and the many people who reside in one county but work in the other, the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, and the Kalamazoo River watershed.

There must be fair, competitive districts -- a Calhoun, Branch, Hillsdale County District would create an overwhelmingly safe, Republican majority district while a Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Van Buren County District would be a very competitive Congressional District, putting voters in charge, not a political party. The entire purpose of the MICRC is to draw fair, non-gerrymandered districts for the next decade.

Please refer to the original submissions by Andy Helmboldt: C246, F247, and F1286 for more detailed rationale on this proposed redistricting.

Thank you.

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# Kalamazoo and Calhoun Co. - combining

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mary Laurell

Location: Portage

Submitted: 9/5/2021

Type: written

ID: w3694

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I think that Kalamazoo and Calhoun Counties belong in the same U.S. Congressional district. These counties are linked by many similarities. The Kalamazoo River watershed is an important one. Others include the fact that many people live in one and work in the other, often using I-94 which is a connecting corridor between the two. The Kalamazoo/Battle Creek Airport, and other factors including healthcare systems, higher education and economic development are all important parts of the community that we share with each other. Having representation that can address the needs citizens of such a shared area is extremely important.

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## Kalamazoo/Battle Creek corridor

### Basic Info

Submitter: Naomi Ludman

Location: Dowagiac

Submitted: 9/5/2021

Type: written

ID: w3680

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

The communities of Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County belong in the same US Congressional District. There are many factors that connect these counties, including economics and economic development, health care systems, I-94 and the many people who reside in one county but work in the other, the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, and the Kalamazoo River watershed. I used to live in Kalamazoo and clearly these two counties form a community of interest that has only become more significant over time and the development of the I-94 corridor.

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## #Battle Creek #I94 #Calhoun

### Basic Info

Submitter: Rob Lyerla  
Location: Calhoun  
Submitted: 9/5/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3668

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County have a historical relationship that predates current political lines. Both of these counties reflect an economic Community of Interest, with shared institutes of higher education, shared employers, shared employees and shared resources. The rural/urban divide suggested by many completely ignores that regardless of the physical location of one's home, the fact remains that these two counties universally rely on the cities of Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Marshall and Albion as regional resources. These two counties should be returned to their historical connection for reasonable

representation in legislative bodies both statewide and national.

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# Kalamazoo and Calhoun Counties Belong

## Basic Info

Submitter: Ruth Eichler  
Location: Kalamazoo City  
Submitted: 9/5/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3682

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

The communities of Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County belong in the same US Congressional District. There are many factors that connect these counties, including economics and economic development, health care systems, I-94 and the many people who reside in one county but work in the other, the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, and the Kalamazoo River watershed.

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# Create a Balanced Voting District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jim Ferner  
Location: Kalamazoo  
Submitted: 9/6/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3700

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

The communities of Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County belong in the same US Congressional District. There are many factors that connect these counties, including economics and economic development, health care systems, I-94 and the many people who reside in one county but work in the other, the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, and the Kalamazoo River watershed. We support fair, competitive districts -- a Calhoun, Branch, Hillsdale County District would create an overwhelmingly safe, Republican majority district while a Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Van Buren County District would be a very competitive

Congressional District, putting voters in charge, not a political party.

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# I94 corridor

## Basic Info

Submitter: Susan Callahan

Location: Battle Creek

Submitted: 9/6/2021

Type: written

ID: w3698

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I support the Battle Creek, Calhoun County, Kalamazoo redistricting proposal presented by Andy Hembolt - C246, F247, F1286

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## Battle Creek/Calhoun County is an I-94

### Basic Info

Submitter: Christine Kosmowski

Location: Battle Creek

Submitted: 9/7/2021

Type: written

ID: w3897

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

The Battle Creek/Calhoun County area is an I-94 community. We have far more in common economically, culturally, and socially with communities along the east-west I-94 corridor than with similarly-distanced communities to the north and south. And while we do share some affinity with communities to the east, our tightest connection by far is with Kalamazoo, only 20 miles west on I-94. Our local economies are closely tied with this east-west corridor. We have many examples of shared development efforts and major employers, and our labor pool commutes between the two cities far more than outside them. Our regional airport is the “Kalamazoo - Battle Creek

International Airport,” and we share a United Way, the “United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region.”

Comments have been made regarding the agricultural and rural communities in Calhoun County needing fair representation and Calhoun County should be represented in a district with Branch and Hillsdale County where those needs are understood. The I-94 corridor also represents agricultural needs between Kalamazoo, Calhoun, and Van Buren Counties. Of note is that Calhoun County is presented as an agricultural community; however, Kalamazoo County has annual agricultural sales of \$237M, while Calhoun County has annual ag sales of \$114M! (2017 figures).

Furthermore, Calhoun is a bigger county, having 20 townships, while Kalamazoo has 16! Therefore, we have a lot more in common with Kalamazoo than Hillsdale! Please consider creating a district

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encompassing Calhoun, Kalamazoo and Van Buren Counties. Thank you.

I fully support the original portal submissions by Andy Helmboldt, C246 and F247 and F1286

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# Kalamazoo Co/Calhoun Co = 1 district

## Basic Info

Submitter: Don Schmidt  
Location: Kalamazoo City  
Submitted: 9/7/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3894

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I have lived/voted in Kalamazoo County for over 50 years. That experience has led me to the observation/conclusion that the communities of Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County belong in the same US Congressional District. There are many factors that connect these counties, including economics and economic development, health care systems, I-94 and the many people who reside in one county but work in the other, the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, and the Kalamazoo River watershed. I support the previous submissions on this position by Andy Helmboldt, C246, F247, and F1286. Thank you.

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# Calhoun and Kalamazoo Counties

## Basic Info

Submitter: Miriam

Location: Marshall

Submitted: 9/7/2021

Type: written

ID: w3896

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I support Andy Hembolt's position in his C246 and F247 and F1286 submissions. Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties are made up of communities bound together through work, school and family. I moved to Marshall just Albion students joined the Marshall school district. I work in Kalamazoo and many of us also spend our time in Battle Creek and other areas along I-94 to the lake. Our interests do not stop short of agricultural needs; we understand that our farmers must also be represented. We are strong advocates for waterway preservation and being good stewards to our environment. We support the diverse needs of everyone in Calhoun

county. Please allow the district to represent all the people who live here.

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# Calhoun and Kalamazoo Counties conjoined

## Basic Info

Submitter: Wayne Kukuk  
Location: Battle Creek/Calhoun County  
Submitted: 9/7/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3893

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

(Please refer to original portal submissions by Andy Helmboldt C246 and F247 and F1286)  
The Battle Creek/Calhoun County area is an I-94 community. We have far more in common economically, culturally, and socially with communities along the east-west I-94 corridor than with similarly-distanced communities to the north and south. And while we do share some affinity with communities to the east, our tightest connection by far is with Kalamazoo, only 20 miles west on I-94. Our local economies are closely tied with this east-west corridor. We have many examples of shared development efforts and major employers, and our labor pool commutes between the two cities far more than outside them. Our regional airport is the "Kalamazoo - Battle Creek International Airport," and we share a United Way, the "United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region." Comments have been made, e.g.; "...The agricultural and rural communities in Calhoun County need fair representation and Calhoun County should be represented in a district with Branch and Hillsdale County where our needs are understood." It's interesting, that Calhoun County is presented as such an agricultural community, while Kalamazoo County is this "Liberal" community... Kalamazoo County has annual agricultural sales of \$237M, while Calhoun County has annual ag sales of \$114M! (2017 figures). AND, Calhoun is a bigger county, having 20 townships, while Kalamazoo has 16! We have a lot more in common with Kalamazoo than Hillsdale! Please consider creating a district

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encompassing Calhoun, Kalamazoo and  
Van Buren Counties. Thank you.

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# Battle Creek and Kalamazoo

## Basic Info

Submitter: Barbara Hemstad  
Location: Battle Creek City  
Submitted: 9/16/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c4656

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Battle Creek should be districted with Kalamazoo in both state Senate and Congressional maps. Our economies are very intertwined with one another and of course both cities are urban. Moreover, we in Battle Creek have much more in common with residents of Kalamazoo than we do with those in the rural parts of Calhoun. Please split us off from the rest of Calhoun and include us with Kalamazoo as you did in the main Senate map proposal. Thank you. -Barbara Hemstad

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Representing Kzoo and Battle Creek

## Basic Info

Submitter: Peter  
Location: Kalamazoo  
Submitted: 9/17/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p4788

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#kalamazoo

## More Info

This plan allows Kalamazoo and Battle Creek to be represented in the House of Representatives.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Kzoos/Battle Creek's Interests Neglected

## Basic Info

Submitter: Peter

Location: Kalamazoo

Submitted: 9/17/2021

Type: written

ID: w4783

## Tags

[#kalamazoo](#) [#battle creek city](#)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

The areas of Kalamazoo, Portage, and Battle Creek are not being recognized for having differing interests and demographics than the other counties they are being placed with. Please change it so that they are given the voices they deserve by grouping these districts together and reshaping the previous districts they were a part of.

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# Battle Creek Kalamazoo I-94 Community

## Basic Info

Submitter: Andy Helmboldt  
Location: Battle Creek  
Submitted: 9/22/2021  
Type: file  
ID: f5284

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Sent File to Commission

## Written Testimony

I live in Battle Creek. We are an I-94 community. Most people I know consider ourselves connected in a community of interest with Kalamazoo more so than with communities (like Jackson) to the east and much more so than with Grand Rapids to the north.

The draft State Senate map as currently proposed (as of 9/22/21) takes this COI into account, but the draft Congressional map does not - that map lumps Battle Creek together with rural communities to the southeast of us, which is even worse from a COI standpoint than our previous district with Grand Rapids, which was already bad. From a COI standpoint, I think it makes more sense to split Calhoun County if necessary, like the current draft State Senate map does. Details of our COI are included in the attached PDF. The grassroots group I represent is collecting signatures of support for our testimony from

individuals and organizations in the greater Battle Creek Area. As of July 1 we had more than 50 signed on, shown in the included PDF, which was also submitted back then.

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# How to Draw Western Michigan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Lizzie Deerdrik  
Location: Battle Creek  
Submitted: 9/27/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c5543

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Here's the plan to adopt for Western Michigan. Battle Creek is a diverse community with ties to Kalamazoo. It should be with Kalamazoo. We must not disenfranchise voters of color by cracking minority clusters across 4 districts in this region!

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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## Battle Creek with Kalamazoo

### Basic Info

Submitter: Catherine Bollacks

Location: Battle Creek

Submitted: 9/28/2021

Type: coi

ID: c5545

### Tags

### More Info

The commission really needs to spend another day on drawing congressional maps. Some of the "alternative" maps are mess and aren't even contiguous or equal in population. You need to clean these up so you can run partisan fairness analysis on them and solicit public feedback. They cannot be fairly evaluated in their current state. Additionally, there are some iterations that you haven't drawn yet despite discussing based on public comment. For instance, there are no versions of the maps with Battle Creek in the same district as Kalamazoo. As a resident of Battle Creek, I believe it's very important that the commission draw some alternatives with this configuration. The two cities are closely linked, share employers, and both have substantial African American populations. To run the partisan fairness analysis you will also need all of the different combos of configurations to assess which are the most fair in aggregate (Muskegon+GR, BC+Kzoo, Tri-Cities w/ Midland; Muskegon+GR, BC+Kzoo, Tri-Cities w/o Midland; Muskegon+GR, Kzoo w/o BC, Tri-Cities w/ Midland; etc.). It might be worth asking your staff to merge different

### Map

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versions so that you make sure you have all combinations.

**Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Two Peas in a Pod

## Basic Info

Submitter: Phyllis Harvey  
Location: Battle Creek City  
Submitted: 9/28/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c5597

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Battle Creek and Kalamazoo are two peas in a pod and should be redistricted together. We share industries and employers and have common interests around the development of mid-size cities. We are q community of interest.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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>> My name is Niki I'm a Lansing resident.  
First of all I do want to thank you for your time and effort.  
I did watch the hearing yesterday.  
That was very long.  
I'm sure it's not easy.  
Over the past few years I've canvassed and worked for the census all over the Greater Lansing area.  
I was able to really get an understanding and feeling for the whole try County region.  
And we are very diverse economically and socially.  
I have noticed on the maps that Lansing has lost a District in the Michigan house and I think that would be harmful to this community because we want a competitive area.  
I can understand we want to prioritize Community of Interest but unpacking the Lansing into five districts would be more fair in the long-term.  
I'm looking forward to seeing a more fair map in the future and thank you again for your time and effort.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 54.

>> Yes, good evening or I guess good afternoon but my name is Jonathan bird.  
I live in just outside of Battle Creek Michigan Emmet Township but wanted to speak with you about our area and I lived in Calhoun County all my life.  
I think that on your State House maps you guys have done a great job keeping Battle Creek and Albion together.  
I think those two communities have a lot of similar interests and it's really important in the State House to keep those together.  
And then the rest of the County I think should stick together and you guys should look to go south or west with the rest of remaining portion of Calhoun County.  
The thing I wanted to speak to you guys most about is Battle Creek and Kalamazoo.  
When it comes to Congressional maps, State Senate maps, folks in Battle Creek do not go to Lowell in Grand Rapids to do shopping or have any interest.  
I think linking the City of Battle Creek closer with Kalamazoo or linking the City of Battle Creek or the Metropolitan area of Battle Creek with Lansing or suburbs of Lansing has a lot more in common than the current District currently has.  
I really want to urge you guys to take a look at that.  
I know we have Commissioners from Southwest Michigan.  
They understand Battle Creek and Kalamazoo and it's important to keep those Metropolitan areas together.  
Thank you for all you are doing and have a great rest of your day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 54, number 55, 56.

>> Sorry could I ask a clarifying question.

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I wanted to make sure, sir were you suggesting we keep Battle Creek and Kalamazoo together? Or Battle Creek and Lansing as a better alternative? Sorry, I just wanted to make sure I understood your comment.

>> Sure, so I would suggest either or.

You know think about the main corridors that go through both Battle Creek or go through Battle Creek, Battle Creek on I-94.

You can be to Lansing in 40 minutes.

You can be to Kalamazoo in 20.

If you guys are you know really intent on keeping the County of Kalamazoo together because of the population and how it works, I can understand that.

But if that is going to be the case, I would suggest finding a way to move Battle Creek along you know I-94 up I-69 because that is a very clear corridor.

You know, folks in Battle Creek go to Bellevue.

They go to Olivet and Charlotte and west Lansing to shop.

If you reference AFL fair maps project, they have a State Senate District that you know incorporates that corridor and I think that is valuable.

But on the Congressional side like Battle Creek and Kalamazoo share an airport.

We have so much in common and when you have the bigger districts like a Congressional District it just makes sense to put Battle Creek with Kalamazoo together thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for that clarification.

>>.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead ma'am.

>> Thank you I'm Amanda west.

I lived in the Lansing area for 20 years.

In East Lansing, Holt and Delta Township and now in Meridian Township.

My two boys have attended Waverly and Haslett schools.

They are currently in Haslett.

And my husband grew up and attended Holt schools so we are Lansing area.

And that entire time I've worked in the City of Lansing.

Each of those communities that I listed are perfectly capable of anchoring their own House Districts.

Each have their own communities of interest in their vibrant neighborhoods.

The local Governments the shopping districts and our robust school systems.

Please allow the Greater Lansing area to be fully represented by creating five districts in the region.

And to that point I applaud creating two Senate districts for the region.

Previous commenters referred to Lansing and East Lansing being drawn together for 150 years.

Yes, that's why we are here.

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Map 244 splits Portage and Texas Township in half and the City of Portage needs to be whole despite a Portage rivalry.

The U.S. Congressional maps it should be considered because it puts Kalamazoo Portage and Battle Creek together.

Map 230 known as birch is okay and very similar to maps 218, 219, 238 and 240 which are Juniper, Clark's and Szetela.

Map 201 apple needs to be tabled because of the challenging Kalamazoo Grand Rapids industrial corridor.

Kalamazoo has a stronger connection with Battle Creek than with Lansing or with Grand Rapids.

As far as the State House maps all six maps are similar with Kalamazoo in its own District and Portage Texas Township and Oshtemo in another District.

Maps 227 and 278 Pine and Peach need to be considered the only two with Midland Bay City corridors created.

229 known as oak can be parked.

Thank you for the fantastic work so far and thank you for the opportunity to share our comments.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 97.

>> Good evening, Commissioners.

My name is David Anderson.

I was born and raised in Grand Rapids.

I've also lived in Ottawa County.

And Walker and I'm back in Grand Rapids right now.

I would like to ask a question from everybody that's listening.

If the majority of Michigan voters voted democratic across the board, how on earth can the republicans lock the legislature? Year of year after year.

There is only two possible answers.

Accident or gerrymandering.

I urge you to do what you were empowered to do and I'm sure you took an oath to accomplish that.

You must reverse gerrymandering.

And I've listened to a lot of comments about how Counties should stay together, cities should stay together, communities should stay together.

I don't care.

If the person across the street from me is in a different District, it doesn't bother me except to the extent that my vote is diluted.

And I can't get representation in Lansing or in Washington D.C.

Now the reason I'm here is because I care about the planet.

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As a resident of Allendale I'm blown away that some of these maps link Allendale with Kalamazoo.

These communities have basically no shared interest.

Allendale is considered a lakeshore community surrounded by agricultural.

Kalamazoo has so much more in common with Battle Creek than it does with grand haven Holland or even Saugatuck.

I believe the best map I have seen that represents a true lakeshore community is map 201.

Also known as the apple map.

I also want to thank Commissioner Lange for listening to communities across West Michigan keeping Ottawa County together.

And in a lakeshore based District is what so many are asking for.

And I also want to touch on the subject that the Congressional level too.

That I'm concerned with the District that represents the UP that touches all the way down to Mount Pleasant.

I don't really understand commonalities between iron wood and the soaring Eagle casino.

Thank you for coming to West Michigan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 128.

>> 129 or 130.

>> I'm 136.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're 136.

>> You called 140.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 129 and 130.

>> How are you? I'm Dandre. I'm 129.

I am commenting on the redistricting.

In 2018 I was one of the people knocking many doors on the south side of Grand Rapids for gerrymandering just because I understand how that creates a lot of different political problems.

Knowing that the power structure here are mostly controlled by republicans, I just ask regardless of political affiliation that you guys make the maps more reflective of the demographics of people regardless of democrat or republican I just like to see the maps equal.

I like to see the people be able to vote for their Senators.

For their state legislatures, for the Commissions, for the Kent County Commissioners whatever level of Township or election that people usually vote for.

I just ask that you guys make it fair, make it equitable.

Make sure the people can elect people that look like them.

There is a lot of African/American people that don't know anything about this Redistricting Commission.

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All the Chaldeans and Middle Easterns are registered as whites.

We are not white.

Our voices have always been neglected.

And we want to change this.

We voted for proposal two to have community of interest take priority and not efficiency gaps.

They are not mentioned in proposal two.

They are partisan wishes take COI as number one and I implore you not to dilute our voices and we go to the outskirts of Wixom, we are Shelby, Troy and more.

We are a faith based community and tentacle Dean churches in Detroit area and estimated to be 160,000 and growing.

All of these proposed maps dilute Chaldean voices and give us a voice in one District.

This Commission promised to give communities of color a voice.

Please give the Chaldean community a voice in one District.

I created this map 68270 that is 68270.

This map represents majority of Chaldeans in one District.

Thank you, Commissioners, for your hard work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Kathy.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Okay finally.

I have listened to most of the comments and most of the people are from Grand Rapids. As is appropriate.

Since that is where the meeting is.

But since there was no meeting in southwestern Michigan this is the best, I could do.

I am concerned particularly with the Congressional map for Battle Creek and Calhoun County.

Most of the maps are absurd on the surface.

Including Battle Creek and points southwest.

All the way to Lake St. Clair.

Which I believe is Monroe County.

But I'm not even sure what Counties are there.

I couldn't even tell you what cities are there.

That is not appropriate.

I looked at the Lange map.

And EID I don't know how to pronounce that map.

That includes Battle Creek with Kalamazoo which is a much better fit.

Battle Creek and Kalamazoo have a community of interest.

People in Kalamazoo work in Battle Creek.

People in Battle Creek work in Kalamazoo.

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It closely addressed my concerns.

And thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 47Merna.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Let's move to number 48 Natalie Hayes.

>> Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Good evening I'm Natalie Hayes and a lifelong Michigan resident and reside in Grand Traverse County.

I want to thank you for the work you have done to draw the legislative maps and the work you will continue to do as this process unfolds.

I know I was very excited back in 2018 when there was a ballot proposal that would create the new Commission that I'm speaking for and I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

I'm in favor of the Pine cherry and birch maps and recognize there are improvements that need to be made and I appreciate seeing the Traverse City and Leelanau State House lines together.

And also concerned about partisan fairness in this process and urge you to make the changes necessary to avoid partisan bias as we will have the maps for the next decade. Thank you so much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You're welcome thank you. Number 49, Paul.

>> Hello.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Hello we can hear you.

>> Hi Paul M living and voting in Kalamazoo.

Battle Creek and Kalamazoo are interconnected at a level that they should be united in a voting District.

There are business connections and interdependence.

Large number of people live in one City and work in the other.

For instance, executive at Kellogg's here in Kalamazoo and drives to Battle Creek everyday as a neighbor.

Another my violin teacher lived in Battle Creek and worked at western.

I lived in both cities when I lived in Battle Creek, I went to Kalamazoo daily for several years and now I'm living in Kalamazoo but a lot of my work comes with work with Battle Creek Michigan.

Today I worked on a project for someone in Battle Creek.

There are cultural connections interdependence and regional arts organizations serve Battle Creek and Kalamazoo like art symphonies and civic theatre.

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Please consider the community of the Kalamazoo Battle Creek area when drawing the lines of Government representation.

At one time we were united with representation.

Please do not divide us again.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Let's move on to number 50 mark Payne.

>> Good evening can everybody hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Good evening my name is mark Payne and ask you to recognize indigenous population as community of interest and leave no stone unturned as you use all resources and staff and all information that you receive.

I urge you make sure that maps are fair partisan wise.

As you make adjustments for higher criteria, please make sure that partisan fairness is properly prioritized.

Lastly, I support MSU's independent for social policy and public research recommendation.

That the MICRC reevaluate its approach towards compliance with the V RA.

We need primary data.

Which is public comment.

All the County clerks have it.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 51 Cindy.

>> Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, please go ahead.

>> I think you are trying to do the impossible because when you put these different variables up that you want to have a vote representation proportional to the vote, the way to get that would be proportional representation.

But with this system we have of plurality it discourages independent thinking and where people like if you had approval voting where you can vote for as many people as you want but not anybody more than once, then like in the Presidential primary I could have voted for three different candidates on the left that I liked.

Instead of having to choose between one and the other and that is what happens, they split the vote so much between different factions that they add extra candidates and so forth.

And so it's gamed right now by people who want to game it the politicians and people behind them.

Give people the idea they can strategize approval voting look it up on the Internet.

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# Eid Senate map does SW Michigan proper!

## Basic Info

Submitter: Joshua P  
Location: Paw Paw Township  
Submitted: 10/28/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w7889

## Tags

#kalamazoo #battle creek city  
#lake michigan #allegan #van buren  
#michiana

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I cannot speak to the rest of Michigan, but Commissioner Eid's Senate map does a good job of reflecting the COIs in Southwest Michigan. It keeps "Michiana" (Berrien, Cass, St. Joe) whole, it creates a lakeshore COI district with many lakeshore communities, it maintains the rural, agricultural COI in the area of Allegan, Van Buren, and Barry counties, and it protects the urban interests of Battle Creek and Kalamazoo. I would encourage the MICRC to consider Commissioner Eid's suggested Senate districts for Southwest Michigan

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# Chestnut Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Dashuna Robinson

Location: Benton Harbor, MI

Submitted: 11/2/2021

Type: written

ID: w8462

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Good morning to the Commission and thank you for your willingness to consider our concerns in your decision. I am Dashuna Robinson, a community leader in Berrien County, specifically Benton Harbor, MI. I am the President of the Board for Benton Harbor Area Schools, an employee of MDHHS, where I serve as an assistance payment supervisor, a champion for diversity, equity and inclusion, and the water coordinator for needs in Benton Harbor. I am also a Trustee for the 6 Congressional District, so I speak from a heart centered on service and leadership, in the best interest of Michigan families and disenfranchised communities. Viewing from a diversity, equity and governance-based lens, it is in the best interest of communities such as Benton Harbor and Kalamazoo, cities who have historically held the largest African American populations in Southwest Michigan, to remain in the same congressional district. Each of these communities have similar congressional needs, having dealt with their own levels of crisis in recent years. Its imperative that we maintain a congressional district that allows for focus on these comparative community concerns. Southwest Michigan is very unique it is needs as the commission has pointed out. Dividing these communities could potentially delay progress for maintaining self-sustaining families and strong communities. Our efforts could be further improved by including communities with similar make up, such as South Haven, Covert, and Battle creek. It is for the reasons noted that I speak in

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support of the “chestnut’ congressional map, as the best draw for Southwest Michigan, and believe the “Apple map” is a disservice to our communities. Thank you for your time.

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# Kalamazoo district

## Basic Info

Submitter: Deb K  
Location: Kalamazoo City  
Submitted: 11/3/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w8566

## Tags

#kalamazoo

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Kalamazoo should not be linked with Grand Rapids. It should be linked with Battle Creek, as they are both more rural and share an airport.

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Pine Sol map which really does address these critical issues so please take a look at that map and take it into consideration.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Anthony Skinnell.

>> Good morning, Commissioners Anthony Skinnell Wayne County. Trying to make another full map if you know what it would look like to incorporate the two Black plurality districts for Detroit with east west split into a full map. Maybe it doesn't look right for your area. I'm sorry I'm not from your area. You spent one day on Congress and that was it. One and done. Pretty much like how the District was drafted. In one day by Commissioner from Rochester Hills drawing our Detroit District it looks like it was drawn. It does not look like it makes sense the with the northeast and southwest and west and west, I mean if it's not good for your area I don't know why you couldn't fix it. Now we are left to the Chair's good graces to do it on her own time if she can for us to have decent representation. I mean I'm sorry, you have not spent enough time on it. You keep glossing over Detroit and it's really inappropriate. You want to arbitrate what is appropriate for us and you cannot maintain quorum for one full meeting.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Audry-Lester.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> I'm Audrey Lester from Berrien County in the northwest corn and I'm originally from Chicago and came to this area as a by way of a family cottage and now am a resident. I know the Lake from many aspects. Please keep the lakeshore State House map as you've drawn it. It's a great representation of St. Joe, Benton Harbor New Buffalo and South Haven. Economically and by way of diversity it would make sense to add Saugatuck and Douglas if you would. They are cultures and economies and cultures of interest. To put them in conflict with rural entities doesn't make sense. For Congress we would love to have Benton Harbor and Kalamazoo and St. Joe stay together. We need a bigger Metropolitan area to help anchor us so the chestnut map is preferred over the apple map. I'm so glad I heard your comments earlier today. It's a Gargantuan task you all have undertaken. It's a work in progress. Be kind to yourselves and remember that and the voters will appreciate it. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Melany-Mack.

>> Hello, I'm Melany-Mack live in Detroit in Clinton County and came with remarks I want to say but I appreciated the Commission's Chair her emphasis of how you are a team and thought we as citizens of Michigan are a team too. And to work as a team we got to have a level playing field. And we need that to make our democracy work. So the fairness of these maps is really, really critical to do that. I just wanted to say you have done a great job on the birch map. And I really like that a lot. And I hope that you

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Michigan is not acceptable. The map already what's a high bias in favor of the republican party. And completely disenfranchises minority communities in Muskegon, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids. I supported Voters Not Politicians and support the work you are doing on the Commission. I urge you to please fix West Michigan, the apple and chestnut maps provide some options for how to do this. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 73, Andrew.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> I want to thank you guys for the work you are doing and letting me speak. I do want to push back against some of these assertions that these partisanly fair maps are somehow gerrymandered. I think folks are used to have the maps stacked in their favor and if they can't win on fair maps that is theirs to deal with. I want to you know I know I'm beating a dead horse saying partisan fairness is important and that a 4.3% efficiency gap is just unacceptable. We you got close to it close to 0 on the Senate map and I think we can do it on the house map as well. Let's just get those numbers down to 0.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 74, Sonya Patrick.

>> That participant is not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do we have number 75, Mari-Rymar.

>> Hello, hi my name is Mari-Rymar from Ypsilanti I would like to thank you for your work in drawing a more partisanly fair State Senate map. Thank you for taking our feedback seriously and making connections. I ask you please do the same with the State House map and reduce the 4.3 efficiency gap. Our Constitution mandates that districts shall not provide a disproportionate advantage to any political party. A 4.3 efficiency gap in favor of one party is still too high. I also thank you for listening to the voices of residents in Detroit and to please continue complying with the Voting Rights Act while drawing the maps. Another way to improve democracy is to stop the process of prison gerrymandering at least in the State House and stat State Senate if not at the Congressional level because our state laws already require Counties cities and towns to exclude people in state prisons who are not residences and it should be the same on the state and house Senate levels. Redistricting community in Pennsylvania has already acted on its own account incarcerated people.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 76, Max Lewis.

>> Hi, Commissioners, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> I just want to start by saying thank you all so much for the incredible amount of work you have put into it at this point. I know this has been a long slog of a process but we are really grateful for your dedication as the maps get more complicated and the decisions get harder. I do want to remind you all that partisan fairness should not be

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And I'm also very disappointed to see that you guys continue to work on the east side of the state and not put as much thought into the west side of the state maps.

Again, please do not continue to push Kalamazoo County toward to lakeshore as we do not share the same ideas.

Again, I thank you for your work and I appreciate all that you do but I wish that you would spend more time on the west side to give us more consideration as to what we've been asking for.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission.  
That concludes our Remote Public Comment.

I do not believe we have any in-person at this point.

So will – we have had a practice of taking a break.

Do we want to take a break, Commissioners, or we want to keep going?

>> We need to take a break and review a Baker memo.  
So I would suggestion 20, 25 minutes so that will give us a break and a time to review the memo.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good.  
It is currently without objection.  
It is currently 10:29 and we will recess until 10:30.  
Hearing no objections –

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: It is 10:30.

>> We're going to do a minute?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I apologize.  
We will recess until 11:00 o'clock.  
No, thank you.  
I appreciate that.  
I need it.  
Okay.  
Without objection, we will recess until 11:00 a.m.  
Hearing no objection, we are in recess until 11:00 o'clock.  
Thank you very much.

[ Board in recess ]

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# Finish Strong, choose collaborative maps

## Basic Info

Submitter: Tim King  
Location: Livonia City  
Submitted: 12/27/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9626

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

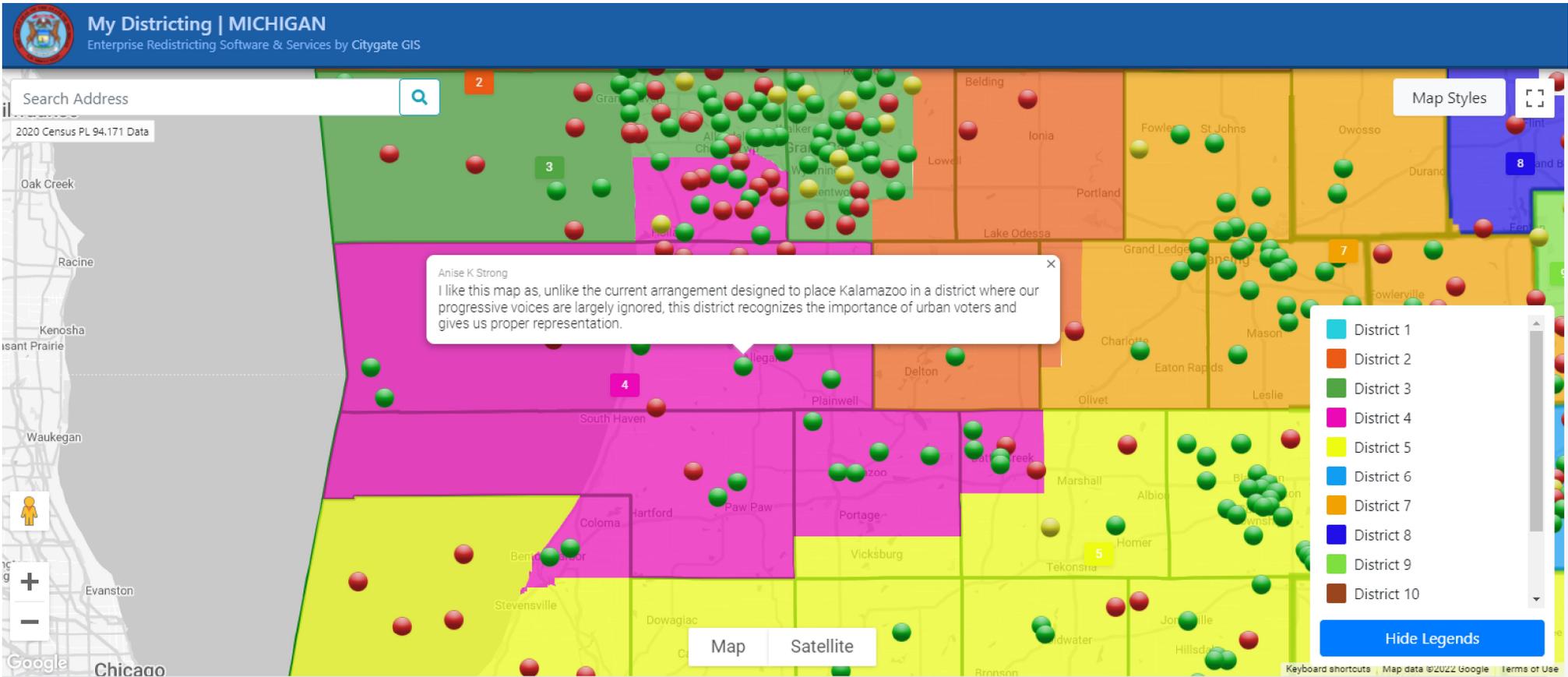
Commissioners, from the beginning of your work together as a Commission, I have been impressed with your commitment to working in a collaborative way to produce maps based on adherence to federal law and the constitutional criteria set forth in the amendment, and without regard to the interests of current office holders or political parties in general. From what I have observed, you have all have listened respectfully to fellow commissioners and the public, and have diligently sought to incorporate often contradicting testimony in your collaborative maps. I urge you to finish your work in a manner consistent with your efforts to date: vote for collaborative maps! That will, no doubt, come down to voting for a second choice in some cases. Solid majority votes for collaborative maps will bolster the public's confidence in your work. I have looked at and studied some of the criteria used in assessing all of the proposed collaborative maps. The analyses of Michigan State University's IPPSR and comments others have left on this portal have influenced my personal preferences. I like Chestnut for the Congressional map as it seems to achieve the best marks on the metrics the IPPSR has measured. I like the Grand Rapids-Muskegon, Kalamazo-Battle Creek and Midland to Tri-Cities links. The border counties district is great and obviously a response to community input from that area. I like the Hispanic COI incorporated in the SW Detroit/downriver area. I would also give the nod to Linden for state senate districts and Hickory for the state house. I really like the districts that hug

3/18/22, 4:00 PM

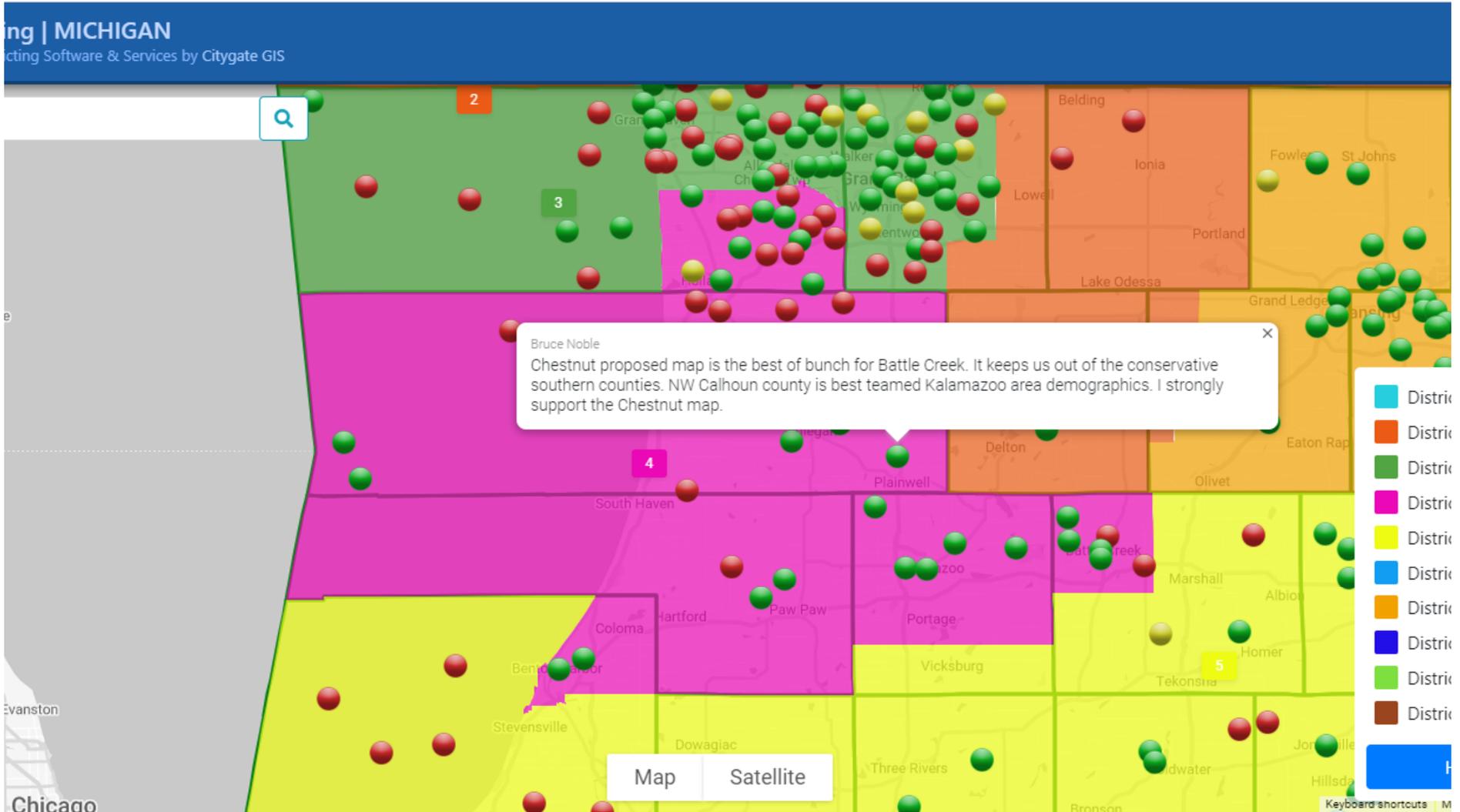
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lakeshores on the west and east sides and the efforts to create compromise district lines in the Midland area. Unpacking Detroit was a radical change in the status quo. I applaud you for persisting in creating new districts, especially in the Detroit metro area, that are compliant with the constitution's new criteria. I thank each of you for your dedicated service on this inaugural independent citizens redistricting commission!

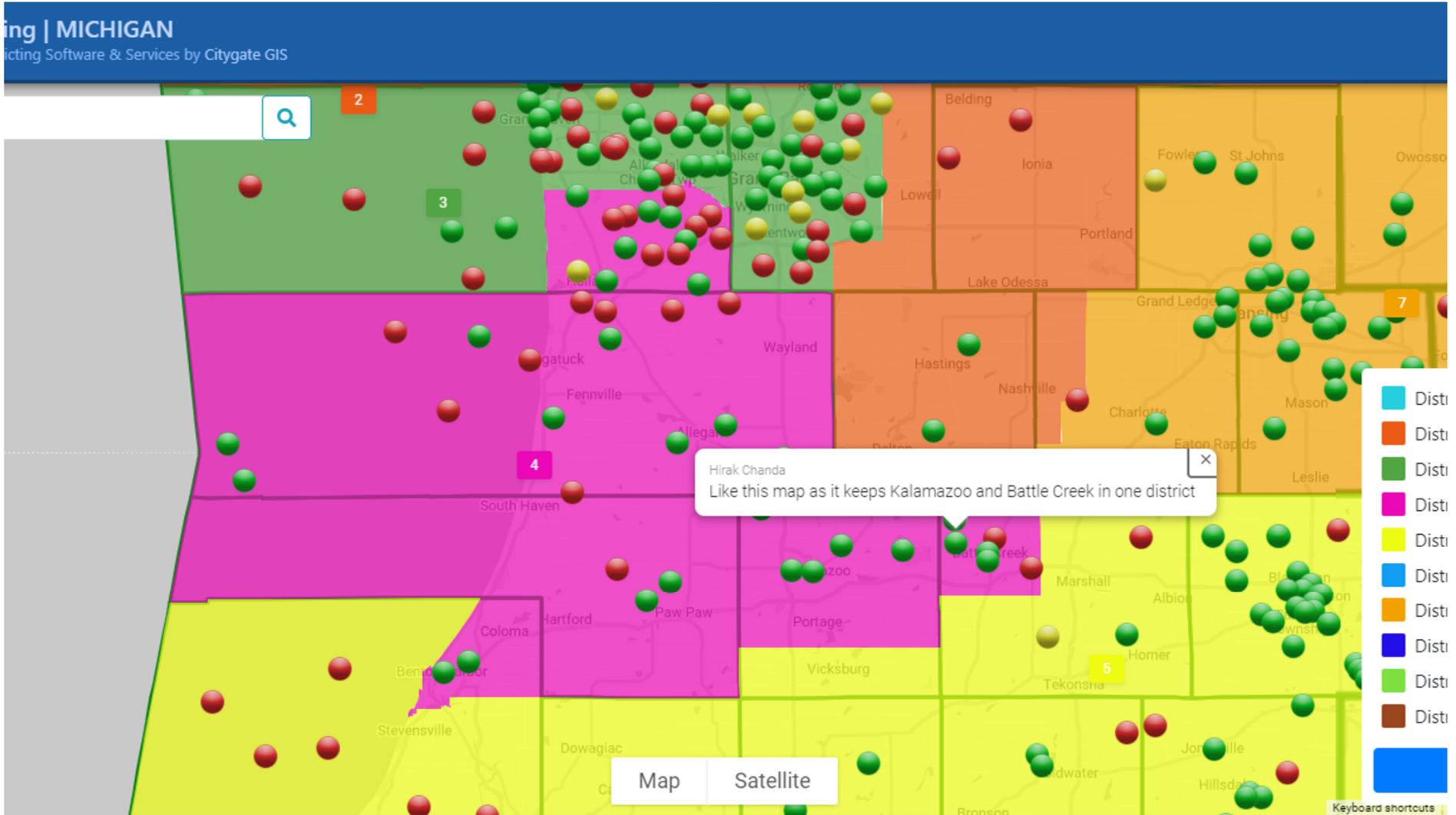




Color	#	Name	Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)	VAP NH Other (Combo)	VAP NH Hispanic
	0	Unassign	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	1	District 1	775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)	7,540 (1.19%)	10,255 (1.62%)



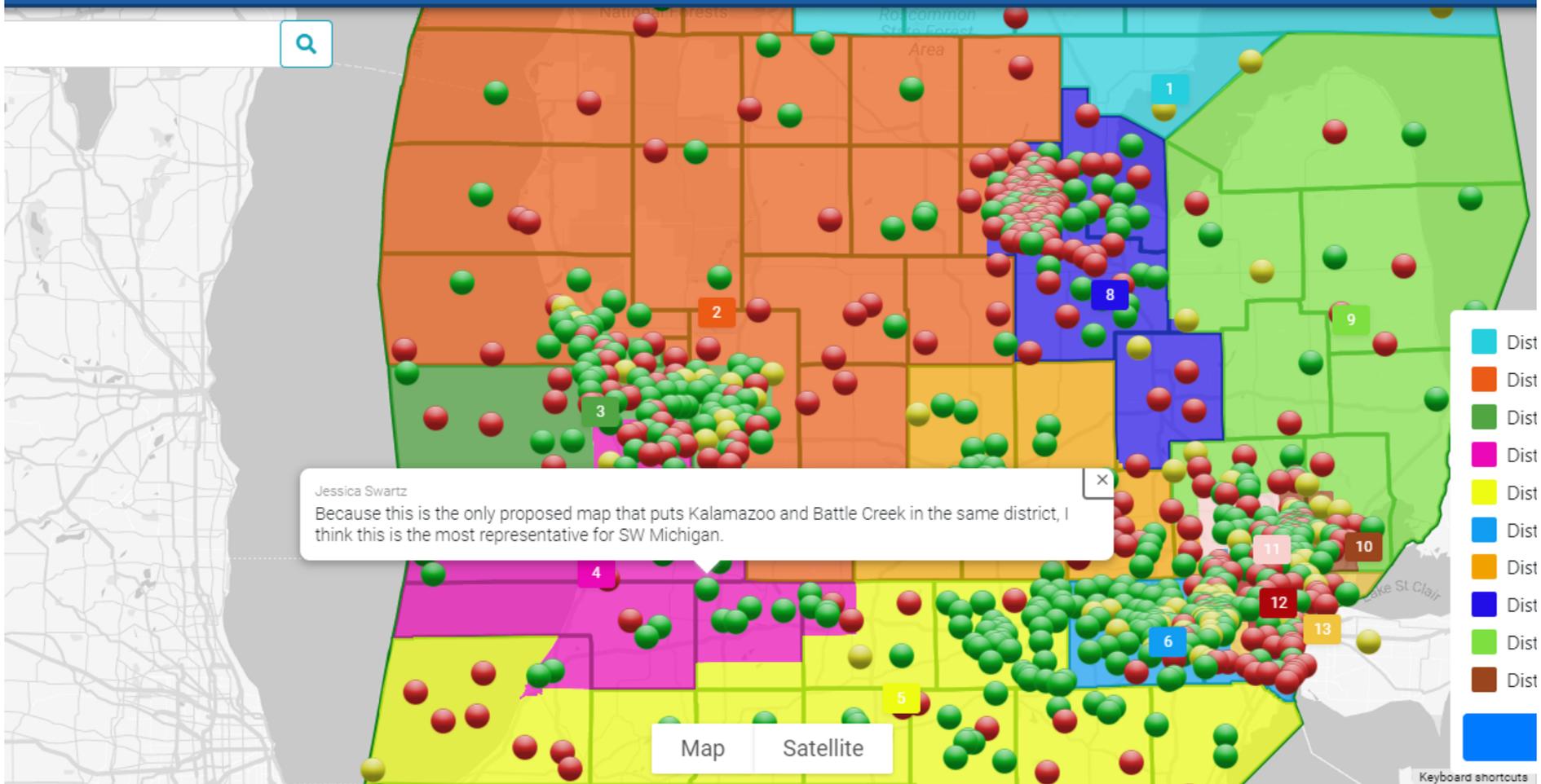
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0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
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775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418



Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
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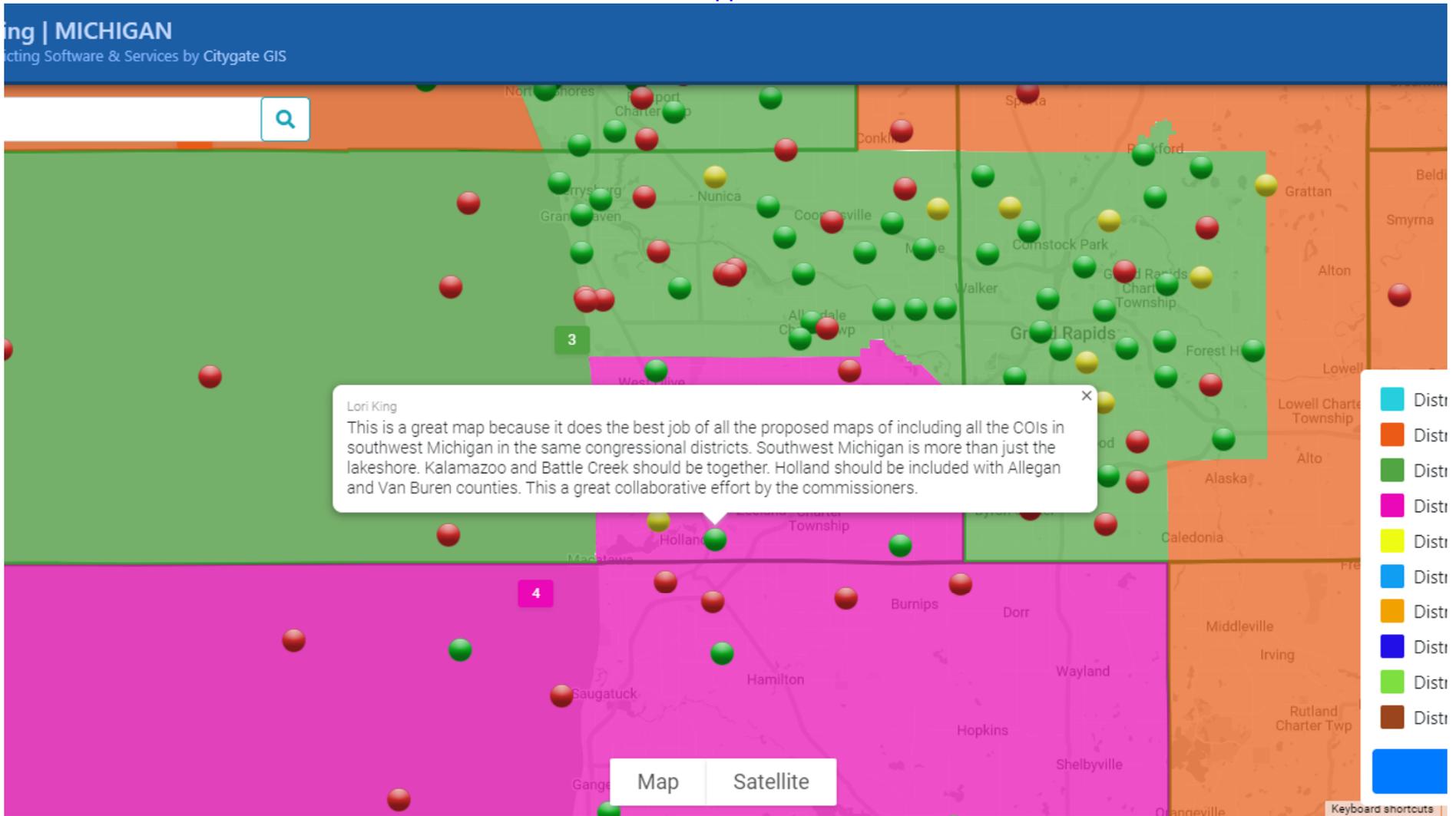
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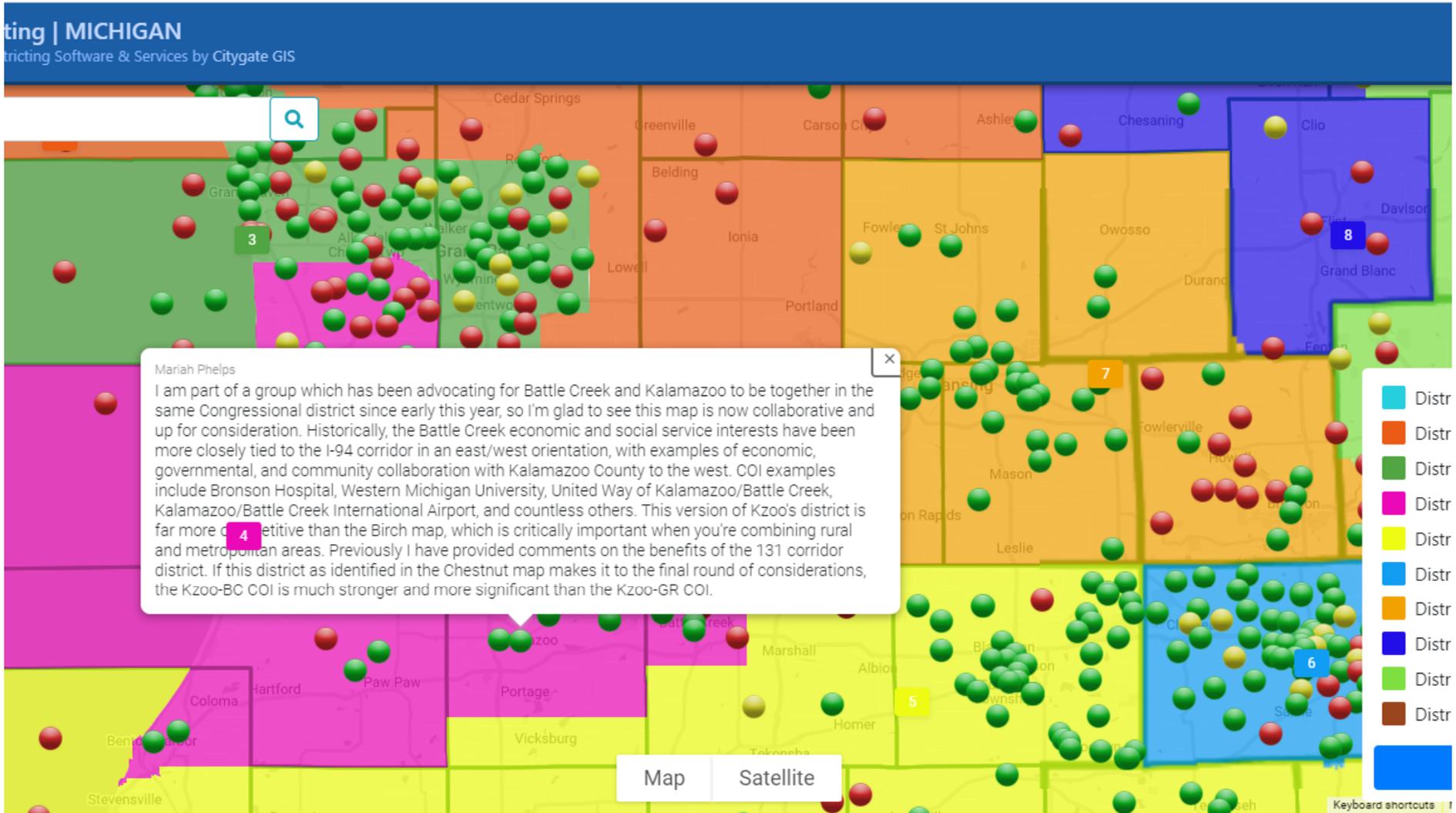


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775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
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**PART 1**

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# DISTRICT 5

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# Unite Border Counties

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jeff Yeutter  
Location: Adrian  
Submitted: 6/9/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w660

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

6/29/2021 - **Carol Knolauch** (Riga Township):  
Please keep the border counties of Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale whole. We need representation that understands the uniqueness of border counties.

6/30/2021 - **Paul Palpant** (Adrian Township):  
Border counties to Indiana and Ohio have different challenges than the other counties of Michigan. Please consider keeping the border counties whole when finalizing the redistricting for the state house representative. The representative would better be able to understand and help with these unique challenges.

7/1/2021 - **Roxann Holloway** (Lenawee):  
Roxann Holloway (Madison Township): With the many challenges that border counties experience, I am requesting that you keep Monroe, Lenawee, and Hillsdale Counties whole. This will allow the residents to be represented by someone who understands the specific needs of our counties.

## Written Testimony

Honorable Commissioners,  
As a resident of Lenawee County, a border county, and a Certified Public Accountant who deals with complex tax issues and business policies, as well as business regulations for my clients and myself, I am writing to ask that you leave our southern border counties united in the redistricting map—Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and possibly even Branch for bigger areas of representation. Businesses in border counties are affected by tax and business policies established in Lansing and Washington D.C., which are different from non-border counties. When we've had a divided representation our representatives often don't really understand our issues or speak with our voice. They are often more divided in their focus and in their accountability to us. When we border counties/areas can be united, it has helped us have a stronger voice for our specific concerns. Our representatives have lived and experienced the special challenges that we face when we have to compete with Ohio and Indiana. Some recurring examples are when gas, cigarette, and alcohol taxes are raised. I see a big effect on my clients who are then at a major disadvantage with businesses in the states to the south of us. Splintering our voice and our representation would discriminate against us, be less efficient, and be overall more costly and less productive. Thank you for considering Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and possibly Branch in this manner.  
Jeff Yeutter

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# Border County Congressional District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Paul Pirrone  
Location: Temperance  
Submitted: 6/9/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p624

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#border counties #monroe #lenawee  
#bedford township #hillsdale #branch  
#st. joseph #cass #berrien

## More Info

I am the Township Supervisor for Bedford Township. We are more similar to Toledo than we are to Detroit or Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti. To illustrate this point, here are some of the interests tying us more to our border than the vastly different communities to our north: shared infrastructure, unions, United Way, print and broadcast media, hospital (ProMedica), environmental concerns related to the River Raisin Watershed and Lake Erie, and our areas water is part of the Toledo system.

As a leader in a border community, we deal with issues daily related to the southern neighbors (property tax, income tax, sales tax, bottle deposit, shared fire protection) and these issues are not shared by the other 72 non-border counties. Only the UP counties bordering Wisconsin also share these concerns but based off of population in the UP, those counties will already have the same representation. That's why this southern border county area deserves to have

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representatives attentive to these unique issues.

It is my understanding that districts need to be around 775,000 so I included Jackson county as well. I included Jackson county because I understand they have multiple intergovernmental partnerships with Lenawee and Hillsdale counties, and have US 127 headed south into Ohio so their industries understand interstate commerce.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Tom's Border/Agriculture District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Tom H  
Location: Monroe  
Submitted: 7/13/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p1455

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

This district proposal groups the southern border counties and townships, particularly those with an emphasis on the agricultural industry. The border counties have significant synergy with the northern counties of Ohio and Indiana which are also heavily agriculture with the exception of the metro Toledo area. The southern boundary counties share in the River Raisin watershed and its environmental impact. The close proximity to the Maumee River watershed is also a key factor particularly as it empties into Lake Erie near the Michigan border. These counties share the needs of the farming communities that leads to common resource and political support.

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## Comments & Feedback

7/14/2021 - **Conner Wood** (Jackson):  
Jackson County is NOT predominantly agricultural (which this commenter from two counties away from Jackson might not know). According to the Department of Agriculture's 2017 farm census there were about 1,500 farm operations in Jackson County. Compare that with the Bureau of

3/18/22, 3:43 PM

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Labor Statistics data which shows 55,000 non-farm workers in Jackson County, including a disproportionately large manufacturing and healthcare workforce. There are of course heavily agricultural PARTS of Jackson County (especially the western portion), and much of the County's acreage is dedicated to agriculture, but Jackson County as a whole is not predominantly agricultural. Jackson County (by which I mean "most residents of Jackson County" and "the economy of Jackson County writ large") has much more in common with western Washtenaw or Ingham than it does with Hillsdale or Lenawee for example.

7/19/2021 - **Heather Hunnell** (Chelsea): As a former resident of Jackson County and a current resident of Western Washtenaw, I strongly agree with Connor Wood's comments. Jackson and Western Washtenaw County do not share anything like the same scale of agriculture as Hillsdale and Lenawee. Per calculations using the USDA's 2017 farm census, those two counties have ~60-80% of their acreage farmed, compared to less than 40% in Jackson and Washtenaw. I have family connections to agriculture here in Michigan and in a couple of other states. Farmers clearly deserve consideration as a COI, but they represent a very small portion of our populations in Jackson and Washtenaw County. Per calculations using economic data from Sperling's Best Places, only 1% of the population of Chelsea and its nearest surrounding Washtenaw County townships are employed in agriculture. Although agriculture played an important role in Chelsea's early history, the arrival of the railroad in 1850 shifted the focus to manufacturing and trade. Any visitor to the city would almost certainly note the standing remains of the city's manufacturing past (railroad depot, Glazier buildings, Federal \* Works site) and see that manufacturing, retail, and healthcare are the main economic drivers now. Chelsea is bordered to its north and west by Pinckney and Waterloo State Recreation Areas. Combined, these two state

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properties total 32,000 acres of wetlands, lakes, glacial moraines, and woods. These natural areas have been parks for roughly 80 years now and are the dominant feature of the landscape in this corner of Washtenaw County. The Wikipedia articles on Waterloo State Recreation Area, Pinckney State Recreation Area, and the Waterloo Farm Museum rely mainly on source materials from the Michigan DNR and are a good place to learn more about the creation and history of these parks. Due to the location of these natural areas, farmland is more heavily concentrated south of I-94. If a portion of Western Washtenaw is going to be included in a district being drawn for the specific purpose of advocating for agricultural interests, then I would recommend that I-94 in Sylvan and Lima Township constitute the northernmost border to be considered for such a district. #washtenaw #jackson #chelsea

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# MI Border

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jeff  
Location: Adrian Township  
Submitted: 7/28/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1792

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#border #lenawee #monroe #hillsdale  
#branch

## More Info

Honorable Commissioners,  
As a resident of Lenawee County, a border county, and a Certified Public Accountant who deals with complex tax issues and business policies, as well as business regulations for my clients and myself, I am writing to ask that you leave our southern border counties united in the redistricting map—Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and possibly even Branch for bigger areas of representation. Businesses in border counties are affected by tax and business policies established in Lansing and Washington D.C., which are different from non-border counties. When we've had a divided representation our representatives often don't really understand our issues or speak with our voice. They are often more divided in their focus and in their accountability to us. When we border counties/areas can be united, it has helped us have a stronger voice for our specific concerns. Our representatives have lived and experienced the special challenges that we face when we have to compete with Ohio and Indiana. Some recurring examples are when gas,

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cigarette, and alcohol taxes are raised. I see a big effect on my clients who are then at a major disadvantage with businesses in the states to the south of us.

Splintering our voice and our representation would discriminate against us, be less efficient, and be overall more costly and less productive.

Thank you for considering Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and possibly Branch in this manner.

Jeff Y

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Border Counties

## Basic Info

Submitter: Amy H  
Location: Tecumseh Township  
Submitted: 8/7/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2044

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#bordercounties](#) [#border](#) [#rural](#)  
[#agriculture](#) [#lenaweemonroe](#)

## More Info

This is a rural community of interest. While it is not large enough to be a congressional district, I think it represents a community that should be united in representation due to its mostly rural lifestyle. If this should be used to make a congressional seat, it should not pick up any urban areas, as this would dilute the rural voice represented here. Border counties should be kept together and remain rural, not urban.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Suburban Lifestyle vs Border Counties

## Basic Info

Submitter: Steven  
Location: Ypsilanti Township  
Submitted: 8/11/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2321

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#bordercounties](#) [#urban](#) [#rural](#)

## More Info

As someone who grew up and raised a family in rural Michigan, and now living in urban Michigan, I can say firsthand that these are two distinctively different communities, and therefore should not be stuck together in representation. They have different values, lifestyles, family structures, etc. They have different income levels, paces of life, and economies. Any attempt to combine these two communities are absolutely partisan in nature and I would strongly oppose these movements.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Beer

## Basic Info

Submitter: Matthew  
Location: Hillsdale County  
Submitted: 8/12/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2383

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#border counties](#) [#border](#) [#beer](#)

## More Info

As a lifelong resident of a border county I know how often I make runs into Ohio and Indiana for groceries and cold beer, and I know many others who do the same. In border counties we are always competing with Ohio and Indiana for the price of goods and services as well as labor. I have many friends who drive south to work out of state, do a majority of their shopping, attend parks, and attend church. This lifestyle is unique to border counties.

## Comments & Feedback

8/15/2021 - **Jeff** (Jackson City): This comment is REAL people! I live in Jackson and even I will drive into Indiana and Ohio to save on large purchases.

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# My South Michigan Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Tammy T  
Location: Hillsdale  
Submitted: 8/12/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2380

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#jackson #lenawee #hillsdale #calhoun  
#st joe #cass #berrien #branch  
#van buren #allegan #kalamazoo

## More Info

I was born and raised in South MI and also believe that county lines are a good basis for communities of interest in Michigan. These four communities each share interests and cooperate within themselves in many ways such as government, economy, and tourism. They are also uniquely different from one another due to where they sit on a map. These communities would be a good base for our maps in Michigan.

[View in Districtr](#)

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Border Districts

## Basic Info

Submitter: Aaron  
Location: Sturgis  
Submitted: 8/13/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2403

## Tags

## More Info

Districts that border Indiana ought to be kept together based on having similar problems and people groups.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# West Michigan Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mary  
Location: Muskegon  
Submitted: 8/13/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2410

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#muskegon #allegan #van\_buren  
#berrien #cass

## More Info

Muskegon-Oceana-Newaygo: Muskegon based district with nearby counties. Good mix of urban and rural. Close proximity so easy for a Senator to represent and visit all areas of the district in-person.  
Allegan-Van Buren: Rural communities along the shoreline, with heavy agriculture, tourism and manufacturing economic engines. Overlapping broadband and government services.  
Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph: Border counties with similar economic and cultural interests. Multiple community colleges and similar rural area with small towns.  
Kalamazoo County: Geographically tight district with similar cultural, social and economic challenges and issues.

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Redistricting effort

## Basic Info

Submitter: Lorrie  
Location: Benton Harbor/Berrien  
Submitted: 8/14/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w2422

## Tags

#berrien

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Key connections between Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph Counties:  
Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph Counties are border counties, so they are facing the same challenges of living on the border of Indiana, particularly competing economically with our neighboring state. Small community colleges are focused in and serving Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph Counties. Southwestern Community College (Cass and Berrien), Lake Michigan College (Berrien) and Glen Oaks Community College (St. Joseph). Same TV market (Berrien and Cass in South Bend market).  
The high school athletic conference is literally called the Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph League, based on the three southwestern border counties.  
Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph counties are similar economically, rural with small towns, agriculture heavy, and connected with various organizations:  
The Cass-St. Joseph Youth Opportunity Initiative, which is a partnership between a non-profit and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. The youth initiative brings together public and private resources to help young people transitioning from foster care to adulthood.  
Cass-St. Joseph Counties Rural Letter Carriers Association.  
When the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services hires a Children's Services Specialist, that individual covers Cass and St. Joseph.  
Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph county school districts dramatically overlap: Constantine Schools covers many Cass and St. Joseph families.

3/18/22, 3:33 PM

MICRC Public Comment Portal

Niles Schools covers many Berrien and Cass families.

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# State Senate 21st District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Alton  
Location: Berrien County  
Submitted: 8/15/2021  
Type: plan  
State Senate Districts  
ID: p2433

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph counties have many community connections, all are border counties to Indiana, they all face similar challenges in terms of economic development and workforce. They all have small community colleges that serve their areas and the counties are intermingled in community college districts. They all are in the South Bend ADI for media markets, and the high school conference is the Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph League, based on the three border counties.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Border county news

## Basic Info

Submitter: Susan  
Location: Lenawee  
Submitted: 8/17/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2493

## Tags

## More Info

Living in border counties many don't realize how much rely on newspaper and stations for our local news. I've provided more specifics on my map.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

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# Communities of Southern and Lakeside MI

## Basic Info

Submitter: Franklin  
Location: Algansee Township  
Submitted: 8/20/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2635

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

I was born and raised in Southern Michigan. The people of this rural and agrarian region value small, close-knit communities. The communities near the border of Michigan are distinct in terms of culture, economics, and values from other small communities through the state, as are the lakeside communities where my wife and I enjoy vacationing.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Communities top priority

## Basic Info

Submitter: Anthony  
Location: Monroe  
Submitted: 8/30/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c3240

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#cois

## More Info

Communities of interest are a top priority to not just me, but also the voters of Michigan who approved this commission. Communities are more important according to the Constitution than other measures pushed by political consultants and even other measures like compactness. We don't want lines splitting us up. We've had politicians do this for years, we don't want random splits. I understand these files can be overlaid onto a map and would consider you do this to follow the Constitution. To me, my community is rural, focused on agriculture, and has similar hobbies when it comes to recreational activities like hunting.

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Monroe is a Border County

## Basic Info

Submitter: Michele P.  
Location: Monroe County  
Submitted: 8/30/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c3225

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Monroe County is much more tied together with other border counties than it is alike the large cities to the North like Detroit, Ann Arbor, and Ypsilanti. Economically, our focus is on farming and have great deals of interstate commerce due to the border. Just like Lenawee County, and the counties to the west, we have many cross-state commuters and our communities often tie us to individuals living in Ohio or Indiana (in fact, 2/3 of Monroe County head south every weekend to enjoy better food options!) The state border doesn't define our community. With the recent census data, the similarities between border counties was reinforced by population trends across the border counties which was a stark difference between the more urban areas to the north. This reflects the economic realities of our region.

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Public Safety Cross State Cooperation

## Basic Info

Submitter: Victor Fitz  
Location: Cassopolis  
Submitted: 9/2/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c3566

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

As Cass County Prosecutor I deal with many cases involving Indiana and Michigan cross county and State boarders. It is important we keep boarder counties together as well as the cooperation between Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph counties polices forces when we tri and prosecute individuals who many cross State and County lines.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Business and competition with Indiana

## Basic Info

Submitter: Charles Heit  
Location: New Buffalo Township  
Submitted: 9/2/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c3560

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Berrien, Cass and St Joseph Counties all share a common border with Indiana and share similar interests such as tourism and business. Many of the individuals who live in Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph also work in Indiana and vise versa. Keeping the economic districts together is a must! Especially for competition for small business to unit against Indiana. Keep small business in Michigan and give them a unified voice.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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I talked it up during the campaign.

But my main motivating force, and I think that of many of the people I volunteered with, was to have our representatives reflect the overall aggregate vote across the state.

So that a party that got a clear majority of the votes statewide has a majority, say, in Lansing and representing us in Washington.

That would be success.

Another different point is your next two public meetings fall right in the Jewish high Holy days, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. I really hope the next scheduled events you will show more respects, check the calendar for the significant holidays for the various religions.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number 12.

Sorry, I skipped number, so number 13.

I didn't have number 11, that's right. Go ahead.

>> Thank you, Commissioners, for the job you're doing and the job that you have ahead of you.

My name is Mike H.

I'm a resident of Monroe County. And one of the questions that was proposed to me when I came in by one of the Commissioners was could I help you guys distinguish what was Monroe County, whether it was a rural or suburban commuter community. As a lifelong resident of Monroe, I certainly believe we are a suburban community. I don't know the exact numbers, but I believe over 20% of Monroe County resident work in Wayne County and almost, just under 20% work in Ohio, in the Toledo area. With only 1% working in the Lenawee County area.

So, I do believe we have much more in county with the Wayne County, Down River Area and hope you take that into consideration.

Also, to keep the I-75 and 23 corridors separate.

The I-75 corridor definitely is more of the suburban manufacturing community whereas the 23 would be somewhat more the rural community.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number 14.

>> Good afternoon, Commissioners.

I like the rest of the speakers want to thank you for taking on this historical opportunity.

My name is Dan Mitten, I'm born and raised in Monroe County.

And I rise here today to talk about the community of interest also.

I have seen a lot of comments made on rural Monroe County.

It does have areas that are rural.

However, it is heavy industrial.

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>> I may be a little late, but I did attend this hearing yesterday when you were working on Northwest Michigan.

And, in particular, I did submit some drawings for you regarding the 92nd State House. And I just want to reemphasize that the City of Muskegon and Muskegon Heights are home to the largest population of African/Americans in West Michigan.

This cities are together and they should never be separated in accordance with Section Two of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which states no voting qualification or for lack of a prerequisite to voting or standard practice or procedure shall be imposed or applied by any state or political subdivision to deny or abridge a right of any citizen of the United States to vote on the count of race or color.

So, therefore, we are thinking that any attempt to redistrict Muskegon Heights will diminish the voting power of the African/Americans in West Michigan.

Now, it was actually very interesting to watch you reconfigure the 92nd State House because if I was correct what it did is it appeared as though at the end of the thing yesterday it appeared as though you took Newaygo County out of the 92nd State House.

And that you went directly north on the coastline of Lake Michigan and added two more counties.

Now, I have not crunched the numbers yet.

And it all went down too quick for me to look at.

But I just wanted to be assured that, you know.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Your time has expired.

Next in line to provide public comment is Matt Dame.

>> Hello. Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Matt Dame from Jackson County. I spoke with you one other time at the Commission's very first public hearing in Jackson, Michigan.

Being that the Jackson hearing was way back in May and seeing now how fall is almost already upon us, I wanted to take a moment to reiterate the prominent communities of interest that came out of your very first hearing.

As a board member of the region two area agency on aging I personally shared how the R2AAA provides services to the elderly in Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee Counties by Federal and state statutes.

At that hearing I also -- was also surprised to hear how many folks came to the microphone to share the same Tri-County area in Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee as they are communities of interest.

One lady mentioned the Irish Hills Chamber of Tourism Group and incorporated the same Tri-County area.

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Another gentleman mentioned the Tri-County planning Commission.

Another lady mentioned how the local NASCAR track impacts the economy of Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee.

I also heard a very compelling community of interest shared from the Chair of the River Raisin watershed. And the unique differences that the rural watershed faces compared to the more urban watershed. He stated this watershed comprises the three counties I mentioned, Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee. But he also pointed to Monroe and the rural western parts of Washtenaw as well as part of Northern Ohio.

As the third ranked criteria in the Constitution, please use these communities of interest that you heard.

And that were submitted in writing to help guide your work.

Thank you for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line, and I apologize if I miss pronounce your name, Aisha-Zanib.

>> Hello, Commissioners. Good morning. So my name is Aisha-Zanib. I'm a board of director with API vote Michigan. I'm from Oakland County here in Michigan. This is probably not the first time that you're hearing this, but I believe it's really important that you are.

I believe it's really important that the Commissioners adjust their plan to spend more time mapping the Detroit Metro Area.

As you probably already have seen there is a significant number of maps and submissions from this area.

It's important that you, like, we don't just overlook the hard work of our communities putting this together, just as one of the panelists mentioned that she had.

Detroit Metro is, the Detroit Metro area is one of the most populous areas in the state with about 40% of the State's population living here.

I understand that yesterday we changed the number of days from one to three, but giving yourself three days to draw House Districts is just not enough especially now that we are including Saginaw and Flint within the Detroit Metro Area.

I'm worried that you're not going to give an equitable amount of time to this area.

And I'm urging you please reconsider spending more time mapping out the Detroit Metro area.

So that it takes into account all the intricacies that exist and that it's -- it is in favor of the people.

Thank you for letting me speak today and I appreciate your time.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line to address the Commission is Horsh-Smit.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For the purposes of the public record, that participant and the following participant number eight is not present in the meeting.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you very much.

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The community commonly referred to Down River has been described I believe that there was talk today about how it should be divided up. So I'm sure that you're well aware with the 15 or 20 individual cities that are contained in that area of Down River. Geographic proximity as well as the history of the community and support and shared interests and concerns make us a community of interest. We dine work and travel between our local communities on a daily basis. We live on gross Isle and own a business in Lincoln Park and we dine frequently in many of the Down River communities. I appreciate any efforts to keep Down River together as a community of interest. There was talk yesterday of including Monroe, Monroe is 20 minutes south of us and nothing in common with Down River frankly. Other than a drive. They have a big farming industry down there and they are really don't we don't share a lot of the same interests or community concerns. Thank you very much for your time.

>> CHAIR KELLOM: Thank you so much for taking the time to address the Commission.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Next in line is Oscar Renautt. Please allow us a moment to unmute you. Renautt.

>> Hello, good afternoon. Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR KELLOM: We can hear you.

>> Help how I would like to thank the Commission in their efforts in taking the redistricting in our state.

My name is Oscar Renautt and I've been a resident of Oakland County for over 22 years currently residing in oak park I'm the founder and president of unity found of Michigan which is bipartisan organization with efforts to aid local and statewide LGBTQ candidates to get elected to public offices.

As a side note with approximately 5-6% of population LBGTQ has 0.0 positions nationwide making our community one of the least represented in politics.

Southeast Oakland County without a doubt is an LGBT community of interest as it holds the largest number of LGBT residents in our state.

It's home for many openly LBGTQ officials in Southfield and Ferndale and Hazel park and hunting ton Woods.

Many cities in this area are governed by LBGTQ and elected officials creating a sanctuary for our community by introducing LBGTQ residence and ordinances and it's home for many LBGTQ business owners with the LBGTQ customer base and also the area is home for many LBGTQ community organizations that provide vital resources for our community statewide including youth and seniors.

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# Border counties are unique

## Basic Info

Submitter: Kenneth S  
Location: Lenawee  
Submitted: 9/9/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c4229

## Tags

## More Info

I live and work in a border county and I know everyday I lose business to Ohio and Indiana, but also gain customers from those states. It is a unique situation that other parts of the state do not have to deal with.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

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# Ohio-Indiana Border

## Basic Info

Submitter: Svetlana  
Location: Coldwater City  
Submitted: 9/10/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c4389

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

I live in Branch County and wanted to share how my community interacts with the Ohio and Indiana border. Interstate travel for work, entertainment, and leisure is a daily occurrence. From Lenawee to St. Joseph, we often cross the border in both states and our communities really cross the border.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

That concludes our last in person public comment so we will move to our remote public commentary.

Individuals who would like to provide live remote commentary to the Commission will be

allowed to do so. I will call your name and our staff will unmute you. If you are on a computer, you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak. If you are on the phone a voice will say you can speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute.

I will call on you by your name.

Also please note that if you experience technical or audio issues or we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move to the next person in line and then return to you after they are done speaking. If your audio still does not work, you can email [redistricting@Michigan.gov](mailto:redistricting@Michigan.gov) we will help you troubleshoot so that you can participate during the next public comment period at a later hearing or meeting.

You will have two minutes to address the Commission. And please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer. The first in line to provide public comment is Sing.

Please allow our staff to unmute you.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For the purposes of the public record that participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay we will move on to Doug Campbell.

>> Thank you for allowing me time to address the Commission.

I'd like to bring to the Commission's attention the all too often overlooked border county community.

Counties along the Ohio and Indiana borders share similarities that no other counties can relate to to the state boundaries.

Many residents on both sides of the state commute across the state line twice a day for work.

We deal with tax disparities unique to the daily life of our border county residents.

Recreation and leaser in this community is not restricted by the state boundary.

As many people shop, dine and enjoy outdoor areas in each state.

Most residents cross this line without a second thought because our community stretches across the state boundary.

Additionally across the southern border of Michigan individual counties often share resources, state police posts, union regions, hospital systems health departments environmental concerns infrastructure projects, broadcast media, print media and much more.

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These counties also share economic interests relying heavily on agricultural unlike larger cities of the north of these counties.

Far too long a light communities have been divided for political reasons and I'm optimistic that you will decide to end this.

Finally and most extraordinarily in this time of hyper partisanship both republicans and democrats have given testimony supporting these border counties.

Communities.

For the most part I have been impressed with each of the Commissioners ability to put away party loyalty and work on behalf of communities.

I thank the border may be the most common sense decision for the Commission to make.

While I know the Commission has many difficult decisions ahead, I ask the Commission to forget about border counties and bipartisan support for the communities received.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next is John Calhoun.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Our first participant has now joined the meeting if you would like to return to them.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay let's return to sing.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Hello hi good morning to all of you this is Mr. Sing.

I sat on the board of API vote Michigan and been to a couple of events in person.

It's important and difficult task.

Commissioners I'm requesting like many others that have come before me that you consider expanding your current mapping schedules.

Vice Chair Rebecca urged the Commission to consider expanding the current schedules to include Fridays and Saturdays.

We are still waiting for your response.

We understand your concerns.

And to make it clear last Thursday that mapping Metro Detroit, Flint and Saginaw needs more time than one day.

How do you plan to complete this work to accommodate the communities of interest for 40% of state's published, please? I understand this is hard work and that your time but as the public watches and sees we notice that you're not on schedule.

Please explain how you expect to redraw the maps you have already drafted to consider all the area and continue to map Metro Detroit and the current counties.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

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And just to point out with the prior speaker that my prediction is the way you're going to get this done is you already got it done.

You already got it done. And this is a self-imposed deadline so that you can say oh, look we didn't violate nothing.

You have to give the people the right to have informed consent for these votings.

And interesting, I believe that Commissioner Lett comments yesterday were disingenuous at best when he said there is a semblance of order here. Because yesterday as he then continued on to say well, hey, how are we going to vote here today? So you make it up different every meeting, that is what you folks are wanting to do. Just like the Netherlands do in the polar model.

And so what you did yesterday was you amended the rules of procedure in direct violation of the rules of procedure. Section 14.2 under amendments it says any amendment to the rules of procedures can be three days' notice. Add it to the agenda provided to the members three days before the meeting.

You didn't do that. Did it on the fly.

And then you just changed it again in the middle of the voting. That is what is wrong about this. And in Section 9 of voting the amended quorum rules in Section 11 is what? A quorum is you have to keep your statements germane to the meeting of the pending question. And now you got to remember this part, too, the Vice Chair, the part about facilitates discussion while it's under consideration.

So it's not under consideration until there is a motion seconding. So Commissioner Szetela of the attorney, in my personal opinion, is willfully and maliciously violating these rules of procedure and assigning the floor when there is no motion second pending.

It's very clear.

And now you've got the postings. You posted yesterday for this meeting.

You are trying to use the 18-hour rule. I got an e-mail back from Pastula. And she said that going by the 18-hour rule. Going by the law. Well, I just got off the phone of the clerk of the house of representatives which you are supposed to be posting at his office. And they are looking into it now. And they are going to give, he says, a written answer. You won't answer nothing. You folks just want to go to Court, don't you? And you will get it cleared in Court by somebody losing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commissioner, Mr. Galant.

All right. Next in line is Anthony Skenell.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Next is supervisor I believe it's Parone.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, sir.

>> I'm the Township supervisor for Bedford and Monroe County.

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I can tell you we are more similar to Toledo than we are to Detroit Down River, Ann Arbor Ypsilanti.

Taylor at this point here, some of the interest, time is more to the border than the vastly different communities to the north. Shared infrastructure, unions, United Way, print, broadcast media.

For medical hospital systems, environmental concerns related to the Raisin Water Watershed, Like Eerie. And our areas of municipal water, we are all part of the Toledo system.

As a leader in a border community, we deal with issues daily related to southern neighbors, property tax and income tax and sales tax and bottle deposit and shared fire protection are an example of some.

These issues are not shared by the 72 non-border counties, only the UP bordering Wisconsin also share these concerns. But based off the population in the UP, those counties will already have the same representation.

That's why the southern border County at areas deserves to have representatives attentive to the unique issues faced by border counties.

It's my understanding that districts need to be around 775,000.

So I included Jackson County as well.

I included Jackson County because I know they have multiple inter-governmental partnerships for Lenawee and Hillsdale Counties and have substantial industry that relies on other Interstate commerce and Ohio.

It's extremely important that we have local representation. And, you know, they are so involved.

I know our representative is at board meetings.

Is at events.

Is very tentative to all of our needs and gets extremely involved.

And so that is why I'm submitting what I have today, so thank you for your time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Jeffrey White.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For the purposes of the public record that participant as well as the next two participants number nine and ten are not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Nine and ten are not present. Okay, so we are going to move on to Robert Dindoffer.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, sir.

>> Thanks hi.

So yesterday I'm from the Lake St. Clair community of interest.

And yesterday I was absolutely elated when you all decided initially or were working on reflecting it in a State Senate District.

And I guess when they decided to break it up.

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# Fix Southwest Michigan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Steve  
Location: Coloma Charter Township  
Submitted: 9/15/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w4598

## Tags

[#berrien](#) [#cass](#) [#st.joseph](#)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

The way the current Senate maps are drawn do not reflect the people and values of Southwest Michigan. Please read these public comments and keep our border communities together (Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph.) We share the same values, we share the same media market (Indiana) and we work together in terms of jobs and economic development. Our proximity to the border has created a natural community. Please don't fracture it.

[← Next](#)[Previous →](#)

## Hometown Area Suggestions

### Basic Info

Submitter: Hannah  
Location: Ypsilanti City  
Submitted: 9/16/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p4660

### Tags

### More Info

As someone who has lived in what you would describe as the border county community of interest as well as Washtenaw county, I feel as though I can offer the commission a unique perspective. Life is distinctly different in these two unique areas. Growing up on the border to another state, it was a common occurrence to cross into **Indiana** or Ohio for a shopping trip, to go see a friend for dinner, or go to a sporting event. Many of our neighbors crossed state lines for cheaper goods, or people came to MI for our goods. There was also a strong agricultural sense of community in our many small towns. Bring your tractor to school day is a common occurrence in the border counties. I can assure you it is not in Ann Arbor-Ypsi. Additionally, I can share the urban lifestyle that much of Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti and the Plymouth-canton area offer compared to the border counties. Many of my friends and I will trade to Plymouth or Canton for recreational sports, go out to eat at one of the many restaurants in the area, or shop in the different malls. Washtenaw has the highest percentage of Asian population in the state, so they

### Map

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3/18/22, 3:13 PM

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should be grouped with other densely populated Asian areas such as Plymouth-Canton. There are many people who live and work in these interconnected communities, and who choose to live there because of the opportunities that are afforded to you if you live in these areas. There are also high quality higher education institutions that deserve representatives focused on these issues that are fundamentally different than those in rural MI.

As Commissioners MC and Szetela pointed out today, these are distinct communities which are nothing like Jackson/Calhoun and the other border counties. I would urge the commission to use these two districts when you begin mapping the congressional maps, and ask that these distinct communities not be combined or split apart. Thank you.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Communities of Color in Western Michigan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Michael Lessig  
Location: Benton Harbor City  
Submitted: 9/20/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5115

## Tags

## More Info

I took about five minutes to edit commissioner Eid's map to draw compact western districts that avoid diluting communities of color in Western Michigan. As you can see, these districts are very compact and in fact score \*better\* than the commissions current districts on measures of compactness (i.e. REOCK score). They also both have larger minority populations than the commission's current maps. Beyond that, this map also has the added benefit of including Barry county in the heavily rural district 2, which is probably a much better fit for it. And this map keeps the entire southern border together, which has also been a priority for some commenters. Please revisit the Western Michigan districts tomorrow. Also don't be afraid of shifting some of the other districts around a bit to make new districts work. That's part of the commission's problem right now is that you seem to only want to adjust one or two districts at a time, but often good reconfiguration require reasonable shifts elsewhere especially when you only have 13 districts. For instance, when I adjusted this map, the southern 7th district

## Map

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3/20/22, 12:50 PM

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expanded to take some of district 6, while the Lansing based district lost some population from Ionia. To fix this imbalance I made a few adjustments in metro Detroit, which didn't radically change much but did allow for population parity.

**Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# US-12 Corridor in Border Counties

## Basic Info

Submitter: Chad

Location: Lenawee

Submitted: 9/28/2021

Type: coi

ID: c5591

## Tags

[#bordercounties](#) [#us12](#)

## More Info

According to the MICRC, Communities of Interest may include “populations that share cultural or historical characteristics or economic interests.” Therefore I would like to share the cultural and historic backbone of the border counties.

In 1825, the United States government appropriated money for the second ever federal highway, which was laid out along an ancient Indian trail. Paleontologists from the University of Michigan have excavated portions of the longest mastodon trailway ever found, suggesting that game animals were using the same corridor over 10,000 years ago, long before the Native Americans or modern-day travelers used this trail. Ancient burial and encampment sites have even been identified along the highway.

According to the US 12 Heritage Trail Organization, during the early development along the highway, a settlement pattern emerged of small towns surrounded by fields and open land. The historic rhythm of this pattern remains very much in evidence today. Spaced at about fifteen mile intervals, small towns like Saline, Clinton,

## Map

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3/18/22, 11:40 AM

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Jonesville, Allen, Quincy, Bronson, Sturgis, White Pigeon, and Niles lined up facing the highway that was responsible for their existence.

The corridor remains active, serving as a regional connector for the corridor's evolving land uses.

Annually, in mid-August, Route 12 comes together to host one of Michigan's most unique cultural events, Michigan's Longest Garage Sale.

Long before our time, and likely long after history forgets us all, this corridor will continue to be in use.

When searching for the economic, historic, and cultural ties, US 12 checks all the boxes and is a true community of interest.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next is 17 Abraham.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not currently present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you, Secretary of State. Number 18, Jill Adams.

>> Hi, can you see me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We can.

>> Okay. First, I'd like to thank all the Commissioners for what I assume has been endless hours on this very large task.

My name again is Jill Adams. I live in Lenawee County. And I know that the people here or in the area down in southern Michigan are very pleased with the Congressional map you've drawn to include the border Counties that are along the Ohio border, and also including Jackson and Calhoun Counties.

Those of us near the border face very unique challenges in the state.

I know that you've received comments from both sides and knowing that you used feedback from both sides is greatly appreciated.

I know I don't speak for everybody on this panel this morning, but I think you have done a great job.

Trying to make all the communities equal 50/50 is never going to happen.

I think it's most important to keep the Counties.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. And our final speaker today is number 19, Chris Andrews.

>> Can you hear me now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We can.

>> Okay. Hi. I'm Chris Andrews from Haslett.

Please don't settle for less unfair maps.

Right now your Senate plan is 100 yard dash or one party start five steps ahead.

Your consultant inadvertently created a false picture yesterday when he agreed that there was a democratic advantage on some of the metrics.

Don't let that color your view.

Every single metric provides a disproportionate bias towards republicans.

Your Voting Rights Act work did not move us towards fairness.

Some of the discussion yesterday seemed to suggest that a 50/50 seat outcome was amazing.

It is not amazing when it takes 52.3% democratic vote to achieve it.

In a close election republicans will probably control the Senate with your map even though even when most voters vote democratic.

The party with the most votes should win the majority.

Otherwise it under mines the will of the people.

Thank you.

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It moves Delta Township and Lansing portion of the Eaton County back into the Eaton County District.

It also divides Ingham County north and south along Grand River avenue.

The house map needs major changes to create fair districts, voters want and the Constitution requires.

I strongly believe that the party with the most votes should win the most seats.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Do we have numbers 51, 54 or 55 by any chance?

>> Good afternoons thank you for providing the opportunity for public comment. My name is Gerid and reside in Cass County a rural County in Southwest Michigan my family founded and based a home supply company here over 50 years ago. As I'm nearing the end of my bachelor's degree here in Lansing, I'm preparing for a leadership role managing window sales in the company. Our small business has expanded to 7 stores based in Cass Berrien and St. Joseph counties.

In Indiana this area is widely known by local as Michiana and there are issues we face bordering another state.

The businesses have figured out viable solution to the complex Commissioner issues but a split Senate District risks adequate representation.

The proposed redistricting map splits our small business into two Senate districts. Creating hurdles and damaging solutions that we have made to ensure our business is successful.

Please keep Michiana intact to ensure our small business is represented.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 59, 60, 61 and 62 and 59 when you reach the microphone, please feel free to speak.

>> Good evening my name is Dale Branch president NAACP.

I'm here to talk about two issues the first is the house seats.

We feel that the portion of Lansing that is cut out and put in with Delta is not a good move.

We feel that that is a bit of gerrymandering and also reduces the effectiveness of people primarily Black indigenous people of color to have an opportunity to be represented.

Likewise we feel the same way concerning your Senate seats.

The fact that north end of town is cut out and placed in with the rural area.

We see no reason for that.

We feel that the current seating structure we have is best for that.

We ask that you would consider relooking at these maps and take these things in consideration, people of color, and they're about to be represented.

And elected.

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My name is Kelsey and I am calling in remotely from Lansing Michigan.

The capitol.

And just a couple points here one is I'm so thankful that we have a hybrid option.

As a person who is disabled, I really appreciate that.

And I would encourage you to keep doing this.

On that same note I think it's really important for the funding that we do allow more disabled inclusivity.

So it's super important.

I also was really encouraged by the indigenous representation we have tonight so to encourage that.

I would just say which has been echoed many times tonight we can't fix gerrymandering and we need to have clean lines as to where the districts are.

And like transparency around that.

But yeah, we need more transparency.

You cannot fix gerrymandering, gerrymandering like it just becomes this cycle so I would encourage as much transparency as much as possible for those written comments to be readout loud as well as trusting some of the organizations that have proposed other maps, other progressed organizations like the ACLU so I hope you have a good night.

And if you come to protest in Lansing I will join you, thanks.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thanks.

Thank you for addressing the Commission. Vadette.

>> Hi yes this is Vadette can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay thank you very much.

Okay, thank you for this opportunity to speak with you.

First and Foremost I was made aware that there wasn't a representative from the west side of Michigan.

And from hearing the past calls I'm sure you're now well aware of this.

For the redistricting.

Even though we are all Michiganders our State of Michigan offers uniqueness in every corner of the state.

But I do want to share that Berrien Cass and St. Joseph County has always been represented as Michiana County our public news source comes from South Bend Indiana.

So we cannot majority of the people who watch TV get their news is mostly from the South Bend, Mishawaka in all three of the Counties.

After reviewing the various versions of redistricting I noticed Berrien County would be split and Cass and St. Joseph County would be removed.

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# Border Counties Are Stronger Together

## Basic Info

Submitter: Chuck M  
Location: Lenawee  
Submitted: 10/26/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w7359

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

As a resident of a border county, I was happy to hear countless commenters from other border counties express their desire to be united in representation with other border counties. Members of the Michiana region share much in common with those of us along the Ohio border. They get Indiana news, we get Ohio news. I believe half of Cass County works across the border. Much of other populations do the same, especially in Toledo and South Bend.

We are united along the Route 12 Corridor and are made up of many small rural communities that are linked and united in healthcare needs, agricultural interests, watersheds, government agency regions, and many more charitable organizations partnering together.

We need a representative who understands this unique lifestyle. You have a chance to listen to our voices and correct a wrong by uniting us, and increasing our voice in government so we can improve life along the border. We are stronger together.

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# Eid Senate map does SW Michigan proper!

## Basic Info

Submitter: Joshua P  
Location: Paw Paw Township  
Submitted: 10/28/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w7889

## Tags

#kalamazoo #battle creek city  
#lake michigan #allegan #van buren  
#michiana

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I cannot speak to the rest of Michigan, but Commissioner Eid's Senate map does a good job of reflecting the COIs in Southwest Michigan. It keeps "Michiana" (Berrien, Cass, St. Joe) whole, it creates a lakeshore COI district with many lakeshore communities, it maintains the rural, agricultural COI in the area of Allegan, Van Buren, and Barry counties, and it protects the urban interests of Battle Creek and Kalamazoo. I would encourage the MICRC to consider Commissioner Eid's suggested Senate districts for Southwest Michigan

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# Michiana and the border

## Basic Info

Submitter: Tom Matthew  
Location: Kinderhook Township  
Submitted: 10/28/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w7957

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Thank you for allowing public feedback. I live in Branch County, just north of the Indiana state line, the region is often called Michiana. This region is a part of the greater border county community. Unlike many areas to our north, our region and community reaches across state lines. This has real life consequences on policies and our day today life. I like the draft maps and think you have kept us in mind.  
Respectfully yours,  
Tom Matthew

## Cluster C32 – Southern Border Counties

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Rural identity. Shared concerns about interstate commerce across with Ohio and Indiana. Agricultural industries, shared health care services, and recreation opportunities. Edges into the Allegan/Van Buren County area, identified as rural lakeshore communities. (See Cluster C16.)

### Portal Link

### Overall Submission Information

### Individual Area Information

[c1645-1](#)

**Congressional District 6 Map.** *No description provided.*

**Congressional District 6.** A congressional district that includes the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek communities.

[c1779-1](#)

**Western Michigan Communities of Interest.** I think this is the best representation of communities of interest in Western Michigan

**Community 1.** *No description provided.*

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

**Portal  
Link**

**Overall Submission Information**

**Individual Area Information**

**c1793-3** **Fair/Compact Map - Border County** . *No description provided.*

**Community Collaboratives between border counties.** My name is Juliana Moore, and I live in Adrian Township in Lenawee County. My Community of interest links counties related by healthcare, including Monroe and Lenawee as well as Branch County with the common denominator of ProMedica Healthcare Systems. I have extended the community of interest by including border counties that have a unique interest as states dealing with interstate economic issues. As a member of Lenawee Health Network, another important link that border counties have is common is the influx of citizens of Ohio, crossing the border for Marijuana. The LHN group is concerned about the health of people in the county, and the struggles that people have with drug dependency, something that these other counties will battle as well. As well, many industries cross over, and areas like Lenawee and Monroe have more in common with an area like Toledo, Ohio, than they may have with Detroit, Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti. It is important to have representation that is able to recognize the unique battle that these border counties encounter. The other districts were modeled after other maps I have seen in the portal and include two Voting Rights districts. The districts are compact and fairly competitive, but overall, the border county district makes the most sense to me and my map was built off of this district.

**c1943-2** **Three Southwest MI Communities.** Much of rural Michigan is similar, though in order to keep districts compact and contiguous it will need to be broken up. Allegan + Van Buren Counties + surrounding rural areas and small towns make a lot of sense as a Community of Interest. While they share similarities with rural areas to the south, the border counties have more in common and more reliance on Indiana than the counties to the north. Likewise, Kalamazoo and Battle Creek should be considered separate from the surrounding rural areas. Though these communities aren't perfectly following county lines, I believe that county lines are a good basis for determining COI-based district lines.

**SW MI Community.** Cass, St. Joseph, Branch, Hillsdale, and most of Berrien Counties form a separate community that should be considered when drawing maps. Similarly rural + small town interests to the VBC/Allegan Col, but it makes sense to separate the two communities when we consider compact and contiguous districts for state level seats. This part of Michigan also borders Indiana and many in Berrien, Cass, and St. Joe are more reliant on places like South Bend or Ft Wayne. Berrien County as a whole shares more with Indiana than Van Buren or Allegan to the north.

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

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3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

**Portal  
Link**

**Overall Submission Information**

**Individual Area Information**

**c2044-  
1**

**Border Counties.** This is a rural community of interest. While it is not large enough to be a congressional district, I think it represents a community that should be united in representation due to its mostly rural lifestyle. If this should be used to make a congressional seat, it should not pick up any urban areas, as this would dilute the rural voice represented here. Border counties should be kept together and remain rural, not urban.

**Community 1.** *No description provided.*

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

**Portal Link**

**Overall Submission Information**

**Individual Area Information**

**c2065-2**

**Improving Regions.** I have mapped two communities of interest. One is Washtenaw and Wayne county, the other is the border counties and Jackson county. These two communities have little in common, and should not in any way be combined in representation. For example, the commission decided to lump Washtenaw County and Monroe county together in a regional plan. While these regions are starting points and were determined previously by bureaucrats in DC, as a lifelong Michigander who is familiar with the areas and unique definition of these communities, here are some thoughts to clean these regions up for district drawings. Washtenaw County is much more connected to Wayne county. For example, the University of Michigan has a campus in Ann Arbor (Washtenaw) and Dearborn extension (Wayne). Additionally, with Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, the Ann Arbor-Ypsi connection should not be separated - especially in federal representation since the universities in this area deserve a representative focused on higher education and urban challenges. Washtenaw County and Wayne county have technology startups and large company offices. This urban area should not have to be represented by someone who is also representing large swaths of urban Michigan. Please consider these differences, and do not combine these two distinctively separate communities in a congressional seat. The rural community I mapped is much more agriculturally based. I lived in one of the rural counties mapped before and now live in one of the urban counties. I can personally attest that these communities have much less in common than some comments try to portray.

**Rural Areas.** Heavily agricultural, smaller communities, lower median income.

**c2317-1**

**Rural vs Urban Lifestyle.** Washtenaw and Wayne counties are vastly different than counties like Jackson, Branch, Hillsdale and Berrien.

**Community 1.** *No description provided.*

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

**Portal Link**

**Overall Submission Information**

**Individual Area Information**

**c2321-1**

**Suburban Lifestyle vs Border Counties.** As someone who grew up and raised a family in rural Michigan, and now living in urban Michigan, I can say firsthand that these are two distinctively different communities, and therefore should not be stuck together in representation. They have different values, lifestyles, family structures, etc. They have different income levels, paces of life, and economies. Any attempt to combine these two communities are absolutely partisan in nature and I would strongly oppose these movements.

**Community 1.** *No description provided.*

**c2395-2**

**Southwestern Michigan.** Growing up in West Michigan, I'm very familiar with which counties should be combined together for Senate districts. Allegan and Van Buren counties are a clear community of interest-agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, shoreline, rural with small towns, and schools, communities, businesses, and local telecommunications providers that cover both counties. Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph are all border counties that face similar challenges-school districts overlap, agriculture, community colleges, and government and non-profit entities covering multiple counties. Kalamazoo County is culturally, socially, economically, and geographically a community of interest.

**Border Counties.** Community of Interest along Indiana Border

**c2377-2**

**West and Southwest Michigan.** Allegan and Van Buren counties are a natural fit. They are shoreline, non-border counties with rural communities and small towns. They are largely based on agriculture, manufacturing and tourism businesses, the local governments work together, and they face the same environmental and access to broadband challenges. Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph counties are a community of interest. They are border counties, the schools are in conferences together, community colleges are significant in the area, and they are rural with small towns. Kalamazoo County is a community of interest. Same media market, one county, same economic engines, and home of Western Michigan University.

**Border Counties.** Community of Interest along Indiana Border

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

Portal Link	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c2635-2	<p><b>Communities of Southern and Lakeside MI.</b> I was born and raised in Southern Michigan. The people of this rural and agrarian region value small, close-knit communities. The communities near the border of Michigan are distinct in terms of culture, economics, and values from other small communities through the state, as are the lakeside communities where my wife and I enjoy vacationing.</p>	<p><b>Southwest Counties on Border.</b> Southwestern Communities along the state border. This is a separate community because of the distance from mid-Michigan and has a separate lakeside community that has interests along with Michigan City and other Indiana/Illinois lakeside communities</p>
c2556-3	<p><b>Southwest Michigan counties.</b> These counties share many functions of government and similar economies.</p>	<p><b>Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph.</b> Counties along the border have a different interest that aligns more with IN than MI</p>
c2378-3	<p><b>South and West Michigan Communities.</b> These are several communities that each feature something unique. While they are mostly rural with some larger cities, the rural areas go together well on a map and share many interests, challenges, and governmental functions. The differences are based on location and proximity to other cities. Kalamazoo fits into its own community.</p>	<p><b>Indiana Counties.</b> These counties form communities that have a lot of interest in Indiana specifically, whereas residents in other border counties can easily travel to Ohio as well.</p>
c2380-3	<p><b>My South Michigan Map.</b> I was born and raised in South MI and also believe that county lines are a good basis for communities of interest in Michigan. These four communities each share interests and cooperate within themselves in many ways such as government, economy, and tourism. They are also uniquely different from one another due to where they sit on a map. These communities would be a good base for our maps in Michigan.</p>	<p><b>Indiana Border .</b> The four counties along the Indiana border are another community with people who often travel to Indiana for work, shopping, and entertainment</p>
c2383-1	<p><b>Beer.</b> As a lifelong resident of a border county I know how often I make runs into Ohio and Indiana for groceries and cold beer, and I know many others who do the same. In border counties we are always competing with Ohio and Indiana for the price of goods and services as well as labor. I have many friends who drive south to work out of state, do a majority of their shopping, attend parks, and attend church. This lifestyle is unique to border counties.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b> <i>No description provided.</i></p>

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

**Portal Link**

**Overall Submission Information**

**Individual Area Information**

**c2392-1** **College Life.** As someone who goes to college in one of the communities of interest, and spend my summer months in the rural community, I can attest to the differences between these two areas. The Chi ties of Washtenaw and parts of Wayne are much more affluent, have different infrastructure needs, and have public universities. The rural parts are much more agricultural, smaller communities, etc. These two communities should not be connected in representation.

**Community 1.** *No description provided.*

**c2402-2** **West and Southwest Michigan.** From experience living throughout West Michigan, certain areas fit together as communities of interest: Grand Rapids, Kentwood and East Grand Rapids share the same economic, culture and overall focus around Grand Rapids. Local hospital systems, public transportation, and infrastructure overlap, and many of the largest "Grand Rapids" manufacturers are in Kentwood, along with the big "Grand Rapids" Woodland Mall. The compactness enables ease of in-person representation in the Senate. Kalamazoo County is a community of interest, self-identifying, home to Western Michigan University, and Kalamazoo is the focus of social and cultural activities. Allegan and Van Buren counties fit together well, being rural with shoreline towns and small downtowns. Economies are largely based on tourism, agriculture, and manufacturing, and many businesses, school districts, broadband infrastructure and the large community of South Haven covers both counties. As border counties, Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph counties naturally fit together with the same economic challenges and footprint.

**Border Counties.** Community of Interest along Indiana Border

**c2403-1** **Border Districts.** Districts that border Indiana ought to be kept together based on having similar problems and people groups.

**IN Border Counties.** The counties along the Indiana border face similar economic challenges & opportunities and should be kept together as part of the redistricting process. Many people commute to Indiana & the competition for jobs is fierce between these border counties.

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

**Portal Link**

**Overall Submission Information**

**Individual Area Information**

**c2410-2** **West Michigan Map.** Muskegon-Oceana-Newaygo: Muskegon based district with nearby counties. Good mix of urban and rural. Close proximity so easy for a Senator to represent and visit all areas of the district in-person. Allegan-Van Buren: Rural communities along the shoreline, with heavy agriculture, tourism and manufacturing economic engines. Overlapping broadband and government services. Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph: Border counties with similar economic and cultural interests. Multiple community colleges and similar rural area with small towns. Kalamazoo County: Geographically tight district with similar cultural, social and economic challenges and issues.

**Border Counties.** Community of Interest along Indiana Border

**c2463-3** **Regions inspired by district commission .** Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.

**Southwest.** Bordering Indiana, similar to Southeast, the Southwest interact with a different neighbor and likely commerce, shipping from Chicago, giving them specific needs.

**c2512-1** **Southwest Michigan communities.** I feel that communities should be kept whole and people have gotten use to having adjoining communities, and adjoining communities have similar interest and interact with each other. I do not feel township should be broken up. This could change our schools, churches. We came to this area for the reason that I have stated Van Buran, and Allegan should be together. Rural counties should stay together. Rose R. Rook Paw Paw Township

**SW Border.** *No description provided.*

**c2517-2** **Lorraine's SW Michigan Plan.** There are several communities in SW Michigan that should be kept together as much as possible. Border counties rely on other states and cities like South Bend, IN more than others to the north. Van Buren and Allegan share many functions of government and interests as manufacturing and agricultural communities along the lakeshore. Kalamazoo forms a self-contained community of interest as well. For these communities it is also important to think about county lines as community lines.

**Border Counties.** *No description provided.*

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

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<p><b>c2493-1</b></p>	<p><b>Border county news.</b> Living in border counties many don't realize how much rely on newspaper and stations for our local news. I've provided more specifics on my map.</p>	<p><b>Border News.</b> Our area is very unique being border counties. Here in Lenawee county we get the Toledo Blade (newspaper) and get WTOL Broadcast (from Toledo, OH). Monroe county is the same. This counties across the southern border. I know over in Cass county they get the South Bend tribune and Indiana broadcast TV.</p>
<p><b>c2498-1</b></p>	<p><b>Deposit.</b> Living in the border county it is annoying, inconvenient, and an economic disparity to have to deal with the bottle deposit.</p>	<p><b>Deposit.</b> Living in the border county it is annoying, inconvenient, and an economic disparity to have to deal with the bottle deposit.</p>
<p><b>c2514-3</b></p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan - KM from Hamilton.</b> Southwest Michigan has 3 distinct communities - Van Buren/Allegan which are rural with small towns/cities Kalamazoo County is urban and the 3 boarder counties of Berrien, Cass and St. Joe share a boarder with Indiana which is a huge community factor.</p>	<p><b>Boarder Communitis.</b> These Counties all boarder the State Line</p>
<p><b>c2519-2</b></p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan Community.</b> Between Allegan and Van Buren they are very similar, share the Kalamazoo River, farmland industry, lakeshore.</p>	<p><b>Border.</b> <i>No description provided.</i></p>
<p><b>c2561-10</b></p>	<p><b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b> <i>No description provided.</i></p>	<p><b>Community 10.</b> <i>No description provided.</i></p>

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

**Portal  
Link**

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**Individual Area Information**

**c2794-  
3**

**Anthony Eid don't flip flop, use COIs.** It seems that Anthony has lost his focus on communities of interest. Last month Mr. Eid said Monroe belongs with border counties and not the urban area. Searching data in the portal people agree. If you search county tags you will find lots of COIs that connect Monroe to Lenawee and additional border counties to the west. You will find very few COIs that make a real connection of Monroe to the urban areas north. That is why is so puzzling that after a full day of work Mr. Eid dropped a bomb on the commission and wanted to create an alternate map. In my map I brought up the COI I previously submitted, as well as those that are prevalent in my area involving Monroe county. I hope I am wrong, but it seems like Anthony Eid is being more influenced by maps submitted by the AFL-CIO (which offer no creditable COIs), and maps submitted by his Twitter followers than the hundreds of those who took time to properly use this portal and attending the public meetings.

**Border.** Border counties have unique economic interest that require unique representation. There issues are different than in state areas and deserve representation.

**c3136-  
1**

**Jackson + Border Counties.** Last week, Commissioner Szetela mentioned that Jackson County would be the most ideal candidate to be grouped with the border counties. I agree 100%. In so many ways Jackson County fits with the border counties. Throughout the Jackson public hearing, the predominant theme was that Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale are all tied closely with one another. Numerous intercounty agencies and organizations already tie these areas together. Culturally, economically, and recreationally, these areas fit together. The Irish Hills region which is a vastly different area (from places like Ann Arbor) anchored by lake life tourism and recreation, as well as the Michigan International Speedway which is built on the county lines of Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale.

**Community 1.** *No description provided.*

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

https://districtr.org/coi-info

**Portal Link**

**Overall Submission Information**

**Individual Area Information**

**c3200-2**

**SW and Border Communities .** My communities are explained in the map, but in a nutshell my communities are defined by their economics, agriculture, and community sizes.

**Border.** Border counties have similar economic issues because of differing tax, insurances, and cost of services between Michigan and Indiana/Ohio. All of these counties are all more rural, and non have what would consider large urban population centers.

**c3225-1**

**Monroe is a Border County.** Monroe County is much more tied together with other border counties than it is alike the large cities to the North like Detroit, Ann Arbor, and Ypsilanti. Economically, our focus is on farming and have great deals of interstate commerce due to the border. Just like Lenawee County, and the counties to the west, we have many cross-state commuters and our communities often tie us to individuals living in Ohio or Indiana (in fact, 2/3 of Monroe County head south every weekend to enjoy better food options!) The state border doesn't define our community. With the recent census data, the similarities between border counties was reinforced by population trends across the border counties which was a stark difference between the more urban areas to the north. This reflects the economic realities of our region.

**Community 1.** *No description provided.*

**c3240-1**

**Communities top priority.** Communities of interest are a top priority to not just me, but also the voters of Michigan who approved this commission. Communities are more important according to the Constitution than other measures pushed by political consultants and even other measures like compactness. We don't want lines splitting us up. We've had politicians do this for years, we don't want random splits. I understand these files can be overlayed onto a map and would consider you do this to follow the Constitution. To me, my community is rural, focused on agriculture, and has similar hobbies when it comes to recreational activities like hunting.

**Community 1.** *No description provided.*

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

<https://districtr.org/coi-info>

**Portal  
Link**

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**c3346-  
5**

**SW MI COIs.** Here is how I would delineate SW MI COIs: Community 1 (tourism-oriented, more diverse)- Lakeshore cities and townships; Community 2 (urban/inner suburb, more diverse): Grand Rapids, inner Kent Suburbs, inland Ottawa, Muskegon; Community 3 (smaller urban, eds/meds, more diverse): Kalamazoo, Portage, Battle Creek; Community 4 (suburban-rural fringe, less diverse): Eastern Kent, Western Ionia, Barry, inland Allegan; Community 5 (rural, agricultural, less diverse): inland Berrien, inland VanBuren, rural Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, rural Calhoun, Branch.

**Community 5.** *No description provided.*

**p83-10**

**Carter's SW Michigan plan .** Culturally significant SW Michigan plan. I've seen plans for the southwestern portion of the state which include Berrien County in the same district as Monroe County. This is deeply inaccurate and does not represent similar communities in the slightest. As a lifelong SW Michigan resident, I believe this district makes the most sense given our shared histories, commutes, and even aligned sports conferences. These are very close-knit communities and building a district stretching the entirety of Michigan's southern border would be a shame to those who live on the Western end of the state.

**District 10.** *No description provided.*

3/14/22, 12:22 PM

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Link**

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**Individual Area Information**

**p624-1**

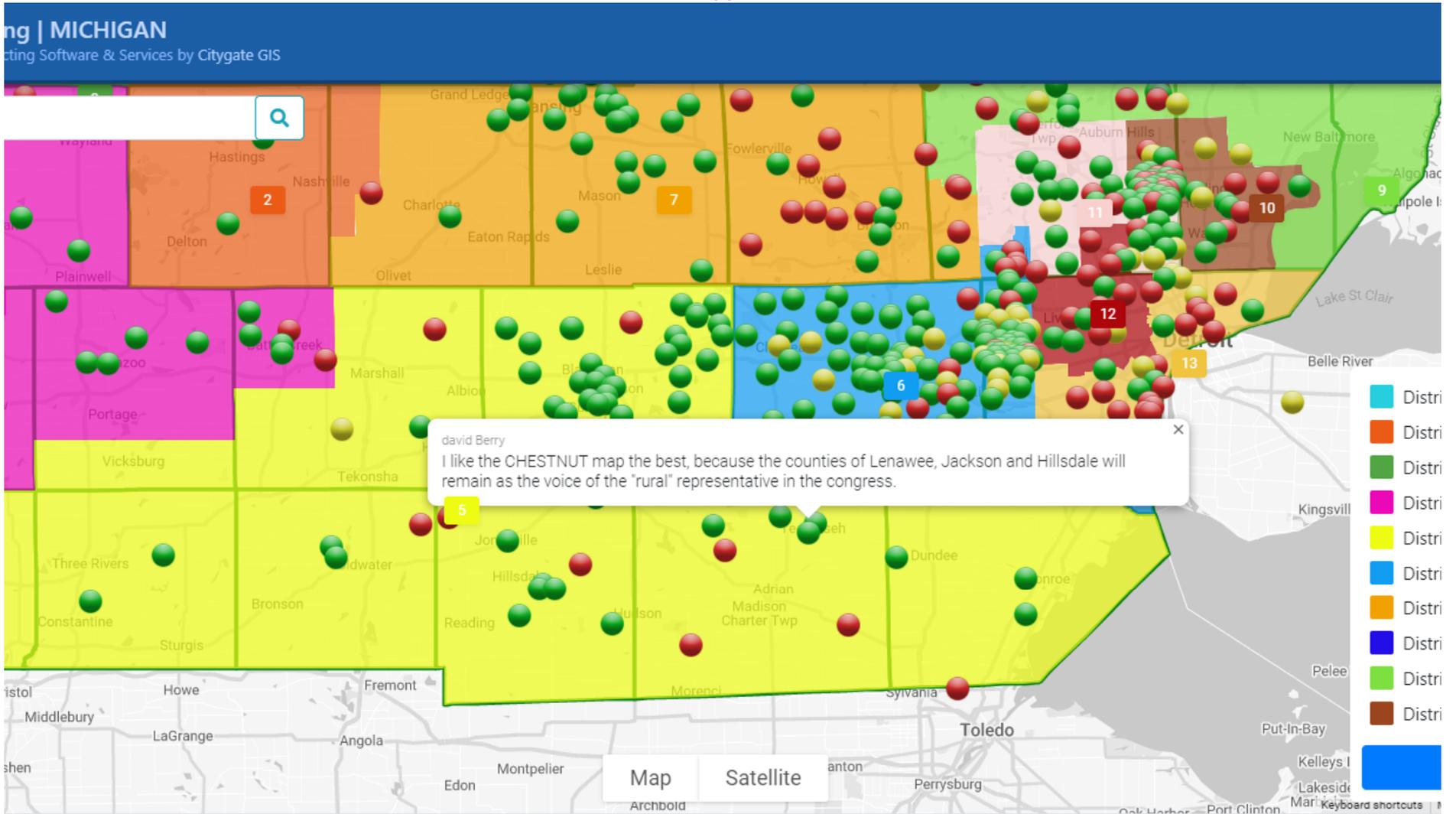
**Border County Congressional District.** I am the Township Supervisor for Bedford Township. We are more similar to Toledo than we are to Detroit or Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti. To illustrate this point, here are some of the interests tying us more to our border than the vastly different communities to our north: shared infrastructure, unions, United Way, print and broadcast media, hospital (ProMedica), environmental concerns related to the River Raisin Watershed and Lake Erie, and our areas water is part of the Toledo system. As a leader in a border community, we deal with issues daily related to the southern neighbors (property tax, income tax, sales tax, bottle deposit, shared fire protection) and these issues are not shared by the other 72 non-border counties. Only the UP counties bordering Wisconsin also share these concerns but based off of population in the UP, those counties will already have the same representation. That's why this southern border county area deserves to have representatives attentive to these unique issues. It is my understanding that districts need to be around 775,000 so I included Jackson county as well. I included Jackson county because I understand they have multiple intergovernmental partnerships with Lenawee and Hillsdale counties, and have US 127 headed south into Ohio so their industries understand interstate commerce.

**District 1.** *No description provided.*

**p1712-1**

**JFW Plan.** *No description provided.*

**District 1.** *No description provided.*



Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

**APPENDIX  
VOLUME III  
PART 2**

# DISTRICT 6

# DISTRICT 6

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## NW Wayne, SW Oakland, Ann Arbor COI

### Basic Info

Submitter: Abdulrahman Ateya

Location: Canton Township

Submitted: 8/19/2021

Type: written

ID: w2578

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Canton is community of interest with Plymouth, northville, novi, and Ann Arbor. All of them are highly educated and diverse places

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## Natural COI, AA-Ypsi, western Wayne&Novi

### Basic Info

Submitter: Carly  
Location: Novi City  
Submitted: 8/21/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w2643

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

The predominant features tying the community of Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti, Plymouth-Canton-Northville, Novi, and Livonia are the similar lifestyles, historical ties, and drivers of the economy. These areas all share a suburban feel with high rates of secondary education. Obviously, UM and EMU are centers of higher of education and many professors live in these communities, but also many high schools from these areas are feeder schools, like P-CEP schools, help populate the campuses of EMU and UM. I wanted to reiterate an important comment, ID: w2559, which informed the commission of the strength of the AAPI community in Canton. I wanted to add on that these neighboring communities also share a rich AAPI heritage and population. This is a golden opportunity to allow for a strengthening of representation for the AAPI community. The commission is required by the 3rd criteria to not only adhere to COIs (which this community is a natural COI), but also the diverse populations, which this community would allow for an amplification of voice for an often marginalized community. I want to conclude by thanking the commission for all of their hard work.

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# AA+Plymouth Canton+Novi

## Basic Info

Submitter: John  
Location:  
Submitted: 8/29/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c3191

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Both the Ann Arbor area and Plymouth-Canton have developed to the point where they are becoming a single community. This will only be strengthened over the next ten years with all of the development taking place in these areas. Additionally, these areas, along with Novi, boast a strong AAPI population which has been well documented in the portal. Combining these areas would allow for a strong voice in Congress for this population adding another reason to draw together. From all around the world, people have chosen to settle in this area for the job opportunities that are available in the area. As noted by others, this area also contains a population that is highly educated and higher education is incredibly valued in this community. I am aware some commissioners reside here and have already voiced support to not fracture the community, and I urge those commissioners who are familiar with the area to continue to be an advocate. Thanks!

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# David's AAPI COI

## Basic Info

Submitter: David K

Location:

Submitted: 9/6/2021

Type: coi

ID: c3868

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#aapi](#) [#ann arbor](#) [#canton](#) [#novi](#)  
[#northville](#)

## More Info

Ann Arbor, Canton, Novi, Northville all have some of the most densely populated communities of Asian Americans. I hope the commission will not crack these communities and allow for strong representation for this community. Not only is this a community of interest, but districting around this community will allow the commission to help fulfill their obligation to draw lines reflecting the diverse communities of Michigan. Thank you for all of the work.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# AA/Ypsi/Plymouth/Canton/Novi/Livonia

## Basic Info

Submitter: Krickett

Location:

Submitted: 9/6/2021

Type: coi

ID: c3773

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#novi](#) [#plymouth](#) [#ann arbor](#) [#canton](#)  
[#ypsi](#)

## More Info

I would like the commission to consider my community of interest which incorporates the areas of Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Plymouth, Canton, Novi, and Livonia. This area is where I spend a majority of my time (working, education, recreation, shopping, etc.) and the populations are very similar. I view this as a community that has similar interests and should be kept whole. Thank you.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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Those individuals who have signed up and have indicated that they would like to provide in person public commentary to the Commission will now be able could so. You'll step to the nearest microphone when you hear your number called, and you'll have two minutes when you address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

There will also be a visual timer for you to help keep track of your time during your comment.

First in line to provide Public Comment is number one.

>> DAN WALLAHAN: Hi. Dan Wallahan. Uh Genoa Township, Livingston County, Michigan.

I've been watching the draft maps and some of the previous comments in regard to some and I would like to reiterate what I have said before.

Please keeping Livingston County together.

It is our Community of Interest.

Sometimes Communities of Interests are the same as county boundaries. Sometimes they're not.

In this case, it is for us.

It's our number one request and we're watching the maps to -- hopefully that happens.

I've heard some comments about cracking and unpacking cities.

I think we need -- as a Commission you need to be very careful on especially cracking areas.

That's how we had -- the 2011 gerrymander was due to cracking.

My current State Senate District 22nd, it cracks Washtenaw County and puts Scio Township in with Livingston County District, and it's not fair to them and I hope it doesn't happen in either direction for us to avoid a gerrymander that leads to polarization.

One of the things -- we don't want to be with Washtenaw County here up in Livingston County is because of -- I would say the type of values in each community.

It's not even about R or D.

It's about the types of Rs and types of Ds and types of Independants it's oil and water for us.

We'll work with many folks in other -- like I say, in other Districts, wherever we're placed, and some areas are going to appeal to multiple areas and we hope you all keep that in mind.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR KELLOM: Thank you so much for taking the time to provide comment to the Commission this afternoon.

At this time we only have one in-person Public Comment for today's meeting pertaining to go agenda topics.

But we do have for remote Public Comment with one person requesting to speak a second time.

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# Asian Community in AA, Novi, Canton

## Basic Info

Submitter: Katherine H

Location:

Submitted: 9/9/2021

Type: coi

ID: c4332

## Tags

## More Info

With the commission considering diverse populations, I would like the commission to combine the Asian American Pacific Islander community in Ann Arbor, Canton, and Novi. Keeping these communities together will strengthen the representation through unification!

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# My Community - Ann Arbor-Wayne

## Basic Info

Submitter: Emmet K  
Location: Ann Arbor  
Submitted: 9/12/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c4451

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#ann arbor](#) [#canton](#) [#novi](#)

## More Info

My community is Ann Arbor and the areas of Canton and Novi. This area also happens to have a healthy population of Asian Americans. I think it would be beneficial for this community to remain intact.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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And like Karen I feel I can represent the community, thousands of people in this Tri-Cities that wanted to see this Commission are watching this Commission and are very pleased to see the action that you took yesterday.

In drawing District 1.

Mind you 62% are never going to have everybody in the state agree at the same time.

But you've got a very strong political positive support there.

So thank you very much for your work.

And we appreciate your coming out to see us.

Listening to us.

And keep up the good work.

I really endorse what you're doing.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to Francis barber.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For the purposes of the public record that participant is not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

All right we will move on to Barb Handley Miller.

>> Okay can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> All right, good morning.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity.

I too am a resident of Bay County and part of the communities of interest that wanted to see a State Senate map encompassing Bay, Saginaw and Midland Counties.

And we want to thank the Commission for the process that you have afforded us to be able to give public comment not only at the May 25th meeting but at the town hall forum that we had in which several Commissioners attended in Bay City because I think it gave us a real opportunity with those Commissioners to give a lot more context about our communities of interest.

And the need to keep these urban areas together.

Currently our State Senate District encompass Lapeer County and we just don't have as much in common.

These three areas Saginaw Bay City and Midland Bay Counties have so much you know, in common in terms of higher education, urban centers, industrial policy, environmental concerns around the Saginaw and Tittabawassee River and other concerns.

Thank you for the process, thank you for drawing this initial map that we hope will be the final map because we think it reflects your good work and your good listening of the people of these three counties.

So thank you again and best wishes in the rest of your work.

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My husband is here with me.

Is it okay if he takes the balance? Of time? Terry Miller.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No unfortunately we can't do that.

We have to have him sign up separately.

>> All right very good.

Thank you again for this opportunity and thank you for the process that you have been using for this.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

All right we are now going to move on to Cathleen Curell.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Hi good morning everyone thank you for this opportunity.

I'm a long time Midland resident of 45 plus years.

And just want to tell you proposition or proposal two gave me the opportunity to get out of my comfort zone.

I'd never been involved civically or politically before and I became passionate about the possibility of working for more fair election process in the State of Michigan.

My husband and I were happy to educate voters about gerrymandering while getting those signatures for the petition.

And I'm just very excited about the work you're doing.

I want to extend heartfelt thanks to the Commissioners for the vital work that's going on.

And I know it's work.

The Tri-Cities of Midland Bay City and Saginaw are a community of interest.

There are so many reasons that I'm sure have been stated many times by others.

A State Senate District that includes them will help pave the way for being an equitable and competitive District.

And that is so exciting.

To so many of us who worked hard on the proposal.

So just thanks and that's all I have.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to Norman Clement.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Hi, my name is Norman Clement of Detroit change initiative of Wayne County and I spoke to you before and you guys are doing an outstanding tough job and I commend the job you guys are doing.

I ask as community citizen watching the panel if we can dedicate more time drawing the maps.

I know you are working on the State Senate but you have a daunting task ahead of you of working on the State Representative districts which are tons of districts.

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# Live thought for Witjes

## Basic Info

Submitter: Robert  
Location: Ann Arbor City  
Submitted: 9/16/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p4715

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#aapi

## More Info

Ann Arbor is tied in closely with Plymouth-Canton and the Northville-Novato area. Additionally, there is a high percentage of Asians in these communities and have expressed an interest in being districted together.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

[View in Districtr](#)

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# Strong COI + Fair + Compact US House Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: K  
Location: Ann Arbor City  
Submitted: 9/17/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p4766

## Tags

## More Info

Dear Commissioners,  
It is often difficult to balance communities of interest and partisan fairness but I tried to draw a map that really tries to be perfect on both. This map keeps ALL of Downriver together, which is something that community really wanted. It keeps Ann Arbor with closely related highly educated suburbs like Novi, Northville, South Lyon, Plymouth, and Canton, which have a substantial Asian population. It keeps all of central Oakland in one district, keeping Troy and Rochester together with Bloomfield Hills and Birmingham. It also keeps Highland, Milford, Commerce, and White Lake together (which is something Commsioner Vallette has wanted and Commerce and West Bloomfield together (which is something Commissioner Eid has wanted). It keeps the Southwestern Michigan lakeshore counties Allegan/Van Buren/Berrien and some parts of Ottawa together in a clean/compact district. It keeps the Lansing tri-county area together. It maintains two VRA districts as well, including Southfield, a 70% majority-black city, and Oak Park to have better representation. It keeps the Thumb

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

counties together. It also keeps the I-75 corridor from Flint to Saginaw/Midland/Bay City together. This is a heavily industrial corridor, uniting significant black populations in Flint and Saginaw and not diluting them by putting these counties with the Thumb, which is its own separate region. It keeps the greater Grand Rapids area together in a compact district. Lastly, it puts southern suburbs across 8-mile in Southern Macomb and Oakland together. These suburbs have a different identity compared to those in the respective counties up north. This map achieves partisan fairness, maintains communities of interests, and offers reasonably compact districts.

### Comments & Feedback

9/17/2021 - **Sonja Patrick** (Battle Creek City):  
I am very impressed with your map. I can't really speak for the areas that I'm not familiar with, but in your description, you seem like you created these Districts based on what the public has been saying. The part that impressed me is that you kept the military establishments located at the west side of Battle Creek and included them in the same District as the other military establishments in Augusta. You also included Calhoun County with our neighbors to the south. We have a lot more in common with Hillsdale, Branch, etc that we do with the large cities, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Ann Arbor. I think you are the only person who has submitted a map that truly showcases where Southwest Michigan's Congressional District lines should be drawn. #calhoun #veterans #military #battle creek city #augusta township #springfield #hillsdale #branch

9/17/2021 - **Robert** (Ann Arbor): Incredible work, as always, K! I've looked at hundreds, if not thousands of maps, and this may be the single best. My community (Washtenaw-western Wayne) is kept intact and you listed

3/18/22, 2:03 PM

MICRC Public Comment Portal

the precise reasons for that. On top of COIs, this map is fair. Kudos!!

9/17/2021 - **Anthony** : Pretty good

9/17/2021 - **Ian Sandler-Bowen** (Oakland County): I appreciate that this map keeps Southeast Oakland County together within one congressional district. I think this i696 configuration makes a lot of sense.

9/22/2021 - **Jennifer Austin** (Midland City): This map is great and very similar to what I have drawn as well!

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# Ann Arbor/Ypsi/AAPI Area

## Basic Info

Submitter: Noi  
Location:  
Submitted: 10/4/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c5961

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#aapi #coi

## More Info

Good Evening. I just wanted to remind you all of the strong AAPI connections between Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Canton, Plymouth, and Novi. In fact, Washtenaw County home of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti as the highest Asian American population percentage in the state. Keeping these communities together is important and reflects the diverse minority communities of the state.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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As a member of the planning Commission I ask you to keep us with similar Townships in Jackson County such as Henrietta and Grass Lake we work together with issues and please avoid merging rural with urban communities.

Thank you for your work on this important project and listening to residents.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 68.

>> Hello, my name is Rodney Austin from Saginaw Michigan.

I spend much of my time in Mount Pleasant and reside in Lansing and commute back and forth to my second home in Detroit.

I'm advocate for voters and voters rights and what I noticed in majority of attendees here and from yesterday's hearing in Detroit which I was also at I attended I continue to hear the words fairness and nonpartisanship for you Commissioners this cannot be a very easy feat.

I don't think it was meant nor should be.

However, I encourage you and grateful for you that you can be the change to go the extra mile.

To be the change and redo the impossibilities for everyone especially those that are disenfranchise as underrepresented across our state.

It's consistent within the inner of all the cities which typically should be the majority of their neighborhoods and citizens for the maps drawn. Pine being the better map for the house.

On either side it is reiterated that the vast differences in these major areas versus the other smaller areas that take prevalence in representation over the majority.

We and I say we respectfully as you are all a part of our community as well, that we must do better.

Thank you for your time.

And pray for the good and betterness of our Great Lakes Michigan.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 69.

>> Hello, thank you to the committee for your work.

And for taking time to hear input from citizens.

I'm Bill Richardson and live in Waterloo in Jackson County Michigan.

I have concerned about all three maps in most cases Waterloo is in Washtenaw not Jackson County District and Jackson County is not kept whole in most of the maps.

I heard in the May hearing from rural and urban residents urban and rural are different communities of interest and need different representation.

Waterloo Township is a single precinct of less than 3,000 residents and it has very different needs than the larger populated Townships in Washtenaw County.

The map does the worst job of capturing Community of Interest is the Pine house representative map.

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Flint and Genesee County have been much more in common with the Tri-Cities to the north similar culture and values and economic backgrounds bring these communities together and should be kept together on these maps.

Finally my experience has taught me Flint needs a strong voice in the state legislature and for that to happen the City needs to be kept together.

Please keep Flint together in one House District.

And like the sign says fair maps.

And we need them now.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 60.

>> Thank you for addressing the Commission. Madam Chairman my name is Robert George and I'm a parks and recreation Commissioner from the City of Ann Arbor. I would like to talk about State Senate maps concerning Washtenaw County.

The three maps submitted by the individual Commissioners are superior for the draws of Washtenaw County and the collaborative maps.

Specifically point out several Community of Interest that would benefit both Washtenaw and surrounding areas.

Commissioner Lange's draw of Ypsilanti and a part of Ann Arbor went together with Monroe would allow for a better unpacking of democratic voters there.

As well as so a strong Community of Interest for the industrial side of Monroe and eastern Washtenaw County.

Additionally the map that includes portions of northern Ann Arbor and Novi and Plymouth shows a strong community of interest for the tech industry that expanded in Ann Arbor Township which is part of the map. Finally the portion of the map that takes Washtenaw County into Jackson -- that takes Washtenaw County and Waterloo recreation area and makes sure the natural interests are respected. So I encourage you to look at the three individual maps for the draws of Washtenaw County at the State Senate level.

Thank you so much for your time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 61.

>> I'm a business agent for local 1098 out of Saginaw Michigan in a small business owner Tony's take out in Saginaw Michigan.

I represent members of Midland Saginaw Bay City and I request if you would please keep them together.

The question is your job is to get close to 0 on this partisan bias scores as possible.

If you are over one percentage you still have work to do and rig elections to benefit the republican party.

Look at the AFLCIO fair maps project for ideas on how to get partisan fairness.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 62.

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>> Good evening members of the Commission thank you for the opportunity to address you tonight.

And thank you for your work on this project.

My name is Alex and I'm a resident of Hartland Township in the northeast corner of Livingston County.

The most important objective to be accomplished by redistricting is for the Commission to preserve communities of interest.

This is the number one most important criteria in the Constitution behind physical elements of population and geography.

Communities of interest supersede as a criteria for redistricting.

Based on some preliminary maps I've reviewed it appears communities within Livingston County will not be separated into other Counties.

I appreciate these efforts.

And I would kindly encourage you to please avoid associating any Livingston Community of Interests with Washtenaw since they represent two disparate communities of interest. Thank you for your interest and your time tonight.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number nine hunter.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Numbers 9-11 are not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 12 Tammy.

>> Hi good evening.

Thank you all for the work that you are doing on this Commission.

I'm from Midland I'm speaking as an adjunct Michigan historian we were a state in 1837.

For a territory to apply for statehood the territory had to have a number of things in place before making the application.

60,000 residents and they voted upon state Constitution among other things.

Then they could apply.

The land was further divided into Counties.

A concept which came over from England with our early settlers.

A good concept.

But I would like to suggest that life has changed dramatically since the 19th century.

Our County lines were drawn well over 150 years ago.

And all were formed around agricultural needs, mining, fishing, lumber et cetera all prior to the growth of large cities.

Life has changed.

And our challenges and opportunities have also changed with this growth.

New complexities require dare I say out of the County box thinking.

For the health and security of both rural communities and cities and to be fair to both and to the politicians representing them I urge you to consider any of the maps that

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And we are trying to help by giving more tools and more data. And again we thank you for your work on the Commission.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number six.

>> Good morning I'm crystal Boyd I'm Sarah Howard's legal assist and in the public hearings you have heard hundreds of people to prioritize partisan fairness and remind you, you can do that while complying with all the other criteria. To those Commissioners who heard the voice of the people and are working on this, thank you. Remember that the number of seats won by a particular candidate doesn't tell you very much by itself. For example, if Governor Whitmer won a District by 5% while she won the state by 9.5%, that District has a republican advantage of 8.5%. That is not a democratic seat. Keep up the good work on partisan fairness and don't get bamboozled by landslide elections. Look at all of your partisan fairness metrics not just one. Thank you for the time you're putting in.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number seven.

>> Good morning, Commission my name is Michael Davis junior I'm the redistricting director for campaign sorry redistricting campaign direct director for promote the vote and it's a coalition of organizations and individuals to increase the power of the people in our democracy. Along with my comments today I will be providing you all with our narrative to accompany the maps that we submitted a few weeks back our fair and equitable maps as well as last week we completed a metric assessment of the maps put forward by the Commission and the maps that the PTV coalition put together. Our fair and equitable maps chart a path towards equal representation for all Michiganders and I'm proud to say we have the numbers to back it up using the Commission's data points and publicly available data we put together the side by side comparisons last week. I thank you for and will reiterate what others said taking comments of folks that came to the public hearings and the people who are board members and I encourage you to continue the work. You are getting closer thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. That concludes our live in person public comment for this morning. We will now move on to remote public comment. Individuals who signed up and indicated they would like to provide live remote public commentary to the Commission will be allowed to do so. I will call on your name and staff will unmute you. If you are on a computer, you will be prompted but I the Zoom app to unmute and speak. If you are on a phone a voice will say the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute. I will call on you by your name. Also please note that if you experience technical or audio issues or are unable to speak for 3-5 seconds we will move on to the next person in line and return to you after they are done speaking. If you audio still does not work e-mail redistricting@Michigan.gov we will help you trouble shoot to participate at a later hearing or meeting. You will have are one minute to address the Commission. Please

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County. I'm a U of M graduate and despise the traffic and hustle and bustle of Ann Arbor during the four years I was in college. After college I moved to Green Oak Township because of the small town feel. Livingston County has everything we need we have no desire to travel to the Ann Arbor area. I rarely use I-23 when I do it's to visit family in Monroe County. I do not stop for gas or shopping on that stretch of highway it's too congested. It has everything we need the mall, the church farmers market and we frequent Brighton recreation area on a regular.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Margaret Flurry. Looks like she is not available. Elizabeth Hundley.

>>.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Uh-huh, yep, I think they have done that before.

>> Good morning.

Elizabeth Hundley I'm a resident of Genoa Township in Livingston County. The Commission recently discussed including the southeast portion of Livingston County including Genoa with the City of Ann Arbor for a State Senate District. I'm asking that you please do not include Genoa Township or any of the southeastern portion of Livingston County with Ann Arbor. Genoa Township shares many local services with our surrounding communities right here in Livingston County but not with Ann Arbor. For example we are a part of the Brighton area fire authority. In addition Genoa Township receives water and sewer service by M hall who also serves residents in Marion, Howell, Osceola Townships here in Livingston. And is a member of the Howell area parks and rec also serving Livingston communities. Thank you for listening and please keep us.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Bruce Hundley.

>> Elizabeth is Bruce with you and ready for his turn?

>> No, he is not with me. I do not know if he is ready at this time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay thank you. So we will mark him as not present. Anthony Watkins, number 38.

>> Hello, my name is Anthony Watkins. And I thank you for the opportunity to share my comments at today's public hearing. I also am relieved to see that the degree from the past week of public hearings has resulted in considerably more partisan fairness for the Senate map. But it needs a little bit more work. I would request please adopt the method that you use also for the Michigan house map as well. Thank you for your hard work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Anastasey.

>> I'm a resident of Chester field Township in Macomb County. I want to tell the Commissioner thank you so much for having a better partisanly fair map for the Senate 102921V3. The house still needs some work and consider partisan fairness for the State House and consult the AFLCIO fair map project and potentially editing the Senate

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map to be more partisanly fair. Additionally please keep the Voting Rights Act in line during the final stretch of this process and expect the role of the people and making partisanly fair maps as possible. Thank you for your time and for your time and partisanly fair maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Max number 40.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We will move on to 41, which is Dorothy Munson.

>> Could you please display maps plan 73502 in District.org for State Senate?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can't display maps during this public comment.

>> All right thank you. I'm Dorothy Munson a lifelong resident of Grand Rapids representing proactive nonpartisan group. I believe that minimal changes to map 249 shown in 73502 would satisfy concerns related to Central West Michigan and communities of interest. Included are slight reconfigurations of the adjacent three out of six districts that will not disturb the remainder of the state map. Four Ottawa County were moves from 22 to 33 and Ottawa County is large to take them and 22 is not changed the south side of Grand Rapids was not changed. Thank you so much for placing Cascade Township in District 24. The addition of Algoma and Cannon Townships in the north improves communities of interest and keeps District 24 in Kent County. Some.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Mari, number 42, Rymar.

>> Hello, hi. I would like to thank the Commission for all of the hard, hard work you all have been doing. I know it's not been easy. But yes, I would like to also say please do your best to draw partisanly fair State House map. And yes, please consider the Voting Rights Act. While doing so. And once again measure consider taking steps to count prisoners in the districts where they resided before they were incarcerated. So many states all across the U.S. have done this. And they have done this without legislation. So it is very possible. And I think Michigan should be one of the states who are on the forefront of doing this because it's a huge civil rights issue. And once again thank you for all your hard work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Jason Dunkin.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Jason, if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> I make that mistake frequently, Jason, Grand Rapids, I teach history and American history at Aquinas College. Thank you for your hard work and the state and Senate districts, they are well drawn. But I do think you could improve the Metro character of the districts by lowering the boundary southward from Fulton to wealthy. And with three colleges GVSU and GRCC and 90% of heritage hill and to make up for the population to take Townships Ottawa County and put them in Ottawa County a great place but a different place. Thank you again.

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>> Okay thank you, thank you for allowing me to speak today. I'm specifically speaking to the Michigan State Senate districts in Grand Rapids which is where I live and have lived for 30 years. Splitting the City of Grand Rapids in the north and south would literally split up municipalities, Government and community services school direction voting precincts and violates the partisan fairness and what you are bound to and violate Section Two of the Voting Rights Act and prohibits packing of minority populations. The solution would be to include District 24 to all dissimilar urban cities of Grand Rapids, East Grand Rapids and Kentwood. The cities of Grandville and Wyoming would be drawn in with District 23 and lastly draw Townships on the opposite border and both plans keep similar communities of interest together and improve the boundaries. For the my State House this splits numerous.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Judy Maiga.

>> Hi good morning, Commission. Thank you, I have seen you day after day working very hard to draw fair maps and I thank each of you for doing what the voters have asked you to do. When people ask for partisan fairness that's not code for anything. That is simply asking you to please do what 60% of the voters in Michigan asked that we have fair maps. Competitive fair maps lead to competitive districts competitive districts create better representation who listen to their constituents not as republicans and not as democrats but as people which is the point of this law. I live where it was flipped from republican to democrat and done by a gentleman who knocked on every door and City he could and a fantastic representative. Creating competitive districts thoroughfare maps will lead to more of that across the state which is the whole goal and why so many people worked so hard. Thank you for what you're doing. You guys are doing a fantastic job and I appreciate you. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I think this is Jaret number 60.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Great I'm from Grand Rapids. I've got some thoughts how to improve Kent County consider removing the farm Townships to my shame I could not tell you where the places are on a map. I would add more of Kent County and makes sense for Rockford school District Townships like Cannon and Algoma inside our District. There is a lot of movement and interaction between Grand Rapids and Rockford especially with younger people and new families. I hear concerns over the heritage hill and GVSU community. I have the same concerns, the Fulton border cuts the heritage hill and GVSU community as it is. You can make a competitive District 24 and keep those communities whole if you add more of Grand Rapids by moving south to wealthy or Hall Street. That would create a District where a candidate can win from either party and keep those

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>> Okay, hello Commissioners my name is Josh I'm a resident of Kent County. The proposed House District 76 map is including the City of Walker and several neighborhoods in Grand Rapids Alpine and west side of Grand Rapids. These areas are not a similar community of interest, places like Walker should be kept with places like the City of Alpine Township where they have a shared interest in this Commerce as the Alpine shopping District and school direction such as the Kenowa School District. In the 75 House District you have places like Grand Rapids East Grand Rapids Grand Rapids Township and northeast Grand Rapids plus there are several parts of Plainfield included. We share many things with Ada and Cascade Township and should be kept together. This is including the Forrest Hills school District. Plains field Township should not be split up in multiple areas as it shares a community of interest with the Rockford area. The more urban like East Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids community should be kept together as they are shared common community of interest. Those in the northern part of Kent County. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Jason number 70.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> Great hi. I'm Jason I'm a resident of Hamburg Township in Livingston con after attending school and living and working in Ann Arbor for two years our family made a deliberate decision to move to Livingston because it's a better fit and prefer the rural lifestyle. 17 years in the community confirmed to us that decision was the right one for our family. We very rarely go to Ann Arbor and pay our taxes in Livingston County and shop and recreate here in Livingston county as well. This is our community and thank the Commission for keeping Hamburg and the rest of our community where we belong in our own District and please keep us here when it comes time for you to consider the State House maps as well, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Klaas, number 72.

>> Hi, can you hear me Klaas. I'm Klaas from Grand Rapids. I'd like to thank you for all the work you've done. Especially in my City of Grand Rapids. And in Kent County. I think you were right to make two districts compose of the Metro six cities and the nearby suburban Townships but I think there is more work to do. I agree with others who say you should remove all the Townships in Ottawa County. They are simply more rural. They are mostly farmland. They are not a part of the Metro Grand Rapids area or economy. Like the other speaker said I probably couldn't find them on a map. Sadly. They are great areas but I'm not part of Grand Rapids. You can find more population by adding Townships around Rockford like Algoma and the PFAS contaminated parts of Rockford Plainfield and Algoma if you did that. Echo speakers to move and currently Fulton Street bisects heritage hill.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Yousif.

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>> Hello, Commissioners. Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> My name is Yousif from Troy and nice to see you again. I heard Commissioners Szetela dismissing the idea to include the east of Sterling heights to west of Sterling Heights in Troy. And Chaldean voices living in eastern Sterling Heights I respectfully disagree with Commissioner Szetela. District 6 has not done well. What is COI between Sterling Heights and Detroit. Just because Chaldeans don't show up on the map it does not mean we don't exist I assure you we are real. Thank you, Commissioner Kellom and Eid, to speak up for the Chaldeans in West Bloomfield and sign up for the minority who are unfairly registered as whites and give us a voice. I do appreciate all the hard work you have done. Commissioners Szetela. But please do not dismiss our voices. Please do not dilute Chaldean voices living in east Sterling Heights thank you and I will continue to pray for each one of you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Michelle.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> I'm a 17 year of Livingston and live in Genoa Township and want to thank you for keeping us together as a County with your redistricting map. And also ask that you would continue to do that when you go to the State Senate and house state maps when you redistrict those. Just we very rarely go to Washtenaw County or Ann Arbor. We shop locally. We recreate locally. Our friends and neighbors are here and they all do the same. And we just want to keep our small town feel to our communities and we thank you so much for your time and all your attention to this effort. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 75, Joe Watza.

>> Thank you for taking time to listen to us. I'm Joe Watza I live in Livingston in Hamburg Township. I won't...I'll be quick. Livingston County thank you for keeping us whole. As an example I live in Hamburg Township but a Brighton phone number, the school District in Pickney, my mail is in Howell, and keeping us whole keep representatives that have issues and represent us better and we know all about having good representation regardless of party affiliation is critical to a strong and healthy society. Also we in Livingston Township County cheer for U of M and MSU.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Kevin Green, number 76.

>> Good morning.

My name is Kevin. Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Good morning my name is Kevin Green. I'm the Algoma supervisor in Kent County. Algoma has been working closely and collaboratively with Plainfield Township and City of Rockford to bring clean drinking water into our communities for our residents

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and businesses that have been impacted by the PFAS water contamination crisis. So it's really crucial to keep these communities whole and together. So that we can be effective, have effective representation. Especially in the State House and the State Senate districts. On a side note we also want to be included in the Grand Rapids Congressional District and not have the City of Kalamazoo overshadow us. So we ideally like to have those separate so we can stay in the Grand Rapids Congressional District. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Elizabeth Johnson.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, hi my name is Elizabeth Johnson. Keep the Senate districts for Grand Rapids the way they are go do not move the line from Fulton to wealthy, it would split a neighborhood association of heritage hill and east town between two districts. The proposed House District 76 map includes the City of Walker and several different neighborhoods within the City of Grand Rapids. These neighborhoods are vastly different from one another and do not form a community of interest. The City of Walker is drawn with Alpine Township in its current State House District. They should remain the same. As they share the Kenowa Hills School District and Commerce quite a lot. The river breaks the western Grand Rapids neighborhood association from the eastern. The downtown and east town neighborhood associations are closer as other neighborhood associations like heritage hill and East Grand Rapids. House District 75 map violates several communities of interest. Grand Rapids Townships form a community of interest with Ada.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 78, RJ.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: RJ, if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Okay, hi this is RJ, I'm a resident of Grand Rapids Township and a third Congressional state committee man. I believe Plainfield Township should be kept whole within one House District with the attorneys of Algoma, Courtland and the City of Rockford. These areas makeup the Rockford community of interest and share the same public school District Rockford public schools. They live and work in neighboring municipalities and primarily shop in the Rockford area and use the same parks and recreational facility. Currently you have several precincts of Plainfield Township with northeastern Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids Township. Grand Rapids Township forms a community of interest with Ada and Cascade Township because they share the same school District. Forrest Hills public schools. Northeast Grand Rapids is in a different school District than that of Plainfield and should be kept separate in a different House District map. Lastly, I encourage you to approve the State Senate map plan as presented and to not move the dividing line for Senate District 23 and 24 from Fulton to Wealthy Street.

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>> Hello, hi my name is Mari and I just wanted to say thank you for all of your great hard work. And so I believe the map labelled SD version 3 that is dated October 29, 2021, is very good. And like everyone else I would thank you please keep working towards partisan fairness and following the Voting Rights Act. Also once again please consider counting prisoners in the districts where they reside rather than where they are incarcerated. The census actually has a tool that you can actually use to do that. So I think that would be great because it is a huge issue, a lot of other states are doing it and we should be on the for front of civil rights for Michigan thank you thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Okay we are going to go back to Commissioner Curry I see you have joined the meeting can you indicate where you are coming in remote from for the record?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, I'm presently here and I'm attending the meeting from Detroit, Michigan. Sorry.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, all right. She just froze. All right Tina Bednarski-Lynch.

>> A resident of Jackson County Michigan I've heard from activist that Jackson County should be connected with the City of Ann Arbor. Their only real motivation is political. You were in Jackson County in May and you were here you heard very different arguments. In fact, your initial drafting you properly followed our community of interest. Now after being persuaded by democrat partisans you have thrown aside the actual Jackson community which is vastly different interests from Ann Arbor. As can be seen by how differently we vote and you have cracked Ann Arbor to change our area. Please undo this gerrymander. Jackson County has a small City distinctly differ from Ann Arbor. Jackson is shrinking Ann Arbor is growing the City of Ann Arbor. Jackson is a small portion, the City of Jackson is a small portion of the total Jackson County population where Ann Arbor the City is a major population makeup of Washtenaw County. I'm also concerned that this meeting is being held during working hours making it very different for working people to have a voice in this meeting unless they are able to jump on by Zoom which you can't if you are working.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Anthony Skinnell.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, Aaron Sternaman.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, briefly, can you still hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

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>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay Fred Trexler.

>> Okay, can you hear me now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Okay, good morning my name is Dr. Fred Trexler as a former college professor now retired my wife and I do not like the Senate map dividing Jackson County in half and linking both halves with Washtenaw and Ann Arbor dominated by the huge University of Michigan. Jackson County is a business and rural County with three small colleges. Our community of interest is linked to Lenawee County and Hillsdale County which has small colleges. Please reconsider keeping Jackson County together with Lenawee and Hillsdale County for the Senate map and also for the house map. Thank you.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Amy Hawkins.

>> Thank you can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Okay good morning thank you so much for the opportunity to weigh in. I'm a Jackson County resident. And first of all as everybody has said thank you for your hard work on this project. I want to thank you for the lines as they stand right now on the Congressional District. Very pleased with that. Huge concerns though with the Senate District. I love the people of Washtenaw and Ann Arbor and want them to be represented well. But our communities are so vastly different that to put us into one Senate District is really I want to know how is it going to benefit the communities. We want to unify but I think we are best served Jackson County in representation because of our ties with other districts that have to do with manufacturing, rural farming, agricultural, and yes, we do have a little bit of a City but as someone else mentioned it's so small compared to what Washtenaw is. So I would encourage you to revisit the lines and not put Washtenaw and Jackson in the same Senate.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Chris Murphy.

>> Good morning.

My name is Chris Murphy and I thank you very much for this opportunity to address the committee. I realize you have put so much work into this. I attended the in-person event last summer in Jackson. And that went into the wee hours of the morning I believe. So I know your committee has worked very hard. I too am in Jackson County. And I also just as the last speaker said, I'm very concerned about the Senate map that you have created that includes us with Washtenaw County. I'm heavily involved in the churches and the manufacturing of Jackson County. And I feel like our districts are so very different that it would make it too challenging for someone to be...try to be Senator over all of ours. So I just ask that you would reconsider keeping Jackson County our rural County in line with Hillsdale and Lenawee County. So I appreciate the time to address you this morning. Have a blessed day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Hi can you hear me? Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Perfect. I've been a Southwest Michigan resident my entire life. And I have to say I really like what I'm seeing as part of the lakeshore District. Having New Buffalo South Haven St. Joe Benton Harbor and Allegan altogether is really important especially because their economies are so similar. However I do think the addition of Saugatuck and Douglas would also complement that area with perhaps taking Royalton Township out of the mix. As far as the Congressional map, I think it's just important that we keep Benton Harbor and Kalamazoo together. They have a very large Black population that needs to be represented. And that would be best done by keeping those together. Thank you.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. All right number 20, Jay I can't think this morning, Piontek, thank you.

>> Yes, thank you. Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Jason and I represent over 300 worker members and constituents with IBW153 we recommend the Pine map with the inclusion of Saugatuck and Douglas be indicated and a State Senate District from Holland to New Buffalo. Cities on the lakeshore are unique and carry unique needs and should be separate from the inland regions. We also would prefer to keep Benton Harbor and Kalamazoo together. Thank you for your work and thank you for the opportunity to speak. That's all I have.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. All right so number 21 John Williams.

>> Good morning can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Hi Commissioner thank you so much for allowing me to testify. My name is John Williams I'm an instructor in Calhoun County but a resident of Jackson and I'm a little bit I teach American Government political science state and local. I'm a little perplexed as to the process. I assume we are in proposed maps before final maps so there is still some work that needs to take place. And I have some concerns as others have it rated regarding the Jackson Washtenaw and Calhoun splitting between two Senate districts all the way across to include you know the splitting of Ann Arbor. I think that falls really outside of the intent of the how to draw the districts. And hold communities of interest together. The splitting of Ann Arbor City to bring those districts all the way across serves the benefit of the individuals that I'm hopeful there is still work to be done on the Senate map and that is not the map we are going to move to final map. Any of the collaborative maps Elm, cherry, Spruce.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 22, Melissa Hiller.

>> Hello, I want to thank you first for all you're doing and for allowing me the chance to address some concerns that I have regarding the redistricting of oops start my video sorry. Regarding the District redistricting of Jackson. Although Jackson and Ann Arbor share a stretch of I-94 that is literally all we have in common. We are worlds apart culturally. We don't interact or share the same neighborhoods, taxes, schools, churches, shopping, we share nothing. My husband and I grew up in Jackson and raised our two boys here. We intentionally chose not to live in a big college town like Ann Arbor. We own a local business and enjoy the closeness and familiarity of a small town. I strongly suggest you divide by County lines. You're otherwise splitting up some of our closest communities. We are much more aligned with Hillsdale County and share similar hometown values. This remapping would be a disaster as who would accurately represent us here? Jackson County is our home. Not Washtenaw.

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>> Hello, hi my name is Mari and I just wanted to say thank you for all of your great hard work. And so I believe the map labelled SD version 3 that is dated October 29, 2021, is very good. And like everyone else I would thank you please keep working towards partisan fairness and following the Voting Rights Act. Also once again please consider counting prisoners in the districts where they reside rather than where they are incarcerated. The census actually has a tool that you can actually use to do that. So I think that would be great because it is a huge issue, a lot of other states are doing it and we should be on the for front of civil rights for Michigan thank you thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Okay we are going to go back to Commissioner Curry I see you have joined the meeting can you indicate where you are coming in remote from for the record?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, I'm presently here and I'm attending the meeting from Detroit, Michigan. Sorry.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, all right. She just froze. All right Tina Bednarski-Lynch.

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together because essentially they are one community. They share schools, community activities, arts, and a number of things. And a geographical map shows that Rochester is virtually surrounded by Rochester Hills. So it really doesn't make sense to separate them. It does not make sense to include Oakland Township. It's a very different community from Rochester, Rochester Hills. It's much more rural. So.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 29, Donald Biddinger.

>> Good morning can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> Great yesterday after I gave my comment, I stayed on Zoom to listen to your discussions for the rest of the day. It made me very aware of all the time and tedious work that has been put into redistricting. So thank you for this service. It also became obvious that a few of the Commissioners dominated and when others gave input from listening to citizens' concerns about breaking up communities of interest, they were verbally persecuted and told it would be wasting time to make changes. It should have been divided up directly with likeminded areas to start with then it would not have to be tweaked. I thought this committee was supposed to be evenly appointed but those with a partisan agenda are unwilling to listen to wee the people and those that are constitutionally minded are the minority. This committee is so set on breaking up communities that tend to have a conservative view and moral convictions. We want to have a voice and representatives who will listen. More particularly Jackson County has no common goals and interests with Ann Arbor. Please let Ann Arbor have their community and let Jackson have ours. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Brian Miller.

>> Hi, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Great, I'm Brian Miller a former City Commissioner from East Grand Rapids here in Kent County and I wanted to thank you for your work on the State House maps. I live in East Grand Rapids but I work off of M6 near Kentwood at Davenport and consider putting East Grand Rapids with the City of Kentwood than how we have it today with the City of Grand Rapids. We share a lot with Grand Rapids and if you leave us there, I will completely understand but I think Kentwood makes more sense. We are both to suburban cities that are to the east of our big neighbor Grand Rapids and we share so much. We are members of the urban mayor of managers and we share water, sewer, buses, and an economy. I know that EGR Kentwood State House map would not be big enough in population to make a District so I think you can fix that adding Cascade Township. We share the 28th East Beltline with Cascade and you could also consider adding the northern precincts of Gaines Township that is part of the Kentwood school District so that would make sense as well. My reading at least is Kentwood East Grand Rapids based District would.

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Washtenaw County. In the two Senate districts I've seen 29 and 27, the Counties are basically split north and south.

And I frankly want my Senator to be focused on our area. And I think Jackson and the Washtenaw Counties would certainly benefit from Senate districts that would take into account the unique characteristics of each of those areas. I sure do appreciate being able to speak in front of the Commission today. Thank you for the work you're doing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is David, number 17.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, question with.

>> I'm David I live in Blackman Township in Jackson County and resided here 43 years my wife, three children and three grandchildren were born here. I retired last year in the community serving for over 40 years. I'm a former County Commissioner. I stepped away from my office at the end of the term last year. Served 18 years. I know our community and my community well. This proposed map that splits our County into two different districts includes Ann Arbor Ypsilanti is wrong on so many levels. The claimed intention of proposal two is take the politics out of redistricting. Looking at this map it's clear that the politics in this process is, in fact, alive and well. Anyone that would marry the communities of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti with Jackson County needs to go back to the drawing board. They are vibrant but vastly different. Splitting us in two and attempting to meld it in two districts like you are.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Phillip.

>> You don't understand my last name Moilanen.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm not going to try because everyone gets mad when I miss pronounce it.

>> I have to spell my name more often per day than probably anybody else. Maybe not everybody.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Keep in mind I'm a Szetela, so I play the same game every day, no one can pronounce it. Go ahead sir.

>> I understand. I am a resident of Jackson County. I'm currently the Township treasurer in the southern part of Jackson County. My concern today has to do with the Senate District being split. Combining my part of Jackson County with Ann Arbor is totally different. But as you know Ann Arbor is a college town. Combined with Ypsilanti it's two college towns. Jackson County is primarily rural and manufacturing. There is no apparent at all connection between communities of interest between the two areas. And so we are unhappy with the proposal that currently is being put forward. Please make changes so that Jackson County is able to be as a whole in a Senate District on this. We do appreciate the way you have connected the Congressional districts for us. And so congratulations on that. Thank you.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Rich Thrush, number 21.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> During the last Commission meeting in Grand Rapids several suggestions were made to modify the Grand Rapids six cities area House Districts to much improve the cultural community representation. I have drawn a map to show how these districts can easily be integrated in the Pine 227 map with minimal changes to three surrounding districts. No other changes to the statewide map would be necessary. District.org plan 74076 is the map referenced in public comment P8521. Simply divide by City lines to form districts. Combine Grandville and Walker for Central Europeans. Keep Wyoming whole with three precincts in Grand Rapids for the Hispanic community. South side Grand Rapids represents underserved minorities. Combine Kentwood East Grand Rapids and Cascade Township and combine north Grand Rapids with Ada for like urban suburban.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Marsha Casper.

>>.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Marsha if you can address yourself, you are free to address the Commission. If you can hear us and you can unmute yourself you are free to address the Commission. Looks like Marsha may be experiencing audio issues and recommend we move on to the next participant.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Next in line is Brenda Marcy.

>>.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay we will go on to Jonathan Williams.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Thank you, Commission. Commissioners again I spoke yesterday I'd like to speak again on the Senate maps. Take the maps to my class, my class of students I teach American Government state and local Government they're primarily from the Marshall Albion area and don't get the Senate districts. I could not explain the Senate districts. They understand them now because they understand that Counties are communities of interest. Right. The counties are communities of interest and they have been ever since the inception of the state. Each of our state constitutions had basically set asides for the Senate to represent whole counties so in breaking the counties as the current map does with the City of Ann Arbor all the way through Jackson and into Calhoun County it kind of goes against what our state Constitution have had. So in the order again of how we determine our priorities communities of interest are counties. The state subunits are counties and we get our funding from the state.

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community of interest as our suburban cities of Kentwood and East Grand Rapids.

Thank you for your time and thank you for your hard work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 29, Tina.

>> Good morning.

Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> My name is Tina. And I am a lifetime resident of Jackson County. And as a resident of Jackson County I would like to express my concern for the Senate District where we are being split up into two Counties and being divided with Washtenaw County. Jackson County is very different from Washtenaw County. I worked for allied steel for 27 years and we are heavy in manufacturing and agricultural. Whereas Washtenaw County is a big University. And it just feels like splitting Jackson into two and Washtenaw County into two Senate districts would not work well for our communities. We have an intermediate school District where our sports teams compete against each other and that would interfere with our schools as well as a manufacturing network that we have in Jackson County. So please relook at the Senate maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 30, Russ.

>> Hi there. My name is Russ Desy and live in the City of Jackson. I'm an independent minded person and I voted for candidates from both parties in past. I'm proud of you drawing the State Senate map that allows the I-94 corridor because I think we share personal and economic interests but the District as you have drawn it is diverse enough, I think either party can win in any given year. I acknowledge Jackson and Ann Arbor have differences the small cities suburbs and rural communities along I-94 have more in common than the vast rural areas that dilute in the current Senate map. It's a daunting and thankless job the fact neither side tells me you are on the right track so thank you and please keep it up.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Mary Murphy.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Oh, good I'm Mary Murphy calling from Oakland County Huntington Woods. Thank you for your hard work and expressing kindness. We all need kindness, any way my concerns are the house. And 2018 the Michigan voters voted for proposal two. The vote was 59.9% yes and 40.1% no. The people of Michigan wanted fair maps drawn to represent all of us. It is also stated that districts drawn shall not provide disproportionate advantage to a party or a candidate. Unfortunately the current house map still favor the republican party. The maps do not represent the voices of the people of Michigan nor the framework of the Independent Commission. The maps need to be

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 50, Jeanene brown.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can.

>> I'm Jeanie Brown from Jackson Michigan and just wanted to see we are aligned with Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County and we love Washtenaw County people but our Senate District will not be served by having a makeup of Jackson County and Washtenaw. We are two totally different communities. Please give us another option for a Senate map. I feel that there are too many conflicts with the way people think in both counties. And issues won't be resolved for both of us. Please we need another option. I would hope that we could be more aligned with the rural County like Hillsdale. We are more country people than big City, high tech and don't feel Jackson would be represented properly. Thank you for listening.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Sarah Woolsey.

>> Hello Commissioners. My name is Sarah. I live in Grand Rapids. I'm speaking today on a map that I submitted before the recent public hearing in Grand Rapids. Map P7083. The current level of partisan bias in the Pine state map does not meet the issues of the voters. It's definitely a step in progress but five to 6% bias in favor of one party is not a fair map. What I'm here speaking to you today is asking for maps that are fair and allow the voices of the voters to be heard and to allow for fair representation of voters in West Michigan to be represented in Lansing. This map addresses the concerns that you have repeatedly heard from citizens in Kent County at the public hearings, at meetings on the portal and even today. It increases the number of competitive seats in West Michigan and respects communities of interest in the six City region in nearby Townships with shared services Hispanic schools and more and I appreciate you using the criteria you are using and remind everyone of the Commission's mission and vision to ensure District lines that are draw fairly thank you for your dedication to the process and encourage you to revise the Pine map in Michigan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Okay, next is number 53, Stephanie Riley.

>> Good morning Honorable committee. I'm Stephanie Riley from Jackson Michigan. I'm applauding all of you for a very difficult task and the opportunity to speak with you today. I'm expressing my concern of the District lines that are currently on the map you developed for the Senate seats Jackson is combined with Washtenaw. I've been a dedicated RN for 36 years involved in hospital and medical community here in Jackson. Being from a smaller hospital compared to U of M we are vastly different in specialties and goals. Our communities are vastly different. Small town versus big town. Jackson is involved in many try County organizations. This would be a detrimental challenge to

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a Senator who is trying to adequately represent our District. Therefore I think that you should consider redrawing the lines to include Jackson with Hillsdale and Lenawee which are more communities of interest. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 54, Tim.

>> Hi name is Tim Golding I'm in grass Lake Jackson County. I'd like to thank you for the work you are doing. I think the Congressional maps that you have for the state look good. I think they pay attention to the communities of interest. Guidelines that you have. But the Senate map that divides Jackson and into two Senate districts and connects us to Ann Arbor and Ipsi I think does not represent any community of interest that we've spoken about at the various meetings in the past. I think you should go back and redraw that, paying attention to communities of interest because Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County Ypsilanti and Jackson are two totally different communities of interest. So please go back, look at that again thank you for the hard work you're doing and thank you for allowing me to speak, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 55, which is Chris Wessely.

>> Wessely. Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can hear you.

>> Thank you so much my name is Chris Wesley and live in East Grand Rapids in Kent County where I just got elected as City Commissioner forward two so I'm actually pumped and realize the hard work you are all doing and appreciate you. With that being said I want to ask you move East Grand Rapids from District 75 with a District with Kentwood and Cascade. We have been represented by people who live far away and the current one is northeast in the County over a 30 minute drive and really never comes here. I have seen your State House map and it's good. I like you kept the core areas of Metro Grand Rapids together and keep it up but ask you move us with Kentwood because we are closer together and with more commonalities. Both cities in the eastern part of the Metro area and share the 28th commercial strip and water, sewer waste management and bus services and makes sense to put us in with Kentwood. You rock and Katie thank you for signing for me too appreciate it cheers.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Paul Kenyon.

>> Yes, hello can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> My name is Paul Kenyon I'm a long time resident of Jackson County over 33 years. I've actually lived in Washtenaw County went to the University of Michigan for nine years, I'm a retired physician. Looking at the map that you've drawn for State Senate you split Jackson County in half with Washtenaw County and split Ann Arbor

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and basically what you have done is disenfranchised those of us living in Jackson County. We are going to be basically represented by the 500 pound gorilla of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor which we really share no communities of interest. We are a different community. We are rural. Agrarian and blue collar with University of Michigan which is high tech white collar and we share nothing. This is our areas have different infrastructure. We are well and septic systems where you have Ann Arbor is basically municipal water and sewer. So we are going to end up being overwhelmed and unrepresented. I wish you would bring Jackson County together with other Counties maybe even including Hillsdale.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 57, which is Sarah Abbot.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you. I just wanted to take a moment to remind the Commissioners of what they heard at the public hearing in Jackson earlier this year. You heard that Jackson and western Washtenaw should be whole and that Ann Arbor should also be whole. But then last Friday two or three of you seemed to forget that input. The strange layer Senate districts that were drawn make absolutely no sense. And there is no viable reason for such a split of Ann Arbor. Residents of Ann Arbor have more in common with each other than they do with the people in Calhoun. These communities are unique and deserve to be treated that way. And both communities deserve their own voice in Lansing. I ask that you respect both of these communities respect common sense and please adjust these two seats. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 58, Matt Dame.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> I'm Matt Dame from Jackson County. For months you've heard from so many residents how Jackson has far more in common with Hillsdale and Lenawee Counties as opposed to Washtenaw County. And you drew a pretty good map originally. Yet on a dime you gerrymandered Senate District that include Washtenaw County going all the way to Ann Arbor. The City of Jackson is the only municipality in Jackson County that votes democrat majority. Republicans win the majority in every other municipality in the County. By population approximately 81% of the County is under republican governance. Yet you carved Jackson County into two Senate districts where there is no way a republican can get elected. What you did to Jackson County was not partisan fairness. It ignored the communities of interest you heard. It ignored the fact the County voters overwhelmingly republican and it gerrymanders us with the City of Ann Arbor. The Senate map you propose simply doesn't follow constitutional priorities. Please try again. I appreciate you.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 59, Allen Poehl.

>> Yes, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Awesome. Basically I just want to speak real quick like so many others to kind of the bizarre Ann Arbor Jackson Calhoun, the laterally sliced map a few of you drew the other day. Call attention to on September 15th Commissioners Szetela said quote I don't really think Ann Arbor and Jackson go together either. I just don't like it. That's on September 15th and the Commission meetings. I know Commissioner Curry and some other Commissioners wisely agreed with her. And I think you guys had it right then. I think that if you look at it the people in northern Ann Arbor have so much more in common with the people in southern Ann Arbor than they do with those in Jackson or Calhoun or anything like that. Each of these communities is their own unique community and I think they should both deserve to have a voice. I think you should give them that chance. Lastly if you are evaluating Senate maps you should look at midterm elections to determine the partisan fairness on those maps. Not Presidential years because they are elected in midterms. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Greg Hodgman number 60.

>> A longtime resident of southwest Kalamazoo City. The Redistricting Commission deserves thanks for their hard work and continued improvements in fairness. All draft proposed State House maps for Kalamazoo County currently have two districts greater Metro Kalamazoo and rural Kalamazoo County in an effort to have fair statewide maps consider unpacking Metro Kalamazoo into three districts with east Kalamazoo, west Kalamazoo and Portage in the south as shown on map P7173. Each of these districts could be considered to be a community of interest. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 61. Donald Biddinger.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you. I'm from Jackson. And thank you for listening to us. It appears that the Congressional maps are fair for keeping our communities united. However you are proposing a Senate map that divides our community and economy. We ask that you redraw the Senate map to keep our Jackson community united. The I-94 corridor is not a community. It is an Interstate highway that connects the community of Jackson and the community of Ann Arbor. We have very different interests and values and want to be fairly represented. When you talk about unpacking a City, you're talking about an unconstitutional idea to force the likeminded ideas of an urban community group on to the rural areas that have differing views of representation. Let Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti

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have their community and representation. And let Jackson County have ours, please. Do not split our County in half for partisan reasons. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 62, which is Girt Hobson.

>> I'm here, can everybody hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you I'm Girt of Kalamazoo Michigan I support unpacking the City of Kalamazoo from two districts to three districts. East, west and north District. This would allow each District fair representation that promotes equity, fairness, diversity and would disallow racism, discrimination, disenfranchisement and violations of the voter rights protection act. I support the Pine map. As the guy said earlier P7173 I would like to thank you for your time and effort in trying to make everything fair. I know it's a hard job. Thank you so much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line to speak is number 63, which is Art, 64, Glenna it looks like Art is not here.

>>.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Glenna, we can hear you if you are ready.

>> Good morning you can hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> I commented yesterday I would like the proposed state Pine State House map that I like it but would like to see the lakeshore District 87 span further north and include Saugatuck and Douglas. I love the Commissioner listened and tried to incorporate the feedback for the lakeshore District. It's hard to modify maps as a group and on the fly. While at first glance it appeared Saugatuck Douglas did not fit there, there is a solution upon inspection. Exchange Royalton Township which is inland with Saugatuck and Douglas and it works. This is an easy adjustment. I think you could start there. It would work and move on to the more tougher areas of the state. I want to end by saying thank you for your service. I appreciate your hard work and perseverance and you are valued your work is valued hang in there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 65, Max.

>> Good morning my name is Max and I live in Grand Rapids. As the Commissioners probably noticed the overall state house needs work and a friend of mine find a solution in the Grand Rapids Metro area. Four competitive or slightly democratic leaning street in Grand Rapids to the one in southern Grand Rapids. This will help with the statewide partisan fairness and a strong community of interest P8521 off of that map. P8521 puts a safe majority house in the Metro Grand Rapids with four other State House districts surrounding on the northeast southeast and southwest and will help you with the challenge of partisan balance your map and competitive elections in Kent County and lead to fair representation and fits in the West Michigan Pine map you have already drawn. Thank you. And sorry my camera was not working.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line to speak is number 66, which is Marion gray.

>> Thank you for creating fair and effective districts, I appreciate it. As a resident of Jackson County evaluating the Senate map that splits Jackson and combines with Ann Arbor is concerning. While we very much appreciate Ann Arbor's unique qualities of art and food and as a large University town, this is not in keeping with the criteria of communities with common interests. Very well developed community and organizations kept intact with the other counties we already work with try County region two agency on aging, the community action agency, different charities, disability connections. It would be costly to have to undo and rebuild these services. Please I ask you keep the Senate District for Jackson intact. And I want to thank you. The District lines you are looking at for the Congressional seat makes sense. Thank you and hold the values of common interest. Thank you for your work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 67, which is Robert Dindoffer.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay great, a couple things, one yesterday there was some talk about whether to add that last precinct of Grosse Pointe Woods into State House District 4. Given Mr. Adelson's I don't know the way he articulated things yesterday I will put it you should give that another look. I really like the way that was done in the Kellom Curry redraw in Detroit. Second, I think the Kellom Curry redraw in Detroit is really important. I think if you guys done get Detroit right, the whole process is going to lose legitimacy and a lot of people's eyes. And I think that you know whether you accept that particular redraw I think it's very important to consider have everyone consider what the Detroit Commissioners are saying. I think that there are other ways since you, you know, changed the seat, there are other ways to find a seat where. You probably have people telling you find six or seven democratic seats in other areas of the state.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Yousif.

>> Good morning, Commissioners Yousif from try. Thank you for your hard work and know Pine is not done yet and I saw you yesterday ripping apart Sterling Heights and supposed to map COI and deviations. You are doing in the wrong way and rip apart COI and getting deviations to work the Chaldeans fall victim to the mapping technique first on the Senate now on the house map. Keep the Chaldean community together ton house and Senate map and let Commissioner Eid speak and Kellom and Curry speak for the Black community. Get interrupted not all of the time but let them speak for community of interest. I appreciate what you are doing and I will continue to pray for each of you Commissioners.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Bruce Abbot.

>> Yes, I'd like to thank you for allowing me to speak this morning. I'm a resident of Jackson County. After looking at the Senate map, I see that they divided our County in half. And combined the Section that I am in with Ann Arbor. Which would basically eliminate my need to vote for a Senator. I don't appreciate that. And I would really like to see you recombine Jackson County into one unit. And I do appreciate what you have done on the Congressional side. And I thank you for your hard work and listening to all of us complain. Thanks again good-bye.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 70, Melanie Hartman.

>>.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Melanie you are unmuted and free to address the Commission.

>>.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Melanie you are muted. We can't hear you. We appear -- have we lost her? There you are Melanie. If you could unmute yourself. There we go. You try turning off your speaker a little bit. Maybe that will help. We see you are unmuted. We just can't hear you. Okay I think we will move on to the next person and see if we can sort of help her with her technical issues. Next in line is crystal.

>>.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, all right, let me see who else do we have left. It was 71, 72 is Paul McAdams.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Hello.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Hi, I'd like to thank the Commission for working so diligently. I think you made improvements over time. I think the Congressional District I spoke I'm sorry I'm from St. Clair shores. I think you have done pretty well in preserving the communities of interest in that Congressional District. And I think that a tweak would be desirable in Senate District 7. I think we have St. Clair shores we have a significant community of interest with Eastpointe. There was potential to include that we would appreciate that. And then Detroit House Districts, I think that we can do a little better and preserving the minority majority districts. Outside of that thank you very much for your hard work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Rick Catherman.

>> Good morning Commission can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

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# Alternative A2 split 7

## Basic Info

Submitter: Alice  
Location: Washtenaw  
Submitted: 11/4/2021  
Type: plan  
State Senate Districts  
ID: p8674

## Tags

## More Info

I tried to incorporate Commissioner Eid's vision for Ann Arbor area division into cherry v2 map. I assume it was an attempt to be responsive to AAPI community of interest in Ann Arbor and Novi.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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your maps and get to partisan fairness republican partisans would accuse you of gerrymandering for democrats. Last night the state GOP sent an e-mail begging people to come here and say exactly that. Here is a couple of the suggested GOP talking points we expect you to hear. Number one quote you are gerrymandering for democrats under the guise of partisan fairness. Number two quote Michigan is not a blue state we are a purple state that is elected at the top of the ticket in the past six years three republicans and three democrats. If you hear comments along these lines, you will know where they come from. By the way, six years ago was 2015. Since then one republican and two democrats have won the top of the ticket. If you redraw Detroit to reflect actual communities of interest as you should, it will help you, not hurt you on partisan fairness measures. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number six.

>> Hello, my name is Shaun Lee I live in Leoni Township Jackson County. I'm here today because I don't agree with the way you have split up Jackson County and combined it in with wash or Ann Arbor. We actually have nothing in common with each other. And the Michigan civil rights chief Executive Director John Johnson junior says that the proposed maps violate the Voting Rights Act. Protecting the Voting Rights Act is a paramount concern and is listed in the first of priorities for a reason. The communities of interest are more listed above partisan fairness and they must respect the input from the thousands of voters across Michigan who have asked them to protect our communities. Thank you for your service. And please consider everyone's input. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number seven.

>> Hi, in the course of collecting thousands of signatures and having thousands of conversations with Michiganders of all political stripes and no political affiliation, the two things I heard most when I was volunteering for Voters Not Politicians was shocked at the way redistricting is done previously. And the fact that their representatives do not listen to them. Do not meet with them, don't represent them. And that's the importance of partisan fairness in your maps.

If you don't solve that problem in your Michigan house map, it's not going to solve the problem that we've been trying to solve with this Commission. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number eight.

>> Hello. My name is Kristina and I work for the UAW region 1D but coming to you as a resident of Genesee County and thank you for the maps and unpacking Lansing yesterday and the work you did on Flint. Listening to the people and what they asked for. I would like to ask you the Commission consider looking at 2016 statewide election. While evaluating partisan fairness while drawing the maps 2016 was the closest statewide election over the last decade. I think running those numbers with the proposed maps will point you in the direction of fairness and where to make changes. A

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I believe that fair elections require fair maps.

And that means that there has to be an equal opportunity for parties to win elections if they have the most votes for those elections.

So of the U.S. House maps I support the Szetela. State Senate I support Linden. And the State House I think also still needs some work to become something other than a locking in a particular partisan advantage for one party.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number seven.

>> Before you start the time, I do have a question because the website, your website indicates we have 90 seconds.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No. We actually changed it to a minute several meetings ago.

>> I looked at the website yesterday and it was 90 seconds. Start my time, please.

I've been a resident of Waterloo in Jackson County for nearly 18 years. I spoke about our beautiful township to you back in May at the first redistricting commission public comment hearing in Jackson and a month ago in Lansing, here I am again.

Several of the maps continue to pull Waterloo Township into Washtenaw County and even Livingston County maps. Waterloo Township is a small rural community on the far northeast corner of Jackson County.

Please understand that Waterloo Township is very rural and has very different needs from Washtenaw and Livingston County.

I will say this again. Our needs...if our needs will go unaddressed if we are merged with Washtenaw or Livingston County.

As a member of Waterloo Township Planning Commission, I ask that you again keep us with similar Townships in Jackson County such as Henrietta, Leoni and Grass Lake. We are already working together on similar needs and issues. Please use Chestnut for Congressional, Palm for State Senate, Szetela for House rep. Thank you for your work on this important project and for listening to residents.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number eight?

>> Hi, my name is Sharon and my community of interest is the rural area that I have lived in for 20 years, which is Waterloo Township, Jackson County.

Waterloo Township's population is low density with biking trails, horse trails, campsites and water sports, lakes, and 50% of our Township is DNR property.

My community of interest has low light pollution that makes the stars pop at night and has low traffic levels, so there is no congestion and minimal noise.

These things are very much in contrast with noisy and more congested, light polluted, higher density areas such as the City of Ann Arbor.

City residents enjoy close proximity to restaurants, retail shopping and museums.

This is very different from the expectations and the needs of rural residents. Point is that people in rural and high density areas have different preferences and resource

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requirements and should therefore have different representation. And most of the existing draft maps don't accomplish this for Waterloo. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number nine.

>> Good morning. My name is Kathy. I'm a resident of Waterloo Township in Jackson County.

My thoughts on this redistricting is very common sense approach.

Consider you have cattle and rabbits. They are very different in size and needs. You wouldn't group them altogether in a field and expect that they would all require the same amount of care.

The rabbits will not consume the same amount of feed and care as larger cattle.

So in the same way a small community will not have the same needs as what is offered in a large City.

Examples, water, sewer, public transportation.

There is no reasonable reason to group a small community with larger ones.

The larger communities' needs are very different from the small ones.

They would want very different representation, and that's no bull.

Most of the existing maps do not reflect this idea of small versus larger communities.

And, in my opinion, the maps that best accomplish fairness for both communities would be the Szetela state map, the Chestnut Congressional and the Palm State Senate map.

Thank you for your time and efforts on this redistricting.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number ten.

>> Good morning. My name is Kathy Upton. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.

I am also a resident of Waterloo Township in Jackson County.

I moved from Ann Arbor actually to Waterloo Township because of the vastly different community of interest aspects of each location.

Ann Arbor is high density and has many citizen services as water, sewer, broadband, Internet, and public transportation.

Waterloo Township residents don't have these service and are not taxed for them and prefer it that way. It's quieter in the country and less congested and people don't have to rely on these in the City with a cost.

These different communities of interest require different representation as the resources they have, and the resources they may or may not need are very different.

Most of the existing draft maps combine Waterloo Township with Washtenaw County and the City of Ann Arbor, which won't accomplish the different representation that is required.

Of the maps that exist, the ones I think that can achieve the appropriate representation for both rural and urban areas are the Szetela State House map, the Chestnut and Palm map. Thank you for your work on this complicated and difficult process.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 11.

>> Commissioners, you do some fair maps when you focused on the top three criteria through communities of interest.

When you moved from communities of interest down to partisan fairness, you didn't just tweak your maps, you completely redrew your maps.

By changing the maps so drastically, your own process became unconstitutional.

There are hours of online videos demonstrating how you gerrymandered the maps for partisan fairness.

You committed the very act proposition two of 2018 was designed not to do.

When your maps are challenged in Court, and I guarantee you they will be, the only maps that have a remote chance of holding up in Court are Chestnut, Palm and Magnolia.

Chestnut, Palm and Magnolia.

I look forward to the Court challenges to come. And it would be justified to see you defend your gerrymandering under oath in a Court of law.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 12.

>> Thank you to the committee for your work and for taking time to hear input from citizens. My name is Mike Cameron. I live in Waterloo Township in Jackson County. My Township has very different needs than the largest Townships and communities in Washtenaw County.

What I've noticed with the draft maps is that in almost every case Waterloo Township is included with Washtenaw County, including the City of Ann Arbor.

I have concerns about one representative being able to protect the needs of these vastly different communities.

I would like to see Waterloo Township included in Jackson County District since they are similar communities of interest.

Of the draft maps remaining, I feel the following maps would do the best to protect rural communities: Chestnut Congressional map, Palm State Senate map, the Szetela State House map.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 13.

>> My name is Gail Steiner. I live on Ann Arbor's west side. I speak out today for the same reason that I volunteered nearly full time with the prop two campaign to end gerrymandering.

That motivation is protecting people's right to choose our elected officials.

My two favorite consensus maps for partisan fairness are Congress Birch version two and State Senate Linden. The State House maps appear to result in the party projected to win the most votes, not likely to win majority of seats.

That is deeply disappointing.

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Because of your timeline, if you must choose a consensus map, I reluctantly recommend Hickory as the least egregious of the three options.

Thank you for putting yourselves publicly on the line to protect our democracy.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 14.

>> Good morning. My name is Dave. I'm a resident of Waterloo Township in Jackson County.

I commend the Commission for undertaking a very difficult and complex task. In reviewing the proposed redistricting maps, I was disappointed to discover that Jackson...that Waterloo Township has been separated from Jackson County and attached to Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County.

Basically I believe this is contrary to the guiding principle of communities of interest, which is meant to maintain common values and needs and so forth of respective communities.

Certainly Waterloo Township being a small rural community has a lot more in common with its adjoining urban and rural communities in Jackson County.

As a result, I urge the Commission to consider the following maps that best integrate urban and rural needs.

It would be the Palm map for State Senate.

The Szetela map for State House.

And the Chestnut for the Congressional map. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 15.

>> Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Sandy. And I lived in Ann Arbor.

And I live in Ann Arbor. I've practiced law here for over 30 years.

First, I want to thank you for your hard work over the last 18 months.

I know it's been a challenge to be the first Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission.

You guys are leading the way.

I watched you in action and I can see how much you care about keeping the redistricting process transparent, fair and nonpartisan as required by the Constitution. I've reviewed the maps and analysis done by the Secretary of State and also by the nonpartisan Michigan State IPSR project.

These are my request on the maps.

Please adopt the Chestnut map for Congress. It's a fair map and keeps the most communities of interest together.

For State Senate adopt the Linden collaborative map or Commissioner Kellom's map that strengthens Detroit's VRA districts. For State House please adopt Pine version five or Hickory.

Finally, I'm so glad your meetings and discussions are open and transparent.

Please keep it that way.

Thank you.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 15.

>> Yeah, hi. So you can go ahead and start the time and I will probably stare at my phone since it's short.

No map can perfectly satisfy everyone. There are some obvious issues with some of these maps, especially those that split Jackson and Ann Arbor in half and connect the north and south sides together of vastly different communities.

Worse yet people are commenting on the maps happy to silence and suppress the voices and voters of our communities in favor of securing seats for political candidates or prioritizing the agenda of politicians instead of prioritizing the people they are supposed to serve.

Proper representation of our community of interest matters.

The people of Jackson County and the people of Ann Arbor are great people but they have very different wants and needs and different problems that require different solutions.

Each of which should be properly represented as to best serve the people in those respective communities.

If you truly care about the people of our communities in Michigan, then please recognize the diversity between these different communities in our state, deserve accurate and proper representation. The best maps I believe that serve this goal are Chestnut for Congressional, Palm for Senate and Szetela for State House. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 16.

Do we have a number 16? Okay, let's move on to 17 then.

>> I hate these masks.

Yes, my name is Mike.

I live in Lodi Township, outside of Saline.

And I thought that one of the best comments that I've heard or read, I should say, on redistricting had to do with the front Page of the "New York Times" this past Monday. I want to read just the first sentence.

A year before the polls opened in 2022 mid-term elections republicans have already poised to flip at least five seats and the closely divided House thanks to redrawn District maps that are more distorted, more disjointed, and more gerrymandered than any since the Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965.

Here in Michigan I think we have this whimsical, largely republican stuff about communities of interest, which are being used from what I hear as a justification for gerrymandering.

All this says to me is that the voting rights bill must be passed.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 18.

>> Good morning. My name is Bill Richardson and live in Waterloo in Jackson, Michigan.

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I have concerns about all three types of maps. In most cases Waterloo is included in Washtenaw County districts, not Jackson County districts.

Also, Jackson County is not kept whole on many of the maps.

I heard an overwhelming theme in the May hearing in Jackson that both rural and urban residents that urban and rural communities are different and need different representation.

Waterloo Township is a single precinct township of less 3,000 residents and has very different needs from the larger populated Townships in Washtenaw County.

Our Township has no City water, no City sewer, no broadband Internet, and no public transportation.

The City of Ann Arbor has all these things. How can a single representative represent all their constituents when the constituents have vastly different resources and needs?

The maps I feel are the best to protect rural communities in Jackson county are Chestnut for Congressional, Palm for State Senate and Szetela for State House.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 19.

>> Good morning. My name is Lori and I've come in today from Huntington Woods in Oakland County. Thank you for your hard work.

I'm sure it has felt thankless at times. Be assured many Michiganders appreciate how difficult your task has been.

I speak today in support of the Birch Congressional map. It is fair and has the strongest VRA districts of the Congressional maps. In my district this map keeps together cities that I consider to be my sister cities. It combines parts of Macomb County and Oakland County together in districts making for more fair, competitive districts.

With respect to the Senate maps, I like the Kellom Senate map.

This map respects Detroiters' concerns for adherence to the VRA by not dipping down from Oakland County into Detroit like other maps have done.

I hate to end on a bumner note, but I cannot support any of the House maps as they are not fair.

Please continue to work on the House maps by looking to the maps that have been submitted to the Commission by others that satisfy constitutional requirements and are fair.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 20.

>> Good morning. My name is James and I live in Ann Arbor.

After studying the maps proposed by the Independent Commission, I believe the following about the three separate maps. Congressional maps. Of the Congressional maps I believe the best map is the Szetela map, which is partisan fair, and meets many of the other criteria.

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You all know the wording, including but not limited to populations of historic or economic interests, et cetera.

I and my family belong to many communities of interest.

And there is no way anyone could draw districts whose boundaries did not divide some of those communities of interest.

Western Washtenaw County should be included within districts with all or some of Jackson County because we share common interests and because these districts have more fairness and less partisan advantage than the districts that segregate Washtenaw County.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 25.

>> Hi. My name is Jeannie Brown and I'm from summit Township. I would like to propose the Chestnut map.

We love Washtenaw County people, but Senate Districts would not be well served by having Jackson and Washtenaw put together.

I would also suggest the Palm map and the Magnolia map.

These maps represent our common community values and opinions.

I feel that Washtenaw County values and opinions conflict with the most of the people in Jackson and Hillsdale County.

We are more country people than high City tech and don't feel Jackson County would be represented properly.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 26.

>> Good morning, Commissioners.

First, I'd like to tell you that I'm grateful for the dedication of this tedious task. My name is Stephanie Riley. I'm...I moved from Ohio in 1981 to Jackson where I've established my home, family and my career.

My vote is for the Chestnut, Palm and Magnolia maps. These maps keep Jackson County whole, or mostly whole, and with the surrounding Counties of similar interests.

I have concern with the maps that are combining Jackson with Washtenaw County. Mixing Jackson with Washtenaw County is like bringing the Ohio State Buckeyes into the big House.

To win this game, both counties need to be able to run plays that support their own goals and special interest. I vote to keep Jackson out of Washtenaw County because our areas are vastly different.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 27.

>> Hi, my name is Judy and I live in Plymouth, Michigan.

I want to start by thanking you for your exceptional effort in imagining this process in a fair and effective manner.

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You were 30.

Okay, so 31, just went so 32.

>> Good morning. My name is Stewart, a resident of Pittsfield Township in Washtenaw.

I'd like to concentrate my comments today in regard to the House maps.

You've already heard some good comments and testimony in showing that these maps need rework.

I strongly urge you to please revise the House maps.

Take the time to do it.

I also understand that you have some concerns that doing so, revising the House maps will trigger another 45-day period.

I'd like to give you at least one of many possible reasons why revising it is a better alternative than simply picking the best of the lot in the House maps.

That's because litigation is likely. Any decisions you take, litigation in the state courts.

Put yourself in the position of several months from now, being told by one of the courts to redo these maps.

That's more expensive and it's more confusing. It's going to be more work for the clerks, more work for you and more confusion for the voters.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 33.

>> Good morning. My name is Tim Wilson. I'm from Jackson where I practice law for many years.

When making your final selections, I'm going to oppose any plans that divide up Jackson County.

I just don't see how that is necessary.

I further oppose any plans that place Jackson with Washtenaw.

Lastly, we'd like to keep Waterloo Township.

We are very proud of its beauty and natural resource. I'm from Summit, but we would like to keep them. And thank you to the Commission and all my fellow citizens who are participating. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 34.

>> Good morning, Nancy Wang on behalf of Voters Not Politicians. I would like to make a few points today and commend all of you. And thank you so much for all the work you have done, and especially how you have done that work.

You really have been a model of working in collaboratively and cooperation with mutual respect for each other all along the way, which is the opposite of what we are seeing all across the Country and what we have seen in the past with redistricting in this state as well.

We also appreciate how you've taken seriously all of the public comments you have gotten,

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We choose where we live for a reason based on many factors, and hope to have representation that supports our needs and interests.

It is principle to our Constitution.

You must eliminate all the Senate maps that cut our County in half, only to pair us with Ann Arbor, the only proposed one that doesn't is Palm. Please do right by Jackson County and keep us united. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 43.

>> Good morning, everyone. My name is Vicki and I live in Napoleon Township, Jackson County.

I have many friends and family that live there.

They have all I've been born there, all of my kids, all of my grand kids, my great grand kids, and they are concerned about the new maps that have been drawn that separate our community and add it to Washtenaw.

We have so much in common with our small City of Jackson and the rural areas that surround it and very little with a huge, urban City of Ann Arbor.

All we are asking is that you allow us to have fair representation by keeping our community together as a whole.

The Chestnut map is the best Congressional map.

The Palm is the only one that keeps us as a whole in Jackson County.

And the Magnolia is the best one for the House.

But I really hope that you do revisit to the House maps.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I'm sorry, I might have lost my count, was that 43 or 44?

>> 43.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, so 44.

>> Hi, Norman coming back again for Detroit Change Initiative. I will be quick. Congressional I will live with the Birch. And State I will live with Linden. State House I can't say anything about that because it's still gerrymandered. You just took two seats off.

So it's still a gerrymandered map.

And you will be in Court in litigation for another time and again another 45 days and do the process all over again.

Guys, I get it. I have been here since the beginning. And you guys have been working tirelessly. You guys have been working hard. But do not let anything deter you doing this in the right way.

Let's get this right.

Take the time.

Redo the Congressional maps all over again.

Put everybody's interests in state.

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provision of the Redistricting Commission's mandate prevents the joining of communities with different cultural characteristics and economic interests in the same District.

Clause C of the mandate requires the Commission to create Districts that quote reflect the states diverse population as well as community of interest.

Seems to me the diverse population requirement is often being forgotten. In my view thee Commission is mandated to create Districts that are diverse and not marginalizing communities with distinctive cultural, historical characteristics or economic interest.

The law does not require only one community of interest per District.

The Redistricting Commission's mandate on community of interest is not a kind of Voting Rights Act for rural Michigan, requiring that the Commission create districts at least 50% or maybe 40% rural.

That is not a reasonable interpretation of the law and, in fact, would violate the diverse requirement.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number Pam-Byrnes.

>> I'm supervisor of Linden Township in the northwest corner of Washtenaw County where than more than 50% of the land is state owned.

I urge you to adopt the Chestnut Congressional map. We are a small, rural, agricultural Township of less than 3,000 residents with an emphasis on outdoor recreation.

We are part of the Chelsea community linked in our regional fire service, library, schools, transportation, recycling and building code enforcement.

Birch two and the two individual Commissioner maps split the Township in half between two Congressional districts. Apple two, and out of Washtenaw County into a Congressional District that has no connection, no community of interest.

We are small and likely to be ignored.

We would be adversely impacted for the next ten years in the delivery of quality governmental services to our constituents if the Chestnut map is not adopted. And thank you very much for your hard work and public service.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 18, Rich Thrush.

>> Hi, I'm Rich Thrush, a long-term resident of Grand Rapids.

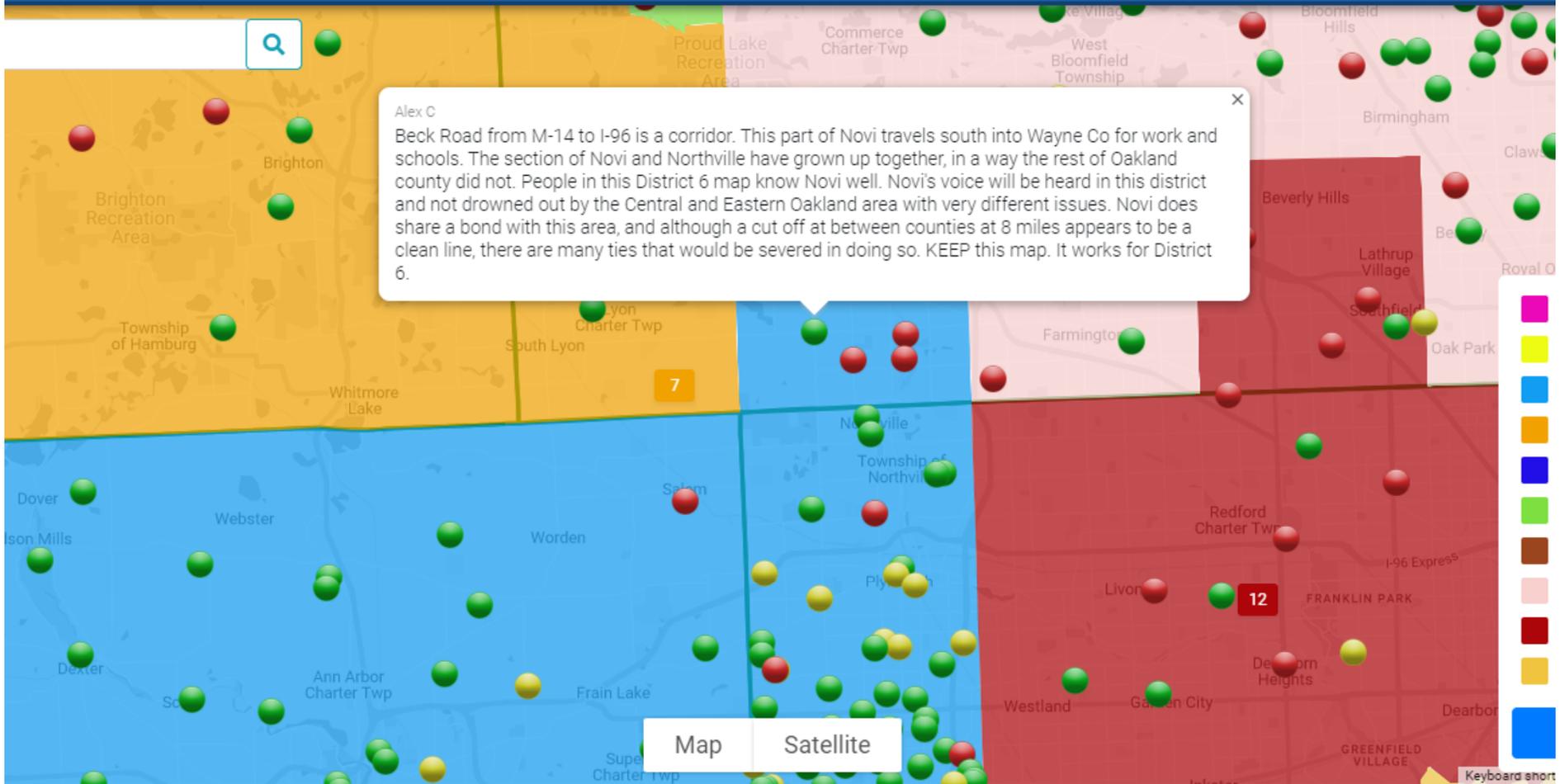
I want to point out the Apple V2 map is the best representation of the large minority population in West Michigan.

30% of this District population are minorities.

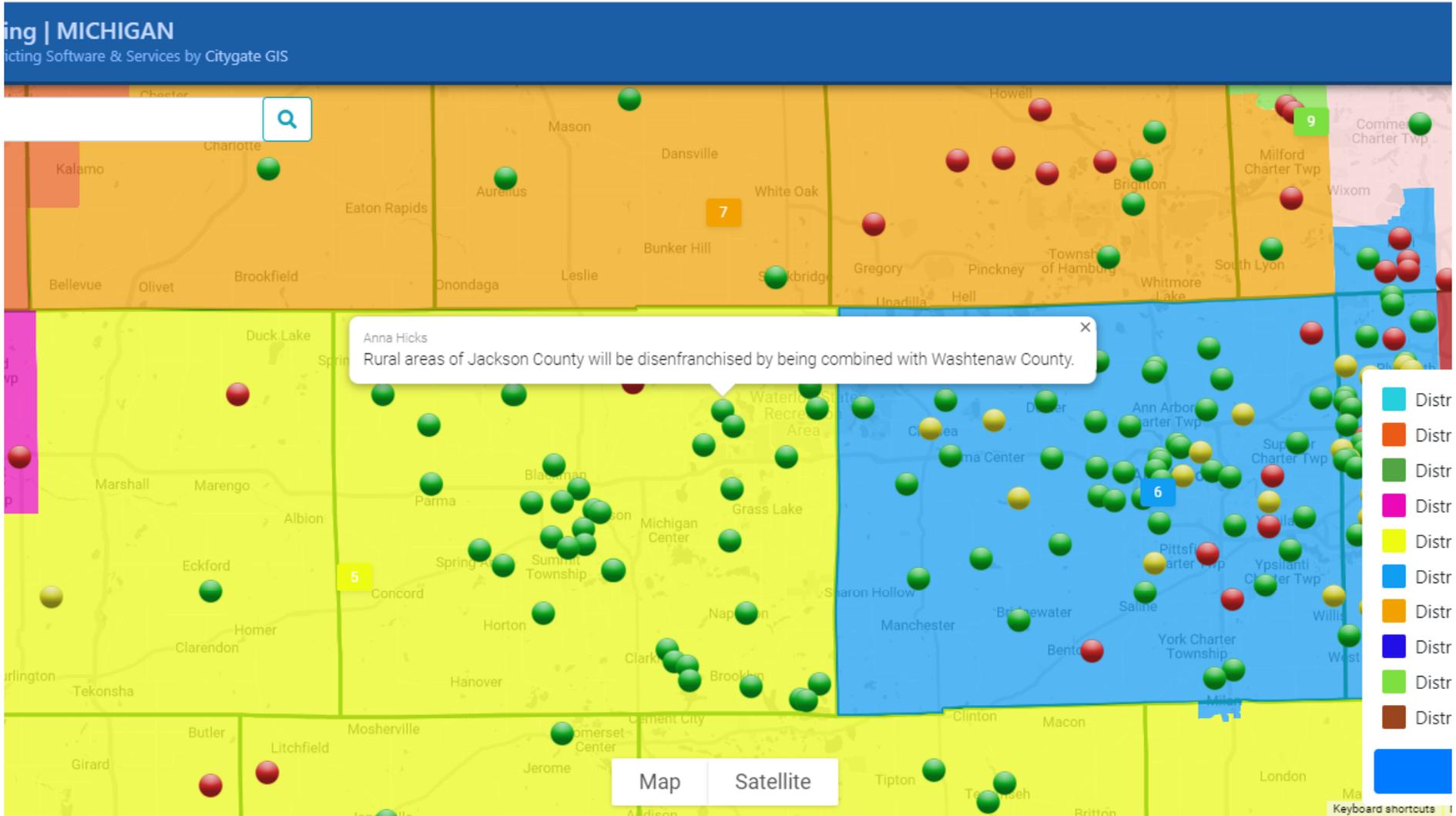
Not only are Black and Hispanic populations represented, but Asian and Native Americans as well.

MICHIGAN

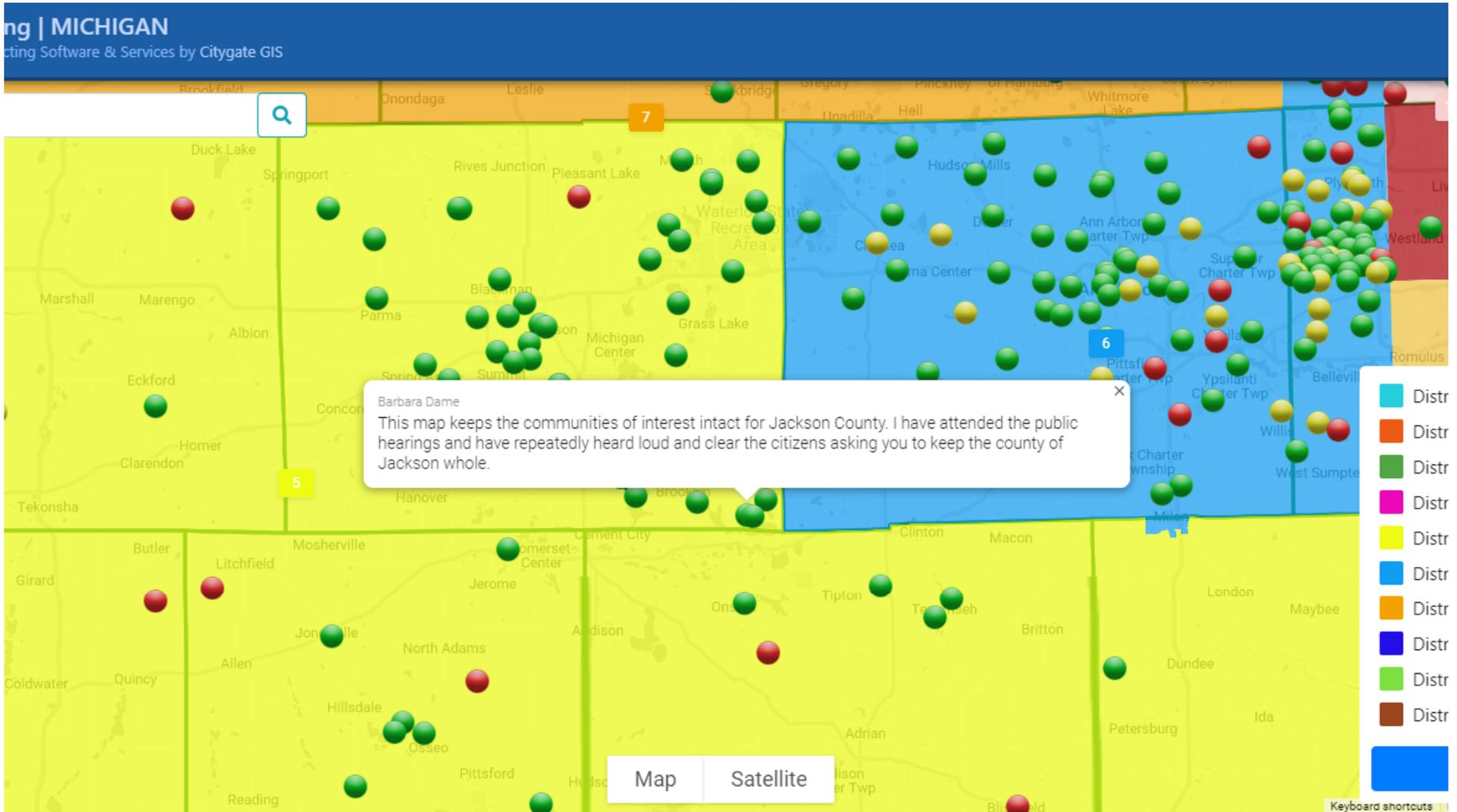
Software & Services by Citygate GIS



Dist	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
79	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	0 (0%)



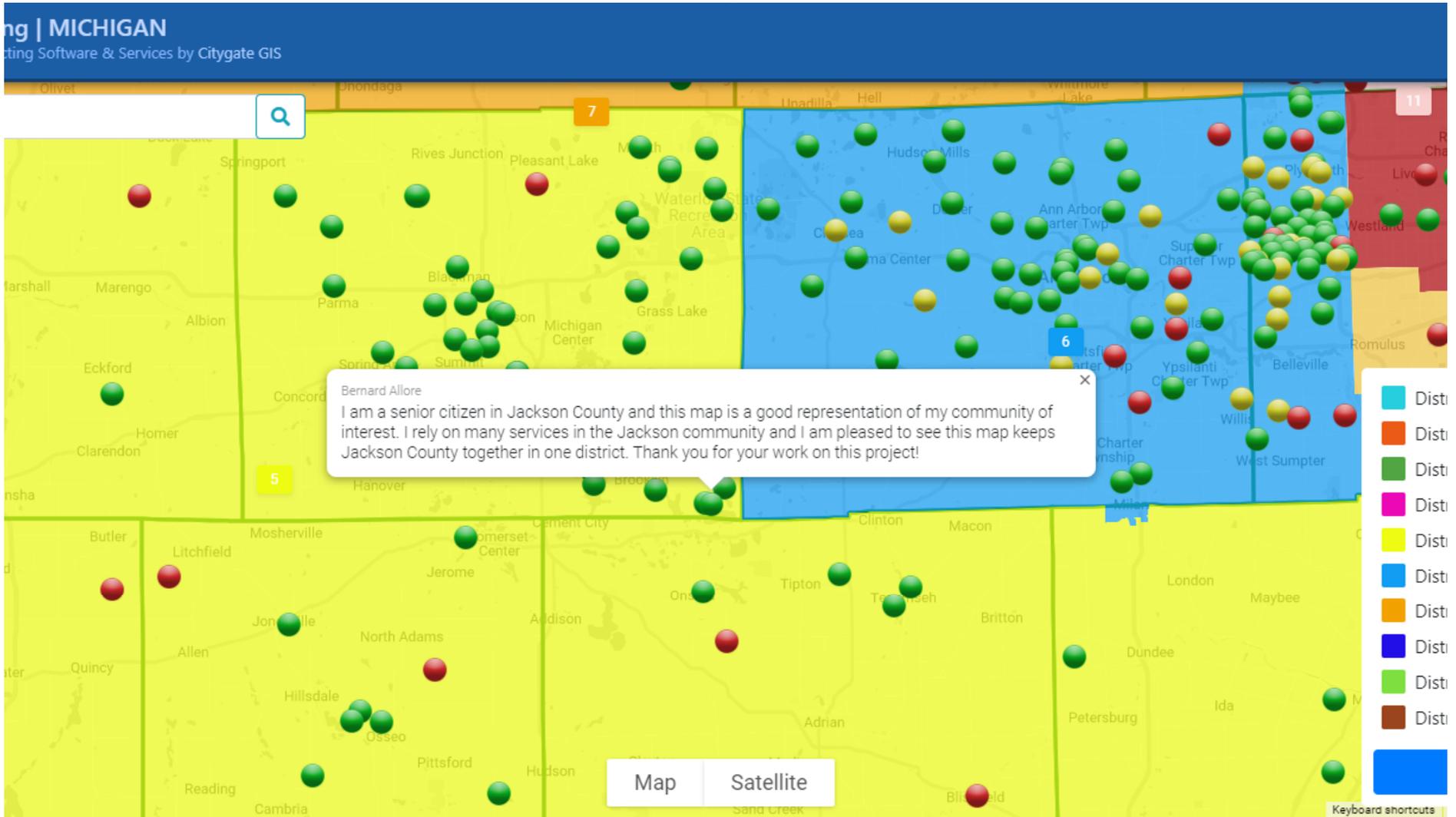
Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418



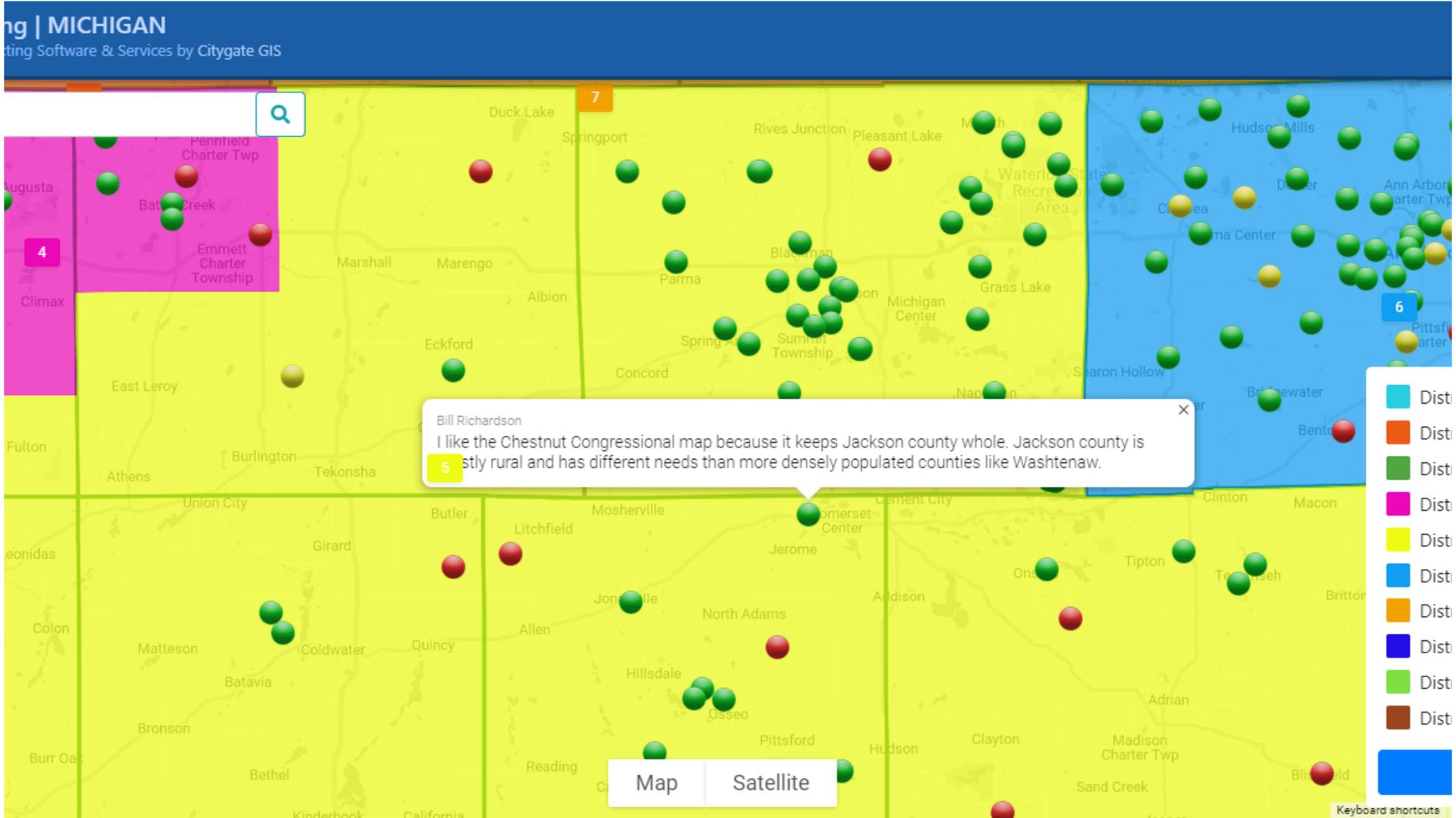
Barbara Dame  
 This map keeps the communities of interest intact for Jackson County. I have attended the public hearings and have repeatedly heard loud and clear the citizens asking you to keep the county of Jackson whole.

Map Satellite

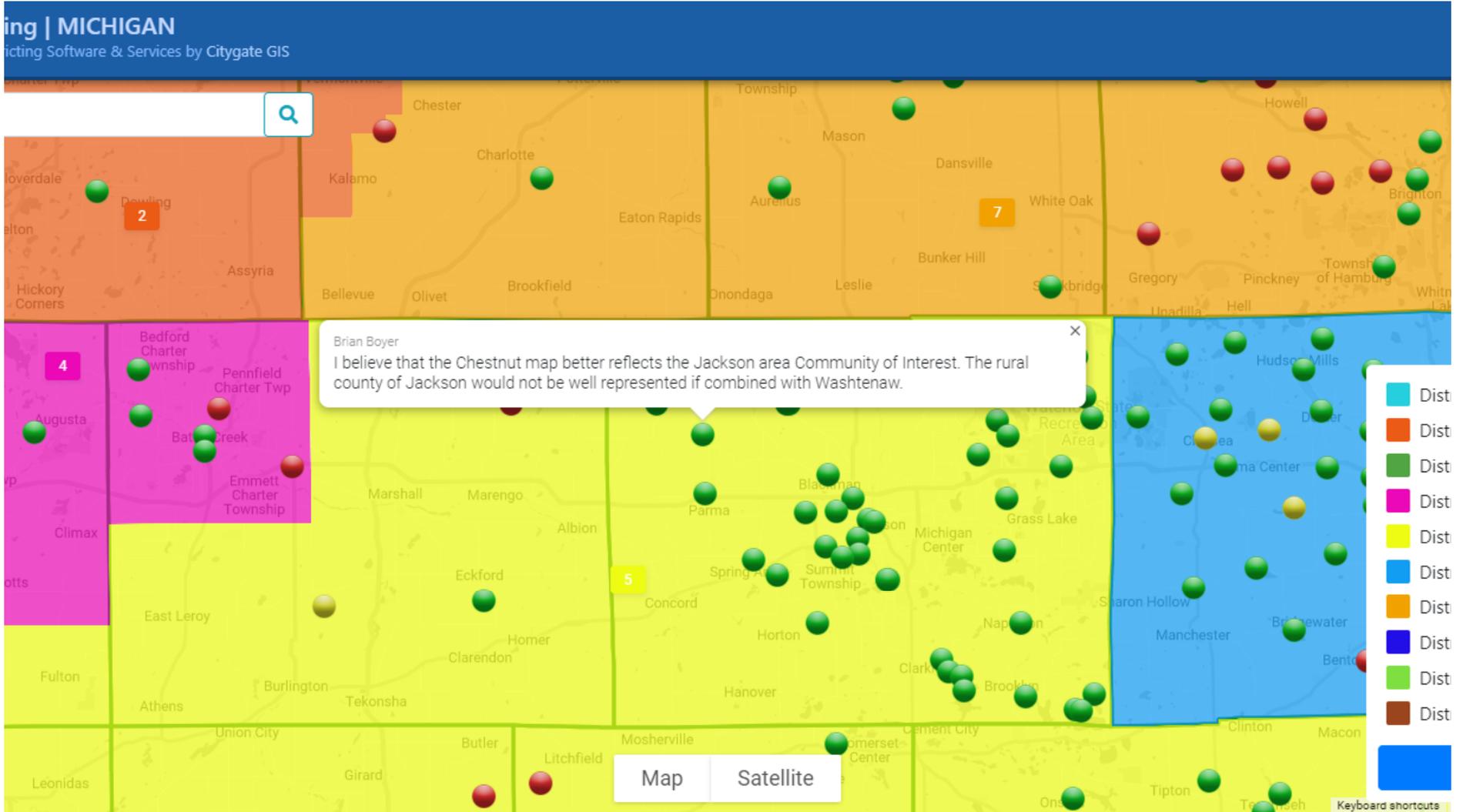
Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	771,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	11,526	1,965	118



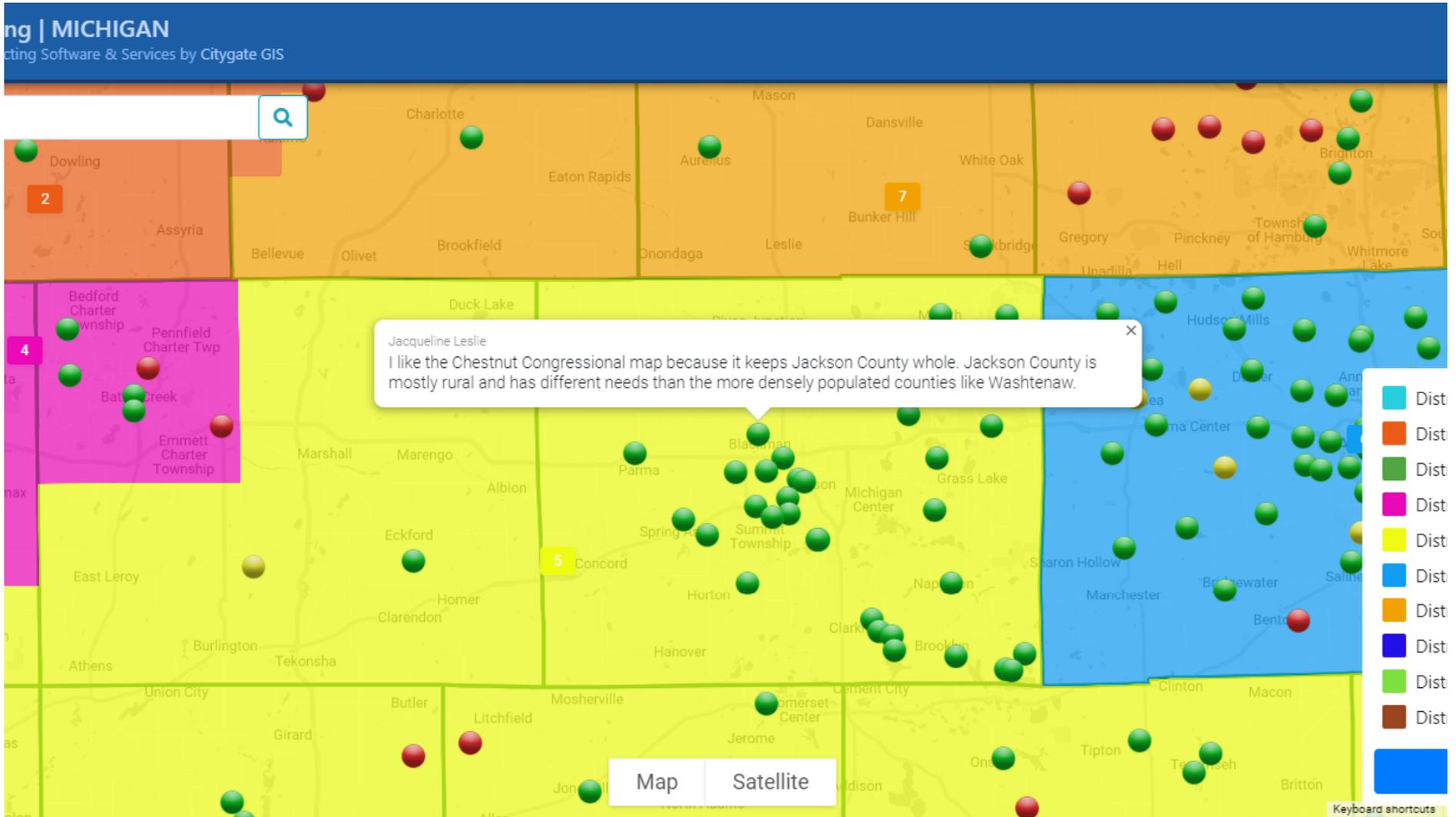
Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	196	774,007	710,000	21,637	10,027	7,252	650	10,625	26,060	606,960	560,657	16,010	14,526	4,065	410



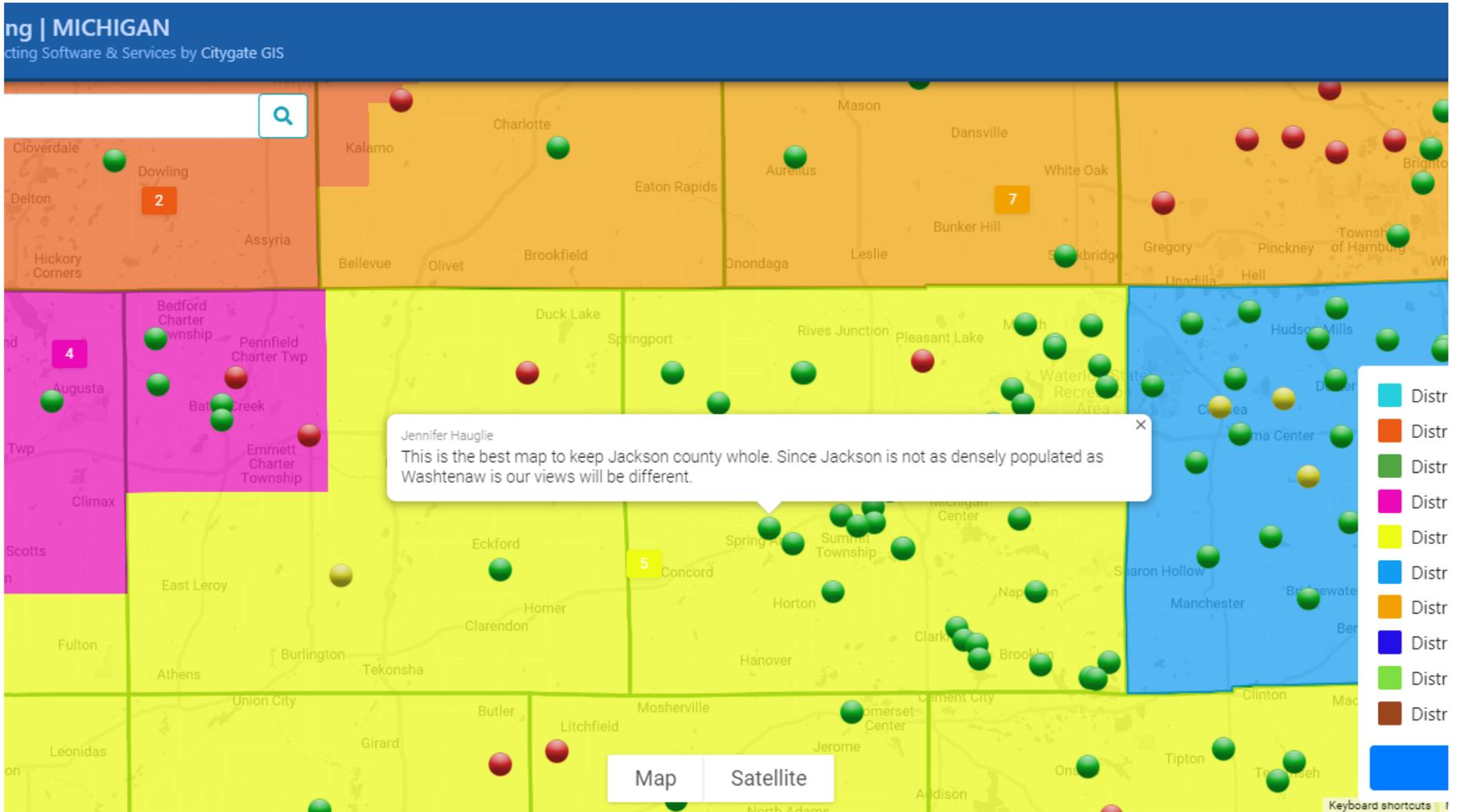
Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	196	774,007	710,990	21,637	10,027	7,252	650	10,625	26,060	606,960	560,657	16,010	11,526	1,065	110



Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

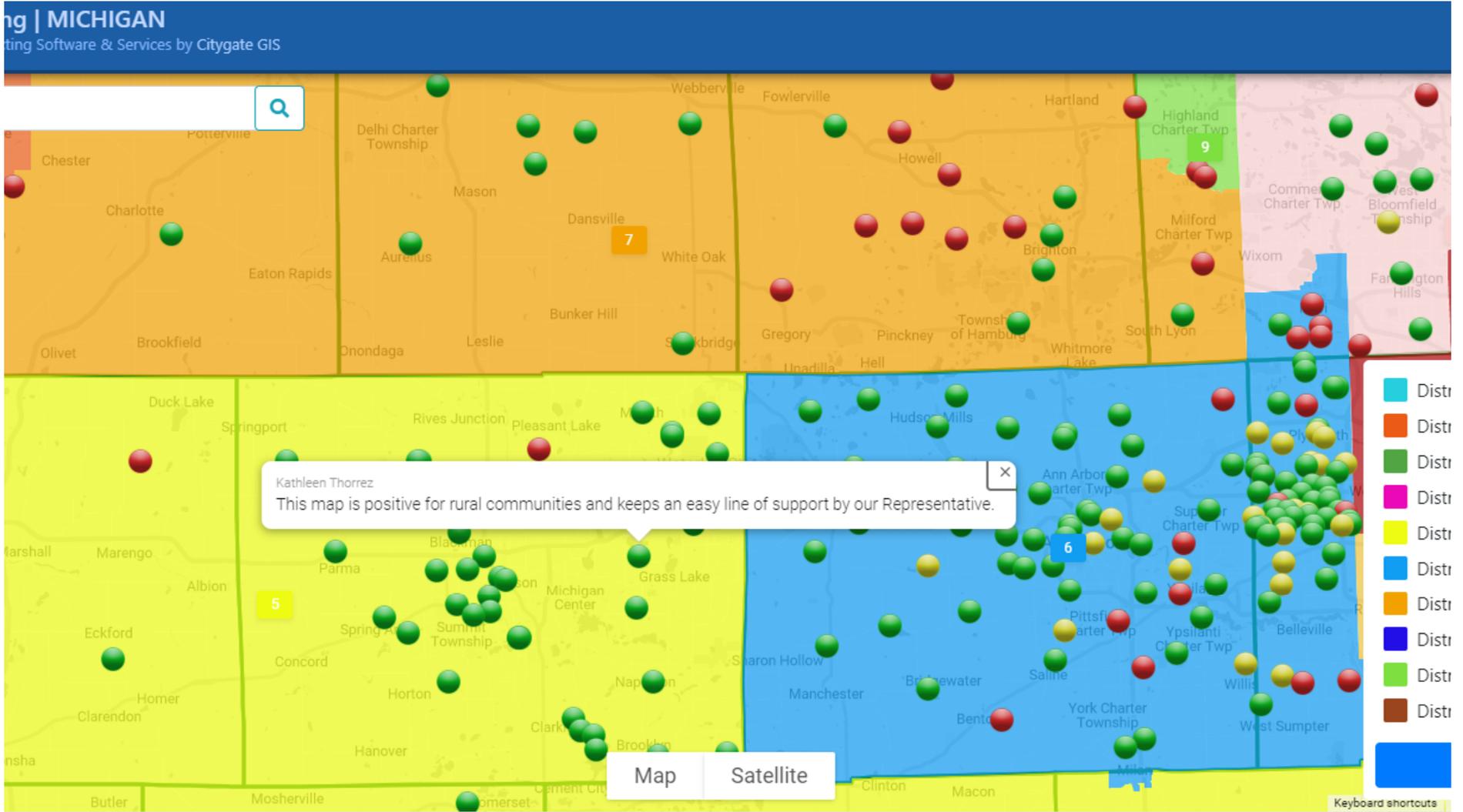


Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-192	774,907	710,889	21,627	10,037	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,065	418

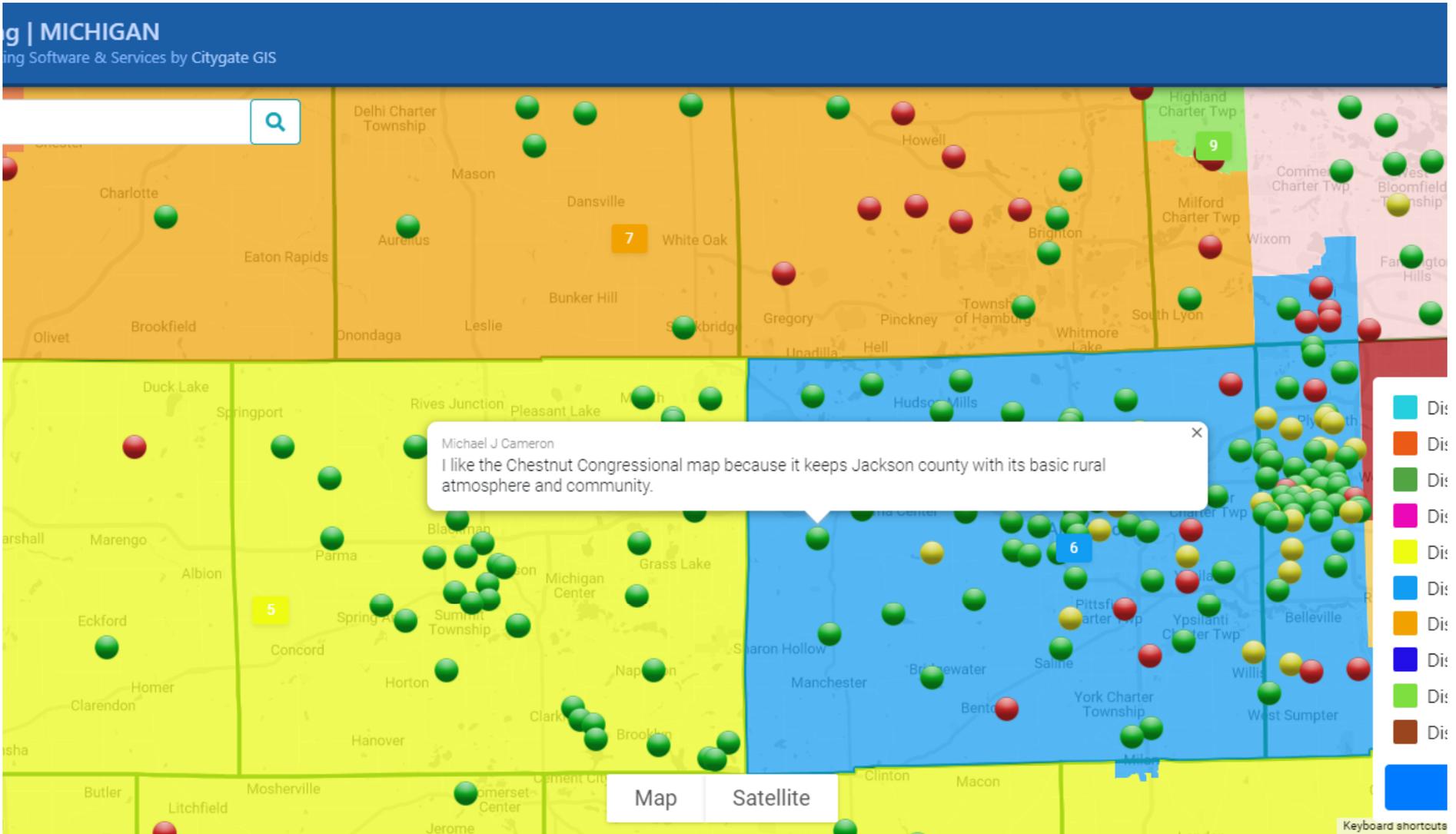


Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

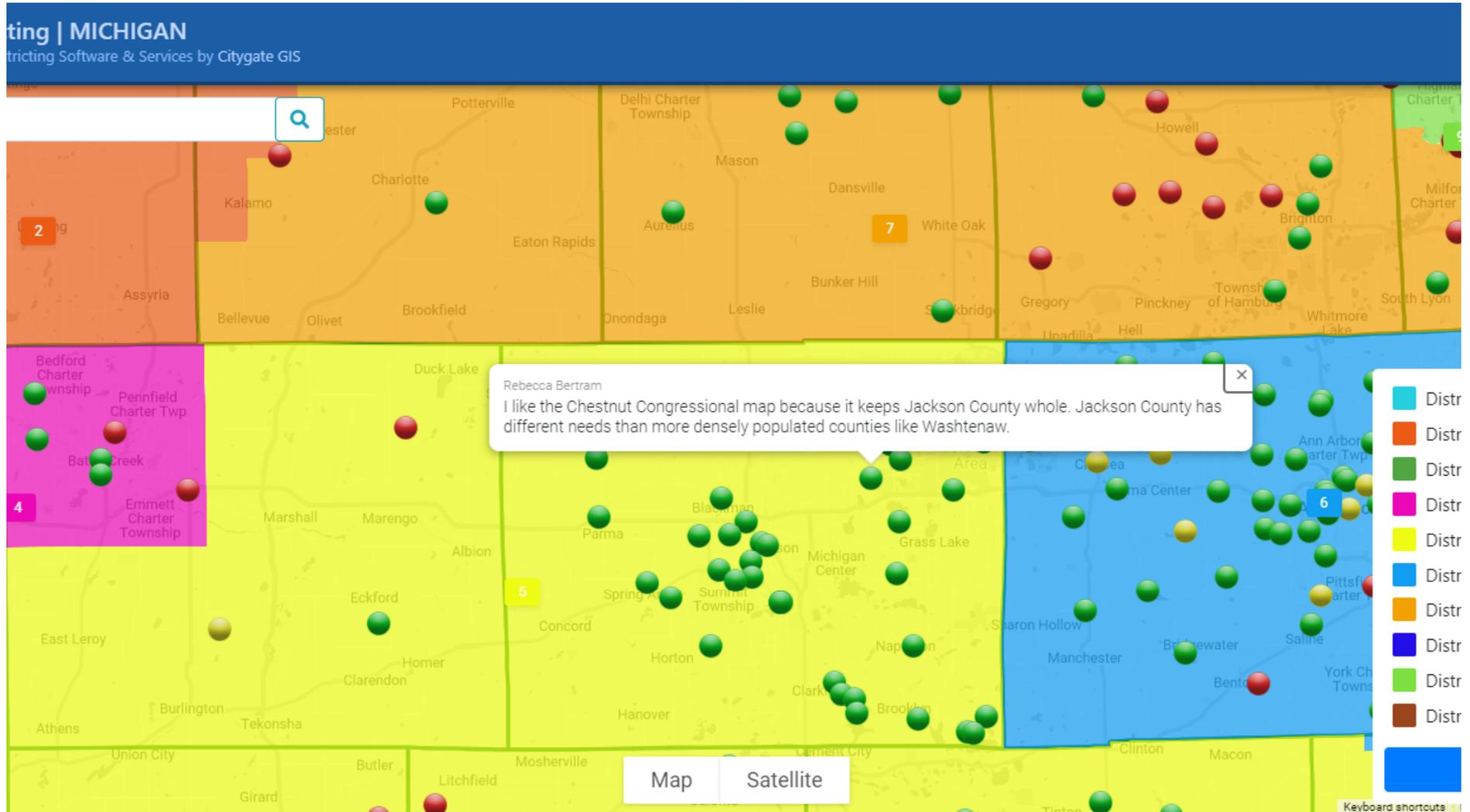
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Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
75,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
75,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

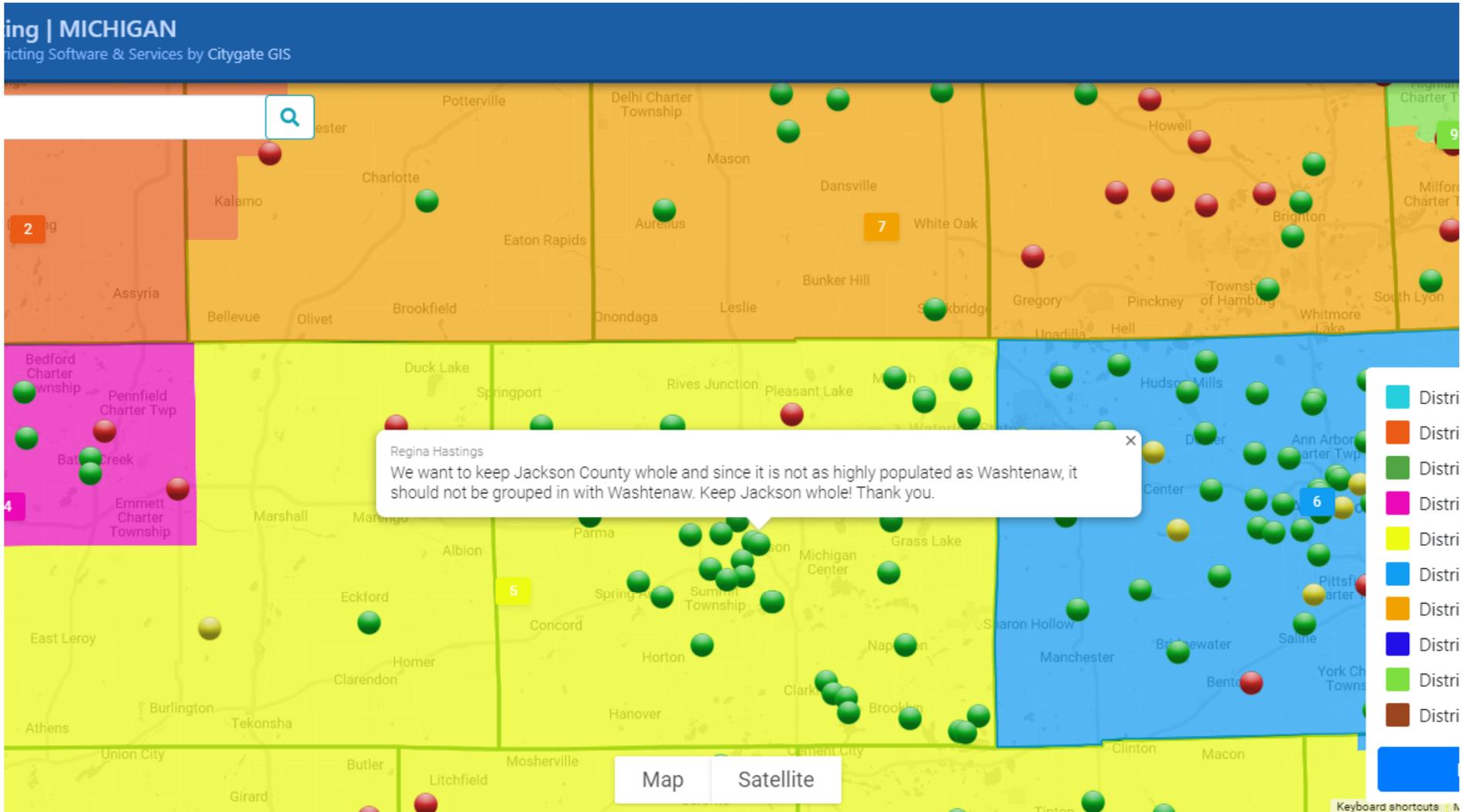


Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
75,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)

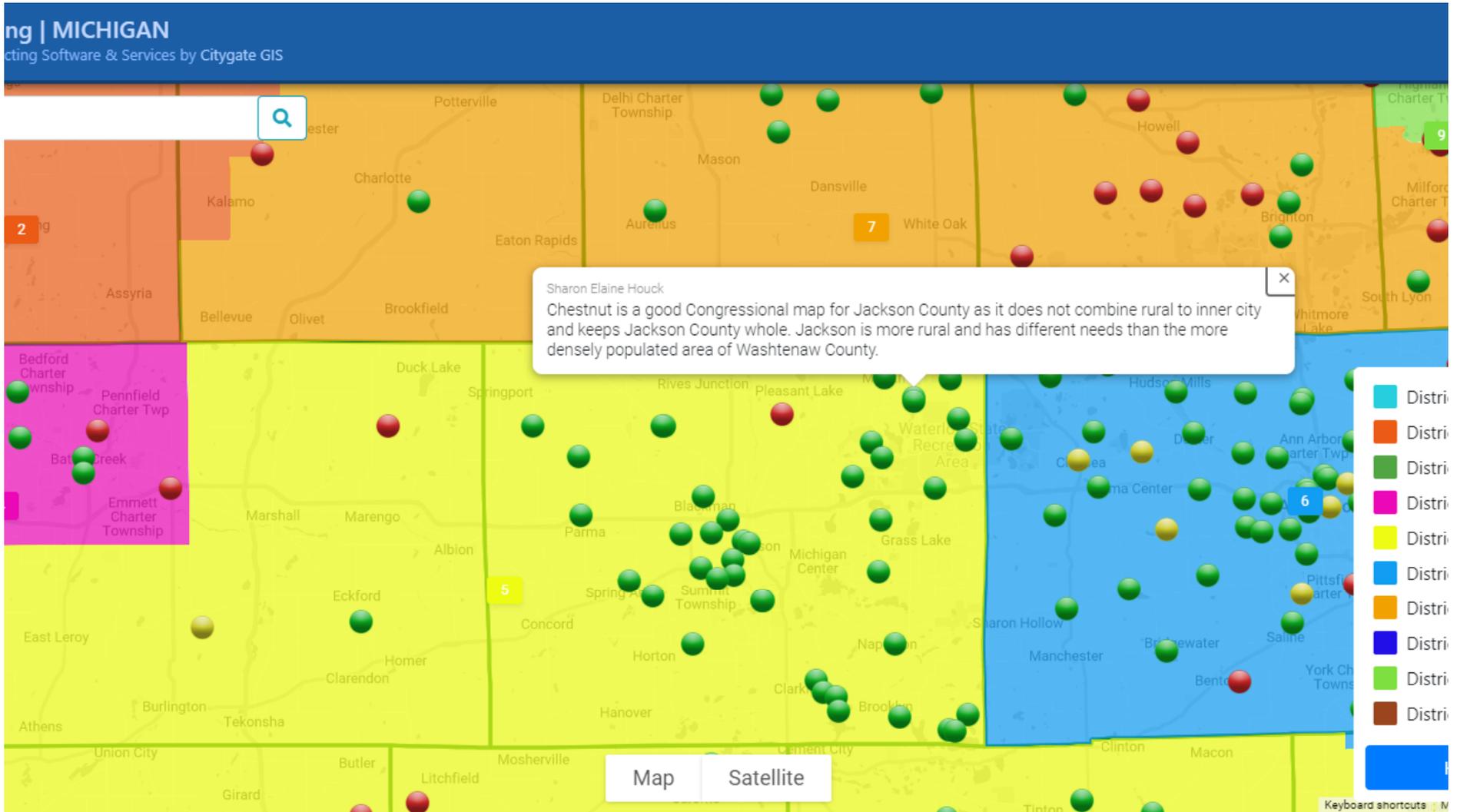


Rebecca Bertram  
 I like the Chestnut Congressional map because it keeps Jackson County whole. Jackson County has different needs than more densely populated counties like Washtenaw.

Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418



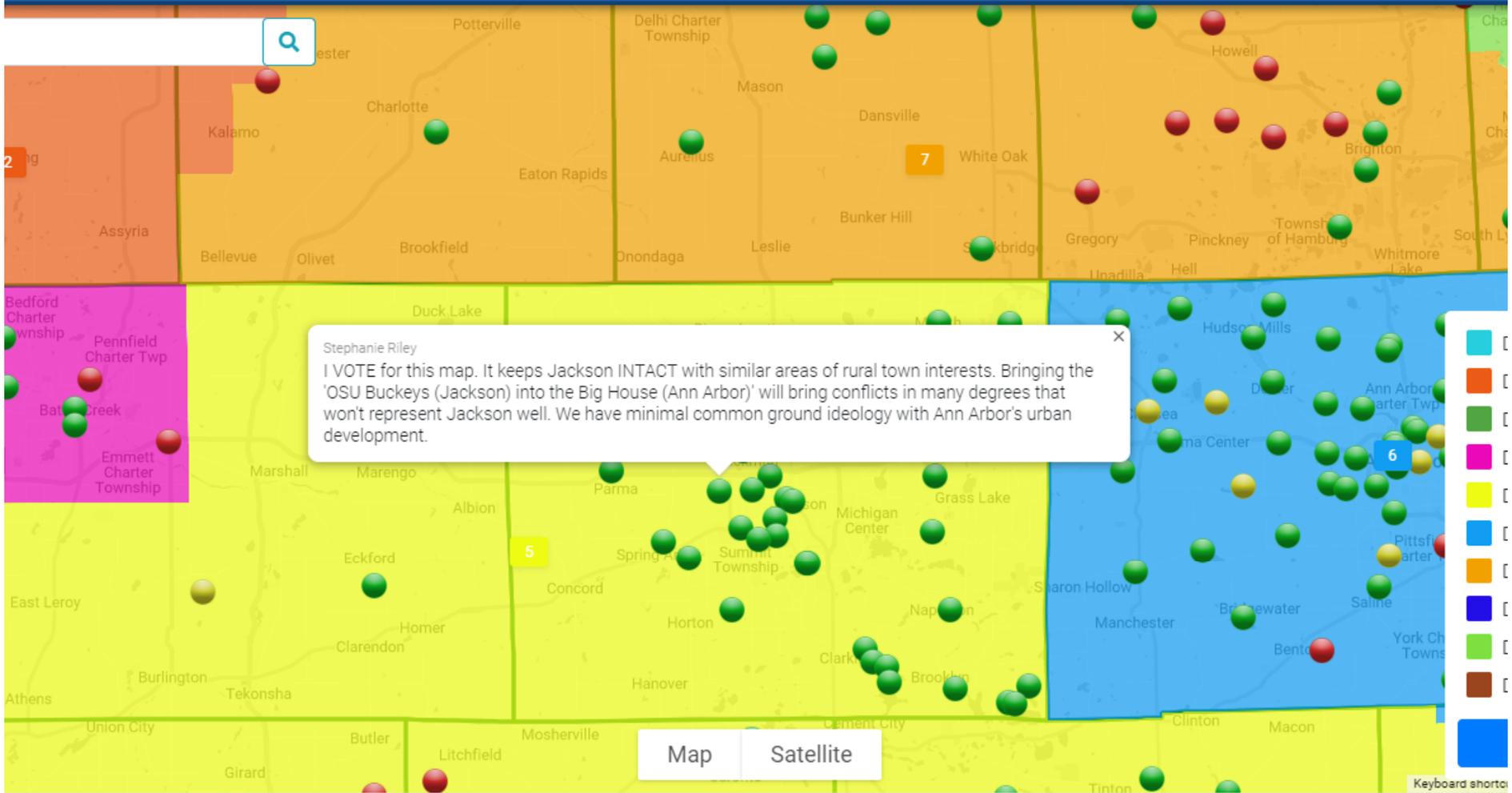
Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
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0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

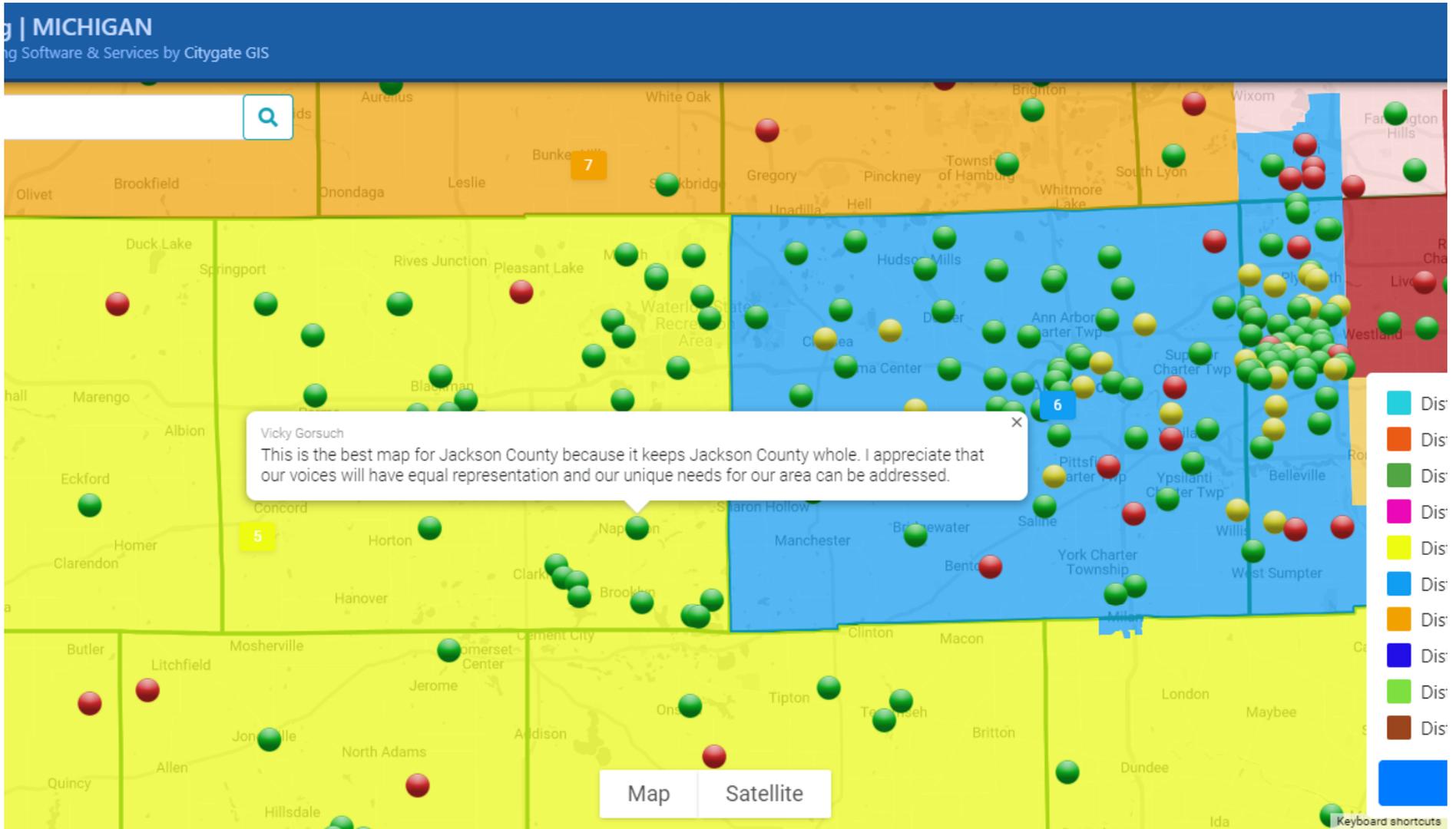
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Map Satellite

Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP Pac Islander (Combo)
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
75,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	5 (0.00%)



Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
5,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)

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# DISTRICT 7

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# Gregory's fair Michigan map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Gregory  
Location: Traverse City  
Submitted: 5/10/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p114

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#flint](#) [#tricities](#) [#lansing](#) [#washtenaw](#)  
[#kent](#)

## More Info

Districts are of equal population if using the 2019 population estimates. I want to emphasize the communities of interest here:

- 1) Flint and the Tri-Cities (Saginaw, Bay City, and Midland) are a clear Community of Interest, and all four cities should be in the same district
- 2) Oakland and Macomb should each have a district entirely within them
- 3) Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton should be in the same district, as a Lansing-centric Community of Interest
- 4) Kent and Washtenaw should both be kept whole, as both counties form their own Communities of Interest

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

## Comments & Feedback

5/10/2021 - **Judy Oake** (Chelsea): I agree and feel Washtenaw County should be kept WHOLE!! [#washtenaw](#)

5/28/2021 - **JoAnn** (East Lansing/Ingham County): I agree that Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties constitute a Community of

Interest. Together they represent the Greater Lansing region and are considered the Tri-County area. They share economic and cultural interests and should be in the same district.

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# Tri-County Community of Interest

## Basic Info

Submitter: John Lindstrom  
Location: EDast Lansing, Ingham  
Submitted: 5/26/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w410

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

May 26, 2021

To the members of the commission:  
I join with a number of others from the Ingham-Eaton-Clinton county area to encourage you to consider the three counties as a community of interest in drawing Michigan's congressional and legislative districts. It is particularly important the three counties be combined into one congressional district in order to better represent the interests and reflect the concerns of the region. The three counties are now split between three congressional districts which diminishes their overall effect and influence on national and state policy.

The region has an overall population of more than 400,000 people, not large enough on its own to contain a single congressional district. But it is approximately the third largest metro region in Michigan. It is home to the state Capitol, one of the 100 finest universities in the world, major industries -- including manufacturing, insurance, agriculture, healthcare, and others -- as well as internationally critical scientific research, especially with the upcoming opening of the Facility for Rare Isotope research at Michigan State University. It has an active arts and culture structure, major athletic events, and other entertainment which draws thousands upon thousands of tourists as well as residents. And the region recognizes itself as a unique tri-county area. The news agencies covering the region cover all three counties. Residents routinely cross county lines from their homes to their

work to their entertainment. The City of Lansing's boundaries are in both Ingham and Eaton counties.. The City of East Lansing's boudnaries are in both Ingham and Clinton counties.

A small list of private and public organizations that views themselves serving the tri-county region include:

Public Agencies

Capital Area Transportation Authority

Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham Counties

State of Michigan Prosperity Region [Health and Human Services, Economic Development, Education, Agriculture and Rural Development, Natural Resources, etc.]

Tri County Office on Aging

Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad

Tri-County Regional Planning

Commission [Planning; environmental quality;

transportation; community and economic development; data and mapping]

US Census: Metropolitan Statistical Area

Nonprofits

Capital Area Community Services

[Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, and Shiawassee]

Capital Area Health Alliance

Capital Area Humane Society

Capital Area Michigan Works

Capital Area United Way

Capital Region Community Foundation

Capital Region Small Business

Development Center

Disability Network Capital Area

[Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, and Shiawassee]

Lansing Capital Area Salvation Army

Lansing Economic Area Partnership

[LEAP]

RSVP of Ingham, Eaton, & Clinton Counties [Volunteer service program]

Tri-County Alliance for Public Education

Tri-County Bicycle Association

Tri-County Crisis Intervention Team

Tri-County TRIAD [Promotes older adult safety and reduces the fear of crime]

Businesses

Ace Cleaning and Restoration: Service  
the Lansing and the Tri-County Area  
Ramsey Civil Process Service, Inc.  
Tri County Community Advocates  
Tri County Home Improvements  
Tri- County Maintenance  
Tri-County Emergency Medical Control

Authority

Tri-County Guardianship Services  
Tri-County Mobile Veterinary Clinic  
Tri-County Plumbing and Drain  
Cleaning Inc

Tri-County Realty

But split into three congressional districts, the region is overwhelmed by the concerns of often more rural regions. Those concerns are certainly critical, but so too are the business, transportation, education, healthcare, social justice and equity, housing and government services issues of the tric-county region where the population of all three counties is largely concentrated around Lansing.

I hope you take into serious consideration making the Ingham-Eaton-Clinton area a

part of congressional district as you draw the maps for the 2022-2030 elections.

Thank you,  
John Lindstrom

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# Lansing Region as a Comm. of Interest

## Basic Info

Submitter: Laurence Rosen  
Location: East Lansing City  
Submitted: 5/27/2021  
Type: file  
ID: f423

## Tags

#lansing region

#lansingregioncommofinterest

## Sent File to Commission

## Written Testimony

This is an analysis in support of establishing Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties as a community of interest for Congressional redistricting.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Greater Lansing Community

## Basic Info

Submitter: JoAnn  
Location: East Lansing  
Submitted: 5/28/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c452

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#lansing

## More Info

Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties make up the Greater Lansing region, also called the Tri-County area. These counties share economic and cultural interests.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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# Tri-County Greater Lansing COI

## Basic Info

Submitter: Ashton Shortridge

Location: East Lansing

Submitted: 6/13/2021

Type: coi

ID: c749

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#tricity](#)

[#mid michigan](#)

[#greater lansing](#)

[#lansing](#)

## More Info

Commission members, thank you for your important work.

The Greater Lansing region includes Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties. The three counties are actually a formal planning region in Michigan, and for good reason. Although there are diverse communities within this region, ranging from quite urban to quite rural, the entire area is centered on the Lansing Metro area - indeed, each county contains part of the urban and suburban complex of Lansing.

Further, the region's economy and employment is highly linked, particularly to State Government, General Motors, and large hospital and university entities in the core of the area. Smaller towns in the tri-county Greater Lansing area (e.g., Charlotte, Mason, Saint Johns, Eaton Rapids) all have large proportions of their workforce commute to those large employers, as well as others in the core area.

This region is currently fragmented into various districts, and this has diluted the area's political voice. Keeping the region together would address this problem.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

Disclosure: I'm a professor at Michigan State University in this region. I am sensitive to the great local diversity within this region, just as there is in most if not all parts of the state. Still, I think keeping these areas together is on balance better than splitting them, as the region works as a large community of interest across several key characteristics.

### **Comments & Feedback**

8/18/2021 - **Nick** (Eaton): I cannot agree more with this. As an Eaton Country resident, I have more in common with the Greater Lansing area than that of say Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee counties which are far more rural. Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton counties should be grouped together.

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# Shiawassee/Clinton/Eaton/Saginaw Senate

## Basic Info

Submitter: Kerry Haley  
Location: Shiawassee  
Submitted: 6/26/2021  
Type: plan  
State Senate Districts  
ID: p1080

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#shiawassee](#) [#eaton](#) [#clinton](#) [#saginaw](#)

## More Info

The current State Senate district includes Clinton, Eaton, and Shiawassee Counties. We have a strong connection and a Community of Interest which includes small towns, farming communities, and rural suburban areas that have specific needs. Part of Saginaw County could be included in the district to meet the maximum population requirement.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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# Robert Bruce Hudson: Shiawassee County

## Basic Info

Submitter: Bruce Hudson

Location: Owosso

Submitted: 7/1/2021

Type: written

ID: w1348

## Tags

[#shiawassee](#) [#owosso](#)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Hello,

My name is Bruce Hudson.

Thank you for taking comment from the people of the our state.

I've been a Shiawassee County resident for decades and I want to make sure our voice is heard in our state house and state senate districts.

Right now, we are in the 85th state house district which includes all of Shiawassee County and a few townships in western Saginaw County.

We are a mostly rural community with many agricultural communities and small towns.

We have specific interests and needs that other more populated areas do not share with us.

Our state senate district currently includes Eaton, Clinton, and Shiawassee Counties.

We also share very similar interests among our three counties.

We share economic, cultural, and historical interests that we do not share with many areas of our state.

We also share similar infrastructures within our communities that are very different than other communities and their needs.

Keeping our counties and townships together – as they are currently are – will also meet the criteria of compactness and contiguity, which are now guidelines the commission must follow.

We see our community of interest, full of small towns, farms, and rural townships that together make a close knit community.

We hope that you will keep these

comments in mind when you draw the maps for the next ten years.

Thank you

Bruce Hudson

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# Lansing Tri-County COI evidence

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jeff Padden  
Location: Okemos  
Submitted: 7/27/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w1756

## Tags

#lansing #lansing tri-county coi #coi  
#coi evidence #ingham-eaton-clinton coi

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Members of the Commission:  
I ask that as you draw maps for congressional districts, you consider the Lansing Tri-County region, comprising Ingham, Clinton, and Eaton Counties, as a community of interest and place it within one district. The current map divides our region into three congressional districts, with Ingham bundled with Shiawassee and Oakland counties. The Lansing region certainly has some commonalities with Shiawassee, but I have never heard a

resident speak of Oakland County as part of an affinity group with us, nor are we part of a community of interest with Wexford or Lenawee.

I believe residents of Ingham, Clinton, and Eaton Counties do see themselves as a community of interest, but my assertion alone does not make it so. You should rely on empirical evidence whenever possible, and I know you are attempting to do so. With that in mind, I conducted a simple scan of public agencies, nonprofits, and commercial business listings on the Internet to learn about their regional identity. A cursory Google search showed many entities that identify as part of this community. I am certain that a more extensive effort would reveal hundreds more that identify similarly. By contrast, I conducted the same scan looking for entities that identify their service area to include both Ingham and Oakland, and I found none. Not one. The following, then, is a partial list of entities that provide public services, social assistance, and commercial work in this self-defined tri-county region..

Through them, one can obtain health care, adopt a stray pet, start a small

care, adopt a stray pet, start a small business, and get your drains cleaned, along with many other functions. They tell their customers that their service area is Ingham, Clinton, and Eaton County (and in some instances as noted, Shiawassee), and to their customers, the residents of this region, that makes sense. Together, they are in fact a multi-faceted community of interest.

#### Public Agencies

- Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham Counties
- State of Michigan Prosperity Region [Health and Human Services, Economic Development, Education, Agriculture and Rural Development, Natural Resources, etc.]
- Tri County Office on Aging
- Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad
- Tri-County Regional Planning Commission [Planning; environmental quality; transportation; community and economic development; data and mapping]
- US Census: Metropolitan Statistical Area
- Nonprofits
- Capital Area Community Services [Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, and Shiawassee]
- Capital Area Health Alliance
- Capital Area Humane Society
- Capital Area Michigan Works
- Capital Area United Way
- Capital Region Community Foundation
- Capital Region Small Business Development Center
- Disability Network Capital Area [Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, and Shiawassee]
- Lansing Capital Area Salvation Army
- Lansing Economic Area Partnership [LEAP]
- RSVP of Ingham, Eaton, & Clinton Counties [Volunteer service program]
- Tri-County Alliance for Public Education
- Tri-County Bicycle Association
- Tri-County Crisis Intervention Team
- Tri-County TRIAD [Promotes older adult safety and reduces the fear of crime]
- Businesses
- Ace Cleaning and Restoration: Serving the Lansing and the Tri-County Area

the Lansing and the Tri-County Area

- Ramsey Civil Process Service, Inc.
- Tri County Community Advocates
- Tri County Home Improvements
- Tri- County Maintenance
- Tri-County Emergency Medical Control Authority
- Tri-County Guardianship Services
- Tri-County Mobile Veterinary Clinic
- Tri-County Plumbing and Drain Cleaning Inc
- Tri-County Realty

There are many considerations involved in defining a community of interest, but taken together, these data are compelling. I urge you to take seriously the voices of the public agencies, nonprofits, and businesses that are so important to our region, the Ingham, Eaton, Clinton community of interest.

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# Latinx COI on the Greater Lansing Area

## Basic Info

Submitter: LLEAD Lansing  
Location: Lansing  
Submitted: 8/19/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2593

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#capitalarea](#) [#greaterlansing](#) [#capital area](#)  
[#greater lansing](#)

## More Info

This submission is about a community of interest centered on the Latino Population on the so-called Greater Lansing Area, which roughly comprises the also called tri-county area of Ingham, Clinton and Eaton.

On the current situation, our area of interest is cracked in at least three US Congressional districts causing serious loss of ability to be represented to the Latino Population on the Greater Lansing Area, which clearly has a significant presence on the area

This COI will be posted by the end of this week with the tags [#greaterlansing](#) and [#capitalarea](#)

We ask to be held whole as a voting block and or community and not to be divided. Currently our community of interest is very gerrymandered. Particularly in our congressional district, the 8th.

It breaks the Greater Lansing Area in three different districts

From North to South you can cross it in 15 minutes.

From East to West it takes you almost two hours to cross it

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

The Greater Lansing Area shares multiple resources:

Hospitals

Utilities

Major employers

A very significant Latino Population as well as a very significant representation of other minorities that include African Americans, refugees, immigrants of Asian and Middle East backgrounds.

During the last 40 years partnerships had been established among all those ethnic/racial populations which had endured and we continue to cooperate on multiple issues of mutual interest, where we typically have the same vision and values.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

number. You have two minutes to address the Commission and please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

The first person to provide in-person public comment is number one. You are invited to address the Commission, so please approach the microphone. And when your allotted two minutes has ended, please conclude your statement go ahead.

>> Good morning.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Good morning.

>> This mission is about a community of interest centered on the Latino population on the so-called Greater Lansing Area, which roughly comprises the also called Tri-county area of Clinton, Ingham and Eaton. On the current situation our area ranges with cracked in at least three U.S. Congressional districts, causing serious loss of ability to be represented to the Latino population in the Greater Lansing Area, which clearly has a significant presence in this area.

Additionally, I would ask that when you are drawing up the maps, starting I think today or tomorrow, that you consider partisan fairness, partisan presentation fairness. And I can say that I think the two parties that are represented here will take care of that. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

That concludes our live, in-person public commentary for the morning. We will now move on to remote public comment.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated they would like to provide live, remote public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. I will call your name or number and our staff will unmute you.

If you are on the computer, you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak.

If you are on the phone, a voice will say that the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute. And I will call on your name or the last four digits of your phone number.

Also please note if you experience technical or audio issues or we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move on to the next person in line and then return to you after they are done speaking. If your audio still does not work, you can e-mail us at [www.Michigan.gov](http://www.Michigan.gov) and will help troubleshoot so that you can participate during the next public comment period or at a later public hearing.

You will have two minutes to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer. The first in line to provide public comment is Mr. James Galant.

>> Can you hear me now?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes. I can hear you, sir.

>> My name is James Galant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition. And these are my opinions. And as we saw yesterday, the League of Women Voters

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# Eaton Clinton Shiawassee Community

## Basic Info

Submitter: Bruce Barlund  
Location: Eaton  
Submitted: 8/24/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w2753

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Ladies and Gentlemen Commissioners,  
Myself and others I have spoken with view "Communities of Interest" as being the most important issue concerning the mapping of Senate, House and Congressional Districts within Michigan and our Nation!  
Eaton, Clinton and Shiawassee counties are rural, small-town counties that have much different "Interests" than the bigger cities outside of those counties!  
Schools, parks, medical care facilities, roads and other interests need to geared toward the needs and best interests of the people living in those rural areas!  
Therefore it is very important to not let the bigger cities outside those counties control those counties!

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# Tri-County Community of Interest

## Basic Info

Submitter: John Andrews  
Location: EAST LANSING  
Submitted: 9/7/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c3904

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Clinton County is a vital part of the Lansing Region. As such, the county forms a longstanding community of interest with Ingham and Eaton Counties and should share the same congressional district—as we did until after the 2010 census. We clearly meet the criteria as a community of interest (common economic, cultural, or other bonds; contiguous on map; public policy issues of common interest) with Ingham County, and Eaton County. There is also a case to be made that Shiawassee County should be included in our community of interest since that county was added to Ingham, Clinton, and Eaton Counties in 2018 to round out the Lansing-East Lansing Metropolitan Statistical Area.

A partial listing of the ways in which Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties in particular meet the standard as a community of interest includes:

- Clinton County is defined by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce as part of the Lansing Region.
- A significant number of Clinton County residents vote in cities or townships in Ingham and Eaton Counties.
- Some school-age children and youth who reside in Clinton County reside in

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

school districts in Ingham and Eaton Counties.

- Clinton County Commissioners serve on many boards and commissions serving the Lansing Region. A quick look at our county website shows that

commissioners are assigned to serve on:

- o Capital Region Airport Authority (CRAA)

- o Capitol Council of Governments (CAPCOG)

- o Lansing Economic Partnership (LEAP)

- o Lansing Economic Partnership (LEAP) Ag Advisory Committee

- o Capital Area Michigan Works (CAMW)

- o Capital Area Michigan Works (CAMW) Teach, Talent, Thrive (T3)

- o Capital Area Community Services (CACS)

- o Tri-County Aging Consortium

- o Capital Area Regional Transportation Study Technical Committee (CARTS)

- o Capitol Council of Governments (CAPCOG)

- o Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC)

- o Community Mental Health (CMH)

- Other entities which Clinton County participates in or receives services from as members of the Lansing Region include:

- o Capital Region Community Foundation

- o Capital Area United Way

- o Capital Area Housing Partnership

- o Capital Area Humane Society

- o Disability Network Capital Area

- o Greater Lansing Food Bank

- o Meals on Wheels/Tri-County Office on Aging

- o McClaren Greater Lansing

- o Sparrow Hospital Greater Lansing Area

- o Power of We Consortium

- Many people who live in Clinton County work, worship, shop, and enjoy recreation and entertainment opportunities in Lansing/East Lansing, creating strong and longstanding cultural ties.

Please note that the reasons for asserting that Clinton County forms a community of interest with other counties in the

Lansing Region do not promote a particular political party, candidate, or jurisdiction.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input for your consideration as you begin your vital work of nonpartisan redistricting.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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I believe the better approach is to encompass the cities of Lansing and East Lansing as they are tied together as communities of interest.

They share school systems, a health department, and they share the common thread of being urban.

I would like to submit for the record that as a resident of Eaton County, but my County has much more in common with Clinton, Barry, Shiawassee, and Ionia as each have rural communities than we ever would with the urban communities of Lansing and East Lansing. Please make sure my county of Eaton is represented by not putting us with the urban communities. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. And I believe next is Brendon Allen.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Fir the purposes of the public record, five is not present and neither is number six.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

We will move on to Chris Andrews.

>> Including fair districts.

Thank you.

It's hard to comment when you don't have the political context to assess fairness. And I'm sorry I'm getting my buttons wrong.

Somebody might say don't break up Lansing or don't break up Ingham County.

But they might not say that if they knew that was the path to competitive Senate districts.

And I commend Commissioner Eid for coming up, with a plan to draw two Lansing region Senate seats.

This is...I've seen some people call this a gerrymander.

It's the opposite.

It intentionally creates fair and competitive districts.

I would add that I lived in Delta Township in Eaton County for ten years and I always considered myself a part of Lansing.

And there are far more things that connect it to Lansing than separate it.

The last thing I would say is it's hard to figure, to see what you guys are doing.

And I'm looking for maps.

I don't see them available online.

If they are there, you need to make them more available and what get to is something that says coming soon. And you've had some districts that have been drawn two weeks ago or three weeks ago that we can't see.

And I would also say, recommend that you find a way to provide a summary of what you are doing.

That I can't I think you're close to the end of the house and Senate.

I'm not sure.

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>> Can you hear me now?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> I'm James Huguelet, a resident of the City of Perry. And I have spent a number of years in public service.

I'm the retired mayor of the City of Perry. And I have reached out to the Commission today to express my concerns about the proposed map and the communities of interest that we share.

Shiawassee County where I live is a rural County.

And we have much in common with our neighbors in Clinton County, Eaton County.

And much less in common with our neighbors in Ingham County and in Genesee County. And to lump us in with those groups not only breaks up the interest in those urban communities but it breaks up the community interest in our small, rural community.

And it deprives one side or the other depending on who is elected for a chance to have their voices heard.

We have seen success in Michigan's history legislative history in keeping communities of interest together.

And an example of that is the right to farm act where rural legislatures were able to have their voices heard.

The voices of farmers.

To make sure that they would have the opportunity to continue farming even as people from the City moved into their communities and objected to the things that come with farming.

I also want to express my concern with breaking Shiawassee County up into different districts.

The 85th District as it is now keeps my community of Perry in with people who share much more in common with folks in Perry than does the people in Lansing and East Lansing.

And we are -- our voices are better heard by being part of Shiawassee County's District.

The other thing I want to point out on that is in my community over my adult life the communities of Perry and Woodhull Township have been flipped back and forth between the 8th and 4th Congressional districts every ten years. And we are tired of that and we would ask this Commission not do that. Thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission next in line to speak is Bruce.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: It appears Bruce is experiencing some technical difficulties, so perhaps we can return to him after our second round.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Sure. All right. Now that the opportunity for both in person and remote public comment has concluded, without objection, we will hear from individuals seeking to provide a second two minute public comment.

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I would like to remind everybody to please go to the public comment tool and share your comments in writing, including any specific areas of the map about which you are speaking. The public comment tool is available at [www.michigan.gov/micrc](http://www.michigan.gov/micrc).

We will now move back to live remote public commentary. And at this time I would ask to see if Bruce is available and able to speak?

>> Can you hear me now?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, sir.

>> Okay, great, hey, thank you, ladies and gentleman of the redistricting committee.

Thank you very much.

Yesterday I saw a map of proposed Senate District surrounding and including Lansing. This map included half of the City of Lansing with Eaton County and a part of Ingham County.

In my opinion taking into account the importance of communities of interest, Lansing should not be included with Eaton County.

The Lansing community of interest is much different than the rural community of interest that is Eaton County.

Eaton County should be included with the counties of Barry, Clinton, Ionia, or Shiawassee counties.

Eaton and Barry share a health department, and those two should definitely be together.

That's it for me.

I appreciate it.

And thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you, Bruce.

All right. At this point we will move on to Mr. James Galant.

>> Can you hear me now, Madam Chair?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, sir.

>> Okay. This is James Galant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition, and these are my opinions.

And I'll pick up again where I left off here. I had provided to you copies of from the state archive, the rules of procedure for the Commission on legislative apportionment, which has been determined to be revived.

So this is just a name change.

So I'd like to read the first paragraph to you. And it says the Commission on legislative apportionment, which is now the Independent Redistricting Commission, shall be organized by electing two cochairs.

One from each party's Commissioners. And the chairmanship be rotated with one cochairman presiding for one day and the other cochairman presiding the next day.

Each member of the Commission shall be entitled to one vote, including the presiding officer. Absent Chair can designate a member to act in his stead.

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# Unify Ingham, Eaton and Clinton

## Basic Info

Submitter: Chris Andrews

Location: Haslett

Submitted: 9/11/2021

Type: written

ID: w4426

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Written Testimony to the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission

Related to Congressional Redistricting in the Lansing Region

Thank you for doing this important work to support free and fair elections in Michigan. As you draw Congressional districts, I ask you to treat the Lansing region counties of Ingham, Eaton and Clinton as the Community of Interest they are by including them in the same Congressional District. For decades, the Lansing region has been the victim of gerrymandering, diminishing our influence and access to resources.

How we see ourselves: No matter where we live in this tri-county region, if we are traveling to, say Florida, we will likely tell people we are from Lansing. We read the local newspaper, the Lansing State Journal, or perhaps the Lansing City Pulse. Every two years, the Lansing League of Women Voters puts out voter guides for residents of Ingham, Eaton and Clinton. Delta Township in Eaton County is so much a part of Lansing that its mailing address is Lansing MI 48917. Economy: Tri-county leaders have long recognized that our economy and prosperity depend on regional cooperation. Our crowning economic development achievement of the past 30 years was “keeping General Motors in Lansing.” In actuality, we kept GM in the Lansing region. Many if not most of the jobs are in new plants in Eaton County that replaced older ones in Ingham. GM calls its newest plant the Lansing Delta

Township Assembly Plant. The Lansing Economic Area Partnership, our regional economic development team, attracts and retains businesses in the three counties. Capital Area Michigan Works! provides employment services for workers and businesses through centers in each county.

The state of Michigan is a dominant employer. Many, many state workers commute from Eaton and Clinton County to state jobs, and many Ingham and Clinton residents travel to Eaton County, home to the State Secondary Complex of government offices.

Education: Michigan State University is a major employer and educational and cultural institution. Many faculty and staff live in Eaton and Clinton as well as Ingham. A major student housing development is in Clinton County. Students from all three counties also attend Lansing Community College; in fact, LCC has an expansive West Campus in Eaton County providing education and training for tri-county workers. One of the area's largest school districts, Waverly, is split between Ingham and Eaton counties, and many Lansing students choose to attend school there through school of choice programs.

Health: Sparrow and McLaren are the major health systems for residents in all three counties. When the Ingham County Health Department counts Covid cases, it notes that its numbers include Eaton and Clinton residents. The main hospital campuses are located in Ingham County, and residents from all three counties use them. In addition, there are Sparrow hospitals in St. Johns (Clinton County) and Charlotte (Eaton County). McLaren has facilities in all three counties as well.

Culture: Tri-county residents come to the Wharton Center at MSU for plays and concerts. They cheer on MSU at Spartan Stadium and the Breslin Center. The Lansing Lugnuts minor league baseball team is supported by sports fans in all three counties. Youth sports cross county

borders all the time. The Capital Area Soccer League includes teams from communities in each county. The high school Capital Area Activities Conference does the same.

People of color: Delta Township in Eaton County is one of the most diverse communities within our Community of Interest. About 12% of the population is Black, trailing only Lansing and Lansing Township. Putting Delta Township in a different district than Lansing divides the Black community and diminishes its representation in Washington.

Geographical mish-mash: Most of Lansing is in Ingham County, but portions are in Eaton and Clinton. Most of East Lansing is in Ingham, but some is in Clinton. Most of Grand Ledge is in Eaton, but some is in Clinton. When Eaton, Clinton and Ingham are separated, families that live in the same city and attend the same schools can end up with different members of Congress.

Congressional district history: If you look at the Congressional maps of the past, the Lansing region has been victims of gerrymandering for at least 20 years. The 8th District currently includes northern and even eastern Oakland County (Detroit suburbs) but none of Eaton or Clinton County just across the road.

Today, our residents are at the far corners of the 4th, 7th and 8th Districts. It would be hard to further divide our Community of Interest or diminish our influence if you tried.

A history of gerrymandering: Republicans in 2001 drew a map that made it impossible for Democrats to compete in the Lansing area for a decade.

Republicans in 2011 drew a map making it impossible to win until demographic changes, a perfect candidate and a Blue wave enabled a Democrat to eke out a win.

Fair districts and fair maps are the top priority. Please approve a fair map that recognizes the Ingham-Eaton-Clinton Community of Interest. These are long-

overdue corrections.

Sincerely,

Chris Andrews

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## Eaton, Ingham, Clinton: Cong. District

### Basic Info

Submitter: David  
Location: Ingham  
Submitted: 9/11/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w4427

### Written Testimony

What a sane, logical proposed district.  
The Lansing Tri-County Region!! Bravo!

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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## Clinton, Eaton, Shiawassee

### Basic Info

Submitter: Hope

Location:

Submitted: 9/14/2021

Type: written

ID: w4546

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

The counties of Clinton, Eaton, and Shiawassee share a community of interest. They share a common interest, a common culture, and a common way of life. They do not share any of that with the city of Lansing. According to the constitution, COI's are very important. I humbly ask that you respect our COI's and hear our input. Please keep Eaton, Clinton, and Shiawassee counties together. Thank you very much :)

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seconded by Commissioner Witjes all in favor or discussion on the motion all in favor raise hand and say aye.

Opposed please raise your hand and same sign the ayes have it and the agenda is amended.

I will now seek approval for adopting the agenda please.

First by Commissioner Witjes seconded by Commissioner Lett any discussion on the matter? All in favor of the motion please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed raise your hand the same sign the ayes have it and the agenda is adopted.

As a reminder to the public watching you can view agenda at [www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC).

I skipped some places in my agenda so I'm reading this for the first time and you all will forgive me.

We are moving to in person public comment on agenda pertaining to agenda topics.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide in person public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so.

Please step to the nearest microphone when I call your number. You will have two minutes to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

First in line please proceed.

>> Good morning. My name is Mike Werta, the president of UAW local 602 here in Lansing, Michigan. And my facility I represent is in Eaton County, and Lansing Delta Township. I represent 2300 members who are currently laid off. However that is a plant we have been at since 2006.

We have 5,000 retirees. Our sister plant local 652 is Lansing Grand River Plant, which is in Lansing, Michigan. They have approximately 2300 members also. And they have 10,000 retirees. So in this area alone with between those two assembly plants we have about 5,000 active folks and somewhere around 15,000 retirees.

First off, I want to thank you.

Couldn't have been fun. Probably been trying on your patience and travel and away from home. We appreciate what you have done.

Nothing is going to be perfect, but I'm here to do something that is probably pretty rare. I'm here to thank you and say job well done on what is I think the 8th Congressional District still, but will be the fifth if I have the number right.

Clinton, Eaton County, and Ingham County together is something that needs to happen. And in Eaton County, when my plant gets the power from Ingham County, my union hall is in Ingham County. Again, the plant is in Eaton County. The supplier plants to the plant in Ingham County, the Grand River plant are over in Eaton County. This area and the airport is in Clinton County. So when we bring in the logistics to have these two massive work sites, it's troubling to have the issue of going back and forth between what was or is now currently the 7th Congressional District and the 8th Congressional District

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Believe it or not commercially raised lamb is supposed to be as wide as it is long because they force feed it a lot of grain and. Have you heard the expression bloated goat? And that is because it's bloated with gas.

You're supposed to cut its belly open and release the gas believe it or not. Well, in organic ranching, you don't feed it a lot of grain and corn. And you feed it grass and hay and they are not as fat and bloated.

So there is this disconnect with the out part of the District versus the two cities, East Lansing and Lansing where I grew up by the way.

And I believe the two cities you see them as far as the Senate seat would look like, they share fire chief, right, and they share the transit system, share a lot of commonalities and a lot of similar jobs which are vastly different. And that is my peace. And thank you very much for your time.

Good to see you, Mr. Lett

>> >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is number four.

Please wait number four.

We need a quorum.

All right.

Please address the Commission number four.

>> Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We can.

>> My name is Christine Walker and I live in Grand Ledge, in Eaton County.

I'd like to thank the Commissioners and their staff for all the efforts to draw fair Congressional and legislative maps.

Our state will be better served if communities and their concerns are placed ahead of partisanship and political considerations.

I'm here to commend the Commission for placing a high priority on keeping communities of interest together.

Specifically I wish to commend the Commission for keeping our try County region Clinton, Eaton and Ingham together within the same Congressional District.

This makes excellent sense to me since the Tri-Counties are formally recognized region for the purposes of land use, Federal groundwater's planning, in addition to educational services, mental health, healthcare, disability and aging, among others. Thank you for recognizing Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties as a community of interest as you draft Michigan's Congressional map.

And I respectfully encourage you to continue that approach as your process proceeds.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Do we have number five? We do.

Please approach and address the Commission when you're ready.

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# Mid-Michigan Congressional District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Judy Daubenmier

Location: Brighton City

Submitted: 9/21/2021

Type: plan

Congressional Districts

ID: p5226

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

I like this plan for a mid-Michigan congressional district because it keeps the tri-county area of Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton counties mostly together and adds Livingston, where many people live who work at the Capitol or at MSU. I commuted there for many years and still have friends there.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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# Clinton Eaton Ingham/Balanced Districts

## Basic Info

Submitter: Matthew ("Dusty") Horwitt  
Location: Lansing/Ingham  
Submitted: 9/21/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w5241

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

As a resident of Ingham County, I wanted to thank the Redistricting Commission for including Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties in the same Congressional district in your draft maps. Mid-Michigan is a close-knit region, and our major employers and media markets are in a district which is a mix of urban, rural and suburban communities that is balanced and does not skew too much to one political party. Please keep Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton counties in the same district in your final maps and, as much as possible, please make sure that all Congressional, House, and Senate

districts are fairly balanced in terms of Republicans and Democrats.

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# Greater Lansing CD

## Basic Info

Submitter: Daniel Luria  
Location: Hamburg Township  
Submitted: 9/22/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w5277

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I incorrectly referred to my previous submission urging a Greater Lansing Area Cong Dist as a State Senate district.

Here's my edit:

Combining Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Livingston, Shiawassee, and western Washtenaw into a single Congressional district makes eminently good sense to me. Together they define what might be called the Greater Lansing Area. Primarily because of State government, MSU, and the Capital City airport (especially now that it offers daily nonstops to Washington, DC), this district has a coherence that could be missed looking only at distances from Detroit versus Lansing. Few in this proposed district

commute to Detroit and its near suburbs, while many travel north (up 27) or west (on 96). For residents of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Shiawassee, and northwestern Livingston, "Lansing" means "the city." Outside of downtown Lansing, Brighton, and Howell, the proposed district has longstanding farming communities; each has at least one grain elevator where farmers bring their corn and beans. From the standpoint of fairness in our roughly 50-50 red-blue state, it would likely be a swing district, something that would tend to pull both Republicans and Democrats alike toward a more consensus-seeking center, something that is much needed in today's hyper-partisan electoral arena. Thank you for considering such a district.

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# Mid-Michigan Congressional Map, SofCtr

## Basic Info

Submitter: Emily K-Pasternak  
Location: Brighton Township/Livingston  
Submitted: 9/23/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5378

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#livingston](#) [#cd8](#) [#8thdistrict](#) [#mi-08](#)

## More Info

Greater Lansing Area  
Counties: Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Livingston, Shiawassee, Washtenaw(western)  
Communities of Interest:  
This proposed district keeps Livingston County whole and retains it's continuity with Ingham County, which until now has comprised most of what was Michigan's most competitive congressional district. Ties btwn the two counties range from sharing the I-96 corridor, Ingham school districts like Stockbridge including parts of western Livingston county, large numbers of Livingston high school grads choosing MSU, to services of the MSU extension being provided to many Livingston farmers, to the Fowlerville News and Views circulating in eastern Ingham.  
MI-08 would encompass the Greater Lansing Metro Area, merging the core three counties of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham. Closely mirroring Cluster A21, the district also encompasses Shiawassee, which is also considered part of the Combined Statistical Area. The cluster includes parts of Livingston and

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

Washtenaw, which was also strongly considered here for purposes of partisan fairness and population purposes. These parts also share the suburban feel of the core Lansing CSA counties, sharing strong farming and cultural roots to the rest of the district, in addition to many commuters to the state capital. The district would be a true swing district, albeit a few points redder than the state and country at large.

Additional argument:

This independent commission is our chance to reverse gerrymandering and achieve a map that properly reflects communities of interest, partisan fairness, and federal law compliance.

This map avoids city splits whenever possible, reflects economic and cultural ties between towns and counties, and would all invite immediate, serious, and spirited challenges from both parties, clean up lines and prioritize communities of interest.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Lansing TRI COUNTIES MUST STAY TOGETHER

## Basic Info

Submitter: Sharon Civils  
Location: Lansing  
Submitted: 10/4/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w5923

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I am voicing a strong urgent cry to keep Our Tri counties (Eaton Ingham and Clinton) counties together DO NOT segregate (INGHAM) county away and place Eaton with Shiawassee county and place Clinton county with Owosso county, this is mixing RUTRAL AREAS WITH URBAN AREAS, BOTH HAVE DIFFERENT NEEDS TO BE MET. People of color are heavily dense population in the Ingham county and Eaton county and have low representation this is very unfair to the BIPOC population, they are already underserved and at a total Disadvantage, The lines then puts the other politics in a more advantageous point

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# Ingham-Eaton-Clinton unified

## Basic Info

Submitter: Carol Ingall  
Location: East Lansing  
Submitted: 10/13/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6521

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

As a resident living in East Lansing I own a farm in Eaton county and treating Ingham-Eaton-Clinton as a unified region in the Congressional map assures better representation rather than gerrymandered districts of the past. It makes more sense to include Delta Township in Eaton county where it rightfully belongs.

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# Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Together

## Basic Info

Submitter: Eunice Foster  
Location: Ingham  
Submitted: 10/18/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6690

## Tags

# #capitalarea

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this critically important matter.

The Birch Map is the optimal district for the Capital Area of Michigan because it connects Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties. This is a vast, diverse area that includes many citizens who are already connected. Consider all those who are already connected in the Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Capital Area :

- \* CEI Mental Health
- \* Great Start Collaborative
- \* Capital Area Disability Network
- \* Power of We Consortium which is the Human Services Collaborative Body for the Capital Area
- \* School Districts in areas that support Lansing Community College
- \* School Sports Teams and Band Competitions
- \* Area-wide public transportation cooperation via CATA, My Blue Bus, and E-tran
- \* Transportation hub links to Greyhound, Amtrak, and the Michigan Flyer to/from out-state destinations for accessible transportation
- \* Law enforcement agencies and nonprofits that attend the Capital Area ALPACT
- \* Michigan State University located near all three counties

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## Giving everyone a voice

### Basic Info

Submitter: Ellen Link  
Location: Clinton County  
Submitted: 10/20/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6915

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

For a very long time I have felt that my vote hasn't really counted. We tend to align more with the Tri-county region of Ingham/Eaton/Clinton counties and somewhat with Shiawassee, but have been lumped with the rural/Republican region solidly controlled by Republicans. I can't even imagine what it must feel like to work for a candidate that has a real chance of winning.

I know the redistricting commissioners have an enormous task before them and appreciate the hard work they are doing. I just hope they can find a way to bring fairness to the system.

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## Response to Redistricting plans

### Basic Info

Submitter: terry link  
Location: lainhgsburg  
Submitted: 10/20/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6799

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

I have long hoped for an attempt to fairly draw districts of representation at all levels of government. As a former county commissioner myself I recognize the challenge of drafting maps. I believe the approach here is an exemplary one - agree on a set of principles, then attempt to construct maps that meet those principles. I appreciate the efforts the commissioners have given to this effort and their willingness to serve in this public capacity.

I have not, and could not research and study this as much as the commission has, so except for my own region I feel I can't make judgments about other districts. I live in Clinton county and it is

very clear that this county is most directly related to Ingham and Eaton Counties and to a slightly lesser degree Shiawassee county. A district map that connects those counties makes the most sense. Given the constraints of population densities, some parts of counties will have to be carved up. From my limited perspective then I would support the Birch design.

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Currently Greater Lansing area has four districts.

The proposed maps pack one party into three districts.

Giving a disproportionate advantage to the other party.

I'd like to see Delta Township put back with Eaton County and create five districts for the Greater Lansing area.

I encourage you to consider 06677 so that districts are fair and consistent with proposal two.

Michigan voters are counting on you.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 14.

>> Hello, my name is Bridgett and I live many Washtenaw County.

Thank you for hearing my testimony and for your many hours of work on this Commission.

The draft maps are an improvement but still have an over 3% partisan tilt.

I ask the Commission to do better and aim for 0 partisan bias in our state overall.

There is still a lot of unpacking left to do in Washtenaw County.

In order to create better balanced maps that will lead our County in particular to 0 partisan bias.

Specifically I urge you to create six unpacked House Districts in Washtenaw County.

And for the Senate maps Washtenaw voters should be unpacked into three Senate districts.

That and combining western Washtenaw Townships including Scio Pittsfield and Saline with Jackson County would help promote more balanced Senate districts statewide.

Lastly the Voting Rights Act is extremely important and it's not being followed in Detroit.

I urge the Commission to listen to the people and bring maps into voting rights compliance in Detroit.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 15.

>> I'm Melanie Dewitt Township in Clinton County.

I canvassed door to door for proposal two in 2018.

The people I talked with overwhelmingly supported fairly drawn voting districts.

The redistricting maps proposed are an improvement over existing maps, but they are not yet as fair as they should be and can be.

I strongly support the Birch map because it keeps the Greater Lansing area together.

I sent a comprehensive list to you earlier about the many ways Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties comprise a community of interest.

Clinton County was in the 8th Congressional District with Ingham until 2010 when we were gerrymandered into the fourth District.

The Birch map will correct that.

The Commission's maps for the State House districts are not fair.

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If the maps remain as they are our elected officials will not be representative of the diversity that exists in our state.

It's a constitutional duty of the Commission to create maps that result in fair representation.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Now is Amadorie.

>> Hello, you can hear me, right?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I can.

>> My name is Amadorie from Jackson County.

Thank you all for taking on this very challenging task.

I want to point out to this Commission all draft proposed maps provide disproportionate advantage to the republican party.

I'm strongly and urging the Commission to apply the same metrics for the standard of partisan fairness as are being applied for population deviation.

One way you can fix your map is to draw a true Jackson Washtenaw Senate District.

Look at map P6716.

For an example of how to do this.

Dozens of commenters have requested this District.

And your maps are very close but not quite there.

Please don't put Jackson County which is 40% democratic into safe republican seats at every level of Government.

Thank you one and all for your earnest and deliberative attention to this matter.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. We have one more in person comment, 97 you can approach the microphone and speak.

>> Whichever one you would prefer.

>> Thank you, I'm Patricia Johnson.

From East Lansing.

On I'm urging you to pass the Birch map for Congress.

It is the most fair.

Thank you for putting the try County together.

And including Shiawassee and Livingston Counties which include many residents who commute to Lansing.

However, your maps for the State House seem very unfair.

Both the districts for the Lansing region and statewide.

You have packed the most democratic parts of Eaton County into Ingham County District.

This amounts to gerrymandering.

The Friday County is a democratic area.

And we currently have four democratic representatives.

This would reduce it to three.

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I live in Hartland but in Brighton four times a week and go to the farmers market and most importantly go to church in Brighton and it's an important community of interest in Livingston County there are eight of them and half of them also provide K-8 education. Two of the 8 Catholic churches are in Brighton and one of them also provides K-8 education.

So again communities of interest I think are up most consideration when drawing these maps and I respectfully ask that you keep Brighton intact and not place Livingston.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Michael P.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you I'm Michael P I live in East Lansing.

I've been an almost lifelong resident of the State of Michigan.

For many, many, many years.

I would like to thank first of all I'd like to thank the Commission for all the work you're doing.

As well as the transparency and the opportunity for us to participate that you are bringing to this process.

Balancing the needs and desires of the various and diverse communities of interest in a fair and equitable manner is extremely challenging task.

And I salute you for that.

Two comments primarily.

One is I wanted to mention that I support the Birch map that has been proposed for the Congressional districts.

It seems to make a lot of sense for Eaton Clinton and, Inc come Counties to be included in one District and one that also includes Shiawassee and Livingston Counties as well which are really a part of the work shed that is centralized in this area.

The other thing I'd like to say though as I agree with some of my other speakers who have said that whereas you have done a lot of good work there is a little bit more work to be done in terms of bringing fairness to the house maps.

In particular the maps for the Lansing region have shortchanged the opportunity for fairness with respect to partisan fairness.

Currently the number of districts there are four districts, they are democratic districts.

The new plan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Matt D.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay is my background not up? Never mind.

I'm Matt D from Jackson County.

And a time of intense election integrity concerns in Michigan you have the opportunity to be heroes or zeros.

[← Next](#)

[Previous →](#)

# Proposed Congressional maps

## Basic Info

Submitter: Richard  
Location: Shiawassee  
Submitted: 10/21/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w7009

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

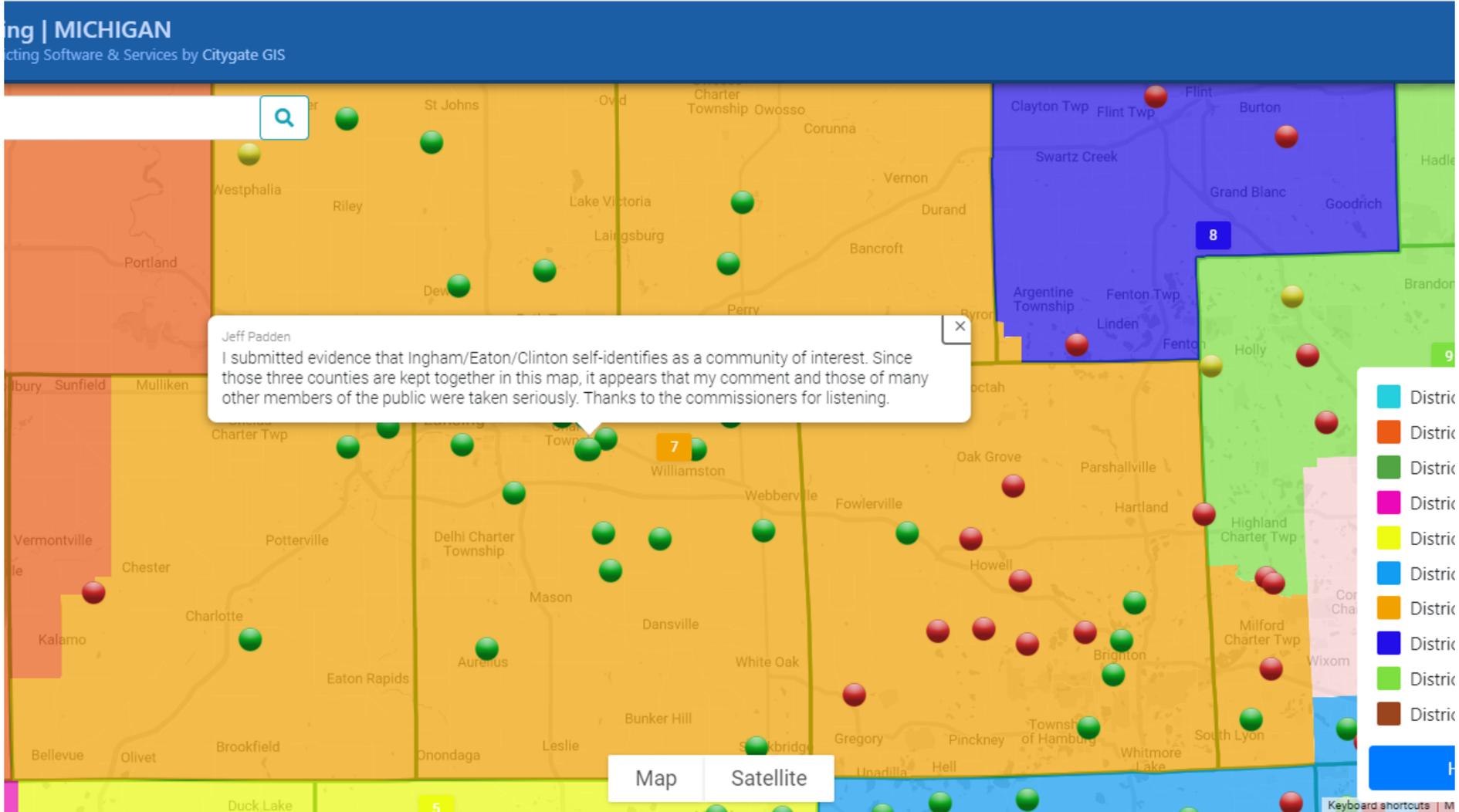
## Written Testimony

The MICRC proposed Congressional maps need to keep Shiawassee County intact with other rural agricultural and small business communities as possible. The proposed Lange Congressional Plan is completely unacceptable because it guts Shiawassee County by pulling Owosso, Corunna and Durand out of Shiawassee County putting the rest of the county with an entirely different Congressional District. Owosso, with the most population is the business and shopping center and heart of Shiawassee County. Just a mile or so to the east, Corunna is the County Seat where the County Commissioners meet, the County Sheriff and the court system sits. The Lange Plan

would be completely disorienting to the community!

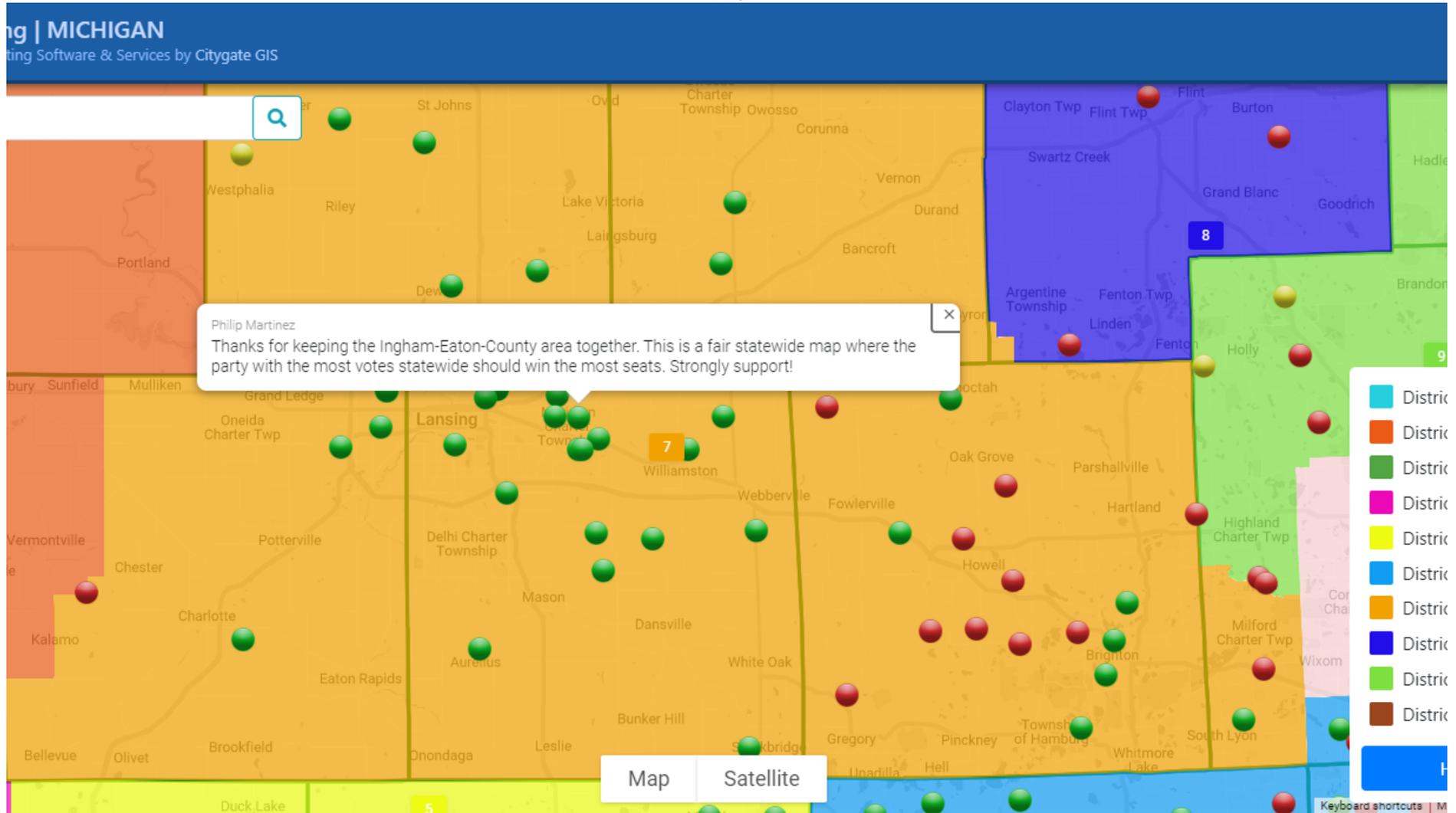
The Eid Plan is the best congressional map plan for Shiawassee County as it keeps 4 similar counties whole and most of Eaton County whole as well. This would best represent these rural agricultural and small business counties. The Birch, Maple, Juniper and Clark Plans also represent similar communities of interest best with Shiawassee County losing only Hazelton Township in the NE corner of the county.



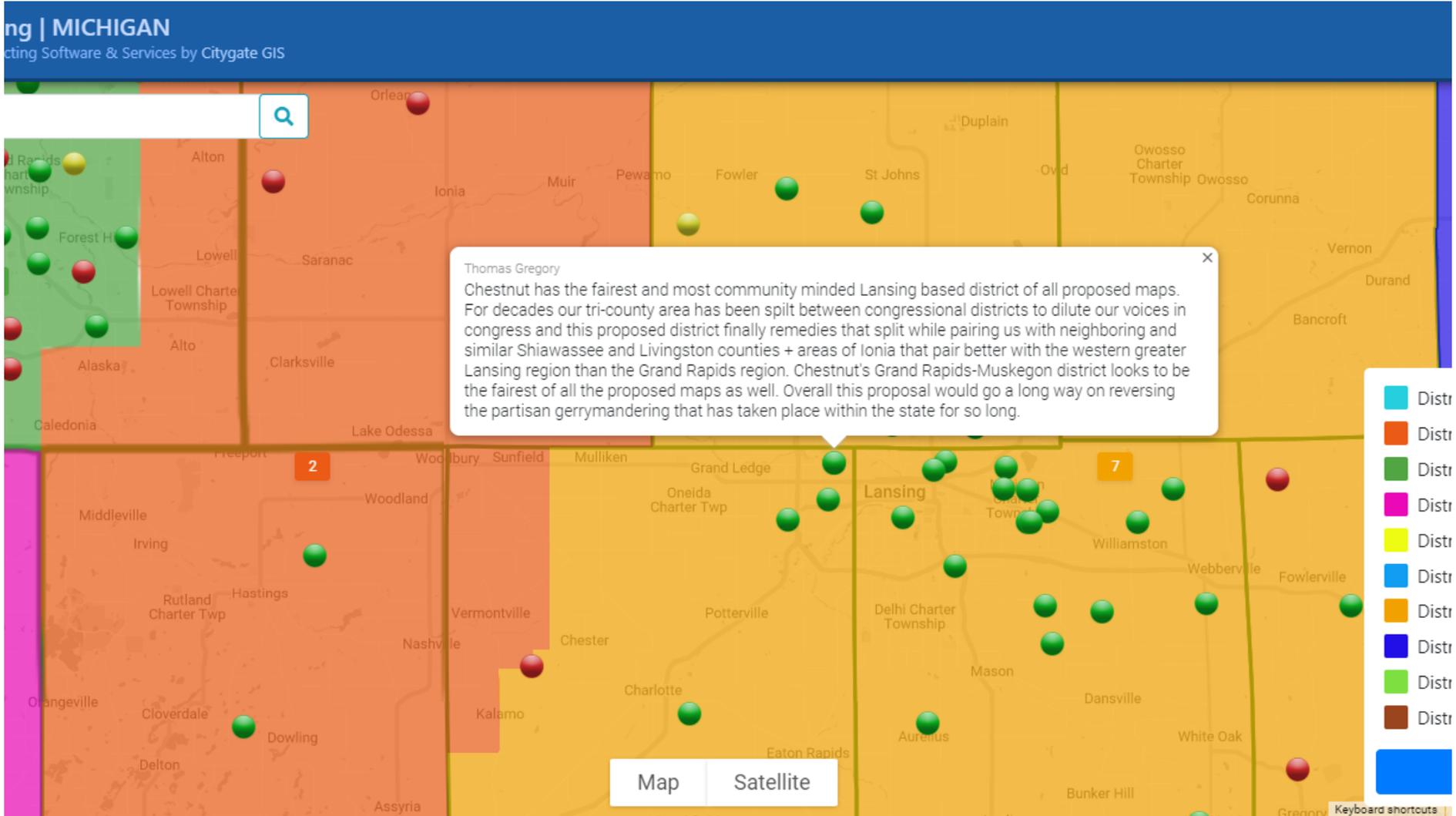


Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418





Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
75,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
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0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
775,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
775,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

**DISTRICT 8**

**DISTRICT 8**

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So my map is at P37 but I see there is other maps out there as well that do a good job making the District more compact.

Thanks.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Royce Stevens.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Mr. Stevens, if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> I'm sorry hello.

Good morning.

I am Royce Stevens and the maps drafted but I the Commission there are obvious considerations that need more attention.

First Bay City Saginaw Flint are all communities of interest and should be kept together. These communities are connected by the I-75 corridor by I-75 in our economically intertwined.

Genesee and Shiawassee Counties have large number of auto workers.

Makes it logical to keep these communities together.

All three of the communities that I mentioned earlier Flint Bay City and Saginaw share regional airports, as well as transportation hubs.

They also share media markets.

These commonalities should be reflected by a map that keeps these communities together.

It is my understanding that the Commission DRA expert was not in attendance when drafting this map.

I do not know for sure but maybe this is why the fact that Flint and Saginaw share so many demographics and would benefit from shared representations was ignored in constructing of this map.

It is my belief that it is in the best interest of these communities of interest to have Flint Saginaw and Bay City represented in a single Congressional District.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Lee.

>> Hello good morning.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Good morning.

My name is Charis Lee and I'm echoing the sentiment of the other individuals from Flint on the call.

I have taken a look at the map and I do believe that there are more changes that need to be made.

I really want to I don't want to inundate you and repeat comments and I really want to focus on what has not been said and Saginaw, Flint, they both have significant African/American and Latino populations and so when we think about that we need to

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make sure that we don't break up communities and put them in two districts with very rural and different parts of the state that they have little in common with.

I know that you know Saginaw, Flint, Bay City these are communities of interest.

That need to be kept together.

And if you take a look at the map now the way that it's broken up you know it takes away our voice and it takes away us the ability for us to be you know to be collectively representing or having representation that represents us as a community.

And you can focus in on what is important to us when you look at our media markets, you know such as ABC12 is you know a Saginaw Flint and Bay City it makes no sense for our communities to be broken up you know in different blocks with different representation.

You know most people are going to in those areas are going to be able to you know travel within those areas along I-75 and really be able to you know work together when you think about the auto workers and you think about the number of unions that we have along those corridors.

So I really appreciate you listening to my public comment today and I hope that you take a significant look at this area and keep Genesee County and Shiawassee County together thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to I believe it's I'm sorry McKenny, Jasmine McKenny.

>> Good morning.

My name is Jasmine McKenny and I'm a resident of the great City of Flint and speaking to the City and County we reside.

As many of you remember in a not so distant past the City of Flint was impacted in a great way by the decisions of elected officials that lacked compassion and understanding about the dynamics within our City.

And here we sit today facing a similar dilemma.

I come this morning to ask you to reconsider the maps you have drawn for my community.

As a community of interest you have proposed to connect our area with Lapeer and north Oakland County which would drastically impact our representation.

This map was drafted in just a few hours and does not give the proper consideration of connecting our community with Bay City, Saginaw and Flint.

Which are all communities of interest and should be kept together.

As attorney Lee just stated both Saginaw and Flint have significant Black and Latino populations that would benefit from shared representation in a single Congressional District.

I am imploring you to take another look at this map.

Our community cannot survive a lack of representation in this area that does not understand the needs of our minority populations.

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I'm imploring you to do this.

We are the ones who supported the proposition to even have an Independent Redistricting Commission.

And so we shouldn't be left in the dark.

I'm thanking each of you for all of the time that you have spent but we need to spend some more time on these maps.

Thank you for your time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to I believe it's Charif.

>> Hello. My name is Nayyirah, director of Flint rising in Michigan.

Our organization endorsed proposal two which was which created the Independent Redistricting Commission back in 2018.

And we did a lot of education in getting like our community excited about that.

And when I saw the draft version of our Congressional map it just really felt like a slap in the face.

Because in my opinion the map is straight trash.

You guys need to go back to the drawing board.

In addition to what previous speakers have said and I don't necessarily want to be labor and reinforce like I totally reinforce what they already said but you cracked, you know, Congressional the current Congressional District number 5.

And even looking at Saginaw like that is even more offensive because like Saginaw the City of Saginaw does not have anything in common with northern Macomb County which is now that is part of the new proposed District.

The City of Flint even though like I've been to Lapeer, and I've been to Clarkston and proposed Congressional District number ten which is what my new District would be if we go forward with these maps like Flint doesn't really have anything in common with Clarkston.

Or with a piece of Huron County and we really need to make sure that you don't dilute the African/American and Latino voice outside of Detroit because we matter too.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Pamela Pugh.

>> Good morning. And I'm a lifelong resident of Saginaw, Michigan, where the percentage of African/American and Hispanic residents in the City is 44% and 15% respectively.

And the median household income of Flint is two times less than the state and persons living at or below poverty is three times that of the state.

Flint and Saginaw residents have both experienced disparate health conditions at a much higher rate whether we are talking COVID infant mortality and asthma and child cancer and the list goes on. Michigan is the fifth worst for school funding. And

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African/American children in Michigan are over 70% more likely to live in high poverty areas like Saginaw and Flint where schools lack the resources to meet the needs of all students.

Michigan is the state where even though over 65 years after brown versus Board of Education children still had to sue their Government for right to literacy.

Schools with teacher and classrooms with books school buildings with heat and air.

And we know that nationally statistics show the dropouts are 3.5 times more likely to be arrested than high school graduates and Black is 50% of Michigan's prisoners and 14% of all over population.

And let me just speed up.

And so I want to make sure that you all know that I'm here today because the Congressional districts 10 and 11 as currently drafted will further weaken the voice of a community of interest yet crying out for equal protection by their Government systems to protect our health, our water, our air, our land and ensure us access to an equitable education and economy.

I'm imploring this Commission to take more time to act upon the commented and dire needs of these communities of interest whose lives depend on representation that speaks up for us Flint, Saginaw and Bay City.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to Jerry Hall.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: This is a duplicate of earlier.

We have two Jerry Halls on the list but Jerry was not present so is she not here as well? She is here or is not? Okay.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Jerry you are unmuted and you may proceed to address the Commission.

>> I'm Jerry Hall.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: It appears Jerry may be experiencing some technical difficulties so we can move on.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, all right, Dan M.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What about Steve 22?

>> Good morning.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Good morning.

>> I appreciate the hard work that the Commission has done already and thank you for it.

And looking forward to the hard work you have in front of you.

My issues today are specifically around what is now known as District 5.

I think it's by changing that to District 10 it's going to change or cause a large amount of confusion.

I'm also worried about the demographics of the new District.

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>> Good morning and thank you for holding these hearings. My name is Art Reyes and I'm a resident of Genesee County.

I feel we are better served with the communities of Saginaw and Bay City than Oakland and Lapeer.

I live in the fifth, the current fifth.

It's my opinion that having partisan, competitive districts are a way to get us on the path of having our Government to accomplish more of people's business.

Political fairness is a community of interest and us continuing to stay with Saginaw and Bay City allow for that.

The draft maps which have been distributed do not do that.

There is clear questions on how one and how the Voting Rights Act would view these changes and the current T fifth being broken up the way it is divides clear communities of interest demographically as well as an economic base.

Genesee, Saginaw and Bay Counties do meet these criteria as well as offering diversity.

We cannot allow for the voices of those who have traditionally been underserved to be further diluted.

Please take our comments into serious consideration and redraw the Congressional District with fairness in mine.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to Judy D.

>> Hello, my name is Judy Daubenmier from Genoa Township in Livingston County. I want to thank the Commission for all your work on redistricting and on this draft Congressional map.

I know you realize you have a lot more work to do.

To make sure it meets the criteria for partisan fairness and Voting Rights Act concerns. Parts of the map really need to be redone to make sure it eliminates any partisan bias that plagues the existing map.

But I am pleased that the Mid-Michigan District looks very compact and keeps the try County area of Ingham Eaton and Clinton Counties together.

And I'm especially pleased all of Livingston County is being kept with Ingham.

Ingham and Livingston County form a community of interest in many ways.

Many people commute from Livingston to Lansing or East Lansing to work at the state capitol or Michigan State University.

I still have many friends in Lansing from the 9 years I spent commuting from Livingston County to Lansing.

And I keep in touch with them.

I'm very comfortable going to meetings there.

You know prior to Zoom that's what we did.

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Tri-Cities in Flint are not part of the thumb and they do not belong with those counties. Please redraw the map, a better map to more better equitably offer the Tri-Cities and counties and Flint Genesee County the possibility of electing a representative from one of the four counties.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Sandra Jones.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay do we have number 29? Okay handy.

>> Good morning. I'm LaCracha Handy, a Genesee County resident. We are better served with counties of Saginaw and Bay City rather than Oakland and Lapeer. Partisan fairness is a community of interest and we need to keep that in mind. That is why the people of Michigan voted for the proposal that created the Commission. The Commission has Flint and Genesee County in a new Congressional District which is 85% white.

Come on now let's be real for a minute.

People of color will not have their voices heard even though it is our right to be heard. With that being said, as a Black female resident of Flint Township and Genesee County and registered voter in the State of Michigan I'm urging the Commission to be fair.

Keep Flint Saginaw and Bay City together.

Our communities work well together.

And we need fair representation.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Angie Miller.

>> Good morning are you able to hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Thank you.

My name is Angie Miller and I'm a lifelong resident of Saginaw County.

First of all I'd like to take the opportunity to thank the Commission for all the work you're doing.

I'm speaking to you today to request that you reconsider the Congressional map the as it is drawn for Saginaw and Genesee Counties, together they are a community of interest.

I-75 connects the two counties.

The top two employers in both counties are in auto industry and healthcare.

Covenant hospital in is Saginaw County and genesis in Genesee County.

When reviewing the Alice population which is often referred to as the working poor the counties are similar.

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Approximately 43% of Saginaw County residents are at an Alice or poverty level and 41% of Genesee County residents are at an Alice or poverty level.

Lastly both Saginaw and Genesee Counties are diverse communities and the minority vote of both counties would be diminished as separated.

Please consider and draw a map that would put both Saginaw and Genesee Counties in the same Congressional District.

I appreciate your time and consideration thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

All right we are at John Frederick.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Participants 31 and 32 are not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

So that brings us to 31 and 32, 33.

Isra.

>> Hello. Good morning, everyone. My name is Isra from Genesee County. Thank you so much for your work thus far. And I want to comment about the way the map including Flint has been drawn. And thanks and shout out to everyone who has gone before me. And I'm satisfied so many folks see the same issue, so similar to the fellow commenters saying the predominately Black City of Flint is not reflected in your current map and has a high Latino population I too think that communities of interest have not been considered adequately and I think it's a bad map.

It's not repetitive of the communities of interest that exist.

As someone growing up in Genesee County, I know that there are several communities of interest that makeup our region and to have Flint lumped in with rural areas is a huge disservice to not only Flint area community members but also the rural area community members because our needs are different and differ a lot.

Furthermore as someone who comes from a community of interest the Arab American community in Genesee County and one whose ethnicity is erased in census data as we are considered white it makes it different to give a population size and compounds the problems we face.

And the flawed map would compound issues and if it stays, we would be among liked ones again with our Black and Latino community members and we would be drown out so I strongly urge you to redraw the map to be more fair and representative as Flint has more in common with Bay City and Midland than it does with the thumb and Congressional representation needs to reflect that.

A minor comment about anyone who joined late I did not get the Zoom link so if you could call on the people that were supposed to speak in the beginning.

Thank you so much for giving me this time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Anthony.

>> Test test

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Good morning I'm Anthony I had an opportunity to visit my childhood friend and hang out with his child in teenage years.

During a talk about the future I heard him say you have to think, dream and envision bigger in order to achieve success in this world.

I understand your daunting tasks of proposing the new conditional districts.

I would like all of you to hear that valuable lesson and implement it in your thoughts in order to think, dream and vision bigger in a sense you have to start with a good foundation. Strong foundations are started by shared history and connections such as Flint's history with the Tri-Cities, Bay Cities of Bay City Saginaw and Midland.

Flint is a community of interest, has more in common with the Tri-Cities of Bay, Saginaw, Midland than it does with rural areas it's paired with in your draft map.

This is reflected in many of the public comments heard at the hearings.

We share the same media markets, the same regional hospitals, and a shared history of industrial production background.

We also share common interests like water shut offs, ongoing environmental crisis and environmental justice issues. With these maps and issues and so many more that affect our cities, we have to dream bigger and think harder and deal with these issues that were presented before us today.

The Congressional map as drawn on Thursday does not give the people of Flint an opportunity to send somebody to Congress who will represent the most important issues to them like water shut offs, and environmental crisis issues, and environment justice issues. So when I think of what is best for communities I serve in, I have to think on a big scale of and challenge my vision to answer that question of what the success looks like.

You will have to expand the shared common issues and causes to the issues.

Success does not look like the loss of representation on matters that affect us the most. Congressional District five demands representation that understands the issues effecting us and comes from shared history and understands our issues and vision of what tomorrow brings.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Susan Hendricks.

>> Hi. I'm Susan Hendricks, Grand Blanc in Genesee County. And I've been adoption of proposal two in 2018 creating the new MICRC. I got signatures and went door to door contacting thousands of citizens. 201 and equal representation one person, one vote, weighted equally. And wanted to know their elected officials represented the voters and that their votes count equally. They especially wanted to know the elected legislatures political affiliation matched that of Michigan citizens. As I

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# Support of Eid's Congressional Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Zachary Geyer

Location: Ann Arbor City

Submitted: 9/20/2021

Type: written

ID: w5071

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Hello, I have been following the MICRC for a while, and I have to say that Eid's map is far better than the collaborative one. Midland, Bay City, Saginaw, and Flint all belong in the same district, which his map does. The current map does not include midland, because some people are arguing that midland county is a rural district; and it is clearly not. Midland city is a Tri-City, it needs to be included with the others. I have also heard arguments that putting it with Genessee and Saginaw counties will dilute the Republican vote, even though the city of midland actually voted democrat. Wouldn't putting genessee in a republican district dilute their vote, which is much larger than midland's? All arguments to not include midland in this district are flawed. I also like how Eid included Southfield with part of Detroit which increasing the minority representation allowing for 2 districts that are between 45-50% black, this is VRA compliant. Grosse Point should also be put with the Macomb-centered district which is in his map. I URGE the commission to look at the partisan standpoint of all districts in their current map, as this will show that the current draft map is a Republican gerrymander. A fair map should yes include coi, but also should be partisanally fair, and since Democrats have won statewide in the past 4 years with an average of 3-4%, then 7 districts should be overall Democrat, and 6 districts should overall be Republican. This does not mean each district has to be safe for that party, in fact, I think having 3-5 competitive seats would be great. All of this is included in

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MICRC Public Comment Portal

Eid's plan and I PLEAD the commission to take his map seriously and use a lot of his ideas.

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>> Hello, Commissioners. My name is Trenton Berry. I'm from Midland Michigan. Based on the U.S. Congressional districts that you guys drew yesterday, you draw Midland from the rest of the Tri-Cities in Flint. You guys were concerned about diluting the minority population because someone said that adding Midland increased the white population. Midland is by and large a very white City. But if you look at the 2020 census data, it would show that what you guys created yesterday is diluting the minority vote even more. Based on the 2020 census, Midland City has a white population of 89.9%. Midland County as a whole has a white population of 93.8%, which while Tuscola and Arenac Counties have a white population of 96.2 and 96% respectively. The County has a white population of 94.6%, which is higher than Midland County. From the same data Midland has an African/American population of 2.1%, which is above Tuscola's 1.3% Arenac 0.5%. And Midland City also has an Asian population of 4% which is above Tuscola and Arenac's 0.3%. Which means the map that you guys created excluding Midland is diluting the minority vote even more. It would be very much appreciated if you could redo the VRA with and without Midland and see.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Mr. Berry, we may have lost you. Mr. Berry, we cannot hear you if you are still speaking. Secretary of State please.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: It appears you are experiencing technical difficulties. We can move on to the next participant and return to you at a later time and if your technical difficulties continue to persist, please e-mail us at [redistricting@Michigan.gov](mailto:redistricting@Michigan.gov) and we will help trouble shoot.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you, Secretary of State. Next is Art Reyes and please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Good morning, yes, we can.

>> Good morning, Commissioners and everyone. My name is Art Reyes. I'm a lifelong Michigander and resident of Genesee County. Thank you for your efforts carrying out the mandate assigned to you by the voters of Michigan. I appreciate seeing the newer versions of the maps yesterday. I appreciate seeing the second and third version of what is the current fifth, but will be the 11th, keeps the communities of Flint and Genesee County with Saginaw and Bay County. And if Midland City is included or not, these new proposals are far better than the first one. And it does seem to pay proper respect to the communities of interest along that part of the I-75 corridor while addressing partisan fairness.

I would further ask though that when we are redoing these Congressional districts, and it's unfortunate that our census data has us losing a Congressional seat, but I would ask that that Congressional District that has to be lost correlate to where the population

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actually was lost, that is northern Michigan. And it's a shame any time we lose population and therefore lose a voice in Congress. We should lose that voice from where the people have left.

Thank you for the work you are doing.

Please stay safe.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is LaCracha.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> I'm LaCracha Handy. Can you hear me? I'm sorry.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We can. I'm sorry.

>> Good morning, Commissioners.

I'm LaCracha Handy, resident of Flint Township and Genesee County.

The people have spoken and you all listened, so I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for listening to the community in regards to keeping Flint, Saginaw and Bay City together.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Is Dwayne Thompson.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

Dorian Thompson.

>> Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> All right. Good morning. My name is Dorian Thompson. When I moved to Ottawa County to start as a student at Grand Valley State University I was struck by the sense of community and pride of the residents of Ottawa County.

I learned about Dutch culture, beautiful lakeshore and hospitality of its residents.

Ottawa County became home and residents became family to me.

Currently in the Board's planning, they are tearing Ottawa County into three different districts, which is a dangerous plan.

Ottawa County is one of the most unique counties in the United States with access to a major lake, its tourist attraction, agricultural hub, and strong presence of the manufacturing industry. Now more than ever, they deserve to have one member of the United States House of Representatives who can voice their concerns and needs in a unified way.

During the 1840s United States of America became home to a new community of people, Dutch Americans. And a large portion of them settled in Holland, Michigan, which is in Ottawa County. Right now Ottawa County is home to roughly 10% of Dutch Americans living in the United States.

Under the redistricting process it's not only a precedent to keep the communities of the shared interest together, it's imperative we do so.

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I also applaud your recognition of the shared industrial history, shared infrastructural needs, shared potable and recreational system of the Saginaw River and I-75 corridor in your draft Congressional mapping that includes Genesee, Bay and Saginaw Counties.

Great strides have been made to address the legacy of industrial contamination including brownfield development and wetland preservation.

But a Federal advocate is essential if progress is to continue.

It is in that context that I would ask the Commission to consider the City of Midland be included in your Congressional map.

Given the central position in the watershed and the importance of the Tittabawassee River to the overall water quality and the Saginaw River and Bay, I sincerely believe it should be part of the Congressional District.

Also, all four urban areas will play an important role in developing strategies of resilience and common efforts to roll back climate change.

I am wearing a 350 pin and have since 2011.

Ten years later 350 parts per million is a livable amount of CO2.

We are at 419 now.

We have to address climate change and we need Congressional representation to do so.

Thank you, Commissioners.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to number five.

>> Good evening. I'm Barb Handley Miller, a retired professor from Delta College. I live in Bay County Michigan where I raised a family. I'm a part of a Bay County community of interest. And I have submitted a map aligning Bay County with Saginaw, Genesee County and the City of Midland in a Congressional District.

I thank the Commission for recognizing the combined interests of Saginaw, Bay and Midland Counties in the State Senate District and urge you to keep that map.

These urban communities of Genesee, Saginaw, Bay City and Midland share the Saginaw Bay watershed and environmental concerns. They are a key industrial corridor and have significant populations of people of color in Genesee and Saginaw in particular, and they deserve to have a united strong voice.

One example of that is in higher education.

Over 40% of college students start at a community college.

At Delta College where I taught, 81% of students come from Saginaw Bay and Midland Counties. Those counties are very tied.

At Delta and Mont Community college in Flint over 30 percent transfer to four year universities, many to universities in this proposed Congressional district. SVSU, Northwood University in Midland, University of Michigan Flint, and now many CMU students in Saginaw that are medical students and have centered there.

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We need united representation to work for fair Federal loan and Pell grant policies for fair access for lower income students and for Veterans who deserve to have GI benefits supported.

These colleges also revitalize our downtown and would be helped by a unified Congressional voice representing these urban areas. This would be a fair, nonpartisan District and I urge you to consider again aligning the City of Midland, Bay, Saginaw and Genesee Counties in a Congressional District.

I thank you for listening well to us at these forums and wish you the best in your process.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commissioner number six.

>> Thank you for dropping by.

Last time that U.S. Senator Moolenaar was here, there were law enforcement officers were guarding him.

You ask why?

He did not represent Isabella County.

The reason why he didn't, why he was representing us was because there is a strip of Midland County had been attached to Isabella County.

That is the only reason why he was elected.

There is no commonality.

If you go east on M20 you see that.

Isabella County is a very educated County.

I agree, we should be attached to Gratiot County, not with Midland County.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number seven.

>> Hi. My name is Niki.

I'm from Lansing.

I just want to say thank you, appreciate the work.

I worked on census 2020 throughout the whole year, so I know how hard stuff like this is.

I want to comment on the Senate districts for Lansing and the Congressional districts as well. I think that those drafts do a good job of making fair maps. And I would like to see the same ideas for State House Districts. Greater Lansing is growing and compared to 10 years ago, there are more businesses, places to go, and things to do in the Greater Lansing, especially with CATA running into Ingham, Eaton and Clinton Counties. My House District could be Downtown Lansing, Old Towne and up to Dewitt. A lot of people who work at the main Lansing hospital, Sparrow, commute from Clinton.

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University, Alma College, Saginaw, Chippewa Tribal College and Mid-Michigan College are located here.

The Chippewa watershed conservancy protects the land, water and the wildlife in Isabella and Gratiot Counties. Agricultural, recreation and health are impacted by the rivers in both counties.

Wind farms dot the landscape in both counties. One time Gratiot and Isabella Counties had separate United Ways, but now we are two counties, working cooperatively in the Gratiot, Isabella United Way. Isabella and Gratiot Counties have culture, historic, environmental and educational and economic connections. Together Isabella and Gratiot Counties form a community of interest.

I hope that my perspective has been some help as you, excuse me, strive to draw maps. And I hope that you take this into consideration, so thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number 14.

>> Hi. My name is Lauren Hall. I'm a student here at CMU, but I'm originally from Bay City, Michigan.

Tonight I just want to talk about Bay County a little bit.

For me it's really important that Bay, Midland and Saginaw stay together first and foremost because that is primarily how we self-identify as a community. We are the Tri-Cities, that is how I tell people where I'm from when I'm on campus or around Michigan.

Secondly, I would also state that the number two employer of Bay County is Dow Chemical, which is located in Michigan or it's located in Midland.

So there is an economic interest in keeping the communities together.

Finally, when we mention Delta College, how we elect board of trustees to Delta College is through whether or not they live in Saginaw, Bay and Midland.

We have specific designators for those delegates to the board of trustees in our elections.

And then finally I graduated from western high school.

Which for those of you who are not familiar with the area is about halfway between Midland County and Bay County.

And I can tell you first and foremost from experience that a majority of my classmates were from Midland County even though the school that I went to was in Bay County simply because it was closer to rural Midland County. So there is a vested educational interest in keeping the Tri-Cities together as well.

And I hope that you will consider that as you make your maps.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Number 15.

>> Hi, everyone. My name is Isabella.

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As I said before, this is supposed to be committee of the whole. This is committee of the whole structure. And are only supposed to have two statements per person, per member during the agenda item unless you are in committee of the whole. Then you have unlimited amount. And then committee of the whole is just making a recommendation for the draft maps.

That is how this should have went and what should be happening now.

I would like to request that you hire a registered parliamentarian to provide you a written report on the subject. And I'd like to request that the Central Michigan University student Government to consider on their agenda whether this Commission is this decision making process, is actually according to the rules of procedure that are approved in the Robert's Rules of Orders requirement for a motion second establishing the immediately pending question. So CMU student body Government, please, political science department, please, somebody.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next is Mike.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right, Lisa Coney.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Good afternoon. I'm Lisa Coney, 35-year-plus resident of Saginaw County.

And I just wanted to thank you for the hard work that you have been doing and that you continue to do.

I want a State Senate District that includes the Tri-Cities, Saginaw, Midland and Bay City.

The Tri-Cities are a community of interest and have long been called the Tri-Cities because they share economic, cultural and historic interests.

We are called the Great Lakes region because of how closely linked we are.

We share an airport.

The people of the Tri-Cities travel to each other's cities for shopping, entertainment and cultural.

We share economic interests in Michigan including the Michigan sugar, General Motors, Dow Chemical and SC Johnson.

There is even a Wikipedia Page highlighting the ties between the three communities.

I want a U.S. Congressional District that includes the Tri-Cities and Flint.

Saginaw, Midland, Bay City and Flint are communities of interest.

We are connected by the I-75 corridor.

And share many regional airports.

Saginaw and Flint have significant Black populations that would benefit from shared representation in a single Congressional District.

Saginaw has a large Hispanic population as well.

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When joined the first draft of the Congressional districts, the Commission's VRA expert was not on hand and the Commission gave little to no consideration to Black or Latino populations in Mid-Michigan.

We all share common media markets.

We share educational ties through local high school sports.

We are also closely linked through our colleges and universities.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

I know that timer is a little hard to hear.

Bill Meyer.

>> Okay, yes. Hello. My name is Bill Meyer. I'm from Hamtramck and I'm with a group called One Hamtramck, which is an organization that addresses social, peace and social justice issues.

Born in this area 77 years ago.

I know the area intimately.

And I want to say that many of you are probably unaware of a couple statistics of Hamtramck because they are usually not recorded.

One is that the City has majority of the two largest ethnic groups are Yemeni and Bangladesh.

It's not a polish City anymore, although many people think it is.

So this makes it the highest percentage of Muslims in any City in America, as high as 70 to 80%.

Probably in the entire western hemisphere.

And for a long time these people have been marginalized in City Government and issues and media and everything.

They are speaking out now.

They are finally asking for their fair justice.

And I want to mention that Rebecca Islam has provided a map from APIA, which I hope you take a look at.

And, first of all, I wanted to thank you for letting me speak.

This is a map that shows the density of people of color in this area.

And to break that group up would be a tragedy.

Our group in Hamtramck works through culture and we supported the Bangladesh mural on the border of Hamtramck and Detroit, carpenters.

So many Bangladesh are in Hamtramck and also across carpenter into Detroit.

I want to thank you for listening to me and letting me speak.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Roman.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, we will move on to Reverend Tyler Wagenmaker.

>> Okay. There we go.

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I'm not sure what he is here for though.

I mean, what his name is on the screen.

I just wanted you to know that he is here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay. Thank you.

>> Okay. So I'll get to mine. My name is Cindy Weir. I live in Midland, Michigan.

First, I would like to thank the Commission for drawing a State Senate District that includes the cities of Midland, Bay City and Saginaw, also known as the Tri-Cities.

These three cities are an obvious community of interest.

And we all have like things in common, industrial based communities, our economies are connected.

We have a shared airport with Midland, Bay City, and Saginaw.

And we share several media outlets and regional colleges and universities.

That's my comment regarding the State Senate District.

And I appreciate you drew those together and I urge you to keep that map.

But also like to request the Commission to include the City of Midland in the

Congressional map along with Bay City, Saginaw, and Flint.

These Cities are the core of Mid-Michigan and a community of interest for all of the same reason I just mentioned for the State Senate District.

We identify as the Tri-Cities.

And we should stay together in both the Senate and the Congressional districts.

I just want to thank you for all the work you are doing, hearing us and making changes based on our comments.

I'm looking forward to seeing the new maps with our districts drawn that are fair and competitive, which will in turn make for much better governing, which we need in the State of Michigan. So thank you for your hard work.

That's all.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

It's my understanding Mike has joined so let's go back to him.

>> Mike Curell.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I can hear you.

>> All right, good afternoon.

This was difficult.

Good afternoon my name is Mike Curell. I'm a long-time resident of the City of Midland.

And I want to thank you for volunteering and for all your hard work.

Your work is so important for fair elections in Michigan.

I'm speaking today to advocate for the cities of Midland, Bay City and Saginaw being recognized as a community of interest.

I'm a long time Midland resident, recently retired. I've spend most of my adult life working in the area including jobs and all three communities.

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Tri-Cities have a long history of connections and common concerns whether it's our shared infrastructure, our schools, our colleges, the airport, common healthcare providers.

Large and small business issues.

And keeping the rivers that connect us healthy and clean.

We are connected and share common concerns.

Communities of interest by definition refer to a group of people who have a common set of concerns that may be affected by legislation.

I think the Tri-Cities more than meet that requirements.

Please take into consideration my concerns.

I believe our unique issues merit common representation both in Lansing and in Washington.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is James.

>> Hello. Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes. We can hear you.

Now I can't hear you.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can hear you now.

>> Wonderful.

My name is James.

I'm an educator.

And co-Chair in Ottawa County.

I'm calling you straight from where I coach our eight-year-old boy is here.

And the way the map is drawn right now, the entire team, we would be represented by three different Congressional districts.

Despite the fact that the boys all live two miles apart from each other.

The Commission shouldn't divide Ottawa County as it has currently done in their proposal. Despite the fact that Ottawa County is the fastest growing County in the state, it's now being treated as a point of interest.

The Commission has an obligation, a constitutional obligation for Ottawa County because it is a community of interest.

Not just for the importance to the state but because of its shared economy, heritage and history.

Ottawa County truly is unique.

It's unfortunate no one from the Commission is from this side of West Michigan to really understand that, but that is why I'm here today.

I'm here to speak on behalf of Ottawa County and our future dividing us into three Congressional districts takes away our Federal voice.

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I ask also that as you move forward you do consider partisan fairness as a way to promote legislative common ground and compromise.

And reject legislative extremism.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Katherine.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: She is number 12.

Please allow us a moment to unmute you.

>> Good morning.

I'm happy -- can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Okay. I'm happy to see the Congressional District that includes the City of Midland with the Tri-Cities in Flint.

Similar to the proposed state District that's been drawn, State Senate District sorry. These communities are connected in so many countless ways and economically culturally and strong familial ties and share the I-75 corridor and makeup the Great Lakes region.

The proposed Tri-City Flint Congressional District creates a District that is close to 0 political bias giving voters a chance to choose politicians fairly instead of the other way around.

Thank you for your hard work and having the districts being drawn in the open with public scrutiny is enormous and vital undertaking and thank you so much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Phil H.

>> Thank you for allowing me to speak. And yesterday I found yesterday's conversation of deliberation is disappointing. Time and again residents of Ottawa County define and detail how Ottawa County itself is a community of interest. Map 187 establishes a clear lakeshore District that keeps Ottawa County whole. And arguments that try to separate Ottawa County are not based on reality. And maps that divide Georgetown township along Cottonwood Drive directly divide a community for no reason. Maps try to reach out and draw Grand Rapids and Muskegon are dividing Ottawa County for a manufacturing community of interest. How can Georgetown Township in Ottawa County consider themselves part of the lakeshore not be, according to these maps, and maps drawn with Kalamazoo and lakeshore communities.

This is nonsensical.

Kalamazoo is not a lakeshore community. Ottawa County and Muskegon County have much more in common than Muskegon and Grand Rapids.

As you continue to deliberate, please keep Ottawa County whole.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Cindy Weir.

>> Number 14.

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>> Hi, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> I just wanted to say a big thank you to the Commission for including the City of Midland in a Congressional District along with Bay City, Saginaw and Flint. These cities are a core of Mid-Michigan and a community of interest. Midland, I'm happy that Midland will finally be included in an area that makes economic and geographic sense.

Please continue to look at partisan bias when tweaking maps.

And thanks for the Commission for all the hard work they are doing.

Have a good day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Clare Ott.

>> Good morning. I'm Clare Ott. Thank you for your work.

I know yesterday you were working on ways that you could make the draft State House map more fair.

I've lived in Battle Creek area for 45 years and only recently moved to Kalamazoo.

It seems like Kalamazoo voters are packed into a couple of districts, not giving us a proper chance for fair representation in Lansing.

And I believe the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek area is somewhere you could take a look to achieve the State House fairness you and the people of Michigan, we the people are looking for.

Thank you for your endless work on this critical project.

Claire.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Mary Murphy number 16.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Did I skip Clare-Ott? Benjamin Ratner, number 17.

>> Can you hear me?

I'm Ben Ratner. I grew up in Ann Arbor. I graduated from Engle Elementary School, Cabin Middle School and Huron High School. And although I now live in Detroit, my family still lives in Ann Arbor and I take pride calling myself a County.

I feel compelled to speak today because I volunteered my time to advocate for this Commission and proudly voted for it back in 2018.

I believe strongly that everyday people are smart enough to make these decisions and draw maps that are fair.

My recommendation to the Commission today is simple.

To avoid packing together Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti both of which contain substantial communities of color and have distinct identities, please reconsider your drawing of State Senate District 27 as it currently stands.

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There are better ways to draw the District in the region of the state to strengthen the overall map and crucially avoid packing more than 95,000 people of color into a single District.

Thank you for your time and hard work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Holly.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Holly, if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> I have.

Can you hear me now?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

Muskegon County is a lakeshore community.

The City of Muskegon is a coastal community.

It even has cruise ships that dock here, bringing passengers from Canada and visitors across the globe to our shops and restaurants.

Muskegon County itself has shared economic interests with communities along the lakeshore such as Grand Haven and Holland and Ottawa County.

Map 187 is representative of the Muskegon community as a whole.

And protects the lakeshore.

Please keep the lakeshore together.

It's a community of similar interests.

Please enact map 187, District 9.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Edith Ford.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Jennifer Austin.

>> Sorry, I'm trying to start my camera but there we go can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> My name is Jennifer Austin from the City of Midland. I would like to thank the Commission for placing the City of Midland with Tri-Cities in Flint and Congressional District 11, in maps 200, 201 and 202 on the portal. I hope the Commission will keep Midland, Bay City, Saginaw and Flint in a Congressional District. These cities each have a population between 33,000 and 96,000. And Midland is not the smallest of these cities.

We all have an industrial based economy that supports small business and service industries surrounding them. No other cities north of Midland compare in size until you reach the UP. Even Mount Pleasant to the west of us is smaller by 17,000. We are urban suburban area and should have the representation that reflects that. I also ask that you continue to assess partisan fairness and create a map that is as close to 0 political bias as possible. And we deserve a map that allows the voters to select the

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representatives rather than map up the map choosing our representatives for us. I would also like to thank all of you for all of the hard work you are doing and everything that you put up with in some of the hearings.

I really appreciate it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

Thank you for addressing the Commission. Percy Johnson.

>> Percy.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> We put you guys in place with this proposal with people not politicians.

So please continue to make this about people and not politicians.

Draw the maps up so it's an equal balance.

And it's so important that you guys remember to stay focused on making this about the people and not the politicians, keep the community balanced as much as possible.

Gary, I want to thank you for asking me to listen to Troy and other parts because it sounds like this is what you are trying to do to balance it out so we have it's not partisan favor.

So please and please go back to at least a minute and a half or two minutes.

We got people rushing, trying to get their point across and you got to remember to keep this about the people and not the politicians.

Give the people a chance to speak.

And consider looking at the AFLCIO map.

I know AFLCIO has a strong.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Sterling Brewer.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Number 22 and 23 are not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, Caroline Ross?

>> Caroline.

Good, morning.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Good morning.

>> This is one reason why we need better Internet in the state.

My name is Caroline Ross. I'm from St. Louis, Gratiot County. I'm a member of UAW Local 6,000, State of Michigan employees. And active in the UAW cap and am the current statewide Chair of UAW State of Michigan retired workers.

We represent approximately 20,000 active and retired union members in all 83 Counties.

The goal of this Commission is to develop districts to provide partisan fairness.

It's imperative the current boundaries be corrected to allow the Michigan citizens fair representation and to ensure equal voting power.

It's been said Michigan is a leaning democrat state.

And yet our maps lean republican.

That to me is a disproportionate advantage.

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One of the ways in which I believe we can do that is specific to the Kalamazoo area. I'm going to reiterate splitting the east side and the west side of Kalamazoo based on the different communities of interests there you have the large student population due to the University.

And on the west side and then the east side is quite a different community that I think deserves its own representation.

I believe that the Portage area is split correctly but should be kept separate from Kalamazoo as well as those are drawn today.

I do want to state that I like the U.S. Congressional Apple map draft.

Which combines Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids.

They have similar economic structures, university populations, and a large commuter population which includes my husband.

Folks who travel between the two cities for work and school.

With that thank you so much for your time and your attention.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. James L.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: James, if you are unable to unmute yourself you are free to address the Commission.

James you're unmuted and free to address the Commission.

James, can you hear us? It looks like James might be experiencing some technical issues and we can move on to the next participate.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Let's move on to Molly M.

>> Hello, my name is Molly M and I lived in Midland for 32 years.

I would like to thank you for the collaborative maps that you have drawn.

And the fact that you recognize Midland is a City and a vital part of the tri cities in the Mid-Michigan corridor.

When you work as a team it will be better than working individually.

The only map I have oak where Midland is not with Bay City but if that helps the rest of the state obtain as close to 0 political bias then so be it.

I would like to address the Senate and Congressional maps and ask you continue to view Midland as a City and part of the Mid-Michigan corridor.

You can see the overwhelming support for the maps in the portal.

You can sorry I know that you have comments that Midland is a farming community and that we need to stay with Midland County because of our historic flood.

First let me say we are far from a farming community.

We are a manufacturing community just like the rest of the cities in the Mid-Michigan corridor.

Like I said earlier I have lived in Midland my entire adult years and very active in our community.

I don't know one farmer.

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Secretary of State Benson I have a handout for her.

Your secretary I have a handout.

Can I have the handout?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Are you trying to give us something.

We can accept it.

>> Yes, to Secretary of State Benson is she here, she is the secretary without a vote.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Secretary Benson is not here today.

>> I will give it to her in her office, I guess. I'm James Gallant, Marquette Suicide Prevention Coalition. These are my opinions. Please consider fulfilling your fiduciary duty to pursue due diligence to avoid cost of litigation by requesting a report and recommendations from your attorneys concerning the legal claims contained in the attached house fiscal agency reports concerning MICRC's constitutional beginnings and required oversight.

These reports suggest that the prop two constitutional amendment merely revived an albeit inactive Commission already contained in the Constitution, the Commission on legislative apportionment. In those reports, Ms. McInerney cited a ruling in the Voters Not Politicians cross-complaint issued by the Michigan Supreme Court to support her claims.

Therefore, in my opinion, the attached rules of procedure approved by majority vote of the former Michigan Commission on legislative apportionment have been wrongfully blocked by Secretary of State Joyce Benson from being forward for use by the MICRC as a revived iteration of the Commission already contained in the Constitution for the benefit of her democratic party and to the detriment of the republican party.

Also, please possibly identify Secretary of State Benson has effectively fulfilled her duty to transmit the certified language of the constitutional amendment to the director of management and budget.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you, Mr. Gallant. Your 90 seconds have expired.

Thank you, Mr. Gallant.

Number 13.

>> And number 14.

>> I'm Ann from Lincoln Township.

Which is a part of Midland County.

I'm reiterating the importance of keeping Midland and Gladwin County together in their entirety in the State House, State Senate and Congressional maps.

I specifically support the oak State House map and Commissioner Lange's map for the State Senate and Congress.

I feel that these maps best represent the 2020 flood damaged areas that are still recovering and restoring homes, businesses, multiple dams, bridges as well as two lakes and the Tibawassee watershed.

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Midland and Gladwin Counties are linked together by this watershed and the importance of its combined management is crucial for the environment, recreation and public safety.

As we as having unified representation in Lansing and D.C. which will give these counties further support for their areas and needs.

Before and during the floods these Counties were together.

And should continue together for the disaster us complete recovery and restoration process.

Therefore I'm asking the Commission to focus on the people's needs.

And to honor the maps that keep Midland and Gladwin Counties together in their entirety.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 14.

>> Hello, my name is Susan.

I'm here from Nester Township and located in Ross common County.

And I'm here to first thank you for all of you being here and hearing our comments and taking the notes to remember because I know there's a lot of information coming in your direction.

And Nester Township is a very rural area despite where we are located which is on the border of also Gladwin County and for an example, I have a Gladwin address but I live in Nester Township in Ross common County and nester is one of the smaller Townships we have maybe 180 registered voters.

Therefore we have some challenges.

In terms of getting fair representation.

And it's very important for our community of interest or my community of interest of Nester Township to keep us included in the rural Counties around us because of our border we could very easily be pulled into perhaps Gladwin County or into the more southern districts.

We have large land mass.

We have very small full time residents in our community.

And therefore it is the community of interest of my choice for how we function in our community.

Mutually aid is very important to us with other rural Townships in our County.

And in order for us to provide safety, the basic needs for our community which we all share in common.

It's just that we have additional challenges because of our very rural and small full time residents.

So please consider keeping Nester part of Ross common and part of District 103 thank you.

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More specifically I would like to comment in support of Commissioner Chairwoman Szetela's Washtenaw State House draw and breaks Ann Arbor into four different districts and joins on the northern and I lived in many different parts of the City. The northern part of the City goes into the area around Brighton and given the increasing housing prices and the lack of affordable housing in the City of Ann Arbor more and more people especially younger people like myself are moving into southern Livingston and other areas surrounding Ann Arbor.

Which form communities of interest.

It's only a 20 minute drive up the highway.

I know a number of people a number of my friends that live in the Brighton area that work in Ann Arbor.

And so that would form a strong community of interest and would help to improve your partisan fairness metrics.

So once again I would encourage you to look at Chairwoman Szetela's Washtenaw County State House plan in regards to both communities of interest and partisan fairness.

Thank you so much for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 40.

>> I support Commissioner Lange's plan for the Congressional map.

I know many will highlight and rightly so have done here today.

The importance of keeping all of Midland and Gladwin Counties together because of our oppressing and continued watershed needs.

I want to also provide another important community of interest as well.

Our healthcare system which has been brought up.

Our healthcare delivery system, Mid-Michigan health is based in the City of Midland and has hospitals and healthcare centers serving residents in Gladwin, Gratiot, Clare, Ogemaw Counties.

In fact, it's the largest employer in Midland Gladwin Gratiot and Ogemaw Counties.

During the pandemic it's been imperative for the hospitals to advocate with one voice to get us the resources we need.

It also allows residents to have a unified voice when advocating for healthcare policy.

And impacts our area.

I support Congressional Lange's map that reflects this as well.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Number 41 and 42.

>> Hello, my name is Richard spring and I'm a resident of Charlevoix from Charlevoix County.

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You have been told your maps are good enough but by your own evaluation they continue to be bias.

Michigan is a leaning democrat state.

But all the maps currently draw continue to favor republicans.

The party that receives the most votes should win the most seats.

These maps don't do that.

That is unfair.

Which is not much improvement over the deliberately gerrymandered maps from 2010.

So far current maps have a way to go before they can be considered fair.

Thank you for your work thus far and I urge you to finish that work with truly fair maps for everyone.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 42 and 43.

>> My name is Cassandra I'm from Midland.

First, I'd like to thank the Commissioners for the work they have done creating the maps and listening to our voices so far.

I am thrilled to be able to add my voice to that process.

As someone who grew up in buy City and now lives in Midland, I'm happy to see the area called Mid-Michigan united in one Congressional District, that is the Tri-Cities and Flint.

This area contains mid-sized cities with strong industries that anchor each one.

We have shared educational connections for example Delta College, Saginaw valley state University, our high school sports leagues and academic and band competitions.

There are several connected hospital systems.

Covenant McClaren and the birch District is close to having 0 partisan bias and means the District will be competitive and therefore more responsive to all voters not just from one party.

As much as I like this fair and competitive birch map, I do have one suggestion and would like to see more of the County of Midland included.

You can put Tuscola in District ten where it more closely aligns.

Keeping the Tri-Cities in Flint together in District 11 with bit more of Midland County would meet the criteria established by the voters when they passed prop two.

It would give my area the fair and competitive District that we hoped for.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 43.

>> Hello, my name is Alison Wilcox and I'm from Midland.

I'd like to thank you for birch and Pine and keep the Tri-Cities together.

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The medium sized cities are united by businesses and educational and cultural institutions.

we also have common concerns regarding infrastructure like roads and Dams and we are all part of the Tibawasse Saginaw watershed.

I would like to encourage you that any District that includes Midland should also include adjacent Townships rather than ending at the City limits.

Like many cities these outlying areas are part of the Midland community and you can include them putting rural Townships in the thumb out into a different districts.

Because of past gerrymandering Midland has been included with Districts that are mostly rural and small towns.

It has resulted in districts that lean so far republican that it's difficult to recruit democrats to run.

Historically Midland County has been split into two House Districts.

Both of which lean heavily republican.

Republicans win by such large margins that the representatives don't even -- representatives said to me you can talk to me if you want to but it won't make any difference.

For this reason I ask you to keep partisan fairness in mind and I do believe that Midland can be adequately represented if we had more than one representative.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 44 and 45.

>> Hello, my name is Cathleen.

And I was a passionate volunteer for prop two.

And it was an exhilarating as an ordinary citizen taking the redistricting away from the legislature.

I'm a long time resident of Midland and my particular preference is for voting districts that place the City of Midland with our Mid-Michigan area urban communities of the Tri-Cities in Flint.

The maps that keep Midland County in a Congressional District with surrounding rural don't make sense to me.

That kind of District turns a blind eye to communities of interest and helps preserve a strong republican lean.

As for the flooding in Midland County, if we have two voices in Washington working for flood relief all the better.

And the shared waterways of Midland County should not overshadow the other community of interest that we share with the urban communities.

Also impacted are the Saginaw watershed as they are part of the many statewide, I'm sorry, the Dam failures and the flooding that impacted the Saginaw watershed are part

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of many statewide disasters Michiganders are experiencing due to our failing infrastructure.

Oh, boy.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. We would love to hear from you at the public comment portal as well.

Where you can finish your remarks so number 45.

>> I'm 44.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Sorry your 44 please go.

>> Okay, good afternoon.

Thank you for all the work you've done and for allowing me to speak and everyone else here.

My name is Marie.

I'm from Midland Michigan.

And Midland is a diverse urban community.

Which shares much in common with Saginaw, Bay City including a watershed as well as Flint.

These communities have shared common interests while also reflecting a diversity of political perspectives.

All the citizens of these communities deserve to have their voices and concerns and needs addressed by being placed in Congressional Districts that reflect that diversity.

In a fair and representative manner.

Maps that separate Midland from the cities of Bay City, Saginaw and Flint and instead place Midland in districts that only consist of the rural communities that surround it will dilute the voices of Midland's diversity.

The effect will be that the rural concerns will overshadow the minority concerns of the diverse Midland population.

And fair representation will be quashed.

So I'm urging you to please keep Midland in the same districts Saginaw, Bay City and Flint.

The point of having a nonpartisan committee, yourselves to redraw the voting District in Michigan is the efforts of one party and being this power.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 46 and 47.

>> Hello, my name is Jennifer Austin City of Austin I've been logging the comments on the portal concerning Midland in a spreadsheet from May to October 24 there were 905 and 728 were in favor of a Tri-Cities grouping that is 80% of all comments on the subject responding favorably to either a Tri-City Senate District Tri-Cities and Flint Congressional District and/or Midland and Bay City House District.

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I want to look at this from a one person one voice perspective because some people commented more than once 305 and 209 were favor for the districts at 69%.

178 of the total 305 were from Midland.

And 108 favored Tri-Cities legislative districts at 61%.

80% of total comments in favor of Tri-Cities together, 69% of total commenters in favor of the Tri-Cities together and 61% of a Midland respondents in favor of the Tri-Cities together a majority across the board.

And listening to the comments in the coming weeks that you give the same weight to the preceding testimony as you give to today's. A majority of people have already asked you to create Tri-cities legislative groups and you listened.

We are extremely grateful for the fair districts you have created and which representative must earn votes of their constituents before the election and also while in office.

We ask you to keep the Tri-Cities together and Flint together in a Congressional District and maintain the Midland based House District that is almost a perfect 0 political bias.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 47 and 48.

>> My name is Claudia. I live in Midland County. Thank you so much,

Commissioners, for your service for this redistricting process.

My home for the last 40 years has been in the City of Midland.

I volunteered for many political campaigns going door to door and plan events.

I observed firsthand how gerrymander campaign finance and miss information have kept one party in power absolutely.

This one party rule has allowed legislatures to dismiss the ideas and concerns of 45% of Midland County voters.

I'm looking forward to as close to 0 partisan bias in the new legislative districts.

When I tell people where I live, I always say Midland you know west of Bay City.

Near the Saginaw Bay.

In the Tri-Cities.

The Tri-Cities in Flint are mid-sized towns with similar strengths and issues.

We have friends and family in the Tri-Cities.

We have -- we all live in the same Saginaw Bay Tibawasse River watershed.

My neighborhood was flooded when the Dam broke.

In May of 2020.

And then the Tibawasse River continued downstream to our friends and families in Saginaw County.

Proximity watershed, mid-sized towns friends and families, colleges and economic activity are our commonalities, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 48.

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I support the Congressional map birch, the state map cherry and the State House map Pine.

Please start with these maps.

And then continue to improve them until you get the partisan bias as close to possible 0.

Districts need to be competitive for us to have effective representation.

Political fairness must be reflected in all of the final maps.

Thank you so much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Number 52.

>> Good afternoon, Commissioners.

I'm Chris.

From Midland County.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work, determination and consideration as you draw these maps.

I consider it heroic endeavor, much ap appreciated.

One refers to the Dam breach areas of Midland and Gladwin Counties as being a community of interest.

I would suggest the flooded area likely wouldn't have happened had the area had good, motivated representation.

Gerrymandered locations most often produce under motivated and lack luster holders because they are a shoe in for election or reelection.

If the Congressional districts encompassing all the Saginaw watershed are split up in the fashion of Congressional map birch, the flood area will gain the clout of potentially having two legislatures with common goals instead of one.

Leaving this area intact is actually a detriment to obtaining effective representation.

Furthermore the Tri-Cities are very much a natural community of interest.

With shared industries, agricultural, colleges and universities, and sharing in the same watershed.

They should be maintained as such.

Therefore I support Congressional map birch.

I also support State Senate map cherry.

State House map Pine.

Please stick with these maps and continue to improve them.

To get the partisan bias as close to 0 as possible.

Thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Do we have number 53? Are you over 53? Thank you.

You can.

But let's wait until we see, yeah, I believe we may have finished our public comment that has been signed up, signed up public comment.

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>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good.

That means we are on to number 35 Martin G.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Awesome thank you so much for having me.

I'd like to start out with a little quote.

Neither the fanatics or faint hearted are needed. Your duty as democrats, republicans and independents is not to your party alone but your community, your state and your country.

Your duty is not the preservation of political power but the preservation of justice and peace.

So let us not quarrel amongst ourselves on the dignity future of our state is at stake.

Let us not be petty on our cause is so great.

I currently live in Shelby Township and lived in St. Clair shores.

I won the democratic primary for the 8th State Senate District and currently running in that right now.

The District is drawn very unfairly 2-1 in republican favor and noticed how it can be signs getting stolen and it's been an uphill battle.

I would like to say though your job transcends partisan ship and if the situations were reversed in the future when I do plan to run for the State Senate again if it is drawn in the democratic favor I will not run.

I'm saying that right now.

Because our leaders duty is to serve the people, not exploit them.

Thank you for your service.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for your comments.

Number 36 Danielle.

>> Hi, can you hear me? My name is Danielle from the City of Midland.

I'm bothered by the one issue subject focus for many commenters related to Midland.

Flooding is not the only issue I want my representatives for maps to be concerned with.

Michigan in general has flooding issues and will continue to due to climate change.

Midland is not the only community where this is a concern.

The state will need to address flooding as a whole and basing maps on only the watersheds and past flood events does not represent Midland's best interest.

I want to thank you for the maps which keep the Tri-Cities together to truly represent the best interests of these communities.

I want to encourage you as a Commission to continue to focus on political fairness over lower ranked criteria such as County lines as required by the rules of the Commission.

Thank you for the work you have done thus far and remembering that funny looking maps are not gerrymandering as long as they meet the criteria.

Thank you.

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Saginaw Bay City Midland and Flint should be together not only because they have so much in common but also because it creates districts with close to 0 political bias.

And it improves over all fairness of the maps.

I noticed that Midland republicans have consistently asked for Midland and Gladwin to remain together for flood recovery until Commissioner Lange released map number 243.

This gerrymandered map puts Gladwin in another District.

And it splits the watershed.

But it gives congressman Molenaar a safe seat.

Suddenly there are more calls to make Midland a westward facing District and support for Commissioner Lange's map.

I hope the Commission keeps this in mind reviewing concerns about flooding because when they had a chance to get a safe seat the republicans suddenly didn't care about helping Gladwin with flood recovery.

And at the same time they exposed the watershed issue as a red hearing.

That is all.

Thank you for your attention, consideration and hard work.

We will see you again, I'm sure.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 39.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I would just like to have a point of personal privilege.

I would just like to say my maps were not gerrymandered.

There was though intent of gerrymandering.

And I do not like the accusation and I just wanted to say that as a point of personal privilege.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're welcome.

I feel like all of our maps have been accused of being gerrymandered.

So all right moving on number 39, Anthony I'm sorry 39 Anthony Seller.

>> Hi, my most important point today is that the maps are a great improvement over the cheating we've suffered the last two decades but 5% in favor of republicans.

We really worked so hard to get this Commission in place to bring that number to 0.

We really want 0 partisan bias.

Like that is the most important thing.

Thousands of us worked hard to get the law passed.

In 2018.

Because of the partisan bias we've suffered under for so long.

In my County Washtenaw County we have enough population to justify six House Districts, not just five.

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I was inspired by the knitting analogy a woman presented on Rochester Hills on September 30th so here is my analogy.

A very popular proposal passed in 2018 to amend the Michigan State Constitution.

Tasked a group of 13 people with designing the wheel there are 7 including size cost efficiency et cetera.

We will have to use it for the land transportation for the next decade.

The group worked tirelessly with a four sided wheel and six then eight.

As time was running out, they came up with a 12 sided wheel this was the product of their efforts, this is the proposed to the people of Michigan.

But another group came up with a different design that did a much better job of meeting the constitutionally mandated criteria particularly with respect to efficiency.

They designed a round wheel.

The 13 person group knows about the design and opportunity to adopt it and would they let ego pride or anything else to adopt the superior round wheel.

Efficiency is the efficiency gap.

Your maps are the 12 sided wheel and the promote the vote maps are the AFLCIO maps are the round wheel.

Please do the right thing.

Provide us with the best maps that are available.

There is too much riding on it.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 17.

>> My name is Linda and I live in Bay County thank you Commissioners for all that you have done.

Not an easy job.

I M a going to represent the three cities that should stay together.

Midland Bay City Saginaw.

I've heard various arguments on the how this is formed.

They are communities of interest.

We talked about this.

The education, the I75 corridor and keeping the agricultural, urban and getting their setting their best interests at heart.

It is in these communities that we feel that in the past this has not occurred.

They have been separated and so the representative Senator of that area does not meet the needs of the entire community.

It is urgent, this is my opportunity to speak how I feel after 60 years of voting and witnessing this.

I beg you to be careful how you put these maps together.

It's going to last a decade.

And how you choose it.

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I'd like to thank the Commission for the work they are doing for the residents of Michigan.

I also ask the Commission not to split the City of Flint for the State House seats. The City deserves its own representation for all the events after all the events that has happened to the City in the last ten years.

Partisan fairness should be the number one consideration when drawing the lines. That is why I support the AFLCIO fair maps project.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 36.

>> Hello, my name is Katherine. I have been here for 60 years and I partner with the neighborhood action Council.

We work alongside churches schools organizations in the community Black clubs building and restoring and enriching our neighborhoods.

The redistricting maps that I have seen does not work for Flint.

We look like a pie cut into several pieces.

Who represents us? Who are our representatives? And how would the legislature help us in this way? We need a different map one that represents Flint as a whole.

We live in Genesee County and want to be represented as voters and taxpayers in our County and we need a different map.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 37.

>> Too tall right here.

All right.

Hello Commission.

My name is Raymond from by City Michigan and here to represent the young people as a community of interest.

I'm thankful for the current work you're doing.

Thankful for the Congressional map so far.

And I'm thankful for you guys taking on the voice of the people.

I think it's important to remember that you all live here in the state as well as us and you care very much about the future.

So as a young person that grew up in the Tri-City area that came from the public education system, we are a community of interest.

We don't see Tri-City area with boundaries.

We are connected by our family.

Our friends and our community.

We have helped out with the Midland County flood and helped out with the Flint water crisis and elections.

Young people here want jobs.

We want education and homes and a true community.

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This would also likely mean 0 African/American representatives from Flint.  
Flint has been negatively impacted by past decisions of the state Government.  
Resulting in emergency managers and the Flint water crisis.  
We need more representation.

Not less.

Please consider these community concerns as you go through the final versions of this map.

A map was submitted in your portal on behalf of Flint community with reference of P723.  
P723.

P723.

This map is not perfect.

But it is a better option for our community, from our City and for places that people call home throughout our City.

We ask you ensure fair and equitable representation in our community.

Because we need it and we deserve it and we want it.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 157.

>> Good evening, Commissioners.

Thank you very much for your hard work.

My name is Mary.

And I live in the City of Midland but I work in Saginaw and my daughter attends high school in Saginaw.

There are suggestions that the reason that Midland should be put in the same legislative District as Gladwin and Isabella County is because Midland shares the same watershed as these two Counties.

This is, in fact, not logical reasoning.

I will share was you why this reasoning is wrong.

By this reasoning Midland should actually be in the same legislative District with Saginaw and Bay City instead because these three Counties all share parts of the Saginaw Bay watershed.

Although Midland County does indeed share a watershed with Gladwin and Isabella Counties the impact of the communities that share the Saginaw Bay watershed is undistributed because part of Midland into the Tibawassee Township which is why parts of Midland County are regulated by the Saginaw area storm water authority.

Furthermore free land and other parts of Saginaw County were devastated by the aftermath of Midland's flood in 2020.

Plus pollution from Midland industries drains downstream and has been a longstanding problem with these parts of Saginaw County for many years.

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We call Saginaw Midland and Bay City the Tri-Cities because these three cities together have a longstanding common economic shares and please keep Tri-Cities together in the same legislative districts because we need to work together for our common issues.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 158.

>> Greetings, my name is Ashley young and I would like to say that Flint needs its own representative.

The City should not be split.

Genesee County will not have minority representation with the current maps because of the split of the City of Flint and African/American population.

Flint has is and has historically been faced with unique challenges facing the City and we need our own representative.

Based on the current maps, that may not happen.

And so we thank you for the work that you have done.

You have not done it in vain.

And I can only imagine what it is to be in your position and we ask that you continue working.

Because you accepted this position to serve the people and to serve the people is to take those things into consideration.

So go back to the drawing board and like the gentleman with the hard hat said we believe you can draw fair map.

Keep working at it and don't split us up.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. All right that was a great Finale I believe that concludes our public live in person public commentary for the evening.

Is there anybody I missed? All right without objection we are going to take a ten-minute recess.

It is currently 7:08.

Hearing no objection we are going to recess until 7:20.

Thank you very much everybody.

At that point we will move on to the remote commentary.

[ Recess ]

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I call this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 7:23 p.m.

Will the secretary please call the roll.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Absolutely Madam Chair.

Commissioners please say present when I call your name.

If you're attending today's meeting remotely, please disclose during roll call you are attending remotely as well as where you are attending from.

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To make sure that we give Bangla Town a voice with respect to representation.  
Please review the State Senate maps in Troy or the State Senate map.  
We want to make sure that the AAPI community and Troy is not disenfranchised so please consider including Sterling Heights more so where there is an Asian community.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Jennifer Austin.

>> Hello Jennifer Austin.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Jennifer can I stop you? After you use your one minute can you stay on for a second? I actually have a follow-up question for you so don't jump off at one minute.

>> Hello Jennifer Austin City of Midland.

I wanted to let the Commission I and many people from Midland and Tri-Cities appreciate the important work you are doing.

I believe the Commission has partisan fairness and the best interests of Michigan at heart.

The maps are not ready yet but I have faith in the process and also in the people who have undertaken this mission.

I'm especially grateful for the Tri-City drawn for Midland Bay and Saginaw there is 3-4% difference in the lean and it's not negotiable and the District is winnable by any party.

I'm looking forward to the candidates that will run in this election because the best candidate will have to prove themselves to voters and that is the best outcome for the Tri-Cities.

I'm a democrat but not asking for safe blue districts.

We want to have a chance, districts with near 0 political bias will boost voter turnout and engagement and bring more people to the table so all voices are heard.

And that is the goal of this isn't it to make the voices of Michiganders heard.

Thank you so much for making that possible.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay so my follow-up question for you is in a previous hearing you had mentioned that you had specifically tabulated and calculated the comments related to Midland and that you had analyzed that it was I think 60% in favor being with the Tri-Cities.

I'm wondering if you have that analysis and if you would feel comfortable sending it to us.

>> I can definitely do that.

So I don't know if that was at the last time because I've done this twice.

So the most recent tabulation was the one I talked about in Gaylord maybe.

I don't remember now.

Yeah, I can sent you that.

The Google document is that what you're looking for?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, just the data.

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economic impact of these communities. They are linked not only in the recovery but their culture and in their environment. So please consider the integration of these into the maps. We like Commissioner Lange's Congressional map but I think the integration of Midland and Gladwin County along with the City of Midland is important. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Nicholas, number 46.

>> Hello, my name is Nicholas long time resident of St. Clair shores in Macomb County. I see what you do with the latest Senate map drawing the cities together in District 7. But I see this is not enough of a commonality for the cities to be considered a community of interest. People who live up in new Baltimore and Anchorville and to the island have no interest in being associated with Wayne County. This is probably why they live so far away from them. Especially considering the residents of Harper Woods are being disenfranchise by being included with the cities along Lake St. Clair. People who live in Wayne should not be included in the Senate District. I appreciate the work you are doing but please think about this and please make some changes to this map. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. We are going to go back to 14 Porter Abbott.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Porter if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Good morning.

>> Thank you. Good morning.

My full name is Horice. I'm a long time citizen of Leelanau County and wanted to add my voice to continue moving to partisan balance and redistricting. I also wanted to comment on the effect of succession of earlier maps with their continuing partisan imbalance was having on me and my fellow citizens in Leelanau and it's paranoid a hidden agenda which is the last thing we need in the committal climate. You have been working hard to correct this imbalance and aiming to achieve a clean break from the political gerrymandering that has been the rule of Michigan every ten years. Keep up the good work and thank you for letting me speak.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. All right we are going to go to number 47, which is Ciara.

>> Good morning, Commissioners. I'm from Mid-Michigan and today I'd like to say thank you for the latest Senate map. And for listening to Michiganders. This is the most fair Senate map so far and could be adopted as a final draft. Please work on a partisanly fair State House map as well. Regarding the Senate map, I like that District 35 includes both Mount Pleasant and Alma areas and see that District 1 includes the Tri-Cities as it should. So thank you for your work and keep it up.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Marie number 48.

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>>.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Marie if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>>.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Marie if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission. It looks like Marie may be experiencing audio issues, I recommend we move on to the next participant.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay all right we will move on to number 49, Josie.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, 50, chase Murphy.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Hi, my name is chase Murphy I was born and raised and currently reside in the Grand Rapids area. I'm urging you to fix the area maps for the State Senate. I would like to sue a few changes and get rid of farming they are not with GR and Walker and heard a lot about keeping Ottawa whole and rural rural. You probably remember that. The most important thing to have community of interest and a State Senate District that can be won by either party move the border between 23 to 24 and follow wealthy along Fulton splits the heritage neighborhood. And they talked about the line and did not want to move it to split the Black population but that is incorrect. They are only 10% Black so moving these precincts from 23 to 24 increases the black voting age. Add the population difference adding the northern difference in Gaines Township in Kentwood school District and have a significant minority population. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 51, Chris Andrews.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, hi. I'm Chris Andrews from Haslett. And thank you for considering individual elections for fairness analysis. Here are some requests. Analyze Senate maps using gubernatorial elections when Senators are elected. Outcomes might be much different. The 2016 Presidential election was a virtual tie. As such 2020 and 55 are ideal fairness. Please save and post partisan analysis of completed maps including District projections so we can make informed comments. Consider other fairness metrics besides seat votes. Three Senate seats categorized as democratic have victory margins of 51% or less. These are toss up not democratic. I've posted detailed comment at #how fair. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Allen Poehl.

>> Pail but I get that a lot. I wanted to say a couple quick things one I know lefty activists can rave about 0 partisan fairness until the end of time but at the end of the day communities of interest out rank partisan fairness in the Constitution. Your lawyers

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# Tri Cities

## Basic Info

Submitter: Cindy Munro Munro  
Location: Midland  
Submitted: 11/4/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w8730

## Tags

#midland

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I would like to thank the Commission for drawing a state Senate district that includes the cities of Midland, Bay City, and Saginaw... also known as the Tri Cities. These 3 cities are an obvious community of interest who all have industrial based businesses, a shared tri city airport, several shared media outlets, regional colleges and universities, and together we are considered the Great Lakes Bay Area ... That is what I believe is considered a community of interest. That is my comment regarding the State Senate District and I urge the commission to keep that map.

I would also like to request the commission to include the City of Midland in a Congressional map along with Bay City, Saginaw and Flint. These cities are the core of Mid-Michigan and a community of interest for all the same reasons stated above for the State Senate district. We identify as the Tri Cities, and should stay together in both the State Senate and Congressional districts. Thank you for the work you are doing, hearing us, and making changes based on our comments. I am looking forward to seeing the new maps with districts drawn that are fair and competitive, which will in turn make for better governing.

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# Keep Midland County as is

## Basic Info

Submitter: David Johnson

Location: Midland

Submitted: 11/4/2021

Type: written

ID: w8763

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Do NOT split up Midland County and align any of it with Saginaw, Bay City and Flint. Keep Midland County with Gladwin and Isabella counties.

David and Susan Johnson

2440 N Jefferson Rd,

Midland, MI 48642

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## Map it right - the Tri-Cities

### Basic Info

Submitter: Kelly Krause

Location: Sanford

Submitted: 11/4/2021

Type: written

ID: w8758

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Please put the Midland-Bay City- Saginaw districts on at least ONE of the maps that you put forward for the 45 day comment period. You had this district on the original Pine map, but then it was removed on all the versions that you are now considering.

These three cities are communities of interest to each other. They have physical, (Rivers and watershed basins, bay areas) economic, and educational connections(automotive workers, colleges and universities). It just makes sense that they have representation by members of Congress that have a connection to their cultures and each other.

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# Redistricting of Midland and Gladwin

## Basic Info

Submitter: Patrick Smith

Location: Midland

Submitted: 11/4/2021

Type: written

ID: w8722

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Please keep the counties of Midland and Gladwin together in the redistricting plan. We have many of the same needs and concerns such as the flood issues and reconstruction of the dams lost in last year's flood. These two counties share many other needs such as our MidMichigan Health system and the Saginaw Bay Watershed.

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gerrymandering in this District. And that is just not the definition of gerrymandering. This is a fair competitive District. In which either party has the potential to win. So it just doesn't fit those talking points. And please.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 13, Ciara-Lowe.

>> Thank you for incorporating feedback but the State House maps still need work. Partisan fairness is the most important thing to keep in mind when drawing the State House map just like the State Senate map. Folks are complaining about gerrymandering tell and focusing on partisan fairness is the way to combat that, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 14, Lori Lisi.

>> Can you guys hear me yet.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Okay sorry my name is Lori Lisi from hunting ton Woods and want to thank you for your pain staking work. This is the third time speaking before you and my message is the same. I consistently have been asking for fairness in your maps. Myself and many others stood in the rain and snow to collect signatures for this initiative and went door to door and the message we heard from those at the doors was consistently they would vote for this because of fairness. Your house map is not even close to a 0 efficiency gap. That's a very objective measure that you guys can use to when choosing your final maps. If you are running out of time there is no shame in adopting other ideas. In fact, there is wisdom in using other good maps that have been submitted to you guys. And I would ask why maps were encouraged to be submitted if there was though intention to possibly use them or look to them. Thank you again for your good faith efforts and keep up the good work, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 16, Laurie Evans.

>> Good morning, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you, good morning, my name is Lauri Evans 24 resident of Troy. When I first viewed the final drafts of the State House District maps the Commission produced, I was relieved to see a Troy District that kept our City intact and showed attention to communities of interest and partisan fairness these are two of the goals I worked hard for campaigning for proposal two. I'm here because of the suggestion the Commission may now be considering dividing Troy across districts. Undoing partisan fairness and unnecessarily dividing a City that is uniquely united across a diverse population. I'm deeply concerned about a proposal to divide Troy. Excuse me while Troy is a large City the largest in Oakland County it is a unique integrity. We are unified around shared economic, social, educational and recreational resources. Dividing Troy and dividing our representation would create a damaging split in what is a natural community of

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result in the very thing this Commission was designed to eliminate. So to make fair and representative maps these Lake sure communities need to have fair representation and again I advocate for the apple map because I think it does the best job and keeps our lakeshore communities and their interests together. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 61, Donyale-Stephen-Atara.

>> Good morning.

I'm Donyale. I will enter my comments into the portal so you can have my full statement. I've already commented on the maps in the portal but for the record chestnut requires more work. And I do not support version two of cherry since you are unwilling to allow Commissioner Brittini Kellom to make the map more equitable for Detroit and its ability to select an African/American to have a fighting chance to run and win the District. I hope that you will be more open today to completing the Pine version five house map with her assistance. Instead of attempting to mute her. The attempts to silence her voice while addressing the various comments from the African/American community incorporate those comments into a more workable map for our community are disappointing and concerning. Thank you to Commissioner Kellom and Juanita Curry for listening to the concerns of Detroiters. Please continue to make the VRA revisions to the maps. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 62, Kathy Leikhim.

>> My name is Cathy from the City of Midland please supine version five State House map because it keeps Midland whole and connected to Gladwin. And I'm asking why there is no Congressional map that puts Midland and Gladwin back together in a separate digit from Flint. I posted a link to the portal from of a Detroit news Article award Midland Gladwin region 54 million to aid in flood recovery. This Article is a great example of how unified voices and representation helps our community. Please consider a Congressional map that does the same as Pine version five. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 63, Diane Karabetsos.

>> Hello.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Hello we can hear you.

>> Great, I'm Diane I'm an elderly resident of this point. I wanted to comment on what a strong community of interest we are. I feel under Snyder we lost our voice. It's fun to make fun of Grosse Pointers but it's not funny when you lose your voice. We were gerrymandered and diluted in our voice. The top of the points we are connected horizontally with Detroit and the bottom three Grosse Pointe cities and connected with Detroit. But we residents spend a lot of effort, time and money in our own interests on education, social, economic, et cetera. I feel that we don't have a voice. And if you look

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# Keep Midland/Bay City together

## Basic Info

Submitter: Linda Barth  
Location: Midland City  
Submitted: 11/5/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w8795

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

We have waited for more than 10 years and thankfully because of the determination of the citizenry of this state we have finally moved the drawing of voting districts from the state legislature to an INDEPENDENT commission. To get to this point citizens of the state through the hard work of Voters NOT POLITICIANS worked tirelessly to get this issue on the ballot. When the people of Michigan voted, the initiative passed by nearly a million votes, or 61.27% of the Michigan voters. The task you accepted came with great responsibility. It required that you ignore the pleading of those more interested in maintain power than fulfilling the will of the people. I'm sure the pressure has been overwhelming. As a citizen my only request of you is that you not take your eye off the ball. This commission is the result of Michigan citizens tired of having their votes "controlled" by politicians. It should be clear enough the path the country is heading if we as citizens and you as the commission do not take the voices of the voters of Michigan seriously. Whether one side sends in 500 responses and another only 250 it should not impact the overall criteria of your work which INCLUDES political fairness. As a business person in Midland for more than 40 years I've watched as the city has time and time again had their votes watered down by adding county townships who have no real commonality. Many times the votes that come out of our city overwhelming favor a proposal or candidate which is then unraveled when rural votes are counted. For the citizens of our city to have a voice in the state legislature they

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should be joined with Bay City. I've noticed that those speaking to keep us as one county and also include Gladwin, another highly populated rural community, use the WATERSHED and the FLOOD as a reason to maintain a near status quo. Our flooding in 2020 had more to do with a failed dam system and a decision to preserve city pumping stations than a watershed issue. Bay City and Saginaw are part of the watershed as well so a case could be made that it's just as important to include them. Ours is a city of commerce. Our activities often compliment those of Bay City as theirs compliment ours. I implore you to stay focused on your objective, overall fairness. Don't allow partisan pressure to sway your decision. I appreciate the hard work you've done to this point. It can't be easy being bombarded from every side. I do hope, however, that your highest commitment is to the will of the people for fairer representation. We are counting on you to do the right thing.

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republican plus two independents who are democrats based upon their activities. I'm not going to name the names I named them last time but you know who they are. All right so this issue needs to be resolved. Self-identification is an independent doesn't work. Better vetting criteria needs to be implemented by this Commission.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I believe we have number 11 and 12 who have joined us so number 11, please.

>> Kathy from the City of Midland. Thank you, Commissioners Wagner Lange and Clark, for hearing the voices of the thousands of flood victims in Midland and Gladwin Counties and working to put forward the Pine version five State House map. Can you please apply the same logic and simply make a tweak to one of your existing Congressional maps? Just a tweak. At least to give an option that puts Midland County back together and in a separate District from Flint because both cities have different needs from the Government. The Federal Government recently awarded the Midland Gladwin region 54 million dollars to aid in flood recovery and mitigation. A perfect example of how unified representation in our Government helps a community of interest. I'm not asking for a major overhaul. I'm simply asking that you do for our flood victims what you've done for so many other communities around the state when you've heard differing views. Tweak the map to provide another option. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 12.

>> My name is Bill Schuette, some have advised me not to say anything fearing the Commission would get mad and punish my hometown but that is what is occurring I stopped being intimidated but I bullies long ago. Disenfranchise Detroiters it fractures Midland and County of Midland and do three bad things, three bad things, one separate mid myth health main campus from the rest of the operations to the north and west. Two separate Dow companies headquarters from employees related businesses in Midland and Gladwin. And three diminish Dam repair and flood reduction efforts as Midland is trying to recover from three monster flood in 86, 2017 and 2020 that people have lost count. Three bad things would be political gerrymandering. Don't do three bad things. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I believe we have no 13 at the moment. So we will now move on to remote public comment.

So individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide live, remote public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. I will call on your name and our staff will unmute you. If could are on a computer you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute and speak.

If you are on the phone, a voice will say that the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute. I will call on you by your name.

If you experience technical or audio issues and we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move on to the next person in line and then return to you after they are

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wishing we are going to have a fair maps. The Senate map cherry V2 seems to achieve that. I'm glad that Washtenaw and County and Jackson County are united. The Congressional and house maps are not, are favoring the republican or minority party and I think you can do better. Promote the vote has maps that score well on political fairness. I hope you will look at that. We need to strive hard to obtain fairness to help heal our divisions, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 29, James Scott.

>> Jane if you can unmute you are free to address the Commission.

>> My name is Jane Scott and I'm a 32 year resident of the City of Midland. On behalf of the thousands of flood victims in Midland and Gladwin County I want to thank you for proposing Pine version five stat house map recognizing flood recovery and reduction needs. I would ask you to tweak the apple map at the Congressional level to align with these community needs. Currently there are no Congressional maps that do this.

In fact, all the Congressional maps keep the City of Midland with Flint. Our cities have different social, economic, cultural and industrial needs. When this Commission has heard differing views around the state, you have provided alternative map versions. Please do the same for your Congressional maps for Midland. Keep Midland County with Gladwin County in a separate District from Flint. And thank you very much for your time and all your efforts.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 30, Linda Pell.

>> Hi, my name is Linda Pell a long-term resident of Calhoun County. I want to thank the Commissioners for taking on this important and complex task. I urge you to keep the cities of Battle Creek and Albion together in the same State House District. Over 16% of our County population is Black with the overwhelming majority of people of color living in these two cities. Splitting the cities apart greatly diminishes their ability to have a voice in state governance. Many organizations in these two cities share a mission of strengthening the Commissioner education and health prospects and making them a clear community of interest. This State House District is a competitive seat. Evidenced by a 50-50 split between democrats and republicans elected in the past three decades. This District clearly meets the standard for partisan fairness. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 31, Colleen.

>> I'm from Brownstown Township in Wayne County. The Michigan State house needs the same partisan fairness in adherence to the Constitution that was shown in drawing the Michigan Senate maps. I appreciate the public comments were considered when drawing the Pine version five map and I support that map for the State House. Please continue your good work. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 32, Soh, Suzuki.

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happened in 2011. And mostly I want to say please be successful. We need you to so we need you to succeed at this task so please you are the heroes of 2021.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 96, Julie.

>> Good morning can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Good morning yes.

>> Yes, I've been watching your hearings. You have called out republicans for participating in the process yet all the maps proposed for the City of Midland and Midland County come directly from the Midland County democrats talking points. With the exception of the Pine V5 State House map there are no State Senate or Congressional maps that keep the City of Midland with the rest of the County and the District with our Gladwin neighbors. Midland's flood recovery and reduction needs are not partisan. As we've said since this process began in May the flood waters don't care what party was voted for but what does matter is that making sure all of our voices are heard and that our area maps are representative of our community and its needs. With that please tweak your State Senate map and apple Congressional map to include all of Midland and Gladwin Counties in districts together and separate from Flint. All voices need to be heard.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 98, Marcy Paul.

>> Good morning I'm Marcy Paul from West Bloomfield and I've been watching this process intently because I strongly supported prop two like millions. And I was tired like most people speaking today of seeing the party that got the most votes statewide continue to be in the minority in the house both the house and Senate, State House and Senate. And this remains my main concern because the flawed analysis that you're using is producing the very issues that we tried to solve in prop two. For instance if you look at 20 -- using the 2016 election if it was applied to your current house map republicans won by 10,000 votes and would have at least 18 seats majority. But if the 2018 results were applied where the democrats won by far more substantial 10% of the vote, they would have the same 18 seat.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 99, Evette McRoy.

>> Hello, can you hear me now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> All right, good morning.

The Commission has heard from hundreds of people asking for better representation for Detroit. Now that your experts say you can go over 50% for the number of Black voters in a District, this should make it much easier for you to make the necessary changes to improve representation for Detroit. It seemed that what was holding you back from making big changes was your interpretation of the VRA. We want communities of

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partisan fairness number. If you get it down to 0, or very close to 0, in all the maps, the story will be that Michigan's redistricting process succeeded. If you don't, they will say you just created new gerrymandered maps to replace the old ones. That one number is what really matters, so please prioritize it. And thanks for the great work you are doing. I'm so grateful that you're not engaged in partisan bickering, good job, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 105 Lisa.

>> I'm Lisa from Northville Michigan. I'm a democrat. But I'm not asking you to draw maps that favor democrats or maps that favor republicans. As yesterday's NBC news Article stated republicans are trying to manipulate your Commission in their favor by concentrating on communities of interest. These pack democrats and prevent partisan fairness. Don't let them manipulate you. Fair districts help those parties minimizing the election of extremists. Michigan has seen a rise in extremists after ten years of gerrymandering. On January 6, Americans, American saw an insurrection but an extremist faction stop the cycle and draw fair districts. It's good for republicans and democrats. It's good for Michigan. Most importantly it's imperative for our democracy.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 106 Ann.

>> Hi, my name is Ann and I live in Midland County. I know you have heard a lot of comments these past few months and from watching these hearings you have done a good job of offering communities alternative versions of maps. I'm sorry. When there are differing views. Unfortunately for the thousands of flood victims of Midland and Gladwin County, there are no Congressional maps that keep the entire Counties of Midland and Gladwin together.

In fact, there are no Congressional maps that separate the City of Midland from Flint. Please don't discriminate against our community by not offering us the same consideration. Please tweak your apple Congressional map to give the victims of Midland and Gladwin Counties a chance to have their voices heard.

We need unified representation at the Congressional level. Midland and Gladwin Counties should be kept whole and together in a Congressional District that is separate from Flint. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 109.

>> Good morning. First thank you for your service. My name is Calila Spencer and I'm a homeowner in West Bloomfield since 2004 and live in a gerrymandered District and serve as the Chair of the legal redress community for NAACP and secretary of Detroit NAACP and pleasure of serving as board president for promote the vote. It's not a political organization and has gone through great lengths not to get caught up in Commission politics and try to serve as a resource and there is a path for Michiganders and fully expect the Commission to follow it. I encourage you to consider promote the vote Congressional and house maps in final deliberation because they are fair and equitable. No map is perfect but Congressional map does a better job with advocate and fair represent takes for communities of interest and making sure no political party

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has unfair advantage. Please submit the maps for the final portal for consideration and again thank you for your service.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Rosa holiday.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rosa, if you can unmute you are free to address the Commission.

>> Good morning I'm Rosa holiday from resident of Bay City. And I'm very concerned about having fair representation. We have a chance through you to receive that. So far, our maps have been favoring republicans by a large margin. And so that should be changed. We have been gerrymandered for over a decades. And if you can draw maps that reflect a 0 bias and that would be great for all of us here in Michigan. And so I want to thank you for the maps that the birch version two Congressional map for our area the cherry version two, Senate map. And if you can work on that Pine house map. But thank you so much, Commissioners, for your work and I really appreciate what you are doing, just do the right.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Amanda Oster number 113.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Amanda, if you can unmute you are free to address the Commission.

>> Can you hear me now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Perfect thank you. Thank you, Commissioners Wagner Lange and Clark, for hearing the voices of thousands of flood victims like myself in Midland and Gladwin Counties and working to put forward Pine V5 State House map. I would encourage you to take another look at the Congressional maps to put forward an option that keeps Midland and Gladwin in entirety together in one District. There are currently no Congressional maps that do this. All of the proposed versions put the City of Midland with Flint. Flint has competing interests from ours and would dilute the voice of thousands who need unified representation please tweak your maps and keep Midland and Gladwin Counties together in a separate District from Flint. Over half of our community voices have been dismissed give Midland a Congressional District that puts us back together in a separate District from Flint. Our communities are vastly different why are there no alternative maps that provide this option for the public's consideration? Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 114, Richard Williamson.

>> I'm Richard Williamson from Grandville and Kent County thank you for your work on the State House maps your work on Pine map version five truly reflects the public comments of West Michiganders and creates fair and representative Districts. Thank you. It is appreciated. As you finalize the State Senate maps, please refer to public comment and keep Ottawa County mostly whole and Kent County mostly whole. When

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I very much appreciate the Commissioner's work to ensure the statewide partisan fairness and representation for all Michiganders and hope you continue not to prioritize one group over another. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number four is Jennifer Austin.

>> Hello Jennifer Austin, City of Midland. Thank you for your historic work in ungerrymandering our maps. Although none of the maps meet partisan fairness standards, they are a vast improvement. I especially want to thank you for reuniting the Tri-Cities in Mid-Michigan. I support Chestnut for Congressional because it keeps District 8 counties whole and adds most of Midland. And Linden for Senate with the Tri-Cities District. And I like the Szetela State House map for Midland District. But if that is not available for the initial vote and not going to address partisan fairness further on the House maps, I support Hickory with the changes made to Detroit made by Kellom and Curry.

But I want more clarification on the voting process. You need to determine how the voting structure will work and outline every step of the process and inform the public of the procedures. For example, will the maps be voted on a ballot or up and down vote on each map until you get to a winner? What happens if more than one map in a category meets two democrats and two republicans, two unaffiliated standard? And what is the final decision to move to a ranked choice voting? And when will the individual maps be up for consideration? We need very clear procedures put in place to be sure the public understands and the Commission follows preapproved protocol. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Five, Essence Wilson.

>> Good morning. My name is Essence Wilson. And I'm a resident of Flint and wanted to share I believe for your proposed Congressional map the Chestnut or Birch version two maps are the best and for your proposed State Senate maps the Linden or Cherry version two maps are best. However, I feel that comment about in the State House have not been accurately reflected. Flint needs to preserve a majority-minority District, but the entire City of Flint should not be packed in a single District which would be a clear and obvious partisan gerrymander.

Flint should retain a majority Black seat while allowing us the opportunity to elect a second seat when possible.

The submitted map P7273 does this and should be used as a guide for the Commission in determining a State House map for the City of Flint. The Commission should also ensure that the partisan split of Genesee is reflected in the overall County State House map.

Please do not subject us to ten years of partisan gerrymander in our City when better options have been submitted to the Commission.

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And it contains the changes that Kellom and Curry made to the Detroit area.

Thank you so much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 11, Jill Haver-Crissman.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Hi. My name is Jill from Midland, Michigan.

I want to applaud your professional and congenial behavior as a group through this very arduous process. Thank you and keep it up.

Your collaborative Congressional and Senate map metrics showed efforts to create fair maps that reflect our electorate. The House are hard to shake.

The Chestnut Congressional map is the most fair statewide. I like it keeps most of Midland County with all of Bay, Saginaw and Genesee Counties in a competitive District. The Linden Senate and Hickory House maps are the best collaborative maps overall in partisan fairness, although the Szetela House map is better.

I hope in the voting process you will continue to be models of democracy in action. Remember Voters Not Politicians, fairness, nonpartisanship and please vote for the Chestnut Congressional, Linden Senate and Hickory or Szetela for House maps. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 12, Margaret.

>> Hi. I'm Margaret from Ann Arbor. Thank you all for your dedication. I appreciate how you have listened to the public comments and I've adjusted the maps along the way.

Regarding the woman who spoke earlier about combining rural Jackson County with Washtenaw County and saying it's like inviting the Buckeyes into the big House, well maybe so. But at least the game would be competitive and the playing field level. The current maps give one team a 10 point victory before the game even begins.

On the Congressional maps, the Szetela map is the best and only map to have a perfect partisan fairness score.

The Birch map is also fair.

For Senate Linden, Kellom and Szetela maps come closest to fairness, but they still favor one party and require tweaking.

I ask you to do more on the House maps. While Hickory comes closest, none of the House maps would represent an outcome that accurately reflects the way we vote. I don't want to delay the process, but an extra 45 days pales in comparison than living with unfair maps for ten years. And please continue your good work and redo the House maps. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 13, Jan.

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We think that will give citizens a strong voice with similar issues in environmental, industrial, economic concerns.

We also support Birch version two.

For State Senate we support the Linden map consolidating much of the Tri-Counties of Saginaw Bay and Midland. These three Counties have well established common interests as well.

The Palm map is unacceptable because it has the worst partisan scores. For State House, as others have said, Hickory is the best; but we think there could be continued work on that for partisan fairness.

So, again, we urge you to stay the course and adopt Chestnut, Linden and Hickory with some changes and to...

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 36, Andrew.

>> Hi, everyone. I'm Andy and live in Ann Arbor and I want to thank the Commission for all your hard work on our behalf. The main message I have is we want you to please continue working on the State House maps. None of the House maps proposed so far are fair. And currently all the House maps give the majority of seats to minority of voters.

I understand that with 110 House Districts, this is a complex challenge; but it is critical. Of the Congressional maps, I prefer the Birch version two, Chestnut and Szetela of the State Senate maps. The fairest I think are Linden and Cherry version two. Thank you so much for all your hard work on behalf of the citizens of Michigan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 37, Lisa.

>> Hello. Thank you for listening to me personally. Hi, thank you for listening to me personally in the past and also to the public.

I support the Congressional Birch and Senate Linden maps.

I'm commenting today because I'm concerned with the partisan gerrymandering in the House maps that many people have mentioned due to hesitancy to break up cities. Packing cities will make the urban rural divide worse over the next ten years. And as you have seen throughout this process, it already polarizes the people of Michigan.

I urge the Commission to revisit the House maps and do better.

Several organizations have submitted fairer maps, particularly next vote.

It is possible to achieve more competitive, unpacked districts in the House maps. And, as others have said, it's important to get this last piece right. And I support you in doing so even if it takes a bit longer.

If not, I support Hickory and Szetela.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 39, Sarah.

>> Good morning, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

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# College Student Supports Chestnut

## Basic Info

Submitter: John R. Nosal

Location: Midland

Submitted: 11/21/2021

Type: written

ID: w9084

## Tags

[#midland](#) [#bay city city](#) [#saginaw](#)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

To whom it may concern,  
As a young person who has grown up in the city of Midland, I have always known my hometown to be politically competitive. However, due to the extent of gerrymandering in Michigan my whole life, it has always been biased towards one political party. Midland is one of the tri-cities, and local issues tend to revolve around the three as a whole instead of separate entities. This is why I am endorsing the map called Chestnut since it finally combines the tri-city region into one. All three cities should be equally heard in the U.S. Congress by a single congressman or congresswoman. This change is the exact reason why I am proud to say that I was one of the signatures on the initial petition which allowed this commission to be voted on in the 2018 election. Thank you for doing your job in a non-partisan and skillful way by creating the map called Chestnut. I fully support Chestnut, and I hope this becomes the final confirmed map. The tri-cities are politically competitive, and they all should be in the same congressional district.  
J.R. Nosal

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# Mid-Michigan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Brandon  
Location:  
Submitted: 11/22/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9093

## Tags

#midland #bay city city #saginaw  
#mid michigan #flint #chippewa river  
#tittabawassee river #house districts  
#pine river

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I think that Bay, Saginaw, Midland, and Genesee Counties should be in the same federal house district at the very least. I grew up in Midland and think areas such as Big Rapids or Cadillac that are in the same district as us in the current federal district map don't really have much in common with us, and as such would like to keep the aforementioned counties in one district, at least to the best of the Commission's ability. Other areas that would be good to include in this district would be areas around the Tittabawassee River, or even areas near the Chippewa River and Pine River that just flow into it.

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Thank you so much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 29.

>> Hello, Commission.

My name is Mr. Dotson from the City of Flint.

I lived there and a business owner there.

I'm here to recommend map P7273. Did I say that right? So I think it's important that we clearly, I've been to a couple of these meetings now and it seems that is what the residents want.

And I know there are people and you're doing your best to please everyone.

I know it's hard and it's impossible. But seems as though we have to stay as close as we can to the demographic area. And it seems to me it speaks the best P7273, so appreciate it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I believe that concludes our public comment. I just want to do one last call for number 21, which I believe Austin was the last name, and see if that person is here.

Okay, all right, thank you for your comments this morning.

At this point we are going to move on to the live, remote public commentary.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated they would like to provide live remote public commentary to the Commission will be allowed to do so. I will call on your name and our staff will unmute you.

If you are on a computer, you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak.

If you are on the phone, a voice will say that the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute.

I will call on you by your last name or the last four digits of your phone number. Also, please note that if you experience technical or audio issues or if we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move onto the next person in line and return to you when they are done speaking.

If your audio still does not work you can email [redistricting@michigan.gov](mailto:redistricting@michigan.gov) and we will help you troubleshoot so that you can participate at a next public comment period at a later hearing or meeting. You will have one minute to address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

The first person in line for public comment is James Gallant. Please wait a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Yes, James Gallant, Marquette, these are my opinions. One minute is absolutely unreasonable. And in response to the Detroit Free Press, the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission has the legal right to define the constitutional mandates until those efforts are overturned by the Michigan Supreme Court. This is that change the rules attempting to reboot the system thing. And you all know my concerns. So as a public service, I'm urging anyone who wants to challenge the

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Thank you very much to the Commission for all their hard work and please consider voting for Hickory and Linden to become our maps. Thank you.  
Have a nice day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 13, Naomi-Ludman.

Are you available?

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> All right. Thank you. My name is Naomi-Ludman from Cass County in the southwest corner of the state. I want to say given that unfortunately communities of interest have not really been taken into consideration, I have to fall back to partisan fairness as being the most important criteria at this point.

I want to plead with the Commission to consider the issue of partisan fairness.

The map that comes closest to this to giving each party a chance to have a competitive race is the State House for Hickory.

State Senate map would be Linden or Cherry as many said the Congressional districts, I guess for the Congressional districts it would be Chestnut.

So thank you for considering these maps as you vote.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 14, which is Mary Murphy.

>> That participant is not present. Move on to number.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 15.

>> Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So 15, Greg Hodgman.

>> I'm Greg Hodgman, Kalamazoo resident for over 50 years fair nonpartisan maps are critical.

The Palm State Senate map has the most partisan unfairness and should be rejected. There is partisan unfairness on other maps. And the Hickory House map currently has the best partisan fairness.

Please continue your good work and adopt as final maps the least partisan maps allowing the party that receives the most votes to win the most seats. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number, I'm sorry, number 16.

>> Good morning. Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you. Good morning, Commissioners. I'm LaCracha Handy from Flint County, Genesee County. And every map has a republican bias and this is unacceptable. Please prioritize partisan fairness and choose the fairest maps. In the

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Senate, Linden and Cherry are much better in terms of partisan fairness than Palm. So vote no on Palm.

In the House all of the maps contain too much republican bias.

Hickory is the fairest.

So please vote, yes, on Hickory.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 16, 17, Art Reyes.

>> Good morning. My name is Art Reyes, a lifelong resident of Genesee County. And, as I do every time, I want to thank you for putting in the efforts that you have and doing this.

I know it's not an easy process, but it is absolutely vital for the health of our democracy here in Michigan.

I do urge you to vote for either Cherry version two or Linden in the Senate. But it's absolutely unacceptable to me that the 34th District, or whatever new number it would have, has disappeared.

The Hickory map does have the least partisan advantage.

But you need to go back to the drawing board if the City of Flint cannot have its own representative.

It has very specific issues that have been cast nation and worldwide. And we need to be sure that Flint has a voice that is ensuring that that stuff does not happen again.

In the Senate again Cherry version two or Linden. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 18, Sarah W.

>> Hello, Commissioners. Thank you for listening to the citizens of Michigan and continuing to work towards fair maps.

I wanted to talk today as a resident of Grand Rapids on the maps that are affecting us here in West Michigan.

I appreciate the collaborative maps that the committee or the Commission has put together for the State House.

I think the collaborative maps generally represent our communities of interest pretty effectively.

I also just wanted to express some concerns about the Szetela House map.

The COIs here in Kent County and West Michigan are not represented there.

And the voices of our citizens are not represented in that map.

Our second largest City, Wyoming, is split into multiple areas despite having a strong community of interest with the Hispanic communities of Grand Rapids.

The Hickory map also appears to be the fairest statewide of the collaborative maps.

And for State Senate I'm concerned about the lack of partisan fairness for the Palm map.

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Number 52, Dorothy Munson.

>> I'm Dorothy Munson, representing the Grand Rapids nonpartisan election protection coalition in the foundation.

The Senate Linden map would provide a good break down of districts for effective representation in West Michigan, in Michigan overall.

It is wonderful to see that the Grand Rapids urban, suburban populations have two districts for representation because of how large it is.

Special thanks to you for including Cascade Township in the north District.

Linden is really the best map to represent the people of West Michigan.

Absolutely please do not select the Palm map.

This is the worst of maps for votes to seats ratio for all of Michigan.

It is similar to the maps currently being used in the Michigan Senate.

Thank you all for staying the course and doing the difficult, mind numbing and seemingly endless work of the Commission with professionalism, curtesy and attention to detail.

Happy holidays.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Happy holidays.

Number 58, Lisa Ingram.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> All right. I think the Congressional District map for Chestnut is the most fairest for at least from where I live in the Great Lakes Bay Area.

It's a good combination of the Tri-City areas.

I'm not too happy about the Linden Senate map, but I can live with it.

It puts myself in an area with Thomas Township and other areas that don't really serve my interests.

And then I do like the Hickory map.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Number 59, Jenna-Mahmoud.

>> Hello.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Hello.

>> Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> I'm Jenna, a long-time resident and part of Access. I urge you to continue your work on the house maps. You divided and separated our community of Dearborn and Dearborn Heights, doing so marginalized the community and impacts resources and weaken the ability and to vote for representatives who truly represent us and needs impossible.

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>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you so much.

I'm Kermit Williams, Pontiac City Council president.

I wanted to take a couple seconds to thank the Commission for all the hard work that you guys have done throughout this process.

We are almost at the finish line, and I'm very excited about it.

I would just ask that you would set a minimum standard for debate for each one of those maps as you guys deliberate.

You've heard a lot from us over this process.

I would love to hear from each Commissioner before you guys vote on the maps that is going to change the course of Michigan history for the next ten years.

So, again, happy holidays. Please consider making sure you take enough time to go through each map before you set that for our redistricting.

Thank you so much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 73, Claudia Warren.

>> I've been a Midland County resident for 40 years and it's encouraging to see that through this collaborative mapping effort the Tri-Cities have been recognized as one entity.

I encourage you to endorse the following collaborative maps.

Chestnut for Congress and Linden and with tweaking the State Representative, redistricting for decades has been a closed door process dominated by the republican party resulting in gerrymandered districts that rig the election.

Statewide this republican dominance has been devastating for public education, environmental protection, infrastructure regulation and workers' rights.

Here in Midland County these gerrymandered districts have resulted in legislatures who are uninformed, indifferent and unresponsive.

Today thanks to VNP and this Commission we want a seat at the table.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 74, Linda Barth.

>> Good afternoon.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Good afternoon. We can hear you.

>> As a citizen of Michigan, I would first of all like to thank the Commissioners for their hard work and willingness to be open minded as they tackle the duties. I'm a resident of Midland and Realtor in Midland for 44 years.

I cannot emphasize enough the connection we have with Bay City and Saginaw.

When we market our area, we use the tools in the toolbox which include informing people relocating here about the amenities our sister cities have to offer and add to the benefit of living here.

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The Commission has done an excellent job of recognizing our Tri-City of interest and balancing the criteria in a weighted order.

I support the Chestnut, Linden and Hickory, but Hickory with a little tweaking.

Recent publicity out of Midland and Gladwin is that we should ignore the importance of our COI and revert back to way things used to be. This Commission was tasked with many things including using political fairness as one of the criteria in creating the new maps.

Businesspeople and former politicians should not be allowed.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 75, Rosa Holliday.

>> How did they knock me out?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can hear you.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can, Rosa.

>> I want all of my time.

I was knocked out. I'm Rosa-Holliday from Bay, Midland and the Saginaw area. And I support your Chestnut map for Congress, the Linden for the State Senate. And actually on the house I just don't have one to support.

If you tweak the Hickory, that would work for the house.

And absolutely a no vote for the Palm map.

And I encourage you to continue to work to make fair, competitive maps for Michigan.

We will have to live with these maps for another decade.

And, Commissioners, you're doing a good work, so I thank you for that.

And encourage you to continue to give us a good map for the house so that we all can be able to live with that.

I just want fairness and competitive.

So thank you so much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Number 76, Judy Mega.

>> Hello there.

Your Chestnut Congressional map is decent, but it's last on the list for preserving communities of interest according to the nonpartisan redistricting open maps coalition. True communities of interest which do not include Counties are linked by public policy issues that maybe effected by legislation.

If you could do the Wyandotte and South Gate into Congressional six as the Birch map does, it would add a true community of interest to that map and be closer to the goals outlined by the Constitution.

Many people have requested this change in the online portal.

We share the following Federal issues as a COI.

Police and Federal, fire assistance, Down River mutual aid program.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 80, who is Karen Tighe.

>> Hi, can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> It's Karen Tighe from Bay City, Bay County, Michigan, part of the Tri-Cities.

Thanks for all your work.

You folks have been amazing.

We have seen you in Midland and hosted you in Bay County. And nice to see Santa Rothhorn up there.

Early in the process you recognized the Tri-Cities, the Bay, Saginaw and Midland as a true community of interest, that existed through history and thus became an area of Mid-Michigan that's now functioning as a Metropolitan region.

You drew the maps that honored the Metro relationships while still slightly favoring republicans, but still it's a balanced District overall.

Our hope is that you don't fall prey to a last-minute push bipartisan groups from Midland, which are hoping to carve Midland out of the Tri-Cities and putting it back with Gladwin County. And it would result in a stronger bias and dilute what you did create for the Tri-Cities.

We support Chestnut, Linden.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 81, Susan Smith.

>> Good afternoon, Commissioners.

I'm Susan Smith, vice president for advocacy League of Women Voters of Michigan.

The league is pleased to see that you intend to review and adopt a process for how you will conduct the final vote on December 28.

We encourage you to discuss each of the proposed maps before taking any votes.

The Commission has received thousands of public comments concerning the maps.

Now the public needs to hear from you.

How did those comments influence your thoughts about the maps? You have spent hundreds of hours developing these maps.

Please take the additional time needed to share your thoughts with the public, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 82, Kathi Harris.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can hear you.

>> Good, thank you, my name is Kathi Harris.

I am a member of the Grand Rapids Randolph chapter and also our proactive organization.

And I'd like to speak to you regarding first of all fairness of maps.

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# End Gerrymandering in Midland, MI, area

## Basic Info

Submitter: Alyce Zynda  
Location: Midlrnd  
Submitted: 12/28/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9647

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I have lived in Midland, MI, over 30 years and I am asking the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to end the heavy gerrymandered Districts - MI Senator #36, MI House of Representatives #98, and US House of Representatives #4. We need political fairness over the boundaries for the City of Midland and Midland County as your guidelines require. A district that includes the tri-cities (Midland, Bay City, Saginaw) for Senate and the tri-cities plus Flint for US congress creates the best, in my opinion, the fairest districts. Of course, the state house district must be fair and competitive unlike what it is now. In addition, I do not believe the flood or the watershed topics should be used as a reason for the district lines. Therefore, for the Senate Map please vote "YES" for the LINDEN Map, Vote NO on the PALM. For the House Map, vote "YES" for the HICKORY Map, Vote NO on the MAGNOLIA and PINE.

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## Choose Chesnut, Linden and Hickory maps

### Basic Info

Submitter: Jasna  
Location: Midland  
Submitted: 12/28/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9663

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Thank you for choosing to be Michigan's public servant and not a special interest servant!

I have to take this opportunity to say how proud I am of all of the Michigan residents who volunteered and worked so hard to create this commission to take politics out of redistricting. They entrusted you their desires to create maps that will be most fair and inclusive and maps, whose primary focus is MICHIGAN COMMUNITIES. Whenever you make your individual decisions about maps, I ask you to start from yourself and ask yourself this. Is this what would be best if this were MY community? What areas do I consider parts of my local or regional community (including schools and neighboring towns). Ask yourself that while rejecting any bias on partisan politics, skin color or regional economic status.

As a resident of Midland County, this are the maps that meet the criteria I just described:

- the Chestnut map for U.S. Congressional, because it keeps most of Midland County together and reunites Mid-Michigan
- the Linden map for State Senate because it reunites our Tri-Cities
- the Hickory Map for State House because, of all the less than perfect options, it is still the most fair."

Thank you.

J. Appell, Midland , MI

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# Thank you

## Basic Info

Submitter: Terry  
Location: Midland City  
Submitted: 12/30/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9696

## Tags

#midland

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission,  
Thank you for putting forth a fair plan for voting in our state of Michigan. We have a chance now for more moderate officials to be elected. The bullies will make a lot of noise, as they want to protect their personal interest. But many of us are grateful for the many hours and dedication you have given to make voting fairer in Michigan.

In these times of political unrest and division, you are a breath of hope. I live in the city of Midland and am pleased with the new boundaries. It will be better for our region to have 2 representatives rather than a single person representing our watershed. I am grateful for your work.

Terry Townley



# **APPENDIX**

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# DISTRICT 9

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## 46th District

### Basic Info

Submitter: RON RENAUD  
Location: Addison Township  
Submitted: 6/11/2021  
Type: plan  
State House Districts  
ID: p723

### Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

### Tags

### More Info

Michigan Independent Citizens  
Redistricting Commission  
MICRC  
PO Box 30318  
Lansing MI 48909  
Dear Commissioners,  
The area of Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison, & Brandon townships all share alike objectives of their communities. They work with each other to share services and ideas to create better communities. They work with groups of people from different areas and backgrounds get together to solve problems that affect them all and should be termed a “community of interest”. They work together to learn from each other and help each other think of solutions everybody can use to make things better in their own areas.  
The value in this community of interest is in their ability to help each other to do things better or quicker or cheaper than they could do if each local government worked on their own because of their shared objectives for their communities. The energy and excitement they have had and will have, being continued as the

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46th District, the more quickly their problems get solved.

People in these communities of Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison, & Brandon townships get to know each other and talk to each other, although they might not even meet face to face or work together every day. Some might be at every single event; some might only come to one. Some might already know a lot about the problem, others might know nothing, but these people can still help the rest of the group by saying what they think about ideas or passing on what they have learned to other people they know.

This sharing of ideas and solutions as well as problems is what should be done everywhere. This ability to share services and ideas to create better communities that has like and shared objectives is what the 46th district of Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison, & Brandon townships is all about and should be considered a Community of Interest.

Many kind regards,

Ron Renaud

Addison Township, Michigan

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Thumb Congressional District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Adrian Beffrey  
Location: Thomas Township  
Submitted: 6/23/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p978

## Tags

## More Info

Compact. Contains rural farms, small towns, and urban centers. Reflects communities of Interest.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

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# Rachelle's Lapeer County

## Basic Info

Submitter: Rachelle  
Location: Lapeer  
Submitted: 8/6/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2032

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

I believe I speak for others in my community by stating we want to KEEP our COUNTY TOGETHER. We are a close knit, secure, interdependent, rural & farming community. Our interests are absolutely separate from that of Oakland or Genesee Counties. Please RESPECT our COUNTY, TOWNSHIP & CITY LINES. If you must add us to another County, due to population, please add us to Counties of similar interests & community character, such as Tuscola or Sanilac Counties.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Ann's Lapeer

## Basic Info

Submitter: Ann  
Location: Lapeer  
Submitted: 8/7/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2049

## Tags

## More Info

In the interest of my community I do not want to see our county, city or township lines changed. We are a rural community that should never be part of Genesee or Oakland County. If you must combined counties due to population then please combined us with Tuscola and or Sanilac County. There will be protest organized if we are combined with Genesee or Oakland county. We want to be heard and we will be however it may be.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# Fair Maps Project - SD-14

## Basic Info

Submitter: Fair Maps Project

Location:

Submitted: 9/6/2021

Type: coi

ID: c3718

## Tags

## More Info

Honorable Commissioners -- On August 23rd we published (submission o2663) the 2020 Census Update to the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past eight months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC's redistricting process. What you see here is a simplified map, and a short version of some of the information in support -- please see the full report at [miaflcio.org/fairmaps](http://miaflcio.org/fairmaps) for all the information, including statistics on our statewide maps for both chambers demonstrating their compliance with the Constitutional criteria.

District 14 is a rectangular-shaped district in the center of Oakland County Royal Oak, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin, Birmingham, Bloomfield, Bloomfield Hills, West Bloomfield Township, Orchard Lake, Keego Harbor, Sylvan Lake, Commerce Township, Walled Lake, and Wolverine Lake. Royal Oak is connected to the core of the district via Woodward Ave. The district leans Democratic. The district is compact, with zero municipal breaks.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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**Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Please keep our communities together.

## Basic Info

Submitter: Shane Trejo  
Location: Oakland County  
Submitted: 9/9/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w4235

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

9/13/2021 - **KB** (Novi City): Pumpkinfest is the annual event in South Lyon that has been going on for over 35 years. It's the largest annual celebration in the town. The Novi event is put on by MSU Tollgate, colloquially known as the fall festival. It is delightful. My family and I always go. But, historically around here, when people mention Pumpkinfest - they mean the one in South

Lyon. #novi #south lyon city  
#oakland county

## Written Testimony

Our wonderful annual festivals like Milford Memories, Rockin Under the Stars in Highland, and Novi Pumpkinfest bring us together every year. Western Oakland County residents identify with our shared history and shared economies which are rooted in our agricultural past and quickly morphing into a new-economy integrating both residential and commercial development from Holly to Wixom. Any lines drawn should keep these areas of Western and Northern Oakland County together.

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# Redistricting drowns out logic

## Basic Info

Submitter: Breanna DePottey  
Location: Tuscola Township  
Submitted: 9/19/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w4959

## Tags

#saginaw

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Thank you commissioners for your time. The proposed redistricting lines would be extremely detrimental to all citizens. Not only would it drown out the Saginaw neighborhoods with Midland voices-but it also robs focus of Saginaw issues by bundling them with citizens from far in the **thumb**. As Americans, we all desire for our voices and concerns to be represented by those who have roots in the area of concern; who can be an accurate representation of their neighbors, their colleagues and friends. Please commissioners, tell me how someone from the **thumb**, farming and working the land, has the same concerns and issues as someone living the city life. Better yet, how can our congressman and representatives fight for the wishes of their community when their focus, their district, is spread so unreasonably far. This is simply a tactic to drown out the minority community and deprive our citizens of their due voices. We have evolved as a country, and should no longer try to impose our wills on those to whom it may not affect. Please consider the larger implications of what you are proposing. If someone did this to your daughter, your son, one would hope you'd feel the same. Let communities have a voice by leaders who understand their constituents, not by misconstrued bureaucrats with diluted intentions. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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I want to thank the Commission for hard work and hope you take my testimony into account and more college get involved with the state redistricting process and looking for the final results from your hard work with fair districts throughout the State of Michigan thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Joan long.

>> Good evening can you hear me, okay?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> My name is Joan long I'm a lifelong resident of Grand Rapids and Kent County Michigan.

My comments tonight are in regards to the Congressional District centered around the Grand Rapids area.

The required voting population of 775,000 people automatically dictates that a larger geographical area will be needed compared to the State Senate and House Districts. Grand Rapids Metro area is the center of activity in West Michigan.

Grand Rapids is the second largest City.

The voting population of 657,000 voters in Kent County where Grand Rapids is located is almost a District in itself.

All of West Michigan is focused around the greater Metro area of Grand Rapids.

It is the busy center of Commerce, urban, suburban residential population entertainment healthcare higher education, cultural venues, air and land transportation as well as employment and shopping in this area.

As the Congressional District is currently drawn the District expands out of Kent County and into the very rural area of Ionia along with farming Townships.

To be consistent with the communities of interest of greater Grand Rapids, expansion to pick up the extra population that's required for your Congressional District would need to go west into the similarly busy Ottawa Township and Allendale, Tallmadge as well as Georgetown and Jamestown at a minimum. And then Grand Valley University and the busy suburbs Hudsonville and Jenison would be included in the greater Metro area of Grand Rapids. Thank you so much for your time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Phillip Reed.

>> Okay, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> All right my name is Phillip Reed and I live in the Clarkston area of north of Oakland County and I'm referring to map 187 Congressional districts of 929 of this year in regard and in regards to the District as proposed.

North Oakland County consists mainly of bedroom or communities have strong associations with Flint and Genesee County.

Has little in common with the northeastern part of the state.

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I believe Skula County which has much more in common with the thumb area than north Oakland County has and I would recommend you revise the CD maps with this in mind. That's it, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

James Gallant.

>> Yes, James Gallant Marquette, these are my opinions.

And I'd like to first agree with the former speaker there that you should be trying to make both parties unhappy.

That could be the goal. And then we know that they are booing. And it's not all about the parties. And it's not about the partisan.

But also on your rules of procedure, it's...I asked you to do some due diligence, you know.

And ask some experts for some opinion on this, you know.

You have the, what is that, center for civic engagement here. You have Grossman.

You have Ibeko. You have all these people at your disposal but you just won't do none of it.

And, you know, a registered parliamentarian would be the way to go. They are in the State of Michigan. There are several. There are some good ones at the top. There is probably half a dozen.

And get a little opinion.

You know, it's...I think this is too close.

It's too personal, you know,

Your attorney is not willing to call you out on your dirty deeds, you know.

It's just not happening, you know.

She is, I guess, worried about her paycheck more than the people of State of Michigan because this is about us.

This is our Commission.

It's not your Commission.

you don't get to do just what you want, do your polar model. You know, it changes every day, whoever is here. You know, this is not what this is supposed to be.

And so and I guess you folks just are just doubling down, and I guess I will see you in Court.

Have a nice day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Rexinaldo.

Nazarko.

>> Hello, good afternoon.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Hello.

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# Stop mistreating western Oakland county

## Basic Info

Submitter: Collin Parks  
Location: Milford  
Submitted: 10/1/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w5822

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Please, for the love of God, stop lumping in Western Oakland County with the thumb district. The townships of Milford, Highland, and Lyon are all Detroit suburbs, integrated with the neighboring suburbs. As such, they belong in a district that connects them with those other communities which they resemble, not cast off to the thumb district and communities that do not resemble them and might have vastly different economic interests.

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# Trying to incorporate public comments

## Basic Info

Submitter: Christopher  
Location: Grand Rapids  
Submitted: 10/22/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p7100

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

This plan tweaks the current Commission Congressional plans to incorporate the most common public comments. The comments I tried to follow were: 1) Keep Ottawa County together, 2) Connect Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo, 3) Keep Eaton/Ingham/Clinton whole and together, 4) Put Midland with Saginaw and Bay City, 5) Keep Midland County together, 6) Put Western Oakland with nearby communities, not the Thumb, and 7) Create Majority-Minority Districts (1 and 2, though both are "coalition" districts that are >50% Black+Hispanic, not >50% Black).

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## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Huron.Tuscola.Sanilac

## Basic Info

Submitter: Debb  
Location: Huron County  
Submitted: 10/26/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w7348

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

The counties that comprise the tip of the thumb--Tuscola, Sanilac, and Huron-- should be grouped together. They share the same rural background, tourism attractions, conservative values, and general level of wealth.

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>> Hi, my name is Paul an organizer with the Michigan labors union representing thousands of members in the state.

I'm here to speak on behalf.

Out of the maps you have cherry is your best of the Senate map and Pine is your best at the house maps.

But neither of these maps are good enough yet. These are just the best of bad options. How is any map fair in which one party can win majority of seats while losing majority of the votes.

We voted in 2018 to get rid of the rigged system.

And right now none of your maps create a level playing field.

Your job is to get as close to 0 on the partisan fairness scores as possible.

If you're over 1% then you still have work to do.

All your maps rig elections to benefit the republican party.

I encourage you to look at the AFLCIO fair maps project for ideas how to get to partisan fairness.

We need to keep the City of Flint as a whole to make these maps fair so that our votes count.

Please listen to everyone here today that are trying to make their voices heard and consider a more partisan fairness map for the State of Michigan.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 58.

>> Good afternoon my name is Paul.

I live in Hemlock Michigan Saginaw County.

I'm a business agent for labors 1098 and also an owner operator for a small farm in Saginaw County.

I represent hundreds of members in the Saginaw Bay and Midland Counties.

And think that we are a very diverse but very similar group of people in those Counties.

And believe that we need to be kept together the Tri-Cities in the single Senate District and put together with Genesee for Congress.

Thank you for your time today and your diligent effort.

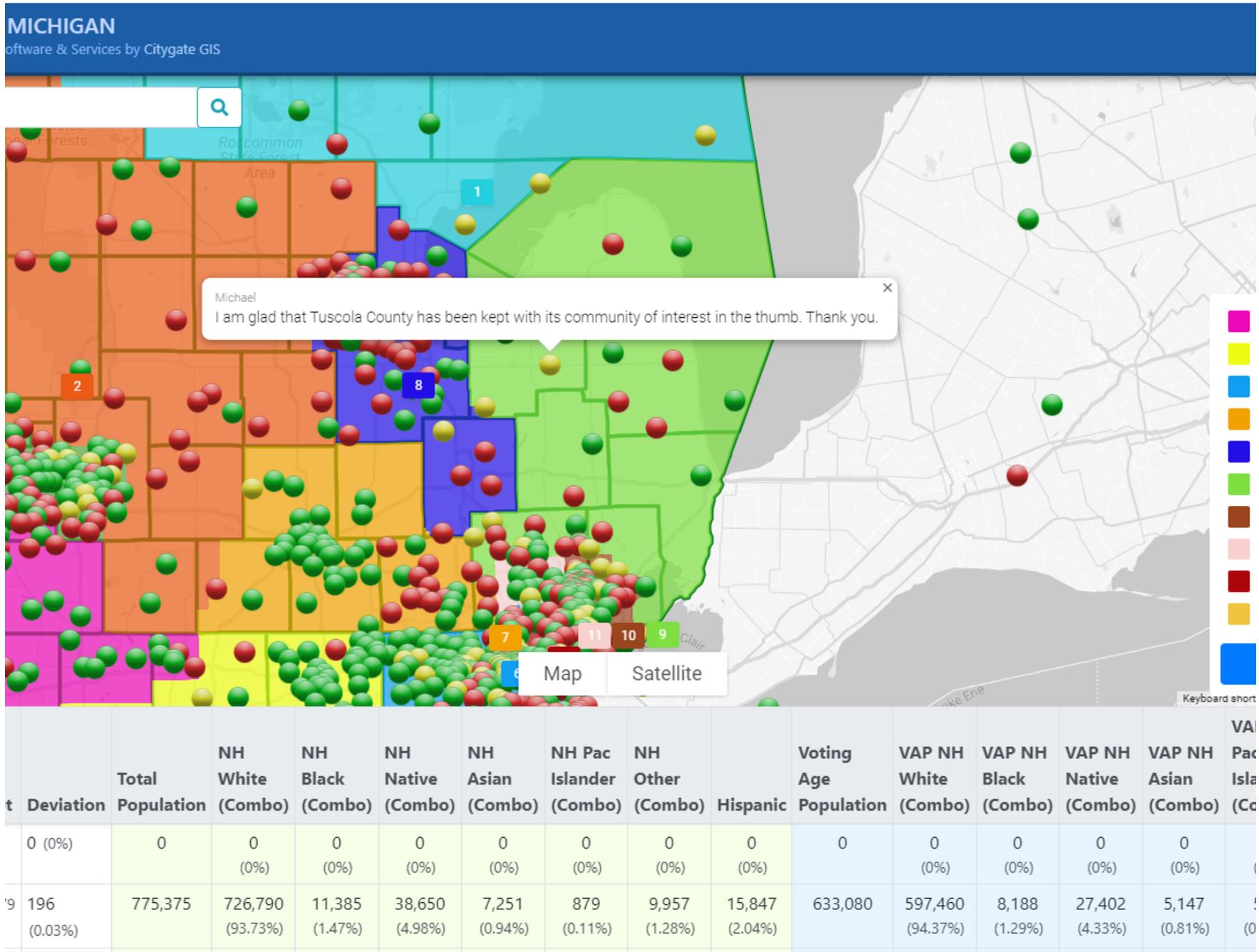
>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 59.

>> Hello, my name is Dan.

I'm a retiree of local 1075 former business manager for 1 years represented a lot of members and now I run the retiree Council. During that time I represented Counties from across the thumb in addition to Genesee County that experience and shown me there is substantial difference between the industrial areas in Genesee County and the rural areas of the thumb.

The people who live in Genesee County largely work in factories or construction.

In the thumb agricultural dominates these are the areas radically different.



**DISTRICT 10**

**DISTRICT 10**

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# Joining Warren & Sterling Heights

## Basic Info

Submitter: Michael  
Location: Sterling Heights City  
Submitted: 6/24/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w1016

## Tags

#warren #sterling heights city  
#auto workers #arabamerican #chaldean  
#refugees #social work #sterling heights

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

My name is Michael A. I'm a lifelong resident of Warren, and Sterling Heights. I wanted to write to express my support for having Warren and Sterling Heights in the same district, as they have extensive communal and demographic connection, as well as strong economic connection. I was born and grew up in Warren, and as an early teen moved a few miles up the road to Sterling Heights.

I understand how important the task of this commission is. How it will have significant impacts on the people, and their representation.

I also understand that there are many people who are only interested in partisan interests. How to draw lines to best support their "group," and how much more difficult that makes the task of the commission.

As I noted above, I spent my life in Warren and Sterling Heights.

I worked as an attorney, and as a social worker in both communities.

I can tell you that the most fair drawing of the district, the one that best reflects the "communities of interest" here, is a district (or districts) that includes both Warren and Sterling Heights.

To illustrate, last year, I worked as a social worker placing refugees escaping war and violence. We specifically placed individuals belonging to several demographic groups through Warren and Sterling Heights specifically, because of the strong overlapping populations of these groups.

For example, we placed members of both the Arab and Chaldean community, (a community which I am a part of) in

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Warren and Sterling Heights almost exclusively, because of the strong shared community spanning between the two cities.

For minority and vulnerable populations to have adequate representation, they need to remain in the same district.

The communities are also connected economically. Many of my friends in Warren, working at the auto plants live in Sterling Heights and vice-verse. The Mound/Van-\* roads, spanning through Warren and Sterling Heights, include several auto-companies, with their workers (similarly situated), residing in both cities. To split up these communities would divide up a significant common community, and hurt representation through this state.

I appreciate the hard work of the commission, and appreciate you listening to my input and the input of this community

Thank you,  
Michael A

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# Carole Chi's COI for State House Seat

## Basic Info

Submitter: Carole Chi  
Location: STERLING HEIGHTS  
Submitted: 6/24/2021  
Type: plan  
State House Districts  
ID: p991

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

This is my Community of Interest, for I live in Sterling Heights, but I grocery shop and eat at restaurants in Warren, have lots of friends in Warren, go to other events there, swimming pool, Friday Fish Fries at local churches and community centers, as well as pursuing the same interests in Sterling Heights. This will make for a better, more fair, more representative balance of population, in every way, for elections and whomever we elect--to thoughtfully represent us. Now it takes 4 votes of one party to overcome 1 vote of the other party, which is totally not fair/unbalanced.

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(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

## Comments & Feedback

6/24/2021 - **Victoria** (Sterling Heights): I also live in Sterling Heights, but I shop and eat in Utica and Shelby Township so your plan does not work well with me for my community of interest would be torn in half. You must also consider school districts as a community of interest. Sterling Heights is divided into two districts - Utica Community Schools to the north which connects with Utica and Shelby Township, and the south end which connects

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MICRC Public Comment Portal

with Warren Consolidated Schools. Now I propose keeping the districts together as much as possible to have proper representation at that particular community level (where my tax dollars go and the students that live in my area).

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# Warren belongs with Industrial Corridor

## Basic Info

Submitter: Geoffrey L  
Location: Warren City  
Submitted: 9/29/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5600

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

The commission's plan for metro Detroit needs some work. Warren really does not belong in District 1. It should be kept with other industrial areas in Macomb and Oakland like Sterling Heights, Troy, and Rochester Hills in District 4. District 1 can absorb Eastpointe and St. Clair Shores since these areas fit well with the Pointes and are both part of the St. Clair COI cluster. Other than that I would just move things around to make the Black population more even between Districts 1 and 2.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Support Birch Plan

## Basic Info

Submitter: Rich Peacock  
Location: Sterling Heights  
Submitted: 10/14/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6561

## Tags

#sterling heights city

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I support the Birch map as a voting citizen of Sterling Heights. Birch draws competitive districts and put communities of interest together. Living in Sterling Heights, I find the inclusion of suburbs ranging from Rochester Hills to Royal Oak and Troy to Mt. Clemens to give us a diverse but connected constituency. This is a manageable district that can give us good access to our Representative. Given this access, diversity, and competitiveness, believe Birch will promote voter turnout. That is good because I value participatory democracy.

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All the Chaldeans and Middle Easterns are registered as whites.

We are not white.

Our voices have always been neglected.

And we want to change this.

We voted for proposal two to have community of interest take priority and not efficiency gaps.

They are not mentioned in proposal two.

They are partisan wishes take COI as number one and I implore you not to dilute our voices and we go to the outskirts of Wixom, we are Shelby, Troy and more.

We are a faith based community and tentacle Dean churches in Detroit area and estimated to be 160,000 and growing.

All of these proposed maps dilute Chaldean voices and give us a voice in one District.

This Commission promised to give communities of color a voice.

Please give the Chaldean community a voice in one District.

I created this map 68270 that is 68270.

This map represents majority of Chaldeans in one District.

Thank you, Commissioners, for your hard work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Kathy.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Okay finally.

I have listened to most of the comments and most of the people are from Grand Rapids. As is appropriate.

Since that is where the meeting is.

But since there was no meeting in southwestern Michigan this is the best, I could do.

I am concerned particularly with the Congressional map for Battle Creek and Calhoun County.

Most of the maps are absurd on the surface.

Including Battle Creek and points southwest.

All the way to Lake St. Clair.

Which I believe is Monroe County.

But I'm not even sure what Counties are there.

I couldn't even tell you what cities are there.

That is not appropriate.

I looked at the Lange map.

And EID I don't know how to pronounce that map.

That includes Battle Creek with Kalamazoo which is a much better fit.

Battle Creek and Kalamazoo have a community of interest.

People in Kalamazoo work in Battle Creek.

People in Battle Creek work in Kalamazoo.

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Partisan fairness needs to be number one priority.

Further communities like my own are split up.

In my case in three districts when Farmington, Farmington Hills is a clear example of a community of interest.

Unless remedied we will not have a voice in our state Government because our votes will be so diminished.

Both criteria party fairness and community of interest while can be accomplished while moving the Voting Rights Act as well.

Please look to AFLCIO fair maps project maps for an example of fair maps.

I know you are under a lot of pressure to get these maps completed.

But more work needs to be done and the AFLCIO fair maps project map can save you a lot of time.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 54.

>> Do we have an in person speaker Ms. Reinhardt?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: We do.

We can go ahead and allow Yousif to speak since he is promoted, then we can turn to in person.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Sounds good, thank you.

Hi, Commissioners, I'm from Troy.

It's nice to speak with you again.

I do have a map but I guess it's not pulled up but it's okay.

I base my map is P7262.

P7262.

I base this mostly on Mr. Anthony Eid's Juniper map if you can Zoom into the purple area District six which is in Troy.

This map gives Chaldeans a voice.

So I'm asking you all please I'm asking the Commission to give Chaldeans a voice in one District and gives Asian community 10.8% population shared in District 6.

The highest out of the four proposed maps.

If you look at election details, District 6 does not change much from the originally proposed elections results with Juniper only half a percent less.

My point was distribute and give Chaldeans a voice in District 6 and benefits both of our communities as we share much similarities. Please Commissioners give Chaldeans a voice.

We are estimated to be 160,000 in Michigan.

We own over 25,000 businesses and we contribute immensely to the great State of Michigan.

Thank you for listening and I will continue praying for each one of you Commissioners.

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A very important majority Black District that has ensured that Black voters have a chance for representation in Lansing.

Today our representative in the current 4th District is only Black state elected official in Genesee County.

Despite the County being 20% Black and the loss of an authority of Black districts have changed for the meaning of politics already and should not have to give up our voice in the State House as well.

I ask you to ensure that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Sir your allotted 90 seconds has expired.

Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Thank you, sir.

Do we have 113? 115, 116.

>> Hello, Commissioners, I'm from Troy.

It's nice seeing you all again.

My map is P7375 please Zoom in to the purple area in Troy.

Let me read a Section from proposal two.

Proposal two required Commissioners to prioritize specific criteria including communities of similar historical culture.

Similar historical culture economic interest the Chaldean people share historical cultural and economic interest.

Do not disenfranchise us and use P7375 to put Chaldeans in one Congressional District.

Reminder community of interest is a higher priority than efficiency gaps. Efficiency gaps not even mentioned in proposal two.

Political fairness is the last category mentioned but political fairness is not the same as efficiency gaps.

Please do not dilute Chaldean. And they give 10.8% in the District with which we share similar economic interests.

As a side note Middle Eastern and north African should be in its own category, we are not white.

Thank you and I do not envy your task and I will continue to pray for you Commissioners.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. 116.

>> My name is Roy I'm a resident in Genesee County and speaking to proposed State House map concerning Genesee County.

Diluting minority populations does not offer voters more choice with candidates but ensures fewer minorities represent Genesee in the legislature.

Looking at 8 seats the seats are fair from independent and disproportionately lean republican.

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Where you saw majority of the Blacks that was there African/American that was there today was for P7273 and other ones were AFLCIO.

No time did they come and talk to the African/Americans and reflect community.

If you notice, that is just like 34th District as it is right now.

Why couldn't we keep it the way it was? Where you see District 49, they have over 13,000 votes right there alone which will wipe out the majority of the Blacks up north in Flint.

You all are gerrymandering.

We talked to two Commissioners and we told them when they came to Flint to broom center, we did not want them to divide us and we wanted our seat.

And that was bottom line.

And you all are not listening to the people here in the City of Flint.

That is ridiculous.

And if you feel slighted oh, well and quit trying to pacify us like the African/American lady tried to turn around and speak don't pacify us and do what is right and give us our seat.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 42, Mandeep.

>> Hello Commissioners thank you for your work.

My name is Mandeep we live in Troy and currently I serve as the president of the Rochester Hills.

I'm here to speak on behalf of my religious community of Sikh and we have not advocated for ourselves and six need to be considered a community of interest and the Sikhs are growing underrepresented community tied by common value and cultural experiences locally and worldwide. As a local volunteer working with people who experience food insecurity and member of the Sikh community, I can say how religious cultural representation and advocacy are for the social fabric of our state.

We are small in numbers we need to be together to amplify our voice and be an active part of our Congress person's constituency.

The birch map Rochester Hills and Sterling Heights community together and unifies Troy Rochester and Sterling Heights for the underrepresented this map is a powerful vehicle for us to engage in the broader community in a meaningful way.

You will see many comments from my community on the birch map and ask you to consider the Sikh a community of interest on your final Congressional map.

Before I end, I acknowledge no map will be perfect but encourage the Commission to please listen to the voice of Detroiters and residents of Flynn and address their concerns, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 43 Jerry Hall.

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# Chaldean Plan Based on Birch

## Basic Info

Submitter: Yousif Yousif  
Location: Troy City  
Submitted: 10/26/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p7474

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#chaldean

## More Info

Please use a map similar to this one: <https://districtr.org/plan/70686>. I based this map on Mrs. Rebecca Szetela's Birch map. Please give Chaldean community a voice in one district! Include cities of Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Twp, Troy, Rochester Hills, Sterling Heights and Shelby Twp together. That's were most of the Chaldean community are. Thank you commissioners for listening!

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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As I mentioned at the Flint hearing, the individual Commissioner maps do a great job of this.

Commissioner Lange's map that takes Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township down into Monroe. And Commissioner Eid's map that takes the northeastern corner of the County.

And the northern Section of Ann Arbor north into Novi.

That brings the other strong tech and communication area that is an area is very heavily office buildings and so forth.

And then Commissioner Szetela's western Washtenaw and mostly City of Ann Arbor into Jackson.

Very good way to divide the City of Ann Arbor there are two good ways you can divide the City north of the Huron river.

Which includes most of the AAPI population in the City of Ann Arbor.

Then you can divide on the west side.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Yousif.

>> Good morning, Commissioners, my name is Yousif from Troy nice to speak with you P7997 is my map.

I base this map on cherry.

Sterling Heights is not COI with Detroit.

In my map Sterling Heights Troy and parts of Rochester Hills are in one District as they should be.

I also took two neighborhoods one from Troy and one from Sterling Heights included in the same District as Hamtramck and put them back with Troy and Sterling Heights.

Sterling Heights is one of the most populated communities in Michigan and unite us on the east side of Sterling Heights.

AAPI vote asked more Sterling heights to be with Troy.

I agree P997 does that thank you for listening and I will continue to pray for each one of you Commissioners.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Jason.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Numbers 29 and 30 are not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 29 and 30.

Robert Dindoffer.

>> Hello, can you her me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Great hey I wanted to thank you guys for your work that you did on the Lake St. Clair State Senate District yesterday adding my hometown of gross point park back in. Very much appreciated.

I wanted to let you know you can complete the lakeshore by adding Ira Township and two precincts from clay Township that are on the Lake.

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and businesses that have been impacted by the PFAS water contamination crisis. So it's really crucial to keep these communities whole and together. So that we can be effective, have effective representation. Especially in the State House and the State Senate districts. On a side note we also want to be included in the Grand Rapids Congressional District and not have the City of Kalamazoo overshadow us. So we ideally like to have those separate so we can stay in the Grand Rapids Congressional District. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Elizabeth Johnson.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, hi my name is Elizabeth Johnson. Keep the Senate districts for Grand Rapids the way they are go do not move the line from Fulton to wealthy, it would split a neighborhood association of heritage hill and east town between two districts. The proposed House District 76 map includes the City of Walker and several different neighborhoods within the City of Grand Rapids. These neighborhoods are vastly different from one another and do not form a community of interest. The City of Walker is drawn with Alpine Township in its current State House District. They should remain the same. As they share the Kenowa Hills School District and Commerce quite a lot. The river breaks the western Grand Rapids neighborhood association from the eastern. The downtown and east town neighborhood associations are closer as other neighborhood associations like heritage hill and East Grand Rapids. House District 75 map violates several communities of interest. Grand Rapids Townships form a community of interest with Ada.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 78, RJ.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: RJ, if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Okay, hi this is RJ, I'm a resident of Grand Rapids Township and a third Congressional state committee man. I believe Plainfield Township should be kept whole within one House District with the attorneys of Algoma, Courtland and the City of Rockford. These areas makeup the Rockford community of interest and share the same public school District Rockford public schools. They live and work in neighboring municipalities and primarily shop in the Rockford area and use the same parks and recreational facility. Currently you have several precincts of Plainfield Township with northeastern Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids Township. Grand Rapids Township forms a community of interest with Ada and Cascade Township because they share the same school District. Forrest Hills public schools. Northeast Grand Rapids is in a different school District than that of Plainfield and should be kept separate in a different House District map. Lastly, I encourage you to approve the State Senate map plan as presented and to not move the dividing line for Senate District 23 and 24 from Fulton to Wealthy Street.

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you draw Kent County districts, please do not combine fair outline farmland with downtown Grand Rapids. They do not share much in common. Rather include the gather Rockford school District which is largely composed of suburban developments. This is a much better community of interest. Map P7 excuse me map P8747 best achieves this. Again thank you for your work creating Pine map version five for the State House. Please carry that same attention to detail to your state Senate map and refer to P8747. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Next in line is number 115, Robert Dindoffer.

>> I am on, but I don't have the link. It's not.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can hear you so we can hear you.

>> Okay great, thank you. So let's start. I would like to request that you take a look at some of the Detroit neighborhoods and some of the Macomb County neighborhoods in the State Senate map to make a few minor shifts that will make some communities whole. The first one is in the north end of Detroit. North end neighborhoods should be made whole. You could do this by shifting a little bit of population from five to six basically making those Detroit neighbors on the north end whole which was requested at the TCF center. The end result of this, these shifts will be more of the Chaldean community can be put together in Sterling Heights as well but step two is to make Macomb Township whole by moving population from five to two. That will make another community whole. Third step either make Shelby or Oakland Township whole moving population from 16 to or from 16 to 2 in the State Senate and the fourth one with move population in Sterling Heights from 6-16 to move more of the Chaldean.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 116 Meagan R.

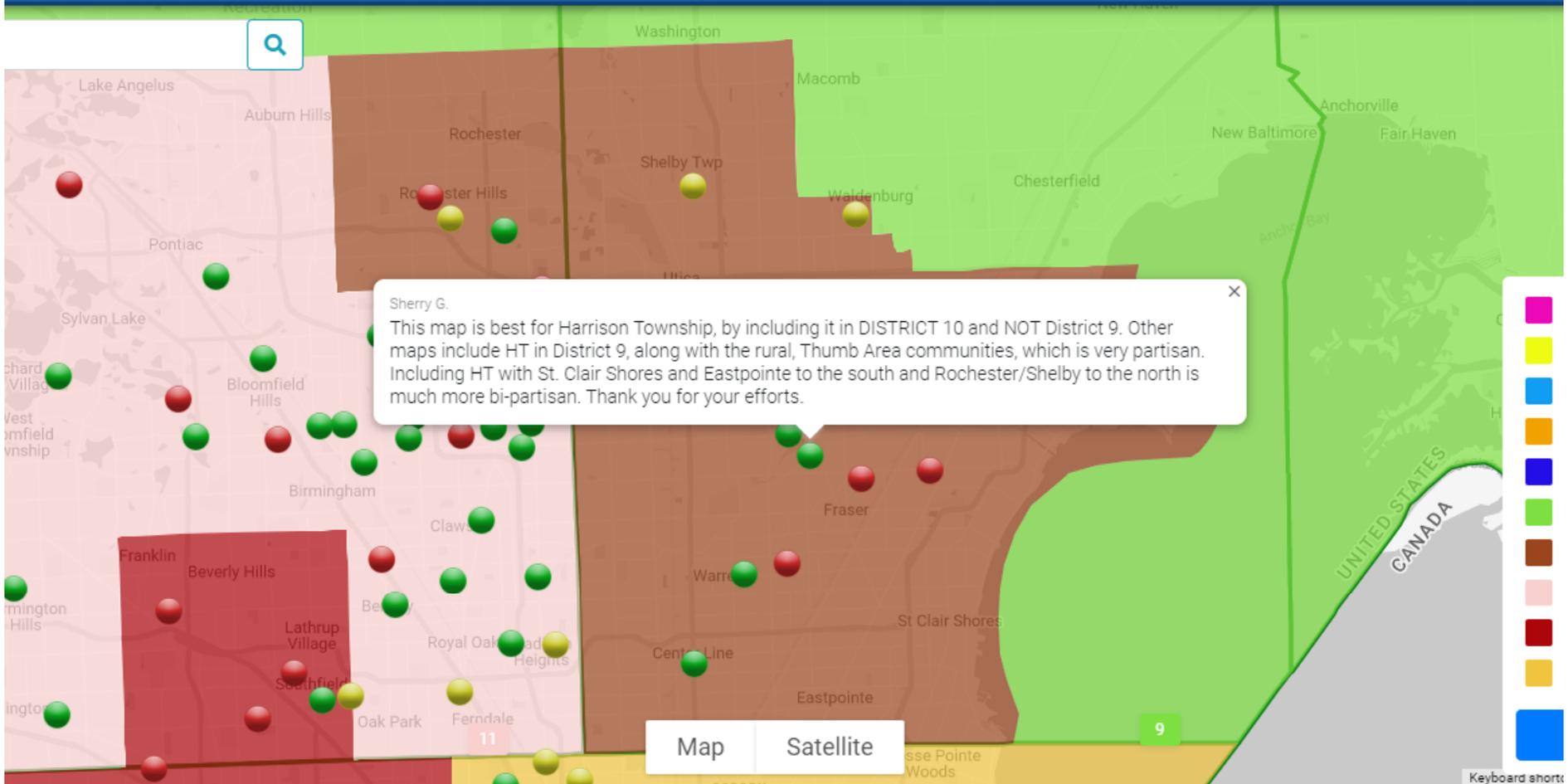
>> Good morning, Commissioners first and Foremost I want to thank you for everything that you have been doing so far in this process. I'm not here to talk specifically about maps but more about the process. You guys moving forward. I know that the Commission is going to have a conversation today related to individual Commissioner submitting maps for the Monday deadline. And I just would encourage you under the wonderful stance of transparency you have so far that if you guys continue to have the deadline Monday at Noon that Monday afternoon that those shape files and all of the information for the maps submitted by the individual Commissioners be published on the website for the public. Thank you, guys, for your time and appreciate all that you're doing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 117, Yousif-Yousif.

>> Hello Commissioners. Good morning. It's Yousif. I support apple V2 and Magnolia for house map. I appreciate Commissioner Eid for being persistent and giving Chaldeans a bigger voice. Thank you, all Commissioners, for approving Magnolia for publication. I want to thank you all for all your hard work. You Commissioners did a

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at	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Isla (Co
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0)
79	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	5 (0.)

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# DISTRICT 11

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# Dr. Jennifer Umphress's Bloomfield Commu

## Basic Info

Submitter: Jennifer Umphress  
Location: Bloomfield Township  
Submitted: 6/8/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c600

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

This is my community where I live, shop, worship, volunteer, and receive health care services. At the very least, the communities of Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, and West Bloomfield should be in the same district.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Keep Greater West Bloomfield Undivided

## Basic Info

Submitter: Sharon  
Location: Oakland County  
Submitted: 8/27/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3045

## Tags

#west bloomfield township

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

As a resident of West Bloomfield, I strongly support the communities of interest ( West Bloomfield Township ,Keego Harbor, the City of Village of Orchard Lake, and Sylvan Lake) as designated by Noah Arbit on 7/18/2021 and concur that these communities must be kept together and not divided.

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# Community of Interest

## Basic Info

Submitter: Michael Rowady

Location: Ferndale

Submitted: 9/1/2021

Type: file

ID: f3493

## Tags

#lgbtq+

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Sent File to Commission

## Written Testimony

This submission addresses the concerns of the LGBTQ community in Ferndale, Southfield, Pleasant Ridge, Hazel Park, Oak Park and Huntington Woods.

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# Central Suburban Oakland

## Basic Info

Submitter: Ani Manolatos

Location:

Submitted: 9/9/2021

Type: coi

ID: c4278

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#senate

## More Info

This community is all suburban, sharing economic similarities and school districts. It is south of the lakes and north oakland, but separate from the Wayne Oakland border communities.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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The community commonly referred to Down River has been described I believe that there was talk today about how it should be divided up.

So I'm sure that you're well aware with the 15 or 20 individual cities that are contained in that area of Down River.

Geographic proximity as well as the history of the community and support and shared interests and concerns make us a community of interest.

We dine work and travel between our local communities on a daily basis.

We live on gross Isle and own a business in Lincoln Park and we dine frequently in many of the Down River communities.

I appreciate any efforts to keep Down River together as a community of interest.

There was talk yesterday of including Monroe, Monroe is 20 minutes south of us and nothing in common with Down River frankly.

Other than a drive.

They have a big farming industry down there and they are really don't we don't share a lot of the same interests or community concerns.

Thank you very much for your time.

>> CHAIR KELLOM: Thank you so much for taking the time to address the Commission.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Next in line is Oscar Renautt.

Please allow us a moment to unmute you.

Renautt.

>> Hello, good afternoon. Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR KELLOM: We can hear you.

>> Help how I would like to thank the Commission in their efforts in taking the redistricting in our state.

My name is Oscar Renautt and I've been a resident of Oakland County for over 22 years currently residing in oak park I'm the founder and president of unity found of Michigan which is bipartisan organization with efforts to aid local and statewide LGBTQ candidates to get elected to public offices.

As a side note with approximately 5-6% of population LBGTQ has 0.0 positions nationwide making our community one of the least represented in politics.

Southeast Oakland County without a doubt is an LGBT community of interest as it holds the largest number of LGBT residents in our state.

It's home for many openly LBGTQ officials in Southfield and Ferndale and Hazel park and hunting ton Woods.

Many cities in this area are governed by LBGTQ and elected officials creating a sanctuary for our community by introducing LBGTQ residence and ordinances and it's home for many LBGTQ business owners with the LBGTQ customer base and also the area is home for many LBGTQ community organizations that provide vital resources for our community statewide including youth and seniors.

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# South East Oakland County

## Basic Info

Submitter: Oscar Renautt

Location: Oak Park

Submitted: 9/9/2021

Type: written

ID: w4244

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Greetings

My name is Oscar Renautt, and I am a resident of Oak Park in Oakland County. I am the founder and the president of Unity Fund, political action committee registered in state of MI with bipartisan efforts to aid local LGBTQ candidates get elected to public offices. With approximately 5 to 6 % of the population LGBTQ holds under 0.1% of elected official positions nationwide. The LGBTQ is a community of interest that requires a fair representation.

Southeast Oakland County without a doubt is the LGBTQ community of interest. With the highest LGBTQ population in the state our area is home

for many openly LGBTQ elected officials. In Southfield – Mayor Kenson J. Siver, council person Jason Hoskins, Southfield Public Schools' Board Member Amani Johnson. In Ferndale – council person Gregory Pawlica. In Pleasant Ridge – commissioner Bret Scott. In Hazel Park – council persons Mike McFall and Luke Londo. In Huntington Woods - Joe Rozell. Many cities in the area are governed by LGBTQ or LGBTQ friendly elected officials, creating a sanctuary for the LGBTQ populace by introducing pro-LGBTQ resolutions and ordinances. The area is home for many openly LGBTQ business owners, accommodating the LGBTQ customer base. The area is home for LGBTQ community organizations that provide vital resources to LGBTQ population statewide, including its youth and seniors.

In summary – our community believes that Southfield, Oak Park, Huntington

Woods, Ferndale, Hazel Park should remain as communities of interest in the State Senate district. By having this community of interest in one senatorial district ensures our representation because we hope to vote for pro-LGBTQ candidates in the future.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Oscar Renaultt

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>> Hi name is Lawrence Kramer I'm a resident of Troy.  
I'd like to thank the Commission for seeing us today.  
I'm concerned about the placement of Troy within the District 6 map as it places us with outside of the majority of our community of interest.  
While Rochester, Rochester Hills to the north is certainly part of that, we are much more aligned with communities to the south and to the west of us.  
As built upon our numerous academic and athletic interactions within the educational systems as well as the numerous programs events and governance of Oakland County.  
Additionally while I'm concerned that the partisan fairness of this map will be challengeable, I trust the Commission to do their due diligence to make sure that works.  
I'd also like to urge the counsel to review the methodologies of the AFLCIO maps as they have actually used the very comprehensive method in order to try and draw them.  
Again I'd like to thank the Commission for everything that they are doing.  
All the hard work.  
I know this is a difficult and thankless task, good day.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Thank you for the clapping two.  
Number three, please.

>> Number four is welcome to be right behind her, please number three go ahead.

>> Good morning my name is Terry I'm a 26 year resident of Troy.  
I first want to take part of my minute to thank you for all of the work and effort you are putting into this process.  
We really need to focus refocus on partisan fairness.  
The proposed map that is drawn for the Congressional District particularly for number six encompass Troy does not take into account any of our communities of interest.  
All of our recreation, our entertainment, our services, most people go to the south and to the west of us.  
Communities of Royal Oak Clawson Berkeley Birmingham and even Rochester are within our communities of interest.  
I have lived, I grew up in St. Clair shores.  
We have no commonality with St. Clair shores I can tell you I have not been there in decades so I thank you for your time.  
Yeah okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you so much.  
Number three.

Please number four and number five right behind.

>> Just hold it.  
My name is Leon Jackson.  
I moved the Troy in 1967. I have business interests here, raised our kids here.

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When you look at past elections you see that this proposed District is comprised of very republican Macomb County communities which would effectively cancel Troy's voice for the next ten years.

I don't want to lose my voice.

Please reconsider these maps.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Number nine and number ten on deck please.

>> Good morning.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Good morning.

>> I'm Ashley Jennings and a Troy resident.

I want to start by thanking the Commission for your hard work through this process.

Turn to partisan fairness today.

I think all Michigan voters can agree our ability to have our voice heard in Government depends on rejecting any sort of built in advantage for one party over another.

please maintain a primary focus on partisan fairness as you move forward in this process.

This was a foundational goal of proposal two and should not be after thought.

Revisit the way Troy's Congressional map has been drawn and it's clear this map does not reflect our communities of interest.

And I urge the Commission to link Troy with municipalities to our south and west, whether it's visiting parks, attending youth sports or classes, commuting, looking at places we shop or visit for entertainment. There is much more movement to and from Troy between other communities in Oakland County.

We share County Government, some municipal services and we deserve representation in Congress that will understand and be responsive to the means of this larger community thank you so much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Number ten with number 11 on deck.

>> Good afternoon my name is Donald frank I live in Clawson.

I want to talk about partisan efficiency gap you will probably hear about that more later today but making sure you keep that number as close as 0 as possible going forward.

If you just look at the State Senate election from the last five examples from 2002 going on you can see both democrats and republicans receive a majority of the votes over all statewide if you add up all the democrat and republican candidates.

But each election you can see there is efficiency gap where republican from 7-20% receive more of the vote see total than vote total.

Keeping to 0 in your Congressional and legislative maps will make sure we have partisan fairness that whatever party in the state receives majority of the vote close to have people that govern in the State of Michigan.

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It's important both sides have the opportunity and a chance to make their voice heard and does not have to win by large margins and keep it to 0 and thank you for your hard work and we appreciate you coming out today.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Number 11 please do we have a number 12? I believe number 11 is our final public speaker.

>> All right, my name is Emily I'm from Troy.

I strongly encourage you to consider redrawing that map so that we are not lumped in with Macomb County.

I don't see what we have in common with the likes of Peter Lucido.

I really...I helped collect signatures for this ballot initiative, hoping that we would put an end to minority majority rule.

So I'm really hoping that you reconsider putting Troy with areas of interest like my previous friends and neighbors have addressed already.

Thank you for all your work.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

And thank you for understanding.

All right now that we have finished with live in person public comment we will move to remote public comment.

So individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide live, remote public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. I will call on your name and our staff will unmute you. If could are on a computer you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak.

If you are on the phone, a voice will say that the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute. I will call on you by your name.

If you experience technical or audio issues and we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move on to the next person in line and then return to you after they are done speaking.

If your audio still does not work, you can e-mail [redistricting@Michigan.gov](mailto:redistricting@Michigan.gov) and we will help you troubleshoot so you can participate during the next public comment period at a later hearing or meeting.

You will have one minute to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

First in line to provide public comment is Edward.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For purposes of the public record, number 1, 2, 3 and 4 are not currently present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Secretary of State that means we are moving on to number 5, Anna.

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The lines drawn and using for the last ten years it seems like if the population has shifted a little bit we just have to realign or move those lines to accommodate the population.

Because we start with the census data and redistricting is to be done off the census data.

When you start talking about communities of interest, I think you could ask ten million people in Michigan and you will get ten million different answers.

I agree but as a real estate agent and my experience birds of a feather flock together if people want to be around a particular school District if they want to be near a church if they want to be by the Lake that is where they are going to move.

I don't think it is up to the Commission yourselves to pick where people are or try to draw lines according to communities of interest.

I think it's very simple.

I'm sorry thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Eric McGrath.

>> Hi I'm Dr. Eric McGrath. And thank you for taking public comment. I lived in Troy with my family for over ten years and want to echo what was said initially with the in person groups making statements.

I think that Troy being lumped in with Macomb County we share very little with that County as far as shared community and shared core values.

Specifically broad education.

And I think Troy should be moved back in with other local areas to the south and west of our City like Clawson, Royal Oak Berkeley Birmingham, Bloomfield et cetera.

And the focus should really be on the partisan fairness.

If Troy is kept in with Macomb Counties it will silence our votes and won't be heard broadly in the next elections for the next ten years and I think it looks gerrymandered to be honest with you.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For purposes of the public record number 17, 18 and 19 are not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That was 17 and 18.

>> And 19.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And 19, okay.

Michael.

>> I'm coming, I'm coming, let's see.

Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, my name is Michael Wiese. And live in northern Commerce Township in Oakland County. I'm a 20-year resident. My comments relate to District 10 map. I've

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been a Michigan licensed real estate broker and commercial real estate appraiser for 40 years. I've sold and appraised real estate all over southeast Michigan, Oakland, Wayne, Macomb, Washtenaw Counties. And all over the thumb area and north to Flint and north of Flint.

I can say I'm more informed and familiar with the demographic makeup of these areas than the average constituent. I live in the north part of Commerce. Commerce Township is about 20 miles northwest of Detroit.

I'm at a loss as how Commerce Township got basically split in half.

The most recent District maps, you had the northern part of Commerce split from the southern part.

Again, the northern part of Commerce is split from Walled Lake and the south of Commerce, Commerce Township. The north part of Commerce is based on the most recent maps. We are lumped in with Flint, Flushing, Lapeer, Clio, and North Branch. And Commerce, which is a rapidly growing bedroom community of Detroit lumped in with rural Genesee and Lapeer Counties. Commerce has more in common with Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Novi than it does with Flint, Lapeer, Clio, Flushing, and North Branch. How did you come up with this?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Sean.

>> For purposes or of the public record, number 21 is not present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Jessie.

>> Jesse.

>> Jesse a resident here in Troy and calling to express concerns about the proposed District where Troy is essentially lumped in with Macomb County.

I think we do not share a lot of common interests with them.

I think our communities of interest lie predominately in Oakland County.

Definitely more so for communities to the west and south and I fear about the economic impact this could have on Troy.

Troy is the largest economy in Oakland County and I think it's important it stays within this community.

I ask you consider altering the map so Troy is grouped with a different set of communities.

I would just want to thank you for everything you are doing.

I know this is a hard job, you can't please everybody so thank you for doing this.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Patrick Morgan.

>> Hello?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to speak.

Excuse me.

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## Do not bunch Troy with Macomb cities

### Basic Info

Submitter: Jayant Sanghvi  
Location: Troy City  
Submitted: 10/8/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6235

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

I am long time Troy resident. I heard there are potential plans to redraw voting district to include troy with Macomb county cities. To me that is absurd. we have more comonality and similar issues along with Rochester Hills and other oakland county communities. I am here by strongly against merging Troy to Macomb county cities.

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# Troy belongs to Oakland county

## Basic Info

Submitter: Prakash Patel  
Location: Troy City  
Submitted: 10/8/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6206

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

There is a proposal to change the county for the city of Troy - from Oakland county to Macomb county. I am voicing my opposition to this proposal. My comments are that: Troy must stay with Rochester, Rochester Hills, & Bloomfield in Oakland county as it is today. We really have nothing common with the communities in Macomb county as far as Lake St. Clair. Please do not change Troy to Macomb county, keep it in Oakland county as it is today. Thank you!

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It is really difficult to pull all of this together and address communities of interest and partisanship.

I vote in Harper Woods precinct five and it would be really important to my area to make sure that we are not included with a State Senate District that reaches all the way up the shoreline of Lake St. Clair.

Please look at this again. Consider putting Harper Woods in with Eastpointe and Roseville.

It's much more representative District in that kind of configuration.

I also encourage you to look at breaking up the Grosse Pointes.

Let's not reinforce that old racist boundary and instead make the districts that are more fair and represent how this area is changing.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Sorry.

Mahindra.

Number 21.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: If you can hear us if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Can you hear me now?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay I'm a resident of Troy for over 20 years.

I want to thank you for your hard work.

My comment is about the Congressional District 6 and it's unfairness to Americans.

Indian Americans in Troy like myself share their heritage and have so much in common with communities in Bloomfield Hills Farmington Hills and Novi.

The Indian American community in Troy has strong connection to the commercial zone on Farmington Hills for shopping and dining.

Indian American in the corridor from Troy to Novi attend the same Sunday school.

The parents of these kids have a strong relationship and connection to each other.

I feel it's unfair to put Troy with communities in Macomb County with whom we do not have community connection.

I'm hoping Troy will be united with Bloomfield and Farmington and Novi.

Thank you so much for the work you do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Leah.

>> Good morning can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> While I'm a lifelong resident of Ottawa County I'm proud to represent my community here with you today.

Grand Valley State University have blossomed beyond a few buildings and corn field the identity is an agricultural community.

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# Troy should not be in Macomb District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Beth Kennedy  
Location: Troy/Oakland County  
Submitted: 10/11/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6386

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I bought a home in Oakland county; not Macomb. I don't want to pay Oakland County taxes with a Macomb representation. My children attend Birmingham schools. We moved from Birmingham to a specific part of Troy to stay in the same school district. Troy is interlocked with neighboring Oakland County cities (Birmingham, Bloomfield, Rochester, etc.) I want my Congressional, Senate and State houses to represent me fully and this move does not allow for it.

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# Oakland county badly represented

## Basic Info

Submitter: Patrick Dennis  
Location: troy  
Submitted: 10/11/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6374

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

10/12/2021 - **Lisa** : I agree 100%.

## Written Testimony

The new districts are very poorly drawn, especially, Oakland County's East portion. The district ignores the the fact that the cities of Troy, Rochester Hills , Bloomfield Hills share services with other Oakland County cities and need a more unified voice. Also, as independent as the new districts are supposed to be , they appear to be allow them State government to be dominated by one side. This is not what we wanted.

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## Comment on troy community of interest

### Basic Info

Submitter: Susan

Location: Troy

Submitted: 10/11/2021

Type: written

ID: w6407

### Tags

#troy

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Troy has nothing in common with cities and communities as Far East as lake St Clair. The Troy community of interest is with Bloomfield Hills, Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills. People in Troy frequent businesses in Oakland county in cities mentioned above and really have nothing in common with the eastern suburbs.

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# Troy become a part of Macomb County

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mary LeBeault  
Location: Rochester Hills City  
Submitted: 10/13/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6554

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I highly object to the wonderful city of Troy becoming part of Macomb County. It serves no viable purpose to make such a drastic decision when Troy has been a part of Oakland County for many years. Concerned citizens of Oakland County are making their voices heard. Please do not modify or change the City of Troy from Oakland County to Macomb County.

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# Troy cannot be redistricted

## Basic Info

Submitter: Cindy Xavier  
Location: Troy, Oakland  
Submitted: 10/18/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6658

## Written Testimony

Dear Commission.  
Troy needs to stay with Oakland county  
and should not be re-districted.  
Thanks

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 25, Scott Henry.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Scott you're unmuted and free to address the Commission.

>> Yes, thank you very much.

I appreciate it.

Good evening I'm Scott Henry a lifelong resident of Schwartz creek and spent a good portion in the City of Flint.

I thank you for the opportunity to speak and appreciate each of you being a part of this process.

I recognize that a lot of work went in the proposed maps but unfortunately, I don't believe the way they were drawn captures the intent of the law for a fair process for all. Flint be maintained as one area and not torn apart.

Citizens of Flint and poor African/American were strips rights of representation of the emergency act that was defeated in 2012 and placed in a law by a legislature five weeks later.

We have been given a gift and those who need the voice the most are not forgotten.

Ensure that fairness and equal representation is achieved and appreciate the hard work you put into this and it's a long day and wish you nothing best of luck.

Thank you for this opportunity again.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 26, Royce Stevens.

>> Hello.

I'd like to thank you guys for allowing me to speak.

My name is Royce and I was born and raised in Flint Michigan and want to talk to you about the proposed map for the state rep seat in Flint Michigan.

Flint is a community of interest and Flint is currently being impacted by the Flint water crisis and will be impacted by the water crisis for a long time.

The proposed maps will negatively impact minority vote in Flint and this will reverse the benefits of voters rights act.

The socioeconomic conditions in Flint are different than communities you align Flint with proposed maps.

Reconsider the map and make sure you align Flint with Flint and residents that align with us socioeconomically.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 29, Rob Wilson.

>> Good evening I'm Rob Wilson and live on the west side of Troy.

I live near Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills I like the Juniper map because I think Troy should be kept whole with balance of Oakland County and say that because I think Troy

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shares many more similarities and needs with Birmingham and Bloomfield than cities in the Juniper and it's an extension for businesses in Birmingham. I think the birch Maple and apple maps are wrong for Troy since we don't share the same needs or businesses with many of the communities further east.

Specifically like Eastpointe, Sterling Heights and Fraser.

I appreciate the hard work that your Commission is doing and I appreciate the opportunity to contribute.

Thank you for all you are doing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 30, Nada.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Numbers 30-35 are not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

Through 35 you said.

36, Steve Steve.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Okay this is Steve Walker.

I've said before I'm a retired political science professor, tonight I want to analyze the report you received from Dr. Handley.

Realize I'm not very good with modern technology so I may have missed something but I think I understand what she is trying to say and I would characterize her report as superficial and wrong.

You will note that she didn't give you one Court case to justify 40% figure she is using for minority District.

She did not quote one law that says 40% is sufficient.

She also didn't tell you any other states that use 40% as a standard.

And she certainly didn't cite an Article from a peer reviewed periodical to make this point.

Frankly, I find her analysis to be shoddy and really should be embarrassed.

She starts out by analyzing six statewide elections.

What in the world does that have to do with the issue? The issue here is whether a Black candidate and a primary District can win.

There is no connection to a statewide election.

And two of her examples of course are John James.

He did not receive majority of the Black vote.

And.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Cindy.

>> Hi, my name is Cindy and I'm a resident of the City of Midland.

I have supported the legislative districts that include my community of interest.

The Tri-Cities.

And Mid-Michigan.

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statewide map by increasing over all partisan bias. Please keep Troy whole. Thank you and thank you for your hard work on this very important project.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 36, John Fitzgerald.

>> Good morning Commission can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I can.

>> Thank you. Yes, my name is John. I'm a Wyoming City Council member and a nonpartisan body here in the City of Wyoming Michigan on Grand Rapids southwest side. Wyoming is a community of roughly 77,000 persons. And you've heard me speak in the past regarding the desire to keep the community whole. We have a need to keep Wyoming whole as we have been cast aside in a number of different areas of Districting from the Kent County Commission and higher. And having a single State House voice with the opportunity to have a Wyoming resident represent our City is important. In order to do that I do have the opportunity to bring forward map P8521 as a great representation of how this can be accomplished in the Metro area while keeping a Hispanic District intact with neighboring Grand Rapids precincts. Review the P map and keep us whole and keep Hispanic voices together. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 37, Leigh.

>> Leigh Eicke. Thank you this is Leigh and live in East Grand Rapids. I'm really happy with your state map. I'm so used to being represented by people from Lowell or Greenville or Rockford and it's nice to know I'll have a representative who lives near me and understands my area. Thank you for understanding the importance of the six Metro cities. We share so much in common with each other. Most of the people that live in the six Metro cities work in Grand Rapids and we share public transportation, waste services, water, sewer and more. And when I go out to shop, I pretty much stay in the neighboring communities like Kentwood, Grand Rapids and Cascade. I'm really happy with your map. I'd rather be with Kentwood. We have a lot in common. They are more diverse than we are and East Grand Rapids but we are both suburban cities and we both share a love for our public schools. My analysis shows that a Kentwood East Grand Rapids based District would lean slightly democratic. It would be nice to have competitive elections and good candidates. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 38, Richard Williamson.

>> I'm Richard Williamson from Kent County I have a map that incorporates comments from here in West Michigan P8521. Keep districts 78 the majority POC District on the south side of Grand Rapids. Mostly as it is. The border between House District 78 and 75 should stay at Fulton Street. Moving it elsewhere violates population requirements and messes with District 78. East Grand Rapids Kentwood should have a District south and East Grand Rapids and Kentwood are Metro six Cascade is suburban

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field and a healthier state for everyone. Thank you for your work on all of this. I'm hoping that you go back and you look at getting partisan fairness. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Chris Herweyer, number ten.

>> Yes, can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you, good morning, Commissioners my name is Chris I'm are resident of Wyoming in Kent County I want to thank you all for listening to our testimony over the past several months. The changes you made to State House maps in the Grand Rapids Metro yesterday is evident of that. Over all these changes have gotten you a lot closer to achieving maps that are not biased towards any political party. And over these final two days I hope you will continue refining the maps in Metro Detroit and Flint areas to help achieve efficiency gap of less than 1%. Doing this is the only true way that we can achieve partisan fairness in the State House so that the party that are E receives the most votes wins the seats. I look forward to seeing the final drafts at the end of the day tomorrow.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. At this point I'm going to ask my Vice Chair to facilitate calling the names out. Next on our list is number 11, Anita-Fitz.

>> Hello, my name is Anita-Fitz I'm a retired IT manager and long-term resident of Rochester Hills. I have spoken before but I think my request warrants repeating and that is to keep Rochester and Rochester Hills together in the same District. They are the same community. And they share the schools, community activities, library, hospital, and the same downtown. So as a matter of fact the downtown merchants and other businesses depend on Rochester Hills customers. That is their way the community has grown over especially the last 40 years that I've seen. It is very much a suburban area whereas Oakland Township is more rural. They have different issues, different concerns. And I would like to echo the comments made earlier about the fairness criteria that is not being met. Gerrymandering refers to creating political advantage and that is what we want to avoid. So.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next is number 12 Barb-Handley Miller.

>> I'm from Bay County Michigan and I'm speaking to support the Congressional birch version two map you have drawn and specifically District 8. Thank you for the map joining urban cities of Flint Saginaw Bay City Midland there will be many benefits shared urban industrial economic educational Saginaw watershed issues so thank you. You are hearing push back from some Midland residents who want to be paired with Gladwin still and a Congressional District that would move west from there across Michigan. You listened and you wisely set aside that map. Because you knew that it was not in balance. It was a concession partisan District. You are hearing cries of

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interest. I urge you to return to original mapping and keeping Troy whole thank you for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are going to take a break for a moment and return to actually we will go to Matt next and then return to in person comment so Matt please continue.

>> Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I live in Georgetown Township. I worked in Allendale my children attend school in Spring Lake and all are in Ottawa County which is West Michigan. The birch map cuts Ottawa County in three districts so I live in one, I will work in one and my kids will go to school in a different one. This is not acceptable. There is no reason Ottawa County should be divided into three. That's the birch map. The chestnut divides us in a gerrymandering way which is what we are trying to avoid. Splitting Georgetown Township and agricultural communities like Allendale to gerrymandered GR Grand Rapids is an in Muskegon is a partisan dream the apple map has a clear community of interest along the lakeshore. Hundreds of Ottawa County are asking for the this. West Michigan should not suffer because we done have someone on the Commission from the area. This is more important to listen to people like me. Nobody wanted gerrymandering. So apple.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Do we have the in person live in person yet? We do not. In the green jacket sir are you ready to speak?

>> Sir, did you sign up for public comment.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We will move on to Regina Randall. Our next remote public comment then we will return to you, sir. So Regina Randall, please.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you let's move on to Judy Hart.

>> Can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> My name is Judy Hart I live in Washtenaw County and I'm a 69-year-old, I'm a 69-year-old resident of Michigan. I want to thank you for taking partisan fairness seriously which is reflective in the new maps. Please do the same in the house. Please don't let people sway you to change the good work that you have done. In Detroit the VRA seems to be suspect. Please continue to make partisan fairness a priority. And again thank you very much for your hard work.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. So we will return to live in person public comment sir in the green jacket when you are ready, please approach the microphone and begin speaking. He is not ready. Okay, yeah, I can't see him. Okay so let's move on to Margaret number 21 live remote public comment, please.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. How about 22 Ben, Umanos.

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>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Numbers 32 and 33 are not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thanks very much 34, Judy Maiga.

>> Hi good morning I would ask again that you please add South Gate and Wyandotte to the chestnut Congressional map in District 7 southeast manage with gross aisle before it advances for public comments for reasons that I've stated before and posted online. I would also respectfully offer discussion during map drawing that questions the authenticity of some comments presented by the public does not instill a desire to #show up and #comment. 60 seconds is barely enough time to introduce yourself and creatively convey the request that many people have that meet the requirements of the act and draw fair maps that don't favor either party. I would ask that personal non-substantiated assumptions of people being coached be left out of the final map drawing process. And comment about Albion and Battle Creek and written off as not real in some way. This is not acceptable. Please do not allow this to happen. Criteria says maps and you-

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 35 is LaCrasha Handy.

>> Good morning, Township resident in Genesee County. Partisan fairness is a community of interest and we need to keep that in mind that is why the people of Michigan voted for the proposal that created the Commission. I see improvements on the State House maps but there is still work to be done. The maps need to be fair. No political bias. Even a little bit is too much. The map needs to include fair representation for Michigan's diverse population and please don't forget about the City of Flint. People of color needs fair representation. It is our right. I know your job is not easy. So I want to say thank you for all you have done so far. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 36, Elizabeth Harris.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Elizabeth, if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission. Elizabeth if you can hear us if you are able to unmute yourself you are free to address the Commission. It looks like Elizabeth may be experiencing audio difficulties.

I recommend we move forward.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do we have 37 Wendell.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present we will move to 38.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 38 Robert Hosack.

>> Can you hear me now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> I live in Cooper Township. And the current map that I've seen combines Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids which we have nothing really much in common. We both have separate airports. We have separate businesses. And it seems like the rural

[← Next](#)

[Previous →](#)

# Chestnut is best for OKLD/MCMB/Wayne CC

## Basic Info

Submitter: David Gaberman

Location: Oak Park City

Submitted: 12/15/2021

Type: written

ID: w9376

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I support the Chestnut Congressional Map, the Linden Senate Map, and the Hickory House Map.

The Chestnut map in particular seems to be the best for both my home town of Oakland county, but also for Macomb and Wayne Counties as well. It keeps Troy with Oakland County (instead of with Macomb like in Birch) and puts Southfield with it's more closely aligned and partners in Detroit. This is also good for my orthodontist Jewish community as well, having roots in Oak Park.

It also slightly raises the BVAP from 42% to 44% for the two Detroit districts, which I think is more fair for Detroit. I also like how it gives minorities a small voice in

west Michigan. This won't be a large voice, but at least politicians will have to listen to everyone.

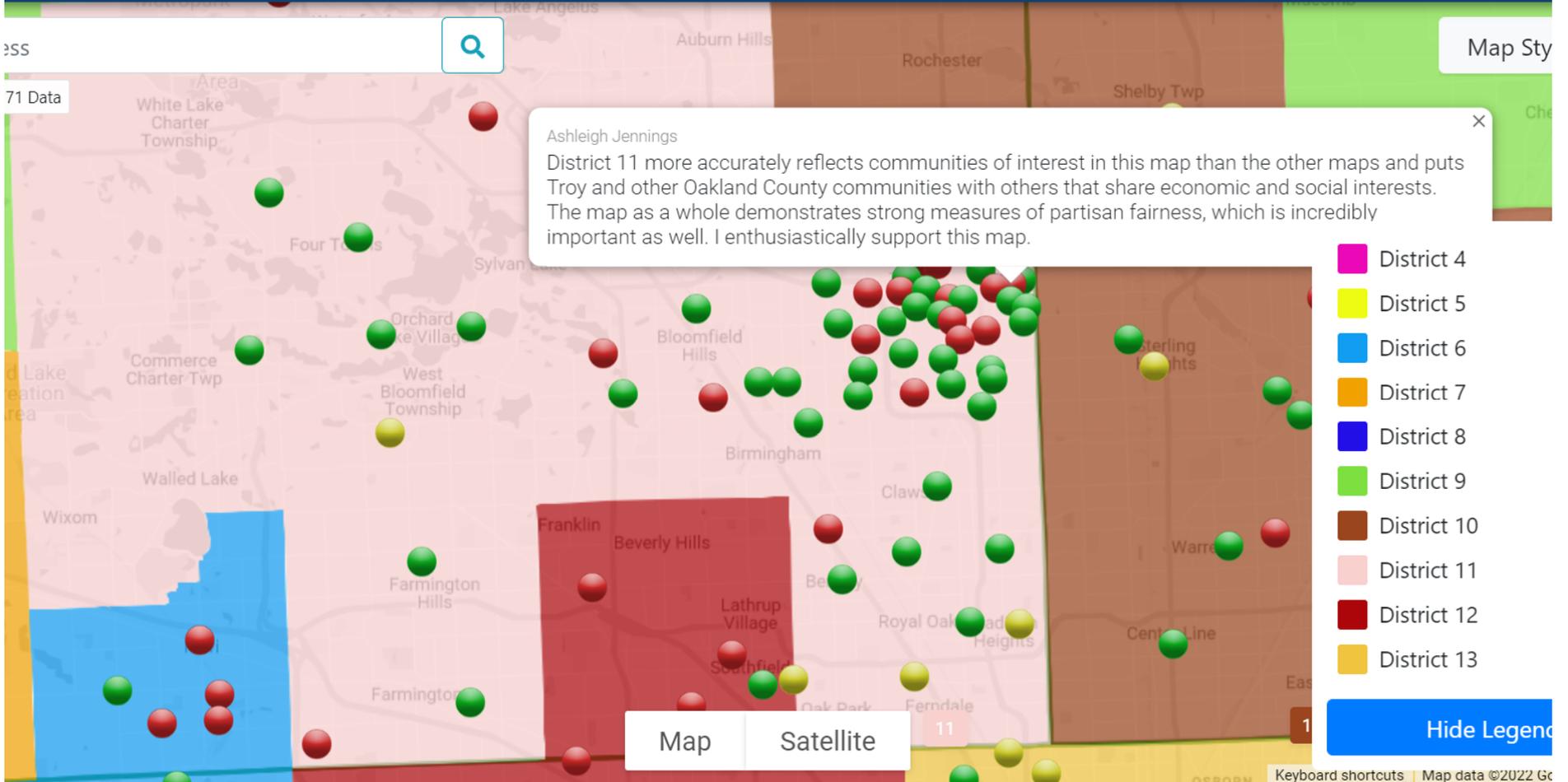
It also has more competitive seats than Birch or Apple, which will likely lead to less polarized elections. It also has either the best or ties for the best in every objective category.

Birch would be me 2nd choice, followed my Apple.

For the Senate Map, Linden is a good compromise of the AA area on the other two maps. My preference would be Linden, then Cherry, then Palm. The Palm map isn't very fair to me objectively .

The house maps aren't great but I like Hickory and Magnolia.

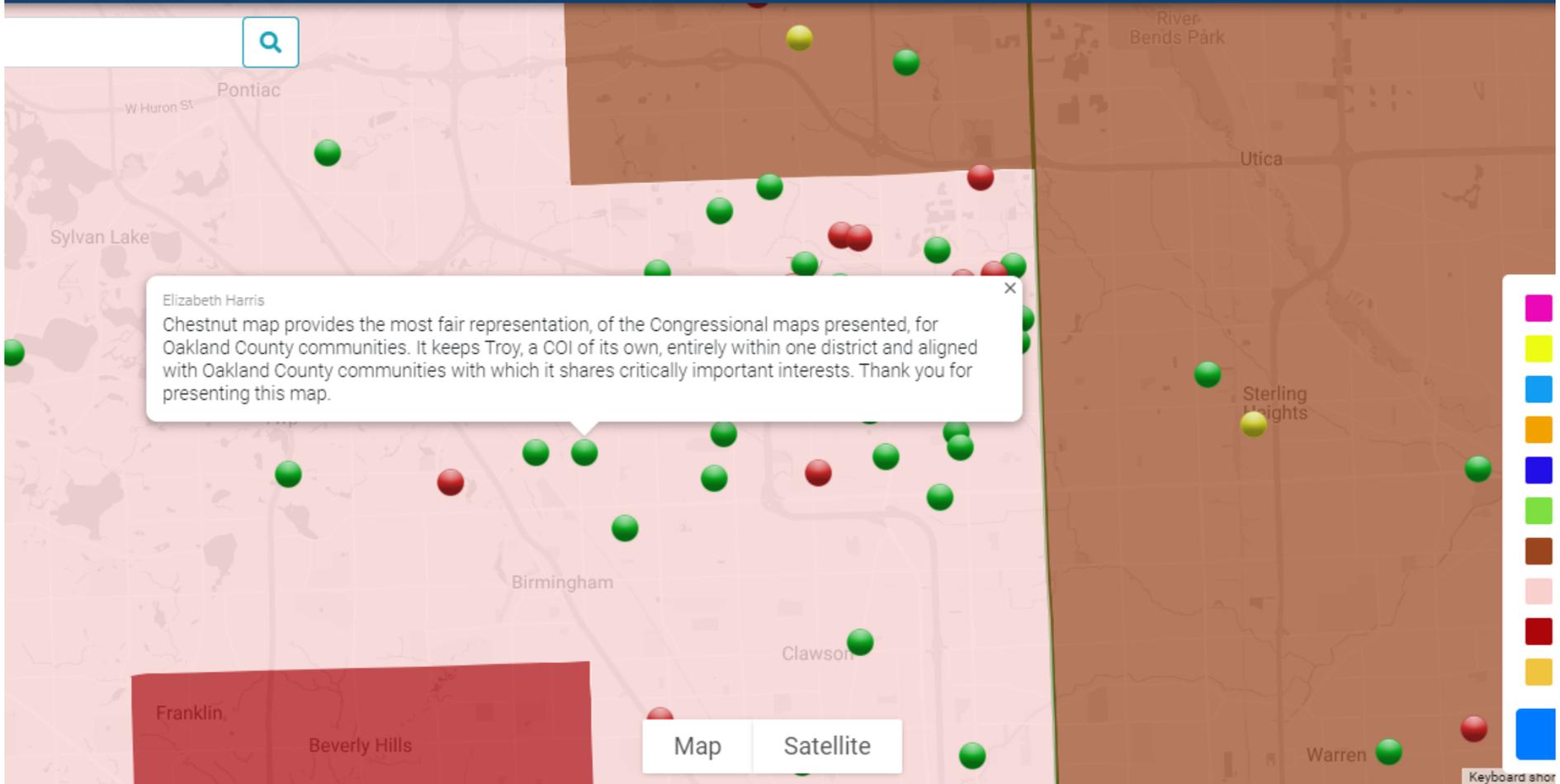
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 Enterprise Redistricting Software & Services by Citygate GIS



Line	Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)
Assign	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
District 1	775,179	196	775,375	726,790	11,385	38,650	7,251	879	9,957	15,847	633,080	597,460	8,188

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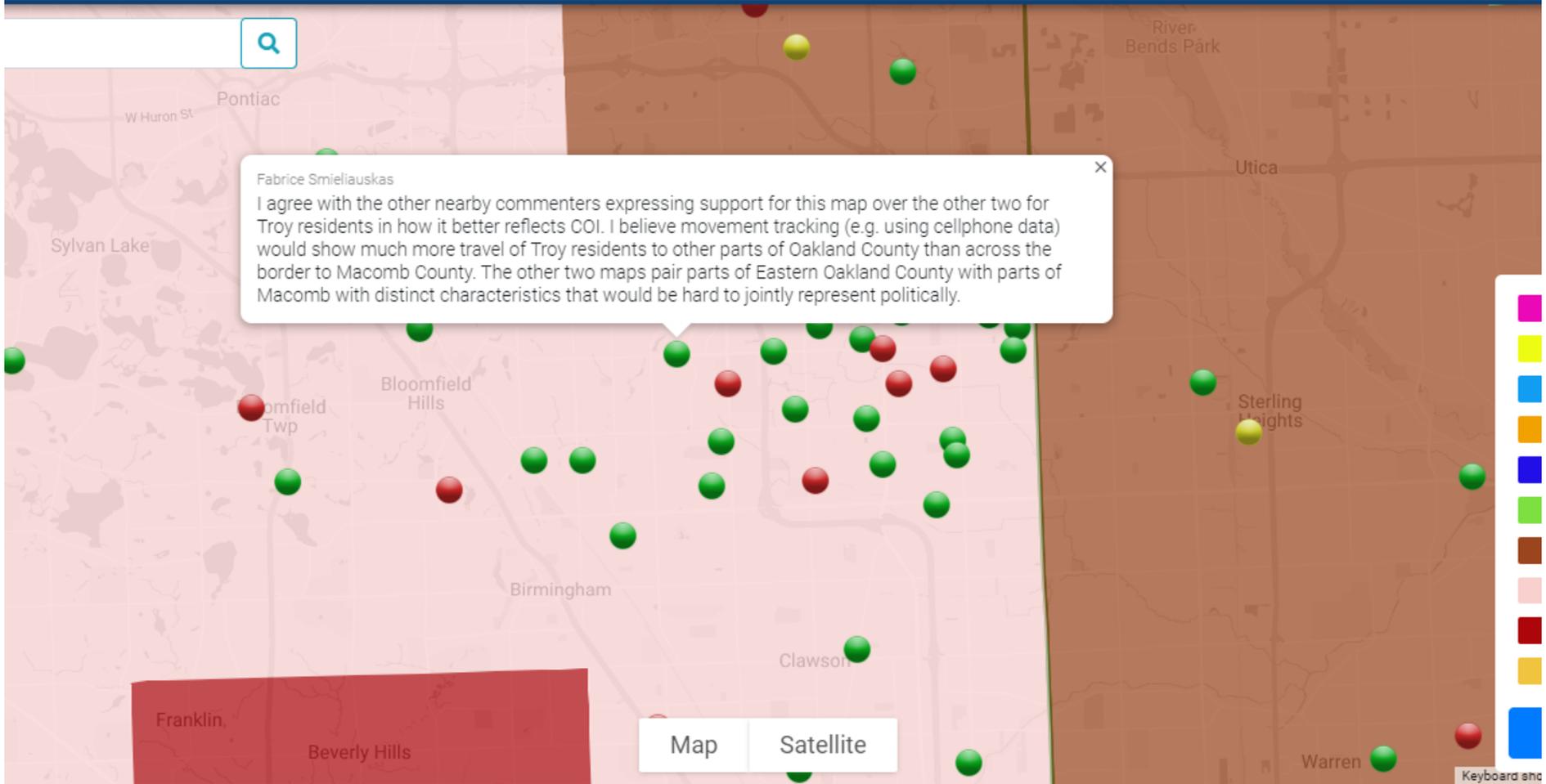


Elizabeth Harris  
 Chestnut map provides the most fair representation, of the Congressional maps presented, for Oakland County communities. It keeps Troy, a COI of its own, entirely within one district and aligned with Oakland County communities with which it shares critically important interests. Thank you for presenting this map.

Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pa Isl (Co
0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
9 196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	

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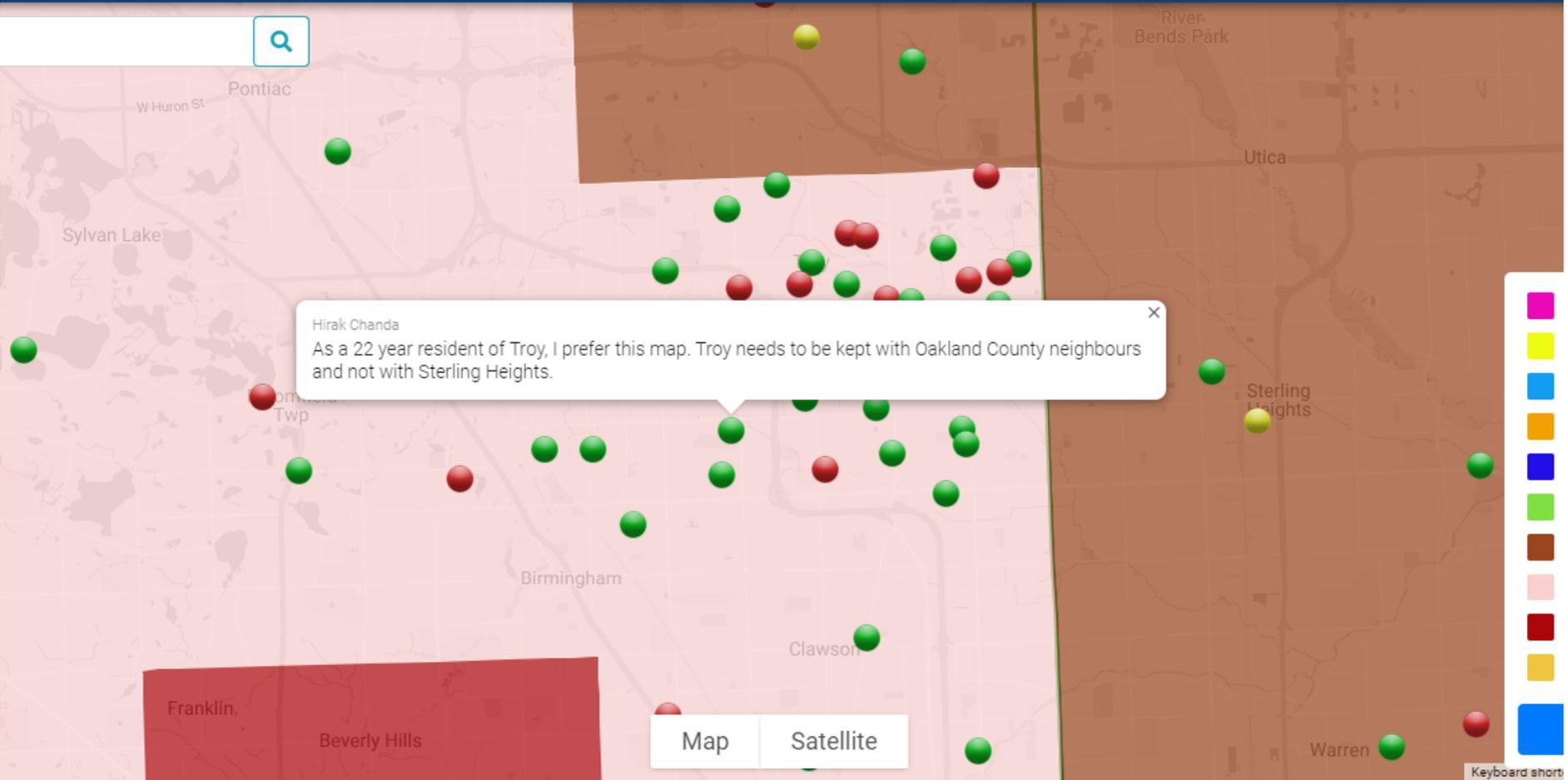
Software & Services by Citygate GIS



Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
9 196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	0 (0%)

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Hirak Chanda  
 As a 22 year resident of Troy, I prefer this map. Troy needs to be kept with Oakland County neighbours and not with Sterling Heights.

Age	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	5 (0.00%)

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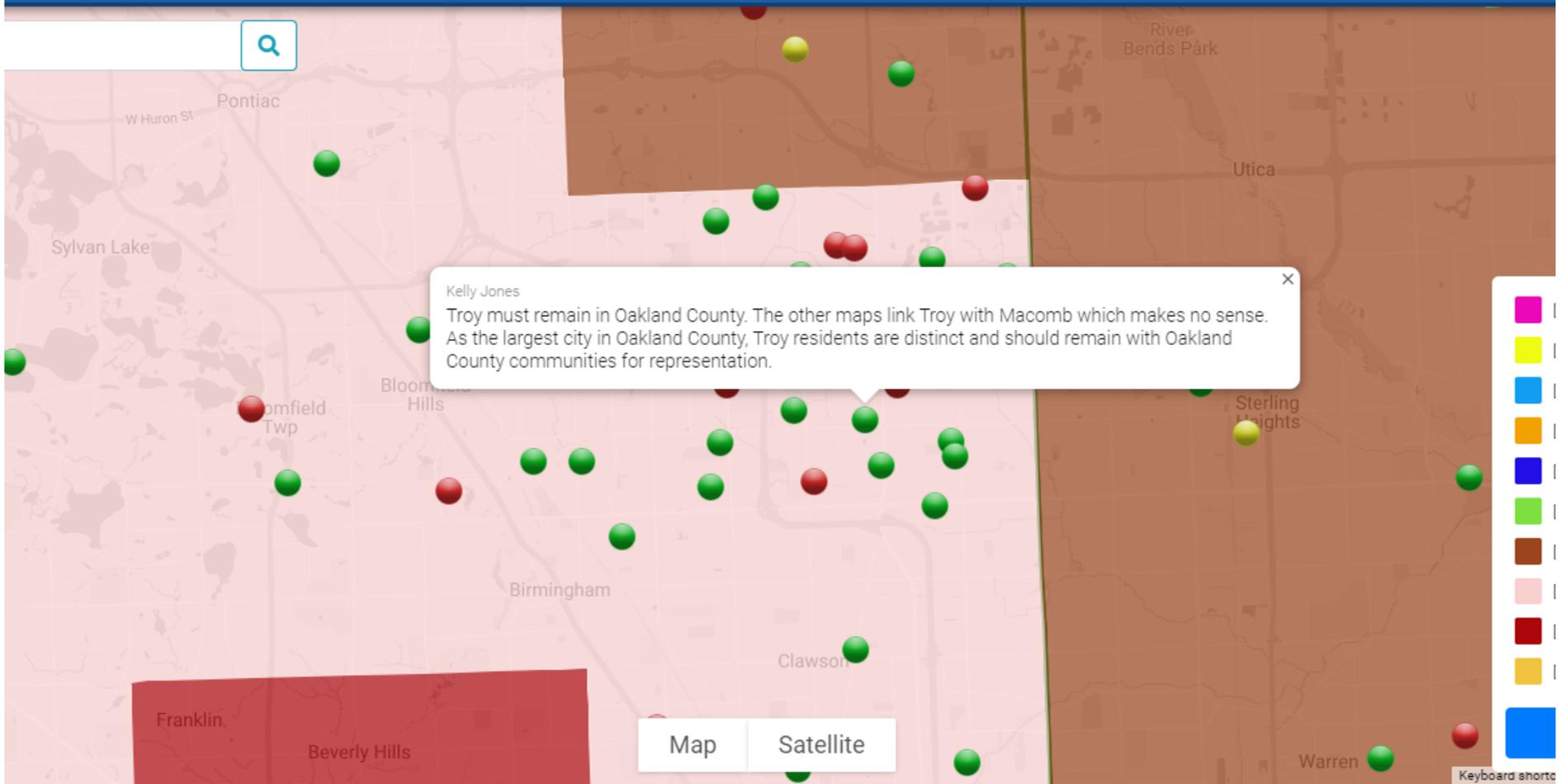
Jacob

I support the Chestnut Congressional Map, the Linden Senate Map, and the Hickory House Map. The Chestnut map in particular seems to be the best for both my home town of Oakland county, but also for Macomb and Wayne Counties as well. It keeps Troy with Oakland County (instead of with Macomb like in Birch) and puts Southfield with it's more closely aligned and partners in Detroit. This is also good for my orthodontist Jewish community as well, having roots in Oak Park. It also slightly raises the BVAP from 42% to 44% for the two Detroit districts, which I think is more fair for Detroit. I also like how it gives minorities a small voice in west Michigan. This won't be a large voice, but at least politicians will have to listen to everyone. It also has more competitive seats than Birch or Apple, which will likely lead to less polarized elections. It also has either the best or ties for the best in every objective category. Birch would be me 2nd choice, followed my Apple. For the Senate Map, Linden is a good compromise of the AA area on the other two maps. My preference would be Linden, then Cherry, then Palm. The Palm map isn't very fair to me objectively . The house maps aren't great but I like Hickory and Magnolia.

Dist	Population Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
196	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	5 (0.1%)

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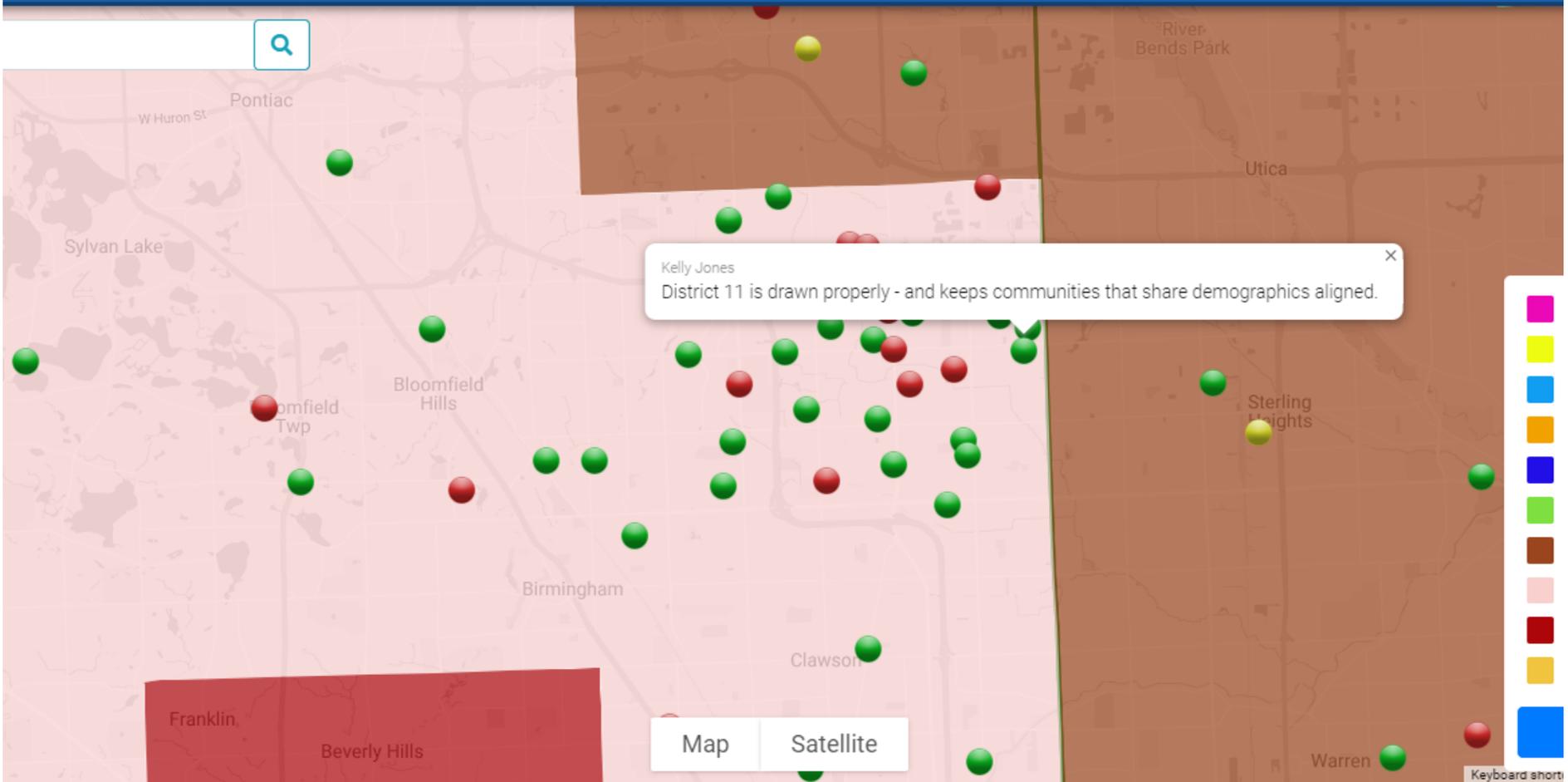
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Count	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
9	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	5 (0.00%)

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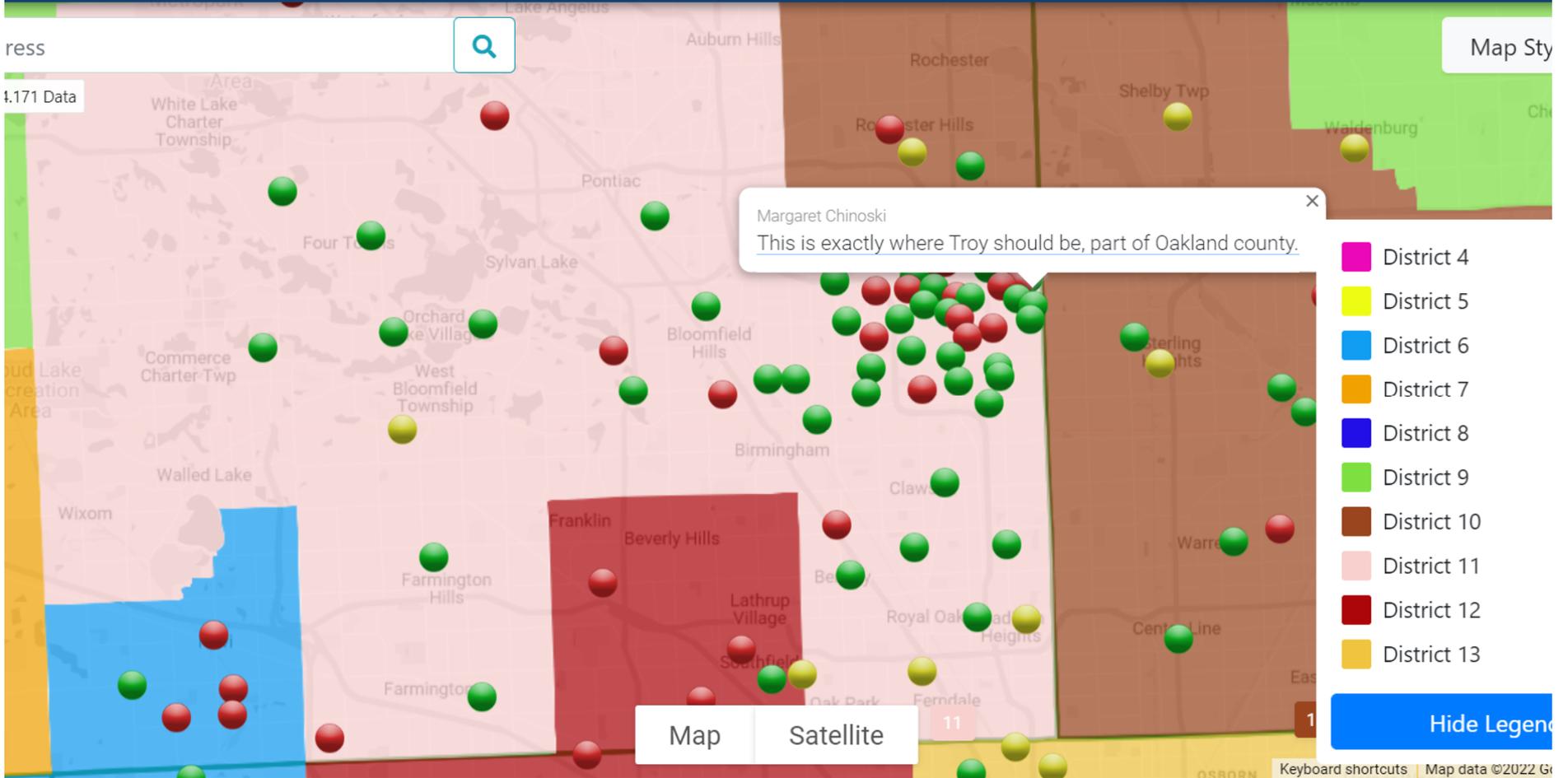
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Met	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	5 (0.0008%)

# My Districting | MICHIGAN

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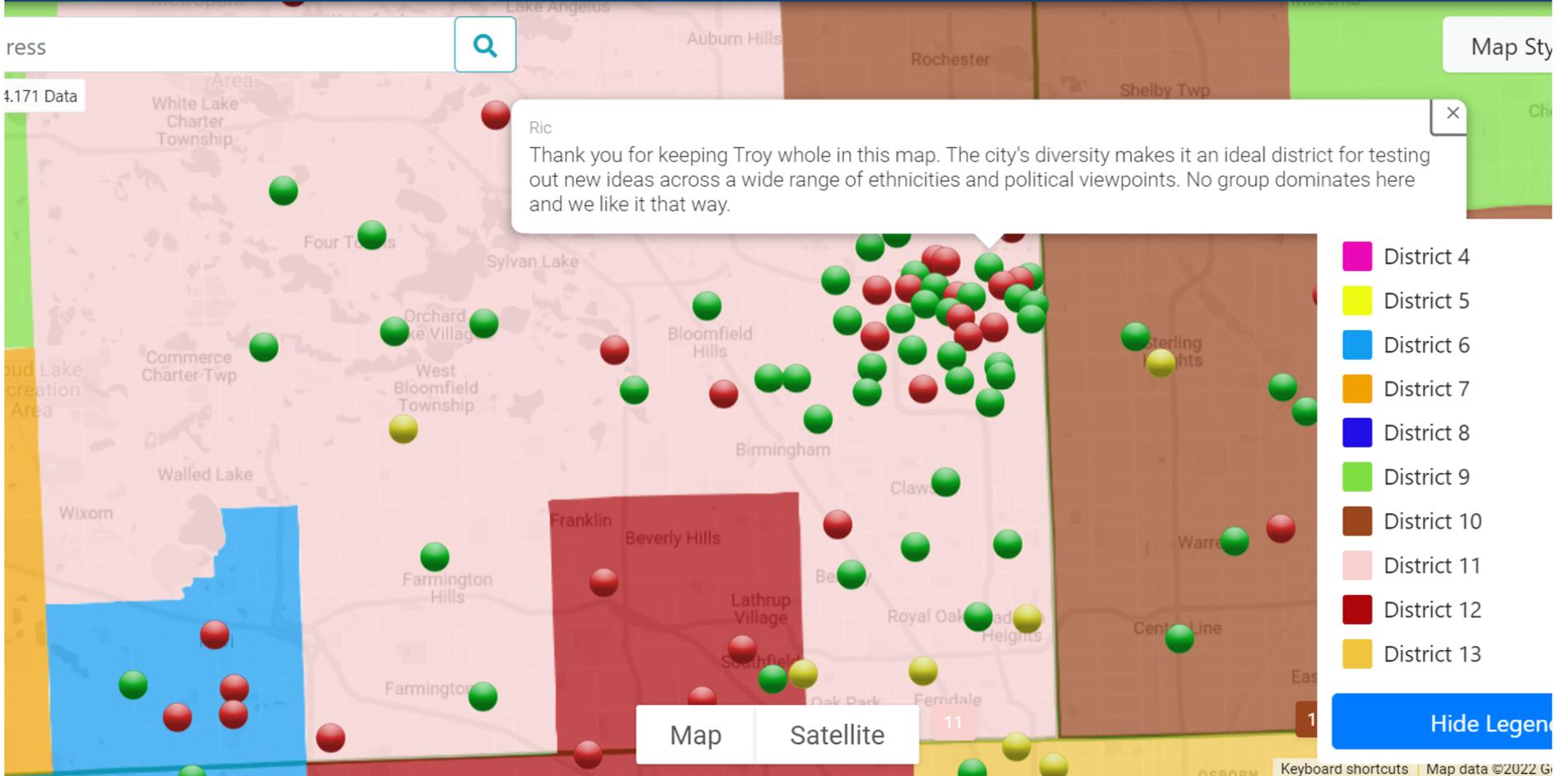


Time	Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)
Assign	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
District 1	775,179	196	775,375	726,790	11,385	38,650	7,251	879	9,957	15,847	633,080	597,460	8,188

**App. 495**

# City Districting | MICHIGAN

Enterprise Redistricting Software & Services by Citygate GIS



Assign	Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)
Assign	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
District 1	775,179	196	775,375	726,790	11,385	38,650	7,251	879	9,957	15,847	633,080	597,460	8,188

# My Districting | MICHIGAN

Enterprise Redistricting Software & Services by Citygate GIS

Address



94,171 Data

Map Style

Sandra J. Burgess  
 Prefer Chestnut map because it keeps Troy, a community of interest and one of the most populous cities in Oakland County, all within the same district. Residents of precincts in southeastern Troy already are disenfranchised by being placed in Warren Consolidated School District, where they are too few in number to have an impact on the school board's policy decisions. Please do NOT weaken their voting clout even further by separating them from the rest of their city in a different Congressional district. Troy has more in common with neighboring Oakland County communities than with Macomb County.

- District 4
- District 5
- District 6
- District 7
- District 8
- District 9
- District 10
- District 11
- District 12
- District 13

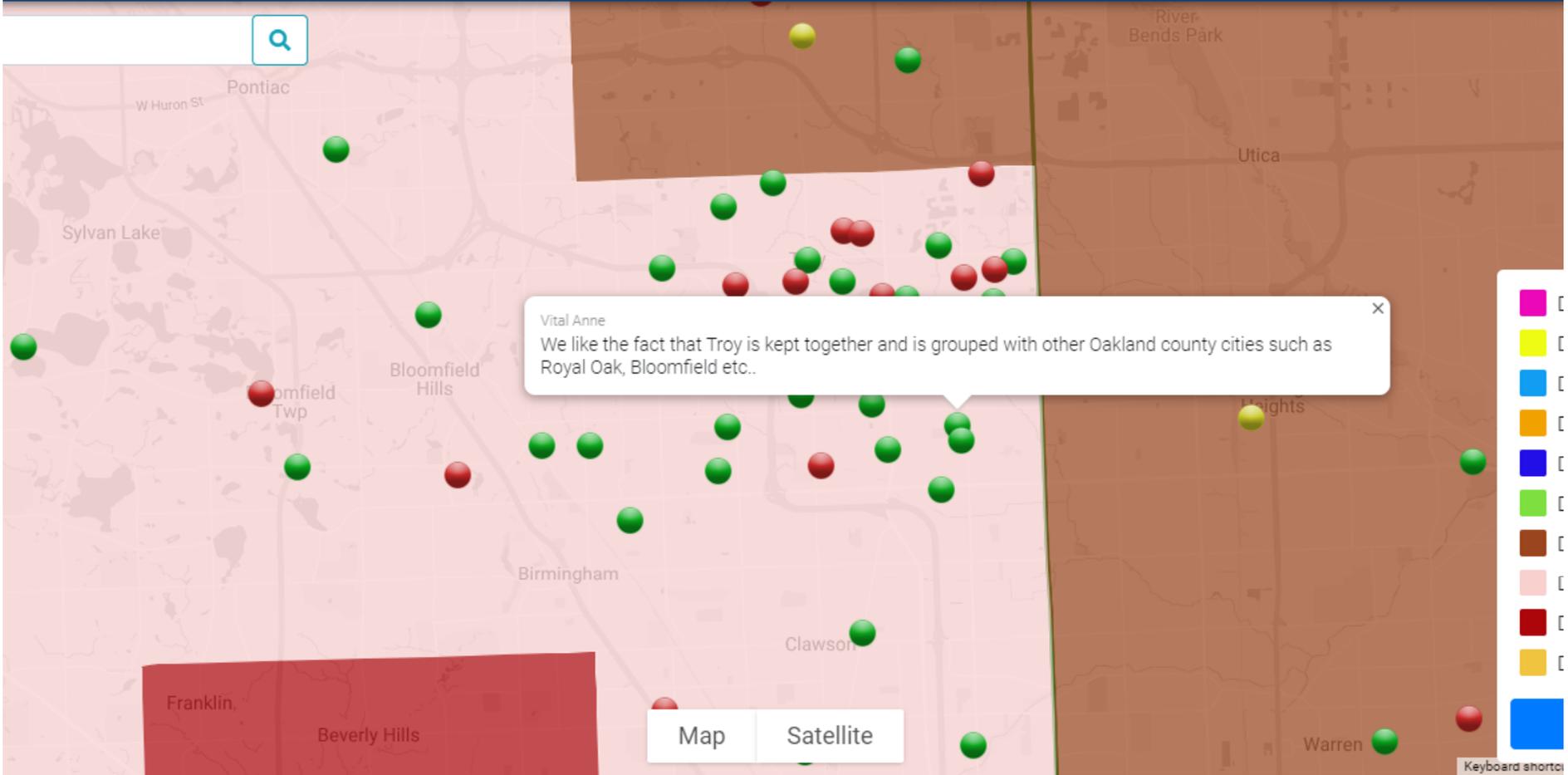
Hide Legend

Map Satellite

Keyboard shortcuts | Map data ©2022 G

Name	Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)
Assignment	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
District 1	775,179	196	775,375	726,790	11,385	38,650	7,251	879	9,957	15,847	633,080	597,460	8,188

**MICHIGAN**  
Software & Services by Citygate GIS



Net	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP Pac Islander (Combo)
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	5 (0.0%)

# DISTRICT 12

# DISTRICT 12

[← Next](#)

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# Very important points to consider

## Basic Info

Submitter: Kevin  
Location: Ann Arbor City  
Submitted: 6/17/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w878

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Hello, I am a Resident of Washtenaw County and would like to make some very critical comments.

First, lets remember that according to the Michigan Constitution, these are criteria considered by the commission in order of priority

- 1) Voting rights act
- 2) continuity
- 3) Communities of interest
- 4) partisan fairness
- 5) Don't favor incumbents
- 6) City, township and county
- 7) Compact districts

I. I have noticed many speakers at the public hearings held by the MICRC wanting "square" districts. I am sure you have realized by now that this is very difficult task to fulfill when you have to keep communities of interest intact and keep overall partisan fairness in mind (criteria that are of more importance according to the constitution). I just want the commission to realize that "square" districts can also be gerrymanders just like "uglier" districts can accurately represent communities of interest and help maintain the partisan balance of the map. So don't get bogged down by how many corners each district has. Now, if you can get square districts AND get all of the other more prioritized criteria, then of course that's great!

II. Please try to ensure that the partisan balance of the map reflects the statewide margins. The 2016 Presidential race should result in a 7-6 congressional map, the state was won by 0.2% by the winning candidate and its important to ensure that overall balance reflects that. There are PLENTY of ways you can retain this 7-

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MICRC Public Comment Portal

6 partisan balance (4th highest criteria) AND keep communities of interest (3rd highest criteria in the constitution). Try your best to ensure that Republican statewide wins result in more Republican won seats while Democratic statewide wins result in more Democratic won seats.

I know this isn't easy, but you can use metrics such as efficiency gap to see what maps "waste votes" for a particular party. Just PLEASE don't draw a congressional map that ends up being an 8-5 or 9-4 advantage when a candidate won statewide by 0-3%. This is very important to ensuring the public's trust in your maps! Similarly, try to ensure that you draw 19 districts for each party for the State senate map and 55 districts for each party for the state house map when looking at the 2016 Presidential Election, which was basically a statewide tie!!

III. You will most likely be drawing two majority minority VRA districts that are grounded in Detroit for the congressional map. It's ideal you try to split Detroit into the east side and the west side since those are historically different communities. Since Detroit will only make up half of these districts, you will have the option to take these districts up into southern Macomb, into Oakland County suburbs (besides the city of Southfield/Oak Park which \*definitely\* need to be put in with West side of Detroit), or stay within Wayne County and take up the Downriver communities. Just please ensure whatever path you choose, you keep that partisan fairness of the overall map in account! I recommend Downriver as a good fit for one of these VRA districts because if you look at the median income levels or education levels of Downriver versus a city like West Bloomfield or Farmington Hills in Oakland County, Downriver is much closer to Detroit as they are both blue collar communities. Detroit has priorities regarding economic interests or education that are more similar to

3/18/22, 3:49 PM

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Downriver than some of those wealthier burbs in Oakland County like Farmington and West Bloomfield. Again, yes Downriver and Detroit are racially different but they are united by relatively more similar economic interests. As long as you keep almost all of Downriver together, you can have a really nice district that puts ALL of East side of Detroit and ALL of downriver that hugs the Detroit River and create a majority minority district that satisfies the Voting Rights Act.

Your other option is southern Macomb with East side of Detroit, and in my opinion and extensive experience, it makes the rest of the map a lot more tricky to draw. But if it works out for you, just ensure the partisan fairness of the completed final product reflects our statewide margins.

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## Metro Detroit—Western Suburbs COI

### Basic Info

Submitter: JN

Location: Livonia

Submitted: 6/26/2021

Type: coi

ID: c1076

### Tags

### More Info

I have lived in the western suburbs for more than 50 years. I grew up in Westland and attended Wayne-Westland schools, including Wayne Memorial High School in Wayne. I now live in Livonia, and my son attended Livonia public schools for his entire K-12 education. I also lived in Plymouth for a short time.

I believe that K12 school districts, especially in the Detroit Metro area, should play a large part in creating communities of interest. Therefore, my map encompasses the Wayne-Westland school district, which now includes parts of Wayne, Westland, and Inkster; it also includes the Livonia district, which includes parts of Westland, and the Plymouth-Canton district, among others. Beyond school districts, there is some commonality (e.g., average income, age of houses and infrastructure, home value, educational attainment, etc.) among inner ring/older suburbs like Redford, Livonia, and Dearborn as well as long-established western communities like Plymouth, Northville, and Farmington, which are a popular destinations for those living in the western suburbs. Hines Park, which runs through communities such as Dearborn,

### Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

3/18/22, 2:07 PM

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Westland, Livonia, Plymouth, and Northville, is also a popular gathering place and point of reference. Other important and familiar institutions include Schoolcraft Community College and Madonna University (both in Livonia), Greenfield Village/The Henry Ford and University of Michigan-Dearborn (both in Dearborn), Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, and more. Expressways such as I-96, I-275, and parts of M-14 also tie the community together, as do Plymouth Road, Ford Road, Michigan Avenue, Schoolcraft, and the mile roads of 5 Mile up to about 13 Mile.

I am a bit less familiar with the southern areas, and some northern areas, of my map so some tweaking may be needed, especially when it comes to school district vs. municipality, but overall I think the map and the above details represent the Western Suburbs community of interest rather well, much more so than the current congressional district 11, which includes parts of Livonia, Plymouth, Northville, and Canton but also “lake” communities like Walled Lake, Waterford, and Commerce Township and more affluent northern suburbs like Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, and Rochester Hills.

Thank you.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

[← Next](#)[Previous →](#)

## Metro Detroit—Western Suburbs COI

### Basic Info

Submitter: JN

Location: Livonia

Submitted: 6/26/2021

Type: coi

ID: c1076

### Tags

### More Info

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### Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

3/14/22, 2:09 PM

MICRC Public Comment Portal

Westland, Livonia, Plymouth, and Northville, is also a popular gathering place and point of reference. Other important and familiar institutions include Schoolcraft Community College and Madonna University (both in Livonia), Greenfield Village/The Henry Ford and University of Michigan-Dearborn (both in Dearborn), Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, and more. Expressways such as I-96, I-275, and parts of M-14 also tie the community together, as do Plymouth Road, Ford Road, Michigan Avenue, Schoolcraft, and the mile roads of 5 Mile up to about 13 Mile.

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Thank you.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Black Immigrant COI

## Basic Info

Submitter: Fanta  
Location: Detroit  
Submitted: 8/12/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2386

## Tags

#abisa

## More Info

This map visualizes the African immigrant communities in Michigan, with a majority concentration in Southeast Michigan and on the west side. These communities all have shared values and common religious and cultural practices/values sacred to them. This means the children may attend the same schools and the same churches and mosques even outside of their city. For example, people in Southfield often travel to Detroit to attend the community mosques, or one may live in Southfield but works in Detroit or owns a store in Detroit. As an underserved and underrepresented community, it is crucial to keep them in their respective districts during this process. Changing that structure will damage a community that is still fighting to be seen and heard.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

[← Next](#)

[Previous →](#)

# South Oakland and Northern Wayne.

## Basic Info

Submitter: Ani Manolatos

Location:

Submitted: 9/9/2021

Type: coi

ID: c4276

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#senate

## More Info

This community of interest is economically tightly knit, with many people living in one part of the district and commuting to another part. There is a large African American population in the community, and the community is largely suburban. As a community of interest people commute to Southfield or Detroit, but live in suburban neighborhoods and send their kids to the surrounding schools.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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# CD 13 map that reflects diversity

## Basic Info

Submitter: Debbie  
Location:  
Submitted: 9/22/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p5268

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#rosedalepark #nwdetroit #dearborn  
#southfield #redford township  
#dearborn heights #allen park

## More Info

This map contains a far more compact Section 2 VRA district in the western part of Detroit and contains the largely African-American suburbs of Oak Park, Royal Oak, and Southfield. It also keeps together the Dearborn community of interest together (Cluster A18). Basically, it undoes the current gerrymandered district, and provides a diverse and dynamic district. This proposed district is a direct reflection of how the people of Rosedale Park in NW Detroit view these areas-as the extended neighborhood.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Southfield

## Basic Info

Submitter: Chevar Barrett  
Location: Southfield City  
Submitted: 10/1/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c5854

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#southfield #248

## More Info

As of 2010 or 71,739 people residing in Southfield. The demographic makeup of Southfield is 70.3% African-American 24.9% white .2% Native American 1.7% Asian 2.8% from other races. The two largest industries in Southfield are healthcare and social assistance and manufacturing Denso and Lear Corporation are two of these manufacture.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# South Livonia/North Westland Community

## Basic Info

Submitter: Nick Ferguson  
Location: Livonia/Wayne  
Submitted: 10/7/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c6089

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

- The South-Livonia/North-Westland Community
- Some key landmarks include Nankin Mills/Hines Park Area, Laurel Park Mall, and the Livonia Rec Center.
- Because most people have careers that take them outside of the community, quality of infrastructure is important the community.
- Because of the centrality and importance of Hines Park, the cleanliness of the River Rouge and adjoining lakes is also important to the community.
- One of the few major employers within the community is the Livonia Transmission plant, so the soundness of the auto industry is also important to the community.
- The community is in 2 US house districts, 2 senate districts, and 3 state house districts.
- The community would be better served if it were located within one district in order to elect a representative focused specifically on the issues above.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

[← Next](#)

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## Southfield, Oak Park, Royal Oak Twp

### Basic Info

Submitter: Will F.

Location:

Submitted: 10/8/2021

Type: written

ID: w6270

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

It is bizarre that some many Congressional maps refuse to add Southfield, Oak Park and Royal Oak Township to the west side Detroit district, yet you all seem to think that crossing 8 Mile on the east side makes more sense. If you all are serious about the Voting Rights Act, you will link these COIs. Detroiters cross 8 Mile everyday for work and to shop, and many Southfields and Oak Parkers cross the other direction for worship and family. But, this also makes the jointed communities a VRA-compliant district. None of the maps that exclude these communities are. This also frees up a lot of Western Wayne County to better respect their COIs.

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well. How can the representative work to address the issues in each of these communities.

Please keep Livonia intact.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 44.

>> Good afternoon I'm not 44 but I was in the hallway and missed my number so I do apologize to the Commission.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Could you let me know what number you are for the records.

>> 32.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you 32.

>> Denise Robinson and I address you again good afternoon.

And I want to continue to say I represent the 48214. I am born and raised in Detroit.

Born in Canfield and Warren and Connor area.

Do not continue to put us with the Harper Woods and the points.

We do not identify.

They have buses and hookah lounges and all of that.

What we have in the 48214 is 29,800 with a single mother of 4-8 kids.

What we need is representation.

Minority mapping.

That's what we need.

We have education problems.

Our libraries are closed.

Our recreations are closed.

That's what we need.

We need fair representation.

We need someone there to continue to represent us.

You went from two now to 0.

Where is our voice? Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Are you're number 44? Go ahead, sir.

>> Thank you. My name is Bill Smith and I live in the City of Livonia, Wayne County. I'd like to comment the members of the committee and the yeoman's efforts in bringing political fairness to the apportionment process.

One part of political fairness is found in a coherent and cohesive voice in Lansing.

The proposed House District maps fracture the City of Livonia into disparate pieces.

This fracturing will result in a dramatic reduction in the singular political voice Livonia has, enjoyed for more than 70 years.

This singular voice whether it republican or democrat, has afforded Livonia the unique position of being a vibrant, fiscally stable entering suburb.

The status is a stable satellite to our state's largest City, Detroit. Acts as a force multiplying ensuring good jobs.

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Speaking as respectfully and as candidly as possible we know the lawsuits are coming so why are we compromising on the integrity of this constitutional amendment.

I urge you not to compromise our chance at representation for the sake of numbers.

As you know because of the lack of census representation there is no Federal protections, no Federal Voting Rights Act, no grant funding or research no recognition for Arab Americans and the battle for basic equity will be even harder because all the current maps will restrict the only opportunity to gain legislative representation.

The only avenue we have left for a voice.

I'm frustrated because we are making history at the local level with record numbers of Arabs voting and running for office and done what we are told to do on the table instead we are put at the menus.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Your allotted 90 seconds is up please conclude your statement.

>> P6764 and P6762 which have been collectively drafted by our community thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. . Number 56.

>> Okay looks like we don't have 56 so 57 if you want to go ahead.

>> Hello, my name is Anthony Watkins.

And I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to share my important comments on the public hearing.

I would like to comment on how the Commission has gone from 17 majority Black districts primarily based in Detroit to 0.

That's a problem.

That is a serious problem.

The Detroit neighborhoods and communities should be drawn together.

Majority Black districts are important.

And we can draw them.

NAACP has drawn them.

Several community groups have drawn them.

Fellow Detroit citizens have drawn them.

But these maps need to be seriously looked at and seriously considered and not just request to be submitted.

So we are aware we can beat this and we are aware that we need to have this done.

Because districts do not have a majority of Blacks.

In large part having elected Black individuals.

Black issues are important.

And led by Black people.

And it's Black people continuously able to lead on these issues.

I thank you.

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The Voting Rights Act addresses discriminatory election rules to ensure that leg legislatures reflect the diversity of the local population.

Under the VRA minority Districts is be proposed as one tool towards that goal.

In creating an Arab American District in the Dearborn area is critical to giving advice to my community.

Arab Americans are a key community of interest.

Dearborn and Dearborn Heights should be kept together in both the state, Senate and the State House maps as they both have a large concentration of Arab Americans.

Dearborn and Dearborn Heights State Senate seat will allow unique issues of the community to be better addressed.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I believe number 16 has rejoined, Mr. M.

>> Hi, can you all hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Excellent.

I'm a Chester field Township resident and I would like to talk about Macomb today.

For me I wanted to emphasize for all of you is in Macomb there is a huge difference between north Macomb and south Central Macomb.

I would consider north Macomb anything north of M59.

Those areas of interest have much different demographics and needs R versus south of M59 mount Clemens Clinton and others and south Central Macomb should stay out of northern Macomb and northern Macomb should stay out of the south.

When I spoke in earlier summer there need to be more partisan fairness, we voted this in 2018 and more votes to prop two than legalizing marijuana in the State of Michigan.

Please respect the people in this country and state.

Please respect the partisan fairness as well as Voting Rights Act.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

>> Hello, thank you for your time.

I'm a resident of east English village on the east side of Detroit.

My neighbors and I have submitted maps and made comments to this Commission previously.

Our ask was that our neighborhood east English village is kept with morning side and corner side village all on the east side of Detroit.

Unfortunately the State House maps did not reflect our interest.

Also one of the State Senate District had split our neighborhood into two.

Again I ask that the Commission keep the three neighborhoods on the east side of Detroit together.

I would also like to address that we are a part of the City of Detroit one of the largest minority majority cities in the nation.

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# \*Cmmr Eid: About that Congress map...\*

## Basic Info

Submitter: Will F.  
Location: Ingham County  
Submitted: 10/20/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p6923

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#ironwood

## More Info

Commissioner Eid,  
Of all the Congressional maps, I believe that your individually-submitted one is the best. It shows that you put a lot of thought into it. I have request of you, though: Can you take a look at my "Ironwood" congressional map and incorporate some changes into it to make it an even better map? Here are some of my constructive criticisms:

- To better group the northern most district, I'd suggest making it coastal as much as you can, making the district below it a Northern/Central Michigan-based district. This better respects both district's communities of interest, and works better for partisan fairness.
- I'd suggest moving the Lansing district south and east to pick up Jackson - with which is shares a media market - and then western Washtenaw and Livingston. We are much more economically attuned to this area than parts west or noth. This requires the border counties district a bit north between Battle Creek, Lansing and GR, but it makes a more cohesive and better-looking Lansing district.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

3/18/22, 3:21 PM

MICRC Public Comment Portal

- I see you took seriously VRA concerns, but you can bolster your West Side Detroit district by grabbing Southfield's black-majority neighbors of Oak Park and Royal Oak Township. These are communities of interest and shores up the black plurality (or even majority depending on how you draw it) of the VRA district. On my map, you get two black plurality districts which are 46.4% black by voting age population; the eastern district is further bolstered by being 9% Latino.
- Finally, for the Southwest Michigan district, if you JUST grab Battle Creek proper, it allows the border counties district not have to go so far north between the aforementioned cities. To end all of this, though, my "Ironwood" map on 2020 election results only has an 0.8% Republican bias and 0.25% population deviation! You're not going to get much better than that. I do hope that you will consider SOME of these changes. Thank you for all of your thoughtful work.

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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>> Hello, this is James Gallant, Marquette, these are my opinions. Yesterday we saw this Commission's true colors and they are not red, white and blue like our flag. Commissioner Witjes attempted to bully the Chair and Vice Chair. And I applaud Szetela for doing the right thing there. And now Witjes did not want the Vice Chair. He wanted Rothhorn to continue to facilitate the discussion concerning the maps. Before the issue was legally legitimately as required under current rules of procedure as they are written go and check.

I believe the court, including Justice Bernstein, will see clearly that the maps are not currently before the Commission until there is a motion that has been properly seconded.

Your alleged new model is not new at all. This is the Dutch polar model. And it's cheating. And it's crooked. If you're not following rules of procedure in this country in the fundamental principles of parliamentary law. You all know it's not really before you until you make the motion and yet you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Ms. Tapia.

>> Hi, good morning, Commissioners. I want to thank you for all the hard work you are doing in editing these maps.

I really wanted to thank Commissioner Britt Kellom for her hard work and focusing on Detroit. Please continue to focus on Detroit and Flint and those VRA districts. It's critical you listen to communities of interest. You still need to make changes to cherry Senate map that has not addressed issues for Detroit and Flint. I'm working with cohort members nearly 40 nonprofit community of interest across the state that have submitted their community of interest maps. And the LBGT Detroit Palmer Park community of interest continues to be cut in all of your maps. This particular community of interest has the most public comments of support on your portal and you continue to ignore it. If you are not listening to the communities of interest, who are you listening to. I appreciate the work you have done on partisan fairness but please continue to do your work in Detroit and Southeast Michigan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Anthony Skinnell.

>> Hello, Commission, I call this map prison gerrymandering. If you wanted to know why it's better R for Wayne County well you would have all right known why because I have said it the whole time beyond Mickey Mouse ears and should have changed it before this point. The problem is some Commissions are skeptical of certain public input and think it's problematic to pay attention because I've been paying attention you disregarded similar live comments given by peoples from Trenton River Rouge and Ecorse and by your Congress map. I see a stall tactic this is an emergency managers style and a person not from our locality gets to make decisions and said COIs don't matter because it's all about allocating money that as side what COI could you say the chest nut Congressional districts would and I don't think you could and MDOS will not

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hold you to that what about the border of Berrien Congressional District that you know will call it for the canard I cannot remain silent while you act like this.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Mary Ann Mahoney go ahead.

>> Yes, thank you. Sure can you hear me? Marian. Okay thank you this is Marian-Mahoney, a 26 year resident of Novi in southwestern Oakland County. On the State House the Pine map is best but still needs work. Please do not split the City of Novi between districts and include Novi precincts in District 110. On the State Senate the cherry map is best but also needs some work. Please remove Washtenaw County from District 11. Washtenaw County has no common interests with Novi or the rest of District 11. On the U.S. Congress please move forward with the birch map. The chestnut map is terrible for Novi. We belong with Oakland County neighbors where we have shared economic interest along I-96 and I-696 corridors. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 5, which is Carol Chi I'm not sure which way.

>> Hi this is Carole-Chi can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can good morning.

>> Good morning thank you so much for taking my comments. I would like to thank Brittini Kellom and Juanita Curry and working a couple days ago and working Tuesday at the election in Sterling Heights and I appreciate what they did with Detroit. And keep on working on this please. All of you. The party with the most votes should get the most seats in Michigan. Partisan fairness above all even though COI is important I understand that completely we shouldn't have to overcome have to have four votes to overcome one vote of the other party as in the past ten years and I agree with live speakers number today of today number 4, 5 and 11. Two of them were lawyers and I think the last one was a UAW guy. Thanks for your work. I know it's hard to do but keep on working. Thanks again good-bye.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Nina Dodge Abrahms, number nine.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Nina, if you can unmute, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Let me take off and do the video. I'm Nana from south Oakland County I'm asking you to please not split the cities of Royal Oak Township 2400 people Oak Park Ferndale or Berkeley. You are dividing communities of interest middle class Black Jewish gay water problems and libraries. There is no purpose to having these as vertical Directors going over 8 mile. They should be southeast Oakland should be horizontal districts. Also this would do better for giving Detroit majority minority districts. Republicans gave 17 minority majority districts. You should do no less. Fair maps create level playing

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>> Good morning, my name is Soh. I'm a resident of Detroit. First of all I want to thank the Commission for considering our neighborhoods to be put together. That's the east side of Detroit. East English village cornerstone village and morning side. So I appreciate the fact that they are in the same districts for the house and the Senate as well as Congressional District. However, I am concerned that many of the districts on the east side of Detroit are stretched out into Montcalm County and I don't believe this serves the interests of Montcalm residents nor Detroiters. I would appreciate the Commission concerning keeping the municipal County boundaries as part of the consolation in making these boundaries. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. No. 34, Holly Hughes.

>> Can you hear me now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you. From Muskegon County I would like to see the apple map. The apple map will keep the lakeshore communities of interest with Muskegon being the anchor with Ottawa and Allegan. Please allow Counties to stay as whole as much as possible. The other two plans are not conducive to communities of interest. The birch plan puts Muskegon with an added dozen of non-lakeshore Counties. The chestnut plan unless gerrymandering is edited out it should be rejected because it's just carving up the west side. Apple is the best plan of the three. If this Commission wants to put Grand Rapids in the lakeshore District, please keep Muskegon and Ottawa County whole and place communities of Grand Rapids, Grandville, Walker, Sparta, Township and Byron Township in it. Please adopt the apple plan. Thank you for your consideration and have a great day.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 35, Cilla.

>> Yes, thank you very much for letting me talk today. And for all your hard work. I live in Ann Arbor. And I really like your design of the maps combining some parts of Ann Arbor with parts of Jackson. It shows a compact map balancing constituents of those two towns. I'm really supporting partisan fairness since otherwise we will get back into gerrymandering. We don't want to put all the constituents voting for a certain party together in one District. So there are only few left for balanced representation in other districts. Please balance the presentation for politicians to be elected except extreme views which is happening right now in some districts in Michigan. They will be better equipped to negotiate agreements with members of opposing.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 37, Emma.

>> Hello.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Hello.

>> Can you hear me, okay? I'm Emma. I'm 22 years old and lived in Southwest Michigan my whole life. Thanks for allowing me to speak today. I want to say these

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It has much better partisan fairness scores than any other House maps.  
Thank you for this opportunity to address the Commission.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for your comments.  
Number five, Amer Zahr.

>> MR. AMER ZAHAR: Hey, good morning, Commissioners.  
This is – my name is Amer Zahr and I'm joining you from Dearborn.  
This is now my fourth time addressing you.  
As you all know, Michigan is home to the nation's most concentrated Arab American population.  
Dearborn is our community's unofficial capital.  
It's essential that our central community in Dearborn be kept together.  
I'd like to thank you for achieving this goal in your State Senate and Congressional maps but, unfortunately, you failed in the State House maps.  
Our main center of our community, East Dearborn, is split among two districts: District 3 and District 4.  
The second of East Dearborn that is located in District 3 is the heart of our community.  
I'm talking, east of Greenfield, north of Ford Road, west of Wyoming, south of Tireman.  
It is the heartbeat of the Arab American community.  
Luckily, you can fix this easily.  
You can take the part of Section 3 that's in east Dearborn, put it in District 4.  
And then take some parts of Franklin Park, put them into District 3.  
It would make that District more African American and it would keep our community together, helping two communities at once.  
I'm begging you to put one of these maps forward that reflect that so that we discuss it over the next 45 days so that we have something to lobby you on.  
Please keep our community together.  
Don't fragment us and dilute our vote.  
Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission.  
Sara Abbott, number six.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Number six and seven are not present so we'll move on to number eight.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.  
Jennifer Austin.

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# Keep Grandmont Rosedale District As Is

## Basic Info

Submitter: Carolyn Richardson

Location: Detroit

Submitted: 12/15/2021

Type: written

ID: w9352

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

It is important to our community to keep Grandmont Rosedale's five neighborhoods united.

They include Rosedale Park, North Rosedale Park, Grandmont #1, Grandmont, and Minock Park.

Please do not use Southfield Freeway as a dividing line.

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# Chestnut is best for OKLD/MCMB/Wayne CC

## Basic Info

Submitter: David Gaberman  
Location: Oak Park City  
Submitted: 12/15/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9376

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

I support the Chestnut Congressional Map, the Linden Senate Map, and the Hickory House Map.

The Chestnut map in particular seems to be the best for both my home town of Oakland county, but also for Macomb and Wayne Counties as well. It keeps Troy with Oakland County (instead of with Macomb like in Birch) and puts Southfield with it's more closely aligned and partners in Detroit. This is also good for my orthodontist Jewish community as well, having roots in Oak Park.

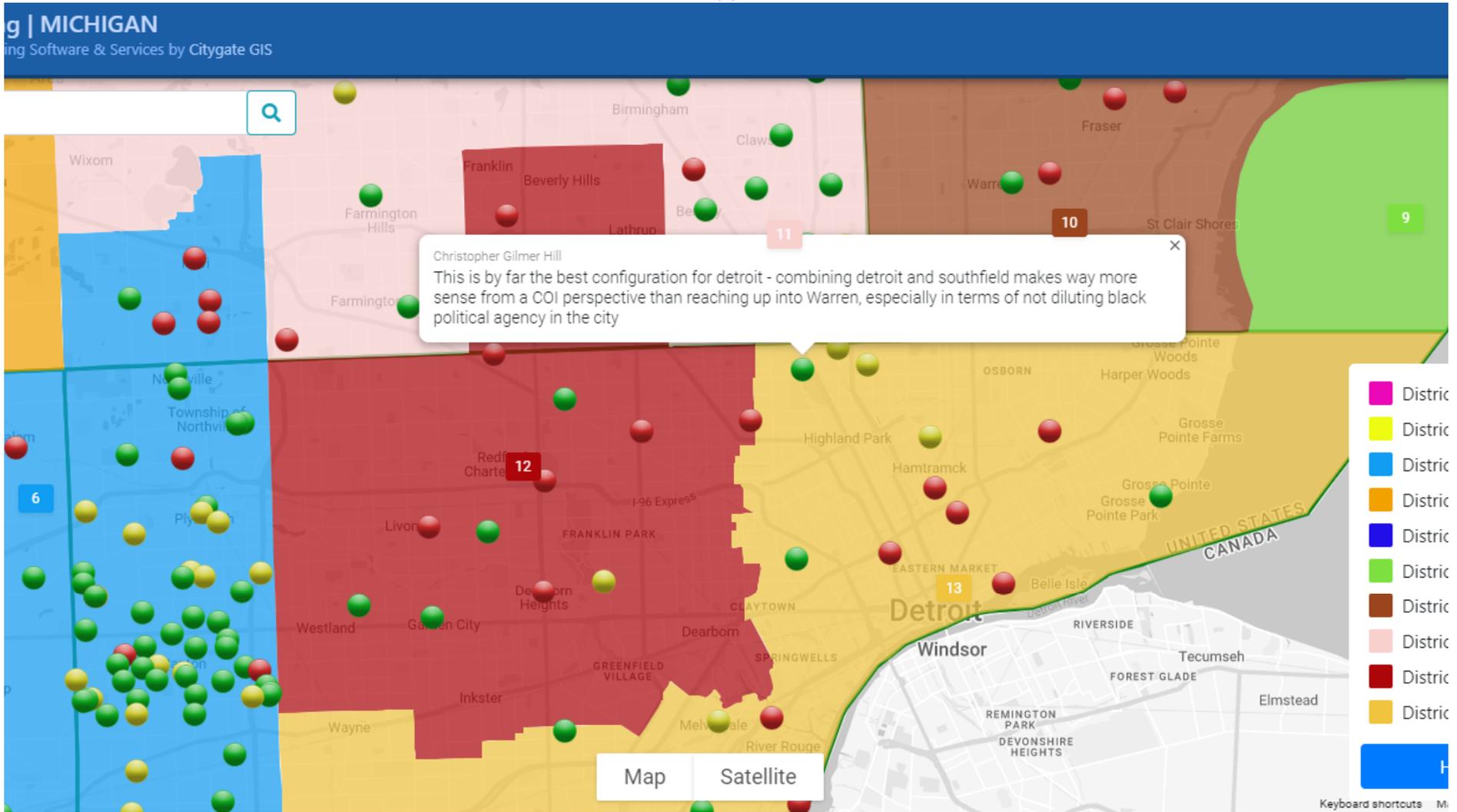
It also slightly raises the BVAP from 42% to 44% for the two Detroit districts, which I think is more fair for Detroit. I also like how it gives minorities a small voice in west Michigan. This won't be a large voice, but at least politicians will have to listen to everyone.

It also has more competitive seats than Birch or Apple, which will likely lead to less polarized elections. It also has either the best or ties for the best in every objective category.

Birch would be me 2nd choice, followed my Apple.

For the Senate Map, Linden is a good compromise of the AA area on the other two maps. My preference would be Linden, then Cherry, then Palm. The Palm map isn't very fair to me objectively .

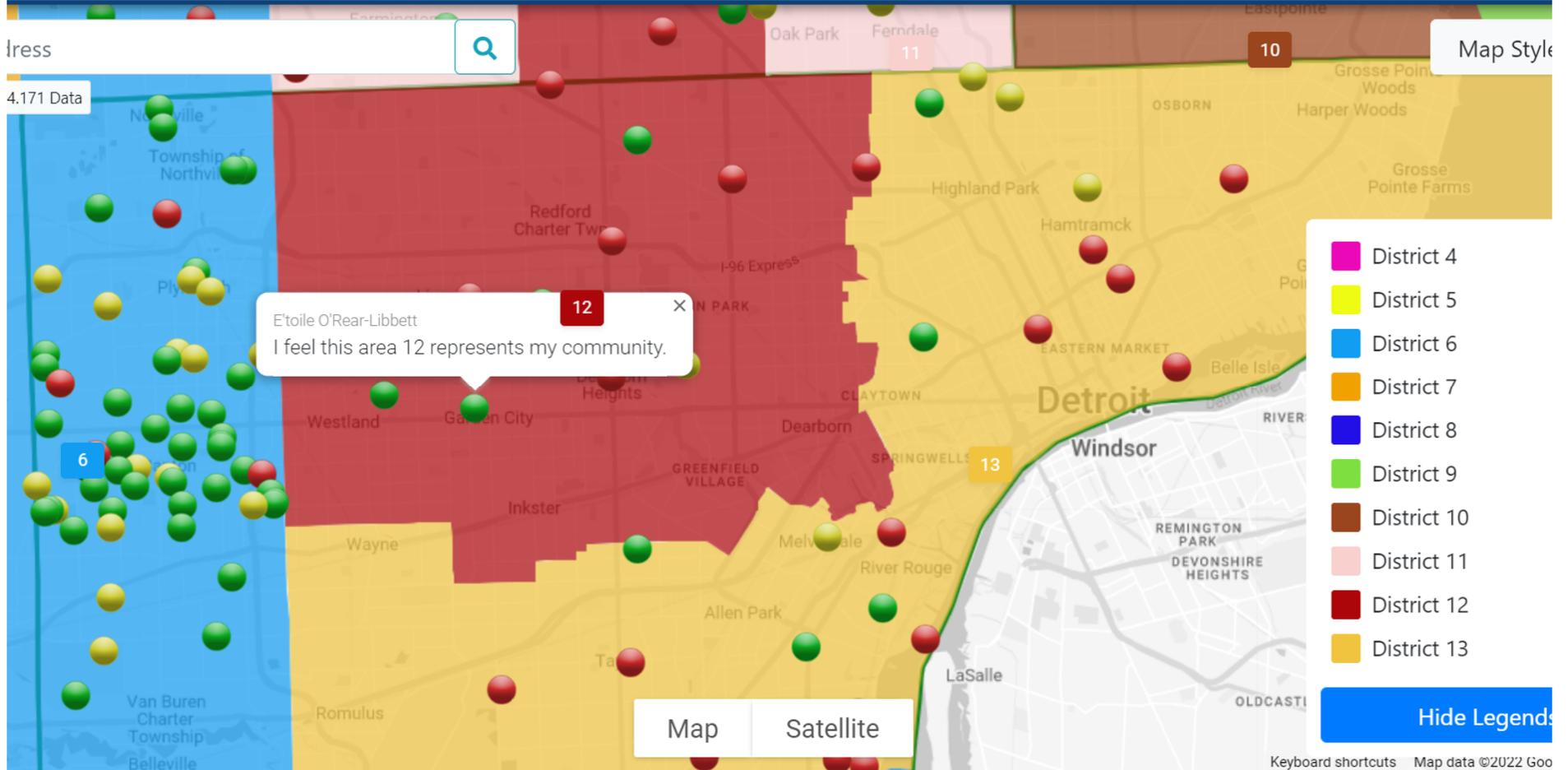
The house maps aren't great but I like Hickory and Magnolia.



Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)	VAP NH Native (Combo)	VAP NH Asian (Combo)	VAP NH Pac Islander (Combo)
	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
75,179	196 (0.03%)	775,375	726,790 (93.73%)	11,385 (1.47%)	38,650 (4.98%)	7,251 (0.94%)	879 (0.11%)	9,957 (1.28%)	15,847 (2.04%)	633,080	597,460 (94.37%)	8,188 (1.29%)	27,402 (4.33%)	5,147 (0.81%)	554 (0.09%)
75,179	-182	774,997	710,889	21,627	19,937	7,352	659	10,625	36,060	606,868	560,657	16,019	14,526	4,965	418

# My Districting | MICHIGAN

Enterprise Redistricting Software & Services by Citygate GIS



name	Target	Deviation	Total Population	NH White (Combo)	NH Black (Combo)	NH Native (Combo)	NH Asian (Combo)	NH Pac Islander (Combo)	NH Other (Combo)	Hispanic	Voting Age Population	VAP NH White (Combo)	VAP NH Black (Combo)
assign	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
istrict 1	775,179	196	775,375	726,790	11,385	38,650	7,251	879	9,957	15,847	633,080	597,460	8,188

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**PART 1**

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# DISTRICT 13

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# Detroit Congressional Districts

## Basic Info

Submitter: RICHARD CLEMENT  
Location: Detroit  
Submitted: 6/14/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w759

## Written Testimony

I hope that this community of interest is kept intact..

## Tags

[#detroit city](#) [#highland park city](#)  
[#hamtramck city](#)

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# East English Village District

## Basic Info

Submitter: Gregory Falkner

Location: Detroit City

Submitted: 6/16/2021

Type: coi

ID: c829

## Tags

## More Info

Our community contains multiple major thoroughfares that contain many large businesses, small businesses, schools, parks, waterways, and industry. These community assets provide jobs, education and many shared interest venues that are not only vital but beloved to our community. Our core district is the East English Village Community . Our proposed District would tie together the interest of multiple communities of the lower East Side of Detroit making it a District to be modeled after for years to come. This proposed district provides strong community assets and institutions that will provide jobs, shopping, entertainment, casino's major league sports events to include Indy Car Racing, to not only the residents of this community, but to the entire State of Michigan. Those are the larger assets of the community. The smaller but just as important assets are educational institutions to include Wayne County Community College Districts Eastern Campus, Several Detroit Public School Community District High Schools, Middle Schools, and Elementary Schools. The proposed East English Village district will have a strong residential base that

## Map

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3/14/22, 3:36 PM

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includes low income, middle income, and upper middle income residential neighborhoods that would all benefit from corporations located in the district such as The Chrysler corporation which has two plants in the proposed district, Detroit City Airport, Detroit Water and Sewage, DTE Energy maintenance yards, Universal Logistics, Flex N Gate, and Dakkota Integrated Systems all of which are major supplies to the big 3 Auto companies. Assets like these in our proposed contiguous yet compact district will provide a labor force for industry and jobs for the residents of our proposed district as well as the residents of the City of Detroit and State of Michigan. For these reasons we the citizens and community members of East English Village submit this proposal for creating an new district with our proposed district.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Asian American Community/Hamtramck COI

## Basic Info

Submitter: Rebeka Islam  
Location: Hamtramck  
Submitted: 6/25/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p1037

## Tags

## More Info

My community of interest is the Asian American community of Hamtramck MI. I grew up in Hamtramck and it's home to many Bangladeshi Americans; it has a high concentration of Asian Americans and many other immigrant communities representing about 35% of the population. In recent years Asian Americans in Hamtramck have expanded into Detroit due to the high cost of housing, and limited access to affordable housing as the population has grown. I am asking that we include parts of Detroit in Hamtramck's district.

One example of why the commission should include parts of Detroit with Hamtramck is the ability to service immigrant communities with better language access materials in native languages. There is a large demand for civic, health, and educational reading material in native languages, given the recent health crisis of the covid-19 pandemic, it has highlighted and uncovered the need for more language access throughout Hamtramck and parts of Detroit. Although my organization focuses on civic engagement in the last year we have worked in the community

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

translating critical health information because this was not available through state or local government agencies. This is just one example of resource needs that my community experiences on a daily basis.

The AAPI community trusts that you will hear our needs and consider them when you redraw the maps. We ask, as a community, that Hamtramck should be connected with Detroit's district. Not doing so would be to the exclusion of the Asian American voices in Detroit and Hamtramck . I have submitted a map on the portal for your reference.

I thank you for listening to me.

### Comments & Feedback

7/7/2021 - **Abigail Adan** (Detroit/Wayne): I agree this is a definite need for identity representing this community.

7/7/2021 - **Amanda Jaczkowski** (Hamtramck, Wayne): As a resident of Hamtramck, I interact with the Bangladeshi community frequently in the stores, restaurants, and streets. Sometimes, representation crosses the boundaries of the city and county. The Bangladeshi community is a perfect example of a Community of Interest, with cultural and economic ties that cross these boundaries. It is absolutely important to provide this community a unified voice in politics, so that they can have the representation they deserve on a state and federal level. #banglatown

#bangladeshi #hamtramck city

7/8/2021 - **Amina Ahmed**: This is a great map! Went to the APIA event tonight , it was great. Please support this. #bangladeshi

#bangla #asian #aapi

7/10/2021 - **Linda Sattler** (Washtenaw): This is a great map! The explanation is clear with important reasons as to why it is vital to keep this community together. An excellent submission. #hamtramck city

#bangladeshi

7/17/2021 - **Mariam Akanan**: We urge the commission to take into account the shared experiences between the immigrant communities in Hamtramck and Detroit. We echo the statements made by APIA that keeping these COIs together will help immigrant-based-organizations in providing culturally appropriate services, as well as enhancing the ability to service immigrant communities with better language access materials in native languages.

#hamtramck city #immigrants #asian  
#aapi #access #communitypartners

8/18/2021 - **Mohammed Khan**: Please support this map this would really help bring our community together.

8/19/2021 - **Chien-An Yuan** (ANN ARBOR): This is a great narrative and I ask the commissioners to support this! Thank you!

8/19/2021 - **Sarah Lally**: I support this map, the reasons, and rationale. Please take this into consideration and leave the community grouped together!

8/19/2021 - **Tanvir Ahmed**: I am in support of this map. We can do similar for Warren and Sterling Heights #aapi #apiavotemi  
#asian

8/19/2021 - **Dmitri Nguyen**: This map makes a lot of sense for the reasons Rebeka listed. It also adheres to all of the commission's priorities for drawing a district. I fully support this!

8/19/2021 - **Jacqueline Dechavez**: I agree with Rebeka communities should be kept together!

8/19/2021 - **Emma Davis** (Detroit City): I am in support of this map and submitted an identical one (ID: p1206) that was informed by community feedback and conversations with other community organizations like APIAVoteMI and Detroit Environmental Justice. In addition to the language access needs that Rebeka highlighted, this COI also shares housing, financial stability, small business, environmental, and public health

needs which you can read about in more detail in my submission.

<https://www.michigan-mapping.org/submission/p1206>

8/19/2021 - **Jerrica Mickens** (Detroit City): I support fair mapping that recognizes the importance of community and this map is an example of such fair mapping. Well thought and considerate to its citizens. I fully support this map.

8/19/2021 - **N Joyrich** (Farmington Hills): I fully support this map. thanks

8/19/2021 - **Ken Whittaker** (Detroit City): I support this map. Hamtramck needs its political and cultural identity lifted.

8/19/2021 - **Dan Moen** (Washington Township): I support this map.

8/19/2021 - **Nasreen Khan**: Recent census data showed that the AAPI community is on the rise. We need to make sure we keep these communities together. #aapi #apiavote #hamtramck city

8/20/2021 - **Mariam Bazzi**: I support this map and its narrative, both of which are integral to the communities it seeks to represent. I hope the commission will keep these communities together and recognize its role in fair representation.

8/21/2021 - **Kurtis Fernandez** (Sterling Heights): I support this map! I'm glad when we can recognize that there are communities that transcend municipal boundaries.

8/30/2021 - **Tanvir Jaigirder**: Please keep Hamtramck , Detroit and warren as a Bangla Town

9/7/2021 - **Rumana Rahman** (Hamtramck City): This is a great initiative. The border between Hamtramck and Detroit are porous and the communities are connected and spread on either side. This initiative will help better represent the community as well as give them access to services

#hamtramck city #bangladeshi #bengali #detroit city

9/14/2021 - **Maria Risvold** (Sterling Heights City): Kindly requesting the commission to please approve the map drawn by APIA-Vote. This will help the communities who have commonality in their culture, needs and issues. Hence they can support each other and share resources.

9/17/2021 - **Sara Rede**: Please make sure to keep communities of interest together like this one.

9/22/2021 - **Maisha Khan**: This map needs to be taken into consideration when drafting the maps. Please pay attention to this map.

9/23/2021 - **Reem** (Detroit City): The idea of splitting a community is not efficient in addressing its needs. If the community is all in the same district with the same representative, its needs and concerns will be properly and collectively managed. There is no reason to separate a community into 3 districts and have policies instituted on one side of a neighborhood and not in the other because of district lines. I support this proposal and I think it has the best interest of the Hamtramck/Detroit residents.

9/25/2021 - **Michelle Oh** (Detroit): I personally support this map because this will bring big impact to our community as one and it value to all. #apiavote #aapi

#asian #banglatown

9/25/2021 - **Ofelia** : This was a great job, and I want give my thanks to Rebeka for taking the time to do it. It seems like a complicated process but the story makes it simple to understand. Many thanks.

9/25/2021 - **Winnie** (Sterling Heights): The map makes sense in bringing communities together. I hope we can understand how this community lives together and shares similar concerns. #aapi #apiavotemi

#hamtramck #asian

9/25/2021 - **Cecilia** : I support the map as this would give the voice to a minority community. It is important to recognize that

Hamtramck is a multi-ethnic city.

#banglatown #hamtramck #apiavotemi

9/25/2021 - **Willie Dechavez** (Sterling Heights): Pls support this map. This will bring our community together. #asian

#hamtramck #community

9/25/2021 - **Benedicto Manzano**: The map developed by APIA Vote is ideal because it took into consideration geographical, social, and cultural groups. I believe that the organization took a lot of time in drawing the map so that we make sure that gerrymending was not used to favor any political party. Thank you to APIA Vote for inviting me to their Hamtramck Redistricting Town Hall - I see that they engage the community on a regular basis. #apiavotemi #asian

#banglatown

9/25/2021 - **Nene Camero**: I support this map to help the community better for representation. #aapi #apiavotemi

#hamtramck #asian #banglatown

#bangladeshi

9/25/2021 - **Roger Dionisio**: I am in full support of this map because it represents the community with cultural and economic ties that cross city boundaries. Please support this map. #banglatown #bangladeshi

#asian #apiavotemi #hamtramckcity

9/25/2021 - **Brenda Sanagustin**: I support the map highlighting the Bengali population in Hamtramck area. My concern and hope is that the community will be well represented on the state level. #apiavotemi #asian

#banglatown #hamtramck

9/27/2021 - **Amanda Jaczkowski** (Hamtramck): After reviewing the first set of drafted maps, I was disappointed to see that Banglatown was split on municipal borders. I attended multiple meetings with Commissioners present, and each time it was noted by at least one Commissioner how involved the Bangladeshi community was in attending the meetings and hearings to make

their voices heard. I hope that credit is given where credit is due, and this map delineating Banglatown as a Community of Interest is taken into serious consideration during the review and editing process. Banglatown deserves unified representation.

#bangladeshi #banglatown #hamtramck  
#detroit

9/27/2021 - **Sam Shrum**: They deserve to have proper representation as one community.

9/27/2021 - **Sharon Dow** (Rochester Hills City): Redistricting can help keep our communities together. Let's use this map to keep our Asian group together! #asian

#aapi #hamtramck city #rochester city  
#rochester hills city

9/27/2021 - **Peggy Du** (Madison Heights City): This is a great map! Please keep AAPI communities together when you draft maps.

#aapi

9/27/2021 - **Kamal Rahman** (Hamtramck): Hello my name is Kamal Rahman I am a resident of Hamtramck and a member of APIA Vote- MI. Thank you for taking our communities of interest so seriously, on June 25th ID: p1037 community of interest map was submitted highlighting the Bangla town community here in Hamtramck. However, I am concerned that the draft maps that were drafted last week are going to split this community of interest. Please know that we are watching the mapping process as they are being drawn and want you to pay attention to our communities. I also want to ask that you make the draft maps more accessible by posting them on the redistricting website. We are eagerly awaiting its rollout so we can analyze them to ensure our community stays together. I would humbly request you to modify the suggested map to expand only by few blocks to the East to Mt. Elliott, which becomes Mound, in a straight line. Davison to the North and I-94 to the East and I-75 to the West. This will ensure the community stays in one map and voices will be more meaningful and will

encourage participating in the election process. Thank you in advance for your consideration. #bangladeshi #aapi #banglatown

9/27/2021 - **Christopher Copacia** (Oakland County): As a resident of Berkley, Michigan than regularly visits and interacts with the Bangladeshi community in Hamtramck and Detroit, the greater Bangladeshi community should not be divided within our district maps and should be considered a community of interest as a whole.

#banglatown #hamtramck #hamtramck city #bangladeshi

9/28/2021 - **Lynn Blasey** (Hamtramck City): I am disappointed to see that Banglatown was split on municipal borders. I attended several local meetings with Commissioners present and each time it was noted by at least one Commissioner how involved the Bangladeshi community was in attending the meetings and hearings to make their voices heard. I hope that credit is given where credit is due, and this map delineating Banglatown as a Community of Interest is taken into serious consideration during the review and editing process. Banglatown deserves unified representation. #bangladeshi

10/4/2021 - **Adel Mozip** (Dearborn): The main mission and goal for this commission is to create districts that are not gerrymandered. What the current map right now reflect is gerrymandering Hamtramck. Hamtramck as a city rich of many cultures that live in harmony, and they need to be kept in ONE house district; and not 3! Thank you!

#gerrymandering #hamtramck #keephamtramckas1

10/5/2021 - **Shuchuta** : I support this map. We really need to keep Hamtramck together to ensure fair representation. Please don't split Hamtramck.

10/5/2021 - **MD Fakrul** (Hamtramck): Please keep Hamtramck together. Our community is being split and that cannot happen. Our voices need to be heard as one.

10/5/2021 - **Amor Roy** (Hamtramck): Please do not split Hamtramck. Keep our community together. We deserve to be kept together so we can be fairly represented.

#hamtramck #banglatown

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# Global Detroit Community of Interest Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Emma Davis  
Location: Detroit  
Submitted: 6/30/2021  
Type: plan  
Congressional Districts  
ID: p1206

## Tags

## More Info

This is a Community of Interest Map created in Districtr as a District Map for the purpose of illustrating the exact precincts it contains.

This map and narrative of the Hamtramck-Banglatown Community of Interest was built out by Global Detroit, a community and economic development organization, with community feedback. Since the arrival of German farmers in the 1800s, Hamtramck has been known as a magnet for immigrant groups. The Polish autoworkers of the 1900s are perhaps the most well known group, but today the predominant groups are Bangladeshi and Yemeni. While limitations of ethnic representation in Census data hinder the accuracy of population numbers, we estimate that of the current Hamtramck population of roughly 22,000, there are a little over 9,000 foreign born residents. Of that number, roughly 3,800 are from Bangladesh and 3,650 from Yemen. This does not reflect second and third generation residents of Bangladeshi and Yemeni heritage and we also know that with expansion into Detroit, the numbers of the whole community are much larger. There is also still a significant number of

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

Eastern European residents and a little over a third of the community's residents are Black. This has created a distinct multiethnic, multilinguistic, multicultural community as evidenced by the diversity of restaurants, grocery stores, and other small businesses that line Hamtramck's streets.

While residents of this community contribute economically to the wider region by staffing manufacturing, hospitality, and other frontline jobs, a large portion are living below the poverty line and rely on income-qualified programming and assistance.

Simultaneously, this Community of Interest has a significantly larger density of locally owned businesses than the Detroit area as a whole.

Environmentally, residents of this Community of Interest face public health challenges due to the industrial use of land in the South and East of the community. This industrial land use has created a Sacrifice Zone which has led to chronic respiratory diseases, lower birth weights, and higher mortality rates both in general and throughout the COVID crisis, than in the rest of Michigan.

Submission c780 builds out the environmental case for this Community of Interest more thoroughly.

While new residents are drawn to this area because of the cultural communities established in Hamtramck, housing stock is dwindling in quantity, quality, and affordability which has necessitated that the community branch out into local Detroit neighborhoods which have more vacant properties. The neighborhood of Banglatown, so named for the large concentration of Bangladeshi residents, is an example of this. It straddles the Hamtramck/Detroit border to the north. The Bangladeshi community will continue to grow northwards and likely form a corridor between Hamtramck and Warren where a significant number of Bangladeshis currently reside over the next decade or so. Yemeni residents are

mostly expanding into Detroit to the South East towards 94 and Gratiot, but are also moving in smaller numbers into East Davison Village which borders Banglatown.

The community is also expanding westward towards John R, drawn by businesses and organizations that they rely on - the Wayne State University Islamic Center of Detroit on Cass, the all-girls Detroit International Academy which has a significant number of Bangladeshi students, and the Secretary of State office on Grand Boulevard - as well as new projects in development off Brush, Holbrook, and Owen.

This trend of outward expansion will continue. Since the Commission is tasked with being mindful of city, township, and county boundaries when drawing district maps, it is vital to emphasize that using the Hamtramck/Detroit borders as guides for district boundaries, as several proposed maps suggest, would sever this Community of Interest and be incredibly harmful to its political power.

### Comments & Feedback

8/20/2021 - **Rebeka** : This is a great demonstration of the immigrant community in Hamtramck and Detroit. I have submitted a similar map (p1037) that would benefit this community. As someone who works with the immigrant community I can say this map and narrative captures the reality of the community. Please consider this map.

#aapi #bangladeshi #apiavote

#asian american

8/30/2021 - **Muhith** : i am requesting to keep hamtramck and bangla town together.

8/30/2021 - **Afruza** (Hamtramck City): I support this map and i want everyone to keep supporting bangla town

9/2/2021 - **Kurtis** : I 100% support this map and I really appreciate how the narrative recognizes how these communities of

interest have contributed to Metro Detroit as well as the issues that they face.

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## MI redistricting - LGBTQ+ Detroit

### Basic Info

Submitter: Midge Cone  
Location: Ann Arbor  
Submitted: 7/1/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w1287

### Written Testimony

Keep up your community efforts! I support LGBT Detroit/Palmer Park community request to refrain from dividing up this community of interest, as maps are developed.

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# LGBT Detroit.

## Basic Info

Submitter: Sue Hadden  
Location: Ann Arbor  
Submitted: 7/1/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w1306

## Tags

#palmerpark #lgbtq+ #detroit city

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

LGBT Detroit serves a unique group of people who are often minorities and also LGBTQ+. Many in this community live in Palmer Park in Detroit and they want to be able to vote together! This vibrant group should not be divided into separate districts.

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# Hamtramck & Detroit APIA/ACCESS

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mariam Akanan

Location:

Submitted: 7/17/2021

Type: plan

Congressional Districts

ID: p1511

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#hamtramck city #aapi #access  
#communitiesofimmigrants #asian  
#bangladeshi #yemeni #arabamerican  
#mena

## More Info

ACCESS has different locations throughout Metro Detroit, namely in Dearborn, Sterling Heights, and Hamtramck. We are honored to serve the immigrant community with partners like the Asian Pacific Islander American community (APIA Michigan). We reaffirm their statement that highlights the diverse immigrant community that resides in Hamtramck and Detroit. Indeed the area has the highest population of Asian Americans, Arab/MENA Americans - predominantly Yemenis - and other immigrant communities. About 44% of the city are immigrants, the highest percentage in Michigan. Hamtramck is now closing in on a majority Muslim population, with Bangladeshis and Yemenis making up the largest immigrant groups. (National Public Radio) Approximately 41.4% of Hamtramck city, Michigan residents in 2015-2019 (ACS) were foreign-born. 53.5% of the foreign-born were naturalized U.S.

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

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citizens, and an estimated 61.3% entered the country before 2010. Foreign-born residents of Hamtramck city, Michigan, come from different parts of the world. Among people at least five years old living in Hamtramck city, Michigan, 69.4% spoke a language other than English at home. Hamtramck is unique in being the most diverse municipality in Michigan in terms of residents' national origin. We urge the commission to consider the shared experiences between the immigrant communities in Hamtramck and Detroit. We echo the statements made by APIA that keeping these COIs together will help immigrant-based organizations provide culturally appropriate services and enhance the ability to serve immigrant communities with better language access materials in native languages.

### **Comments & Feedback**

No comments have been submitted.

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# Arab & Middle Eastern/North African COI

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mariam Akanan

Location: Dearborn

Submitted: 7/17/2021

Type: coi

ID: c1510

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

[#arabnarratives](#) [#arabvoices](#) [#mena](#)  
[#wearemena](#) [#access](#)

## More Info

The Arab or Middle Eastern/North African (MENA) Community  
As the leading Arab American community-based organization, ACCESS (ARAB COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SERVICES) has worked for 50 years as a service provider. The agency services 70,000 individuals from disenfranchised communities—primarily those representing the Arab American community—on an annual basis. This on-the-ground experience has allowed for a comprehensive understanding of the needs and challenges facing this critically underrepresented community. The Arab American community that ACCESS serves most directly, in metropolitan Detroit, is one of the largest and most concentrated in the nation. But the community is also unique in its diversity, successes, and challenges. In metropolitan Detroit, we have many people with Lebanese, Iraqi, Yemeni, Syrian, Palestinian, and Egyptian ancestry. There are also smaller communities of people from Sudan, Morocco, and Algeria. The community is one of the oldest Arab American

[View in Districtr](#)

(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

communities, with roots back to the 1890s, and receives more Arabic-speaking refugees and immigrants than almost any other metro area in the country.

The U.S. Census counts people who hold Arab ancestry or other Middle Eastern or North African (MENA) origins within the "White" racial category. The truth is, Arab/MENA Americans have distinct issues, and experiences and national-level data on Arab/MENA Americans obscure regional variations, such as disadvantaged communities in the Metro Detroit area. Nationally, among Arabs living in the U.S., 75% live in multigenerational households, and 78% are U.S. Citizens (Native-born & Naturalized). The Arab/MENA community, though lumped into the White racial category by the U.S. Census (following guidelines from the federal Office of Management and Budget), is quite distinct from the White population. The diverse Arab/MENA populations may trace their ancestry to different countries, speak different dialects or languages, practice different religions and fall into a broad range of socioeconomic categories. However, they have much more in common than any other ethnic or racial group. Using the best available data from the U.S. Census' American Community Survey (ACS), a report was created by ACCESS demonstrating that a picture of a unique community emerges as a result of disaggregating the Arab/MENA community from the White racial category. For instance, the socioeconomic characteristics by Ancestry and Location using ACS 5-Year Estimates (2010-2014, Weighted) indicate that 43% of the Arab/MENA community (ages 25-64) live in poverty 8.4% are unemployed. Moreover, the most recent issue of the ACCESS Health Journal, published in 2018, identifies: "a growing body of research" indicating "that Arab Americans," particularly refugees, "are subject to a host of stressors, including discrimination, lack of social support,

and economic hardship that could detrimentally influence their mental health," but which are under-emphasized due current data.

Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb:

Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties are the three most populous counties in Michigan and comprise metro Detroit. These three counties also have the most significant Arab/MENA populations in the state and some of the most concentrated Arab and Iraqi Chaldean populations in the nation.

Dearborn and Dearborn Heights  
Dearborn and Dearborn Heights have many commonalities, including history, culture, heritage, and ancestry. Many community members who live in Dearborn Heights, for example, either have family connections to Dearborn, work in the City of Dearborn. As one of our Volunteers, Sara stated on June 3rd, some even attend schools, not within their district. The current district maps divide Dearborn Heights and Dearborn in the middle. This divide is manifested in both the Senate and House maps for Dearborn Heights, further marginalizing the Arab/MENA community, impacting available resources, and making the right to vote for representatives that reflect their shared needs, concerns, & culture almost impossible. The Arab/MENA population in these areas has grown significantly over the last 20 years. Today the South end of Dearborn, where ACCESS' main branch is, has a high concentration of Arab/MENA residents (many of which are new immigrants & Refugees). Below are some data about the Arab population for 48120 zip code (which encompasses the south end and a wealthier section of Dearborn called Spring wells Park. In 2000, according to the Census, 48120 was 49% Arab ancestry. According to 2015-2019 ACS, 48120 had 52% Arab. The growth of Arabs in the south end may not have changed much. However, it is the rest of Dearborn

where one can see the change and growth:

- \* In 1990, Dearborn was 15% Arab.
- \* In 2000, Dearborn was 30% Arab.
- \* In 2019, Dearborn was 47% Arab.

Drawing from the ACS Estimates (2015-2019), approximately 41.7% of the eastern side of Dearborn residents (Zip Code 48126) were foreign-born. 68.4% of those foreign-born were naturalized U.S. citizens, and an estimated 72.3% entered the country before 2010. The ACS data shows that 91.6% of foreign-born came from Asia, yet when asked about race only. The Arab/MENA population has tripled in 30 years and will continue to grow - albeit being undercounted.

#### Melvindale

Melvindale is part of the Arab/MENA community of Interest, isolated from the rest of the community in Dearborn and Dearborn Heights. ACCESS' youth and education program currently serves the community in Melvindale. It has Arab/MENA immigrant students, parents, and community members who share experiences with the rest of the MENA/Arab COI (Communities of Interest).

#### The Melvindale-Northern Allen Park Public Schools

The Melvindale-Northern Allen Park Public Schools is a suburb of the City of Detroit. According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 2.76 square miles. The 2017 population (estimate) of the City of Melvindale was 10,322, with 24.7% of the population under the age of 18. Recent data indicates that the student population has increased in terms of cultural diversity in the past seven years. The student population consists of 0.3% American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.6% Asian, 8.5% African American, 26.2% Hispanic, and 64.4% Caucasian (this figure does not accurately include the large Arab or Middle Eastern students).

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ACCESS' 21st Century Community Learning Centers reflect the demographics in the 2020/2021 School Year:

The total number of enrolled students in cities between Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Redford, River Rouge, Melvindale, Allen Park, and Detroit is 940. Around 583 students were Arab (62%). In Melvindale (Zip Code 48122), the total number of students enrolled in the 21st-century community learning center was 151, of which 130 are Arab/MENA (86%). In Dearborn (Zip Code 48126), the total number of students enrolled in the same learning center was 291, where 280 are Arab/MENA (96%). In the South end of Dearborn (Zip Code 48120), the number of enrolled students is 95, of which 94 are Arab/MENA (99%).

The current Senate maps include Melvindale, but the House maps cut the community in the middle. The community in Melvindale has more commonalities and shared history and trauma with the cities of Dearborn and Dearborn Heights rather than Lincoln Park. The congressional map is not very different as it cuts Melvindale into another district away from their Arab/MENA community. Dearborn's congressional map places the city with cities like Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, which have entirely different COIs with different socioeconomic backgrounds, experiences, educational levels, and needs. There is also part of west Detroit where a significant Arab/MENA population resides and whom ACCESS' serves. Since the Detroit metro area receives such a high number of refugees and recent immigrants from Arab countries, Arab Americans in Detroit are more likely to be impoverished and have a lower level of educational attainment than Arab Americans in other metro regions.

The truth is, we may not be able to draw perfect lines and maps. Yet, we can

ensure that communities of Interest, especially historically underrepresented communities, are not divided because of partisan lines. We urge the commission to make sure that our Community of Interest, the Arab/MENA community, which has contributed to the civic, political, and economic life of the Metro Detroit area, is connected. This social justice lens is the only way our community can feel represented and included in the political process.

### Comments & Feedback

7/19/2021 - **Jamie Kim** (Dearborn): This is an excellent map! Arab American and MENA communities have been historically excluded and underrepresented. This map considers the Arab American community in Dearborn and surrounding communities and their shared interests as a community. In addition, this map has been drawn using ACCESS' knowledge of the community and data on the community, which will ensure that the community is connected, included and represented.

7/19/2021 - **Mariam Bazzi** (Dearborn ): As a lifelong Dearborn resident and Arab American, this narrative truly resonates with me in terms of representation and what is important to my community.

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# A letter from an Arab immigrant

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mariam Akanan  
Location:  
Submitted: 7/19/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w1530

## Tags

#arabnarratives #arabvoices  
#arabamerican #mena #wearemena  
#immigrants #dearborn city  
#dearborn heights city #hamtramck city  
#melvindale city

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Dear the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission:

My name is Mariam Akanan, a first-generation Arab immigrant, a resident of DearbornHeights, a temporary Master of Social Work student resident of Ann Arbor, and a full-time civic engagement specialist in Dearborn with the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS).

I write to you today preeminently to amplify the needs of myCommunity of Interest.

As you may already know, Metropolitan Detroit is home to one of the largest and most diverse Arab and Middle Eastern & North African (MENA) communities outside theArab/MENA region. At least 3.5 million Americans of Arab descent live in the United States ofAmerica yet are not represented in Census data as unique racial and ethnic categories.

OurCommunity of Interest, the Arab/MENA American community, primarily lives in Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, West Detroit, and Melvindale, as well as other parts of Michigan such as Hamtramck, Sterling Heights, Flint, Livonia, Canton, Ferndale, Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor, and throughout the nation. It originates from culturally, geographically, and religiously diverse countries, embodying many experiences and narratives that cannot be distilled to a singular experience or partisan lines. Without a fair count of us, we are constantly invisible and not factored into this part of the political process of redistricting.

Guided by Section 2 of the Voting Rights

3/17/22, 7:30 PM

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Act, which prohibits minority vote dilution, I respectfully ask the MICRC not to divide my Community of Interest - historically underrepresented - but rather, to reflect it throughout the redistricting process fairly. Drawing district lines without splitting Communities of Interests will provide us with an equitable opportunity to participate in the overall political process and to elect representatives of our choice. The Arab/MENA American community is much larger and more diverse than it has ever been. Today, much like any other long-term demographic, Arab/MENA Americans are not concentrated in one part of Michigan. We have been involved in the economy and culture of Southeast Michigan for well over one hundred years and have made civic, cultural, and economic contributions to civil society. According to Smith (2012), Arab/MENA Americans' economic activities are responsible for supporting and creating between 99,494 and 141,541 jobs in Michigan's southeast counties of Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne in Michigan. Unfortunately, the importance of my Community of Interest, the Arab/MENA American community, has been underreported and has received little attention (Abraham & Shryock, 2000; Smith et al., 2012).

The Arab/MENA community continuously faces unique challenges. My community has faced, for years, negative stereotyping, discrimination, and political exclusion. We have many shared concerns, including labor conditions and discrimination, civil rights and equality, access to health care, culturally sensitive integrated health and social services, language accessibility, political representation, safe infrastructure, environmental justice, ancestral homeland conflicts, and immigration issues, in addition to the constant feeling of being an accepted part of the American society and its politics. Moreover,

3/17/22, 7:30 PM

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depending on how long an individual has been in the U.S., language barriers can be obstacles to integrating into American society. I have witnessed family members encounter challenges in obtaining culturally and linguistically appropriate services and resources. The truth is, if it weren't for immigrant-based organizations, it would have taken years for many newly arriving immigrants and refugees, like my parents, for example, to feel part of the larger society.

As a first-generation Arab/MENA Immigrant who is privileged in many ways, including the ability to write this letter in English, I must further contribute to preceding civic engagement and advocacy efforts led by courageous Arab/MENA immigrants that arrived in Dearborn before me. It is also my responsibility to educate myself and others around historical events and social justice issues as they pertain to our community and other communities of color, black communities, indigenous communities, and other ethnic and racial minority groups.

Reflecting on the history of Dearborn, and in particular the early presence of Arab/MENA members in the Southend, we can notice that Arab/MENA or immigrant-led organizations, such as the

Arab American University Graduates AAUG, the Southeast Dearborn Community Council (SEDCC), Palestinian and Yemeni activists (note: together they founded ACCESS), collectively, supported and empowered the increased influx of Arab/MENA immigrants in 70s. Today, 50 years later, we are still here, working with local partners to continue to meet the overwhelming needs of the community. We appreciate MICRC's dedication to the redistricting process and your willingness to learn about the different communities around the State of Michigan. We are particularly thankful for the opportunity to share with the MICRC our needs and concerns as a Community of Interest last month during the public hearing in

3/17/22, 7:30 PM

MICRC Public Comment Portal

Dearborn. Commissioners, you have the ability to draw district lines and maps that influence Michigan's local, state, and national political landscape for years. We urge you to look at various findings that can be just for our Community of Interest and neighboring communities. The Census data does not reflect our Community of Interest; It takes away our shared history, heritage, and narrative. Demographic population data are usually collected through the Census, American Community Survey, or other instruments. In this light, I encourage the MICRC to employ comprehensive procedures and tools that seek to understand communities from a sociocultural, environmental, economic, and political lens in which they historically existed and exist today. We will be submitting a more thorough report to the MICRC, including lived experiences of my Community of Interest. Once submitted, we hope that the information serves as an example of how human-centric and multi-layered approaches can further help explore and understand various Communities of Interest.

Again, thank you for your time and efforts throughout this critical process. Please

do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance to you.

In Solidarity,

Mariam Akanan

She/Her/Hers

MSW Candidate, 2022 | University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Civic Engagement Specialist, ACCESS | NNAAC

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# Detroit as a whole

## Basic Info

Submitter: jordan mielke  
Location: detroit  
Submitted: 7/29/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1870

## Tags

## More Info

The city should vote together

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# Dearborn-Dearborn Heights

## Basic Info

Submitter: Mary Jo Durivage  
Location: Dearborn City  
Submitted: 7/29/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c1861

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

## More Info

Keep Dearborn and Dearborn Heights together.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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It appears we also have one more person who provided live, in-person commentary who would like to provide a second public comment. So at this time we will ask the speaker to come back to the podium and you can provide your second public comment. Once again, it's the same rules, two minutes.

>> Okay, so regarding the actual map, we have heard a lot of litigation about and the actual map regarding the actual map. I'd also like the Commission to possibly consider putting whatever District in for the Congressional and State Senate maps that Dearborn is in to also include Hamtramck in that seat. Arab Americans makeup a sizable minority of Michigan. And I think it would be really nice for representation of Arab Americans if there could be a Congressional and Senate District that could have as much of an Arab minority as possible.

It would be really good for campaigning because a lot of... because a lot of candidates can go to mass and speak directly to Arab voters where in some districts Arab voters can often be ignored when they are in places where they are too much of a minority to really care about frankly. And I'm an Arab American myself. I really care about this issue. And I believe more Arab outreach is needed.

So, again, if you guys could consider putting a Senate, having a Senate District of Dearborn, Hamtramck and parts of the north of Dearborn Heights with as much as an Arab population as possible while still complying with the VRA. Because generally we are counted as Caucasian. So VRA District that could have much of Arab minority as possible, I would appreciate that.

There is not really way to measure how many Arabs are in the District. But certain regions like Hamtramck, Dearborn and North Dearborn Heights. I would appreciate that. It would be really good if we are minority representation of a group that has often been overlooked.

I hope you guys consider that and thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. That concludes our public comment this afternoon.

Before we move on to our next agenda item, I would like to note for the public record that our Chair, Brittini Kellom, is not in attendance today. Therefore, I would like to at this time designate Commissioner Dustin Witjes to serve as acting Chair in the event I need to leave the room for any reason.

All right. Let's move on to our next agenda item. Without objection, I'd like to move forward old business and ask Executive Director Hammersmith to provide information with 5A draft meeting schedule.

Hearing no objection, please proceed Mrs. Hammersmith.

>> MS. SUANN HAMMERSMITH: Good morning, everyone. Last week we talked a little bit about how the schedule would look going forward and wanted to create a fairly clear picture for the Commission of what the path ahead is going to look like.

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# Latinx Community. SW Detroit/Downriver

## Basic Info

Submitter: Oscar Castaneda  
Location: Detroit  
Submitted: 8/15/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c2453

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

## Tags

#sw-detroit #sw\_detroit #sw detroit  
#swdetroit #detroit #latinos detroit  
#hispanics detroit #latinx

## More Info

This map represents the region of SW Detroit with the largest Latinx/Hispanic population. This is a region with deep common roots on language, music, food and traditions. This region used to be at the hearth of the 8th. District of the Michiga House of Representatives. In 1999 Belda Garza became the first Latinx Immigrant to represent this district. In the year 2000, after the 2000 census, the Michigan districts where redrawn and District 8th was divided on small pieces that became part of other districts, breaking the Latinx unity on the area. What used to be District 8th is now part of Ditricks 5, 6, 13, 14, and 15th. We never had a Latinx representing our community again. We ask the Redistricting Commission to keep the Latinx/Hispanic community together

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(To see statistics on this map, or to modify it yourself.)

## Comments & Feedback

8/16/2021 - **Dominique Becerra** (Detroit City): I am really interested in keeping our communities of interest together. SW Detroit is an Immigrant community that has needs that are different from the needs of other areas that surround us. We need to be placed in a district with other people who have the same needs, and interests as us, so that we stand a chance at getting out communities the resources they need.

8/25/2021 - **Juan Martinez** (Okemos): I would to express my interest towards keeping as much as possible the area of SW Detroit as much of a whole as possible. The primary reason is that we have a long history of working together which has been commented over generations. By keep us together as much as possible we can continue building our community into the future. We might in the future elected individuals who come from our community and who are engage in our issues that can bring assistance to the work that we have been undertaking. We know your task is difficult but not impossible, you also have at you disposal technology and human resources that can assist your work.

8/31/2021 - **Oscar Chapa** (Detroit City): We need our representatives to reflect the views of our community. There is no reason the area has been gerrymandered so severely. We demand change.

8/31/2021 - **Sarah Leon Martinez** (Detroit City): I think it is extremely important to keep our communities of interest as one district. Southwest Detroit is a community of immigrants that need specific representation!

8/31/2021 - **Ninel** (Detroit City): This map shows a population that we need to keep together for our community.

8/31/2021 - **Gloria Gallegos** (Detroit): My name is Gloria Gallegos Detroit residente, I agree with the map above, it agrees with our community life style, language and culture. We would like to stay together as a community and be counted together.

9/13/2021 - **Oscar Castaneda**: Prior to 2011, District 12 housed the highest concentration of Latino voters in the State of Michigan. The redrawn district maps that year diluted the Latino voice by more than half, from 45% to only 20%. As a result of redistricting in 2011, the Latino vote in Detroit was “cracked” into 2 separate districts, just as Latino voters have become the fastest-growing demographic in the city and state, thus depriving Latino voters of the ability to act in a politically cohesive manner. Addressed by the Supreme Court in LULAC v. Perry, Justice Kennedy said “When an emergent and mobilized minority community is poised to act cohesively and its newfound ‘efficacious political identity’ is deliberately frustrated, this is intentional discrimination,” The LatinX population in Southwest Detroit is the very definition of a community of interest! In an area of 93,000, the LatinX community represents 47% of citizens. Combined with our often political Black allies in this area, we represent a minority population of 68,000. We work together, contribute to society, and live in economically disadvantaged communities together. Our children attend the same schools, which lack the basic infrastructure to run well. We all certainly feel the effects of living in a city with environmental impacts like pollution and noise pollution. The binding principles of this Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Committee include seeking out opportunities to create Minority-Majority districts. This is one! We deserve to be held whole on all of the maps. In the US Congressional, the Michigan State House, and the Michigan State Senate. We ask to be held whole and to not be divided as a voting block and community

9/20/2021 - **Natalie Rivera** (Melvindale): I agree with dhdc is doing

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## Roz's COI Southwest Detroit

### Basic Info

Submitter: Roz

Location:

Submitted: 8/29/2021

Type: coi

ID: c3196

### Tags

### More Info

This map represents some of southwest Detroit downriver area. This community of interest share common economic status.

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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# Latino Community Detroit

## Basic Info

Submitter: Hayg

Location:

Submitted: 8/30/2021

Type: coi

ID: c3244

## Tags

## More Info

This is the Latino community of Detroit.  
Please do not split it up.

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

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## A Cohesive Hamtramck (HOUSE)

### Basic Info

Submitter: Aryeh P  
Location: Hamtramck  
Submitted: 9/2/2021  
Type: other  
ID: o3542

### Tags

#hamtramck city #detroit city  
#highland park city

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### External Link

Link: <https://districtr.org/COI/41300>

(This is a user submitted link. Open external links with caution)

### Written Testimony

This is a district that would be respectful and considerate to the Asian and African American communities of Detroit and Hamtramck. It keeps several Asian communities of the Hamtramck area intact and united, which have previously been fractured across different districts. It also connects them with neighboring parts of Detroit/Highland Park along the I-75 corridor. This district is majority non-white, and respects the communities it contains with cohesive representation.

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# Arab Americans, District 11, District 15

## Basic Info

Submitter: Bilal Hammoud  
Location: Dearborn Heights City  
Submitted: 9/8/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w3992

## Tags

#arabamerican

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Hello, my name is Bilal Hammoud, I am a Dearborn Heights resident, and I'd like to take this opportunity to share the lack of representation and access my community and municipality face. My city of Dearborn Heights is a friendly neighbor to Dearborn. And although our population of 63 thousand is almost large enough to have a state representative of its own, our representation is divided. One state rep district is split between 3 municipalities with Dearborn heights being the minority, and the other is split amongst 5, Dearborn Heights still a minority. This means we have little to no representation in Lansing and the power of our voice is substantially diminished. As you might know, cities like Dearborn and Dearborn Heights, are home to huge Arab American populations. But the census data you review will not include them. If you don't know you'll soon hear that the Arab American community has fought long and hard to get representation on the census. In what seemed like an instant that decades-long fight was struck down on a whim. Now Federal protections, grants, and research are held back till the reincarnation of this Commission. I bring this up to the commission to shed light on the waves of impact this has on language access. The 1965 federal voting rights act, one of the most significant landmarks of democracy in our nation's history, protects and provides non-English speaking communities with translated voter materials. It ensures that all citizens can participate in the Democratic process. However because of

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democratic process. However, because of the lack of representation on the census, there is a huge gap in language accessibility, and these rights don't apply to Arabic-speaking populations. That limits access to our rights and representation as citizens. This makes the Arab American population a community of interest.

We have to recognize that there comes an artificial Gap of access.

I ask this Commission to seriously consider the egregious impact of dividing this community any further.

Looking at the House maps submitted, the Fair Maps initiative by the AFL-CIO (ID 01993) is the current best reflection of the communities/Arab American population in districts 11 and 15. Additionally, the community has come together to collectively map the contiguous Arab American population and this is reflected in the Community of Interest map submitted here

<https://districtr.org/COI/43065>. I hope you will consider these submissions as you map my community.

Thank you for your time.

Warm Regards,  
Bilal Hammoud

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# Arab Americans District 11

## Basic Info

Submitter: Bilal Hammoud  
Location: Dearborn Heights City  
Submitted: 9/8/2021  
Type: file  
ID: f3994

## Tags

#arabamerican

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Sent File to Commission

## Written Testimony

Hello, my name is Bilal Hammoud, I am a Dearborn Heights resident, and I'd like to take this opportunity to share the lack of representation and access my community and municipality face. My city of Dearborn Heights is a friendly neighbor to Dearborn. And although our population of 63 thousand is almost large enough to have a state representative of its own, our representation is divided. One state rep district is split between 3 municipalities with Dearborn heights being the minority, and the other is split amongst 5, Dearborn Heights still a minority. This means we have little to no representation in Lansing and the power of our voice is substantially diminished.

As you might know, cities like Dearborn and Dearborn Heights, are home to huge Arab American populations. But the census data you review will not include them.

If you don't know you'll soon hear that the Arab American community has fought long and hard to get representation on the census. In what seemed like an instant that decades-long fight was struck down on a whim. Now Federal protections, grants, and research are held back till the reincarnation of this Commission.

I bring this up to the commission to shed light on the waves of impact this has on language access. The 1965 federal voting rights act, one of the most significant landmarks of democracy in our nation's history, protects and provides non-English speaking communities with

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English speaking communities with translated voter materials. It ensures that all citizens can participate in the Democratic process. However, because of the lack of representation on the census, there is a huge gap in language accessibility, and these rights don't apply to Arabic-speaking populations. That limits access to our rights and representation as citizens. This makes the Arab American population a community of interest.

We have to recognize that there comes an artificial Gap of access.

I ask this Commission to seriously consider the egregious impact of dividing this community any further.

Looking at the House maps submitted, i have attached the Fair Maps initiate by the AFL-CIO (ID o1993) is the current best reflection of the communities/Arab American population in District 11.

Additionally, the community has come together to collectively map the contiguous Arab American population and this is reflected in the Community of Interest map submitted here

<https://districtr.org/COI/43065>. I hope you will consider these submissions as you map my community.

Thank you for your time.

Warm Regards,  
Bilal Hammoud

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# Support of Eid's Congressional Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Zachary Geyer  
Location: Ann Arbor City  
Submitted: 9/20/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w5071

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Hello, I have been following the MICRC for a while, and I have to say that Eid's map is far better than the collaborative one. Midland, Bay City, Saginaw, and Flint all belong in the same district, which his map does. The current map does not include midland, because some people are arguing that midland county is a rural district; and it is clearly not. Midland city is a Tri-City, it needs to be included with the others. I have also heard arguments that putting it with Genessee and Saginaw counties will dilute the Republican vote, even though the city of midland actually voted democrat. Wouldn't putting genessee in a republican district dilute their vote, which

is much larger than midland's? All arguments to not include midland in this district are flawed. I also like how Eid included Southfield with part of Detroit which increasing the minority representation allowing for 2 districts that are between 45-50% black, this is VRA compliant. Grosse Point should also be put with the Macomb-centered district which is in his map. I URGE the commission to look at the partisan standpoint of all districts in their current map, as this will show that the current draft map is a Republican gerrymander. A fair map should yes include coi, but also should be partisanally fair, and since Democrats have won statewide in the past 4 years with an average of 3-4%, then 7 districts should be overall Democrat, and 6 districts should overall be Republican. This does not mean each district has to be safe for that party, in fact, I think having 3-5 competitive seats

would be great. All of this is included in Eid's plan and I PLEAD the commission to take his map seriously and use a lot of his ideas.

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## Community of Interest.Bangladeshi/Yemeni

### Basic Info

Submitter: Mubarak Mozeb  
Location: Hamtramck  
Submitted: 9/27/2021  
Type: coi  
ID: c5521

### Map

You can pan and zoom in the embedded map with your mouse or the +/- buttons.

### Tags

### More Info

This community of interest which is centralized in Hamtramck and spills over the borders into Detroit should be considered one and not split up. The area has a large population of Bangladeshi and Yemeni immigrants and their off springs, sometimes 3 generations in one household. They hold common religious and cultural beliefs/tendencies.

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

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# Proposed Detroit Congressional Map

## Basic Info

Submitter: Detroit Deltas  
Location: Detroit City, Wayne  
Submitted: 9/28/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w5585

## Tags

[#detroit city](#) [#congressionalmaps](#)  
[#equalrepresentation](#) [#vra](#)

## Comments & Feedback

9/28/2021 - **R.J.** : Many folks have noted the fact that the African American populations in South Warren, Eastpointe, Roseville, and South Clinton Twp doubled in the last 10 years. The commission has largely ignored that fact in its congressional map. It reflected it in its state senate maps for the most part, with 2 Senate Districts crossing 8 Mile.

## Written Testimony

PUBLIC COMMENT FROM  
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.  
DETROIT ALUMNAE CHAPTER  
Good morning commissioners and staff, my name is Katrenia L. Camp, Chapter President of the Detroit Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., which is a national service organization founded in 1913. Our sorority is committed to ensuring that the African American community is equally and fairly represented as required under the Voting Rights Act of 1965.  
The Congressional map as currently presented by the commission does not allow for minority majority presentation for the citizens of Detroit. The creation of one Congressional district will dilute the political power and will of Detroiters. This is very disturbing, as 77.2 percent of the city is still African American. By providing only one Congressional district, it limits the ability of having an African American represent Detroit in Congress. Further, by drawing Detroit into certain suburban communities, there will definitely be a dilution of political influence and the pool of African American voters and potential individuals that have an interest in serving their community via elected office.  
We also need to address the potential difficulties it will cause for Wayne County and City of Detroit officials when they must draw their maps for local services such as school and City Council districts. In our previous statement, we asked you to receive information with an open and unbiased mind because this process was certain to introduce you to new

perspectives on community concerns that you may not have been exposed to prior to becoming a commissioner. However, we do not believe this has been achieved. Further, the seeming lack of engagement by the entire commission when it comes to Detroit and

Southeastern Michigan is disheartening and troubling.

We again ask that as you deliberate to keep the following challenges in mind as you complete the work you are charged with doing – in accordance with the Michigan Constitution:

Maps for Detroit must be drawn fairly to ensure its constituents do not lose any representation at the Congressional, State Senate, State House, or County jurisdictions.

We asked you to ensure that Detroit is not split in ways that would unfairly dilute the voting power of Detroit residents of color. Splitting these communities of interest would prevent our similar issues from being fairly resolved. That's exactly what you have proposed in your current maps.

Over the last decade, African Americans have lost the most ground in terms of economic equity. Past discriminatory practices have not been remedied and though Detroit experienced growth, people of color did not benefit equally. The common issues and social conditions of Detroit's communities of color make this population a community of interest. We ask you to keep these communities in mind as you recreate your maps and thoughtfully look at surrounding suburban communities that have African Americans residents and other commonalties that make the Congressional or Senate maps logical in their extension into to those communities.

Gentrification and Poverty: Conflicting Challenges, Similar Outcomes

Detroit is unique with only five percent of residents living in a middle-class neighborhood. However, in the region,

the percentage of those living in middle-class neighborhoods is 10 times that amount – at 59 percent.

Studies have found that gentrification often hides the problem of concentrated poverty and unemployment in

neighborhoods that never go through the process of gentrification.

It is difficult for a city to grow when all of its neighborhoods cannot grow and/or remain stable simultaneously, due to a lack of affordable housing

in safe neighborhoods, mortgages that are difficult to secure, and the fact that it is easier to find them outside the city

limits. Thus, many African Americans have moved to communities outside of Detroit for these quality-of-life issues, yet maintain ties to family, organizations and activities within the boundaries of the city. These individuals maintain the same

values and concerns that their family, friends and colleagues living in the city, thus making the extension of the

Congressional, and when necessary, State Senate maps to these communities in order to maintain adherence to the VRA and not to dilute the African American community's political will and power.

Prison Gerrymandering

We again ask you to seriously deliberate and help address this problem of

communities where prisons are located unfairly benefiting by counting the prison's population in the population of that locality. Prison gerrymandering

unfairly removes needed funding and representation from the communities the inmates will return to – perpetuating the social ills that too often lead to criminal behavior and over-sentencing.

We remind you in our great state, 40% of returning citizens return to Wayne County which is the greatest return of all the counties. Until legislation is passed to end prison gerrymandering, we

recommend the MICRC incorporates guidelines that account for district statistics that exclude this population of

individuals – doubly so because they cannot even vote in those localities. Further, the communities where these inmates will return to are robbed of the funds for programs aimed at reducing recidivism – programs that would give these formerly incarcerated individuals an earnest second change. Your current map for Congress would further remove needed and deserved opportunities provided by these funds.

#### Summary

It is imperative that the city of Detroit remains cohesive as a “majority-minority” district for all legislative seats. While some demographics of the city and region have changed over the past ten years including the migration of African Americans to surrounding suburbs, mainly to the north, northeast and east, there is still a potential to have at two minority majority districts if the commission would remove political considerations and address the criteria maintained by the Michigan Constitution. We are open to have one influencer congressional district, but it would not be sufficient or impartial to have the other minority majority district consisting of only 32 percent of African Americans as currently proposed.

Further, based on population, demographics, and other reputable measurements, the city of Detroit--and its surrounding neighbors--should not have to bear the burden of losing a member of Congress.

While many of the issues cited here cannot be addressed by the Commission, because they require comprehensive attention from federal, state and local government, this Commission does have the authority to ensure that the residents in the city of Detroit have the ability to elect individuals who are familiar with their issues and who will legislate and lead to address them.

We appreciate this opportunity to make our position known.

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I was born and raised on the northwest side of Detroit. Michigan, one of the most integral cities in this entire state. I've also lived on the east side of Detroit and I've lived downtown. No matter where I've been, what remains everlasting is the City of Detroit needs consistent representatives to stand for racial equity. Health and life stability for families. We vote because we demand more of those things in order to have a fair and flourishing quality of life for generations to come. Thank you for all the work that you have done to draw fair maps for Michigan. And your dedicated concentration on the City that is still my home. I can't say it enough it is imperative that we have fair representation when it comes to our legislature. We need you all to consider and utilize the resources that you all have. To do better comparison when it comes to mapping out our districts, consider the culture. And the needs of the people on the City, low wage earners, blue collar workers, these people have been here their entire lives. And ripping apart districts can be devastating for us. Moving forward. You all are able to get on track. May I suggest that you utilize these next few days to truly connect to Detroit and the importance of our districts. You know, when you are really mapping out the City, use those borders as starting points, consider main roads like 8 mile, Woodward, freeways like I-96, John C Lodge, start there. We really need a complete analysis. You could further evaluate more nonpartisan organizations maps out there. There is a lot to consider in order to do this in the most fair and just way. And I'm not sure if you thoroughly read those comments on your website, but there are a lot of great ideas there. Please hear Detroiters in this. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Do we have any more in person? Okay, thank you very much.

At this point we will move to remote public commentary.

So individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide live, remote public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. I will call on your name and our staff will unmute you. If could are on a computer you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak.

If you are on the phone, a voice will say that the host would like you to speak and

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# Arab Americans, Dearborn, and the MICRC

## Basic Info

Submitter: Amer Zahr  
Location: Dearborn  
Submitted: 10/14/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w6571

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

My name is Amer Zahr and I'm a resident of Dearborn, a political activist, and a law professor. I'm also a member of Dearborn-based AAPAC, the Arab American Political Action Committee. I'm writing to you about the redistricting process. I'm extremely concerned with the latest State House maps published by the MICRC as they relate to Dearborn and the Arab American community. The latest maps split Dearborn down the middle and greatly dilute the Arab American vote.

I presented to the commission on September 7 in Lansing about the concerns of the Arab American community. In that presentation, I

expressed support for the Fair Maps map as it related to Dearborn. Also, I cautioned the commission on using raw numbers for VRA purposes in the Dearborn area, as Arab Americans are still incorrectly counted as white by the Census Bureau, when we are clearly a marginalized community of color.

The maps that include most of East Dearborn in a State House district that also includes Detroit dilutes our vote. The maps that you have published for the State House now have no districts that are majority Arab American, in the US state that has the highest concentration of Arab Americans in the nation.

Dearborn, further, is informally known as the Arab American capital and is home to the only Arab American National Museum.

The AFL Fair Maps project proposed a map that accurately reflected Dearborn as a community of interest. That map

took into account the concentrated Arab American community in Dearborn, and proposed a district that was entirely located in the city, only excluding a few non-Arab neighborhoods to achieve the required population numbers.

Finally, while we are counted as White on the census, a number of court cases have recognized the Arab American community's ability to sue under federal law as a racial minority. In fact, a 1987 Supreme Court case established this principle. In other words, the courts see our community as one that could sue under the VRA, even though we are incorrectly counted as White.

I urge you all to modify the State House districts to create a Dearborn district that more accurately reflects our community. The AFL Fair Maps project does a great job of this. If you don't remedy this, the Arab American community in Michigan will likely be left with no representation in Lansing, a disastrous outcome indeed. As I study and teach these exact subjects, I'm happy to provide any more information or testimony as needed.

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# Equal

## Basic Info

Submitter: Shahida Begum  
Location: Sterling Heights City  
Submitted: 10/29/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w8113

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Good Evening Commissioners,  
My name is Shahida Begum, I immigrated to the United States of America (Detroit, Michigan) from Bangladesh in 1997 with my family. I lived in the city of Detroit for five years and attended Detroit Public School for elementary and middle school and later moved to Hamtramck. I am a current Resident of Sterling Heights. I want to remind the Commissioner's to use the fair maps to best serve my community of interest.

Our map needs to be fair so that our elected officials can look like the people they serve. We need to keep Detroit and Hamtramck Bangladeshi community together in order to have better access to

resources for growing diverse immigrant community. Each year many new immigrants choose Detroit and Hamtramck as their new home due to the opportunities available here. I want to make sure their needs are amplified collectively to give them the best shot at fulfilling their American Dreams.

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## Com. Lange Use Chestnut to fix Midland

### Basic Info

Submitter: Anna Dean

Location:

Submitted: 11/5/2021

Type: written

ID: w8835

### Tags

### Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

### Written Testimony

Commissioner Lange -- please use the Chestnut configuration to keep Midland whole. It will have solid Detroit districts and be a suitable alternative for those who have advocated for our area to be kept together. Thank you!!

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# Don't fragment Arab Americans

## Basic Info

Submitter: Amer Zahr  
Location: Dearborn  
Submitted: 11/8/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w8939

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Michigan is home to the nation's most concentrated Arab American population. While we are unfortunately not denoted in Census numbers, we are a flourishing and contributing community. Estimates from the Census Bureau put our numbers in Michigan at 278,000 Michiganders, while the Arab American Institute has conducted its own studies that put the population at closer to 500,000. Dearborn is our national community's unofficial capital.

It is essential that our central communities in Dearborn and Dearborn Heights are not fragmented in the making of legislative districts. I'd like to thank you for achieving this important goal in the

proposed congressional and State Senate maps. Those maps preserve the voting rights of the Arab American community. However, the Pine State House map and others fail in this regard. This map distributes Dearborn, our center, among three districts, number 3, 4, & 6.

Dearborn, with a population of approximately 115,000 persons, should be distributed among no more than 2 districts. Luckily, the fix for this is very simple.

The section of east Dearborn that is located in District 3 can be redrawn into District 4. This section happens to be the heartbeat of the Arab American community. I am speaking of the area bounded by Ford Rd. on the south, Greenfield Rd to on the west, Tireman Ave on the north, and roughly Wyoming to the east, plus a few blocks in the northeast end. To offset this gain, the sections of Detroit's Franklin Park

neighborhood currently in District 4 could be given to District 3. This would avoid unnecessary fragmentation of the Arab American community of Dearborn in District 3, while making District 4 more heavily African American. This change would help two disaffected minority communities at once, and keep communities more intact.

Without this important change, the Arab American community's votes will be diluted by fragmentation in violation of the Voting Rights Act. Please propose at least one State House map that doesn't fragment Dearborn so we may comment on it.

Thank you, Amer Zahr

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# Restore communities of interest in State

## Basic Info

Submitter: Nancy Brigham  
Location: Detroit  
Submitted: 11/18/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9052

## Tags

#east english village  
#communities of interest #detroit  
#pine map

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

Our Detroit neighborhood, East English Village, sent in maps and made lots of comments urging you to keep our neighborhood together, along with surrounding neighborhoods. Instead two of the latest versions of the House maps suddenly split us up along Yorkshire, where I live. This makes no sense. The only House map that keeps EEV together is Pine v7. I urge you to reject the Magnolia and Hickory maps and use the Pine map as a

starting point for whatever other fixes are needed.

Thank you.

Nancy Brigham

East English Village, Detroit Mi.

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# Choose maps CHESTNUT, KELLOM & HICKORY!

## Basic Info

Submitter: Kaci Messeder  
Location: Southfield  
Submitted: 12/14/2021  
Type: written  
ID: w9331

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

My name is Kaci Messeder, and I'm a resident of Southfield, MI and the Policy Analyst at Detroit Disability Power. I'm commenting today to urge the commission to keep Detroit united! Please vote for Congressional map Chestnut, as this map has the best population equality, best compliance with the Voting Rights Act, highest number of competitive elections, scores well on partisan fairness, and has the most districts with the highest percentage of Black Voting Age Population (VAP). Please also vote for the State Senate map Kellom. This map keeps the City of Detroit unified in a single district, has the best population

equality, and has the most districts with the highest percentage of Black VAP. Finally, vote for the State House Hickory because this map is best at keeping communities together in the City of Detroit, has the most districts with the highest percentage of Black VAP, and it scores well on partisan fairness. Again, vote CHESTNUT, KELLOM & HICKORY to keep Detroit united.

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And I want to thank you for the critical and difficult job you're doing in protecting our democracy.

I live in Dearborn.

And I'm here on behalf of access.

You know, the Dearborn community, the Dearborn, Dearborn Heights has the largest concentration in the country of Arab Americans.

The Redistricting Commission has split this highly concentrated community into seven House Districts, ensuring we do not get the representation we deserve.

I urge you to continue to work on the house draft maps and please consider the community of interest map C1510.

As you redraft the house map.

The Commission has drafted more fair representation in the Congressional map of Chestnut and Linden.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 76.

>> Hello.

I would like to thank the Commission for the work that you do.

I'm here on behalf of access.

I live in Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, the largest Arab community in the country and submitted our own community of interest maps C1510. But in your house drafts you split our community into seven districts.

We support the Chestnut Congressional and Linden Senate maps as it will allow for our representation of our -- for representation of our community.

I urge you to continue to work with the house maps.

You have time to do this.

It will impact our...my community and family for the next ten years.

Any maps with fewer Voting Rights Act districts than current are not acceptable.

You need to add more time to your schedule and continue to do your work to ensure communities like mine are represented.

It is more important to get this done right than to get this done fast.

And more time to your schedule and continue to work in the house maps.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 77.

>> Hello, everyone.

First of all, thank you, Commissioners, for, you know, doing the difficult work.

It is the first time we are going through this process.

I grew up in the City of Detroit, went to school here, had my kids down the street at Henry Ford.

And I want to talk about communities of interest, you know, our Black, Asian, indigenous, and Latino communities.

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The fact is Arab Americans have distant issues and experiences with national level data on Arab Americans to secure variations affects communities in the Metro Detroit area. The Arab MENA communities are lumped into the white racial category by the U.S. census, is quite distinct from the white population.

Nationally among Arabs living in the U.S. and 70% live in multi generation and 78% are U.S. citizens native born and naturalized.

We are in Dearborn and Dearborn Heights and the largest community in the country, the redistricting commission has split this highly concentrated community into seven House Districts, ensuring we do not get the representation we need. I urge you to continue to work with the draft maps. And please consider the community of interest map, C1510 as you redraft the house map.

The Commission has already been successful in fair representation in the Congressional map of Chestnut and Senate map.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 12, Sura.

>> Hello. Thank you for having me today. I live in the City of Dearborn Heights and I'm here on behalf of Access.

You have heard from my community throughout this process and we have engaged the Commission.

We have come here before you with our public comments.

We have submitted our community of interest maps C1510.

And we still continue to be ignored as a community of interest in your house maps.

Dearborn and Dearborn Heights is home to the largest and most diverse Arab outside of the MENA region. You need more time to continue to work on the house draft maps to address the Voting Rights Act for many communities throughout Michigan.

You also need to address the partisan fairness in your house maps.

You still have work to do.

And the great thing is you have the time to do it.

The Commission has recognized our community in the Congressional map of Chestnut and the Senate map of Linden.

All your house.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Okay, at this point we are due to take a break for lunch and it's 12:01.

We stopped at 12 and we will pick up number 13 after we resume, after our recess. So, without objection, we will recess at this time.

It's 12:01 and will recess to 1:01 p.m.

Without objection, we are in recess until 1:01 p.m.

[ Recess ]

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I call this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 1:06 p.m. will the secretary please call the roll.

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So please step to the microphone when I call your number. You will have one minute to address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

First in line is number 80.

>> Do we have 80.

>> MS. MUSTAFA RASHEED: I don't see her.

We will move on and add her.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We will return to remote commentary and same rules as before. I will call your name and the staff will unmute you. If you are on a computer, you will be prompted to unmute and speak.

If you are on the phone, it will say the host would like you to speak and press star to unmute.

If you have technical or audio issues or do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move to the next person in line and return when they are done speaking.

If it still does not work, you can e-mail us at [redistricting.gov](mailto:redistricting.gov) and we will help you troubleshoot so you can participate at a later hearing or meeting. You will have one minute to address the Commission.

Next in line is number 13, who is Rachid.

>> Thank you all. Can everyone hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Thank you all.

So my name is Rachid. I grew up in Dearborn Heights and come from a family of 14. I'm a part of my block club and the board of good fellows.

I live here the City of Dearborn Heights and here with access. Thank you, everyone. Again, I'm part of the Arab community of Dearborn and Dearborn Heights, the largest Arab community in the country. We are disenfranchised in the redistricting process of a community of interest.

This is important for my loved ones, my daughters and family that we speak up today. All of your house draft maps cut through Dearborn and Dearborn Heights right down. And I think that is very political power of representation. So I think the current house map, which was found to be constitutionally gerrymandered and allows for better representation of my community.

My community supports the Congressional map of Chestnut and the Senate map of Linden.

I urge you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

Next in line is number 14, Mohammed.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, Belal.

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>> Happy Friday, Junior. I'm a father of three boys under four. I am born and raised in Dearborn, Michigan.

This is my home.

I'm a member of Access where I serve my community as a mental health advocate. I am here representing Access and my community of Dearborn and Dearborn Heights. And the MENA community in Michigan has a unique experience with specific community needs that can only be met with representatives that understand my community. Access supports of my community providing social and community services that are not accessible by the state.

The MENA community is already a social and politically marginalized group that continues to be left out of redistricting processes.

I support the Congressional map of Chestnut and the Senate map of Linden and will allow the best representation of my community. And I urge you to continue your work by redrafting the house map and considering our community of interest map, C1510, in these draft house map.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Rawha.

>> I was born in Lebanon and grew up in Michigan.

I am on the board of my block club and member of Access and live in the City of Dearborn and here on behalf of Access.

You are obligated to follow the Constitution and the ranked criteria.

You have failed to do this.

The Voting Rights Act is the number one criteria and you continue to ignore communities that are protected by the RA.

You have grass communities in Detroit Dearborn, Dearborn Heights and Flint and other places of the state to elect officials to understand our needs and interest and leaving us without a voice in Lansing for the next ten years.

You have the ability to remain our concern by adding more time to your schedule to redraw the house maps.

I support the map of Chestnut and Senate map of Linden, but cannot support what you have done with the house maps.

Acknowledge what you have heard during the 45-day public comment.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I believe we have a few more in-person individuals.

Are we is this 80?

>> Thank you, Commissioners, for your hard work and commitment to this process.

My name is Briana, a member of the Southfield Deltas.

The closest maps I support are the Chestnut Congressional map, the Hickory State House map and the Linden State Senate map.

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That is why we submitted our own community of interest C1510. And thank the Commission for taking into account in the Congressional map of Chestnut, the Senate map of Linden, but cannot support the house maps presented by the Commission. All house maps have partisan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 23, which is that was -- Zainab.

>> I live in Inkster and here with Access.

The MENA community of Michigan is the largest and most diverse mostly concentrated in Dearborn and Dearborn Heights.

We have been involved in the economic and cultural development for Southwest Michigan for 50 years. Guided by Section Two for minority vote dilution, I ask the Commission not to divide my community of interest but reflect throughout the redistricting process fairly.

Drawing District lines without splitting communities of interest will provide us with an equitable opportunity to participate in the overall local process and not to elect representatives not of our choice.

They split Dearborn and Dearborn Heights in seven House Districts ensuring we do not have representation we need.

Add time to redraft the house maps and consider C1510 as you redraft the house map. And I support the map of Chestnut and state map of Linden. The maps will provide representation of my community.

Commissioners, you have the ability to draw the District lines and maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 25, Asraa.

>> I live in Dearborn and am on behalf of Access. And I urge you to continue to work on the house map. Access is leading our community for fair representation by submitting the community of interest map C1510 and the Senate map of Linden and Chestnut are the best representation of my community.

We continue to be left out of this process and our community of interest has been split in seven House Districts. And all of your house draft maps the MENA community has unique with specific needs and can be met with representatives who understand my community.

Redraft the house map and consider our community of interest map C1510. And the draft house map, the largest needs representation at every level of the process. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 27, Mikala.

>> I live in Detroit and I'm here on behalf of Access, who serves the largest Arab American community in the country.

We support the Chestnut Congressional and Linden State Senate maps for Arab American community.

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We urge you to continue to work on the house maps.

The Michigan State University institute for social policy and public research recommended the MICRC reevaluate its approach towards compliance with the VRA in light of these questions.

They need to assess if the districts can have preferred candidates to win racially polarized elections and ask you to carefully consider what the citizens of Michigan have to say during this 45-day public comment period and through the online portal station submissions as well.

You applaud yourself for having overwhelming engagement from our communities.

Now please listen to us when we say your job is not done.

Continue to work on the house maps.

All of your maps put a thumb on the scale for one party over another.

Fairness is when both parties have to win majority of the votes to win.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 29, Mariam-Bazzi.

>> Hi, everyone.

I'm here with Access and I'm a lifelong resident of Dearborn.

Thank you, Commissioners, for all your hard work and the Congressional and Senate maps.

We are thankful for your consideration of our Arab American community of interest and the redistricting process as is evidence in the Chestnut and Linden.

Partisan fairness in all your draft house maps, the truth is we may not be able to draw perfect lines in maps but you can ensure the communities of interest and underrepresented communities are not divided because of partisan lines.

We urge the Commission to make sure our community of interest, the Arab MENA community which contributed to the civic and economic life to the Detroit area is connected.

This social justice lens is the only way our community can feel represented and included in the political process.

Adding more time to the schedule is better than continuing to disenfranchise communities across Michigan for the next ten years. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 30, Rima.

>> Hi. My name is Rima. I'm an Arab American. I'm here with access. Can you all hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Metropolitan Detroit is home for the largest and most diverse Arab American and north African communities outside of the Arab region. And 3.5 of Arab descents live in the country and not on the census as a racial and ethnic category.

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# Detroit mapping

## Basic Info

Submitter: Sharon McNeil

Location: Monroe

Submitted: 12/28/2021

Type: written

ID: w9648

## Tags

## Comments & Feedback

No comments have been submitted.

## Written Testimony

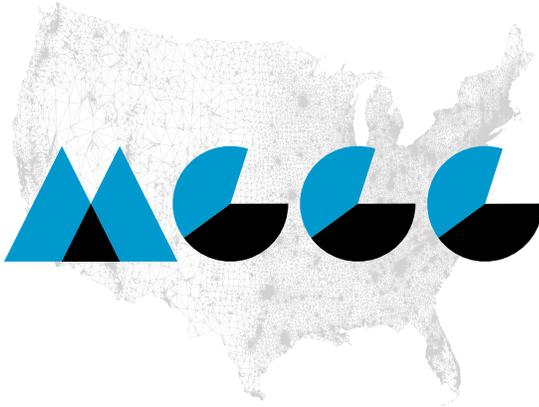
Map so that Detroit represents Detroiters!

**APPENDIX**  
**VOLUME VII**  
**PART 2**

**ADDITIONAL  
RECORD  
MATERIALS**

**ADDITIONAL  
RECORD  
MATERIALS**

# COI Clusters for Michigan



MGGG Redistricting Lab and OPEN-Maps Coalition

## Contents

- 1 Introduction 1
  - 1.1 How to use this report 1
- 2 COI clusters: Summary descriptions and heatmaps 3
- 3 COI clusters: Supporting data 42

## Contributors

Staff and students of the MGGG Redistricting Lab who made direct contributions to this project include Jamie Atlas, Luis Delgadillo, Jack Deschler, Moon Duchin, Max Fan, Cyrus Kirby, Elizabeth Kopecky, JN Matthews, Lucy Millman, Chanel Richardson, Vievie Romanelli, Parker Rule, Robbie Veglahn, Valeria Velasquez, and Zach Wallace-Wright. We also thank the other members of the Lab.

Active members of the OPEN-Maps faculty working group include Erin Chambers (St. Louis University), Ranthony Edmonds (the Ohio State University), Parker Edwards (University of Notre Dame), Vladimir Kogan (the Ohio State University), and Ari Stern (Washington University).



## 1 Introduction

This report summarizes *Community of Interest (COI) clusters* extracted from public commentary submitted to the MICRC from March through the end of August 2021.

An initial round of clusters provided to the commission chose a resolution that produced 36 clusters, numbered A1–A36, using all submissions to the public portal through early August. We chose a data resolution that produced 36 clusters in an attempt to create a number that would be manageable for the commission to use in their work, with each cluster still reflecting a synthesis of many views. The resolution of clustering is a choice, but it's important to choose a resolution that balances usability with richness—too many (therefore small) clusters will be overwhelming to consider in the process and will be supported by too little testimony, while too few (therefore large) clusters will be geographically diffuse and will lack clear themes. Detailed methods and code will be made publicly available in a separate report and repository.

On September 1, the full dataset of submissions collected through August 31 was subjected to geographic sorting, producing clusters B1–B36. In two cases, a pair of clusters that were small and proximal were merged, leaving 34 clusters total, which are now numbered C1–C34.

We begin with summary descriptions of the COI clusters around the state, followed by heatmaps, followed by the raw testimony that supported each cluster.

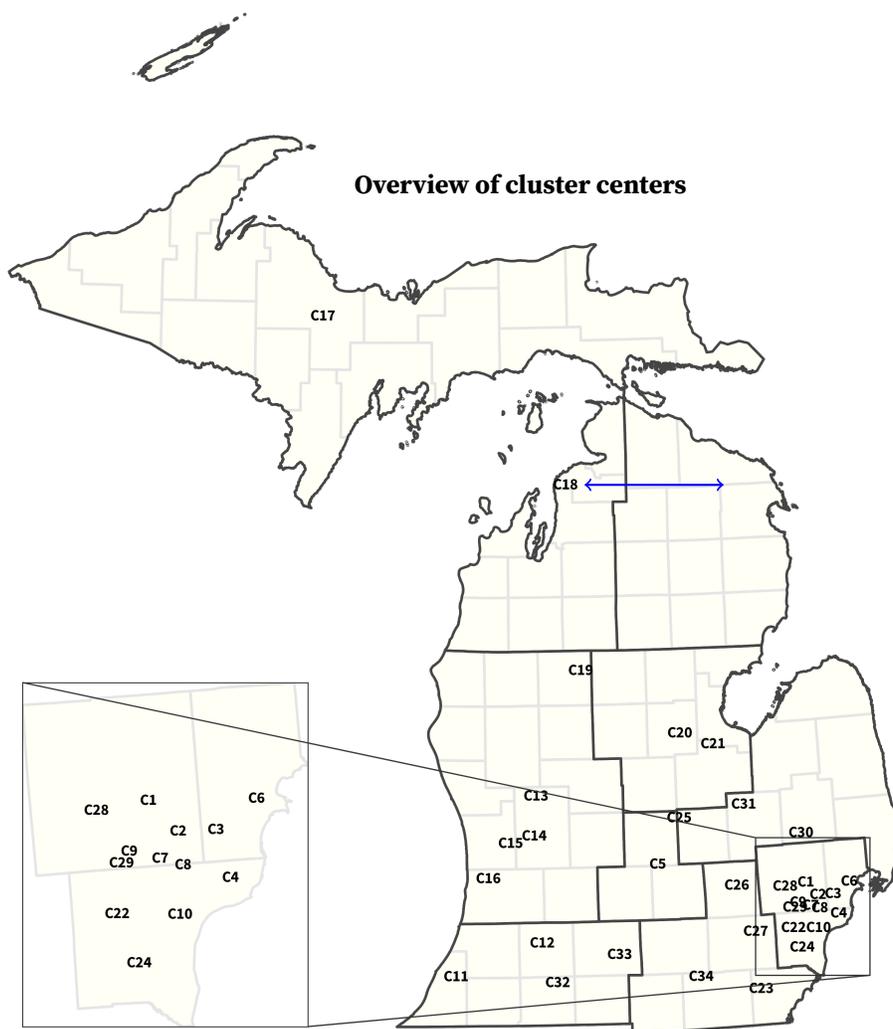
### 1.1 How to use this report

As the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission proceeds around the state to draw and adjust lines for its new districts, members of the commission and members of the public can consult this report to find synthesized and organized public testimony.

#### Steps

- Consult the **overview of cluster centers** (Figure 1) to see which clusters are most relevant to the part of the state under consideration.
- Begin with the **summary description and heatmap** in Section 2. This should help form a sense of the geographic scale of the cluster and will provide a summary of important themes. For large clusters, we have used a text classification technique to produce subclusters with different themes highlighted by submitters.
- Next to the name of the cluster is a link that will jump you straight to the **table of raw data** in Section 3. There, you can read the submissions for yourself! Some submissions are very long, so we have truncated them after a character limit equivalent to several tweets. In the first column of these tables, you can find a link that will take you straight to the detail page for the original submission in the public portal. Note that the top row of the table contains a link that jumps you back to the summary page for the cluster.

By flipping between the overview, the summary descriptions/heatmaps, the tables of supporting data, and the submission pages on the public portal, we hope that users will be able to form a high-level view of public testimony, supported by specific detail.

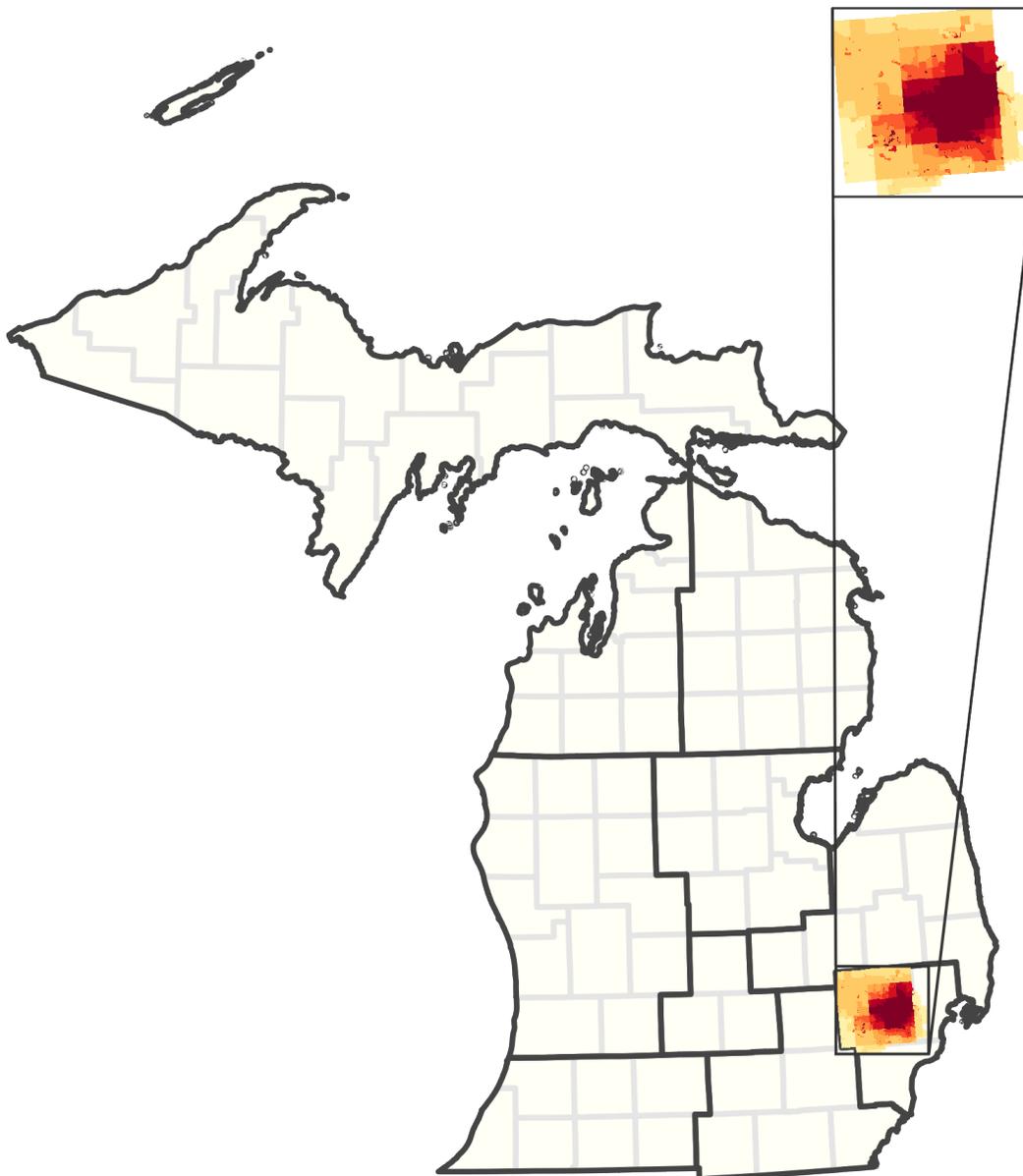


**Figure 1.** Overview of cluster centers, shown against the backdrop of the counties of Michigan (lighter lines) and the ten regions in use by the MICRC (darker lines).



## 2 COI clusters: Summary descriptions and heatmaps

**Cluster C1 – Oakland County.** (27 submissions) Collection of small, interdependent towns with common transportation corridors. Commuters travel within the county for employment and shared businesses, community spaces, recreational areas, and services.



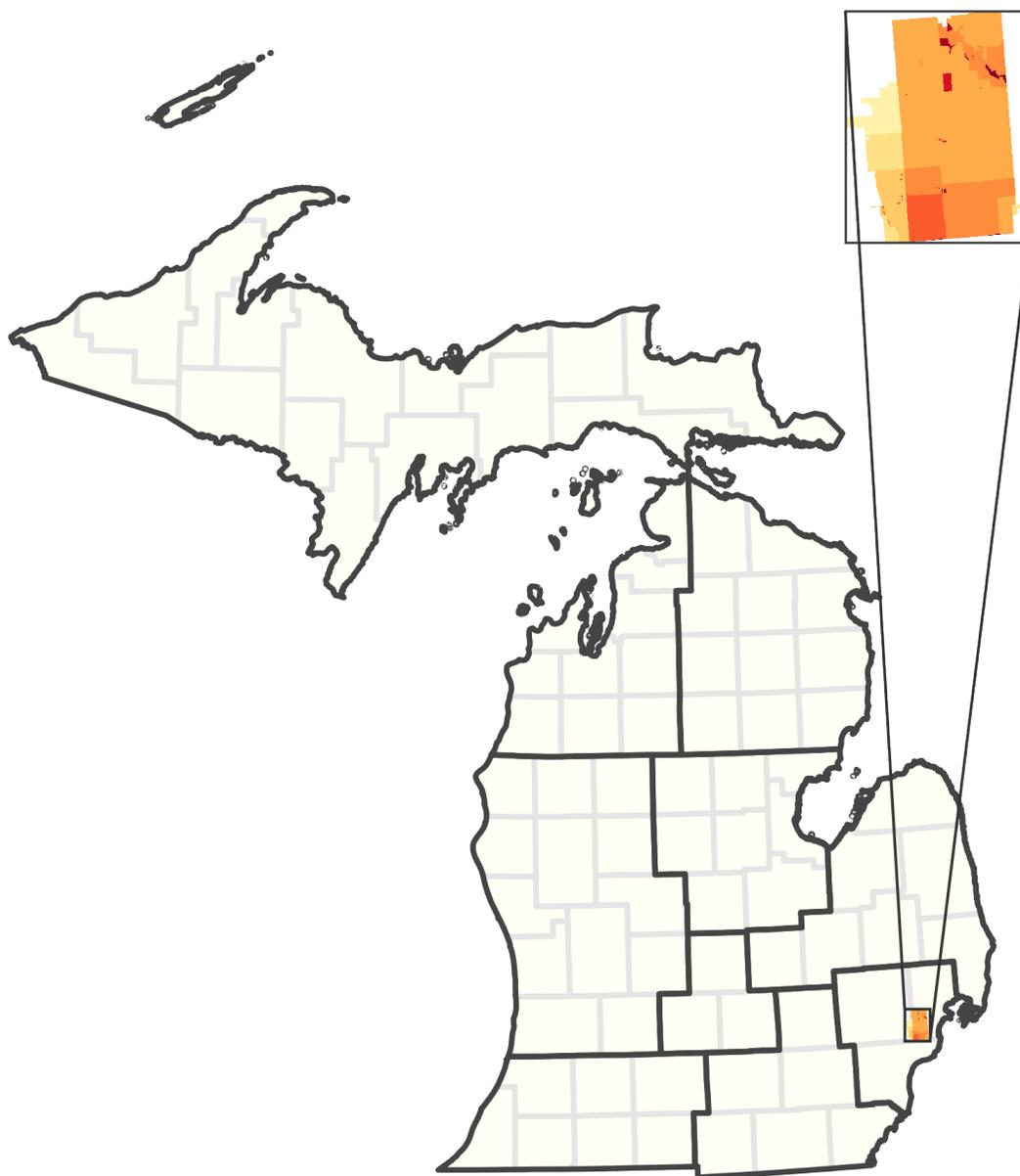


**Cluster C2 – Royal Oak Area.** (17 submissions) Predominantly White, inner ring suburbs. Strong local economy with commercial areas that attract shoppers. Connected to Detroit via Woodward Corridor.



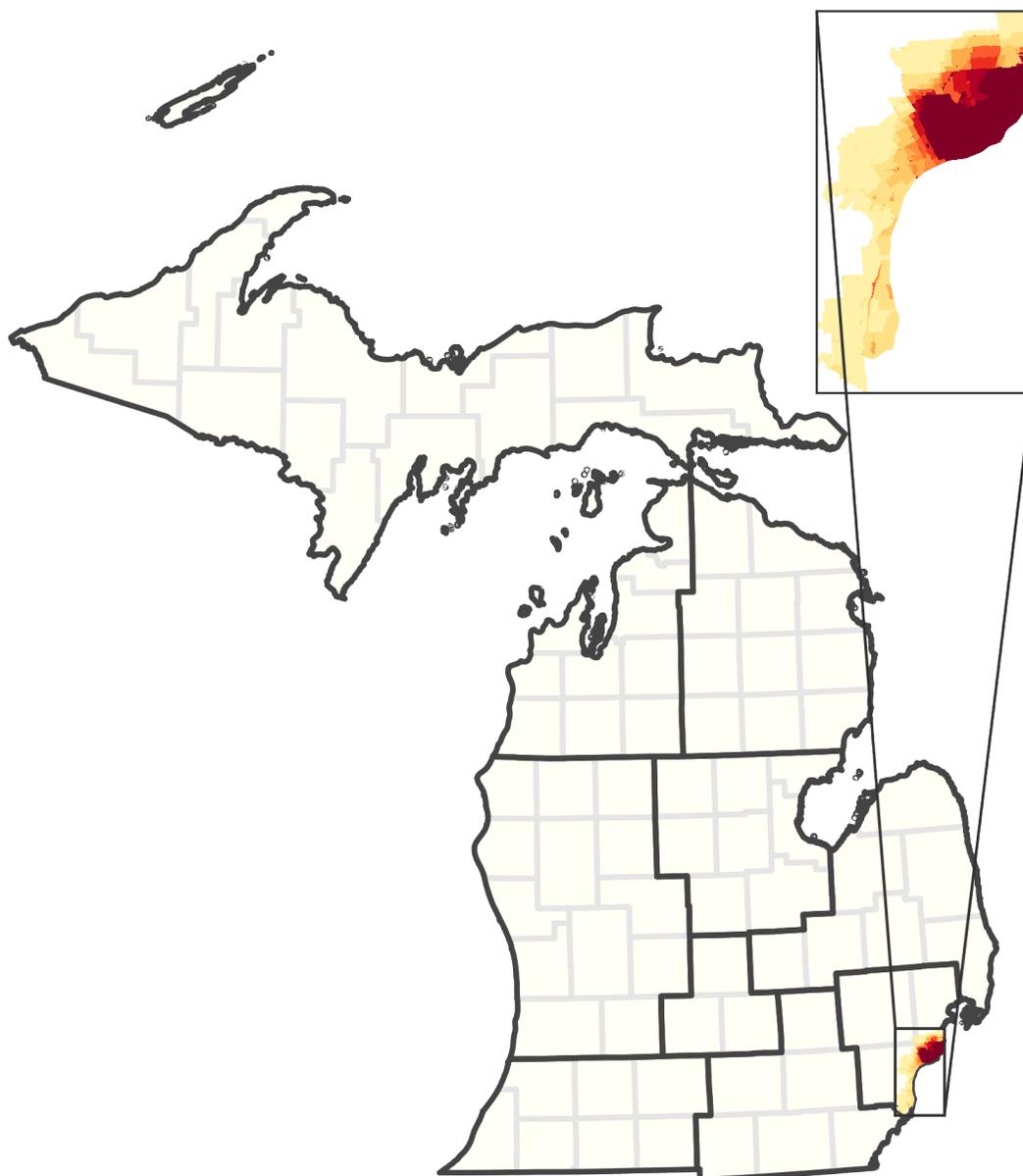


**Cluster C3 — Southwest Macomb County.** (15 submissions) Area includes White, working class suburbs, as well as growing immigrant and Black population in South Warren. LGBTQ community is cited in Hazel Park.





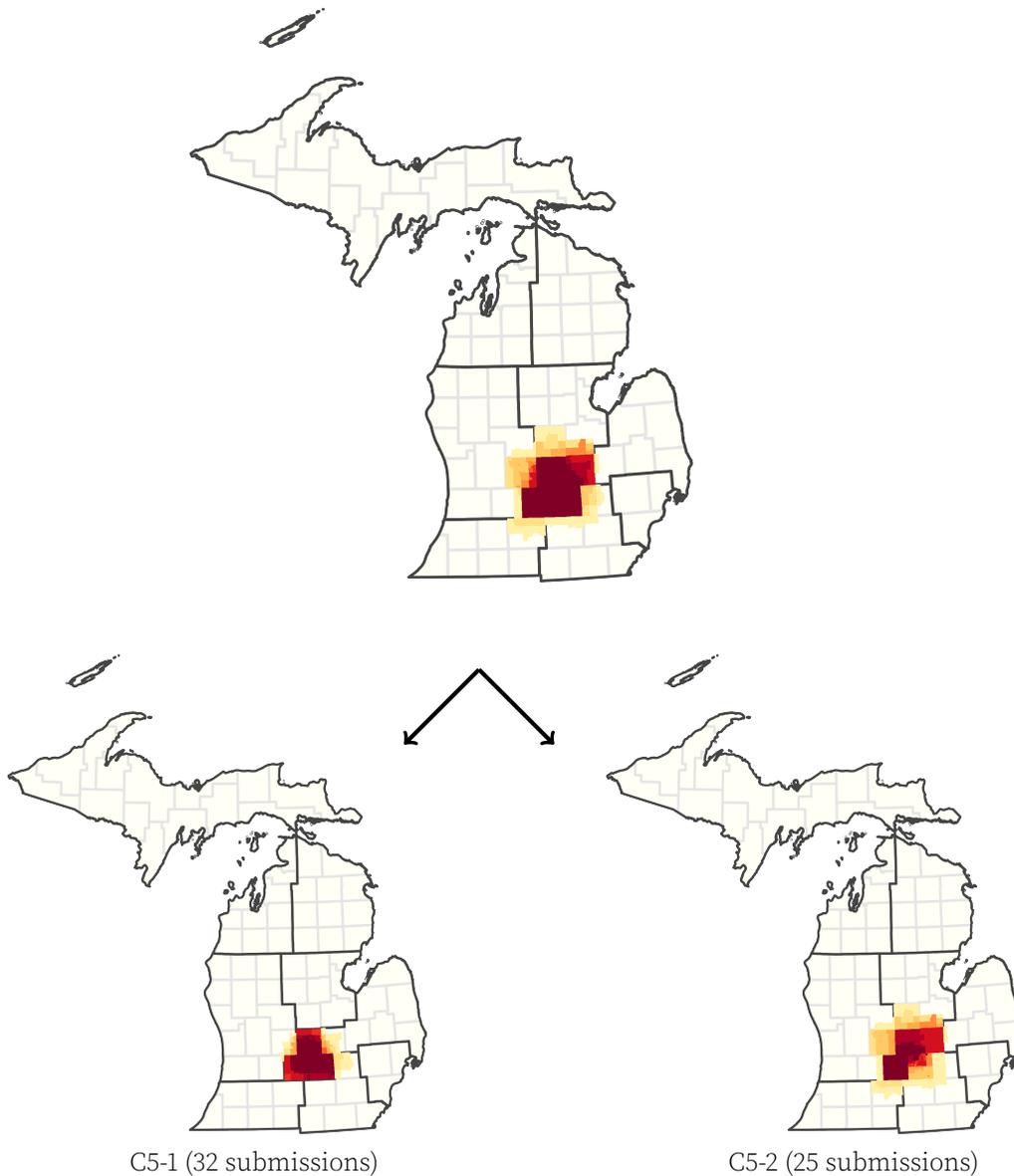
**Cluster C4 – East Detroit / Grosse Pointe.** (42 submissions) Diverse area with significant Arab-American and Bangladeshi (Bangla-speaking) population. Important employers include the auto industry, with the Chrysler Plant cited. Concerns about industrial waste, cost of living, and gentrification. Grosse Pointe described as upscale, white-collar community with shared public services. Disagreement about whether East Detroit and Grosse Pointe belong in one district.





**Cluster C5 — Greater Lansing Area\*.** (59 submissions) Residents are concerned with keeping the Lansing area and "Tri-Counties" together. Shared metro area services.

This cluster splits thematically into C5-1, whose top-cited themes concern economic conditions and racial/ethnic diversity, and C5-2, whose themes are more rural, suburban, and school-based.



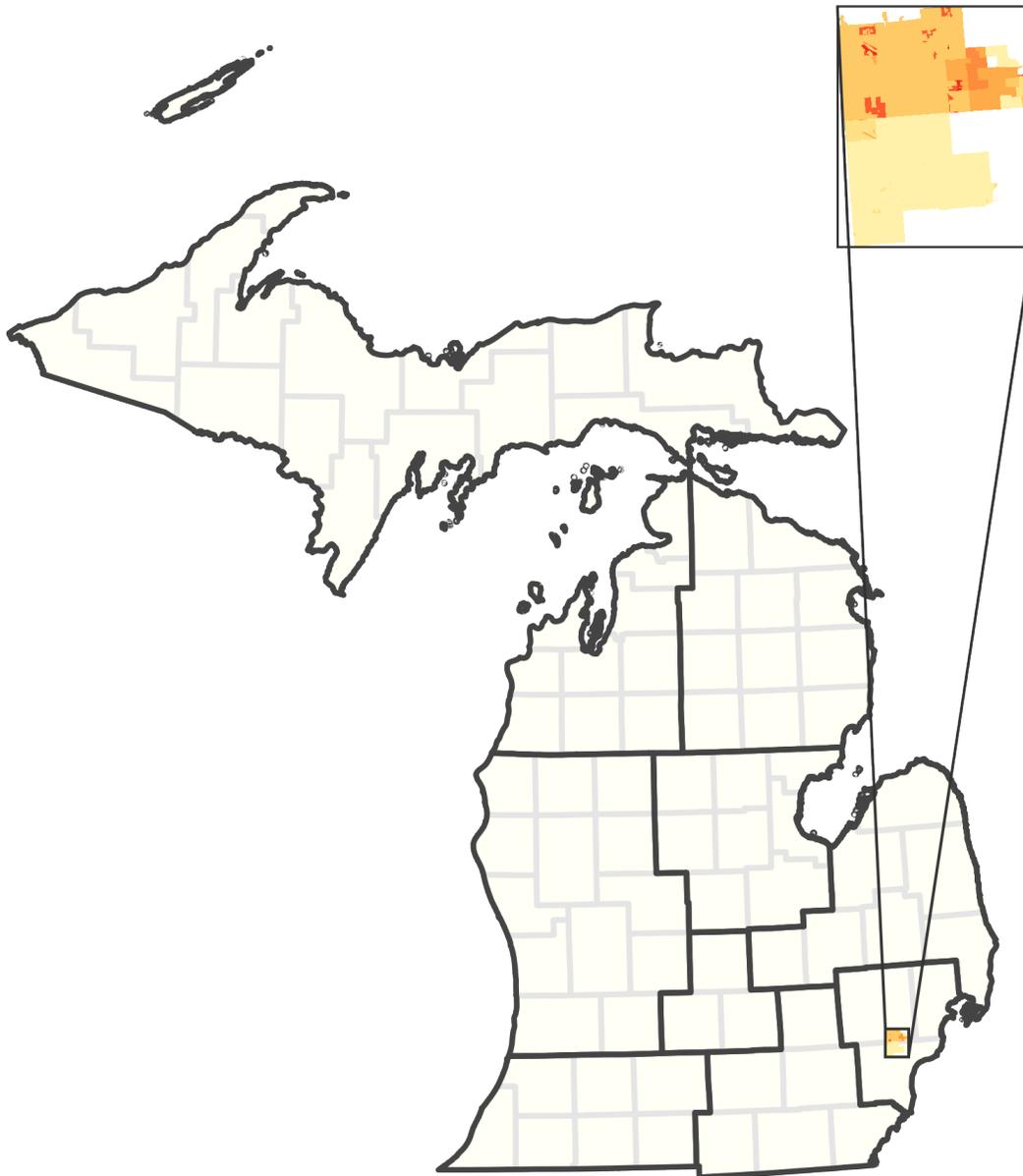


**Cluster C6 – Lake St. Clair.** (29 submissions) Dependence on the infrastructure, economy, recreation and lifestyle surrounding Lake St. Clair. Environmental conservation of the lake is important. Lakeshore communities shade into Grosse Pointe.





**Cluster C7 — Northwest Suburbs.** (7 submissions) Mix of middle and working class suburbs. Many cite important Black and Jewish population. Sizeable Caribbean community, concerns about resources for navigating education system and criminal justice system. Freeways link area to Detroit.





**Cluster C8 — Northwest Detroit and Palmer Park.** (7 submissions) LGBTQ and African American residents. Lower income and middle class neighborhoods, with pockets of wealth.



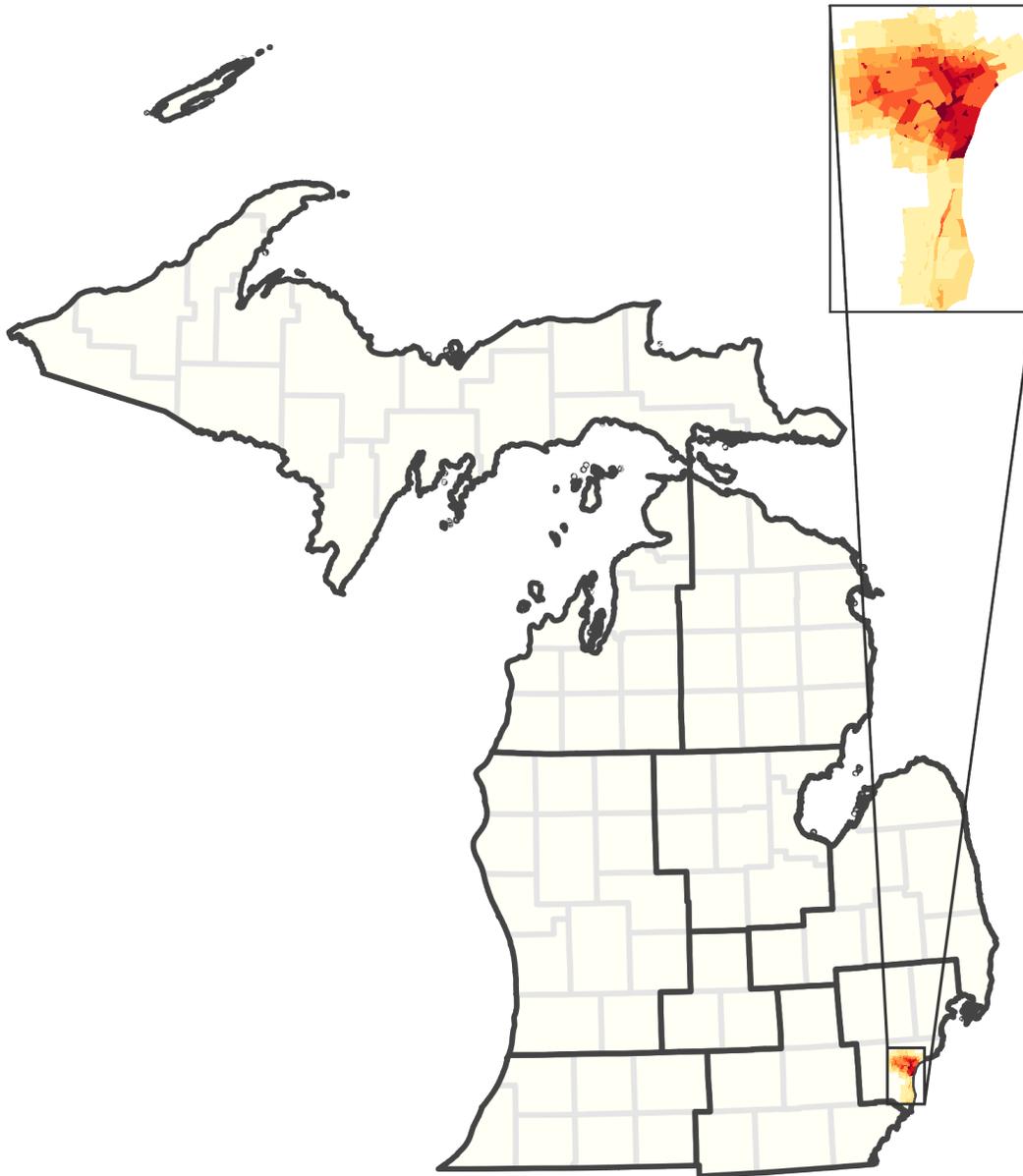


**Cluster C9 — Western Wayne County.** (9 submissions) Commenters highlight a clear distinction between rural areas and urban/university areas.





**Cluster C10 — Southwest Detroit.** (21 submissions) Several submitters urge commission to keep Dearborn and Dearborn Heights together as one community. Diverse area with significant Hispanic and Arab-American population. Includes some Detroit waterfront communities.





**Cluster C11 – Benton Harbor area.** (36 submissions) Benton Harbor itself is described as a small city with concentrated Black population. Shared health care and agricultural networks in the area. Environmental concerns regarding lakeshore conservation. Berrien, Cass and Van Buren share tourism-based economy with surrounding townships.



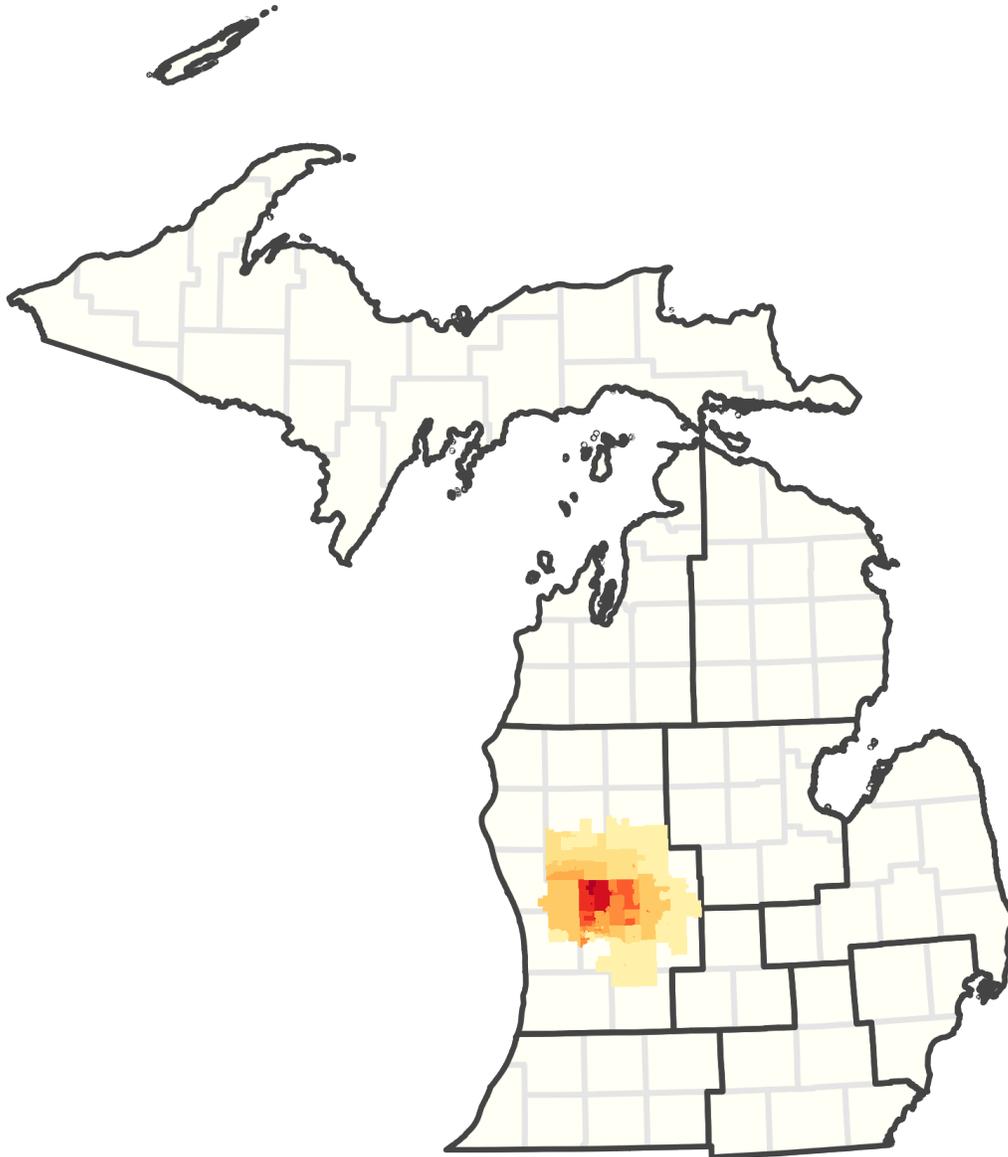


**Cluster C12 — Kalamazoo and Battle Creek.** (22 submissions) Universities and shared infrastructure, especially transit, make these areas economically interdependent. Area has many recreational opportunities. Focus on K-12 school districts and suburban atmosphere.





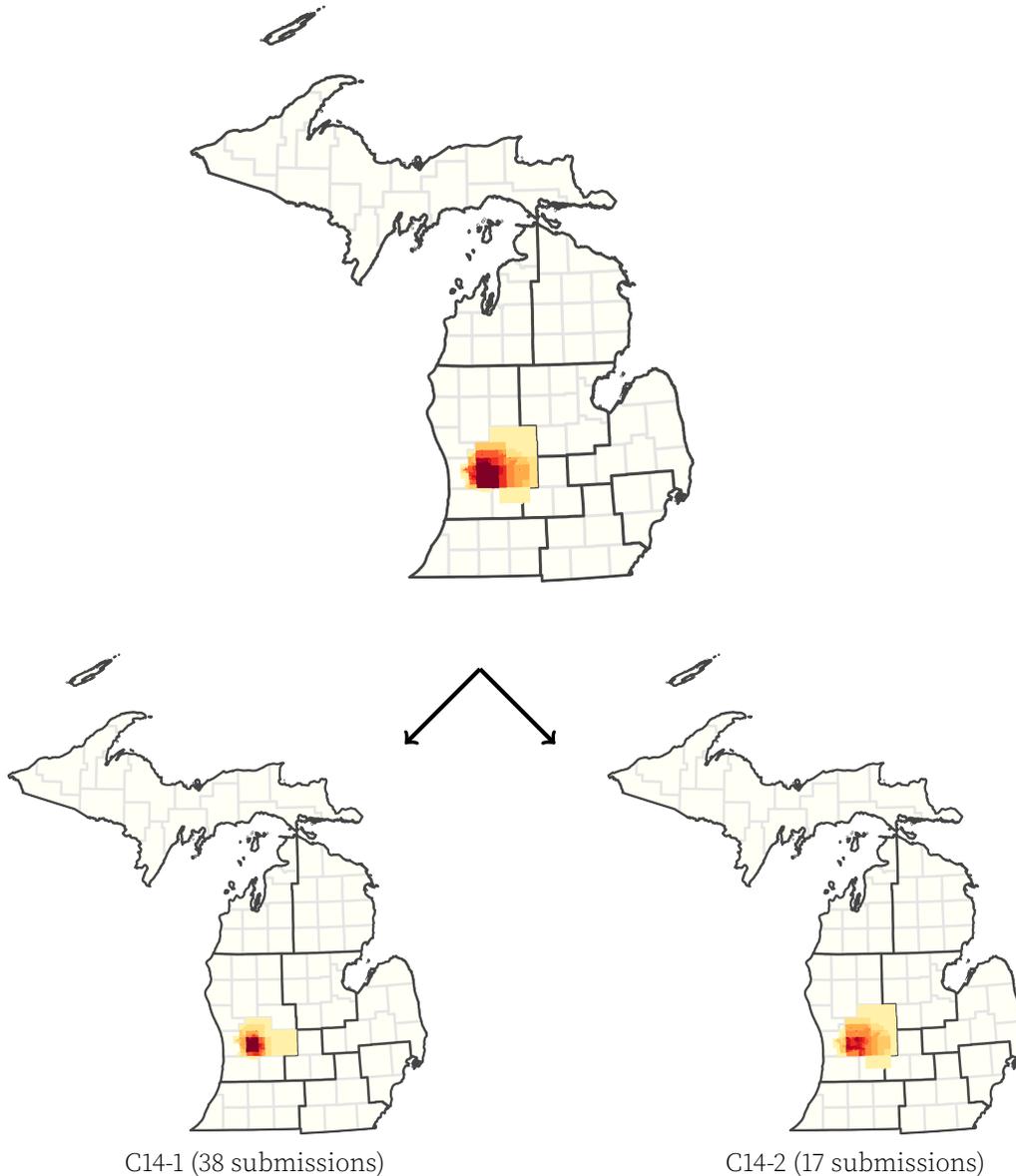
**Cluster C13 – Northern Grand Rapids.** (17 submissions) Rural and agricultural community extending north from Grand Rapids, with important fruit-growing industry. Creston neighborhood in Grand Rapids cited for local businesses and restaurants.





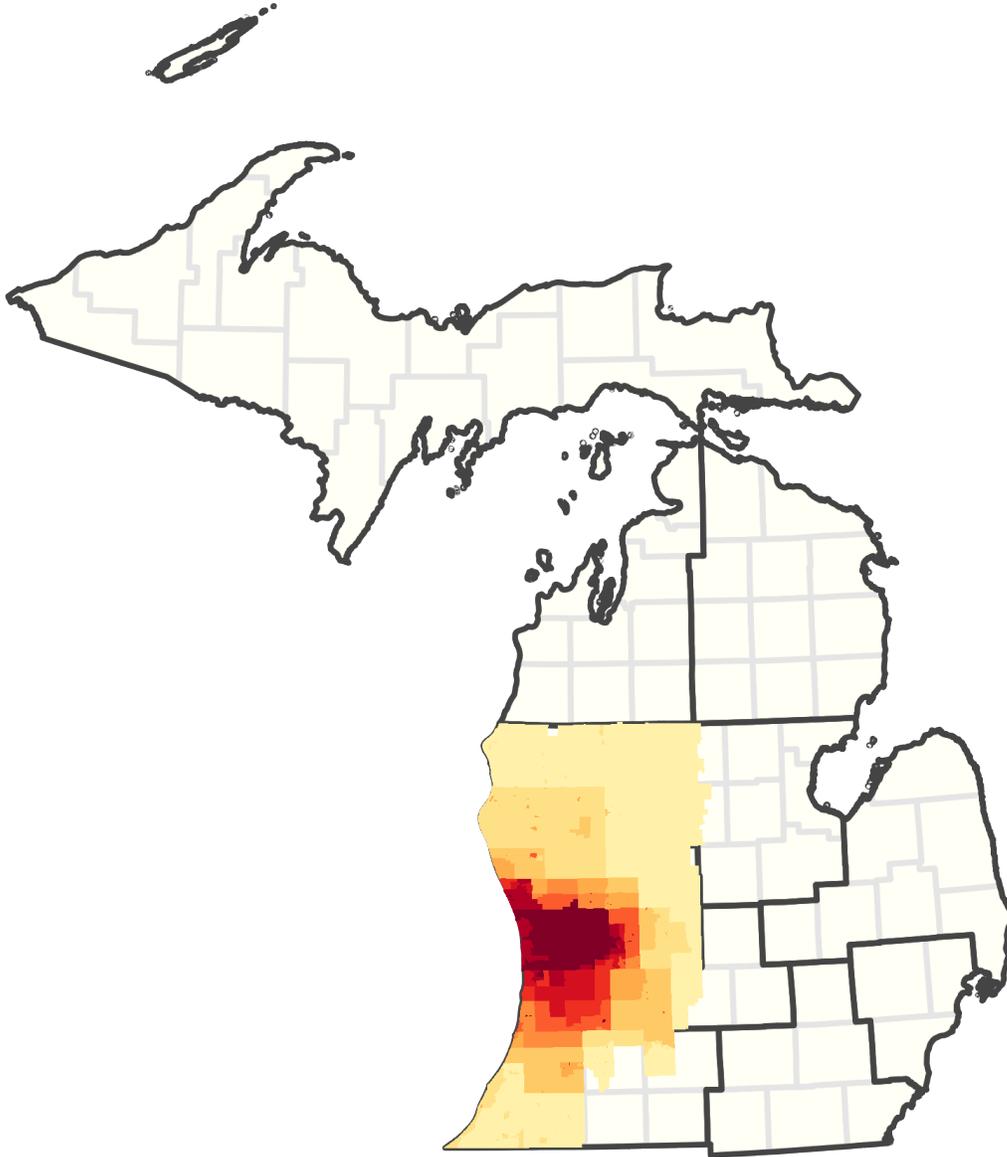
**Cluster C14 – Grand Rapids Metro.** (55 submissions) Within the greater Grand Rapids area, special importance was placed on school districts, shared public services, and infrastructure needs. Kentwood is frequently cited as cohesive and some submitters hope it can be kept whole.

This was thematically split into two subclusters, with C14-1 more focused on infrastructure and city schools, while C14-2 cited suburban themes with greater frequency. Geographically, these overlap substantially.





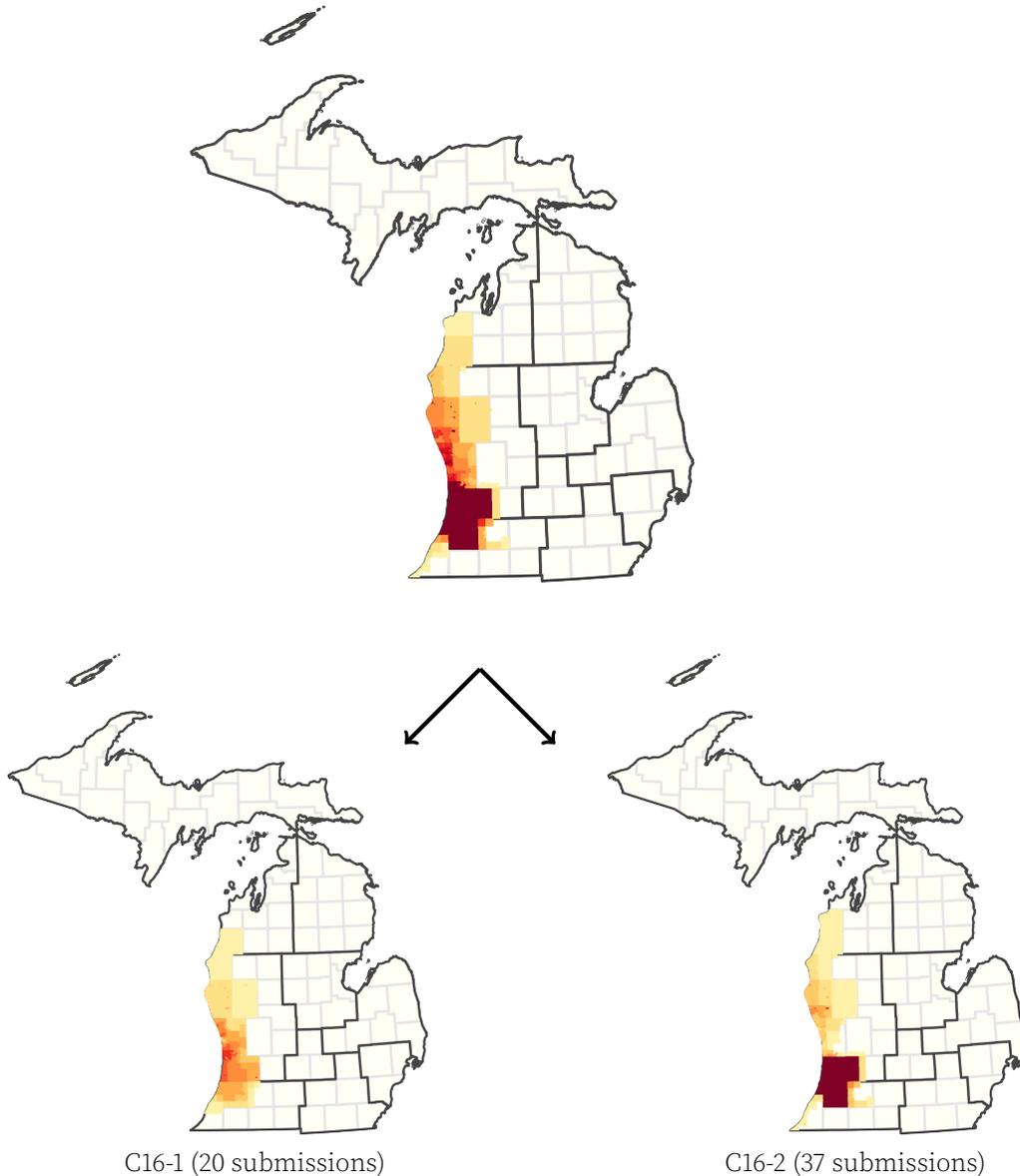
**Cluster C15 – West Central.** (16 submissions) Rural and suburban combination, relies on Grand Rapids for public services. Shared infrastructure. Rural, farming areas near Lake Michigan.





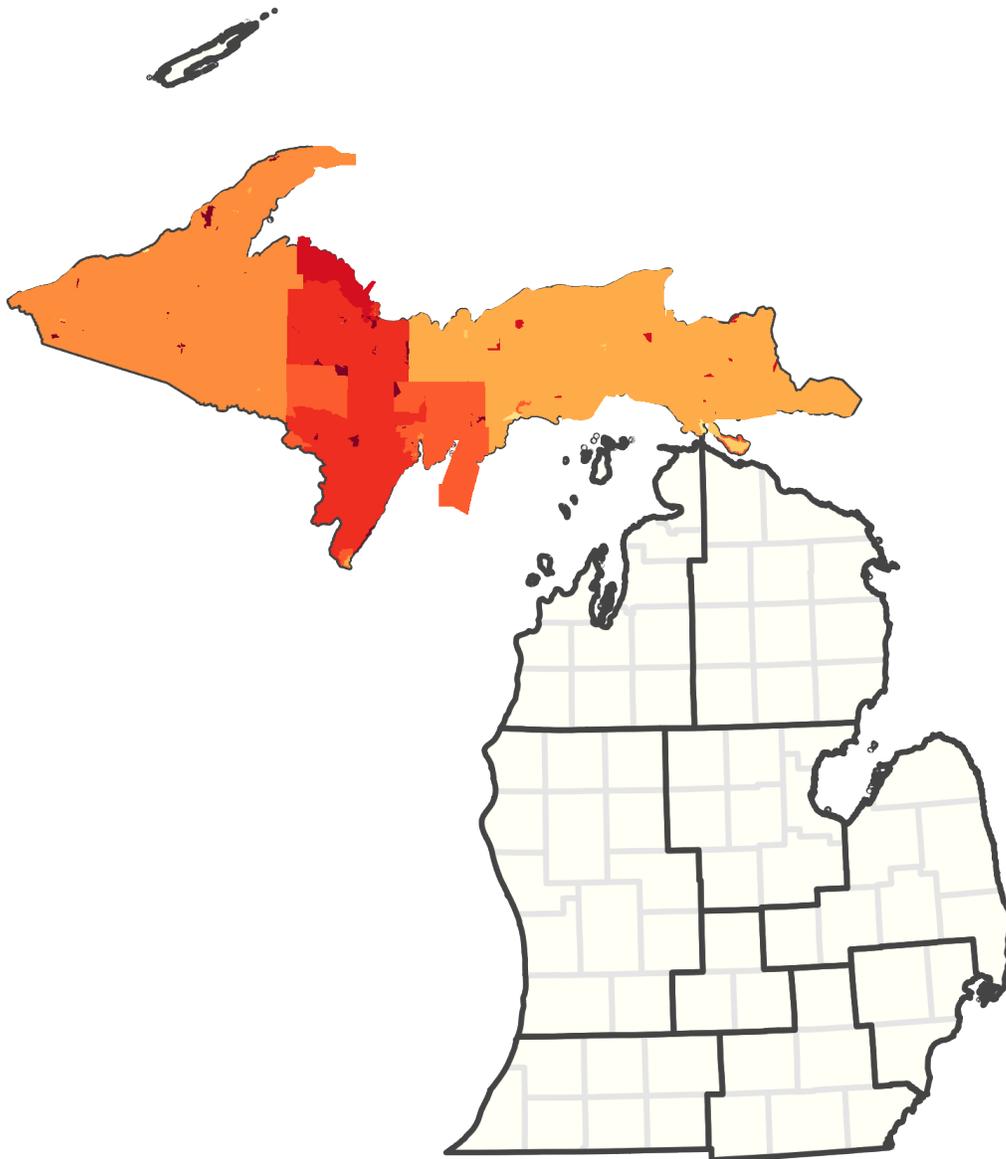
**Cluster C16 – Van Buren and Allegan Counties.** (57 submissions) Lakeshore community with agricultural and tourism industry, outdoor and recreational activities, environmental and watershed concerns. Shared cultural events. Shared rural identity reported between Allegan and Van Buren Counties.

Subcluster 16-1 describes the area in terms of waterways, tourism, and recreation; subcluster 16-2 is more thematically focused on rural/agricultural issues and local businesses.





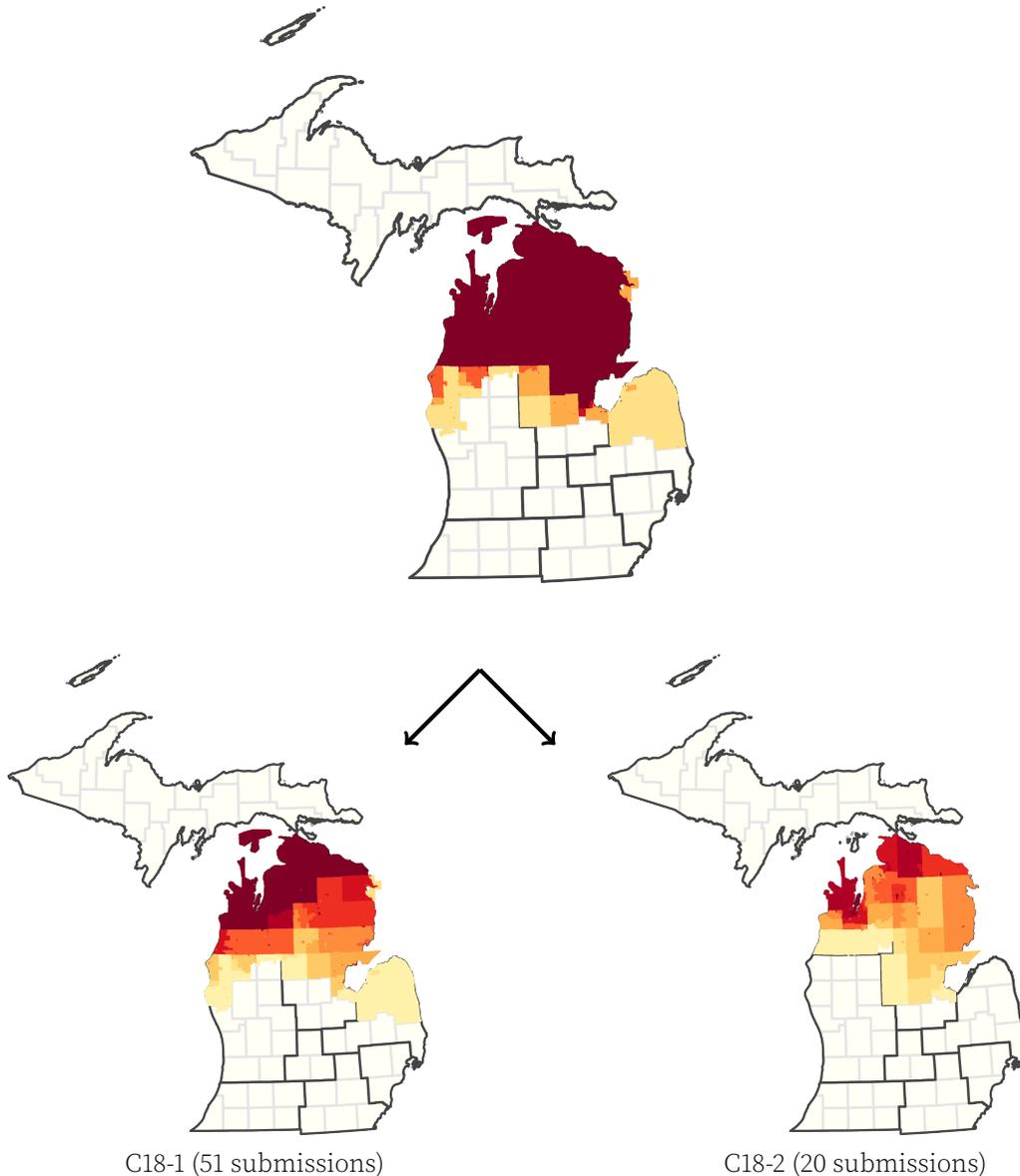
**Cluster C17 — Upper Peninsula.** (12 submissions) Submissions emphasized a strong Upper Peninsula regional identity. This region also identified three main zones: communities bordering Lake Superior, communities bordering Lake Michigan, and those that border the Wisconsin border. Main concerns in this area were about environmental threats and the prosperity of tribal communities. Regional economies depend on Marquette County and many public services are available closer to Marquette City.





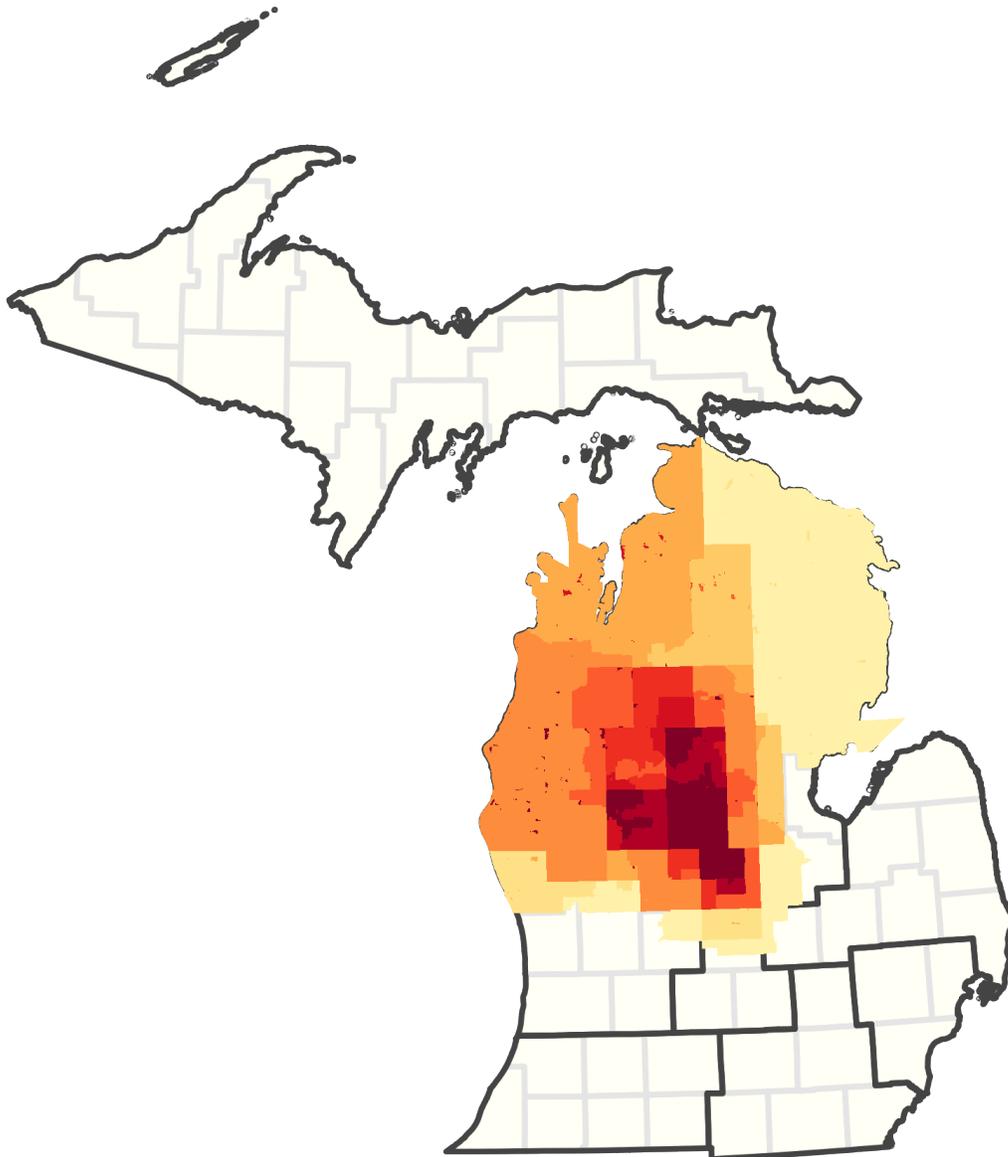
**Cluster C18 — Upper Mitten.** (71 submissions) Small towns and rural communities united by seasonal, tourism-based economy and agriculture. Commuters travel to nearby counties for goods, services, and hospitals. Concerns include a lack of essential services, access to broadband, and keeping the coastline and watersheds clean. Local universities, particularly Central Michigan University.

Subcluster 18-1 has major themes of outdoor and recreational spaces, environment, and agriculture, with many submitters describing shared services. Subcluster 18-2 has discussion of shared values and identity, including religion.



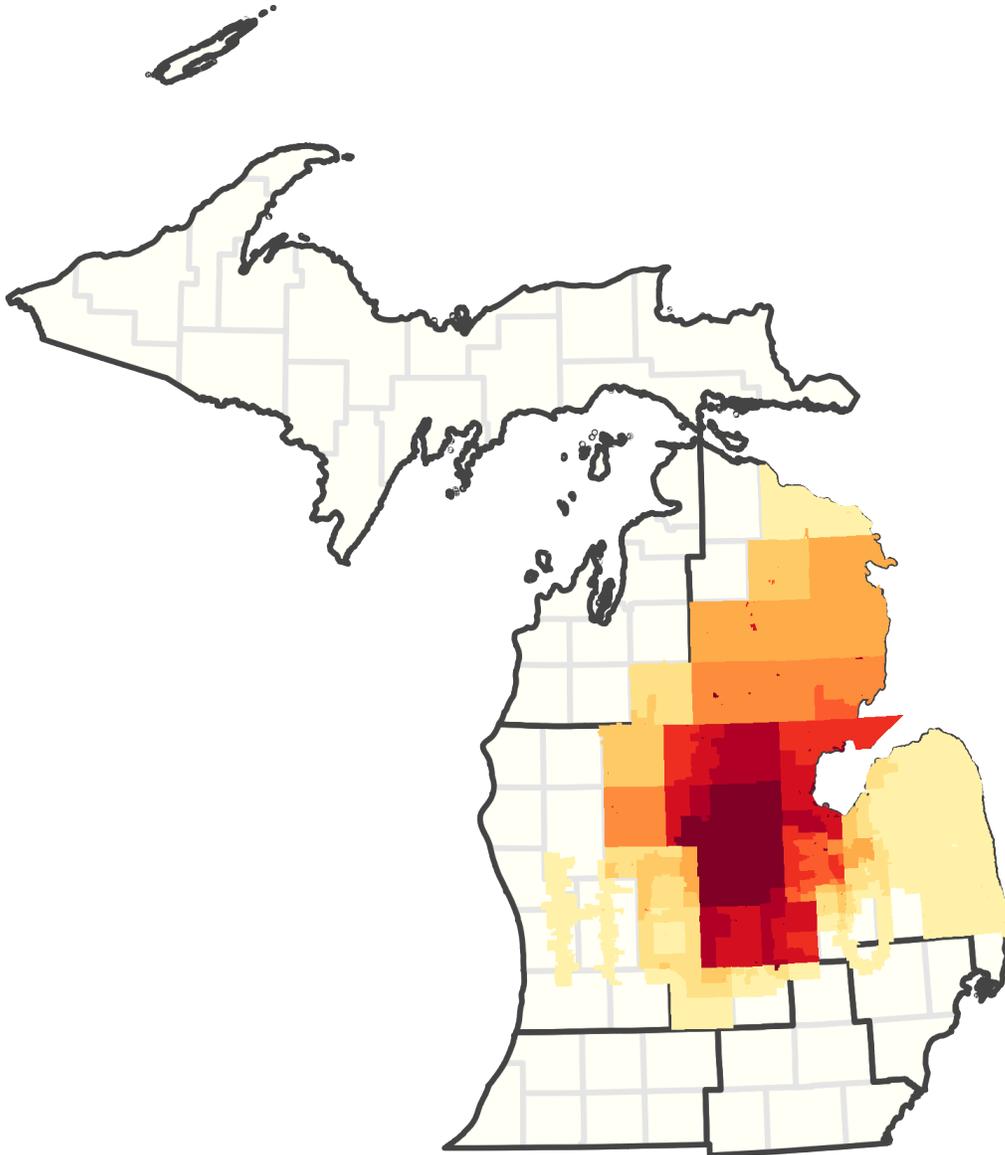


**Cluster C19 — Central Zone.** (22 submissions) Commitment to education and health care service availability for the region. Water conservation and environmental preservation was a key concern. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, while contributing jobs and economic activity to the region, pose several environmental concerns to residents. This cluster centered around environmental concerns, especially those affecting river conservation. Submissions were made up of small towns and rural communities.



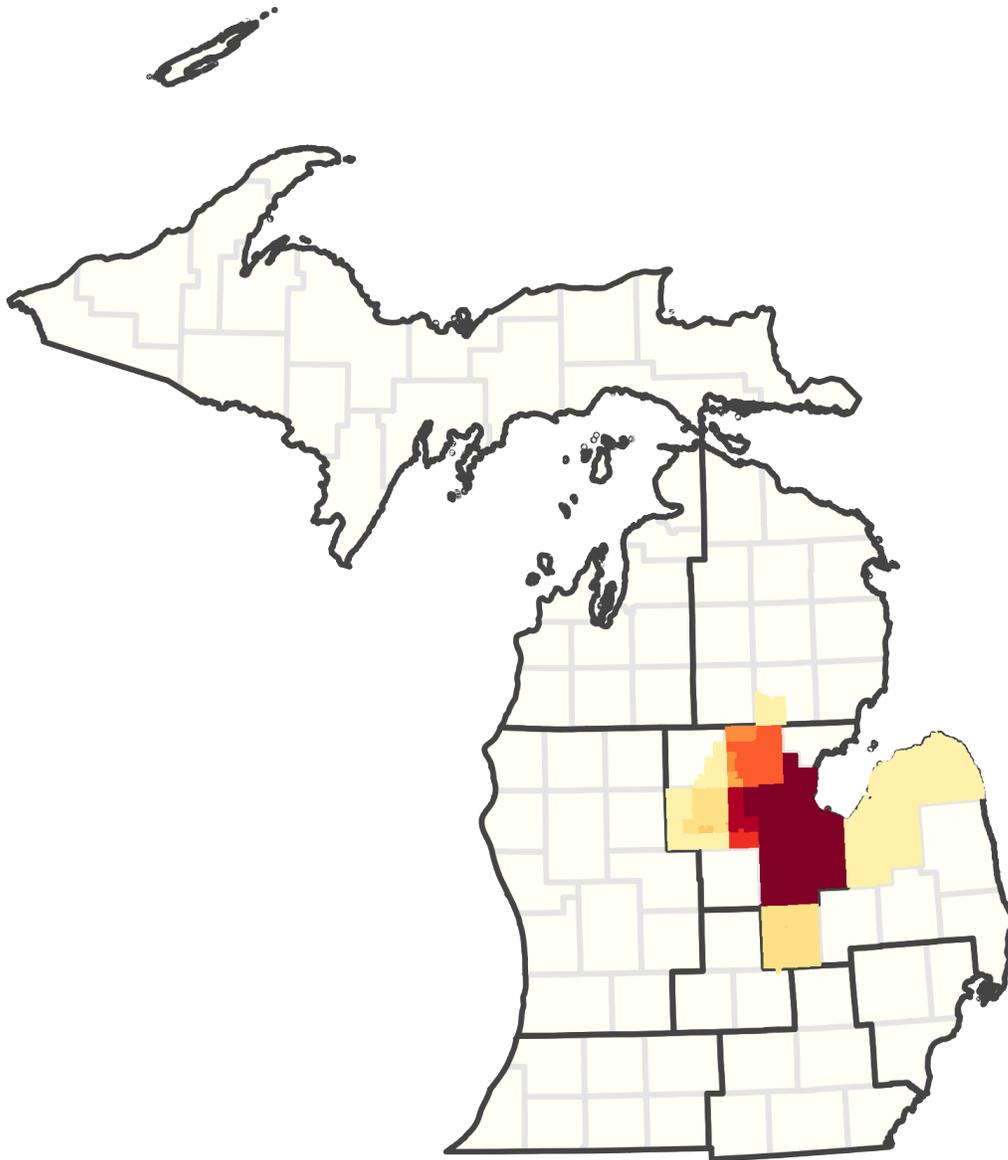


**Cluster C20 – Mt. Pleasant.** (12 submissions) Combination of rural, small towns, and medium-sized cities. They share resources with the Grand Traverse Bay Area, and report several farming communities.



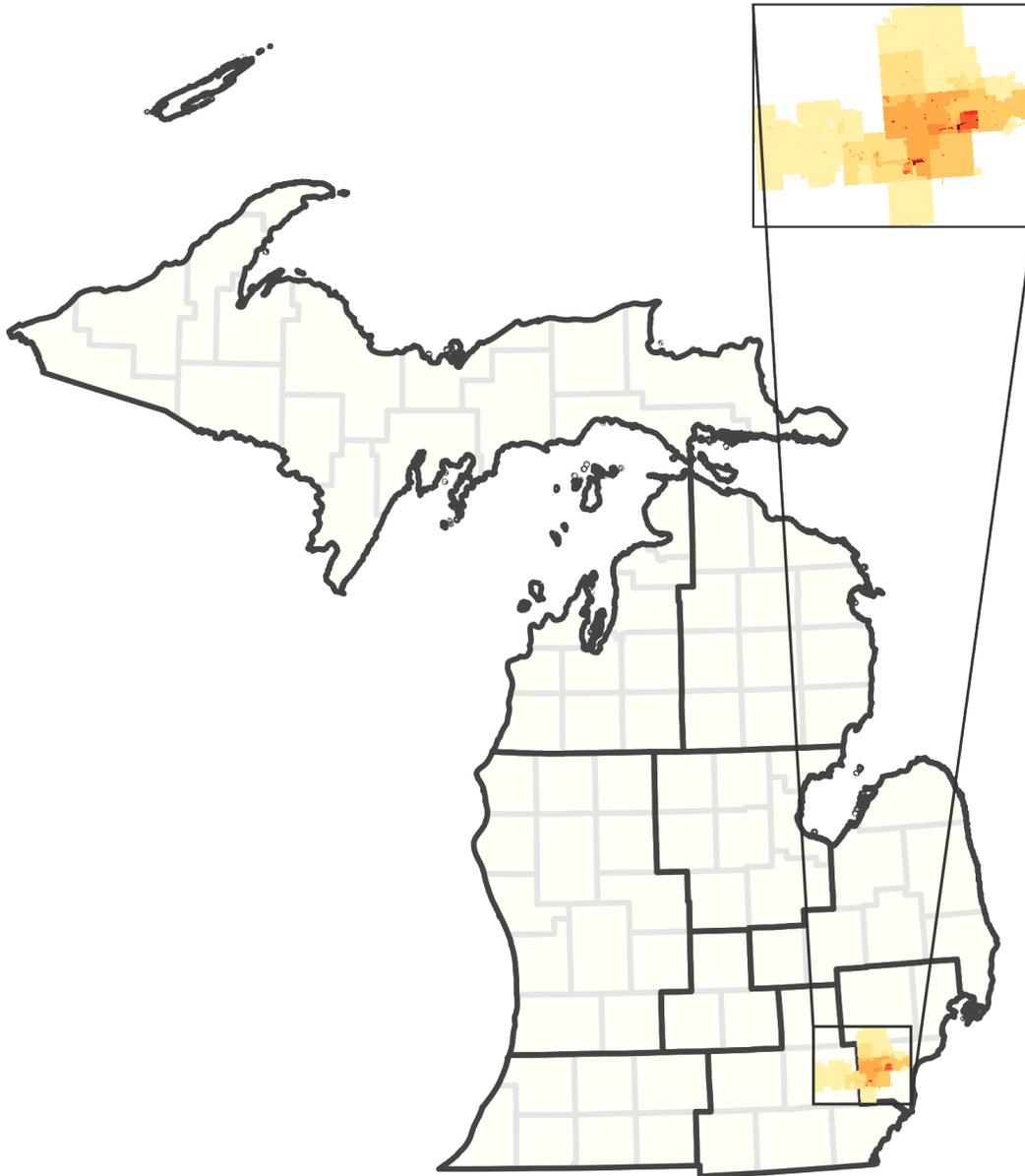


**Cluster C21 – Tri-Cities.** (35 submissions) Regional economy mixing urban, suburban and rural areas in the Tri-cities of Saginaw, Bay City, and Midland. Residents have pollution and flooding concerns, particularly in the Tittabawasee and Saginaw Rivers. Several submitters cite Delta College and SVSU as regionally important.





**Cluster C22 — Wayne County Suburbs.** (13 submissions) Diverse area with significant Black, Hispanic, and Arab-American communities. Residents mention pollution, K-12 schools, and community centers.





**Cluster C23 – Monroe Area.** (21 submissions) This area is described as a "bedroom community." Some commenters mention environmental concerns and needs for infrastructure maintenance. Some suggested that Monroe County (more agricultural but with community connections to the other two counties), Wayne County, and Lenawee County should be kept together.





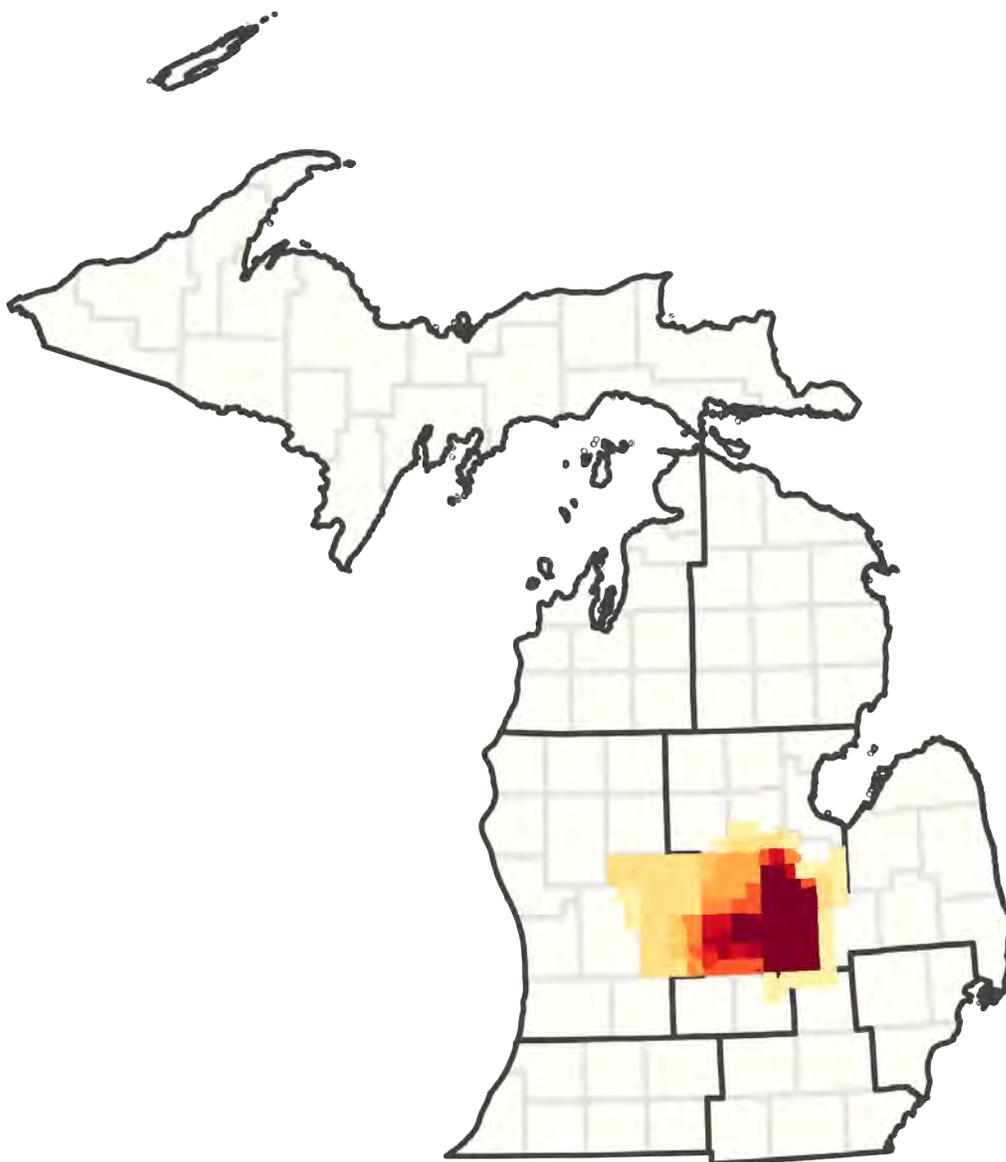
**Cluster C24 – Downriver.** (23 submissions) Includes cities and townships South of Detroit. Working-class character and access to and organization around the Detroit river. This is a diverse community with a large Arab-American population. Farms/agricultural areas and a mix of manufacturing plants are cited. Residents mention environmental and pollution concerns.



**APPENDIX**  
**VOLUME VII**  
**PART 3**



**Cluster C25 — Shiawassee Area.** (27 submissions) Includes rural farming communities, with several submissions drawing distinctions from the values of nearby Lansing. Shared traditions and festivals. School districts share resources.





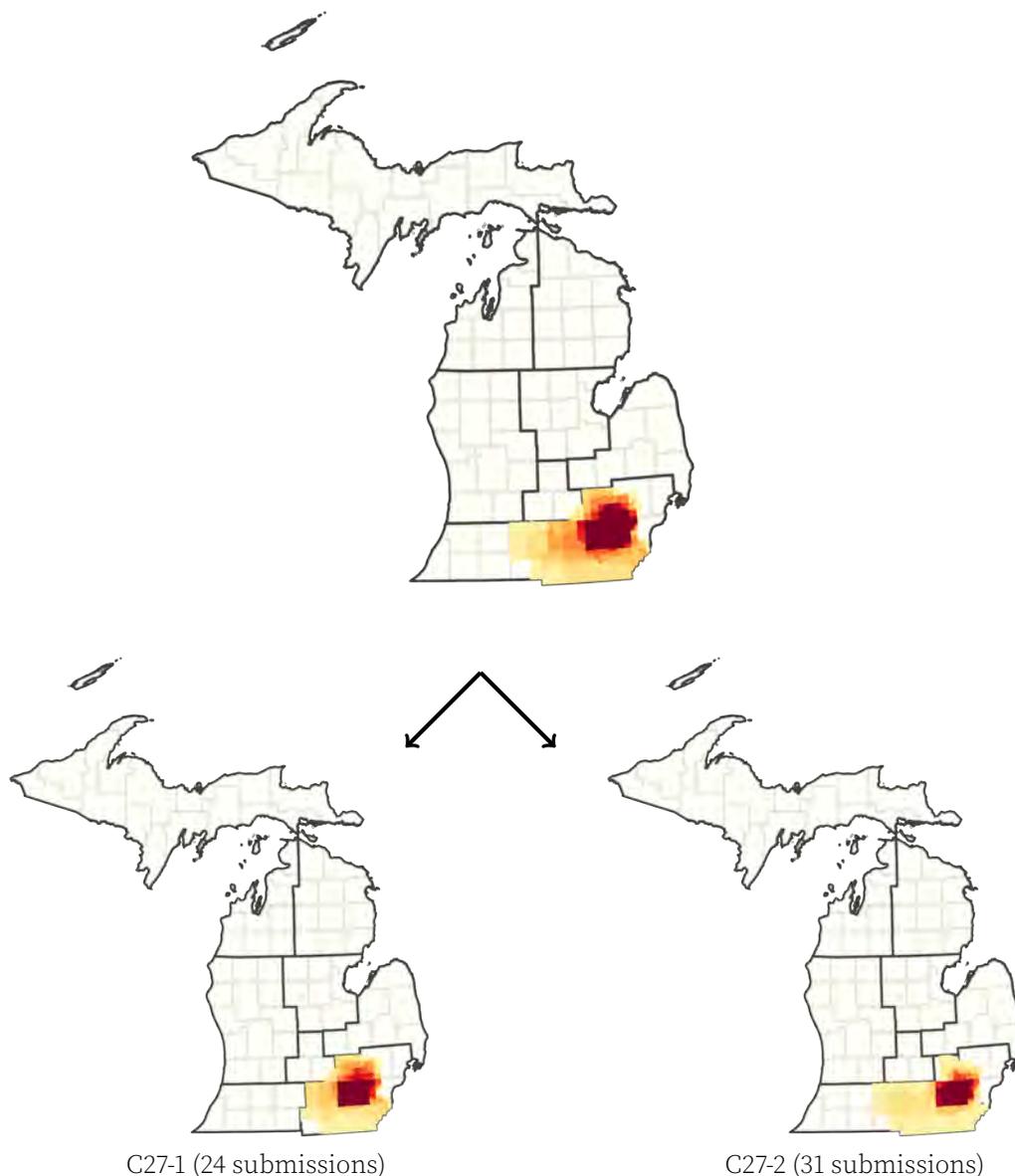
**Cluster C26 – Livingston Area.** (48 submissions) Recreational activities on Dunham Lake. Wildlife conservation and agriculture are important. Shared "traditional rural values," community services, and family focus are cited. Maintaining Livingston County whole was a concern for many submitters.





**Cluster C27 — Greater Ann Arbor.** (55 submissions) Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti anchor the area, together with surrounding suburbs. Many commuters rely on Ann Arbor for employment and amenities. Shared recreational spaces and environmental concerns regarding water quality in Huron River Valley.

Subcluster 27-1 has an emphasis on K-12 schools, local business, and universities (UM and EMU). Subcluster 27-2 draws out comments on suburban themes, family themes, and the environment. Though thematically separable, they have substantial geographic overlap.





**Cluster C28 — West Bloomfield.** (9 submissions) Huron River Valley water quality important. Shared public services.



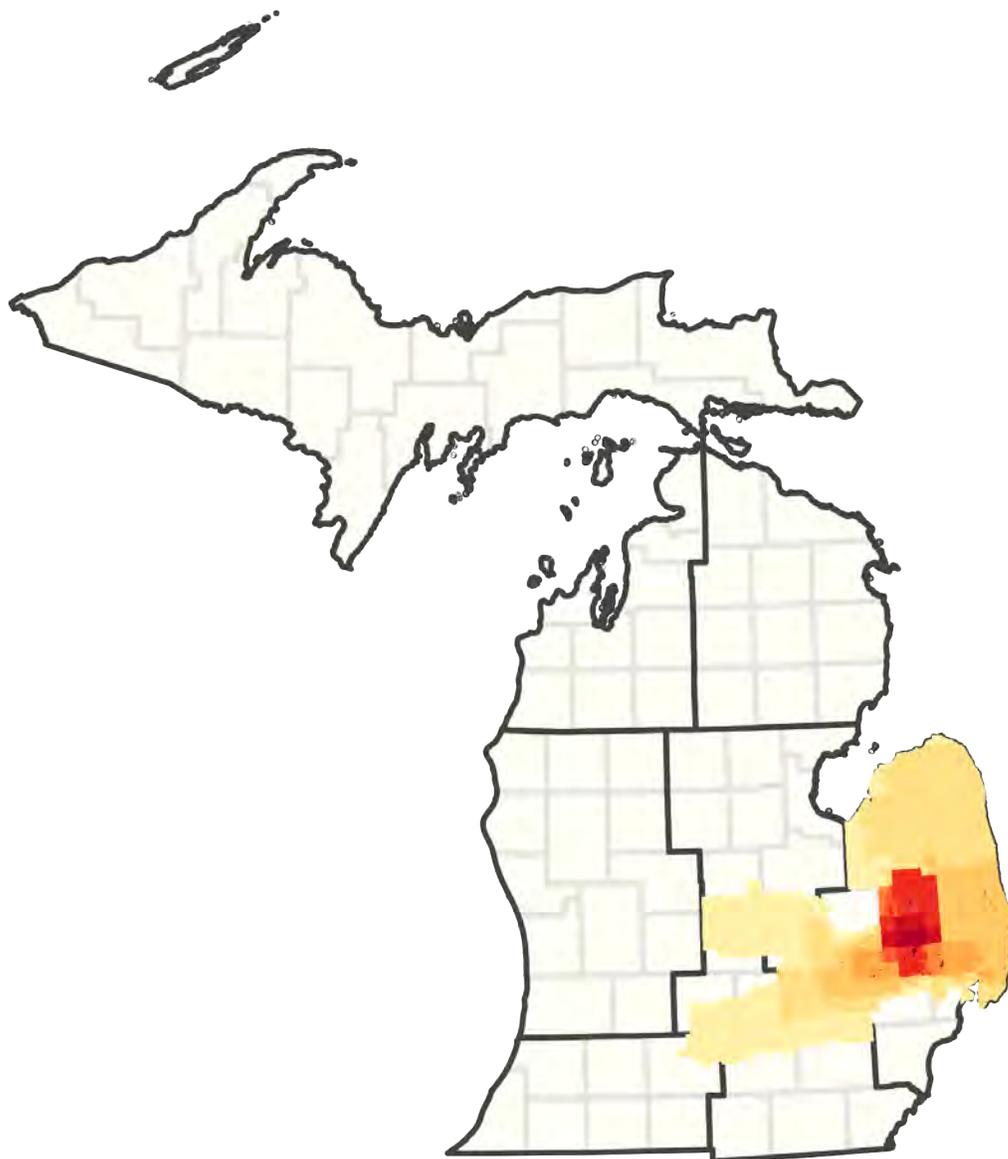


**Cluster C29 – Farmington Area.** (10 submissions) Northwest Detroit suburbs with shared community services, centers, libraries, school systems and resources.



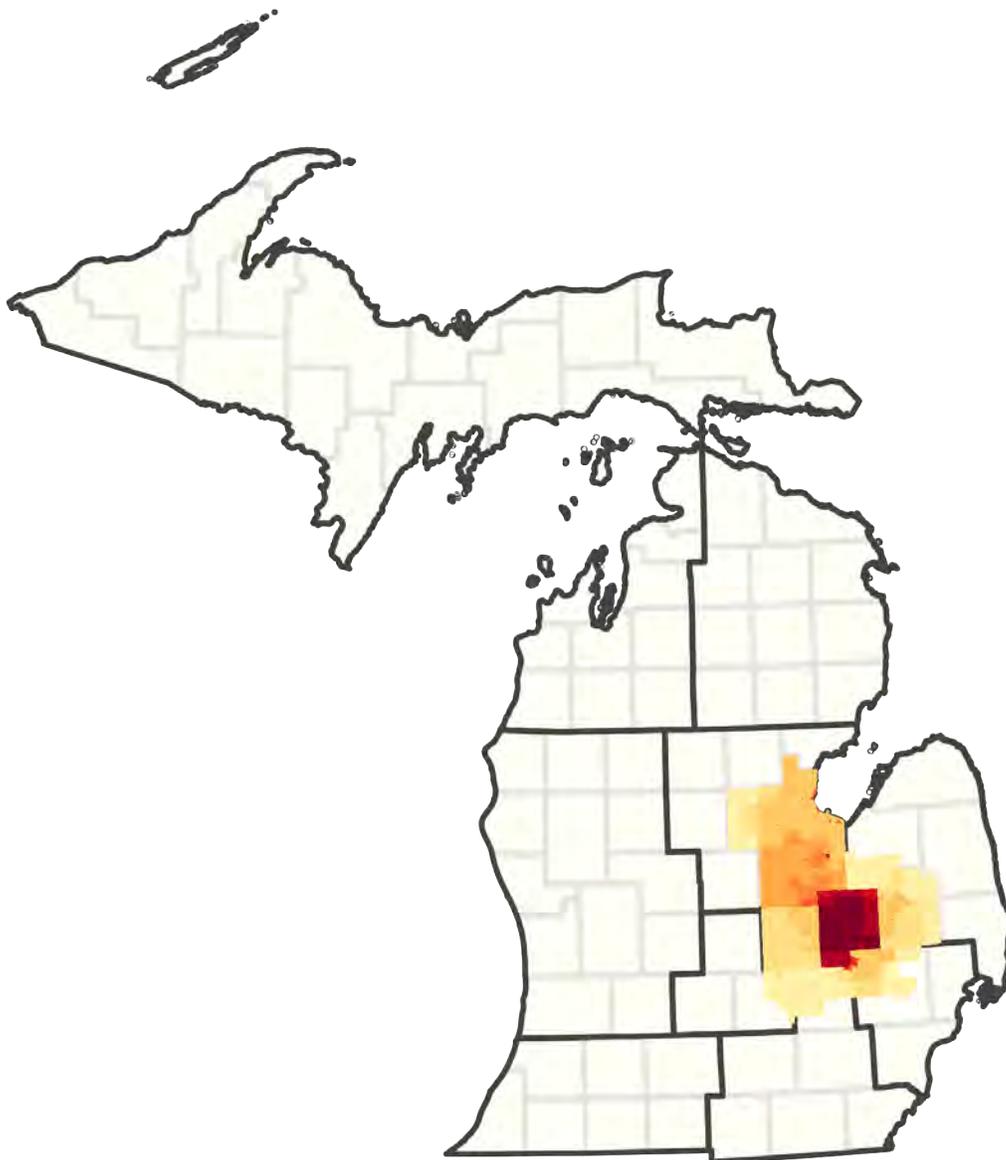


**Cluster C30 – Lower Thumb.** (14 submissions) Small towns and farming communities. Shared local economy and rural lifestyle. Heavily shaped by shared school districts.



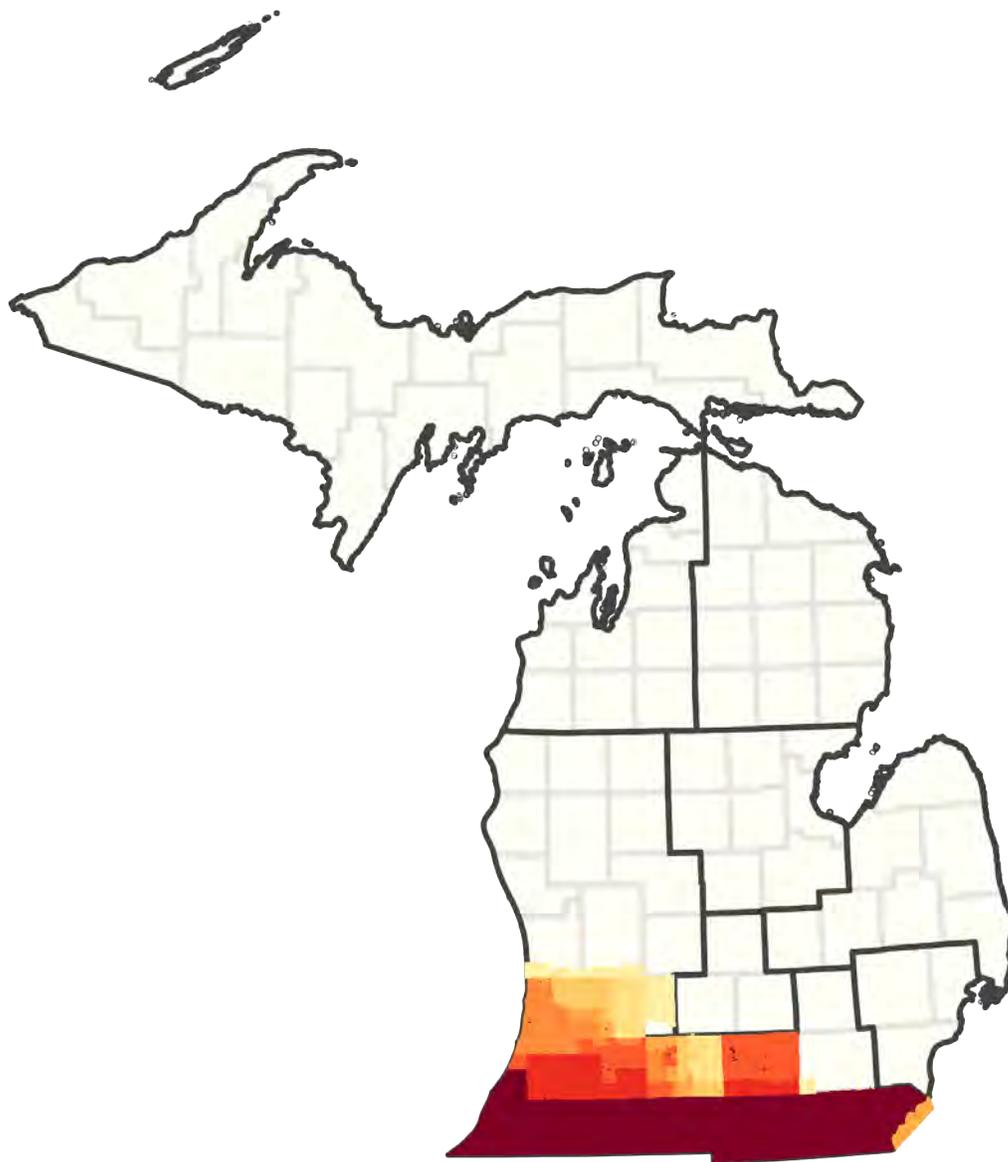


**Cluster C31 – Flint.** (15 submissions) Concerns over flooding are cited, among other infrastructure needs. Diverse community with significant Black, Latinx, and Arab-American population. The Tri-cities (Saginaw, Bay City, and Midland) and Flint are mentioned as key urban areas. Historically associated with auto industry. Regional colleges are mentioned.





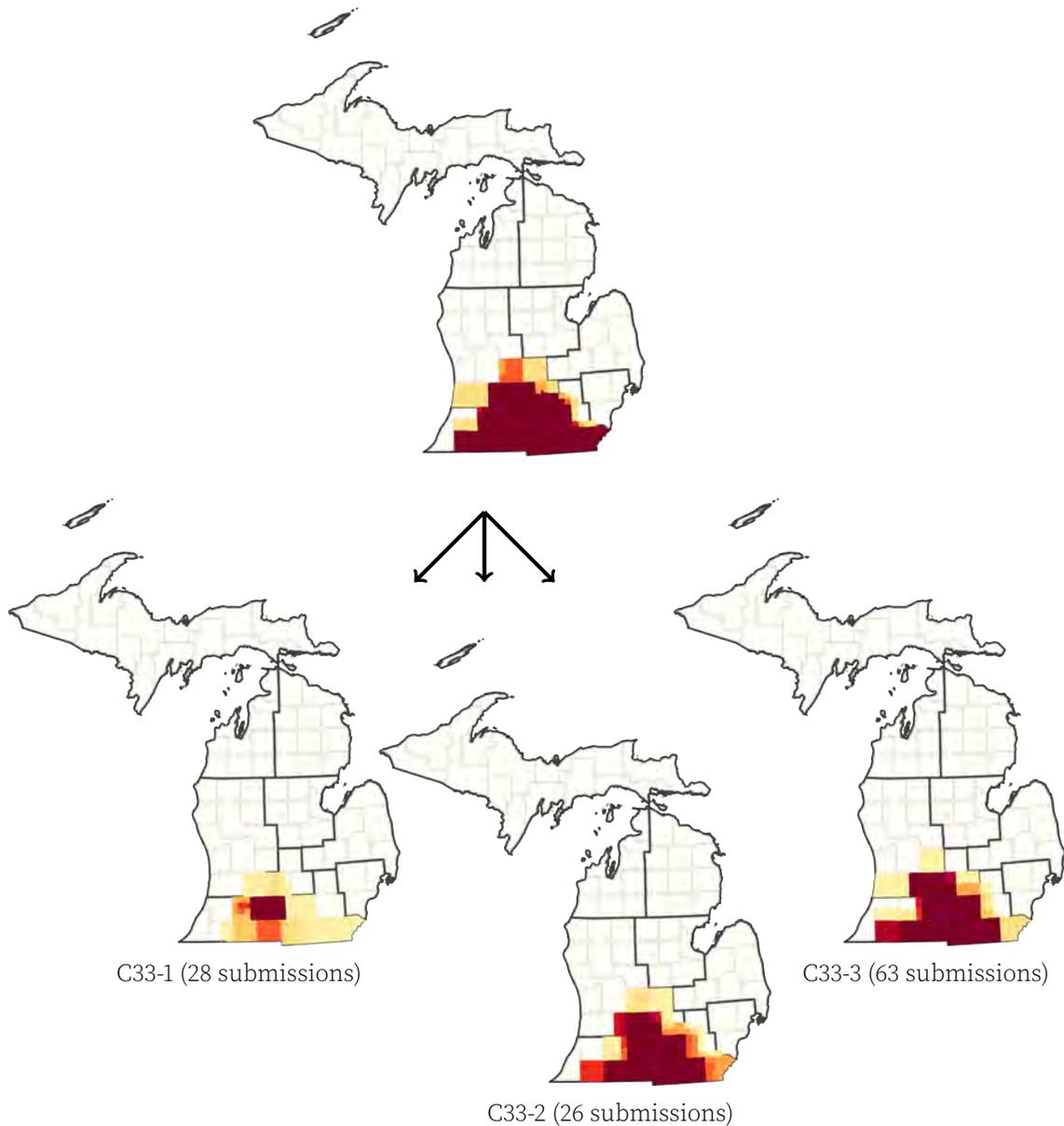
**Cluster C32 — Southern Border Counties.** (36 submissions) Rural identity. Shared concerns about interstate commerce across with Ohio and Indiana. Agricultural industries, shared health care services, and recreation opportunities. Edges into the Allegan/Van Buren County area, identified as rural lakeshore communities. (See Cluster C16.)





**Cluster C33 – Rural Calhoun-Jackson Counties.** (117 submissions) Kalamazoo-Battle Creek and Calhoun-Jackson Counties are described as having distinct identities. Calhoun-Jackson share rural and agricultural economy and identity. Military presence and the need for veteran resources highlighted. Several discuss the desire for a distinctive immigration policy for "guest workers."

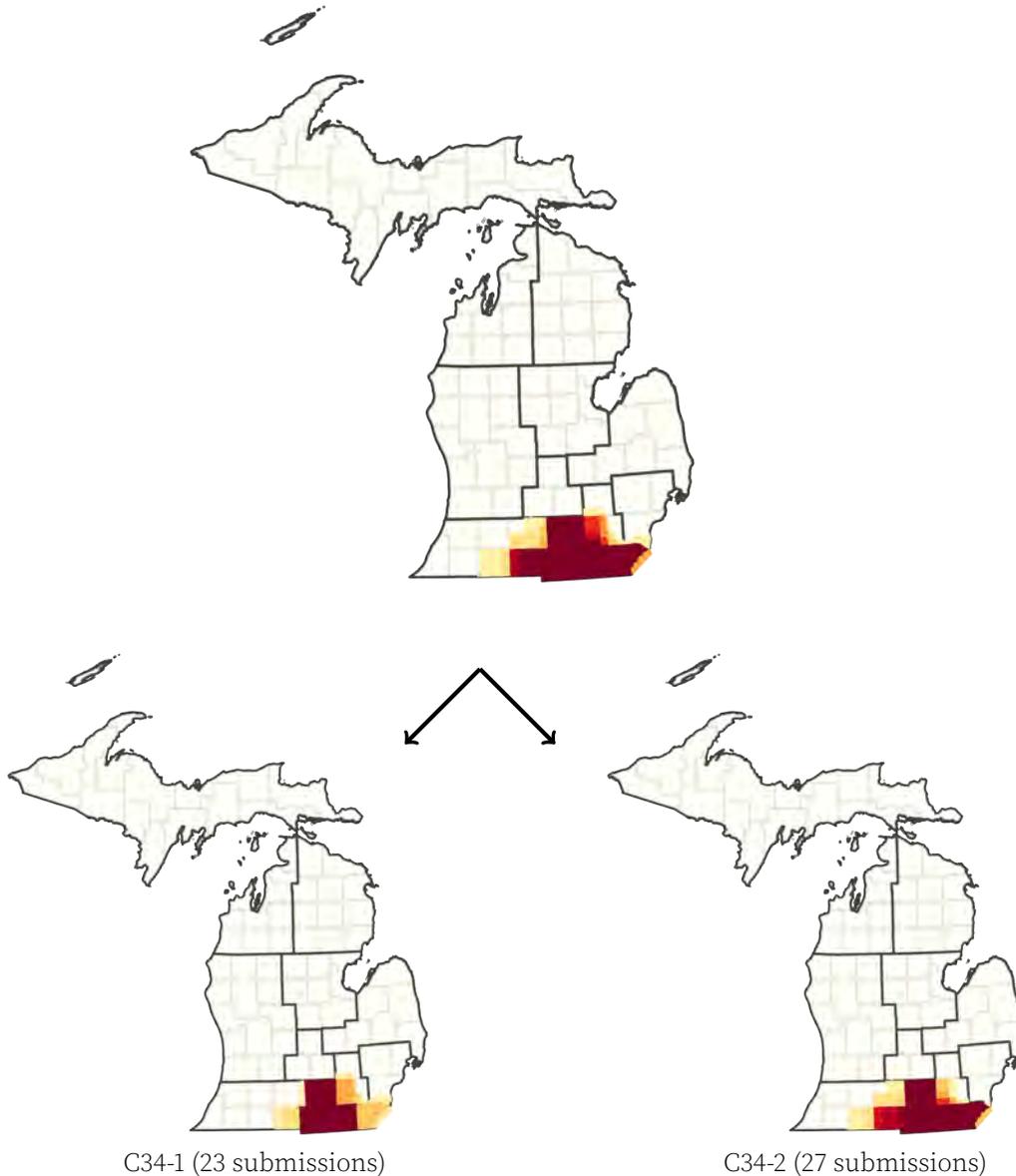
The subclusters highlight the subthemes of military (33-1), small towns (33-2), and rural areas (33-3), but they are particularly hard to separate because of extensive similarities across submissions. *These submissions appear to be the focus of a coordinated campaign centered on the current 7th Congressional District. See for instance [this Tweet](#) pointing to a Detroit News story.*

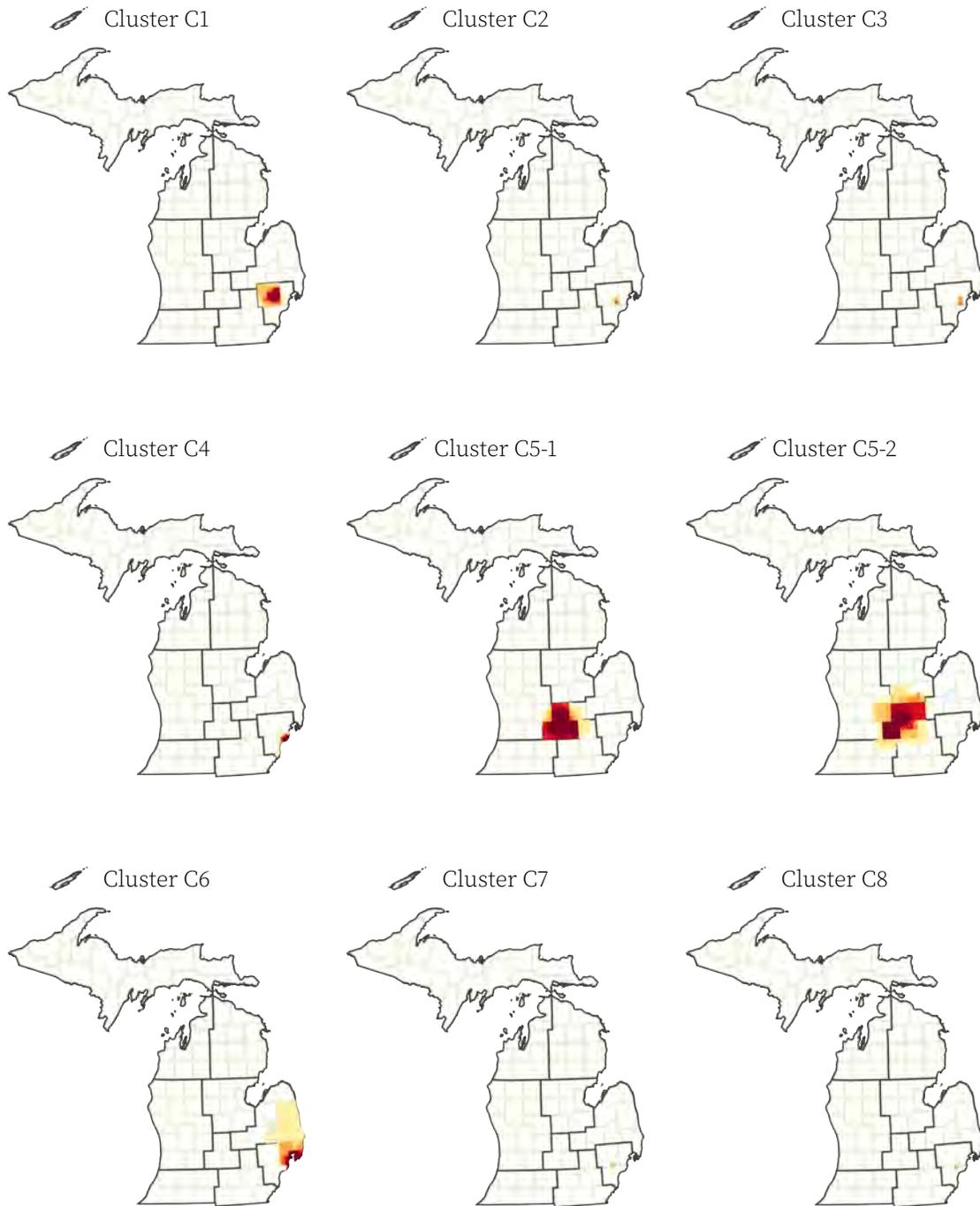




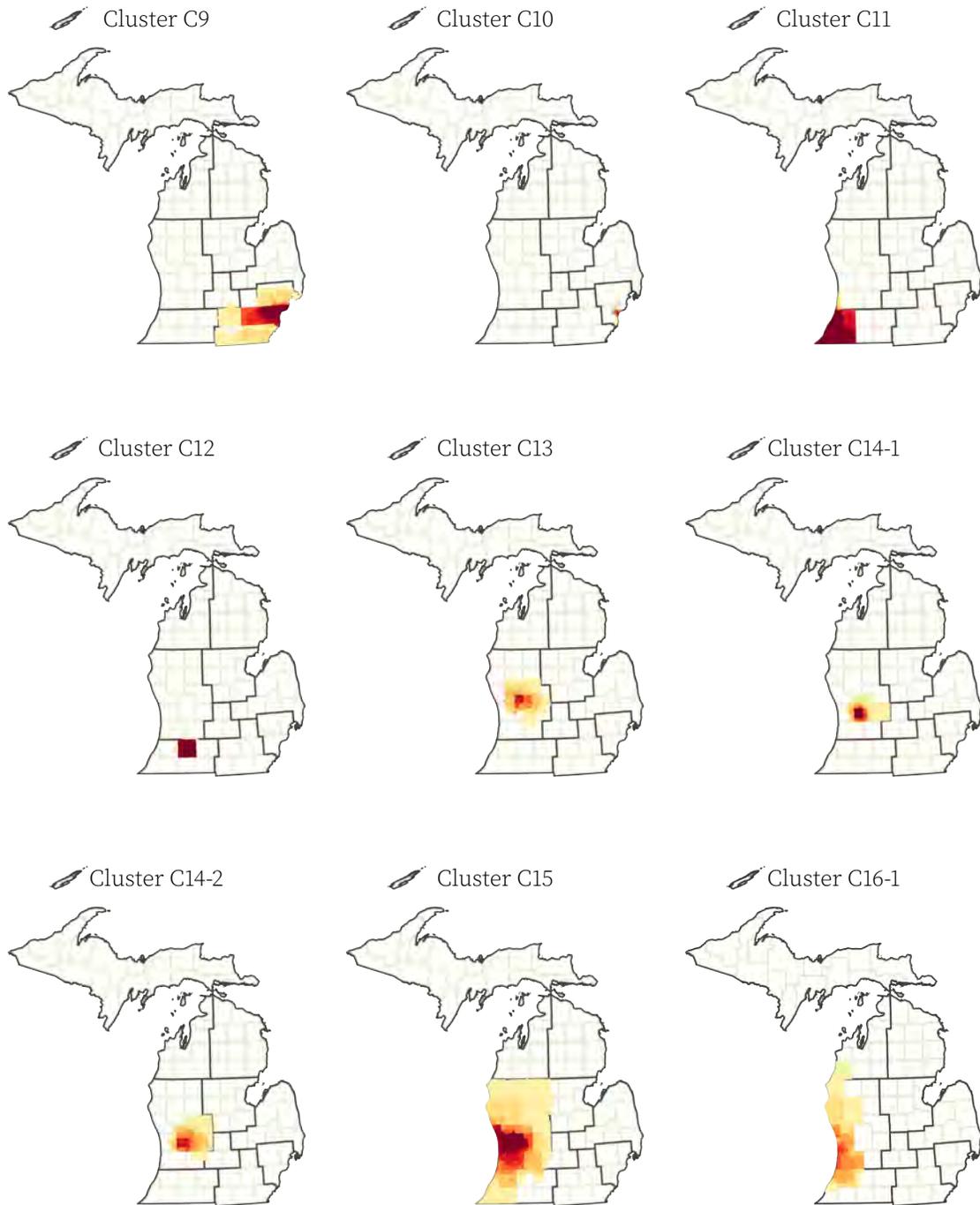
**Cluster C34— Hillsdale Area.** (50 submissions) Monroe, Lenawee, Jackson, and Hillsdale Counties are rural and agricultural. Public services, including Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), and regional government agencies cited. School districts are important. Some submitters make use of resources in Ann Arbor, but consider the community to be distinct.

Subcluster 34-1 emphasizes public services and recreation/tourism, while 34-2 highlights the rural/agricultural economy.

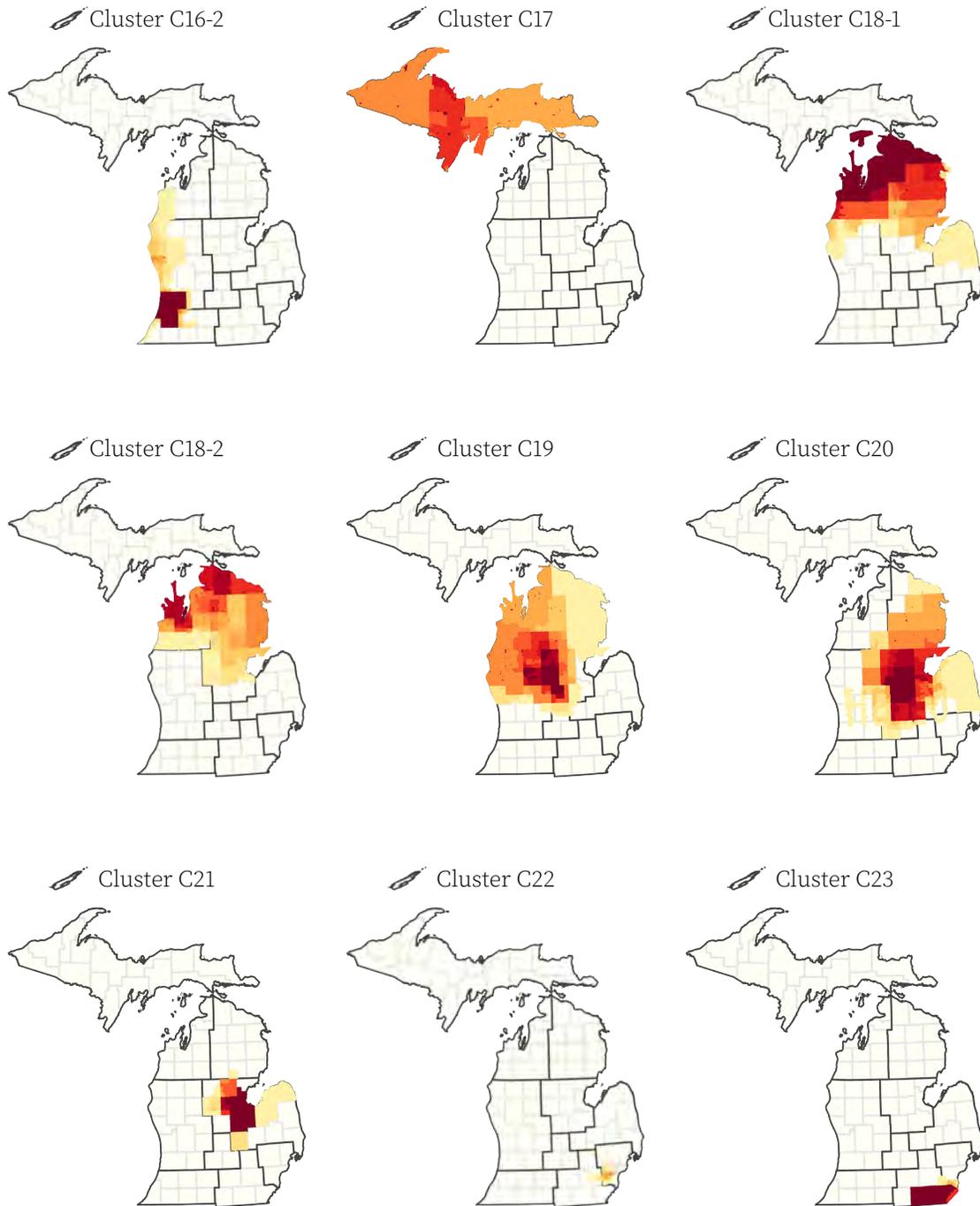




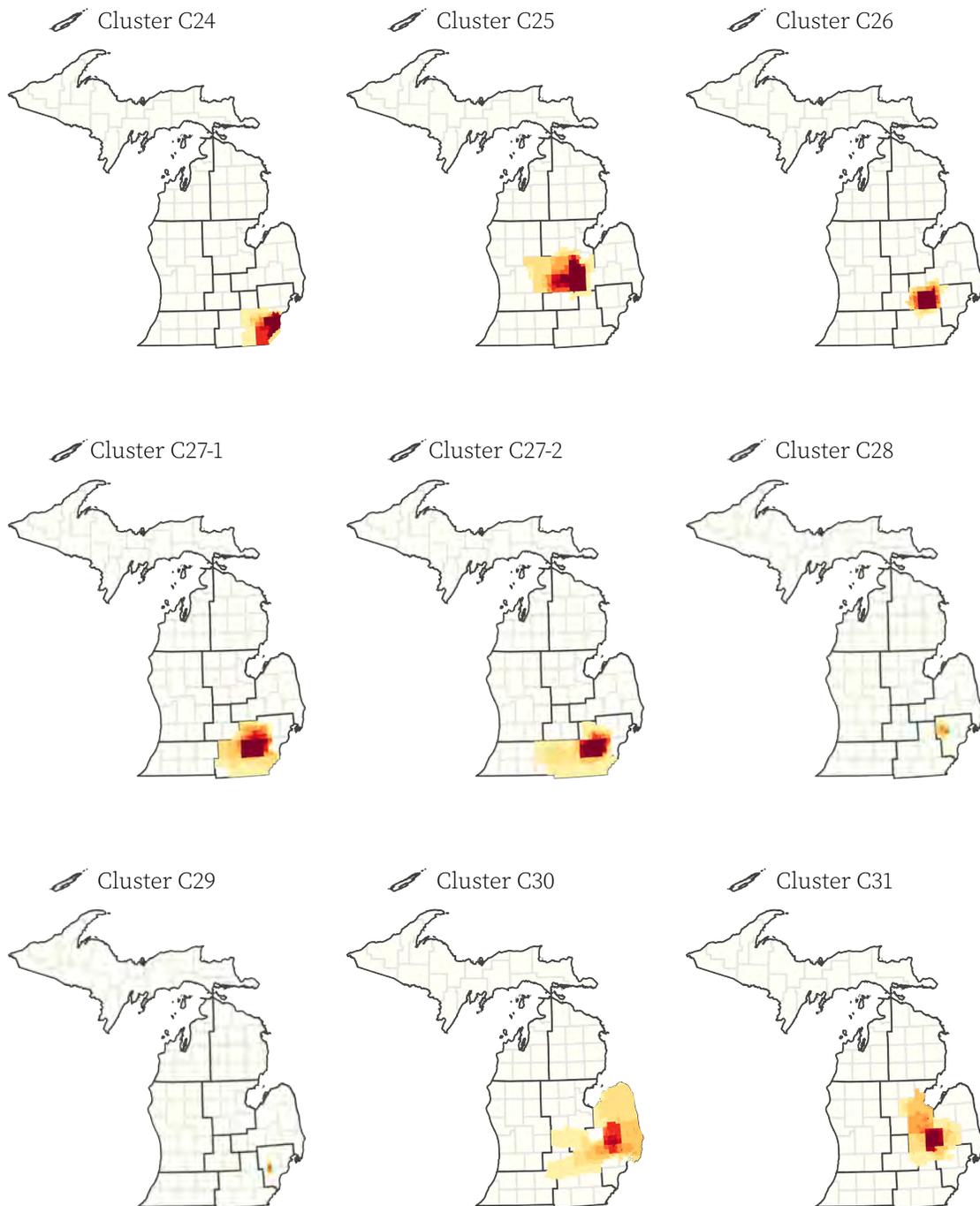
**Figure 2.** COI clusters shown as heatmaps. Lighter areas are not involved in the cluster. Darker areas are more involved, meaning they were painted by users in more of the submissions that support the cluster. Only the largest connected component of the cluster is shown.



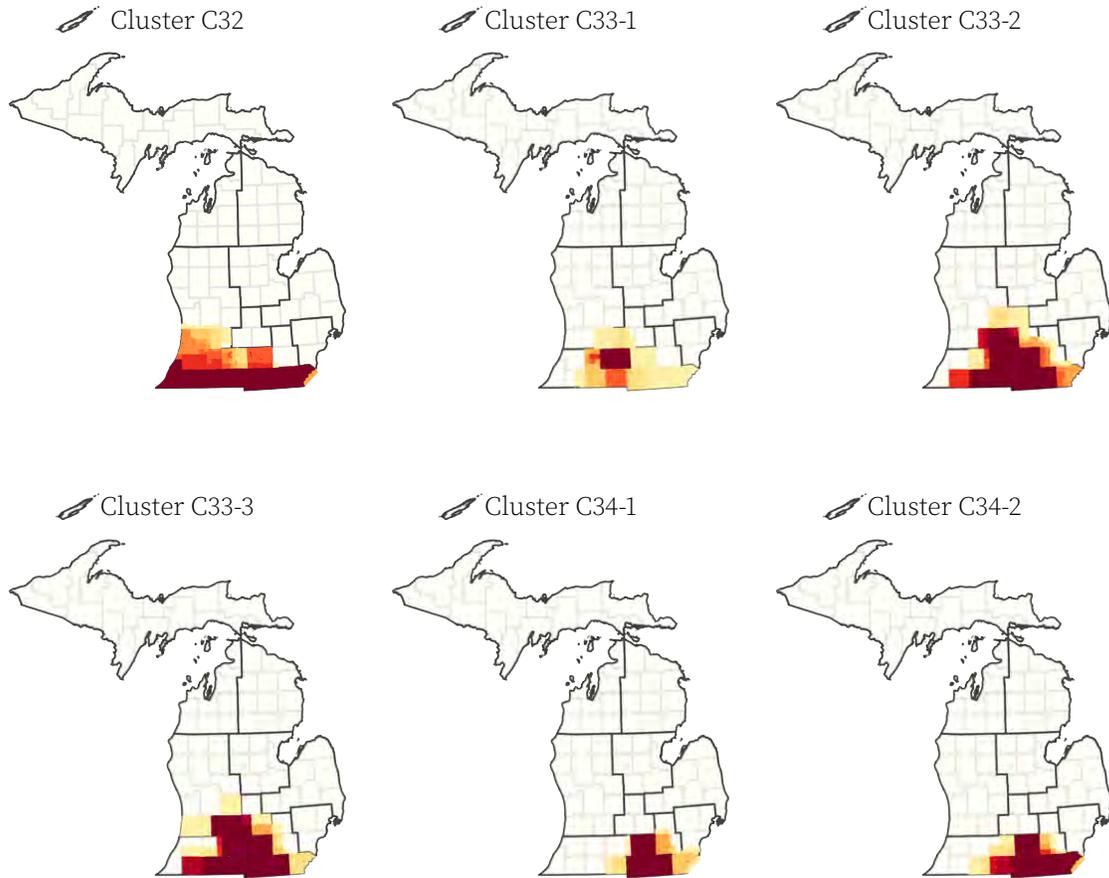
**Figure 3.** COI clusters shown as heatmaps. Lighter areas are not involved in the cluster. Darker areas are more involved, meaning they were painted by users in more of the submissions that support the cluster. Only the largest connected component of the cluster is shown.



**Figure 4.** COI clusters shown as heatmaps. Lighter areas are not involved in the cluster. Darker areas are more involved, meaning they were painted by users in more of the submissions that support the cluster. Only the largest connected component of the cluster is shown.



**Figure 5.** COI clusters shown as heatmaps. Lighter areas are not involved in the cluster. Darker areas are more involved, meaning they were painted by users in more of the submissions that support the cluster. Only the largest connected component of the cluster is shown.



**Figure 6.** COI clusters shown as heatmaps. Lighter areas are not involved in the cluster. Darker areas are more involved, meaning they were painted by users in more of the submissions that support the cluster.



### 3 COI clusters: Supporting data

Supporting Data for Cluster C1		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1538 (29556)	<b>Detroit Northern Suburbs:</b> suburban communities north of Detroit, mid- to upper-income	<b>Community 1:</b> Detroit Northern Suburbs
c1547 (29598)	<b>Regional issues in shared communities:</b> Shared schools and issues around I 75, Pontiac and M 59 in Oakland County. Interurban vs suburban or rural.	<b>Community 1:</b> Roughly the Avondale School District and areas bordering I75 and M 59 in Oakland County
c1548 (29595)	<b>Greater Rochester Area COI Map:</b> Thank you for letting me discuss my Community of Interest with you on June 10 in Pontiac. The Greater Rochester Area is home for me (for over 30 years). Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Twp work together to share services like ONE Senior Center, ONE Library, ONE School District, ONE Chamber of Commerce, ONE Recreational Authority, etc. Please keep these communities together when drawing Cong...	<b>Greater Rochester Area:</b> Greater Rochester area includes all of Rochester City, Rochester Hills City, and Oakland Township.
c1692 (31252)	<b>Paint Creek Corridor.</b>	<b>Paint Creek Corridor:</b> The Paint Creek Trail, a historic railway bed, connects the towns of Rochester and Lake Orion as it follows the Paint Creek between the two. This mix of professional and working class, mostly white but with growing racial diversity are connected by their values of green space, bicycling, and small isolated downtown areas.
c1770 (31992)	<b>Pontiac COI:</b> See my submission of 7/27/21 on Proposed Congressional District Based on Two Similar, Adjoining Communities of Interest and a Smaller, Overlapped Community of Interest for related testimony. Also see public comment #6 at Pontiac Hearing, 6/10/21 for related testimony.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1796 (32409)	<b>Brent Neighborhood.:</b> This is an up and coming community bringing in new homeowners and businesses weekly.	<b>300 Block:</b> This is an up and coming community that is bringing in new homeowners and businesses weekly.
c1797 (32415)	<b>Oakland County Kirk Bagg.</b>	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1862 (32725)	<b>Carl's Pontiac Plan:</b> You need to keep the area around Pontiac together.	<b>Pontiac Area:</b> Northern Oakland County and specifically area around Pontiac
c2538 (37225)	<b>Rochester Hills and Rochester COI:</b> Rochester Hills and Rochester	<b>Roch Hills COI.</b>
c2541 (37225)	<b>Rochester Hills and Rochester COI.</b>	<b>Roch Hills COI.</b>
c3068 (40058)	<b>CB920 COI Map:</b> Primarily Bloomfield Twp, City and City of Birmingham. Surrounding areas of daily life	<b>Community 1:</b> Community in which I conduct my daily life 90% of the time. It consists of schools, banks, stores and local governments across a Bloomfield Twp., Bloomfield Hills City, Birmingham City (Primary), Cities of Troy, Pontiac , Auburn Hills, and Rochester Hills, LakeAngelus and Townships of Addison, Orion and Waterford. Also includes universities and places of worship



<p>c3183 (40593)</p>	<p><b>Rochester, Rochester Hills, Oakland Twp:</b> The Rochester, Rochester Hills, and Oakland Township community share a school district, as well as numerous shared resources including the Older Persons Commission and Rochester Avon Recreation Authority. Community events including the Christmas Parade serve to unite these three cities. Furthermore the Rochester Regional Chamber advocates for businesses in these three communities, business whom ...</p>	<p><b>Community 1:</b> The Rochester, Rochester Hills, and Oakland Township community share a school district, as well as numerous shared resources including the Older Persons Commission and Rochester Avon Recreation Authority. Community events including the Christmas Parade serve to unite these three cities. Furthermore the Rochester Regional Chamber advocates for businesses in these three communities, business whom ...</p>
<p>c3369 (41649)</p>	<p><b>COI for Greater Rochester Area:</b> COI for Greater Rochester Area. All of Rochester, Rochester Hills (missed one Prec by mistake), and Oakland Twp. Greater communities that share many services for Seniors, Youth, Business and also a school district. Please keep them together.</p>	<p><b>COI for Greater Rochester Area:</b> City of Rochester, Rochester Hills, Charter Township of Oakland. Communities share many services and also a school district.</p>
<p>c3377 (41682)</p>	<p><b>Rochester COI:</b> Includes Rochester, Rochester Hills, Oakland Twp. Home to my son's school district, communities share a Christmas parade and many services including our Library. Please keep them together!</p>	<p><b>Rochester COI:</b> Includes Rochester, Rochester Hills, Oakland Twp.</p>
<p>c440 (22062)</p>	<p><b>Auburn Hills area Community of Interest:</b> I feel like this community where I live is sufficiently compact and encloses people who live, work, and are related to each other. These are the communities I visit, shop, work and live in. These are the cities and townships where my coworkers and friends live in large part. This is what I would describe as my community of interest.</p>	<p><b>Community 1:</b> Currently district 11 connects Livonia and Canton with Waterford, wrapping around Pontiac, and down into parts of Troy and Birmingham. This is insane. This community is more compact and I believe the people of Auburn Hills, Pontiac, Waterford, Clarkston, Lake Orion, Rochester, and Rochester Hills should make up a community of interest. Many of the people who work in Auburn Hills live in Lake Orion...</p>
<p>c600 (23642)</p>	<p><b>Dr. Jennifer Umphress's Bloomfield Commu:</b> This is my community where I live, shop, worship, volunteer, and receive health care services. At the very least, the communities of Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, and West Bloomfield should be in the same district.</p>	<p><b>Bloomfield Community:</b> This is my personal community space - the local areas where I live, worship, shop, receive health care services, and recreate.</p>
<p>p1785 (32036)</p>	<p><b>Royal Oak to Commerce State Senate:</b> Greetings Redistricting Commission. Attached you will find a map that highlights a potential State Senate district stretching from Royal Oak to Commerce township. This community of interest is important to myself, my family, and my friends. It represents the bulk of the area where we spend most of our time living, working, and playing. Our residence is in West Bloomfield township, we conduct most ...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1833 (32502)</p>	<p><b>SCF Map:</b> Contiguous communities of Southern Oakland County</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1872 (32749)</p>	<p><b>SCF Map.</b></p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3326 (41288)</p>	<p><b>Northern Oakland County House District:</b> My recommendation would be to keep middle and northern Oakland County together. In the past some of the northern townships have been separated from the rest of the county. Many individuals who live in these northern townships work in the lower townships. Many individuals who live in the northern townships visit the lower townships on a regular basis for entertainment, family, and other services. O...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2481 (36879)</p>	<p><b>Racially Integrated Suburbs(2020 Census):</b> 2020 Census Data has been loaded at the Dave's Redistricting website, including demographic data. If Commissioners haven't gotten updated Data from EDS yet, they can play with the maps at Dave's Redistricting website to build their knowledge about the population shifts in the 2020 census. . . . One thing I am proud to see is the unprecedented racial integration in the suburbs. The blue area, whi...</p>	<p><b>Pontiac:</b> Pontiac has gone from</p>



<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Auburn Hills:</b> Identified as a community of interest.</p> <p><b>Pontiac/Waterford:</b> I identify as a community of interest due to the Hispanic community in Pontiac moving into Waterford.</p>
<p>c2561 (37418)</p>	<p><b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 5.</b></p>
<p>c1839 (32521)</p>	<p><b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.</p>	<p><b>Community 7:</b> Northville, Plymouth</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Rochester Hills/Rochester:</b> Identified together as a community of interest.</p>
<p>c1839 (32521)</p>	<p><b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.</p>	<p><b>Community 9:</b> Pontiac, Waterford</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C2		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1140 (26626)	<b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...	<b>Royal Oak:</b> Royal Oak is a predominantly middle class city with some affordable housing and an increasing amount of high end, more expensive houses and condos. Its walkable downtown area has attracted significant development, and it is an entertainment and dining destination for metro Detroit.
c1359 (27291)	<b>Suburban Corridors:</b> I wanted to submit this as food for thought. Many suburbs of Detroit have historically been developed in corridors along the spoked roads that lead out of Detroit. This has created some corridors in which suburbs of similar character have developed together with shared historic, cultural, and economic ties. My maps here are not necessarily precise to the precinct but they demonstrate the...	<b>Woodward Corridor.</b>
c1558 (29663)	<b>Mark's Rediscttingb.</b>	<b>Community of people living near each other:</b> All the people living in Berkley, Royal Oak, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge and Ferndale. If an insufficient number of people then add Birmingham and Troy. If still insufficient then add people in surrounding areas so that the shape remains as square-like as possible.
c1800 (32416)	<b>My community of interest.</b>	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1930 (33272)	<b>Woodward Corridor Communities:</b> The Woodward Corridor is composed of multiple older, inner-ring suburban communities that were split mostly from the former Royal Oak Township in the early-mid 20th Century; however, if the communities of the former township were not fractured during their establishment in the early 20th century, and still one municipality such as Livonia, Sterling Heights, or Troy, it would be the second largest...	<b>Woodward Corridor; Oakland County:</b> The Woodward Corridor is composed of multiple older, inner-ring suburban communities that were split mostly from the former Royal Oak Township in the early-mid 20th Century; however, if the communities of the former township were not fractured during their establishment in the early 20th century, and still one municipality such as Livonia, Sterling Heights, or Troy, it would be the second largest...
c700 (23968)	<b>City of Troy:</b> The City of Troy is united by its beliefs in strong education, multiculturalism and volunteerism. As a 25 year resident, I was first drawn to this exact area by the the community's commitment to education: it is consistently rated as one of the best school districts in the state with high numbers of students attending university after high school. Another important piece is that the children in...	<b>City of Troy:</b> The City of Troy is united as a community by their committment to excellence in education, multiculturalism and volunteerism.
c999 (26055)	<b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time	<b>Royal Oak:</b> Royal Oak is a predominantly middle class city with some affordable housing and an increasing amount of high end, more expensive houses and condos. Its walkable downtown area has attracted significant development, and it is an entertainment and dining destination for metro Detroit.
c1140 (26626)	<b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...	<b>Birmingham/Bloomfield:</b> Upscale suburb north of Royal Oak. Wealthier and whiter,than its neighbor to the south, but a draw for shopping, dining and entertainment.



<p>c999 (26055)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Birmingham/Bloomfield:</b> Upscale suburb north of Royal Oak. Wealthier and whiter, than its neighbor to the south, but a draw for shopping, dining and entertainment.</p>
<p>c1140 (26626)</p>	<p><b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...</p>	<p><b>Troy:</b> Troy has a strong mix of residential and commercial areas, and is a big draw for shoppers and diners the area. It has one of the largest South Asian immigrant populations in Metro Detroit.</p>
<p>c999 (26055)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Troy:</b> Troy has a strong mix of residential and commercial areas, and is a big draw for shoppers and diners the area. It has one of the largest South Asian immigrant populations in Metro Detroit.</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Woodward Corridor:</b> Mentioned together as a community of interest in a post.</p>
<p>c1140 (26626)</p>	<p><b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...</p>	<p><b>Clawson:</b> The northernmost of southeast Oakland County's inner ring suburbs. It has the a bit of a walkable downtown around 14 Mile and Main, but it's more residential. It's predominantly white and working and middle class.</p>
<p>c999 (26055)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Clawson:</b> The northernmost of southeast Oakland County's inner ring suburbs. It has the a bit of a walkable downtown around 14 Mile and Main, but it's more residential. It's predominantly white and working and middle class.</p>
<p>c1140 (26626)</p>	<p><b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...</p>	<p><b>Berkley:</b> Predominantly white and middle class bedroom community, with a downtown centered along 12 Mile between Coolidge and Greenfield.</p>
<p>c1839 (32521)</p>	<p><b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.</p>	<p><b>Community 5.</b></p>
<p>c999 (26055)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Berkley:</b> Predominantly white and middle class bedroom community, with a downtown centered along 12 Mile between Coolidge and Greenfield.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C3		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1880 (32800)	<b>The Best Diverse Community:</b> My community stretches a few cities. It's wonderful and diverse. Everyone either gets along or minds their business. It's a really good area.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1951 (33539)	<b>Community of Interest.</b>	<b>Clinton River - south:</b> Sterling Heights Clinton River Basin. Mostly Residential.
p991 (26010)	<b>Carole Chi's COI for State House Seat:</b> This is my Community of Interest, for I live in Sterling Heights, but I grocery shop and eat at restaurants in Warren, have lots of friends in Warren, go to other events there, swimming pool, Friday Fish Fries at local churches and community centers, as well as pursuing the same interests in Sterling Heights. This will make for a better, more fair, more representative balance of population, in eve...	<b>District 1.</b>
c1140 (26626)	<b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...	<b>Warren:</b> Mostly working class city in southwestern Macomb County.
c999 (26055)	<b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time	<b>Warren:</b> Mostly working class city in southwestern Macomb County.
c1140 (26626)	<b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...	<b>Center Line.</b>
c999 (26055)	<b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time	<b>Center Line.</b>
c1140 (26626)	<b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...	<b>Sterling Heights.</b>
c1359 (27291)	<b>Suburban Corridors:</b> I wanted to submit this as food for thought. Many suburbs of Detroit have historically been developed in corridors along the spoked roads that lead out of Detroit. This is has created some corridors in which suburbs of similar character have developed together with shared historic, cultural, and economic ties. My maps here are not necessarily precise to the precinct but they demonstrate the...	<b>Madison Heights:</b> Predominantly working class community with a large immigrant population. John R and Dequindre roads host many Asian businesses, as well as big box stores like Target and Best Buy. <b>Van Dyke / Mound Corridor.</b>



<p>c2428 (36475)</p>	<p><b>NE Suburbs Black Representation:</b> The suburban black community northeast of Detroit is completely unrepresented. There is no black state rep or state senator covering Macomb County. But the new 2020 census results show us what we already knew. The black suburban communities between Gratiot and I-94 and in south Warren are growing. The Gratiot corridor suburbs include Eastpointe, Harper Woods, Roseville, Mount Clemens, and the ...</p>	<p><b>South Warren / Center Line Black Representation Area.</b></p>
<p>c999 (26655)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Madison Heights:</b> Predominantly working class community with a large immigrant population. John R and Dequindre roads host many Asian businesses, as well as big box stores like Target and Best Buy.</p>
<p>c1140 (26626)</p>	<p><b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...</p>	<p><b>Hazel Park:</b> The southeast corner of Oakland County is traditionally white and working class, but in recent years has drawn more young people priced out of Ferndale and Royal Oak. It has a visible LBGTQ population and a smattering of high end restaurants and bars, as well as more traditional businesses and light industry.</p>
<p>c999 (26655)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Hazel Park:</b> The southeast corner of Oakland County is traditionally white and working class, but in recent years has drawn more young people priced out of Ferndale and Royal Oak. It has a visible LBGTQ population and a smattering of high end restaurants and bars, as well as more traditional businesses and light industry.</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Sterling Heights:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C4		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1353 (27250)	<b>Gayle ONeal's Redistricting Comments:</b> I believe we share similar values and concerns, mostly African American, of all age demographics.	<b>Gratiot - Grand Area:</b> Census Tract 5162 - My neighborhood.
c1542 (29581)	<b>South Warren COI:</b> At the Commission's request for more information, I created this map to provide a very very rough image of potential communities of the five Pointes including South Warren that I hope will be better served by politicians.	<b>South Warren and North Detroit Suburbs:</b> Warren neighborhoods south of I696 have been neglected economically and politically in favor of neighborhoods north of I696. South Warren may be better served by partnering with neighborhoods that share economic and cultural priorities.
c1545 (29591)	<b>REUNITE FIVE GROSSE POINTES:</b> This process can allow the five Grosse Pointe municipalities and Harper Woods to reunite. For ten years, Pointers have had their collective voices in Congress and the State Legislature muted. <b>TEN THINGS WE HAVE IN COMMON 1)</b> Taxpayers of the five Pointes together with a portion of Harper Woods share a common GP Public School District unified by a common superintendent and millage rates. <b>2)</b> The same school boundaries define our united Grosse Pointe Library District with its three branches. <b>3)</b> Fire response is unified by a mutual-aid agreement covering the six municipalities. <b>4)</b> Each ...	<b>Five Grosse Pointes:</b> <b>TEN THINGS WE HAVE IN COMMON 1)</b> Taxpayers of the five Pointes together with a portion of Harper Woods share a common GP Public School District unified by a common superintendent and millage rates. <b>2)</b> The same school boundaries define our united Grosse Pointe Library District with its three branches. <b>3)</b> Fire response is unified by a mutual-aid agreement covering the six municipalities. <b>4)</b> Each ...
c1546 (29591)	<b>Five Grosse Pointe municipalities:</b> <b>TEN THINGS WE HAVE IN COMMON 1)</b> Taxpayers of the five Pointes together with a portion of Harper Woods share a common GP Public School District unified by a common superintendent and millage rates. <b>2)</b> The same school boundaries define our united Grosse Pointe Library District with its three branches. <b>3)</b> Fire response is unified by a mutual-aid agreement covering the six municipalities. <b>4)</b> Each ...	<b>Five Grosse Pointes:</b> <b>TEN THINGS WE HAVE IN COMMON 1)</b> Taxpayers of the five Pointes together with a portion of Harper Woods share a common GP Public School District unified by a common superintendent and millage rates. <b>2)</b> The same school boundaries define our united Grosse Pointe Library District with its three branches. <b>3)</b> Fire response is unified by a mutual-aid agreement covering the six municipalities. <b>4)</b> Each ...
c1563 (29741)	<b>Diverse East Side:</b> Intent of the community is to create a contiguous geographic area which is economically, racially, socially, educationally diverse yet share common goals due to geographic area and natural or man made boundaries.	<b>Diverse East Side:</b> Intent of the community is to create a contiguous geographic area which is economically, racially, socially, educationally diverse yet share common goals due to geographic area and natural or man made boundaries.
c1570 (29944)	<b>Diverse East Side District:</b> This community includes the diverse communities of the East Side which share the common interest in the shore of Lake St. Clair and the common interest and border of Highway 94, and are all within Wayne County. It also is bordered by the Chrysler Plant, a natural barrier. It is almost equally black/white and the total population count is very close to the ideal for a state representative.	<b>Diverse East Side Detroit 1:</b> This community includes the diverse communities of the East Side which share the shore of Lake St. Clair and the common border of Highway 94, and are all within Wayne County. It also is bordered by the Chrysler Plant, a natural barrier. It is almost equally black/white and the total population count is very close to the ideal for a state representative.
c1597 (30733)	<b>Fix Detroit:</b> More monies need to be combined to repair infrastructure racism.	<b>Community 1:</b> Detroit-heart of the community is the city!
c1666 (31164)	<b>Middle Class Diverse Neighborhood:</b> This is a diverse neighborhood with mostly middle class and working class families. The neighborhood is adjacent to wealthier areas along Lake St. Clair. There are therefore some areas of stark inequality and vast differences in access to resources.	<b>Middle Class Diverse Neighborhood:</b> This is a diverse neighborhood with mostly middle class and working class families. The neighborhood is adjacent to wealthier areas along Lake St. Clair. There are therefore some areas of stark inequality and vast differences in access to resources.
c1687 (31215)	<b>East Side Community.</b>	<b>East side:</b> The neighborhoods known as the "Cabbage Patch," Jefferson-Chalmers, and Islandview share common economic interests. We also have similar concerns about flooding and other climate change issues, due to our proximity to Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River.



c1807 (32433)	<b>Angela's community of LIFE.</b>	<b>Community 2:</b> District 4 community
c1815 (32446)	<b>Grosse Pointe Communities:</b> The Grosse Pointe communities share a broad variety of cultural, historic, economic, environmental and recreational interests. These include everything from public schools and libraries to shared civil society institutions such as community service organizations, fraternal organizations, cultural institutions, youth sports leagues and more.	<b>Grosse Pointes:</b> The five Grosse Pointe communities share a broad variety of cultural, historic, economic, environmental and recreational interests. These include everything from a public school district to shared civil society institutions such as community service organizations, youth sports leagues and more.
c1851 (32662)	<b>Grosse Pointe Communities' Plan:</b> Grosse Pointe, Harper Woods and Eastside Detroit Neighborhoods that border the Pointes and Harper Woods need to be united as a collective district to have the appropriate representation in the Michigan House of Representative and elsewhere.	<b>Community 1:</b> The five Grosse Pointe Communities: Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe City, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Woods & Grosse Pointe Shores.
c1940 (33333)	<b>Gerry-mandered district:</b> The grosse pointe cities and harper woods share a school district and a long established community of interest. The district was redrawn some yaers ago to make a gerry-mandered district stetching into Oakland County by a long narrow strip of land, joining communities that have no relationship whatsoever. The district I now live in is the most exteremly gerry-mandered district in the State. This trav...	<b>Community 1:</b> Grosse pointes
c1944 (33415)	<b>Detroit Eastside:</b> Detroit should be represented by Detroiters. The Eastside is ignored too much and has serious needs. Some people with good intentions think Detroit and Grosse Pointe should be in districts together. I mean no disrespect to anyone but I disagree. Healing our divides needs to done person to person and not by putting us in districts together. We've already been in the same legislative districts ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1970 (33714)	<b>Grosse Pointe Community of Interest:</b> We are six municipalities (GP City, GP Park, GP Shores, GP Farms, GP Woods and Harper Woods) in one community. All are in Wayne County and share a library and school district as well as little league teams, recreational and cultural institutions. Please consider drawing boundaries that take this into consideration.	<b>Grosse Pointe/Lakeshore:</b> This community is comprised six municipalities that share a County government, school district, library district, and little league teams. The residents are politically diverse but share concerns for education and protection of the great lakes. Thanks to previous gerrymandering, the Pointes are so sliced up they have never been truly represented in the state legislature.
c1978 (33770)	<b>Colton's Grosse Pointe District Map:</b> Keep Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods, and the East Side of Detroit Together in New Maps Link: <a href="https://ccba90df-b71a-4504-b117-304e1f1b82c5.filesusr.com/ugd/bc40b1_ab987cbf0ec646d6abd0e06954c3e454.pdf">https://ccba90df-b71a-4504-b117-304e1f1b82c5.filesusr.com/ugd/bc40b1_ab987cbf0ec646d6abd0e06954c3e454.pdf</a>	<b>State House District 1:</b> Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods, and East Side of Detroit.
c1990 (33078)	<b>Wayne County - Together not Disjointed:</b> Michigan Avenue (route 12) – I am within walking distance of this main shopping and ethnic restaurant corridor. It runs through the diverse communities of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, and Westland. Dearborn is especially diverse because it holds one of the largest Arab populations in the US. \tCity of Dearborn Recreation and Performing Art Center contains a fitness center, a...	<b>Waterfront:</b> This area is teaming with waterfront activities and fairs etc. This area also has many issues in regards to flooding during the summer months. Somehow it has not been resolved.
c2047 (34748)	<b>East Detroit:</b> Eastpointe used to be called East Detroit for a reason. This is a working class community that shares Gratiot with Detroit and shares the Eastland shopping area with Detroit and Harper Woods. Eastpointe is very diverse and has a strong connection to nearby areas of Detroit . Especially around Gratiot and I-94.	<b>Community 1.</b>



<p>c3130 (40393)</p>	<p><b>Grosse Pointes:</b> The five Grosse Pointes are a clear community of interest in Wayne and Macomb Counties. The five Grosse Pointes are Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe City, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Woods, and Grosse Pointe Shores. These cities should not be divided. The Grosse Pointes act as a single cultural and economic unit due to their shared history as lakefront suburbs on Lake St. Clair. The re...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3192 (40665)</p>	<p><b>Grosse Pointe Community:</b> The five Grosse Pointes are a Community of Interest. We are suburbs in Wayne and Macomb counties, with shared history of development together as a single community. We share a public school system and other services. During the last round of redistricting, our community was divided. That was wrong and our community should be reunited.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c539 (23196)</p>	<p><b>COI:</b> Unification of services is the key and should be integrated across the board as this COI utilizes the benefits of Detroit city as well as the local neighborhood features...</p>	<p><b>Grosse Pointe/Detroit area:</b> Where I live... we share common neighborhood services.</p>
<p>c567 (22253)</p>	<p><b>Down/MidtownDetroit Youth Hang Out Spots:</b> The Community Map we are sharing here is Downtown/Midtown Detroit Youth Hang Out Spots. We wanted to draw your attention to this map because it is important that more young people are involved in redistricting to share their experiences. In this map, we highlight places where young Detroiters and students might gather, have fun, and consider important. There are many high schools nearby in this a...</p>	<p><b>Spots Where Students of Detroit Hang Out:</b> Centered around Cass Tech and other places downtown where young people like to visit</p>
<p>c780 (24541)</p>	<p><b>Mapping zip codes 48211,48212, 48213:</b> These are extremely ethnically, culturally, religiously diverse communities and are composed of members of the Black, Middle-Eastern, South Asian and Polish communities, amongst others. A large portion of the communities living in this area are living under the poverty threshold. As an example, based on City-Data.com, the estimated median household income in Hamtramck in 2019 was \$29,149. Wit...</p>	<p><b>Detroit-Hamtramck Coalition for Advancing Healthy Environments:</b> This map includes the City of Hamtramck , the City Airport Neighborhood, the Farnsworth, Milwaukee Junction and East Poletown neighborhoods, to name a few. These are extremely ethnically, culturally, religiously diverse communities and are composed of members of the Black, Middle-Eastern, South Asian and Polish communities, amongst others. A large portion of the communities living in this are...</p>
<p>c798 (24637)</p>	<p><b>Grosse Pointes:</b> The 5 Grosse Pointe Communities</p>	<p><b>Grosse Pointes:</b> The 5 Grosse Pointes are a single community of Interest.</p>
<p>c826 (23554)</p>	<p><b>Detroit East communities work together:</b> I moved to Yorkshire Ave. in Detroit 1983 because of the gorgeous, affordable housing and the racially integrated population of the neighborhood Soon afterward, neighbors organized the blocks between Mack and I-94 and Cadieux and Outer Drive/Whittier into East English Village, which has a newsletter, elected leadership, committees and regular meetings. That helped us support each other in the diff...</p>	<p><b>Mecca communities - EEV, Morningside &amp; Cornerstone:</b> These three communities work together in an organization called MECCA to help conditions and development in all three neighborhoods. It includes Balduck Park, East English Village high school and St. John's Hospital, which are important resources for the entire neighborhood. Population 25,518</p>
<p>c829 (24907)</p>	<p><b>East English Village District:</b> Our community contains multiple major thoroughfares that contain many large businesses, small businesses, schools, parks, waterways, and industry. These community assets provide jobs, education and many shared interest venues that are not only vital but beloved to our community. Our core district is the East English Village Community . Our proposed District would tie together the interest of mul...</p>	<p><b>East English Village District:</b> A community that is bordered by I-94, I-75, the Detroit River, and Moross Rd.</p>
<p>c856 (24994)</p>	<p><b>Southeast Detroit:</b> This is the southeast portion of Detroit. Importantly, it keeps East English Village, Morningside and Cornerstone together as the tight knit tri-neighborhood community that we are.</p>	<p><b>SE Detroit:</b> This map keeps East English Village, Cornerstone and Morningside together which is a top priority. It also keeps other neighborhoods on the eastside together.</p>



<p>c858 (24206)</p>	<p><b>EEV - Southeast Detroit:</b> I'm a resident of East English Village on the east side of Detroit. We have an ongoing relationships with Morningside and Cornerstone neighborhoods, and we are a part of the City of Detroit. Many of us work, play, shop, and vote within Detroit. When our neighborhoods meet (we have regularly scheduled monthly meetings), topics of discussions are focused on the city. For example, we have a devel...</p>	<p><b>EEV, Morningside, Cornerstone &amp; Surrounding area:</b> I reside in East English Village. Our neighborhood has strong ties with Morningside and Cornerstone neighborhoods. But, most importantly, we are a part of Detroit, and I would like to emphasize the importance of being connected to other residents of the city.</p>
<p>c909 (25280)</p>	<p><b>Detroit east &amp; suburban neighbors share:</b> As twenty-nine-year residents of East English Village, my husband and I are extremely involved in our beautiful, diverse, eastside community. My husband has served as Block Captain for twenty-four years! I have served in various capacities including Editor of our monthly newsletter, First Vice President of EEVA, an advisory member of the E. Warren Streetscape Team as well as being involved in re...</p>	<p><b>Detroit's EEV, Morningside, Cornerstone &amp; Jefferson Chalmers, and Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Park:</b> These East Side communities have many shared cultural and economic interests. We work together to develop commercial-strips along Mack Ave. and Warren Ave. We share the same waterfront and have many cultural activities the residents in the area attend</p>
<p>c913 (25321)</p>	<p><b>We need districts that unite not divide:</b> <a href="https://www.michigan-mapping.org/submission/x822">https://www.michigan-mapping.org/submission/x822</a> Judith Williams I moved to East English Village in 2002. Having lived in downtown Detroit for 16 years, I was excited about all the beautiful, affordable, and well-built brick homes in East English Village. Many of these homes with their unique characteristics were designed by the original owners. East English Village was also home to many Police...</p>	<p><b>Shared interests in Southeast communities:</b> Our 5th Police Precinct encompasses East English Village, Cornerstone, Jefferson Chalmers, and Morningside Neighborhoods. They work closely with us to provide community support. We also have many ties to the surrounding cities.</p>
<p>c916 (25335)</p>	<p><b>Shared shopping, recreation, jobs:</b> I am Eugene Brown from East English Village, and here is my consideration for community. It shows places where we go to shop, places we go to for recreational relaxation. I tried to include all these things and more, and used I-94 as an anchor in my corridor, because in my map I wanted to show that I-94 is easily accessible from the whole area. It includes downtown and the aquatic park in Chandler...</p>	<p><b>East side communities share resources, recreation:</b> I live in East English Village. My map shows places where we go to shop, places we go to for recreational relaxation. I tried to include all these things and more, and used I-94 as an anchor in my corridor, because in my map I wanted to show that I-94 is easily accessible from the whole area</p>
<p>p1037 (26206)</p>	<p><b>Asian American Community/Hamtramck COI:</b> My community of interest is the Asian American community of Hamtramck MI. I grew up in Hamtramck and it's home to many Bangladeshi Americans; it has a high concentration of Asian Americans and many other immigrant communities representing about 35% of the population. In recent years Asian Americans in Hamtramck have expanded into Detroit due to the high cost of housing, and limited access to affo...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1206 (26894)</p>	<p><b>Global Detroit Community of Interest Map:</b> This is a Community of Interest Map created in Districtr as a District Map for the purpose of illustrating the exact precincts it contains. This map and narrative of the Hamtramck-Banglatown Community of Interest was built out by Global Detroit, a community and economic development organization, with community feedback. Since the arrival of German farmers in the 1800s, Hamtramck has been known ...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1511 (29337)</p>	<p><b>Hamtramck &amp; Detroit APIA/ACCESS:</b> ACCESS has different locations throughout Metro Detroit, namely in Dearborn, Sterling Heights, and Hamtramck. We are honored to serve the immigrant community with partners like the Asian Pacific Islander American community (APIA Michigan). We reaffirm their statement that highlights the diverse immigrant community that resides in Hamtramck and Detroit. Indeed the area has the highest population of...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1971 (31392)</p>	<p><b>Optimist Neighborhood Association:</b> This is a community of interest map submitted in district format so that the exact precincts in our neighborhood are known. Optimist Neighborhood Association's (ONA) mission is to create safe sustainable ecosystems within our community boundaries. ONA provides resources to the residents by partnering with neighboring community groups, nonprofits, local businesses, the City of Detroit, and the Sta...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



<p>p756 (24395)</p>	<p><b>East Side Detroit - Csystems:</b> This community of interest covers the east side of Detroit and the City of Hamtramck. Includes Bangladesh community and City Airport</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c1353 (27250)</p>	<p><b>Gayle ONeal's Redistricting Comments:</b> I believe we share similar values and concerns, mostly African American, of all age demographics.</p>	<p><b>Lower East Side of Detroit.</b></p>
<p>c1944 (33415)</p>	<p><b>Detroit Eastside:</b> Detroit should be represented by Detroiters. The Eastside is ignored too much and has serious needs. Some people with good intentions think Detroit and Grosse Pointe should be in districts together. I mean no disrespect to anyone but I disagree. Healing our divides needs to be done person to person and not by putting us in districts together. We've already been in the same legislative districts ...</p>	<p><b>Community 2.</b></p>
<p>p1973 (31391)</p>	<p><b>Detroit City Council District 4:</b> Detroit City Council District 4, which includes Conner Creek, Chandler Park and Fox Creek neighborhoods are steeped in history with the Algonquin and Iriquois indigenous people. The area is now becoming a key industrial job area where Chrysler is making new vehicles for the future. This also includes neighborhood revitalization with Chandler Park and the Conner Creek Greenway to actively connect...</p>	<p><b>District 2.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>East Detroit:</b> Identified as a community of interest with Detroit as mapped. (I know of nobody in Eastpointe who wants to be combined with Detroit.)</p>
<p>c1990 (33078)</p>	<p><b>Wayne County - Together not Disjointed:</b> Michigan Avenue (route 12) - I am within walking distance of this main shopping and ethnic restaurant corridor. It runs through the diverse communities of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, and Westland. Dearborn is especially diverse because it holds one of the largest Arab populations in the US. \tCity of Dearborn Recreation and Performing Art Center contains a fitness center, a...</p>	<p><b>Downtown.</b>  <b>Community 6.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C5-1		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1534 (29546)	<b>Delta Township/Lansing Township Cmty:</b> This district would provide community continuity between Delta Township in Eaton County and the adjacent Lansing Township community in Ingham County. Both these communities have similar racial, socioeconomic and voting attributes	<b>Delta Township:</b> This district would provide community continuity between Delta Township in Eaton County and the adjacent Lansing Township community in Ingham County. Both these communities have similar racial, socioeconomic and voting attributes
c1611 (30783)	<b>The Greater Lansing Area:</b> My community includes the City of Lansing and Michigan State University and surrounding suburbs in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties	<b>Community 1:</b> Michigan State University, and the Greater Lansing Area-Ingham Co., Clinton County and Eaton County
c1661 (31160)	<b>Dr. M. O submission for EL Community.</b>	<b>East Lansing Community:</b> The service-based mid-Michigan economy centered around Sparrow Hospitals and Michigan State University.
c1739 (31403)	<b>Lansing Cultures/Economic Subdivisions:</b> Lansing area and some cultural and economic subdivisions within it. The idea was to give the commission a sense of what areas of town a local might consider to be things like "the sticks, but still in town", "rich suburb", "up-and-coming bougie parts", "declining parts", "low-income", etc. Economic details are more granular around the city of Lansing because it's the area I know better than the su...	<b>Lansing and Neighborhoods:</b> Includes Lansing city center as well as neighborhoods within and without the city boundaries that would be considered part of "Lansing" :
c1750 (31632)	<b>Dave Vick's Community of Interest Map:</b> Greater Lansing area CoI	<b>Community 1:</b> Central MI / Greater Lansing CoI
c1802 (32421)	<b>Lansing/East Lansing Communities:</b> This splits up Lansing and East Lansing as separate communities, but recognizes that the influence of Lansing on surrounding areas is relatively large.	<b>MSU/East Lansing:</b> This community generally is centered around MSU as a primary employer and political entity. The fate of these communities is impacted greatly by MSU, and MSU is impacted greatly by these communities.
c1832 (32473)	<b>The Lansing Area:</b> The Lansing area should not be carved up into different districts.	<b>Community 1:</b> When people in the "lansing area" talk about our city, this is what we think of. Splitting any of this area up into different districts is like deliberately trying to mitigate the "lansing vote".
c1986 (33926)	<b>Sarah's East Lansing and Okemos Plan.</b>	<b>Okemos Area:</b> Closely connected to Michigan State University, since many residents work there or have other ties to the university, but with many more long-term, well-established residents and families.
c1988 (33955)	<b>Greater Lansing Area.</b>	<b>Greater Lansing Area:</b> The Greater Lansing Area
c2053 (34791)	<b>Lansing Plan.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> Greater Lansing Area
c2404 (36124)	<b>Lansing the Mickey Way:</b> Lansing is closely coupled with its surrounding communities, sharing economic and residential needs. This map captures the co-dependencies of the greater Lansing area, as well as much of its diverse population.	<b>Lansing My Way:</b> Many communities are closely coupled with Lansing, sharing border, interests, or both. Economic and residential needs are co-dependent.



c2479 (36855)	<b>Ingham County - Keep Us Together:</b> It's important for Ingham County to remain whole, and not be divided by multi Congressional Districts.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c248 (19892)	<b>Lansing Community of Interest.</b>	<b>West Lansing:</b> All Lansing addresses and most of Waverly school district and half of Lansing school (Sexton)
c2508 (37087)	<b>Keep Greater Lansing Together:</b> Keep the Greater Lansing Metropolitan area together as one congressional district. This is a community in the economic , social and cultural sense and is not served by being divided up for political purposes.	<b>Greater Lansing.</b>
c2707 (38659)	<b>Clarification from Eid:</b> The map attached shows the Tri-Counties. Commissioner Eid seemed to claim that because people think of it as one community of interest, that it can be divided in a way that makes two Lansing/Urban - dominated state senate districts. I listened to commissioner Eid's rationale for splitting the City of Lansing and combining urban and rural areas and I request clarification. He stated that it was ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c452 (22199)	<b>Greater Lansing Community:</b> Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties make up the Greater Lansing region, also called the Tri-County area. These counties share economic and cultural interests.	<b>Greater Lansing:</b> Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties make up the Greater Lansing region, also called the Tri-County area. These counties share economic and cultural interests.
c511 (22028)	<b>Lansing from the View of Young People:</b> The Community Map we are sharing is Lansing from the Perspective of the Young People. We know that these maps will go into effect for 10 years, and we will all be of voting age by then. Our voice is important in this process too. We hope you reach out to other youth to educate them on this process and hear their opinions. We are Peace & Prosperity Youth Action Movement, a group of young people fr...	<b>Lansing Community:</b> We care about the road quality, racial equity, diversity, healthy lifestyles, high school dropout prevention.
c612 (23666)	<b>Lansing Area Community of Interest:</b> This area that I have mapped out should at least be a foundation for a district within Michigan. These communities all have heavy economic ties to the Lansing metropolitan area. Additionally, this area is also demographically similar to the overall demographics of Michigan as a whole.	<b>Greater Lansing Area:</b> This community of interest is a group of various cities, towns, and townships,
c749 (24320)	<b>Tri-County Greater Lansing COI:</b> Commission members, thank you for your important work. The Greater Lansing region includes Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties. The three counties are actually a formal planning region in Michigan, and for good reason. Although there are diverse communities within this region, ranging from quite urban to quite rural, the entire area is centered on the Lansing Metro area - indeed, each county cont...	<b>Tri-County Greater Lansing Region:</b> The Greater Lansing region includes Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties. The three counties are actually a formal planning region in Michigan, and for good reason. Although there are diverse communities within this region, ranging from quite urban to quite rural, the entire area is centered on the Lansing Metro area - indeed, each county contains part of the urban and suburban complex of Lansing. ...
p1877 (32766)	<b>Stan's capital tri-county plan:</b> This plan brings together 3 counties which share numerous attributes. Common health care , schools play each other in sports, all three counties intricately tied to the Lansing area and Capital	<b>District 1.</b>
c1739 (31403)	<b>Lansing Cultures/Economic Subdivisions:</b> Lansing area and some cultural and economic subdivisions within it. The idea was to give the commission a sense of what areas of town a local might consider to be things like "the sticks, but still in town", "rich suburb", "up-and-coming bougie parts", "declining parts", "low-income", etc. Economic details are more granular around the city of Lansing because it's the area I know better than the su...	<b>South Lansing:</b> Lower-income part of town, much more ethnically diverse than many other neighborhoods. Some areas are in decline but many living here often take pride in themselves and their culture - a sense of "we look out for us because the city government won't".



c1802 (32421)	<b>Lansing/East Lansing Communities:</b> This splits up Lansing and East Lansing as separate communities, but recognizes that the influence of Lansing on surrounding areas is relatively large.	<b>Lansing:</b> This area has a strong influence on the surrounding areas, with the majority of people living and working in and around the Lansing area
c1891 (32909)	<b>Lansing &amp; Ann Arbor area districts:</b> Having lived for many years only in two different Michigan communities, I'm offering my input on the boundaries around the greater Lansing area, and the greater Ann Arbor area. While a resident of these places, these are the bounds of my mental map that always felt as though they were in the social and economic "gravity" of their respective largest cities.	<b>Greater Lansing Metro:</b> Having grown up in the Lansing area for many years, this is the community that, in my experience, residents perceive as having Lansing as it's geographic/cultural center. Many people within these bounds work in and commute to Lansing. Outside this area that impression shifts to be centered around Flint, Grand Rapids, Ann Arbor Battle Creek/Kalamazoo, etc
c1986 (33926)	<b>Sarah's East Lansing and Okemos Plan.</b>	<b>East Lansing Area:</b> Mostly students at Michigan State University, mostly young and living here temporarily.
c248 (19892)	<b>Lansing Community of Interest.</b>	<b>Lansing/East Lansing:</b> Lansing (Everett and Eastern) school district and East Lansing school district
c2591 (37662)	<b>Latinx COI on the Greater Lansing Area:</b> This submission is about a community of interest centered on the Latino Population on the so-called Greater Lansing Area, which roughly comprises the also called tri-county area of Ingham, Clinton and Eaton. On the current situation, our area of interest is cracked in at least three US Congressional districts causing serious loss of ability to be represented to the Latino Population on the Greater...	<b>Capital Area.</b>
c2593 (37662)	<b>Latinx COI on the Greater Lansing Area:</b> This submission is about a community of interest centered on the Latino Population on the so-called Greater Lansing Area, which roughly comprises the also called tri-county area of Ingham, Clinton and Eaton. On the current situation, our area of interest is cracked in at least three US Congressional districts causing serious loss of ability to be represented to the Latino Population on the Greater...	<b>Capital Area.</b>
c1739 (31403)	<b>Lansing Cultures/Economic Subdivisions:</b> Lansing area and some cultural and economic subdivisions within it. The idea was to give the commission a sense of what areas of town a local might consider to be things like "the sticks, but still in town", "rich suburb", "up-and-coming bougie parts", "declining parts", "low-income", etc. Economic details are more granular around the city of Lansing because it's the area I know better than the su...	<b>East Lansing:</b> City of east lansing, including Michigan State University
c248 (19892)	<b>Lansing Community of Interest.</b>	<b>Bath/Haslett/Okemos:</b> Bath, Haslett and Okemos schools
c1739 (31403)	<b>Lansing Cultures/Economic Subdivisions:</b> Lansing area and some cultural and economic subdivisions within it. The idea was to give the commission a sense of what areas of town a local might consider to be things like "the sticks, but still in town", "rich suburb", "up-and-coming bougie parts", "declining parts", "low-income", etc. Economic details are more granular around the city of Lansing because it's the area I know better than the su...	<b>Wealthy-to-Middle-Class Suburbs:</b> Suburbs that would be considered "in town" rather than out in the countryside. Mostly Holt, Okemos, and Haslett. Okemos is the wealthiest, Holt and Haslett have a broader range of incomes across the middle class.
		<b>Gentrifying Neighborhoods:</b> historically diverse but rapidly-gentrifying neighborhoods in the city of Lansing and nearby. Gentrification, however, is frequently happening against a strong backdrop of community identity and organization
		<b>Declining Neighborhoods:</b> Areas where homes and industrial parks are declining and getting more run down, with little or no new investment



Supporting Data for Cluster C5-2		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1593</a> (30716)	<b>Consolidate Lansing Metro Area:</b> In reply to your request for a map of community of interest	<b>Lansing metro area.</b>
<a href="#">c1628</a> (30893)	<b>Shelly Ochodnický - COI/Map:</b> I was asked to draw a COI to explain my written comment.	<b>Community 1:</b> Our COI is rural including small towns, farming communities, and small villages. Please keep our community of interest together as much as possible. Please respect county, township, and city lines when drawing maps. Compactness matters as well.
<a href="#">c1637</a> (30975)	<b>Greater Lansing Area:</b> Drawn to reflect geography, not politics.	<b>Community 1:</b> Lansing and surrounding areas
<a href="#">c1650</a> (31138)	<b>Delta Township:</b> Delta Charter Township should be included with other urban areas around Lansing.	<b>Delta Township:</b> This is a left leaning suburban bedroom community in Eaton County. The interesting thing about this area is that it is more connected to Lansing, MI and Mason, MI in Ingham County than Charlotte in Eaton County. Our representation has been frustrating because our reps haven't been tied into the Lansing Region, and we've been included in more rural areas that some districts extend to Lake Erie Coastal...
<a href="#">c1763</a> (31856)	<b>Shiawassee - Mid Central Michigan.</b>	<b>Shiawassee-Central Michigan Rural COI:</b> Our community of interest is comprised of small towns, farming communities, and villages that have very specific needs and interests separate from urban or suburban areas. Please consider county lines, township lines, and city lines when drawing maps.
<a href="#">c1799</a> (32417)	<b>East Lansing area.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> East Lansing and surrounding areas
<a href="#">c1820</a> (32473)	<b>The Lansing Area:</b> This is the what people who live around here think of as "the Lansing area". It shouldn't be split up between multiple districts. That is just an obvious attempt to split the "Lansing vote".	<b>Community 1:</b> When people in the "lansing area" talk about our city, this is what we think of. Splitting any of this area up into different districts is like deliberately trying to mitigate the "lansing vote".
<a href="#">c1901</a> (32612)	<b>Recognize communities:</b> The greater Lansing area represents a community. Don't divide it up to suit the gerrymandering of the past. Don't make a dumbbell shaped district to link Lansing voters to those in the Brighton area.	<b>Community 1:</b> Greater Lansing area
<a href="#">c2507</a> (37077)	<b>My map for Greater Lansing:</b> This follows my written testimony submitted to the portal on 6/14/21 on the importance of keeping the Greater Lansing area in one congressional district.	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c2573</a> (37432)	<b>Fair Maps Project - SD-23 - 2020 Census:</b> Honorable Commissioners – On August 4th we published (submission 01993) the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past seven months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC's redistricting process. We are in the process of updating our maps to reflect population shifts...	<b>Fair Maps Project - SD-23 - 2020 Census update.</b>



c2574 (37433)	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-24 - 2020 Census:</b> Honorable Commissioners – On August 4th we published (submission 01993) the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past seven months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC’s redistricting process. We are in the process of updating our maps to reflect population shifts...</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-24 - 2020 Census update.</b></p>
p1080 (26398)	<p><b>Shiawassee/Clinton/Eaton/Saginaw Senate:</b> The current State Senate district includes Clinton, Eaton, and Shiawassee Counties. We have a strong connection and a Community of Interest which includes small towns, farming communities, and rural suburban areas that have specific needs. Part of Saginaw County could be included in the district to meet the maximum population requirement.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1587 (30582)	<p><b>Tom DeFouw - Senate District:</b> I submitted written comment defining COIs and I was asked to submit a Senate map included Clinton County</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1749 (31627)	<p><b>Dave Vick’s Plan.</b></p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p896 (25225)	<p><b>"Shiawassee Senate District".</b></p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
c2560 (37414)	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Greater Lansing:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post.</p> <p><b>Ingham County:</b> Contradicts other communities of interest, but Ingham County was identified in a comment.</p>
c1754 (31718)	<p><b>Community of Interests:</b> To introduce myself, my name is Susan Nickels. I have been a resident of the state of Michigan my entire life. I am a graduate of our public schools and currently live in Genoa Township, zip code 48116, located in Livingston County. Livingston County is largely rural. Including my community with other rural communities is my desire. I support local farms in Howell and Brighton for our meat, ...</p>	<p><b>District 2.</b></p>
p1139 (26629)	<p><b>Gail Ross: Shiawassee Senate District:</b> Please keep our current Senate District together. We share a very interconnected Community of Interest. Our counties are mostly made up of small towns, farming communities, and rural/suburban areas. We believe our representation should keep our interests and needs as primary.</p>	<p><b>District 34.</b></p>
c2560 (37414)	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Eaton County:</b> Conflicts with a few others, but identified as a community of interest.</p>
c1739 (31403)	<p><b>Lansing Cultures/Economic Subdivisions:</b> Lansing area and some cultural and economic subdivisions within it. The idea was to give the commission a sense of what areas of town a local might consider to be things like "the sticks, but still in town", "rich suburb", "up-and-coming bougie parts", "declining parts", "low-income", etc. Economic details are more granular around the city of Lansing because it’s the area I know better than the su...</p>	<p><b>North Lansing:</b> Mixture of industrial, neighborhoods, the airport, and farming-community-turned-suburbs like southern Bath Twp</p> <p><b>Lansing Surrounding Communities:</b> The first layer of farming communities that would be considered "out of the city" but also still often are economically tied to Lansing. People live here and work in the city or vice versa, will come into the city for goods and services, and could be broadly considered part of the "Lansing Area".</p>



<p><a href="#">c2463</a> (36705)</p>	<p><b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region, and the needs of the population in each region.</p>	<p><b>Lansing:</b> The state capitol has unique requirements and should be likewise represented in itself.</p>
<p><a href="#">p1624</a> (30890)</p>	<p><b>Betty Jo Nelson - Shiawassee Senate:</b> Thank you for considering my map plan for the Shiawassee County area.</p>	<p><b>District 6.</b></p>
<p><a href="#">p1136</a> (26625)</p>	<p><b>Rick Ross: Shiawassee Senate District:</b> The current 24th Senate District should remain as is. We are a Community of Interest that is highly interconnected because of our small towns and farming communities. We have similar needs/interests and we feel that our representatives/senators should reflect that.</p>	<p><b>District 7.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C6		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1060 (24631)	<b>Lake St. Clair Community of Interest:</b> I was born and raised in Macomb County (St. Clair Shores and later in Clinton Twp.). As an adult, I have also lived in Grosse Pointe Woods and now live with husband and kids in Grosse Pointe Park. My community of interest is the Lake St. Clair Community of Interest. This includes all of the cities around the coast of Lake St. Clair, including Harsen's Island, New Baltimore, Harrison Twp., St. C...	<b>Lake St. Clair Community:</b> This community of interest includes those municipalities bordering Lake St. Clair. The stewardship of the Lake is essential to local economies and property values of these municipalities and, historically, binds these municipalities in common interest. This also represents the Eastside suburbs of Detroit, which are often overlooked in comparison to the suburbs in Oakland County and those west of...
c1093 (26454)	<b>Eastpointe-Roseville Rec Authority:</b> Recreation creates a strong relationship between communities.	<b>Recreation Authority of Roseville and Eastpointe (RARE):</b> Eastpointe and Roseville share recreation services.
c1436 (28396)	<b>St. Clair River Watershed:</b> The vision for this community: We value and protect our environmental, social and economic assets equally and collaboratively.	<b>St. Clair River Watershed:</b> The vision for this community: We value and protect our environmental, social and economic assets equally and collaboratively.
c1524 (29422)	<b>Lakefront Suburbs:</b> The suburbs along Lake St. Clair should be together because of common interests. Residents enjoy lakefront parks and recreation. Non-lakefront communities literally dump sewage into our water. Look it up. Millions of gallons of sewage come from as far away as Oakland County and flow into our lake. This is especially a problem when there are heavy rains. If we are split up into different ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1527 (29458)	<b>Lake St. Clair:</b> The cities surrounding Lake St. Clair are a community of interest. We are all drawn to live in our particular towns because of the lakefront parks, dining, boating, fishing, and other amenities. We have shared concerns with regard to lake levels, flooding, and sewer/storm outflows. We have never had common representation and so our concerns go largely unaddressed. We could and should all be in...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1573 (30054)	<b>lakefront cities:</b> Hi. I will vote someday in the districts that you draw, even though I'm still in school now. I live part of the time in Grosse Pointe Woods and part of the time in Grosse Pointe Park. My community is where almost all of my grandparents, aunts, uncles, great aunts and uncles, and cousins live. Some live in St. Clair Shores, some live in Harrison Township, and some in Grosse Pointe. My dad gr...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1638 (30980)	<b>Lake St. Clair / School Districts:</b> I am from a lakeside community. I like bass fishing, but everyone where I live enjoys the beaches, parks, boating, and just being by the lake. My map tries to do two things. A. It includes the townships and cities along Lake St. Clair, where we are different from other cities/suburbs. B. It tries to use School Districts as building blocks. The mapping software wouldn't let me fill in all of ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1672 (31178)	<b>Macomb Co. as a single district:</b> Macomb County is economically, politically, culturally, and socially a unified entity. This is not always true of every county, but it is particularly true in the case of Macomb County. Historically, residents have identified 8 mile road as a southern dividing line; hills topography, and lack of multiple significant roadways (apart from M-59) have further isolated Macomb County from Oakland Coun...	<b>Community 1:</b> Macomb County



c1725 (31440)	<b>Common Interest &amp; Balanced Districts.</b>	<b>Lakeshore:</b> Communities fronting Lake St. Clair
c1821 (32476)	<b>Southern Macomb County:</b> This community is composed of the children and grandchildren of people who moved from Detroit to the suburbs in the mid-20th century. Independence from the decisions of Detroit and Wayne county have always been very important to this community. I feel I-696 represents a good southern dividing line, but the line should absolutely, in no circumstance move south of 8-Mile Rd	<b>Southern Macomb County:</b> This community is composed of the children and grandchildren of people who moved from Detroit to the suburbs in the mid-20th century. Independence from the decisions of Detroit and Wayne county have always been very important to this community. I feel I-696 represents a good southern dividing line, but the line should absolutely, in no circumstance move south of 8-Mile Rd
c1876 (32758)	<b>Kristen's definition of Community of:</b> I am a vice chair to Moms For Liberty and I represent all of Macomb County. Macomb County should remain whole.	<b>Community I:</b> Macomb County with crisp, straight lines. Utica Community School district is a huge part of Macomb County and should remain whole.
c2187 (35141)	<b>Lake Saint Clair Community:</b> The suburbs surrounding Lake Saint Clair all share a lot of common history, culture and interest. We need common representation that can focus on protecting our lake.	<b>lake saint clair.</b>
c2298 (35474)	<b>Lake Saint Clair:</b> New Baltimore is on the north side of Anchor Bay in Lake St. Clair. It was founded as a local port but even as it has become a suburb, it is still a nautical community. It is obviously connected to Chesterfield and Ira, but also to all of the other nautical towns along the lake. Everyone living in a lakeside town shares an interest in caring for the lake and an interest in our international bor...	<b>Lake Saint Clair Community of Interest.</b>
c2428 (36475)	<b>NE Suburbs Black Representation:</b> The suburban black community northeast of Detroit is completely unrepresented. There is no black state rep or state senator covering Macomb County. But the new 2020 census results show us what we already knew. The black suburban communities between Gratiot and I-94 and in south Warren are growing. The Gratiot corridor suburbs include Eastpointe, Harper Woods, Roseville, Mount Clemens, and the ...	<b>Gratiot &amp; I-94 Black Representation Area.</b>
c2458 (36679)	<b>Lake St. Clair / St. Clair River:</b> St. Clair Shores is home the Nautical Mile, where they say we have more dock space than anywhere else in Michigan. To the South, the Grosse Pointes were built as vacation communities and then developed into suburbs, just like St. Clair Shores. To the North, Harrison Township and Née Baltimore were built as local ports before developing into suburbs. Chesterfield developed from a rural area into...	<b>Lake St. Clair Community of Interest.</b>
c2644 (38154)	<b>Macomb Gratiot Suburbs:</b> I am writing to support the Macomb Gratiot community. The residents here are working class. A lot of Macomb County is. But we have less heavy industry than Warren. Instead, we are centered on the Gratiot commercial area. We are also definitely different than the areas east of I-94 on the lake and the newer subdivisions further north. The people on the lake and north of Hall Road just have fe...	<b>Community I.</b>
c3159 (40485)	<b>Cruising Gratiot:</b> My community of interest is the area centered on Gratiot Ave in Macomb County. One important thing about this area is that we have smaller school districts that have more needs than the bigger districts. Southern Clinton Twp in the Gratiot area is in the Clintondale Schools, which don't get the same resources as the bigger Chippewa district.	<b>Gratiot.</b>



<p>c3195 (40672)</p>	<p><b>Lake St. Clair Community:</b> The cities along Lake St. Clair are a community of interest. We share a common water resource and have common interests in protecting that resource. Our cities all have lakefront parks and our citizens all enjoy the lakefront amenities. In redistricting, our Lake St. Clair Community should be kept together as much as possible, including in State Senate and Congressional Districts. Cities and t...</p>	<p><b>Lake St. Clair Communities.</b></p>
<p>c3224 (40860)</p>	<p><b>Lake St. Clair Community:</b> This is to ask that the MICRC recognize the communities bordering Lake St. Clair as the "community of interest," which—in fact—they already are. Each of the five Pointes and shoreline Macomb townships have an orientation toward a common geographical feature: Lake St. Clair. Many boaters and sports fishermen also live in Harper Woods. County lines are of no consequence, with one of the municipi...</p>	<p><b>Lake St Clair community:</b> Lake St. Clair Community This is to ask that the MICRC recognize the communities bordering Lake St. Clair as the "community of interest," which—in fact—they already are. Each of the five Pointes and shoreline Macomb townships have an orientation toward a common geographical feature: Lake St. Clair. Many boaters and sports fishermen also live in Harper Woods. County lines are of no consequen...</p>
<p>c3361 (41592)</p>	<p><b>Lake St. Clair - Not Industrial:</b> IMPORTANT - WE ARE NOT INDUSTRIAL ON LAKE ST. CLAIR. I previously submitted this COI but I needed to add some really important detail before the portal closes, especially because lakeshore COIs have been unfairly called into question. My COI is the Lake St. Clair Community of Interest. So that no one is confused about the dividing line for our lakeshore community of interest, we are the suburbs...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3418 (41793)</p>	<p><b>The Grosse Pointes and Communities North:</b> Greetings to the Redistricting Commission: This is to document my testimony delivered directly to you at your Public Regional Meeting conducted on 22 June 2021 at the Blue Water Convention Center in Port Huron. My name is John Daniele and I reside in the city of Grosse Pointe Woods located in the northern portion of Wayne County. I first wish to express my sincere thanks to the Commissioners for...</p>	<p><b>Grosse Pointes and Lake Communities:</b> The Lake St. Clair communities including the five Grosse Pointes</p>
<p>c59 (18197)</p>	<p><b>Lake St. Clair Community:</b> This is the community surrounding Lake St. Clair that depends on the lake.</p>	<p><b>Shores of Lake St. Clair:</b> This is the community of municipalities that share the shores of Lake St. Clair and depend on it for water, business, fishing, boating, swimming and other recreation</p>
<p>c794 (24631)</p>	<p><b>Lake St. Clair Community of Interest:</b> This community of interest includes those municipalities bordering Lake St. Clair. The stewardship of the Lake is essential to local economies and property values of these municipalities and, historically, binds these municipalities in common interest. This also represents the Eastside suburbs of Detroit, which are often overlooked in comparison to the suburbs in Oakland County and those west of...</p>	<p><b>Lake St. Clair Community:</b> This community of interest includes those municipalities bordering Lake St. Clair. The stewardship of the Lake is essential to local economies and property values of these municipalities and, historically, binds these municipalities in common interest. This also represents the Eastside suburbs of Detroit, which are often overlooked in comparison to the suburbs in Oakland County and those west of...</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Shoreline:</b> Described as a community of interest in a post.</p>
<p>c1359 (27291)</p>	<p><b>Suburban Corridors:</b> I wanted to submit this as food for thought. Many suburbs of Detroit have historically been developed in corridors along the spoked roads that lead out of Detroit. This is has created some corridors in which suburbs of similar character have developed together with shared historic, cultural, and economic ties. My maps here are not necessarily precise to the precinct but they demonstrate the...</p>	<p><b>Gratiot Corridor.</b></p>



<p>c2481 (36879)</p>	<p><b>Racially Integrated Suburbs(2020 Census):</b> 2020 Census Data has been loaded at the Dave's Redistricting website, including demographic data. If Commissioners haven't gotten updated Data from EDS yet, they can play with the maps at Dave's Redistricting website to build their knowledge about the population shifts in the 2020 census. . . . One thing I am proud to see is the unprecedented racial integration in the suburbs. The blue area, whi...</p>	<p><b>Macomb Integrated Suburbs:</b> This area has gone from 17% African-American VAP to 31% African-American VAP based on the 2020 census numbers.</p>
<p>c1359 (27291)</p>	<p><b>Suburban Corridors:</b> I wanted to submit this as food for thought. Many suburbs of Detroit have historically been developed in corridors along the spoked roads that lead out of Detroit. This is has created some corridors in which suburbs of similar character have developed together with shared historic, cultural, and economic ties. My maps here are not necessarily precise to the precinct but they demonstrate the...</p>	<p><b>Jefferson / Mack Corridor.</b></p>
<p>c2561 (37418)</p>	<p><b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 4.</b></p>
<p>p390 (21621)</p>	<p><b>Mary's SE Macomb plan:</b> This submission adheres to the guidelines for mapping with about 76 person flexibility. It is contiguous without gaps and includes multiple communities of interest. Based on the number of "unassigned populations," this map would be a good place to start adding populations.</p>	<p><b>District 6.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C7		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1803</a> (32425)	<b>Orthodox Jewish Community.</b>	<b>Orthodox Jewish Community.</b>
<a href="#">c2481</a> (36879)	<b>Racially Integrated Suburbs(2020 Census):</b> 2020 Census Data has been loaded at the Dave's Redistricting website, including demographic data. If Commissioners haven't gotten updated Data from EDS yet, they can play with the maps at Dave's Redistricting website to build their knowledge about the population shifts in the 2020 census. . . . One thing I am proud to see is the unprecedented racial integration in the suburbs. The blue area, whi...	<b>NW Integrated Suburbs:</b> This area has gone from 53% African-American VAP to 65% African-American VAP
<a href="#">p837</a> (24920)	<b>Caribbean Community of Interest Detroit:</b> This is a community of interest map submission created to demonstrate the exact precincts it contains Good Afternoon, My name is Sophia Chue. I am the Executive Director of the Caribbean Community Service Center in Detroit. CCSC's mission is the SEA, to support, empower and advocate for Caribbean nationals who are here in the Americas, as well as those who are new arrivals. The Ca...	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1140</a> (26626)	<b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...	<b>District 13.</b>
<a href="#">c999</a> (26055)	<b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time	<b>Southfield/Lathrup Village:</b> An original inner ring suburb, Southfield is predominantly Black and Jewish. It doesn't have a walkable downtown, but it has shopping, entertainment and a vibrant and diverse neighborhood culture.
<a href="#">c1140</a> (26626)	<b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...	<b>Oak Park:</b> Mostly residential, with a mix of middle class and affordable housing. Oak Park is home to a large chunk of Metro Detroit's Orthodox community and a sizable and established Black community.
<a href="#">c999</a> (26055)	<b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time	<b>Oak Park:</b> Mostly residential, with a mix of middle class and affordable housing. Oak Park is home to a large chunk of Metro Detroit's Orthodox community and a sizable and established Black community.



Supporting Data for Cluster C8		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c777 (20409)	<b>Palmer Park:</b> The Palmer Park area began attracting a notable LGBTQ residential base in the late 1960s as much of the white population that remained in Detroit moved to the farther reaches of the city. The Palmer Park Apartment District had its initial gay heyday in the 1970s, when popular gay bars and restaurants opened nearby along McNichols and on Woodward Avenue. It was at Menjo's, which is still operating ...	<b>Palmer Park:</b> African American, LGBT+, low-income
c819 (20409)	<b>Palmer Park 2.0:</b> The Palmer Park area began attracting a notable LGBTQ residential base in the late 1960s as much of the white population that remained in Detroit moved to the farther reaches of the city. The Palmer Park Apartment District had its initial gay heyday in the 1970s, when popular gay bars and restaurants opened nearby along McNichols and on Woodward Avenue. It was at Menjo's, which is still operating ...	<b>Palmer Park:</b> African American, LGBT+, low-income
c879 (25123)	<b>Eastern Huntington Woods + Surroundings:</b> Eastern Huntington Woods, downtown Royal Oak, and parts of Pleasant Ridge. Lots of walking and biking between these streets! The rest of Huntington Woods and Pleasant Ridge could also be included, as could Berkley, Ferndale, and the rest of Royal Oak, but this is really my local community.	<b>My Local Community:</b> Eastern Huntington Woods, downtown Royal Oak, and parts of Pleasant Ridge. Lots of walking and biking between these streets! The rest of Huntington Woods and Pleasant Ridge could also be included, as could Berkley, Ferndale, and the rest of Royal Oak, but this is really my local community.
c999 (26055)	<b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time	<b>Northwest Detroit:</b> The part of northwest Detroit south of 8 Mile and north of 7 Mile between Woodward and the Lodge Freeway has a fair amount of overlap culturally and economically with Southfield, Oak Park and Ferndale. It's predominantly Black with a mix of wealthy, middle class and working class residents.
c2560 (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>Detroit's Palmer Park:</b> Identified as a "safe" GLBT community.
p1974 (33192)	<b>The Golf District: DCC2:</b> This is a community of interest map submitted in district format to accurately reflect the exact precincts involved in our community. The Golf District consists of Palmer Woods, Sherwood Forest, Green Acres and University District and Grixdale Farms Neighborhood Associations . West of livernois is Bagley, Pembroke, Schulz and Greenwich Communities.These communities have over 78% of homeownership ...	<b>District 3.</b>
c2481 (36879)	<b>Racially Integrated Suburbs(2020 Census):</b> 2020 Census Data has been loaded at the Dave's Redistricting website, including demographic data. If Commissioners haven't gotten updated Data from EDS yet, they can play with the maps at Dave's Redistricting website to build their knowledge about the population shifts in the 2020 census. . . . One thing I am proud to see is the unprecedented racial integration in the suburbs. The blue area, whi...	<b>Community 5.</b>



<p>c1140 (26626)</p>	<p><b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...</p>	<p><b>Ferndale:</b> Inner ring suburb bordering Detroit, home to a sizable young population. It has a mix of middle class and affordable housing, which is mostly concentrated east of Woodward. That area overlaps Hazel Park as a similar community. It has a big dining and entertainment corridor centered on Woodward and 9 Mile.</p>
<p>c999 (26055)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Ferndale:</b> Inner ring suburb bordering Detroit, home to a sizable young population. It has a mix of middle class and affordable housing, which is mostly concentrated east of Woodward. That area overlaps Hazel Park as a similar community. It has a big dining and entertainment corridor centered on Woodward and 9 Mile.</p>
<p>c1140 (26626)</p>	<p><b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...</p>	<p><b>Huntington Woods and Pleasant Ridge:</b> The wealthiest of southeast Oakland County's inner ring suburbs. Predominantly white and linal.</p>
<p>c999 (26055)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Huntington Woods and Pleasant Ridge:</b> The wealthiest of southeast Oakland County's inner ring suburbs. Predominantly white and linal.</p>
<p>c1140 (26626)</p>	<p><b>Charlotte's inner ring Detroit suburbs:</b> The starting point for me is not a specific building, but the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 696. These are the main arteries that connect the inner ring suburban communities where most of my friends and family live and work. I live in Royal Oak, but I spend as much time in Madison Heights, Ferndale, Oak Park and Troy as I do in my own city. The border of Oakland and Macomb count...</p>	<p><b>Royal Oak Township:</b> Mostly low income community bordering 8 Mile in Detroit. Predominantly Black.</p>
<p>c999 (26055)</p>	<p><b>Charlottes communities of interest:</b> Inner rings suburbs in southeast Oakland County, southwest Macomb and northwest Detroit. This is where I live and spend my time</p>	<p><b>Royal Oak Township:</b> Mostly low income community bordering 8 Mile in Detroit. Predominantly Black.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C9		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1097</a> (26458)	<b>Looked over and Forgotten (District 3):</b> District 3 is where I have been living for over 34 years and I am very concern about the conditions of my community and the welfare of my people.	<b>Community 1:</b> District 3 is a community that has been looked over and forgotten for years where I live on 7 mile and Hoover. There is heavy traffic. low income families and there is so much blight and vacant buildings and lots Housing is very limited and there is none or very few groceries store we can shop at we need all the necessary necessities to survive in our District.
<a href="#">c1831</a> (32497)	<b>KB County COI.</b>	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1870</a> (32738)	<b>Detroit as a whole:</b> The city should vote together	<b>City District:</b> Detroit should vote as a community since it is one.
<a href="#">c2065</a> (34882)	<b>Improving Regions:</b> I have mapped two communities of interest. One is Washtenaw and Wayne county, the other is the border counties and Jackson county. These two communities have little in common, and should not in any way be combined in representation. For example, the commission decided to lump Washtenaw County and Monroe county together in a regional plan. While these regions are starting points and were determined...	<b>Urban Areas:</b> Urban infrastructure, higher average median income, dense population.
<a href="#">c2463</a> (36705)	<b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.	<b>Detroit Metro:</b> The heart of industry in Michigan! The communities within this region share a common metro-center and city-culture, knowing best what is needed for the city of Detroit and immediate surrounding areas.
<a href="#">c2501</a> (37048)	<b>SE MI:</b> These areas are close in proximity but very different. In Ann Arbor and Detroit they have very different interests than we do in Monroe, Adrian, and Hillsdale. Our industries differ too, they are focused on high tech manufacturing and we focus on traditional industrial.	<b>Major cities:</b> This area is comprised of several major cities and universities.
<a href="#">c2785</a> (38959)	<b>Eid needs to work together:</b> I have been following this process closely, and I feel like over the past two days you all have gone from working as a commission to now some are trying to pursue an agenda. Please stick to following the communities of interest submitted to you all by individuals at the hearings and by individuals in this portal, not maps and communities submitted by special interest groups. And do the work togeth...	<b>Your system isn't work:</b> I have been trying to submit just a comment for days and my comment is showing up. Even after having confirmed my email. Also when you click to draw a state house map it is showing congressional district parameters.
<a href="#">c3196</a> (40691)	<b>Roz's COI Southwest Detroit:</b> This map represents some of southwest Detroit downriver area. This community of interest share common economic status.	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c3381</a> (41706)	<b>Eid Pushing Systemic Racism:</b> I have tried to educate some on the portal about the Voting Rights Act and the importance of protecting the voice of minority communities; however, this week, one commissioner mentioned an incredibly disturbing thought: change the number of majority-minority districts. If he was talking about bumping up the number from 2 to 3, then I hope he clarifies and I will support this effort. But, I have a ...	<b>Community 1.</b>



c352 (21392)	<b>Audrey Anderson trees, parks, diverse:</b> My community is Pittsfield Twp, it has Ann Arbor Schools and Ypsilanti postal address. My community is diverse and we are in eastern Washtenaw county.	<b>Pittsfield Township:</b> We have Ann Arbor schools and ypsilanti mailing address. We are a community with lots of diversity in the population. We have great access to I-94 and US 23. We have retail, grocery, business, Universities in both Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.
p2989 (39870)	<b>Black Bottom Test 1:</b> First test training map	<b>District 1.</b>
c1990 (33078)	<b>Wayne County - Together not Disjointed:</b> Michigan Avenue (route 12) – I am within walking distance of this main shopping and ethnic restaurant corridor. It runs through the diverse communities of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, and Westland. Dearborn is especially diverse because it holds one of the largest Arab populations in the US. City of Dearborn Recreation and Performing Art Center contains a fitness center, a...	<b>North central Wayne Co.</b>
c2317 (35584)	<b>Rural vs Urban Lifestyle:</b> Washtenaw and Wayne counties are vastly different than counties like Jackson, Branch, Hillsdale and Berrien.	<b>Community 2.</b>
c2321 (35588)	<b>Suburban Lifestyle vs Border Counties:</b> As someone who grew up and raised a family in rural Michigan, and now living in urban Michigan, I can say firsthand that these are two distinctively different communities, and therefore should not be stuck together in representation. They have different values, lifestyles, family structures, etc. They have different income levels, paces of life, and economies. Any attempt to combine these two comm...	<b>Community 2.</b>
c2392 (35925)	<b>College Life:</b> As someone who goes to college in one of the communities of interest, and spend my summer months in the rural community, I can attest to the differences between these two areas. The Chi ties of Washtenaw and parts of Wayne are much more affluent, have different infrastructure needs, and have public universities. The rural parts are much more agricultural, smaller communities, etc. These two comm...	<b>Community 2.</b>
c2561 (37418)	<b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b>	<b>Community 3.</b>



Supporting Data for Cluster C10		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1510 (29333)	<b>Arab &amp; Middle Eastern/North African COI:</b> The Arab or Middle Eastern/North African (MENA) Community As the leading Arab American community-based organization, ACCESS (ARAB COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SERVICES) has worked for 50 years as a service provider. The agency services 70,000 individuals from disenfranchised communities—primarily those representing the Arab American community—on an annual basis. This on-the-ground exp...	<b>COI Arab and/or MENA Ancestry.</b>
c1745 (31585)	<b>Northwest Dearborn neighborhood map.</b>	<b>Northwest Dearborn:</b> What they have in common: brick houses, all of the kids went to Bryant Middle School. Michigan Avenue and Ford Road are major dividers (big roads that are tough to cross). The Ford Estate and Rouge River are a natural barrier to the east.
c181 (19298)	<b>Detroit River Waterfront Communities:</b> Communities on the waterfront of the Detroit River should have common representation.	<b>Community 1:</b> Detroit River waterfront communities
c1829 (32496)	<b>Dearborn/Dearborn Heights/Allen Park.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> A mixture of black/white/hispanic/muslim - recent immigrants and less recent immigrants. High Muslim population.
c1861 (32710)	<b>Dearborn-Dearborn Heights:</b> Keep Dearborn and Dearborn Heights together.	<b>Community 1:</b> Dearborn-Dearborn Heights - Keep together at least congressionally and if possible state
c1868 (32735)	<b>Keep all of Dearborn in one state house:</b> Keep all of Dearborn in one state house district	<b>Community 1:</b> Dearborn - keep all of Dearborn in one state house district
c1959 (33595)	<b>Allen Park, MI:</b> City of Allen Park, MI; such 'small communities' should be entirely within 1 district & should be the COI.	<b>Allen Park, MI (BAG):</b> City of Allen Park, MI
c3244 (40982)	<b>Latino Community Detroit:</b> This is the Latino community of Detroit. Please do not split it up.	<b>Latino:</b> The Latino Community of Detroit
c3360 (41620)	<b>Colleen's Industrial Neighborhoods Map.</b>	<b>Industrial Neighborhoods:</b> Residents in this area (and around it) are more affected by pollution as a result of living near various manufacturing plants as well as MI's only refinery. These citizens' concerns about clean air/water pollution, green space, and physical health need to be heard cohesively.
c38 (17124)	<b>Dearborn Cultural District:</b> Cultural venues in Dearborn. Important that they be combined in some way for financial support (grants, direct subsidies) for the institutions.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c39 (17128)	<b>Dearborn neighborhoods near Ford Field:</b> Area includes residents west of Brady, north of Michigan Ave., east of Outer Drive who count Ford Field as their local park. They have a common interest in working together to maintain and improve the park.	<b>Dearborn Ford Field Neighbors:</b> Neighborhoods using Ford Field, north of Michigan Rd.
p2078 (34961)	<b>Latinx Community. SW Detroit/Downriver:</b> This plan would unify the largest Latinx population in the state, and provide a voice for Latinx residents that the state house that has been missing.	<b>District 1.</b>



<p>p553 (23331)</p>	<p><b>Roslyn's Detroit State House 9 Map Plan:</b> My plan was based on the current line already in existent but expanding to ensure complete blocks and community stay connected not separated due to political agenda.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p851 (24397)</p>	<p><b>CAJ Research Team:</b> This district keeps the same boundaries as the House District 5. The population loss was not in Detroit but outstate Michigan. Finally in my duties as a Census enumerator, SW Detroit was under-counted</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Snow Woods subdivision:</b> Should be in the same district as Dearborn, according to a post.</p>
<p>c3196 (40691)</p>	<p><b>Roz's COI Southwest Detroit:</b> This map represents some of southwest Detroit downriver area. This community of interest share common economic status.</p>	<p><b>Community 2.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Latino community in Detroit:</b> Identified by a post.</p>
<p>c3196 (40691)</p>	<p><b>Roz's COI Southwest Detroit:</b> This map represents some of southwest Detroit downriver area. This community of interest share common economic status.</p>	<p><b>Community 3.</b></p>
<p>p1972 (31394)</p>	<p><b>District 7 We Care Community (Hartwell):</b> This is a Community of Interest map submitted in district format to show the exact precincts involved in our community. Detroit's City Council District 7 is made up of We Care ,Barton Mcfarland, Joy-Schafer, Plymouth Hubbell Neighborhoods. This once strong community has seen several schools close over the years. Even with more blight than many areas of Detroit and with higher taxes than almost ...</p>	<p><b>District 3.</b></p>
<p>c2453 (25164)</p>	<p><b>Latinx Community. SW Detroit/Downriver:</b> This map represents the region of SW Detroit with the largest Latinx/Hispanic population. This is a region with deep common roots on language, music, food and traditions. This region used to be at the hearth of the 8th. District of the Michiga House of Representatives. In 1999 Belda Garza became the first Latinx Immigrant to represent this district. In the year 2000, after the 2000 census, the M...</p>	<p><b>Community 4.</b></p>
<p>c3196 (40691)</p>	<p><b>Roz's COI Southwest Detroit:</b> This map represents some of southwest Detroit downriver area. This community of interest share common economic status.</p>	<p><b>Community 4.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C11		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1270 (27091)	<b>Southwest Michigan Lakeshore COI:</b> The south west coast of Michigan, including South Haven, St. Joseph, and as far south as New Buffalo confront similar challenges facing all Michigan citizens. However the factors contributing to our issues are unique to the lakeshore area, and the citizens of our communities will be best represented by someone that lives and works in our area. Lakeshore erosion, beach preservation, local control o...	<b>Southwest Michigan Lakeshore Community:</b> Southwest Michigan area along the Michigan lakeshore that sharing similar factors impacting the lives of its residents.
c1594 (30719)	<b>Historic Underground Railroad Community:</b> This is roughly the corridor of historic Underground Railroad communities, places where formerly enslaved persons were brought and settled. It is diverse, integrated and more bi-partisan than much of rural and small town Michigan.	<b>Historic Underground Railroad corridor:</b> This area is integrated, diverse and bi-partisan, since it was settled by formerly enslaved persons and their descendants. Most of rural and small town Michigan is segregated and solidly Republican, so keeping this community intact may satisfy the requirements of diversity and bi-partisanship.
c1631 (30927)	<b>Ontwa Township/Cass County COI Map:</b> This COI map is to accompany written testimony ID: w1255	<b>Community I:</b> This map is to accompany written testimony ID:w1255, submitted by Ann Tideman. I surveyed 10 members of Ontwa Township for our community of interest. On the map, I marked our most frequently visited places for various activities and services. These included locations in Cass County, Berrien County and communities in Indiana (not mapped). I concluded that our community of interest extends east to C...
c1651 (31141)	<b>Benton Harbor City Limit:</b> Benton Harbor City we would like the best rezoning for our city	<b>Community I:</b> Benton Harbor is my community please keep us in mind.
c1653 (31146)	<b>Cass, VanBuren, &amp; Berrien Counties COI.</b>	<b>Community I:</b> Cass, Van Buren, and Berrien Counties are connected through educational, governmental, socioeconomic, healthcare, and recreational ties. I am focusing here on education. As a life-long educator, I want to talk about some of the educational connections that help to make Cass, Van Buren, and Berrien Counties a community of interest. These same connections do not exist with St. Joseph County to o...
c1707 (31353)	<b>Paul's Plan for SW Michigan.</b>	<b>State house representatives:</b> While hard to draw on this map my suggestion is to divide Berrien County into two districts using the St. Joseph River as the division line. This may be a concern in the Niles area but it's a clean way to set the lines.
c1709 (31358)	<b>Paul's Plan for SW Michigan:</b> SW Michigan Senate Rep,	<b>State Senate:</b> My idea for State senate boundary in SW Michigan is to include the counties of Berrien, Cass and Van Buren. These counties work together now and it just trades St. Joseph county for Van Buren.
c1798 (32413)	<b>Southwest Lakeshore Community:</b> This is the Lake Michigan Coast district of SW Michigan. These communities have incredibly similar economic, cultural, and historical backgrounds. They all rely on agriculture and tourism for their well-being.	<b>Southwest lakeshore:</b> The southwestern lakeshore of Michigan from South Haven to the Indiana border have much in common. I hope the Commission can value their similarities and keep them conjoined whenever possible



c1885 (32851)	<b>SW michigan.</b>	<b>Southwest Michigan:</b> This is SW michigan, unlike the gerrymandered layout of Fred Upton's district of today.
c2560 (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>Dowagiac with Ontwa Twp.:</b> Observed community of interest in a post, also included in a post about keeping SW Michigan counties together.
c3294 (41171)	<b>Lakeshore community of interest:</b> <a href="https://districtr.org/COI/41171">https://districtr.org/COI/41171</a>	<b>Lakeshore community of interest:</b> This community shares economic, historical, educational and infrastructural commonalities that make its needs important and different from the inland communities. It also presents a fair makeup of partisan splits and keeps recognized communities together.
c3300 (41234)	<b>Eid=Boy who cried wolf:</b> Commissioner Eid has consistently worked to redraw the collaborative maps and break-up COIs for the sole purpose of creating districts that benefit one party over the other. One example of this was his attempt to separate Ypsilanti from Ann Arbor, when the two were identified in many public comments as being a community of interest. His attempt to add Ypsilanti to Monroe (which was supported by ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3379 (41691)	<b>Lakeshore is 100% Community of Interest:</b> Lakeshore cities and towns in Berrien and VanBuren are definitely a community of interest. These communities have a shared commitment to diversity (racial, cultural, and LGBTQ+). They have tourism economies as well as some fishing industry. They are well connected by the I96 and I94. They are distinct from the more inland townships which are predominantly rural and agricultural. Those who are advo...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3384 (41733)	<b>Tri City Record:</b> This is an area covered by one of the very few small town newspapers left in Michigan. The Tri City Record covers Coloma, Watervliet, Hartford, Bainbridge, and Hagar. This small newspaper is the source of news for these northern communities, and its readers are a natural community of interest.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3385 (41740)	<b>Different Types of Communities:</b> The Townships along the coast are completely different than the tourist centers that are New Buffalo and South Haven. Lincoln, St. Joseph, Lake, Bridgman, and Hagar deserve to have their voices heard, not be lumped in with tourist towns just so there can be a gerrymandered Democrat district on the coast.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3409 (41777)	<b>LGBTQIA+ Friendly and Diverse Lakeshore:</b> Hello. My name is Drew Stanton and I live in Douglas. I am a member of the LGBTQIA+ community and I am writing to ask the commission to draw districts that reflect the lakeshore community of interest in Western Michigan. Communities on the lakeshore are more diverse, tolerant, and inclusive. Additionally, we have shared interests including protecting our natural resources and attracting diverse to...	<b>Community 1.</b>
pl141 (26635)	<b>Benton Harbor to South Haven - Fair:</b> I have lived in Berrien County since I was 10-years-old. I want to make the case for why we need a connected district from Stevensville up to South Haven; African American representation on the state level is non-existent in Berrien County. Benton Harbor is over 90% African American; South Haven has a sizeable African-American population; and Benton Charter Township also has a sizeable latino po...	<b>District 1.</b>



<p>p1143 (26646)</p>	<p><b>Michigan's southwest lakeshore district:</b> Southwest Michigan's lakeshore area in Berrien County, an area that stretches along Lake Michigan from New Buffalo in the south to South Haven in the north, is an area that is unique from even the inland communities that are adjacent to it. While not homogenous, the citizens of this area are largely united in their interests. The area is heavily reliant on tourism and service industries. In part...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1147 (26647)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan Faith Community:</b> This map is the best way this district should be drawn considering the religious community. I have experienced and been part of many efforts to form coalition between faiths and denominations that strive towards community building and ministry to our community's most vulnerable people. By including South Haven in a district with the Benton Harbor, Benton Charter Township, Benton Heights, Niles com...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1148 (26643)</p>	<p><b>Lakeshore community of interest for 79th:</b> The lakeshore communities have many economic, historical, cultural, educational and recreational similarities. The economic commonalities revolve around lakeshore specific industries such as recreation (boating, fishing, golfing, kayaking, hiking etc.), tourism (retail, restaurants, summer rentals, etc.) and lakefront real estate to name a few. Educationally there are unique student needs that spa...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1713 (31375)</p>	<p><b>JFW Plan Senate.</b></p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1908 (33008)</p>	<p><b>Eric's North Berrien Map:</b> I reviewed a recent meeting held, and I appreciate the commission's commitment to taking history of our communities into account while they draw districts for the 2022 election. Since its founding, Berrien County has always been split into a North/South County mentality. Our founding townships were St. Joseph Township and Niles Township. St. Joseph encompassing the Northern parts of the County a...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1909 (33009)</p>	<p><b>Tom - North Berrien + Baroda:</b> As the commission looks to draw new lines for our districts at the state and federal level, I would encourage them to keep North and South Berrien County together. Since our county is too big for one district, maintaining the North/South split is critical to preserving our communities of interest. From a public safety point of view, our county has already split itself into a North/South terito...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1910 (33013)</p>	<p><b>Rodney's AG Community - N/S Berrien:</b> As the commission looks to draw new lines for the state house and senate, I'm writing to encourage you to do everything you can to keep Michigan's Agricultural communities of interest intact. Agriculture in Michigan is more than a \$100 billion industry, with our state producing more than 300 commodities on a commercial basis, including tart cherries, blueberries, dry beans, floriculture products,...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1911 (33016)</p>	<p><b>Steve - Municipalities:</b> There is nothing that describes a community of interest more than a local municipality, be it a city, township, or village. Local control is always paramount, and if you ask any voter, they'd prefer more decisions to be made at the local level instead of a faraway capital. If this commission splits up municipal lines, it would be the single greatest disservice to the people of Michigan in rece...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



<p>p3309 (41252)</p>	<p><b>Lake Shore District:</b> This plan in concise and contiguous. It offers a voice to those who share a smilier community of interest. Their tourism is more alike than the rest of the county they reside in terms of economy &amp; diversity. This district would create a more diverse voting base and increase the diversity in Lansing. Please consider this House District as a community of interest.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3351 (41504)</p>	<p><b>Lakeshore District - 79th:</b> We need to ensure lakeshore communities are represented fairly - so that the voices are heard. Please consider a district inclusive of St. Joseph, Benton Harbor, Covert and South Haven. We could go all the way down the lakeshore to include New Buffalo, etc.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3367 (41639)</p>	<p><b>Great 1st Draft:</b> I appreciate the commission's first draft for Berrien County. This keeps several communities of interest together such as the Northern readers of the Tri City Record, which includes Hagar, Coloma, Watervliet, Hartford, and Bainbridge. This map also builds on the realization that not all municipalities on the coast share the same values. Lake Township, Lincoln Township, Bridgman, St. Joseph Tow...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1145 (26648)</p>	<p><b>Senate District Tri-county SWM:</b> As a long time resident of Berrien County, it is clear that Berrien, Van Buren and Cass counties are more closely linked than Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph counties. Berrien and Cass are naturally linked by their shared border. Van Buren and Berrien are both part of the I-94 corridor and also share Lake Michigan shoreline. Van Buren and Berrien counties also share educational resources at the K...</p>	<p><b>District 13.</b></p>
<p>c1270 (27091)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan Lakeshore COI:</b> The south west coast of Michigan, including South Haven, St. Joseph, and as far south as New Buffalo confront similar challenges facing all Michigan citizens. However the factors contributing to our issues are unique to the lakeshore area, and the citizens of our communities will be best represented by someone that lives and works in our area. Lakeshore erosion, beach preservation, local control o...</p>	<p><b>Larger African American Community:</b> African American community of southwest Michigan divided by current electoral maps, but with new maps, bringing these communities together, will realize more equitable representation.</p>
<p>c1707 (31353)</p>	<p><b>Paul's Plan for SW Michigan.</b></p>	<p><b>State Representative lines.:</b> My suggestion is to divide Berrien County into two districts using the St. Joseph River as the boundary. This may need 'tweaking' in the Niles are but it does set clear lines.</p>
<p>c3386 (41743)</p>	<p><b>Indiana Community:</b> The proximity to Indiana most definitely has an effect on the people of Berrien and Cass County. Folks may work in Indiana, shop in Indiana, and spend their free time in Indiana. Due to the proximity of South Bend and Norte Dame, there is considerable influence on our southern townships, creating a completely different community than Northern Berrien County.</p>	<p><b>Community 2.</b></p>
<p>p1152 (26664)</p>	<p><b>South Berrien County Communities:</b> I think there is a natural link, or connection, between the cities of Niles and Dowagiac, as well as Niles and Buchanan—seem to be sister cities to me. The district I have drawn contrasts the rural areas of the County with the lakeshore cities; I see quite a difference there.</p>	<p><b>District 2.</b></p>
<p>p1149 (26637)</p>	<p><b>Proposed Senate District in SW Michigan:</b> My State Senator should represent communities that have shared interests and cultural activities with the population they will represent. Since Van Buren and Cass Counties share a Health Department it is critical that their state senator represents those interests. All services that are shared between Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren Counties such as Head Start, the Area Commission on Aging, Health De...</p>	<p><b>District 29.</b></p>



c3385  
(41740)

**Different Types of Communities:** The Townships along the coast are completely different than the tourist centers that are New Buffalo and South Haven. Lincoln, St. Joseph, Lake, Bridgman, and Hagar deserve to have their voices heard, not be lumped in with tourist towns just so there can be a gerrymandered Democrat district on the coast.

**Community 3.**

c3409  
(41777)

**LGBTQIA+ Friendly and Diverse Lakeshore:** Hello. My name is Drew Stanton and I live in Douglas. I am a member of the LGBTQIA+ community and I am writing to ask the commission to draw districts that reflect the lakeshore community of interest in Western Michigan. Communities on the lakeshore are more diverse, tolerant, and inclusive. Additionally, we have shared interests including protecting our natural resources and attracting diverse to...

**Community 4.**



Supporting Data for Cluster C12		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1575 (30108)	<b>Gull Lake Community Schools StRep map:</b> Gull Lake Community schools: should have one state representative	<b>Community 1:</b> Gull Lake Community Schools
c1699 (31306)	<b>Kalamazoo.</b>	<b>Kalamazoo.</b>
c1857 (32689)	<b>melanie - kzoo.</b>	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1888 (32882)	<b>Greater Kalamazoo Metro Area.</b>	<b>State Rep District, Greater Kalamazoo Metro Area:</b> College town, with shifting demographics of urban, rural, and suburban. A mixture of center-left, leftist, social conservative, and fiscally liberal views.
c1979 (33776)	<b>Military Communities in Battle Creek:</b> Battle Creek has a populous Veteran community. We have a large VA Hospital, Air National Guard Base, National Cemetery, and many other military establishments. Some are located in Calhoun County, but a few are in Kalamazoo County. It would be nice if all the establishments were in the same District. It would help the Veterans here with resources if we had a Representative who understands what Vete...	<b>Veteran Community, Military establishments:</b> There are several Military establishments throughout Calhoun County, primarily in Battle Creek. The majority of these locations are in Calhoun County, including the Battle Creek VA Medical Center. Other parts of this military community is in Kalamazoo County. If possible could we keep these places in one District. It would be nice to have the same Representative who understands the many things Vet...
c2003 (34207)	<b>The rural and urban divide in Oshtemo:</b> As in most communities, rural districts value sewer systems, metro transit, trails, sidewalks and parks and urban communities value property rights, water rights, land use rights, etc...	<b>Oshtemo - Urban:</b> Oshtemo spends the majority of tax dollars developing rural areas. Values sewers, public water, sidewalks, metro transit, biking trails, etc...
c2083 (34980)	<b>Mattawan/ Antwerp Township:</b> Mattawan is located in eastern Van Buren County in SW Michigan along the I-94 corridor. The Village of Mattawan itself is 4 square miles, encompassing a downtown area of small restaurants, churches, and public park where community events happen, as well as an area of development just south of the I-94 interchange. North of that interchange are restaurants, small manufacturing, trucking companies. ...	<b>Mattawan Community/Antwerp Township:</b> Mattawan is located in eastern Van Buren County in SW Michigan along the I-94 corridor. The Village of Mattawan itself is 4 square miles, encompassing a downtown area of small restaurants, churches, and public park where community events happen, as well as an area of development just south of the I-94 interchange. North of that interchange are restaurants, small manufacturing, trucking companies. ...
c2517 (36806)	<b>Lorraine's SW Michigan Plan:</b> There are several communities in SW Michigan that should be kept together as much as possible. Border counties rely on other states and cities like South Bend, IN more than others to the north. Van Buren and Allegan share many functions of government and interests as manufacturing and agricultural communities along the lakeshore. Kalamazoo forms a self-contained community of interest as well. For ...	<b>Kalamazoo Area.</b>
c3223 (40859)	<b>Hearing Comments Excel Incomplete:</b> I attended and gave live comments on my COI at a hearing. I identified the location, the reasons it is a COI, and what districts it should be included in. A spreadsheet was now posted on the MICRC website that summarizes some live comments on COI's. My COI was omitted. In fact, only 144 entries are on the new spreadsheet. Commissioners should take the time to read the hearing transcripts so no...	<b>Community 1.</b>



c502 (22797)	<b>Kalamazoo Higher Education COI:</b> 3 institutions of post-secondary education strongly connect the Kalamazoo area as a Community of Interest.	<b>Kalamazoo Higher Education COI:</b> Higher education characterizes the greater Kalamazoo area, given the three important institutions of post-secondary education in a concentrated area. Many residents of the area are directly connected to those institutions, such as students, employees or persons who enjoy the enrichment activities offered by those institutions, such as performances, exhibits, sporting events, Osher Lifelong Learn...
c2003 (34207)	<b>The rural and urban divide in Oshtemo:</b> As in most communities, rural districts value sewer systems, metro transit, trails, sidewalks and parks and urban communities value property rights, water rights, land use rights, etc...	<b>Oshtemo - Rural:</b> Green spaces, farms, few subdivisions, value privacy, land use, gun use, farming, etc...
c2514 (37133)	<b>Southwest Michigan - KM from Hamilton:</b> Southwest Michigan has 3 distinct communities - Van Buren/Allegan which are rural with small towns/cities Kalamazoo County is urban and the 3 boarder counties of Berrien, Cass and St. Joe share a boarder with Indiana which is a huge community factor.	<b>Kalamazoo/Portage Metro Area:</b> Metropolitan area
c2556 (35815)	<b>Southwest Michigan counties:</b> These counties share many functions of government and similar economies.	<b>Kalamazoo County:</b> Kalamazoo County itself forms a community on its own
c1601 (30746)	<b>State Senate District:</b> It just seems better balanced and less politically secure.	<b>Community 3.</b>
c2377 (35737)	<b>West and Southwest Michigan:</b> Allegan and Van Buren counties are a natural fit. They are shoreline, non-border counties with rural communities and small towns. They are largely based on agriculture, manufacturing and tourism businesses, the local governments work together, and they face the same environmental and access to broadband challenges. Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph counties are a community of interest. They are border...	<b>Kalamazoo:</b> Kalamazoo and immediate surrounding areas form a Community of interest
c2395 (35737)	<b>Southwestern Michigan:</b> Growing up in West Michigan, I'm very familiar with which counties should be combined together for Senate districts. Allegan and Van Buren counties are a clear community of interest-agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, shoreline, rural with small towns, and schools, communities, businesses, and local telecommunications providers that cover both counties. Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph are all borde...	<b>Kalamazoo:</b> Kalamazoo and immediate surrounding areas form a Community of interest
c2402 (36073)	<b>West and Southwest Michigan:</b> From experience living throughout West Michigan, certain areas fit together as communities of interest: Grand Rapids, Kentwood and East Grand Rapids share the same economic, culture and overall focus around Grand Rapids. Local hospital systems, public transportation, and infrastructure overlap, and many of the largest "Grand Rapids" manufacturers are in Kentwood, along with the big "Grand Rapids" ...	<b>Kalamazoo:</b> Kalamazoo and immediate surrounding areas form a Community of interest
c2410 (36204)	<b>West Michigan Map:</b> Muskegon-Oceana-Newaygo: Muskegon based district with nearby counties. Good mix of urban and rural. Close proximity so easy for a Senator to represent and visit all areas of the district in-person. Allegan-Van Buren: Rural communities along the shoreline, with heavy agriculture, tourism and manufacturing economic engines. Overlapping broadband and government services. Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph: Bo...	<b>Kalamazoo:</b> Kalamazoo and immediate surrounding areas form a Community of interest



<p>c2512 (36805)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan communities:</b> I feel that communities should be kept whole and people have gotten use to having adjoining communities, and adjoining communities have similar interest and interact with each other. I do not feel township should be broken up. This could change our schools, churches. We came to this area for the reason that I have stated Van Buran, and Allegan should be together. Rural counties should stay together...</p>	<p><b>SW Central.</b></p>
<p>c2519 (37149)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan Community:</b> Between Allegan and Van Buren they are very similar, share the Kalamazoo River, farmland industry, lakeshore.</p>	<p><b>Kalamazoo.</b></p>
<p>c2378 (35825)</p>	<p><b>South and West Michigan Communities:</b> These are several communities that each feature something unique. While they are mostly rural with some larger cities, the rural areas go together well on a map and share many interests, challenges, and governmental functions. The differences are based on location and proximity to other cities. Kalamazoo fits into its own community.</p>	<p><b>Kalamazoo:</b> Kalamazoo is unique as a community itself</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Kalamazoo/Oshtemo:</b> Identified as a community of interest.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C13		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1665</a> (31161)	<b>Creston neighborhood in Grand Rapids:</b> This community of interest is the Creston neighborhood of Grand Rapids. It is a historic neighborhood within the city, uniting local businesses and residents within this common identity.	<b>Creston Community of Interest:</b> This map describes the neighborhood of Creston in Grand Rapids. As a community of interest, it is united by the common identity of Creston.
<a href="#">c1776</a> (32111)	<b>Creston Environmental Group:</b> Our neighborhood is very committed to environmentally and racially just growth and development.	<b>Creston Neighborhood Environmental Group:</b> This is a neighborhood of members that are super invested in Creston Neighborhood, the economic growth and development of the neighborhood, and the environmental and racially just application of policies and projects.
<a href="#">c1955</a> (33557)	<b>Ashland Township and surrounding areas.:</b> Wonderful rural community to relax and raise your children.	<b>Ashland Township and surrounding areas:</b> Ashland township includes river and lake communities that primarily include lower-middle-class individuals that have concerns about flooding and invasive underwater growth such as algae. Also included are the town merchants that are primarily individually owned businesses. The community is primarily a rural farming community and relies on it for sustainability.
<a href="#">c2050</a> (34731)	<b>Grand Rapids NE COI:</b> I have lived in Grand Rapids for over 40 years, and in NE Grand Rapids for almost 30. People here enjoy Riverside Park and the Grand River. We walk, ride bikes, take public busses, or drive to the neighborhood businesses and restaurants, or to downtown.	<b>Grand Rapids NE:</b> NE Grand Rapids is a community roughly bounded by the Grand River to the west, 4 Mile to the north, M-44 to the east, and Fulton St to the south. This mostly bedroom community shares the Grand River, common bus lines, and the Medical Mile hospital complexes on Michigan St. The Leonard Fuller Plaza holds the main local grocery store, restaurants, and retail stores in the middle of NE Grand Rapids. ...
<a href="#">c2529</a> (37164)	<b>Grand Rapids Area Community of Interest:</b> I have created a map of 11 communities of interest within the Grand Rapids area.	<b>Rockford Area:</b> The people of the townships of Algoma, Cortland, Plainfield, and Cannon share similar cultural and economic interests. Many attend Rockford Public Schools and live/work in neighboring townships.
<a href="#">p1039</a> (26223)	<b>Kent Cty NW MI Representative District:</b> These communities are centered around the agriculture business of growing fruit like apples, cherries, peaches, etc. The area starts on the southern end in Walker and progresses to the north through the small towns of Sparta, Kent City, and Casnovia to the northern border of Kent County on the western border of Kent County-mostly the current district 74. We are a rural community with life, comme...	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p1041</a> (26230)	<b>Kent Cty NW MI Representative District:</b> These communities are centered around the agriculture business of growing fruit like apples, cherries, peaches, etc. The area starts on the southern end in Walker and progresses to the north through the small towns of Sparta, Kent City, and Casnovia to the northern border of Kent County on the western border of Kent County-mostly the current district 74. We are a rural community with life, comme...	<b>District 1.</b>



<p>p1151 (26667)</p>	<p><b>Rockford resident area:</b> circled around like communities</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1153 (26670)</p>	<p><b>Northern Kent County:</b> northern kent county residents deserve to be represented by a common legislator</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1667 (31166)</p>	<p><b>New Northern Kent/Ottawa House District:</b> This district would more closely align rural and agricultural interests in Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, and Newaygo counties. It would be a very, very competitive district.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2562 (37219)</p>	<p><b>Redistricting Thoughts:</b> As a State Representative candidate in 2020, 2018 and 2014, and as a result of knocking tens of thousands of doors, I believe I have some unique insight to the redistricting plan. I have seen first hand how the district has changed; not simply with the increase in population, but how different communities changed voting patterns and interests. For example, when I moved to East Grand Rapids in 20...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2529 (37164)</p>	<p><b>Grand Rapids Area Community of Interest:</b> I have created a map of 11 communities of interest within the Grand Rapids area.</p>	<p><b>Comstock Park Area:</b> The people of the precincts in southern Alpine Township and City of Walker share similar cultural and economic interests. Many attend Kenowa Hills Schools and work in the Comstock Park area.</p> <p><b>Grand Rapids:</b> These precincts in the City of Grand Rapids are considered to be the downtown region and heart of Kent County. The people here share the same cultural and economic interests.</p>
<p>p2058 (34833)</p>	<p><b>RHowell 28th Senate District:</b> The past gerrymandering took this senate district and pushed it south to Cities of Wyoming only to include the homes of the strong party candidates and did not reflect the rural nature of NE Kent County and beyond</p>	<p><b>District 19.</b></p>
<p>c2529 (37164)</p>	<p><b>Grand Rapids Area Community of Interest:</b> I have created a map of 11 communities of interest within the Grand Rapids area.</p>	<p><b>Rural Kent County:</b> The people of the townships of Spencer, Oakfield, and Grattan share similar cultural and economic interests. This is a large agricultural area where many own farms.</p> <p><b>Cedar Springs Area:</b> The people of the townships of Solon, Nelson, and the City of Cedar Springs share similar cultural and economic interests. Many attend Cedar Springs Schools and work in Cedar Springs.</p> <p><b>Sparta Area:</b> The people of the townships of Tyrone, Alpine, Sparta, and the Village of Sparta share similar cultural and economic interests. Many attend Sparta Public Schools and work within the Village of Sparta.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C14-1		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1011 (26114)	<b>Kent County Core 6 Cities:</b> In Kent County there are 6 core metro cities. These are Grand Rapids, Walker, Grandville, Wyoming, Kentwood, and East Grand Rapids. They are a clear community of interest based on shared services and similar forms of government. The 6 cities have several unique partnerships that they do together and not with outlying townships. The most well known is that they share the Rapid Transit System. They ...	<b>Core 6 Cities:</b> In Kent County there are 6 core metro cities. These are Grand Rapids, Walker, Grandville, Wyoming, Kentwood, and East Grand Rapids. They are a clear community of interest based on shared services and similar forms of government. The 6 cities have several unique partnerships that they do together and not with outlying townships. The most well known is that they share the Rapid Transit System. They ...
c1333 (27185)	<b>Six Metro City Community of Interest:</b> As a resident of East Grand Rapids, I'm writing to ask you to keep the core metro six cities together as much as possible in state house, state senate, and congressional districts. These urban cities (Grand Rapids, Walker, Grandville, Walker, Kentwood, and East Grand Rapids) are significantly different from the surrounding townships that are mostly rural or far out suburban and therefore are int...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1539 (29568)	<b>Greater Grand Rapids.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> Greater Grand Rapids
c1557 (29633)	<b>Grandmas to the Rescue:</b> We would like to express our deepest gratitude to each of you serving on this redistricting commission, for taking our plans into account and seriously in order to enhance life for all Michigan residents. . . por un mundo mejor inclusivo.	<b>Community 1:</b> Our community is spread over several densely populated neighborhoods and one of the most diverse neighborhoods in Grand Rapids with a large population of Latino families living along side populations of African immigrants, Black and White families.
c1766 (31895)	<b>Wyoming/Grandville:</b> Wyoming/Grandville area both have common interest such as resources, parks, education, transit and much more	<b>Wyoming/Grandville:</b> Wyoming and Grandville have many resources, parks, and schools in common. If you blink you will miss where one ends and begins.
c1801 (32419)	<b>Why competitive elections are important.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> This community is a community of people who work for a living, or struggle financially, or often lack what is necessary for a good life. They are a multiracial, multigendered class. they come from many countries, hold many religious beliefs, or none at all. They are black, Brown, and white people. They sometimes vote for one of the two major parties because they don't have many options, don't have...
c1852 (32665)	<b>Metro Grand Rapids:</b> The metro Grand Rapids area (including Wyoming, Kentwood, and Plainfield Charter Township) is demographically similar and you don't realize when you cross from one municipality to another. It all feels like the same area. It make sense that we should have our own representation in state and national government. It is also logical to group us with Kalamazoo, a similar community, if needed for US co...	<b>Community 1:</b> This community is metro Grand Rapids. Wyoming, Kentwood, and Plainfield charter township are included because the borders are indistinguishable from the city of Grand Rapids. So, they have the look, feel, and demographics of Grand Rapids. This district might be too large to be just one state house district, but it is representative of our community as a whole. If a larger district is needed (congr...
c1918 (33119)	<b>Tina's community of interest map:</b> Communities tied by similar educational interest	<b>Greater GR:</b> Congruent communities with close educational interests
c1977 (33766)	<b>Liz's city plan of interest:</b> Living in Heritage Hill, I literally see how segregated the city is. A few blocks from my house, you go from an almost 100% white population to 100% black. The funding in the areas are markedly different, as well as the opportunities the inhabitants can enjoy. I see an opportunity for diversity and for change, especially when it comes to schools and housing. The area I selected was heavily red-dis...	<b>Community 1:</b> This area of Kent County represents an area that is extremely gentrified and segregated. It has an opportunity to become more diverse, if proper funding and districting were to be implemented.



c24 (17892)	<b>Example: Grand Rapids center and exurbs:</b> This map shows the Grand Rapids urban center and the surrounding communities.	<b>urban center:</b> The denser and more urbanized part of Grand Rapids
c2557 (37348)	<b>Josie's State Senate map:</b> These 3 communities have common shared interests. They have similar high minority populations, high immigrant populations, school systems, economic and shopping interests are shared also. It makes sense to group based on these key areas.	<b>GR State Senate District:</b> Grand Rapids, East Grand Rapids and Kentwood areas that are communities of interest.
c2755 (38765)	<b>Kent123:</b> An area we shared community services, school districts, shared open spaces, and a great quality of life shared by all	<b>Community 1:</b> A community that has shared School Districts and combined County and municipalities within it.
c442 (17892)	<b>ADA reviews.</b>	<b>urban center:</b> The denser and more urbanized part of Grand Rapids
c51 (18093)	<b>Kentwood Public Schools:</b> Home to over 9,000 students, Kentwood Public Schools is one of the most diverse districts in the state. East Kentwood High School has been named the most diverse high school in Michigan and one of the most diverse in all of the United States, with students from over 60 countries. (Go Falcons!) This map includes all of the Kentwood Public School District, plus a few neighboring blocks (which I had...	<b>Kentwood Public Schools (approximate):</b> Home to over 9,000 students, Kentwood Public Schools is one of the most diverse districts in the state. East Kentwood High School has been named the most diverse high school in Michigan and one of the most diverse in all of the United States, with students from over 60 countries. (Go Falcons!) This map includes all of the Kentwood Public School District, plus a few neighboring blocks (which I had...
c701 (23972)	<b>Southern Grand Rapids Metropolitan Area:</b> My name is Charlie and I live in Grand Rapids, Michigan. My Community of Interest is called the Southern Grand Rapids Metropolitan Area. I'm asking the commission to draw districts that keep our community intact! We are compromised of the southern half of Grand Rapids, and the entire cities of Wyoming, and Kentwood. There are roughly 200,000 residents in our community of interest. The City o...	<b>Southern Grand Rapids Metropolitan Area COI:</b> My name is Charlie and I live in Grand Rapids, Michigan. My Community of Interest is called the Southern Grand Rapids Metropolitan Area. I'm asking the commission to draw districts that keep our community intact! We are compromised of the southern half of Grand Rapids, and the entire cities of Wyoming, and Kentwood. There are roughly 200,000 residents in our community of interest. The City o...
p1005 (26099)	<b>Grand Rapids Senate District:</b> This district is within the County and retains the communities of interest held in common between northeast Grand rapids and Plainfield and northwest Grand Rapids and Walker. Grand Rapids is a metro area part of the Six Cities community. These areas have a lot in common with each other and I strongly associate with them. North and West of this area are areas which I have much less in common.	<b>District 1.</b>
p1008 (26101)	<b>KentCounty State Senate:</b> redraws state senate seat to keep Grand Rapids Metro areas together	<b>District 1.</b>
p1013 (26117)	<b>Urban Township/City Plan:</b> Grand Rapids Township belongs in a district with Grand Rapids and East Grand Rapids. They are our neighbors. We use their business areas. We shop their stores. We uses their roads to work and play. Currently we are in a district with Oakfield and Spencer Townships. These are rural areas which are miles away and very different from our urban township. And Grand Rapids Township is becoming more ur...	<b>District 1.</b>
p1040 (26227)	<b>Grandville-Wyoming Kent Cty District:</b> Suggesting that Grandville and Wyoming are an ideal combination of two of the main six cities in Grand Rapids City Metro Area for a State House of Representatives seat. In these two adjacent cities, the constituency frequently interacts in work, shopping and education environments. Our communities have interconnecting transit services, school systems, utility services, and share many community se...	<b>District 1.</b>



<p>p1043 (26232)</p>	<p><b>Grandville-Wyoming Kent Cty District:</b> Suggesting that Grandville and Wyoming are an ideal combination of two of the main six cities in Grand Rapids City Metro Area for a State House of Representatives seat. In these two adjacent cities, the constituency frequently interacts in work, shopping and education environments. Our communities have interconnecting transit services, school systems, utility services, and share many community se...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1228 (26950)</p>	<p><b>An equal 73rd district:</b> This takes Grand Rapids Township and combines it with other developed suburbs to create a more equal house district.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1252 (27044)</p>	<p><b>Idea for Kentwood-centered district:</b> Kentwood has a lot in common with both Gaines Township and far southern Grand Rapids. Many Kentwood residents either work or do errands in either southern Grand Rapids or in Gaines Township, and vice versa. For example, many residents shop at Family Fare in Gaines Township or at Meijer at either 28th and Kalamazoo or 68th and Kalamazoo. My dad and I (who live in Kentwood) often go to both the Ken...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1273 (26825)</p>	<p><b>Keep Wyoming and Grandville Together:</b> I am a Grandville resident and would like to state my support of a MI house district that includes the entire cities of Grandville and Wyoming. The cities of Grandville and Wyoming are closely intertwined through agreements of shared water and sewer services; connected emergency fire services; and an overlapping school district. Due to the shared interest of these communities, it makes sense t...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1762 (31839)</p>	<p><b>Proposed State House District:</b> I gave oral testimony about this plan on July 1 in Grand Rapids. These 3 contiguous suburbs of Grand Rapids share many transportation methods, services, and natural resources and form a natural community of interest. They should be together in a State House District.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1774 (32014)</p>	<p><b>Sue's state senate district:</b> As a resident of Grandville I was one of the many people who spoke at the July 1 meeting in GR that Grandville and Wyoming fit together perfectly to create a state senate district. Since I was speaker #100 that night and everyone was a little tired by then, I am including a copy of my remarks. My first suggestion is to follow county lines when possible. Grandville, where I live, is on the weste...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1999 (34074)</p>	<p><b>Divide Grand Rapids Dists North &amp; South:</b> My name is Dorothy Munson. I am a representative for the non profit, non partisan group PROACTIVE here in Grand Rapids. PROACTIVE represents underserved people primarily on the south side of the metro Grand Rapids area. The group works on voter registration, voting rights, vaccine distribution and other community issues. Eighteen months ago, I decided that getting 100 people to vote regularly w...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2210 (35222)</p>	<p><b>Hispanic Center of Western Michigan:</b> This is a community of interest map submitted in district format so that the exact precincts contained can be easily understood by map makers. There are around 100,000 Latinx people living in West Michigan. In Kent County the Latinx community makes up about 10% of the total population. The Hispanic community in West Michigan is a mix of recent immigrants and multigenerational families with hist...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



p56 (18136)	<b>KENT COUNTY-3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: JUSTIFICATION FOR KENT COUNTY MICHIGAN IN ITS ENTIRETY BEING THE 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT</b> This paper supports making Kent County Michigan in its entirety the 3rd congressional district. Following are the stated criteria for redistricting in priority order: (a) Districts shall be of equal population as mandated by the United States constitution, and shall comply with the voting rights act and ...	<b>District 1.</b>
c24 (17892)	<b>Example: Grand Rapids center and exurbs:</b> This map shows the Grand Rapids urban center and the surrounding communities.	<b>exurbs:</b> Extending past Hudsonville to the West, these areas are more suburban/exurban
c2529 (37164)	<b>Grand Rapids Area Community of Interest:</b> I have created a map of 11 communities of interest within the Grand Rapids area.	<b>Southeast Grand Rapids:</b> The precincts of southeast Grand Rapids, City of East Grand Rapids, and City of Kentwood are a community of interest. These individuals share the same economic and cultural interests.
p1297 (27083)	<b>State Senate District 29 - Proposal 2:</b> If your desire and goal is to "square off" and simplify districts, it would make a LOT of sense to keep the similar urban communities together and utilize city lines to draw the district. Proposal 2 for State Senate District 29 includes the City of Grand Rapids, City of East Grand Rapids, and the adjoining City of Wyoming. The population for this proposal is 270,857 (2010 Census Data) with a De...	<b>District 29.</b>
c2529 (37164)	<b>Grand Rapids Area Community of Interest:</b> I have created a map of 11 communities of interest within the Grand Rapids area.	<b>Southwest Kent County:</b> The people of the City of Grandville, City of Wyoming, and Byron Township share similar economic and cultural interests.
c1578 (30166)	<b>Listening to the voters - with COI:</b> Michigan voters across the state voted for this proposal because they believe in the fairness of democracy. The maps this commission creates for districts should reflect the voices of the voters of all political parties. Democracy is strongest when everyone's voice can be heard. I am a resident of Grand Rapids, and yet I do not exist solely in the city of Grand Rapids. I go on walks in East Grand ...	<b>Community of Interest - Redistricting.</b>
c2402 (36073)	<b>West and Southwest Michigan:</b> From experience living throughout West Michigan, certain areas fit together as communities of interest: Grand Rapids, Kentwood and East Grand Rapids share the same economic, culture and overall focus around Grand Rapids. Local hospital systems, public transportation, and infrastructure overlap, and many of the largest "Grand Rapids" manufacturers are in Kentwood, along with the big "Grand Rapids" ...	<b>Grand Rapids:</b> City of Grand Rapids, Kentwood and East Grand Rapids.
c2529 (37164)	<b>Grand Rapids Area Community of Interest:</b> I have created a map of 11 communities of interest within the Grand Rapids area.	<b>Southern Kent County:</b> The people of the townships of Gaines and Caledonia share similar cultural and economic interests. Many attend South Christian High School and live/work in neighboring townships.
p1009 (26105)	<b>State senate: diversity of GR metro:</b> I'm a resident of Southeast Grand Rapids, and I strongly support having state senate districts that accurately represent the Grand Rapids metro area and our unique and diverse populations. My proposed state senate district centers around the south part of Grand Rapids, the city of Kentwood, the city of East Grand Rapids, and Grand Rapids Township. As a resident of SE Grand Rapids, we have a dive...	<b>District 4.</b>



c2529 (37164)

**Grand Rapids Area Community of Interest:** I have created a map of 11 communities of interest within the Grand Rapids area.

**Suburbia of Grand Rapids:** The people of the townships of Grand Rapids, Ada, and Cascade share similar cultural and economic interests. Many attend Forrest Hills Public Schools and live/work in neighboring townships.

**Lowell Area:** The people of the townships of Lowell, Vergennes, Bowne, and the City of Lowell share similar cultural and economic interests. Many attend Lowell Public Schools and work within the City of Lowell.



Supporting Data for Cluster C14-2		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1648 (31131)	<b>Ionia Mi area.</b>	<b>Rural/Small Town West to Middle Michigan:</b> This community is heavily influenced by being between Lansing and Grand Rapids, while consisting of smaller towns/rural areas
c1805 (32430)	<b>Wil's Area of Interest:</b> It's the area where my home is located.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1816 (32458)	<b>Hudsonville/ Allendale Plan.</b>	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1920 (33122)	<b>Northern Grandville/Jenison/Wyoming:</b> Mid-age suburbs with primarily middle and lower-middle class residents.	<b>Wyoming/Grandville/Jenison:</b> mid-age suburb with primarily middle class residents
c1922 (31740)	<b>Six Community Redistricting-Kent County:</b> Let me start by thanking members of the Redistricting Commission for volunteering their time and effort to this very important project which is the very definition of our democracy. My name is Cary Fleischer. I live in East Grand Rapids and moved here from Chicago 5 years ago. I am here today on my own behalf and on behalf of my Jewish faith based organization, Temple Emanuel which is locate...	<b>6 Cities.</b>
c1931 (33302)	<b>Reducing the fractioning of Kentwood:</b> Kentwood currently is chopped up between districts, not allowing our rich city culture to gain an identity. Kentwood is a highly diverse but community-oriented part of West Michigan centered around an incredibly inclusive school system. That school system's identity ties together the diverse voices of the area and allows people to find their first "home." Statistically, this cultural hearth I beli...	<b>Kentwood Community:</b> Kentwood currently is chopped up between districts, not allowing our rich city culture to gain an identity. Kentwood is a highly diverse but community-oriented part of West Michigan centered around an incredibly inclusive school system. That school system's identity ties together the diverse voices of the area and allows people to find their first "home." Statistically, this cultural hearth I beli...
c1963 (33629)	<b>Where I live and work:</b> You asked me to describe my community of interest. This is where I spend 90% of my time living and working. So it is my community of interest. I did not look any factors other than geographical location.	<b>Community 1:</b> where I live and work
p1998 (34070)	<b>Grandville-Wyoming Kent Cty District:</b> My name is Dorothy Munson. I am a representative for the non profit, non partisan group PROACTIVE here in Grand Rapids. PROACTIVE represents underserved people primarily on the south side of the metro Grand Rapids area. The group works on voter registration, voting rights, vaccine distribution and other community issues. Eighteen months ago, I decided that getting 100 people to vote regularly w...	<b>District 1.</b>
p2750 (38759)	<b>Kent123:</b> Senate Districts should not carve out rural or cities in order to have a District.	<b>District 1.</b>
p2758 (38771)	<b>Kent123:</b> Keeps most of Kent County together as a single Senate District	<b>District 1.</b>
c2560 (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>GR communities of interest:</b> I doubt it conforms to population requirements, but this area contained communities of interest in GR according to a post.



c442 (17892)	<b>ADA reviews.</b>	<b>exurbs:</b> Extending past Hudsonville to the West, these areas are more suburban/exurban
c627 (23725)	<b>My good community...:</b> My community if Grand Rapids City with it's four unique areas, our great suburbs, our extended bedroom communities and our lovely adjacent small cities and rural counties that give us our unique and diverse flavor!	<b>Community 2.</b>
p1296 (27079)	<b>State Senate District 29 - Proposal 1:</b> If your desire and goal is to "square off" and simplify districts, it would make a LOT of sense to keep the similar urban communities together and utilize city lines to draw the district. Proposal 1 for Senate District 29 includes the City of Grand Rapids, City of East Grand Rapids, and portions of the City of Wyoming and City of Kentwood with a natural southern border of 44th Street. The popul...	<b>District 29.</b>
c1814 (32448)	<b>Adam's grand rapids plan:</b> I have lived in GR my whole life. I want to make it a better and fair place for its citizens.	<b>Community 4.</b>
p1294 (27069)	<b>Michigan House District 86 - Proposal 1:</b> If your desire and goal is to "square off" and simplify districts, it would make a LOT of sense to keep The Townships District communities together and utilize township lines to draw the district. Proposal 1 encompasses 12 adjoining townships with a population of 94,537 and a Deviation from the target population of 5.21%. This proposal meets all the statutory requirements of balanced population...	<b>District 86.</b>
p1295 (27073)	<b>Michigan House District 86 - Proposal 2:</b> If your desire and goal is to "square off" and simplify districts, it would make a LOT of sense to keep The Townships District communities together and utilize township lines to draw the district. Proposal 2 encompasses 12 adjoining townships with a population of 89,911 (2010 Census Data) and a Deviation from the target population of 0.07%. This proposal meets all the statutory requirements of ...	<b>District 86.</b>



Supporting Data for Cluster C15		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1565 (29810)	<b>MR:</b> This is an attempt to show areas of Southwest Michigan that share a common bond of urban and suburban lifestyles which are very different from those in true rural areas . Rural voters should not be mixed with urban/suburban voters as their lifestyles and needs do not align with rural voters very well and diluting one or the other interests in the current districts creates unfair tradeoffs in repre...	<b>Urban/Suburban Communities - SW Michigan:</b> Attempt to show areas that share common bod of urban and suburban lifestyles which are completely different from those living in true rural areas. Rural voters should not be mixed with urban/suburban voters as their lifestyles and needs do not align very well and diluting one or the other interests in the current districts creates unfair tradeoffs in representation.
c1664 (31158)	<b>Western Michigan Agricultural Interests:</b> This map encompasses a large amount of the agricultural interests in West Michigan for a congressional district.	<b>Western Ag Interests- New MI-3:</b> This area represents a majority of the apple, blueberry, and vegetable growers in Michigan. It is a mostly rural and suburban district, that encompasses a huge majority of the grain and livestock farms west of US 131. The folks in this demographic share commonality based on agriculture. The one drawback of this proposed district that I one foresee is a lack of African-American representation out...
c1711 (31373)	<b>Paul's Plan for SW Michigan:</b> SW Michigan	<b>US House of Rep. District 6:</b> This also is along county lines and includes Berrien, Cass, Van Buren, Allegan, Holland and Muskegon counties. With us loosing one seat all districts must change. I fell this will represent Western Michigan well.
c1825 (32482)	<b>Kent County-based Congressional District:</b> With Grand Rapids being the regional economic anchor, a Kent County-based Congressional District that keeps the county whole is essential. Muskegon County's demographics best align with Kent County in both rural and urban settings. This district outline represents the best alignment while including whole municipalities and by only splitting one county (Muskegon). *This map reinforces my previously...	<b>Kent County based Congressional District:</b> With Grand Rapids being the regional economic anchor, a Kent County-based Congressional District that keeps the county whole is essential. Muskegon County's demographics best align with Kent County in both rural and urban settings. This district outline represents the best alignment while including whole municipalities and by only splitting one county (Muskegon).
c3349 (41457)	<b>Community of Interest for Grand Haven:</b> Dear Commissioners. I live in Grand Haven and this is my community of interest. We are closely tied to other lakeshore communities including Muskegon and Saugatuck as well as Grand Rapids and its northwest suburbs. Important industries for this area include tourism, manufacturing, fishing, healthcare, and education. Important natural features are the lakeshore and Grand River. Please keep this in ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3354 (41570)	<b>Muskegon to Grand Rapids I96 Area:</b> I think the communities around I96 from Muskegon to Grand Rapids are a community of shared interests. Many people in this area commute into Grand Rapids and access services like the hospitals and colleges there. Many people also access amenities and recreation in Muskegon. We also have shared interests regarding the Grand River. Also many Black residents of Muskegon have relatives in Grand Rapids ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c667 (23815)	<b>Lower West Michigan:</b> This is my idea of what I call the "Lower West Michigan" community; i.e. the area shared between Grand Rapids, Holland, Muskegon, and Grand Haven primarily. This community shares interests in our beaches and many institutions of higher education, among other things.	<b>Lower West Michigan:</b> This area is very closely bound by both business and culture. While the Grand Rapids metro area is the anchor of lower West Michigan's population, the residents of this Kent County community are prone to frequent tourist excursions to the lakefront communities of Muskegon, Grand Haven, and Holland. The commercerich 196 corridor between Grand Rapids and Holland also connects the two cities with no...



p2031 (34593)	<b>KFK's GR Congressional Plan:</b> No	<b>District 1.</b>
p65 (18255)	<b>Jakob's West Michigan Plan:</b> This represents about what I'd consider my "west Michigan community." What I've shaded roughly encompasses the area I'd say us west Michiganders frequently commute to. When I think of west MI, this is what I think of. People within these bounds often travel for work or business; it's often people from the lakeshore go to Grand Rapids and vice versa. This is the area that shares the same local news...	<b>District 1.</b>
c2561 (37418)	<b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b>	<b>Community 11.</b>
c1779 (32172)	<b>Western Michigan Communities of Interest:</b> I think this is the best representation of communities of interest in Western Michigan	<b>Community 2.</b>
c2378 (35825)	<b>South and West Michigan Communities:</b> These are several communities that each feature something unique. While they are mostly rural with some larger cities, the rural areas go together well on a map and share many interests, challenges, and governmental functions. The differences are based on location and proximity to other cities. Kalamazoo fits into its own community.	<b>West Coast Farmland:</b> Farming and industry communities along the coast of Lake Michigan have a lot in common and neatly form a community of interest
c3346 (41432)	<b>SW MI COIs:</b> Here is how I would delineate SW MI COIs: Community 1 (tourism-oriented, more diverse)- Lakeshore cities and townships; Community 2 (urban/inner suburb, more diverse): Grand Rapids, inner Kent Suburbs, inland Ottawa, Muskegon; Community 3 (smaller urban, eds/meds, more diverse): Kalamazoo, Portage, Battle Creek; Community 4 (suburban-rural fringe, less diverse): Eastern Kent, Western Ionia, Barry...	<b>Community 2.</b>
p2553 (37322)	<b>Nancy Weber constituent of Mich. 26 Dist:</b> My Plan would keep Allegan and Van Buren Counties in One district. These areas need to stay in the same district as our many of our schools and municipalities have rural townships which share their facilities and want to continue to have a senator and representative representing us who are familiar with the needs of these communities and are responsive to the needs of the area and its people.	<b>District 2.</b>
c2463 (36705)	<b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.	<b>West:</b> With both the population center of Grand Rapids and one of our largest natural forests, this region has specific needs not found in other parts of the state and its people require particular representation.
c3346 (41432)	<b>SW MI COIs:</b> Here is how I would delineate SW MI COIs: Community 1 (tourism-oriented, more diverse)- Lakeshore cities and townships; Community 2 (urban/inner suburb, more diverse): Grand Rapids, inner Kent Suburbs, inland Ottawa, Muskegon; Community 3 (smaller urban, eds/meds, more diverse): Kalamazoo, Portage, Battle Creek; Community 4 (suburban-rural fringe, less diverse): Eastern Kent, Western Ionia, Barry...	<b>Community 4.</b>



Supporting Data for Cluster C16-1		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1452</a> (28631)	<b>Grand River/Muskegon River watersheds:</b> This COI covers the watersheds of Muskegon River and the Grand River, as well as municipalities along these waterways. Both watersheds share concerns about condition of the rivers, preservation of the rural and peaceful use of the rivers, water use. All blocks share a concern about overdevelopment of our pristine waterways. The towns included offer diversity of other interests and together are a s...	<b>Community I:</b> Grand River watershed M-11
<a href="#">c1601</a> (30746)	<b>State Senate District:</b> It just seems better balanced and less politically secure.	<b>Community I:</b> State Senate District
<a href="#">c1633</a> (30935)	<b>COI of Tri-Cities, Ferrysburg &amp; Muskegon:</b> The cities of Grand Haven, Spring Lake and Ferrysburg comprise The Tri-Cities area of Northern Ottawa County and they form the southern portion of my COI. Residents in the Tri-Cities area share commonalities that have their focal point in being Lakeshore communities located in very close proximity to each other. Residents engage in similar recreational activities, including beach-going, swimming, ...	<b>North Ottawa Tri-Cities COI:</b> The cities of Grand Haven, Spring Lake and Ferrysburg comprise The Tri-Cities area of Northern Ottawa County and they form the southern portion of my COI. Residents in the Tri-Cities area share commonalities that have their focal point in being Lakeshore communities located in very close proximity to each other. Residents engage in similar recreational activities, including beach-going, swimming, ...
<a href="#">c1751</a> (31662)	<b>Holland city and surrounding communities.</b>	<b>Community I:</b> Holland city and surrounding communities
<a href="#">c1806</a> (32432)	<b>Muskegon Map.</b>	<b>Muskegon.</b>
<a href="#">c1812</a> (32442)	<b>Rick's protect these waterways plan..</b>	<b>Northern Ottawa Harbor Area:</b> These communities hold a significant amount of the Grand River, Spring Lake and channel to Lake Michigan. This area produces a large amount of tourism dollars and the boating community. We collectively have an interest in preserving the waterways and the natural habitats for all to enjoy. A balance between commerce and preservation must be established. Growth should be scrutinized at all costs to ...
<a href="#">c1968</a> (33685)	<b>Zeeland and the Lakeshore:</b> <a href="https://districtr.org/COI/33685">#Zeeland, #Lakeshore #Holland</a>	<b>Community I:</b> Zeeland and the Lakeshore.
<a href="#">c2484</a> (36921)	<b>Ottawa County:</b> Ottawa County is an incredible place to live and work and enjoy the outdoors. Residents have strong family values, moral integrity, good schools, an incredible number of parks, several recreation departments, bike trails, hiking trails, lakes and a long border on Lake Michigan. I would love to see Ottawa County stay as one complete Community of Interest in the Redistricting process. Thank you.	<b>Ottawa County.</b>
<a href="#">c2528</a> (37157)	<b>Van Buren, Allegan Community:</b> Van Buren and Allegan should be kept together because: They share Courts often, the law enforcement agencies work well together, they both have many senior citizens and veterans, both county seats are on M-40, and M-40 connects both counties. Both have local tv and radio markets, and Bloomingdale Communications serves both counties.	<b>CVan Buren and Allegan Countiescommunity 1.</b>



<p>c2545 (37246)</p>	<p><b>Ottawa County - A Community of Interest.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c971 (25885)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan Lakeshore COI:</b> The Southwest Michigan Lakeshore COI preserves the environmental aspect and is based west of the I-196 corridor. Residents in these communities are committed to preserving the shoreline and natural dunes; most are boaters (of one kind or another) or general outdoor enthusiasts; tourism is our main economy. This COI also consists of orchards and wineries.</p>	<p><b>Lakeshore Community:</b> Maintaining the health of Lake Michigan along the lakeshore. Communities include Saugatuck, Douglas, Ganges, South Haven; west of the I-196 corridor.</p>
<p>c973 (25913)</p>	<p><b>Macatawa Park area:</b> My name is Lisa Jevens and I have a home in Macatawa Park. Macatawa Park is a very special community of several hundred historic cottages dating from the 1800's on Lake Michigan, just south of the Holland, MI lighthouse. It is a beautiful peninsula that lies between Lake Michigan and Lake Macatawa. The Macatawa Park Cottagers' Association (MPCA) is our volunteer homeowner association. Macatawa its...</p>	<p><b>Macatawa area:</b> Macatawa Park is a very special community of several hundred historic cottages dating from the 1800's on Lake Michigan, just south of the Holland, MI lighthouse. It is a beautiful peninsula that lies between Lake Michigan and Lake Macatawa. Macatawa itself is not a town, but it does have a post office, a large marina and yacht club. The community is populated by year-round homeowners, seasonal ow...</p>
<p>c997 (26138)</p>	<p><b>Holland/West Ottawa School Dist. Parents:</b> This community is made up of parents in the Holland and West Ottawa School Districts. Both school districts have a fair percentage of minority students and students receiving free and reduced-price school meals. Right now, these parents have to talk to 2 Michigan House Representatives/district and their influence is diminished when they try to lobby their representatives. They should all be part...</p>	<p><b>West Ottawa &amp; Holland School District Parents:</b> This community is made up of parents in the Holland and West Ottawa School Districts. Both school districts have a fair percentage of minority students and students receiving free and reduced-price school meals, meaning their parents have many social and economic interests in common. Right now these parents have to talk to 2 Michigan House Representatives/district and their influence is diminishe...</p>
<p>p1170 (26188)</p>	<p><b>Lakeshore Senate Seat:</b> Muskegon has more in common with other lakeshore communities than they do with rural inland areas like Newaygo.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1715 (31383)</p>	<p><b>JFW US.</b></p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3304 (41242)</p>	<p><b>Allegan/Van Buren/Berrien Senate Distric:</b> This plan incorporates Allegan County and Van Buren County with just one sliver of Berrien County that is similar to the surrounding areas. It is concise, contiguous, and is a strong community of interest.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p687 (23907)</p>	<p><b>HOLLAND/Lake Macatawa House District:</b> The Holland/Lake Macatawa area is a very culturally and historically unified region, based on migration patterns from 1850 through to the modern day. It is likewise based on similarities in pastimes, religious participation and family cohesion and connections. It is a diverse mix of long-time Dutch, Hispanic, Southeast Asian, African African, and others, who work together, pray together and play t...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Muskegon community of interest:</b> Listed as a community of interest in a post.</p> <p><b>Ottawa County:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post.</p> <p><b>Van Buren/Allegan Counties:</b> Contradicts another request, but identified as combined a community of interest.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C16-2		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1020 (26136)	<b>Blue Star &amp; M89 Allegan Co Corridor:</b> Blue Star M89 Allegan County corridor shares many economic, cultural, geographical, and social similarities. historic summer resorts, Native American culture, geography and citizens, small independent family businesses and farms, working artists and studios, Buddhist religious colony and retreat. Small weekly newspaper, community agreements for services, Lake Michigan small inland lake conservati...	<b>Blue Star &amp; M89 Corridor Allegan County:</b> The COI made up of small entities of Saugatuck, Douglas, Saugatuck Twp, Ganges Twp., Casco Twp, Fennville, Hutchins Lake Area and the Lake Shore by South Haven
c1605 (30758)	<b>Comments from Kalamazoo Hearing:</b> Rural community of interest	<b>Community 1:</b> Rural community of interest
c1660 (31155)	<b>South Haven:</b> South Haven has consistently voted in alignment with the boundaries I have suggested. I believe Mattawan and Paw Paw belong to Kalamazoo.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1808 (32434)	<b>Grand Haven/Tri-Cities plus rural.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> Grand Haven/Tri-Cities is the town closest to me, plus the rural area around it is where I live.
c1859 (32703)	<b>Muskegon Airport Area Plan:</b> My community can not be created using the politically biased, racist, and socially egregious map blocks provided by this program.	<b>Muskegon airport community:</b> You have already forced political lines in to the mapping process and there is no way to create an appropriate map using this tool. This method of mapping is inherently racist, socially egregious and politically biased. No appropriate map could ever be drawn from the blocks. Your constitutional mandate can not be upheld using this method.
c1874 (32760)	<b>Lakeshore/ag.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> Lakeshore agriculture and tourism. Below median incomes - shoot, prolly below most Michigan medians, lol. Little industry, little opportunity. Mostly white and hispanic. Mostly high school diplomas. Lots of outdoor activities.
c1879 (32791)	<b>One Community:</b> I made notes in the map, but the shorthand version is this is one community. People work and travel and daily shop in this entire area.	<b>Community 1:</b> I live in the northwest section of the painted areas. I work in the southern section of this map. I shop in the entire area. Most of my neighbors do so as well. Traveling between their homes in the area to their jobs in Muskegon. Then shopping in Whitehall or Muskegon. The activities their children participate in are all over this area. I cannot see how this area has been divided into two district...
c1943 (33399)	<b>Three Southwest MI Communities:</b> Much of rural Michigan is similar, though in order to keep districts compact and contiguous it will need to be broken up. Allegan + Van Buren Counties + surrounding rural areas and small towns make a lot of sense as a Community of Interest. While they share similarities with rural areas to the south, the border counties have more in common and more reliance on Indiana than the counties to the north...	<b>Van Buren + Allegan + Rural, Small Towns:</b> Rural and small town communities surrounding Van Buren and Allegan Counties. Both counties share a lot in common so keeping them together makes sense from a CoI point of view. Some surrounding small town and rural areas added in as well for district ideas. Holland also fits very well with Allegan County. Included small towns are similar in size, quality/cost of living, and they all rely heavily o...



<p>c2377 (35737)</p>	<p><b>West and Southwest Michigan:</b> Allegan and Van Buren counties are a natural fit. They are shoreline, non-border counties with rural communities and small towns. They are largely based on agriculture, manufacturing and tourism businesses, the local governments work together, and they face the same environmental and access to broadband challenges. Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph counties are a community of interest. They are border...</p>	<p><b>Allegan/ Van Buren:</b> Allegan and Van Buren Counties Community of Interest</p>
<p>c2395 (35737)</p>	<p><b>Southwestern Michigan:</b> Growing up in West Michigan, I'm very familiar with which counties should be combined together for Senate districts. Allegan and Van Buren counties are a clear community of interest-agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, shoreline, rural with small towns, and schools, communities, businesses, and local telecommunications providers that cover both counties. Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph are all borde...</p>	<p><b>Allegan/ Van Buren:</b> Allegan and Van Buren Counties Community of Interest</p>
<p>c2402 (36073)</p>	<p><b>West and Southwest Michigan:</b> From experience living throughout West Michigan, certain areas fit together as communities of interest: Grand Rapids, Kentwood and East Grand Rapids share the same economic, culture and overall focus around Grand Rapids. Local hospital systems, public transportation, and infrastructure overlap, and many of the largest "Grand Rapids" manufacturers are in Kentwood, along with the big "Grand Rapids" ...</p>	<p><b>Allegan/ Van Buren:</b> Allegan and Van Buren Counties Community of Interest</p>
<p>c2410 (36204)</p>	<p><b>West Michigan Map:</b> Muskegon-Oceana-Newaygo: Muskegon based district with nearby counties. Good mix of urban and rural. Close proximity so easy for a Senator to represent and visit all areas of the district in-person. Allegan-Van Buren: Rural communities along the shoreline, with heavy agriculture, tourism and manufacturing economic engines. Overlapping broadband and government services. Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph: Bo...</p>	<p><b>Allegan/ Van Buren:</b> Allegan and Van Buren Counties Community of Interest</p>
<p>c2514 (37133)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan - KM from Hamilton:</b> Southwest Michigan has 3 distinct communities - Van Buren/Allegan which are rural with small towns/cities Kalamazoo County is urban and the 3 boarder counties of Berrien, Cass and St. Joe share a boarder with Indiana which is a huge community factor.</p>	<p><b>VanBuren/Allegan Counties:</b> Van Buren &amp; Allegan Counties are similar in rural character</p>
<p>c2519 (37149)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan Community:</b> Between Allegan and Van Buren they are very similar, share the Kalamazoo River, farmland industry, lakeshore.</p>	<p><b>Van Buren Allegan.</b></p>
<p>c2524 (37155)</p>	<p><b>Van Buren &amp; Allegan Community:</b> Allegan and Van Buren are like minded counties, we are rural and farming communities. As a Hamilton Township Treasurer for twenty years, i can say that every time we would send out a survey to update our zoning, the residents wanted the township and county to stay rural. Van Buren and Allegan counties share history of farming and walking trails and hunting.</p>	<p><b>Allegan Van Buren COI.</b></p>
<p>c2532 (37165)</p>	<p><b>Van Buren-Allegan Community of Interest:</b> Allegan and Van Buren counties are cooperative in local government with a shared public defender, juvenile courts, and are similar in size. Both county seats sit along M-40 which stretches through both counties. They are also both very rural with a focus on agriculture and farms operating in both counties.</p>	<p><b>Van Buren and Allegan Community.</b></p>
<p>c2533 (37169)</p>	<p><b>VBC and Allegan Co:</b> These two counties share many things in common with agriculture, small towns, and manufacturing. Aside from their similar economic needs and interests, Allegan and VBC have similar struggles with internet infrastructure and a need for public infrastructure funding that is different from more urban areas.</p>	<p><b>VBC-Allegan Cos.</b></p>



<p>c2536 (37173)</p>	<p><b>Keep Van Buren and Allegan Cos Together:</b> Please consider keeping Van Buren and Allegan Counties together in legislative districts. I have many reasons for this request as the counties are very similar as a community. Both counties have a heavy Christian population with a large variety of churches represented. Also, our agricultural community between the two counties are very supportive of one another. As a small business family, we also ...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2556 (35815)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan counties:</b> These counties share many functions of government and similar economies.</p>	<p><b>Allegan and Van Buren:</b> These counties share many functions of government and similar economies</p>
<p>c2566 (37510)</p>	<p><b>AlleganVanBuren means COMPETITIVE DIST.:</b> Allegan and Van Buren Counties share many common economic, cultural and social interests. On your regions map, already Allegan Co has been put in the Western District and Van Buren in the SouthWestern region. Please read the 11 COI submissions regarding keeping Allegan and Van Buren Counties together. Economic: small farms, small independent businesses, working artists, strong tourism economy. C...</p>	<p><b>Allegan VanBuren 1:</b> Allegan and VanBuren Counties have similar economic interests–tourism on Lake Michigan, small communities, small agricultural and independent businesses. A large and active LGBTQ community is active in many of the small towns and cities. Many Native Americans live in these counties. Culturally, they identify with Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties, NOT Ottawa or Kent counties</p>
<p>c2617 (37790)</p>	<p><b>Allegan, Van Buren and rural small towns:</b> After watching the MICRC meeting on 8/20 I felt it necessary to resubmit my specific COI with tighter boundaries and more specific comments rather than including multiple COIs in a single Districtr map. I believe that Van Buren and Allegan Counties form a COI and nearby rural areas and small towns also fit into this COI. I believe this COI also includes the City of Holland which is already part...</p>	<p><b>Van Buren, Allegan, Small Towns &amp; Rural Areas:</b> Van Buren and Allegan Counties as a COI including Holland and several surrounding rural areas &amp; small towns.</p>
<p>c3200 (40714)</p>	<p><b>SW and Border Communities:</b> My communities are explained in the map, but in a nutshell my communities are defined by their economics, agriculture, and community sizes.</p>	<p><b>Lake Michigan - Agriculture:</b> Van Buren and Allegan are similar in the Lake Michigan border and heavy abundance of fruit crops and other agriculture.</p>
<p>c3345 (41436)</p>	<p><b>Allegan - Van Buren:</b> Almena and Antwerp Townships must stay part of Van Buren County in any state house or state senate district. Folks who live here do so because they do NOT want to be part of Kalamazoo! They left the city and those urban areas for a rural community that is focused on small town and common sense values. Van Buren and Allegan Counties are much more similar in terms of demographics, values, and commu...</p>	<p><b>Van Buren - Allegan:</b> Van Buren and Allegan counties are similar in terms of demographics, economics, values, communities, and challenges. This community has distinct needs from those of urban areas such as Kalamazoo. Towns like Paw Paw, Otsego, Mattawan, and Plainwell are more similar in nature than urban areas in Kalamazoo. These communities are focused on common sense, small town values. Cities, villages, and to...</p>
<p>c3346 (41432)</p>	<p><b>SW MI COIs:</b> Here is how I would delineate SW MI COIs: Community 1 (tourism-oriented, more diverse)- Lakeshore cities and townships; Community 2 (urban/inner suburb, more diverse): Grand Rapids, inner Kent Suburbs, inland Ottawa, Muskegon; Community 3 (smaller urban, eds/meds, more diverse): Kalamazoo, Portage, Battle Creek; Community 4 (suburban-rural fringe, less diverse): Eastern Kent, Western Ionia, Barry...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3406 (41771)</p>	<p><b>Allegan &amp; VanBuren=Community of Interest:</b> Van Buren &amp; Allegan Counties are joined at the hip as a Community of Interest through cultural &amp; government institutions, education, economics, transportation, and history. School districts cross the border (Bloomingdale, South Haven, Otsego, Gobles. Agriculture processors dominate the small towns: for example Birds Eye in Fennville, Welch's in Lawton, Naturipe in Bloomingdale, Dole in Decatur, ...</p>	<p><b>Van Buren &amp; Allegan Counties:</b> Allegan &amp; Van Buren Counties are joined at the hip with rural townships, small towns, vacation areas along the coast and with inland lakes, and agriculture processors making up a large part of the small town economies.</p>



c918 (24500)	<p><b>Lakeshore, Ludington to Whitehall:</b> In addition to the COI map I submit for my groups of residents, I add the following concerns from them: Affordable rental housing is much needed for migrant workers as well as owned housing for low-income year-round residents; There is need to promote more public appreciation and celebration of Native American and LatinX cultural traditions along with those of other residents in programming,...</p>	<b>IO &amp; OD 1:</b> Michigan Lakeshore Ludington to Whitehall
p1374 (27440)	<p><b>West Michigan Tourism and Agriculture:</b> Allegan County, Van Buren County and the Holland coastal area are a community of interest for the senate: * Area consists of significant agriculture and tourism economies. * County governments routinely collaborate, including veterans court and public defender between Allegan and Van Buren. * School districts, infrastructure services, churches, and business operations overlap. * The coastal, touri...</p>	<b>District 1.</b>
p3306 (41242)	<p><b>Ryan's Community of Interest Plan.:</b> This is my community of interest. It is diverse in economically similar, religiously similar, and ethnically diverse. Farmers and businesses transcend county lines. Careers transcend county lines and so do families and churches. Please consider this as a community of interest and senate district.</p>	<b>District 1.</b>
p3310 (41255)	<p><b>Allegan Van Buren House District/ COI:</b> This is concise and contiguous and a great community of interest. This representative would be representing a diverse population. The economies are very similar with a vast array of farmers and manufacturers. Though it falls just shy of the suggested constituency I hope you consider this a House District and a community of interest.</p>	<b>District 1.</b>
c2380 (35834)	<p><b>My South Michigan Map:</b> I was born and raised in South MI and also believe that county lines are a good basis for communities of interest in Michigan. These four communities each share interests and cooperate within themselves in many ways such as government, economy, and tourism. They are also uniquely different from one another due to where they sit on a map. These communities would be a good base for our maps in Michi...</p>	<b>Allegan and Van Buren:</b> These two counties are distinct from the other rural communities because of their cooperation in government and shared lakeshore communities such as South Haven. Many people from both counties work in the other and frequently visit their lakeshore towns.
c2512 (36805)	<p><b>Southwest Michigan communities:</b> I feel that communities should be kept whole and people have gotten use to having adjoining communities, and adjoining communities have similar interest and interact with each other. I do not feel township should be broken up. This could change our schools, churches. We came to this area for the reason that I have stated Van Buran, and Allegan should be together. Rural counties should stay toge...</p>	<b>SW Lakeshore.</b>
c3385 (41740)	<p><b>Different Types of Communities:</b> The Townships along the coast are completely different than the tourist centers that are New Buffalo and South Haven. Lincoln, St. Joseph, Lake, Bridgman, and Hagar deserve to have their voices heard, not be lumped in with tourist towns just so there can be a gerrymandered Democrat district on the coast.</p>	<b>Community 2.</b>
c3409 (41777)	<p><b>LGBTQIA+ Friendly and Diverse Lakeshore:</b> Hello. My name is Drew Stanton and I live in Douglas. I am a member of the LGBTQIA+ community and I am writing to ask the commission to draw districts that reflect the lakeshore community of interest in Western Michigan. Communities on the lakeshore are more diverse, tolerant, and inclusive. Additionally, we have shared interests including protecting our natural resources and attracting diverse to...</p>	<b>Community 2.</b>



<p>c2517 (36806)</p>	<p><b>Lorraine's SW Michigan Plan:</b> There are several communities in SW Michigan that should be kept together as much as possible. Border counties rely on other states and cities like South Bend, IN more than others to the north. Van Buren and Allegan share many functions of government and interests as manufacturing and agricultural communities along the lakeshore. Kalamazoo forms a self-contained community of interest as well. For ...</p>	<p><b>Van Buren Allegan Area.</b></p>
<p>c2635 (35796)</p>	<p><b>Communities of Southern and Lakeside MI:</b> I was born and raised in Southern Michigan. The people of this rural and agrarian region value small, close-knit communities. The communities near the border of Michigan are distinct in terms of culture, economics, and values from other small communities through the state, as are the lakeside communities where my wife and I enjoy vacationing.</p>	<p><b>District 3.</b></p>
<p>c2410 (36204)</p>	<p><b>West Michigan Map:</b> Muskegon-Oceana-Newaygo: Muskegon based district with nearby counties. Good mix of urban and rural. Close proximity so easy for a Senator to represent and visit all areas of the district in-person. Allegan-Van Buren: Rural communities along the shoreline, with heavy agriculture, tourism and manufacturing economic engines. Overlapping broadband and government services. Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph: Bo...</p>	<p><b>Muskegon.</b></p>
<p>c2635 (35796)</p>	<p><b>Communities of Southern and Lakeside MI:</b> I was born and raised in Southern Michigan. The people of this rural and agrarian region value small, close-knit communities. The communities near the border of Michigan are distinct in terms of culture, economics, and values from other small communities through the state, as are the lakeside communities where my wife and I enjoy vacationing.</p>	<p><b>Mid-West Michigan Community:</b> This community features many similar rural and agricultural interests along with many popular lakeside areas where tourism is very important.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C17		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1564</a> (29749)	<b>U.P. counties linked by geography:</b> The regions of the UP are divided into: Counties on Lake Superior, Counties on Lake Michigan and Counties affiliated with Wisconsin. My personal COI is a liberal-based group in Munising and Marquette that is concerned with diversity, preservation of the Lake Superior shoreline and our tribal communities.	<b>Community 1:</b> These are the counties along Lake Superior
<a href="#">c1685</a> (31207)	<b>Upper Peninsula districting:</b> The economy, culture, industry, demographics, weather, lifestyle, healthcare and nearly every other metric of the Upper Peninsula is different than downstate Michigan. It would be best for the Upper Peninsula to be one district and Lower Michigan to be divided into two other districts one the northern tier of counties and the other the southern tier of counties for a total of 3 districts statewide...	<b>Community 1:</b> The Upper Peninsula region of Michigan is a unique cultural and economic region of Michigan and as such has particular concerns distinct from elsewhere in Michigan or the US.
<a href="#">c1840</a> (32594)	<b>Entire Marquette County.</b>	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c274</a> (20348)	<b>The UP is a Community of Interest:</b> To state the obvious, the UP is a strong community of interest. We have unique needs, a unique people, and often feel our voice is underrepresented. I would encourage the commission to not treat Michigan's northern district as an "everything else" category. Consider that, even though they are in the same district, it takes almost as much time to drive from Ironwood to Traverse City as it does to d...	<b>Michigan's UP.</b>
<a href="#">c3013</a> (39923)	<b>108th District:</b> I would like the 108th District to remain the same which includes all of Dickinson, Menominee and Delta Counties. I feel that this map represents the people and are in which I live.	<b>108th District:</b> 108th District should be ALL of Dickinson, Delta and Menominee Counties.
<a href="#">c2463</a> (36705)	<b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.	<b>UP West:</b> A vast region with some of our most beautiful forests bordering Wisconsin and Canada, this region has specific requirements for the community.
<a href="#">c1564</a> (29749)	<b>U.P. counties linked by geography:</b> The regions of the UP are divided into: Counties on Lake Superior, Counties on Lake Michigan and Counties affiliated with Wisconsin. My personal COI is a liberal-based group in Munising and Marquette that is concerned with diversity, preservation of the Lake Superior shoreline and our tribal communities.	<b>Community 2:</b> Counties along Lake Michigan
<a href="#">c1608</a> (30771)	<b>Powell Twp, Marquette Co, MI:</b> Powell Township is the largest land wise township in the largest county (Marquette) with the smallest population in the county. It literally is "at the end of the road" All activity...shopping, doctors, some worship, hospital, high schools, are in the City of Marquette or surrounding area. We are predominantly a recreational community, with service types of business. 2 churches, 2 bars, a communi...	<b>Community 2.</b>
<a href="#">c2560</a> (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>Powell Township:</b> Put them with Marquette City.



<p>c1564 (29749)</p>	<p><b>U.P. counties linked by geography:</b> The regions of the UP are divided into: Counties on Lake Superior, Counties on Lake Michigan and Counties affiliated with Wisconsin. My personal COI is a liberal-based group in Munising and Marquette that is concerned with diversity, preservation of the Lake Superior shoreline and our tribal communities.</p>	<p><b>Community 3:</b> Counties affiliated with Wisconsin</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Upper Peninsula:</b> Identified as a community of interest.</p> <p><b>Iron Mountain:</b> Community of interest with Menominee and Delta Counties</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C18-1		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1161 (26704)	<b>Natural Environment quality of life:</b> Quality of Life and Naural Environment in Northern Lower MI- people migrate to northern MI largely due to loving the natural environment, whether they come for a weekend or decide to stay and live up here. The vast public forests, rivers, and lakes provide quality recreational opportunities, great tourism, clean air, peace and quiet, clean water, and wildlife providing a higher quality of life f...	<b>ENvironmental Quality:</b> People live in and come to northern MI for quality of life- to enjoy the natural environment around them, have clean air and clean water, and outdoor areas to recreate in (fish, hunt, bike, ski, hike etc)
c1533 (29545)	<b>Districts That Represent Their Peoples:</b> Map related to my previous comments for the Commission. Thank you for your service! This would be one possible, and compact, mapping for the 1st Congressional District.	<b>Upper Peninsula and Northern Lower:</b> Mostly rural in character, with the exception of a few larger cities such as Marquette, Escanaba, and S.S. Marie. Southern counties could go to another Congressional district as needed, to keep districts compact.
c1571 (29974)	<b>Mary's Upper and Lower plan:</b> Rural, farm, Near Lakes, streams and rivers, tourist area, logging, mining and small businesses	<b>Community 1:</b> Rural, Farming, Logging, close to water (Lakes, rivers and streams) Tourist areas, mining and small businesses.
c1576 (30125)	<b>proposed 104th house:</b> The communities of interest include the wine industries of Old Mission and Leelanau Peninsulas. The Bay Area Transportation Authority ( BATA) serves more of Leelanau County than the current southern third of Grand Traverse County. The tourist industry of GT County and Leelanau Counties are more similar with tourism being the prime industry for both areas. The southern third of Grand traverse Cou...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1620 (30858)	<b>Schwantes ideas on Traverse Region.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> This community shares tourism, educational, transportation, agricultural (fruit and wine)and conservation resources and infrastructure
c1636 (30970)	<b>Whitney's Community of Interest in Water:</b> N,W. Michigan Community of Interest. The intent is to bring together those whose interests and livelihoods are dependent on the waters of the area.	<b>N.W. Coast Community of Interest:</b> Would include most of Leelanau County and the Northwestern portion of Grand Traverse County including East Bay . All areas dependent upon and effected by the quality of our water.
c1654 (31151)	<b>Straits of Mackinac and Eastern UP:</b> These communities are demographically, economically, culturally, ethnically, and religiously the same. They represent the Straits of Mackinac and Eastern Upper Peninsula.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1673 (31185)	<b>Up North/Lake Michigan:</b> These communities represent Up North and the Lake Michigan coast. They are demographically similar; religiously, culturally, economically, ethnically. They should form their own state Senate district.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1813 (32444)	<b>Emmet &amp; Charlevoix.</b>	<b>Emmet / Charlevoix counties:</b> Emmet and Charlevoix counties share a lot of similarities, have economies that rely heavily on tourism, and take pride in outdoor recreation and care for the land. The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians is an important part of this community as well.



<p>c1823 (32485)</p>	<p><b>Charlevoix county.</b></p>	<p><b>Charlevoix county:</b> Small towns, mostly white, rural, significant impact of tourism on the area, some farming.</p>
<p>c1824 (32477)</p>	<p><b>End the practice of gerrymandering:</b> I live in a county filled with Republicans. That being said, I would like a better representation of the differing political interests in Cheboygan county. IMO, the only way to do this is to end politically drawn gerrymandered districts. To achieve this goal, the state created Redistricting Committee is critical not only to Cheboygan county, but the entire state.</p>	<p><b>Benton Twp., Cheboygan Co.:</b> Twp. located approximately 8 miles from the city limits of Cheboygan, in Cheboygan Co.</p>
<p>c1838 (32563)</p>	<p><b>North Eastern Lower Peninsula:</b> Rural, marginalized economically</p>	<p><b>Community 1:</b> North Eastern Lower Peninsula</p>
<p>c1878 (32772)</p>	<p><b>The sunset district:</b> This community is heavily based in tourism. It differs greatly to anywhere else in Michigan. This area includes towns that are on or close to the coast of Lake Michigan. Outlined in the map are the major towns that will make up this district. Though the diversity is minor in scale to the state of Michigan, this district does host two tribal communities in the Traverse Bay Band, and the Little ...</p>	<p><b>District lines:</b> These communities are a combination of small business, agriculture, tourism along Lake Michigan. By having these district lines you have Petoskey and Charlevoix (highest populated areas in the district) in the middle with 131 and 31 serving as a west boarder for the various precincts. All the important places are marked as small towns that need the attention and representation of someone that c...</p>
<p>c1907 (32977)</p>	<p><b>Northern Michigan tourist concerns.</b></p>	<p><b>Northern Lower MI:</b> Tourist based - major economic activity created by visitors. Outdoor focus striving for year around attraction to stabilize economic swings.</p>
<p>c1950 (33531)</p>	<p><b>Grand Traverse Community:</b> This region involves Traverse City and surrounding areas that have tourism and outdoor recreation as a income and recreation focus</p>	<p><b>Grand Traverse Region:</b> Traverse City and Surrounding Region with similar tourist and outdoor focus</p>
<p>c1981 (33828)</p>	<p><b>Northern Michigan and Eastern U.P.:</b> The map drawn reflects the area represented by District 1 of the U.S. House of Representatives. My interest in these areas is to see a State of Michigan map that represents specific areas by county, school district, etc. so that the needs of the community remain consistent with other elected offices: i.e. local Board of Education, township boards and national districts, etc.</p>	<p><b>Community 1:</b> Interested in these counties as this represents my US Representative area which affects how the rest of the state allocated districts are drawn. I live in Emmet and have resort property along the St Mary's River in Chippewa.</p>
<p>c2399 (36046)</p>	<p><b>Primary tourist and agriculture:</b> Population significantly under represented many months of the year as households are secondary and primary residency is credited somewhere else. Very seasonal economy.</p>	<p><b>Northwest Lower:</b> Tourism and Agriculture, seasonal economy, many second home properties not reflecting true size of population.</p>
<p>c2542 (37227)</p>	<p><b>Karan Josephus' plan for Leelanau County:</b> Leelanau County differs greatly from Grand Traverse County, and I'd like to preserve our agriculture and our lifestyle. Although it's Northern Michigan, our big cities vary differently from rural counties such as Leelanau County. It's a special place and I'd like to keep it that way.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3293 (41168)</p>	<p><b>Grand Traverse County:</b> Keep Grand Traverse County as one entity.</p>	<p><b>Grand Traverse County.</b></p>
<p>c3298 (41198)</p>	<p><b>Keep Communities together:</b> I have lived in this community for nearly thirty years. I have seen many changes, but one thing has always remained: Grand Traverse County as a whole is a cohesive, vibrant community, each portion relying on the other in a symbiotic relationship. We must not fracture the community, or it will be a detriment to the citizens of Grand Traverse County.</p>	<p><b>Grand Traverse County:</b> The most fascinating aspect of Grand Traverse County is that, although there are many rural areas branching out from the city, there is a cohesive nature within the county as a whole. For example, Long Lake township has a huge crossover with Garfield township as it relates to work, school, and recreational destinations. So although they are different townships, they create a greater community tog...</p>



c95 (18651)	<p><b>Casey's N. MI District Recommendation:</b> Tourism-based economy on the northwest coast of the lower peninsula. Health care, manufacturing, and retail are the primary industries beyond tourism. Well-funded local governments due to so many second homes in the area. Similar cultural values with a mix of Democrats and Republicans since Charlevoix, Petoskey, Harbor Springs, and Traverse City all lean left with the rural areas leaning Republica...</p>	<p><b>Community 1:</b> The Harbor Springs to Traverse City coastal region of northern Michigan has a tourism heavy economy. They have many retirees that are wealthier and own second homes in the area. Due to those second homes, property values are high and most local governments are well funded. Health care, manufacturing, and retail are the primary industries beyond summer tourism supported ones.</p>
p1172 (25917)	<p><b>Keep Cheboygan County whole:</b> We need to have Cheboygan County in one state house district instead of in two. It is two confusing for voters because they are not sure which district they are in.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1173 (25810)	<p><b>Cheboygan County's friends:</b> Cheboygan County shares coastlines and watersheds with these counties. We have common interests in keeping our coastlines and rivers clean.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1211 (25810)	<p><b>Joanne Cromley's Cheboygan County:</b> Cheboygan County is directly connected to our neighbors by both land and water, and we want to make sure our voices as a community of interest are represented properly for the next 10 years or more. The Inland Waterway directly connects Cheboygan and Emmet counties, the Sturgeon and Pigeon River connects Cheboygan and Otsego counties. · We have no hospital, so must travel to Emmet, Mack...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1213 (25917)	<p><b>Joanne Cromley - Cheboygan County map:</b> Cheboygan County is directly connected to our neighbors by both land and water, and we want to make sure our voices as a community of interest are represented properly for the next 10 years or more. The Inland Waterway directly connects Cheboygan and Emmet counties, the Sturgeon and Pigeon River connects Cheboygan and Otsego counties. · We have no hospital, so must travel to Emmet, Mack...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1305 (25188)	<p><b>Leelanau, GT, Benzie, Antrim, Kalkaska:</b> The mission of the Leelanau Early Childhood Development Commission (LECDC.) is to "provide families access to a high quality, comprehensive, accountable system of care and pre-school experience for children birth through age 5." The LECDC Board members are long term, and some life long, residents of Leelanau County. We are all active in our community and can say with certainty that we know the h...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1417 (25810)	<p><b>Cheboygan County Plan:</b> Cheboygan County is directly connected to our neighbors by both land and water, and we want to make sure our voices as a community of interest are represented properly for the next 10 years or more. The Inland Waterway directly connects Cheboygan and Emmet counties, the Sturgeon and Pigeon River connects Cheboygan and Otsego counties. · We have no hospital, so must travel to Emmet, Ma...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1418 (25917)	<p><b>Cheboygan County Plan:</b> Cheboygan County is directly connected to our neighbors by both land and water, and we want to make sure our voices as a community of interest are represented properly for the next 10 years or more. The Inland Waterway directly connects Cheboygan and Emmet counties, the Sturgeon and Pigeon River connects Cheboygan and Otsego counties. · We have no hospital, so must travel to Emmet, Ma...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
p1444 (25917)	<p><b>House District 107:</b> I live in Cheboygan County. Currently, two state House districts (106 and 107) zigzag through our county, dividing our townships and school district. Which leads to a lot of confusion. I live 2 miles outside the city limits of Cheboygan, which is the largest city in the county, and I, like a large portion of people who live in the townships here, have a Cheboygan address. But, our district wa...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



p1445 (25810)	<b>Senate District 37:</b> I live in Cheboygan County. This district reflects the way that people in our area live, work, and play. Cheboygan County does not have a large range of shopping options, major industries, or even a fully functional hospital, so residents are regularly forced to travel to Emmet, Mackinac, Otsego, and Grand Traverse County for provisions, work, and medical care. Like other areas of Northern Michi...	<b>District 1.</b>
p1591 (25810)	<b>Cheboygan Co Districting Plan:</b> As a resident of Indian River, Mi, Cheboygan county, I would like to comment on our deep connections to our neighboring counties and make certain we have aligned representation. During the last pandemic year, issues like broadband access become exponentially critical to our rural areas in Northern Michigan. Hospitals are also a pressing concern since Cheboygan co residents must travel to Emmet, Ot...	<b>District 1.</b>
p1592 (25917)	<b>Districting Plan for Straits of Mackinac:</b> As a resident of Indian River, Mi, Cheboygan county, I would like to comment on our deep connections to our neighboring counties and make certain we have aligned representation. During the last pandemic year, issues like broadband access become exponentially critical to our rural areas in Northern Michigan. Hospitals are also a pressing concern since Cheboygan co residents must travel to Emmet, Ot...	<b>District 1.</b>
p1621 (30871)	<b>Barbara Conley MI house distr plan:</b> accounts for COI of Leelanau County with cherry/fruit growers, intermediate school district, transportation and health	<b>District 1.</b>
p1871 (25180)	<b>Proposed State House Map:</b> This proposed map accompanies the commentary given in my July 2 written testimony. Five counties (Leelanau, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Antrim and Kalkaska) with approximately 172,000 residents has too great a population to be in one state house district. Historical and cultural characteristics as well as economic interests should be considered a "community of interest" and kept together as much as po...	<b>District 1.</b>
p1967 (25810)	<b>CDI:</b> Cheboygan County is directly connected to our neighbors by both land and water. The Inland Waterway directly connects Cheboygan and Emmet counties, the Sturgeon and Pigeon River connects Cheboygan and Otsego counties. If something were to happen to Line 5, it would be a direct disaster for Emmet, Cheboygan, Charlevoix, Mackinac, and Presque Isle counties.	<b>District 1.</b>
p2176 (25810)	<b>Cheboygan County:</b> Cheboygan County depends on neighbors along the water for services not available here—such as hospital services and compatible tourism options.	<b>District 1.</b>
p2400 (36047)	<b>State representative district:</b> This area has a lot in common with tourism being the driving economy, and agriculture and light industry second.	<b>District 1.</b>
p2744 (38751)	<b>Tourist Towns as community of interest:</b> Keeps the northwest michigan cities and towns together.	<b>District 1.</b>
p2836 (39404)	<b>State House map Leelanau and GTcounties:</b> This map would preserve communities of interest: tourism, cherry farming, wineries, medical availability, transportation. Most people will shop in Traverse City;	<b>District 1.</b>
p2838 (39396)	<b>fair cong distr NW Mi:</b> preserves COI along coast: fruit growing, tourism, water related work and leisure	<b>District 1.</b>
p2839 (39358)	<b>state senate NW Mich:</b> COI is along the coast - tourism, fruit growing, wineries, medical and shopping in Traverse City, transportation, intermediate school district	<b>District 1.</b>



<p>p990 (26002)</p>	<p><b>Leelanau County Communities of Interest:</b> this plan preserves the commerce, transportation, fruit-growing and healthcare common interests of Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2463 (36705)</p>	<p><b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.</p>	<p><b>Northwest:</b> Including traverse city and lake borders with Wisconsin and the UP, unique requirements to this region should be considered.</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>UP East:</b> The region of many borders both with Canada, Mainland Michigan and lake borders with other regions, it requires specific consideration.</p>
<p>p1182 (26791)</p>	<p><b>Larry from Bay County: State House Map:</b> The counties I have included in this map have very similar needs. We are a Community of Interest that is made up of agricultural communities, small towns, and villages that depend on each other for commerce and other needs. Please consider keeping them together in one state house district. This is well within reasonable compact lines and it respects county and township lines as well.</p>	<p><b>Tourist &amp; Agriculture:</b> Defined as a community of interest, but includes and contradicts the Leelanau County community of interest.</p>
<p>p1181 (26788)</p>	<p><b>Sandra from Bay County : State House Map:</b> I live in Northern Bay County and our community shares the same needs and interests as Bay, Gladwin, Arenac, and Iosco Counties. We are a Community of Interest with many small towns and rural farming communities that have very different needs that are quite different than Bay City, City of Saginaw , and the City of Midland. We need our voices represented by one elected official that puts our needs...</p>	<p><b>District 3.</b></p>
<p>p1307 (25443)</p>	<p><b>Leelanau, GT, Benzie, Antrim, Kalkaska:</b> The mission of the Leelanau Early Childhood Development Commission (LECDC.) is to "provide families access to a high quality, comprehensive, accountable system of care and pre-school experience for children birth through age 5." The LECDC Board members are long term, and some life long, residents of Leelanau County. We are all active in our community and can say with certainty that we know the h...</p>	<p><b>District 4.</b></p>
<p>p1875 (25443)</p>	<p><b>State Senate Map:</b> This proposed state Senate map accompanies the written testimony I submitted on July 2. The five counties (Leelanau, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Antrim and Kalkaska) with their population of 172,000 residents could comprise a state Senate District with the addition of several adjacent counties. These counties share cultural and historical characteristics and economic interests and should be considered...</p>	<p><b>District 5.</b></p>
<p>p1314 (25185)</p>	<p><b>Federal House Lower Peninsula, W.Coast:</b> The broader lower north-west Michigan counties we have included in our federal house map proposal share several bonds. These counties are known for year round tourism: beaches in the summer, skiing in the winter and hunting, camping and the color tour in the fall. The counties that we have included in our map proposal are along main transportation arteries in the northern western Lower Peninsula, n...</p>	<p><b>District 8.</b></p>



c2463  
(36705)

**Regions inspired by district commission:** Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region, and the needs of the population in each region.

**Northeast:** Including the population center of Alpena and much of interstate 75 along with vast natural forestland and a lake border with Canada, this region has unique and specific needs.



Supporting Data for Cluster C18-2		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1553</a> (29622)	<b>Leelanau County and Traverse City:</b> Add to written statement	<b>Community 1:</b> Leelanau County, Old Mission Peninsula, plus Traverse City
<a href="#">c1652</a> (31142)	<b>Lake Huron Sunrise Side:</b> The counties here are known as the Sunrise Side, the Lake Huron coastline. They are demographically, economically, culturally, ethnically, and religiously the same.	<b>Community 1:</b> Lake Huron Sunrise Side
<a href="#">c1663</a> (31163)	<b>Lake Huron:</b> The communities on this map are demographically, economically, culturally, ethnically, and religiously the same. They represent the coastal counties along Lake Huron, also known as the Sunrise Side. They should be united in a state Senate district.	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1671</a> (31174)	<b>Inland Northern Michigan:</b> These communities represent predominantly inland Northern Michigan and share similar demography; culture, ethnicity, religion, and economics. They should be their own state Senate district.	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1688</a> (31223)	<b>Northern Michigan:</b> The communities on this map are of similar interests and share demographics: religion, ethnicity, economics, culture. They are also linked by Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant by and through its public TV station. Together, the communities have the approximate population of a congressional district.	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1691</a> (31237)	<b>Sault+:</b> I'm sure our district will end up being the whole UP plus most of the northern lower, but really, I don't feel any connection to the Western UP, and once you add Petoskey & Traverse City, I don't feel like UP voices are heard at all.	<b>Sault Ste. Marie &amp; Countryside:</b> I'm sure it's very low population, but this is the area that feels like my "home district." Any further afield, and that's "away."
<a href="#">c1850</a> (32661)	<b>My (Proposed) US House District:</b> Northern Michigan	<b>US House District.</b>
<a href="#">c1938</a> (33317)	<b>Northern MI house seat:</b> See my letter dated June 28, 2021 that suggests the two contiguous counties of Leelanau and Grand Traverse form a MI House seat. This map is submitted because of your request dated 7/19/21. Darlene Doorlag	<b>Community 1:</b> Northern MI US Senate Seat
<a href="#">c2652</a> (38377)	<b>Leelanau County:</b> I am happy with the way the district lines are currently drawn. I would like it to continue to be designated as agricultural/tourism. Please do not combine us with the Traverse City area, as we are unique and have our own needs and interests.	<b>Leelanau County:</b> I am happy with the way the district lines are currently drawn. I would like it to continue to be designated as agricultural/tourism. Please do not combine us with the Traverse City area, as we are unique and have our own needs and interests.
<a href="#">c3234</a> (40914)	<b>Do not split Grand Traverse County:</b> Grand Traverse County in its entirety meets the general guidelines for districts and should not be divided.	<b>Grand Traverse County:</b> Grand Traverse County
<a href="#">c639</a> (23748)	<b>northern region.</b>	<b>Grand Traverse Region:</b> This region has people who live and work here mostly because of the values they hold and should be able to be grouped together with the same representation



p1946 (25917)	<b>Cheboygan County.</b>	<b>District 1.</b>
p1947 (25810)	<b>Mike's Cheboygan County plan.</b>	<b>District 1.</b>
p1992 (33998)	<b>Michael's Plan for the 101st:</b> A more sensible northwest Michigan district	<b>District 1.</b>
p326 (21033)	<b>Districting plan for 107th house distric:</b> West end of Mackinac County and Luce County form a geographic COI. This plan achieves a near-perfect district population balance and historically provides a partisan balance.	<b>District 1.</b>
c2561 (37418)	<b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b>	<b>Community 13.</b>
p2401 (36048)	<b>State Senate district.</b>	<b>District 2.</b>
p3270 (41078)	<b>House District:</b> Keep Grand Traverse County intact as a State House district.	<b>District 4.</b>
p1622 (30884)	<b>Redistricting suggestion:</b> This is my suggestion for a community of common interest.	<b>District 5.</b>
c2560 (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>Leelanaw County:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post.



Supporting Data for Cluster C19		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1364 (27293)	<b>Pine Chip Community of Interest -.</b>	<b>Our Commitment to Education , Economic and Health of Our Community of Interest:</b> Our Community of Interest (COI) is our commitment to education and vital health care support. We like having universities, community colleges and great public schools , to bolster our economy and provide excellent health care for our rural districts. The map included outlines our idea for Michigan's 102nd House of Representatives District. It is important to work on making education ...
c1366 (27358)	<b>Pine Chips Community.</b>	<b>Pine Chips Community:</b> Our community is based on the purities of the Pine and Chippewa Rivers that have their headwaters in Mecosta County. We believe the essential economic, education and environmental contributions of hospitals, schools and universities along with our watersheds and waterways need stewardship. As you draw the lines for state and federal districts, please keep in mind this extremely vital fact: The ...
c1686 (31212)	<b>Rural broadband access:</b> This community suffers from both poor economic opportunities and extremely limited access to broadband internet. Due to ineffective federal policy defining 'access' most community members are unable to secure a reasonably affordable internet service, and often unable to secure any service at all. With economic development a high priority, the limited access to broadband exacerbates the economic ch...	<b>Coleman Area:</b> Rural community with low income and extremely limited access to broadband internet.
c1690 (31231)	<b>West Michigan and Sunset Side:</b> The communities represented on this map are communities of interest that share religion, ethnicity, culture, economics and other demographics. In short, a shared way of life. The approximate population of this community is equivalent to a congressional district.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1700 (31314)	<b>Central MI US-127 Corridor:</b> People in this community tend to shop, work and play along the US-127 corridor.	<b>Central MI 127 corridor:</b> Communities along the US 127 corridor tend to shop, work and play along its route.
c1726 (31437)	<b>Zachary R. Wilson's Mid-Michigan Region.</b>	<b>Mid-Michigan:</b> Rural heart of the lower peninsula of Michigan. Bounded by the bay area cities to the east, Lansing to the south, Grand Rapids/ the western coast, and the north of Clare. My reason of picking these is because of being from St .Louis and thinking of the bounds of what I would consider my "home range." These are areas frequently mentioned and within the areas of sports and familial connections.
c1743 (31581)	<b>Isabella County - Congressional District:</b> Isabella County. northern lower Michigan, this map shows a Congressional District that I feel best defines our area of the state.	<b>Lake Isabella, Isabella County:</b> This would be an appropriate Congressional District for our community.
c1856 (32679)	<b>School District.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> This would be a school services community. These school districts have similar economic status in common.



<p>c1866 (32719)</p>	<p><b>Proposed US Congressional District:</b> Proposed US Congressional District to accompany written input from July 2. These Michigan counties include the 5 counties (Leelanau, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Antrim and Kalkaska) that share more interests and cultural and historical history than our current vast geographic District 1 encompassing 25,000 square miles, all of the 15 Upper Peninsula counties and 17 Lower Peninsula counties.</p>	<p><b>US Congressional District:</b> I sent public comment on a proposed "community of interest" on July 2 and am now adding a map for the US Congressional District. My original request was to pair Leelanau and part of Grand Traverse counties, but this is too small a federal district. The larger proposed district shares common interests and has historical and cultural similarities way beyond those counties comprising the current fede...</p>
<p>c3127 (40390)</p>	<p><b>Test:</b> This is only an arbitrarily drawn area to test of the software; it does not intentionally represent a meaningful community.</p>	<p><b>Test community:</b> This is an arbitrary polygon to test the software</p>
<p>c3390 (41751)</p>	<p><b>Keep Clare county together:</b> Clare is a cohesive community with a population that generally has similar interests, values, and use of public and private resources. I live a half mile over the Clare county line in Isabella county but work in Clare county and most of my interactions are in Clare county.</p>	<p><b>Keep Clare county together:</b> Clare county is a pretty cohesive rural community with similarities throughout the county in terms of population characteristics, interests, and use of public and private resources.</p>
<p>p1438 (28407)</p>	<p><b>Central Michigan State House Plan.</b></p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1439 (28409)</p>	<p><b>Central Michigan State House Map:</b> I draw a state house district for the Central Michigan region that includes Isabella County and the northern portion of Gratiot County. There are numerous communities of interest linking the two areas, a few examples being education, transportation, watersheds and tribal land. Also this makes a competitive district with no party having an advantage.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2213 (35174)</p>	<p><b>Mt. Pleasant and County Need Change.</b></p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2250 (35333)</p>	<p><b>Central Michigan State House district:</b> The redistricting of the state is a large burden but a necessary one deemed by the voters. I have created a map for the central Michigan district that includes all of Isabella county and the northern half of Gratiot county. These area are tied together by various means. We share the RESD, the Chippewa River watershed, and tribal community to name a few. Our economic ties are shared with the 127 hi...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2259 (35338)</p>	<p><b>Isabella and Gratiot State House Map:</b> This is a tough job that has been tasked to the commission by the people of Michigan. We have an opportunity to create a fair map for our citizens to have an equal vote for our government. As a resident of Mt Pleasant in Isabella County, I feel the best way to represent Central Michigan is by having a state house district include Isabella County and the northern portion of Gratiot County, around...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2323 (35582)</p>	<p><b>New 99th State house:</b> I am asking you to consider pairing Isabella county and the northern part of Gratiot county in Michigan House District for 99th. There are a lot more ties between Isabella and northern Gratiot. The Gratiot- Isabella Regional Education Service district serves students in public, private and parochial schools in our community. Higher education is an economic and cultural driver. Central Michigan Uni...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3210 (40814)</p>	<p><b>Include Osceola Co:</b> The 33rd Senate District should include Osceola County. Clare and Osceola are very similar in demographics and population. As a bordering county, we find that we work together on cases that cross county lines. I feel that if Osceola was included we would be better served and represented in Lansing on the similar needs of our communities.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



<p>c2561 (37418)</p>	<p><b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 12.</b></p>
<p>p359 (21434)</p>	<p><b>99th House dist educational catchment:</b> Good evening, and thank you for the opportunity to address you. My name is Cathy Willermet and I live in Mt. Pleasant, home of Central Michigan University (Fire Up Chips!) I ask that you consider educational catchment in your redistricting efforts for the State House district #99. Mount Pleasant is a town of about 26,000, surrounded by smaller rural communities right in the center of the state. W...</p>	<p><b>District 2.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Mt. Pleasant community of interest:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post</p>
<p>p1310 (25445)</p>	<p><b>Federal House Lower Peninsula, W.Coast:</b> The mission of the Leelanau Early Childhood Development Commission (LECDC.) is to "provide families access to a high quality, comprehensive, accountable system of care and pre-school experience for children birth through age 5." The LECDC Board members are long term, and some life long, residents of Leelanau County. We are all active in our community and can say with certainty that we know the h...</p>	<p><b>District 3.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C20		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1619</a> (30844)	<b>Rose's submission plan for DeWitt:</b> Re-Districting My name is Rosemarie DeLoof and I live in south DeWitt township in Clinton county. Clinton is just north of Ingham county. I grew up on a dairy farm in south DeWitt township. When I married I moved out of the area. My parents and siblings continued to live in the township. This community reflected my values then and it does today. In our retirement years my husband and I have moved ...	<b>Community I:</b> These counties are all rural and have similar interest and population. It would be a disservice to have them mixed with urban communities.
<a href="#">c1732</a> (31506)	<b>Mid-Michigan:</b> Combination of rural, small towns, and medium sized cities	<b>Mid Michigan:</b> Combination of rural, small towns, and medium sized city.
<a href="#">c1884</a> (32841)	<b>Hello Township:</b> This is a very important community of interest that always greets you with a smile.	<b>Hello Township Area:</b> This is a very friendly community in the state of Michigan that is always welcoming and greets you the way you want to be greeted.
<a href="#">c814</a> (24762)	<b>Central MI District Proposal:</b> These are all the places I range for work, within the community I have built among friends and co-workers. These boundaries represent the areas from which I have worked with contractors on professional or community projects. I only propose my district (roughly) due to admittedly not knowing much about areas outside their outside of tourism.	<b>Central Michigan.</b>
<a href="#">p1588</a> (30585)	<b>Tom DeFouw: Mi Congressional District:</b> I have submitted a House, Senate, and Congressional District as requested. Thank you.	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p1625</a> (30891)	<b>Betty Jo Nelson - Congressional:</b> Thank you for considering my congressional district map. Betty Jo Nelson	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p1626</a> (30891)	<b>Betty Jo Nelson - Congressional:</b> Thank you for considering my congressional district map. Betty Jo Nelson	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p1731</a> (31482)	<b>Continuity in Central Michigan:</b> I drew this based on my residence in Midland and what I believe to be commonalities for my area. Midland County is an interesting blend of highly technical industry, primary area for health care and has smaller communities in adjoining counties commuting to the City of Midland.	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p977</a> (25937)	<b>Bay City/Midland/Mt. Pleasant District:</b> Justifiable Community of Interest. Small cities, small towns, rural communities, farming communities, industry, fits population threshold - compact	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p1188</a> (26799)	<b>Lupe Petroff, central Michigan congress:</b> These counties share similar interests. Lots of farms and small towns with very different needs than more populated areas. I live in Shiawassee County and we deserve to have a member of Congress that looks out for us. My map breaks no county lines and it is compact.	<b>District 12.</b>
<a href="#">c2463</a> (36705)	<b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.	<b>East Central:</b> Including Mt Pleasant, Midland, Saginaw and Bay City which has a unique position of potentially providing sustainable hydro-power to the rest of the state through methods being explored in the industry.



c2561 (37418)	<b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b>	<b>Community 8.</b>
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Supporting Data for Cluster C21		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1405 (27742)	<b>Dow-Midland PCB &amp; Dioxin Cleanup:</b> Dow Corporation of Midland, Michigan has a long history of discharging dioxins, PCBs and other chemicals into the Tittabawassee River, from where they flowed into the wetlands of Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge and on down the Saginaw River through Saginaw and Bay City to Saginaw Bay. Much of the discharged material remains in the river sediment and in flood plains, with a result that there ar...	<b>Dow-Midland PCB &amp; Dioxin cleanup:</b> Dow Corporation of Midland, Michigan has a long history of discharging dioxins, PCBs and other chemicals into the Tittabawassee River, from where they flowed into the wetlands of Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge and on down the Saginaw River through Saginaw and Bay City to Saginaw Bay. Much of the discharged material remains in the river sediment and in flood plains, with a result that there ar...
c1604 (30747)	<b>The Tittabawassee River Community.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> The Tittabawassee River Community. A community that encompasses rural areas as well as small towns and small cities that the residents live and work next to and depend on the river for recreational activities as well as the tourism the river brings that helps drive the local business in the area. This is also an area that has recently seen devastating flooding that has also strengthened the sen...
c1746 (31587)	<b>Saginaw/Bay City Area:</b> The Saginaw and Bay City area is where I live and work.	<b>Community 1:</b> Saginaw/Bay City area
c1782 (32214)	<b>Midland Bay and Saginaw Counties:</b> This community consists of the three counties, Midland, Bay and Saginaw. Historically, they have co-operated in providing Air Transportation (MBS) and post High School Education (Delta College) For these reasons and others, this diverse community should be able to vote in such a way as to keep our common interests at the forefront of our representative government.	<b>TriCounty Saginaw Bay:</b> This is a community that shares an Economic Interest in that employees, employers and NGO services are shared in this geographic Area
c1827 (32472)	<b>Robert's submission plan:</b> The community is multi cultural. Many activities revolve around waterfront and a variety of cultural events. The area is connected by rail trails as well as the Saginaw Bay and the Tittabawassee and Saginaw waterways.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1828 (32491)	<b>Sally's Greater Midland Area Map:</b> As a lifelong Midlander, I made an effort to include communities surrounding the City which I feel should be included in a congressional district. I think the Midland area is distinct from Bay and Saginaw Counties, and has more in common with some of the rural municipalities to the North and Northeast of the City of Midland.	<b>Greater Midland Area:</b> I chose to draw this community surrounding where I live, in the City of Midland.
c1903 (32967)	<b>Bay area Plan.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> Midland and Bay County
c1914 (33044)	<b>Matt - Midland-Bay City-Saginaw:</b> The exact size of this district is open for revision, however there is no doubt these communities' economies, families, and overall success will forever be linked. A large number of residents work in Midland, Bay City, or Saginaw but live in more rural communities like Swan Creek, Auburn, Freeland, etc. Youth sports, school activities, and entertainment consistently cause residents to move freel...	<b>Midland-Bay City-Saginaw:</b> The exact size of this district is open for revision, however there is no doubt these communities' economies, families, and overall success will forever be linked. A large number of residents work in Midland, Bay City, or Saginaw but live in more rural communities like Swan Creek, Auburn, Freeland, etc. Youth sports, school activities, and entertainment consistently cause residents to move freel...



<p>c2012 (34317)</p>	<p><b>Community of interest is the Tri-Cities:</b> My community of interest is the Tri-Cities of Bay City, Midland, Saginaw.</p>	<p><b>Tri Cities- Bay City, Midland, Saginaw:</b> The Tri Cities composed of Bay City, Midland, and Saginaw have long had cultural, historical, and economic ties. Today they continue to expand toward each other, along with the smaller surrounding communities creating a diverse metropolitan area. The Tri Cities should not be separated, but considered as a whole community of interest as they always have .</p>
<p>c2013 (34317)</p>	<p><b>Community of interest is the Tri-Cities:</b> The Tri Cities composed of Bay City, Midland, and Saginaw have long had cultural, historical, and economic ties. Today they continue to expand toward each other, along with the smaller surrounding communities creating a diverse metropolitan area. The Tri Cities should not be separated, but considered as a whole community of interest as they always have .</p>	<p><b>Tri Cities- Bay City, Midland, Saginaw:</b> The Tri Cities composed of Bay City, Midland, and Saginaw have long had cultural, historical, and economic ties. Today they continue to expand toward each other, along with the smaller surrounding communities creating a diverse metropolitan area. The Tri Cities should not be separated, but considered as a whole community of interest as they always have .</p>
<p>c2480 (36858)</p>	<p><b>Martha's Community of Interest:</b> Saginaw County is where I and my family live, work, and play. My special needs son receives special services in our county, our place of worship, employment, and recreation occur primarily within our county. My care and concern is focused on the people within my own community. I want it to be easier to work together for stronger families and economic growth.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c253 (19762)</p>	<p><b>MBS: Midland, Bay and Saginaw Counties:</b> Midland, Bay and Saginaw Counties are united by shared history, interests and challenges. Unifiers include MBS Airport, Delta College, Saginaw Valley State University, the I-75/US-10 Crossroads, the Tittabawassee/Saginaw Rivers, Dow Chemical operations, The Dow Event Center and much more. They are "Tri-Cities" in almost every sense—except for the current, blatantly gerrymandered boundaries between...</p>	<p><b>MBS: Midland-Bay-Saginaw Counties:</b> The 3 counties of Midland, Bay and Saginaw are united by common ties of transportation, education, culture, environment and commerce. MBS International Airport serves and is jointly operated by the region. The I-75 / US-10 intersection links road traffic. Delta College serves and is operated by the 3 counties. Saginaw Valley State Univ. draws most of its students from these 3 counties. Many busin...</p>
<p>c2544 (37241)</p>	<p><b>Saginaw County.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2552 (37329)</p>	<p><b>Saginaw County.</b></p>	<p><b>Saginaw County.</b></p>
<p>c3082 (40102)</p>	<p><b>Midland and Gladwin Counties Together:</b> Midland and Gladwin counties should stay together for both Senate and Congressional districts; and you could even consider all of Midland county plus a portion of Gladwin county (the Tittabawassee rivershed portion) for a House district. There are several reasons to do this . My name is Anne and I live in Lincoln Township, which is in Midland County, with a Sanford mailing address. Tonight, I wa...</p>	<p><b>Midland and Gladwin Counties:</b> Midland and Gladwin counties should stay together for both Senate and Congressional districts; and you could even consider all of Midland county plus a portion of Gladwin county (the Tittabawassee rivershed portion) for a House district. There are several reasons to do this . My name is Anne and I live in Lincoln Township, which is in Midland County, with a Sanford mailing address. Tonight, I wa...</p>
<p>c3391 (41753)</p>	<p><b>Keep Isabella county together:</b> Isabella county is a fairly cohesive community with people of common values and interests and using the same public and private resources. It is best served keeping it together.</p>	<p><b>Keep Isabella county together:</b> Isabella county is a fairly cohesive community with similar values and interests and are served by the same public and private resources. It would be best served being kept as one in redistricting plans.</p>
<p>c353 (21400)</p>	<p><b>Tri-Counties for State Senate District:</b> Bay County is the Community of Interest. The map is my request for State Senate redistricting as well as those who are in my community of interest, called I-75, A River Runs Through It.</p>	<p><b>Bay County Community of Interest:</b> Bay County is a community where residents are connected by many gathering places, by many annual festivals that residents volunteer to make happen, by Tall Ships Festival, by Bay Sail, by DOW Bay Area Family YMCA, by the famous St. Patrick's Day Parade, by the St. Stan's Polish Festival. By Fishing Competitions.</p>



c373 (21544)	<b>Tittabawassee River Community:</b> This community is closely linked by a shared waterway, the Tittabawassee River. The area has also experienced extreme flooding due to dam failures last year. The area is still working together to recover.	<b>Community 1:</b> Tittabawassee River Community
p1529 (29467)	<b>Tri-Cities Senate District:</b> Hello again commissioners, based on many recent comments from people within my area talking about how they want a State Senate district that included Bay City, Saginaw, and Midland, so I created just that. Within this plan, it connects the Tri-Cities into one state Senate district in which it includes the main cities, Bay City, Saginaw and Midland, as well as the other cities and towns of Auburn, ...	<b>District 1.</b>
p1817 (30490)	<b>Monumental Map- By Ezekiel Project:</b> This is a community of interest map made in precinct format to demonstrate our exact location/s This map marks a new beginning for our district. It is our desire to create a more challenging and more competitive district. We want to ensure that folks work to earn our vote and get us representation for what we need and deserve in order for us to thrive as a community. To that end, we want to be ...	<b>District 1.</b>
p899 (25238)	<b>Tri-Cities State Senate District:</b> As a resident of Bay City, I feel very little in common with the other places in my current Senate district (Lapeer and Tuscola Counties). I feel like a district that contains Bay City, Midland, and Saginaw would be better suited to meet the representation needs of this area, as we share more in common with them than the other two counties in the current district.	<b>District 1.</b>
p976 (25932)	<b>Saginaw/Shiawassee State Senate Dist.:</b> Almost two whole counties that have similar communities of interest - small towns, small cities, rural communities, farms. Also very compact.	<b>District 1.</b>
c2560 (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>Tri-Cities:</b> Contradicts another request, but Midland/Bay City/Saginaw together as a community of interest in a post.
p1126 (26195)	<b>MBS-Tri-Cities:</b> To the Michigan Redistricting Commission: As we look to Michigan's 32nd senate district, there are several reasons this district must be redrawn. Historically, Saginaw, Midland and Bay City have been known as the Tri-cities. Three communities working together, pooling resources for mutual benefit has and should continue to be our moniker. In the content below you will find that these communitie...	<b>District 15.</b>
c353 (21400)	<b>Tri-Counties for State Senate District:</b> Bay County is the Community of Interest. The map is my request for State Senate redistricting as well as those who are in my community of interest, called I-75, A River Runs Through It.	<b>Community 2 Midland City:</b> portion of Midland County
p2625 (37871)	<b>Tri-City State Senate District:</b> This is a rough idea of what I would like to see as a State Senate district. Bringing the City of Midland, Bay City, and the City of Saginaw together as the tri-cities because of the cultural, travel, and business connections between them. I think that this would better represent the people in these cities than the current State Senate districts.	<b>District 23.</b>
p2486 (36940)	<b>Bay-Sag-Midland/St Senate:</b> This would be a state senate district that aligns the cities of Bay City, Saginaw and Midland as an "urban-metropolitan statistical area", the northernmost region in Mich that is so defined. The Tri-Cities converge at the interections of the Tittabawassee and Saginaw Rivers and I-75 which is how our region thrives economically, culturally and socially as a Community of Interest.	<b>District 27.</b>



<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Saginaw County:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post.</p>
<p>c353 (21400)</p>	<p><b>Tri-Counties for State Senate District:</b> Bay County is the Community of Interest. The map is my request for State Senate redistricting as well as those who are in my community of interest, called I-75, A River Runs Through It.</p>	<p><b>Community 3 Saginaw County.</b></p>
<p>p1585 (30401)</p>	<p><b>Tri-Counties for State Senate District:</b> I am submitting this Community of Interest Map as a State Senate District. Saginaw, Bay City and Midland are called the Tri-Cities. All three cities are urban/suburban communities with similar history, economy, industry, and environmental interests. Twenty years ago, Bay County was gerrymandered away from the Tri-County region in terms of state representation. Bay County was joined with Tuscola ...</p>	<p><b>District 3.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Bay County:</b> Keeping the county intact was requested as a community of interest.</p>
<p>p1185 (26796)</p>	<p><b>Peter's Saginaw County Senate District:</b> This respects county lines. It's two full counties that serves a well balanced community of interest. I live in Brant Township. We are a rural community, but this district serves rural, suburban, and urban interests. It follows the rule of compactness that the commission should follow if possible.</p>	<p><b>Titawabasee River watershed:</b> Identified as a community of interest</p>
<p>p1183 (26792)</p>	<p><b>Michael's Plan for Tuscola County:</b> Tuscola County and Huron County are already together in our state rep district. We have many farming communities that make up a Community of Interest in the thumb area. This sticks with county lines and is compact.</p>	<p><b>Mid-Michigan/Midland:</b> Conflicts with other communities of interest, but identified as a community of interest.</p>
		<p><b>District 5.</b></p>
		<p><b>District 7.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C22		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1076 (26380)	<b>Metro Detroit—Western Suburbs COI:</b> I have lived in the western suburbs for more than 50 years. I grew up in Westland and attended Wayne-Westland schools, including Wayne Memorial High School in Wayne. I now live in Livonia, and my son attended Livonia public schools for his entire K-12 education. I also lived in Plymouth for a short time. I believe that K12 school districts, especially in the Detroit Metro area, should play a larg...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1646 (31127)	<b>DC's West Willow Voting District:</b> This is the "west willow" neighborhood .	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2349 (35660)	<b>Equity in Airport Zone:</b> The black and Hispanic working-class in the airport zone has gone ignored for too long. Many work at the airports or in nearby industries but also suffer from the pollution. They deserve a majority black working-class state rep district.	<b>Black Majority Airport Area.</b>
c2677 (38058)	<b>Canton Township - Community of Interest:</b> Canton Township as a community of interest, should be kept together in mapping Congressional, State Senate and State House of Representatives districts. The 36 square miles of Canton is now the third largest community in Wayne County and the ninth largest local municipal unit in the State. With over 98,000 residents Canton has become a dynamic and uniquely diverse community with a range of socio...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3215 (40833)	<b>Ann Arbor, Ypsi, and western Wayne:</b> Thanks Commissioner Witjes! Please continue to not let the regions define districts. Some regions do not align with communities at all because they were defined by DC politicians in 2017 – not by voters. Remember, this process is about voters, not politicians. I'd like to commend Commissioner Witjes for his defense of COIs and reminders to dismiss the politician-drawn regions. Additionally, I'd ...	<b>Ann Arbor, Ypsi, and western Wayne:</b> Thanks Commissioner Witjes! Please continue to not let the regions define districts. Some regions do not align with communities at all because they were defined by DC politicians in 2017 – not by voters. Remember, this process is about voters, not politicians. I'd like to commend Commissioner Witjes for his defense of COIs and reminders to dismiss the politician-drawn regions. Additionally, I'd ...
c586 (23540)	<b>Van Buren Map of Community Interest:</b> Map for public comment to the Michigan Redistricting Commission to keep the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township in the same district.	<b>Charter Township of Van Buren:</b> Charter Township of Van Buren
p840 (24924)	<b>Caribbean Community of Interest Inkster:</b> This is a community of interest map submission designed to demonstrate the exact precincts it contains Good afternoon, My name is Sophia Chue. I am the Executive Director of the Caribbean Community Service Center in Michigan. CCSC's mission is the SEA, to support, empower and advocate for Caribbean nationals who are here in the Americas, as well as new arrivals. The Caribbean comm...	<b>District 1.</b>
c2481 (36879)	<b>Racially Integrated Suburbs(2020 Census):</b> 2020 Census Data has been loaded at the Dave's Redistricting website, including demographic data. If Commissioners haven't gotten updated Data from EDS yet, they can play with the maps at Dave's Redistricting website to build their knowledge about the population shifts in the 2020 census. . . . One thing I am proud to see is the unprecedented racial integration in the suburbs. The blue area, whi...	<b>Western Wayne and Washtenaw Integrated Area:</b> This area has gone from 28.1% African-American VAP to



<p>c586 (23540)</p>	<p><b>Van Buren Map of Community Interest:</b> Map for public comment to the Michigan Redistricting Commission to keep the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township in the same district.</p>	<p><b>City of Belleville:</b> City of Belleville</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Black/Hispanic Airport community:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post.</p>
<p>c586 (23540)</p>	<p><b>Van Buren Map of Community Interest:</b> Map for public comment to the Michigan Redistricting Commission to keep the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township in the same district.</p>	<p><b>Sumpter Township:</b> Sumpter Township</p>
<p>p1552 (29623)</p>	<p><b>Cities of Westland and Wayne:</b> I attempted to capture all of the City of Wayne and all of the City of Westland-however the population was greater than the ideal. So I adjusted the community of interest because the area of Westland in the NE is a very engaged community with the City, however are not represented by the same State House District. State House districts need to follow the geographic lines more.</p>	<p><b>District 3.</b></p>
<p>c1990 (33078)</p>	<p><b>Wayne County - Together not Disjointed:</b> Michigan Avenue (route 12) – I am within walking distance of this main shopping and ethnic restaurant corridor. It runs through the diverse communities of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, and Westland. Dearborn is especially diverse because it holds one of the largest Arab populations in the US. City of Dearborn Recreation and Performing Art Center contains a fitness center, a...</p>	<p><b>North Wayne County:</b> Edward Hines Park is a 19 mile continuous park which connects Dearborn to Northville. It is used by the residents of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Westland and many others. Residents enjoy the picnic areas, walking trails, soccer fields, children playgrounds and the annual Christmas Light Festival displayed along the Edward Hines Drive. This road is also used by area resident...</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C23		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1384 (27493)	<b>Frenchtown Township's Resort District Au:</b> My COI is the Frenchtown Resort District Authority in Monroe County. The Resort Authority was created 20+ years ago as a result of the need to build and maintain infrastructure for the area of Frenchtown commonly called "The Beaches". The physical area stretches from the property where the Fermi III nuclear power plant is to just south of Sterling State Park. A map is attached which outlines mos...	<b>Frenchtown Resort Authority District:</b> This COI is Monroe County Frenchtown Township Resort District Authority. It is a legal entity consisting of the beach areas lining Monroe County's Brest Bay which is bound primarily by the Fermi Atomic Power Plant II to the north and the City of Monroe's northern border to the south. The "Beaches" are primarily structures built between the 1920's and 1960's as summer resort areas along Lake Erie...
c1402 (27694)	<b>Lenawee and Monroe - Don't Split Us!</b> Monroe and Lenawee County are connected in multiple ways, and therefore should not be broken up in Congressional representation as a community of interest. First of all, we share a major route of commerce and transportation, M-50. This major route of transit connects the two counties to Lake Erie, the City of Jackson, and many other small communities that rely on the route for daily transportation...	<b>Community I:</b> Lenawee and Monroe County
c208 (19624)	<b>Monroe as a suburb of Detroit:</b> Monroe is more of a bedroom community of Detroit than it is a rural countryside.	<b>Monroe:</b> Monroe is a blue dot in the middle of a sea of red that was redistricted into obscurity in 2011 much to the chagrin of its residents. It really belongs to Southern Wayne County.
c2496 (37033)	<b>Monroe/Lenawee:</b> I am a lifelong resident of Monroe county and I have heard so many rumors that people think our area is like Ann Arbor and Detroit. We have more in common with each other than those Major Urban areas. We have smaller colleges and universities, not major universities like them. We have small cities that service surrounding area, they have major urban cores.	<b>Monroe/Lenawee.</b>
c2497 (37038)	<b>Healthcare:</b> In our area Promedica healthcare out of Toledo operates the hospitals in the region. This means for many specialized services we head into Toledo. Healthcare is a major industry in our area and our lack of connection to UM Health, St Joe, Henry Ford make us a unique community.	<b>Healthcare:</b> In our area Promedica healthcare out of Toledo operates the hospitals in the region. This means for many specialized services we head into Toledo. Healthcare is a major industry in our area and our lack of connection to UM Health, St Joe, Henry Ford make us a unique community.
c2502 (37051)	<b>Partnerships:</b> There are many partnerships in our region that unite us a large community. From the Michigan State Police to United Way our counties are used as a region for state organizations and nonprofits.	<b>Partnerships:</b> There are many partnerships in our region that unite us a large community. From the Michigan State Police to United Way our counties are used as a region for state organizations and nonprofits.
c2503 (37054)	<b>back the blue:</b> I was raised to back the blue and support the police. All over my region I see flags, signs, t-shirts of people supporting the police. This isnt true of other areas and I couldnt imagine living where the police arent fully supported and respected.	<b>Back the Blue:</b> I was raised to back the blue and support the police. All over my region I see flags, signs, t-shirts of people supporting the police. This isnt true of other areas and I couldnt imagine living where the police arent fully supported and respected.
c2568 (37428)	<b>Fair Maps Project - SD-6 - 2020 Census:</b> Honorable Commissioners – On August 4th we published (submission 01993) the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past seven months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC's redistricting process. We are in the process of updating our maps to reflect population shifts...	<b>Fair Maps Project - SD-6 - 2020 Census update.</b>



<p>c2697 (38646)</p>	<p><b>Redistrict Brownstown:</b> Brownstown is more like the surrounding south areas where there are small businesses and open areas unlike the towns north and east of us which are heavily populated. The socioeconomic situation of Taylor, Romulus, Lincoln Park have different needs than our area.</p>	<p><b>Community 1:</b> Brownstown is more like the surrounding south areas where there are small businesses and open areas unlike the towns north and east of us which are heavily populated. The socioeconomic situation of Taylor, Romulus, Lincoln Park have different needs than our area.</p>
<p>c2699 (38654)</p>	<p><b>Redistrict communities:</b> The composition of Brownstown is better aligned with the communities south and west from it rather than the communities it is clumped with now, such as with Allen Park and Lincoln Park which fit more closely with a Detroit neighborhood. We are also not like Ann Arbor which is a college town of transients.</p>	<p><b>Community 1:</b> The composition of Brownstown is better aligned with the communities south and west from it rather than the communities it is clumped with now, such as with Allen Park and Lincoln Park which fit more closely with a Detroit neighborhood. We are also not like Ann Arbor which is a college town of transients.</p>
<p>c2727 (38728)</p>	<p><b>Listen to 20+ COIs on Monroe and Lenawee:</b> I previously submitted a COI regarding the similarities and connections between Lenawee and Monroe counties. Many other individuals did the same, at least over 20 that I could find. It was extremely disheartening to see Commissioner Eid draw a State Senate map that split these two. As I previously stated, there are many good reasons to connect the counties as a community of interest. We share many...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3232 (40904)</p>	<p><b>Lake Erie fishing:</b> Working in the fishing industry I know the importance of our industry on the local economy. In line with this is the river raisin watershed. This watershed and its cleanliness is important to our industry. This community has worked hand in hand to support our industry.</p>	<p><b>Lake Erie fishing - river raisin.</b></p>
<p>c3396 (41767)</p>	<p><b>Anthony Eid Resign:</b> Anthony Eid is a complete partisan hack. Eid claimed to not be affiliated with any party, but his social media has proven otherwise. Eid has not followed the majority of COIs submitted, which group specific communities that are alike together. Instead he is attempting to break communities apart in order to give a democrat the leg up. When I voted for the independent commission, I knew there might ...</p>	<p><b>Community 1:</b> Anthony Eid is a complete partisan hack. Eid claimed to not be affiliated with any party, but his social media has proven otherwise. Eid has not followed the majority of COIs submitted, which group specific communities that are alike together. Instead he is attempting to break communities apart in order to give a democrat the leg up. When I voted for the independent commission, I knew there might ...</p>
<p>p228 (19765)</p>	<p><b>Redistricting plan:</b> Please consider this redistricting plan</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p229 (19766)</p>	<p><b>House redistricting plan:</b> Please consider this house redistricting plan including communities of interest and county lines. Thank you</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2649 (38304)</p>	<p><b>Monroe is not rural:</b> Monroe Commutes! Monroe county is tied-in with I-75/I-275 to work, shop, and dine. Over 50% of Monroe county workers leave the county to work!</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2751 (38760)</p>	<p><b>Monroe Lenawee watershed to Lake Erie:</b> Monroe is an agricultural county with natural connections to Lenawee County. We share the border with Ohio, share the river raisin watershed, and much of the same economic factors. Our local schools are connected to the agricultural community as well. MCCC has an agricultural program, and JC at LISD has an agricultural program as well. Even in northern Monroe, we identify more with Toledo than we ...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2752 (38762)</p>	<p><b>Monroe Lenawee Collaboration:</b> Environmentally, socially, and economically Monroe is a rural area deserving to be combined with similar communities. Please let urban areas have representatives focused on the challenges associated with urban areas and rural areas have representatives focused on rural issues. Anything else and you will drown out the voices of both communities.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



<p>p565 (23381)</p>	<p><b>Monroe &amp; Lenawee:</b> As a resident of Lenawee county and as an involved member of the community I feel strongly that the best representation for state senate in my area would be to elect a person from a district that is composed of Lenawee and Monroe counties. In my area there are many connections between the two counties that connect us economically and culturally. This region shares a state police post, family medic...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p623 (23702)</p>	<p><b>Monroe-Lenawee Senate District:</b> I am the Township Supervisor for Bedford Township. We are more similar to Toledo than we are to Detroit or Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti. To illustrate this point, here are some of the interests tying us more to our border than the vastly different communities to our north: shared infrastructure, unions, United Way, print and broadcast media, hospital (ProMedica), environmental concerns related to the River...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Monroe/Adrian:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C24		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1537</a> (29551)	<b>Addition to Submission on Downriver:</b> I previously submitted this comment. I live on Grosse Ile which is part of an area of Southeast Michigan often referred to as "downriver." As a community of interest, downriver has traditionally shared not only recreation, schools, churches, and community events but also police and emergency support through the Downriver Mutual Aid agreement that pairs local police, SWAT, hazardous spill responses...	<b>Downriver Community of Interest:</b> Allen Park Brownstown Township Ecorse Flat Rock Gibraltar Grosse Ile Township Huron Charter Township New Boston Lincoln Park Melvindale River Rouge Riverview Rockwood Romulus Southgate Taylor Trenton Woodhaven Wyandotte
<a href="#">c1560</a> (29684)	<b>Downriver Community - Keep Together:</b> Hi, my name is Brian Kelly. I have been a resident of Wyandotte, Michigan, going on 19 years. I moved here from Ohio in 2002 to work for the EPA as an emergency responder doing chemical and oil spill cleanup. I worked on the Enbridge Pipeline Spill, Flint Drinking Water Response, and cleaned up environmental hazards in every part of Michigan. I would have attended a live meeting of the Commission,...	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1641</a> (31050)	<b>A2-Ypsi + Plymouth canton + upper downri:</b> Having grown up downriver and spent much time in the AA-Ypsilanti-Plymouth/canton area, this is a common sense daily life, environmental, and economics community of interest	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1741</a> (31577)	<b>Downriver metro Detroit:</b> Downriver communities, while close to Detroit, Monroe County, and the western suburbs, is not anything like them.	<b>Downriver:</b> Downriver is not Detroit, Monroe County, or the western suburbs in any way. Bundling it up with those places is gerrymandering.
<a href="#">c1848</a> (32648)	<b>Downriver:</b> Downriver area - south of Detroit in Wayne County	<b>Downriver:</b> Downriver - south of Detroit in Wayne County
<a href="#">c1865</a> (32730)	<b>Keep Downriver together:</b> Keep Downriver together	<b>Community 1:</b> Downriver, keep together
<a href="#">c3347</a> (41008)	<b>Monroe: Monroe is more than farmland:</b> I am a long time Monroe resident and I wanted to provide the Commission with my community of interest. Monroe and Downriver share so many characteristics, from the Huron River, to a manufacturing economic base, to the shared value of hard work. Many factory plant workers from Downriver call Monroe there home, and many folks from Downriver take the time to enjoy Monroe's beautiful lake and riverfro...	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c3383</a> (41728)	<b>Eid Lied to Michigan:</b> Michiganders put their faith in individuals to not lie about their party affiliation. There was no verification so all we had was trust. Eid broke that trust. He lied to Michigan. Now he refuses to work with his colleagues so he can gerrymander dividing communities, ignoring the constitution. He's a partisan hack who is ruining this commission. He has two options to restore the faith in this proce...	<b>Community 1:</b> Michiganders put their faith in individuals to not lie about their party affiliation. There was no verification so all we had was trust. Eid broke that trust. He lied to Michigan. Now he refuses to work with his colleagues so he can gerrymander dividing communities, ignoring the constitution. He's a partisan hack who is ruining this commission. He has two options to restore the faith in this proce...
<a href="#">c466</a> (22383)	<b>Downriver:</b> Downriver is the unofficial name for a collection of 18 cities and townships in Wayne County, Michigan, south of Detroit, along the western shore of the Detroit River. It's a community of interest that's distinct in the Detroit metro area. Characterized for it's working-class character and access to and organization around the Detroit river. Focused representation at the State House, Senate, an...	<b>Downriver:</b> Downriver is the unofficial name for a collection of 18 cities and townships in Wayne County, Michigan, south of Detroit, along the western shore of the Detroit River. It's a community of interest that's distinct in the Detroit metro area. Characterized for it's working-class character and access to and organization around the Detroit river. Focused representation at the State House, Senate, an...



<p>c752 (24354)</p>	<p><b>Downriver Community of Interest:</b> This is the area I live in. I live in Melvindale (one of the 18 Core Downriver communities). "Downriverites" have a great deal in common, and our area is a prime example of a community of interest. But Downriver has been split across multiple congressional districts for decades. Core Downriver has about half the population required for a congressional district, so I have also indicated "Greater Do..."</p>	<p><b>Core Downriver:</b> These are the 18 core Downriver communities, which have a lot in common with one another. But for decades, these communities have never been in the same congressional district.</p>
<p>p1386 (27517)</p>	<p><b>Downriver/Northeast Monroe Co.:</b> This plan creates a State Senate district that combines all the communities along the water - Southeast Detroit (River), River Rouge, Lincoln Park, Wyandotte and on down including the eastern part of Monroe County, including parts of Berlin Township, Frenchtown Township, City of Monroe, parts of Monroe Township, and part of LaSalle Township. It combines those communities of interest, areas that d...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p2833 (39305)</p>	<p><b>Dearborn, Downriver &amp; Monroe County:</b> Dearborn, Dearborn Hgts., Downriver and Monroe County are connected through work, recreation, worship and more. There are 18 communities in the Downriver region. They should all be included in the same congressional district. Many of us work, go to school or church in Dearborn and Dearborn Hgts. They are an unofficial part of the Downriver region. Moving farther down the river is Monroe county w...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p465 (22382)</p>	<p><b>A downriver Congressional District:</b> The benefit of the current 12th district is it connects these mostly southwestern Wayne County communities to the Detroit river, with the bulk of them making up an important community of interest, downriver. These communities are distinct, with important interests that require focused political representation, and this is a rough illustration of a Congressional district that could help do that.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p470 (22415)</p>	<p><b>Downriver-Monroe County-SE MI Corner:</b> Downriver-Monroe County-Southeastern Michigan Corner Congressional District The proposed map for the Downriver-Monroe County-Southeastern Michigan Corner Congressional District keeps numerous important communities of interest together while building around key transportation corridors, economic development regions, natural features and educational institutions service areas. I. Highlights of th...</p>	<p><b>District 11.</b></p>
<p>p2997 (39864)</p>	<p><b>Perfect Downriver Congressional District:</b> Hello Commissioners, Here I have made a congressional district including the entirety of the Downriver region, with some other nearby areas added to make the population equal. The additional areas, while not parts of the "core" Downriver area, are very similar, have very close ties to the core communities, and many of the residents there even identify as Downriverites. The current district plan ...</p>	<p><b>District 12.</b></p>
<p>c208 (19624)</p>	<p><b>Monroe as a suburb of Detroit:</b> Monroe is more of a bedroom community of Detroit than it is a rural countryside.</p>	<p><b>The greater Monroe municipal area.:</b> The name's tongue-in-cheek but I'm serious about being culturally closer to Wayne County than any of the largely rural counties to the West.</p>
<p>c2561 (37418)</p>	<p><b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b></p>	<p><b>South Detroit and suburbs:</b> South Detroit and suburbs</p>
<p>c752 (24354)</p>	<p><b>Downriver Community of Interest:</b> This is the area I live in. I live in Melvindale (one of the 18 Core Downriver communities). "Downriverites" have a great deal in common, and our area is a prime example of a community of interest. But Downriver has been split across multiple congressional districts for decades. Core Downriver has about half the population required for a congressional district, so I have also indicated "Greater Do..."</p>	<p><b>Greater Downriver:</b> These nearby areas are sometimes considered to be part of Downriver, and a lot of the people here even identify as "Downriverites". So these areas should be added to the same congressional district as the core Downriver communities, to make the district's population even.</p>



<p>c1990 (33078)</p>	<p><b>Wayne County - Together not Disjointed:</b> Michigan Avenue (route 12) – I am within walking distance of this main shopping and ethnic restaurant corridor. It runs through the diverse communities of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, and Westland. Dearborn is especially diverse because it holds one of the largest Arab populations in the US. \tCity of Dearborn Recreation and Performing Art Center contains a fitness center, a...</p>	<p><b>Southeastern Community:</b> this are have like community interest some of it is farm land, some neighborhoods and other spread out community</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>"Downriver":</b> Community of interest, conflicts with several other communities of interest.</p>
<p>p1323 (27180)</p>	<p><b>US Congress Dist. with Downriver &amp; Monroe:</b> U.S. Senate Districts: I am very concerned that Wayne County is currently divided into parts of four Congressional districts: 11, 12, 13, and 14 with serpentine boundaries which extend into other counties in three of the districts. The City of Detroit with a total population of 670,052 is almost enough to be an entire Congressional District. I recommend that the 48217 section of SW Detroit (pop...</p>	<p><b>District 6.</b></p>
<p>p1554 (29630)</p>	<p><b>Tight, Compact and Fair-no safe seats:</b> We need tight, compact districts based on municipality geographic lines and fair, competitive districts. We need to allow people to step up and represent the entire district, to earn their re-election, not just represent those who vote for them.</p>	<p><b>District 6.</b></p>
<p>p2821 (27180)</p>	<p><b>Downriver Congressional Map:</b> Downriver is the unofficial name for a collection of 18 cities and townships in Wayne County, Michigan, south of Detroit, along the western shore of the Detroit River. Downriver cities of Allen Park, Brownstown Township, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Ecorse, Flat Rock, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile Township, Huron Township, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, River Rouge, Riverview, Rockwood, Romulus, Southgate, Tayl...</p>	<p><b>District 6.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C25		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1550 (29618)	<b>Map of central Michigan farm community:</b> Small towns, farms, should not be included with Lansing	<b>Community 1:</b> Farming, small towns, NOT the Lansing area
c1596 (30726)	<b>different types of people, same values:</b> People in Clinton County have different beliefs than those in Lansing. It has been shown recently with the attitudes towards the police. People in Clinton County want strong laws, courts, and police while those in the Lansing area are calling for defunding police. Financial responsibility is high in Clinton County, a county of low taxes and low reliance on government.	<b>Community 1:</b> This is a county that has the same values. It is diverse in people but the idea's are the same. Things like festivals and farmers markets and car shows are something that sets this area apart from those in the area of Lansing. Clinton county has different values and are more independent on themselves than on requireing government assistance. Views of the police, crime, schools, courts are equal a...
c2575 (37435)	<b>Fair Maps Project - SD-35 - 2020 Census:</b> Honorable Commissioners – On August 4th we published (submission o1993) the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past seven months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC's redistricting process. We are in the process of updating our maps to reflect population shifts...	<b>Fair Maps Project - SD-35 - 2020 Census update.</b>
c2743 (38746)	<b>Clinton County and Similar Cof Interest:</b> Clinton County needs to be excluded from Lansing/East Lansing or in other words, urban & high density university communities with vastly different interests and values. It needs to be put in districts that are rural, and suburban that are directly part of country/rural areas. People in the rural areas need representation because their voices will never be heard if diluted by the loud high densit...	<b>Community 1 Clinton County:</b> This is a suburban/rural county that has common goals, values, interests, history, that vastly differs from Lansing, East Lansing. Clinton County must not be included with Urban Communities such as Lansing/East Lansing. Lansing, EL, are government/public university urban communities with Vastly different needs for Representation. I lived in EL for 30 years and specifically moved to Bath Townshi...
p1078 (26394)	<b>Saginaw/Shiawassee COI:</b> Western Saginaw and Shiawassee share a community of interest. We have many small towns, rural framing communities, and rural/suburban communities, our sports teams play together as well. Please consider a map like the one I've drawn. Or at least consider keeping Shiawassee County and parts of Saginaw County together as a state house disrict.	<b>District 1.</b>
p1079 (26396)	<b>Updated Saginaw/Shiawassee COI:</b> Please ignore my first submission. I incorrectly added a portion to the district that was not contiguous with the rest of the district. I would also like to add that the towns along the M-52 corridor are a community of interest. This would include Shields, St. Charles, Chesaning, Oakley, Henderson, and Owosso.	<b>District 1.</b>
p1135 (26619)	<b>Rick Ross: Shiawassee State House:</b> Shiawassee County shares a Community of Interest (COI) with the towns along M-52 (Chesaning, St. Charles, Oakley) in Saginaw County. Right now St. Charles and Swan Creek Townships are not a part of the 85th House District. It would make sense that the existing district should remain the same with only a few additions of towns or townships that are similar and have common needs/interests. Regardle...	<b>District 1.</b>



p1144 (26659)	<b>State House Map:</b> Rural portions of Shiawassee, Saginaw, and Clinton Counties.	<b>District 1.</b>
p1150 (26665)	<b>State Senate Map:</b> Included the primarily rural areas of central Michigan, which is made up of very common culture and interests.	<b>District 1.</b>
p1586 (30579)	<b>Tom DeFouw: Mi House District:</b> I submitted written comment regarding COI and I was asked by the MICRC to draw a district map.	<b>District 1.</b>
p1892 (32919)	<b>Clintonia House District.</b>	<b>District 1.</b>
p895 (25224)	<b>"Shiawassee County" District.</b>	<b>District 1.</b>
p907 (25273)	<b>Shiawassee/Saginaw State Rep Dist.:</b> All of Shiawassee County and townships included in this map that are a part of Saginaw County are a Community of Interest.	<b>District 1.</b>
p975 (25930)	<b>Shiawassee / Saginaw State House:</b> Plan includes small towns, rural areas, farms, and suburban/rural precincts in northwest Saginaw county - all townships and towns have similar needs/interests. Under population threshold.	<b>District 1.</b>
p996 (26031)	<b>Saginaw/Shiawassee COI:</b> West Saginaw County and north Shiawassee County share a community of interest. It's a balance of small towns, rural areas, rural/suburban areas, and farming communities. Please keep these areas together in the state house district.	<b>District 1.</b>
c2389 (35880)	<b>Michael Miller - Shiawassee County COI:</b> Shiawassee County is a community of interest. The communities near M-52 are interdependent as well as our school districts. We also interact frequently and should stay in the same house, senate, or congressional districts . Please respect and strongly consider county lines and compactness when drawing maps that include Shiawassee County. If the maps do not respect our county lines and the interest...	<b>Shiawassee County COI:</b> Shiawassee County is a community of interest. The communities near M-52 are interdependent as well as our school districts. We also interact frequently and should stay in the same house, senate, or congressional districts . Please respect and strongly consider county lines and compactness when drawing maps that include Shiawassee County. If the maps do not respect our county lines and the interest...
c2391 (35902)	<b>Robert Pangborn -Shiawassee COI:</b> Please keep Shiawassee County in one compact district. Our economic and cultural interests are specific to our community and should not be drawn into other communities that deserve their own representation. Due to population, Shiawassee County will need to be connected to other counties when drawing maps. We would prefer being included with Clinton County or South Saginaw County. Thank you.	<b>One Shiawassee:</b> Please keep Shiawassee County in one compact district. Our economic and cultural interests are specific to our community and should not be drawn into other communities that deserve their own representation. Due to population, Shiawassee County will need to be connected to other counties when drawing maps. We would prefer being included with Clinton County or South Saginaw County. Thank you.
c2560 (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>Shiawassee County:</b> Identified as a community of interest in several posts.
p1894 (32920)	<b>Clinton West State Senate District.</b>	<b>District 3.</b>
c2021 (34425)	<b>Karen Stites Community of Interest.</b>	<b>Shiawassee County - COI:</b> Our county is our community of interest. We are a community of small towns, and farming community with similar interests. We are interdependent when it comes to our schools, farms, and local economies. Our interests are more aligned with Clinton County or South Saginaw County. Please respect county lines and township lines when drawing maps for House, Senate, and Congress.



<p>p1350 (27244)</p>	<p><b>Bruce's Shiawassee House District:</b> My map is close to the current 85th district lines. It is compact and it focuses on the communities of interest along M-52. I live in Owosso. Chesaning and St. Charles are small towns with similar interests to Owosso. Finally, it does respect county and township lines.</p>	<p><b>District 4.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Ingham County:</b> Conflicts with another community of interest.</p>
<p>c2388 (35873)</p>	<p><b>Chris's Shiawassee County COI:</b> Shiawassee County is an already established community of interest. Our small towns, farms, and villages around M-52 are interdependent. Our school districts also interact a lot and should stay together in whatever house, senate, or congressional district is drawn. Please respect the county lines when you draw maps that include Shiawassee County. If the maps do not respect county lines and the inte...</p>	<p><b>Community 5:</b> Shiawassee County is an already established community of interest. Our small towns, farms, and villages around M-52 are interdependent. Our school districts also interact a lot and should stay together in whatever house, senate, or congressional district is drawn. Please respect the county lines when you draw maps that include Shiawassee County. If the maps do not respect county lines and the inte...</p>
<p>c1629 (30897)</p>	<p><b>COI Betty Jo Nelson.</b></p>	<p><b>Shiawassee County/M-52/St. Johns area:</b> Shiawassee County, St. Johns/Ovid Area, southwest Saginaw County along M-52 share a community of interest. We are made up of small towns, farming communities - mostly rural areas. Please try to keep our community of interest together as much as possible.</p>
<p>c2390 (35894)</p>	<p><b>Shiawassee Community of Interest:</b> Please keep Shiawassee County in the same district when drawing maps. We are very interdependent and have similar economic and cultural interests. We need the same representative in the house, senate, and congress. We ask that you respect county lines and township lines as much as possible when drawing maps. Compactness is also an important factor. Thank you</p>	<p><b>Shiawassee One COI:</b> Please keep Shiawassee County in the same district when drawing maps. We are very interdependent and have similar economic and cultural interests. We need the same representative in the house, senate, and congress. We ask that you respect county lines and township lines as much as possible when drawing maps. Compactness is also an important factor. Thank you</p>
<p>p1623 (30889)</p>	<p><b>Betty Jo Nelson - Shiawassee House:</b> Thank you for asking me to draw a specific map. I appreciate your attention to our public comment. Betty Jo Nelson</p>	<p><b>District 6.</b></p>
<p>p1137 (26627)</p>	<p><b>Gail Ross: Shiawassee State House:</b> Please keep the current 85th State House District together. We are a community of Interest that is very much dependent on each other. The small towns and townships near the M-52 corridor in Shiawassee County and Western Saginaw County share very similar interests. We encourage the commission to keep it the same.</p>	<p><b>District 7.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C26		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1549</a> (29615)	<b>Livingston County House Districts:</b> Southeast Livingston County is a community of interest with the Grand River corridor as its core, running from Howell to Brighton and with the townships on either side of Grand River. People go to the Grand River corridor for shopping, entertainment, post office, health care, restaurants, and more. The rest of the county is more rural and less of an exurban area. They should be two separate House ...	<b>House District 42:</b> This community of interest is the Grand River corridor from Howell to Brighton and the surrounding townships. Grand River is the center of entertainment, shopping, restaurants, health care, and more for the townships in the southeast part of the county. The northern part of Brighton Township tends to be more closely associated with Hartland Township than with the Grand River area so I would not in...
<a href="#">c1556</a> (29634)	<b>People from "Fenton" vs People from Fent:</b> Those these are different municipalities they are actually one community and should be kept together.	<b>People who think they are from Fenton:</b> People who think they are from Fenton
<a href="#">c1569</a> (29873)	<b>Fairer State House Districts - Livingsto:</b> This map neatly creates two equal-population State House districts in Livingston County, one urban/suburban and one rural/agricultural.	<b>Livingston House District 42:</b> This community consists of the main commercial districts of the county, centered in the cities of Howell and Brighton and along the road Grand River corridor that connects them. It also includes suburban, non-agricultural townships close to U.S. 23 with many people who commute to Ann Arbor.
<a href="#">c1618</a> (30837)	<b>My Community of Interest - Livingston Co:</b> We're a semi-rural community, small towns, close knit neighbors with like-minded people, our kids play other schools in our community in sports, we attend church together and most of us grew up in the community and have a long history here.	<b>Community 1:</b> This is Livingston County. We are a semi-rural community with similar values and priorities for our families and communities. We are all under the same Livingston Educational Services Agency (LESA), so the kids play one another in sports in this county, they go to church together and enjoy the community. We have nothing in common with Washtenaw County, where our values and interests are very diffe...
<a href="#">c1668</a> (31167)	<b>Fenton area:</b> Fenton area	<b>Community 1:</b> Fenton
<a href="#">c1718</a> (31331)	<b>Brighton-Genoa Twp and surrounding area.</b>	<b>Brighton/Genoa Twp Area:</b> The Brighton/Genoa area is small town with a rural feel.
<a href="#">c1735</a> (31531)	<b>Dave's Greater Fenton Area Community.:</b> Fenton and the greater area are a great place to live, raise a family and share the amenities of with one another. Please keep it whole in every way possible!	<b>Fenton City and Fenton Township Area:</b> Centered along US23, this area tends to be the center of the overall area representing my Community of Interest. All other areas denoted in my COI tend to run together, centered from Fenton. The development in these areas run fairly contiguous throughout. With the overall COI area described then being bordered by countryside and farm land at roughly 90%.
<a href="#">c1754</a> (31718)	<b>Community of Interests:</b> To introduce myself, my name is Susan Nickels. I have been a resident of the state of Michigan my entire life. I am a graduate of our public schools and currently live in Genoa Township, zip code 48116, located in Livingston County. Livingston County is largely rural. Including my community with other rural communities is my desire. I support local farms in Howell and Brighton for our meat, ...	<b>My communities of interest.</b>



<p>c1757 (31818)</p>	<p><b>Local community.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2475 (36810)</p>	<p><b>A Pennala - Livingston Co together as is:</b> My name is Anna Pennala. I am a Michigan resident and I live in Brighton Township in Livingston County. My community of interest is Livingston County in general, particularly my school district of Brighton Area Schools. I have 4 children that attend this district and it is where almost all of their activities take place, their friendships reside and where my heart belongs. I love my community. It ...</p>	<p><b>Pennala - A Community of Interest is Livingston County:</b> My Community of interest is my entire county of Livingston County. It is very important to me that it stay together. I explained this during the Novi MICRC committee meeting.</p>
<p>c2546 (37270)</p>	<p><b>Rural Livingston County.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2547 (37273)</p>	<p><b>Livingston County - Keep Us Together!.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2565 (37489)</p>	<p><b>Livingston County Community of Interest:</b> I live in Genoa Township between Brighton and Howell. Our Community of Interest is Livingston County. We live in a semi-rural community where no municipality has over 25,000 people. In Genoa Township, we have a Brighton or Howell Address. we work with other communities in our county for Fire (Brighton area), Water (Brighton or Howell/Oceola area), Parks (Howell, Marion, Oceola, Howell Twp), school...</p>	<p><b>Livingston County and Genoa Twp:</b> Our Community of Interest is Livingston County. We live in a semi-rural community where no municipality has over 25,000 people. In Genoa Township, we have a Brighton or Howell Address. we work with other communities in our county for Fire (Brighton area), Water (Brighton or Howell/Oceola area), Parks (Howell, Marion, Oceola, Howell Twp), schools (Howell, Brighton, Hartland, Pinckney), and the Brig...</p>
<p>c2572 (37430)</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-22 - 2020 Census:</b> Honorable Commissioners – On August 4th we published (submission 01993) the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past seven months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC’s redistricting process. We are in the process of updating our maps to reflect population shifts...</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-22 - 2020 Census update.</b></p>
<p>c2657 (38429)</p>	<p><b>Livingston County as my COI:</b> It was the appeal of the rural communities, the family-oriented culture, and respect for the farming, industrial, retail and recreational businesses that comprise the county that drew us here to make it our home. That balance across the the whole of the community of Livingston County is what is important to me.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2659 (38468)</p>	<p><b>Greater Brighton-Howell area:</b> Brighton-howell area is a wonderful community of people who care for and support one another and also respect each other’s fundamental liberties.</p>	<p><b>Greater Brighton-Howell area.</b></p>
<p>c2664 (38516)</p>	<p><b>Kathy’s Livingston Plan:</b> Rural community with like minded citizens in favor of lower taxes, freedom of ideas and self-reliance.</p>	<p><b>Livingston:</b> Rural community with like minded citizens in favor of lower taxes, freedom of ideas and self-reliance.</p>
<p>c2672 (38590)</p>	<p><b>Rural and Outdoor Recreational Community:</b> Our community shares a set of values, interests and lifestyles that can be found in the rural areas and small towns. We value individualism, hard work and personal responsibility. Religious faith and service to others is the norm, not the exception. Neighbors know each other and strangers are welcome.</p>	<p><b>Rural Recreation and Lifestyle:</b> People devoted to a lifestyle that is both rural and outdoors recreational. We value individualism, hard work and personal responsibility. Religious faith and service to others is the norm, not the exception. Law abiding with respect for others is an identifying trait.</p>
<p>c2696 (38633)</p>	<p><b>LIVINGSTON COUNTY THREE DISTRICTS 2021:</b> Map shows three specific communities of interest for Livingston County redistricting consideration. Each community has approximately 97K population.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2756 (38766)</p>	<p><b>My community is Liv County:</b> I moved to Livingston County in 2003 and found a new way of life and happily raised my family here. Please do not combine us with Washtenaw County. I’ve lived there and never felt at home. Livingston County is my welcoming, relaxed, country home. I live, go out, school my children and play here. I enjoy visiting each Livingston County town and avoiding both Oakland and Washtenaw counties. Pl...</p>	<p><b>My community is Livingston County:</b> I moved to Livingston County in 2003 and found a new way of life. Please do not combine me with Washtenaw County for political reasons. I’ve lived in Washtenaw County and did not feel at home there.</p>



<p>c2759 (38769)</p>	<p><b>James Capehart's community of interest.:</b> This is Livingston County, and it's residents are all of like mind and interests.</p>	<p><b>Livingston:</b> Livingston County Voting Community</p>
<p>c2762 (38781)</p>	<p><b>Livingston County for Life:</b> Livingston County is my home. I grew up here, chose to stay here, introduced my wife to this County, and am raising my family here. We are a unique county. I shop here, work here, go out here and support Livingston County businesses as my local businesses. It is important for me to retain the rural parts of Livingston County and no get blended into the nearby big cities. I'm a country boy, tr...</p>	<p><b>Livingston County:</b> Livingston County is my home. I grew up here, chose to stay here, introduced my wife to this County, and am raising my family here. We are a unique county. I shop here, work here, go out here and support Livingston County businesses as my local businesses. It is important for me to retain the rural parts of Livingston County and no get blended into the nearby big cities. I'm a country boy, tr...</p>
<p>c2766 (38787)</p>	<p><b>Bekland Community:</b> I hope there isn't any radical changes to my district such as dividing Livingston County and merging with Ann Arbor/Washtenaw as their politics don't align and change more red districts over blue which is my fear no matter how bi-partisan this new districting is supposed to be</p>	<p><b>Bekland County:</b> The community that I moved to that in elections has elected officials that represent my concerns</p>
<p>c2770 (38802)</p>	<p><b>Livingston County:</b> Livingston County is a community that coordinates together from a school and community standpoint. As such, much of what we do has a direct effect on each other and therefore, I feel strongly that our county should continue to be in the same district for voting.</p>	<p><b>Livingston County.</b></p>
<p>c2786 (38971)</p>	<p><b>Keep LIVINGSTON CO together - Age 15:</b> I am 15 years old. I decided to voice my opinion regarding my community of interest because the lines that are drawn will be in place throughout my high school years, college years, all the way until I am 25. My community of interest is where I play sports with and against my friends. I play hockey and golf. Some of the best rivalries and friendships for me come from my home school of Brighton, b...</p>	<p><b>Keep LIVINGSTON CO together High school perspective:</b> I am 15 years old. I decided to voice my opinion regarding my community of interest because the lines that are drawn will be in place throughout my high school years, college years, all the way until I am 25. My community of interest is where I play sports with and against my friends. I play hockey and golf. Some of the best rivalries and friendships for me come from my home school of Brighton, b...</p>
<p>c3096 (40149)</p>	<p><b>Keep Livingston County together.</b></p>	<p><b>Keep Livingston County together.</b></p>
<p>c3201 (40718)</p>	<p><b>Livingston County Community:</b> This community embraces traditional values. The people living in this map coordinate educational services, senior services, community services, and most importantly share traditional rural values.</p>	<p><b>Livingston County Community of Interest:</b> I have selected Livingston County.</p>
<p>c3398 (41756)</p>	<p><b>Livingston County:</b> Hello: Thank you for your important work. My community of interest is the whole county of Livingston. I moved to Livingston County (LC) 6 years ago from Oakland County, and the main reason I moved to LC is because it's more rural, less populated, only has two larger cities, and has maintained the small-town flavor and agriculture atmosphere, which is what we prefer. It's a slower-paced and simpler...</p>	<p><b>Livingston County:</b> My community of interest is Livingston County.</p>
<p>c542 (23218)</p>	<p><b>Dunham Lake:</b> Dunham Lake is a private lake straddling the borders of Livingston and Oakland counties in Southeast Michigan split roughly in half by the county line. The same county line also separates State house, senate, and US congress districts in addition to local school and municipalities (Hartland and Highland). There are approximately 400 property owners who live around Dunham Lake in communities planne...</p>	<p><b>Dunham Lake:</b> Dunham Lake is a private lake straddling the borders of Livingston and Oakland counties in Southeast Michigan split roughly in half by the county line. The same county line also separates State house, senate, and US congress districts in addition to local school and municipalities (Hartland and Highland). There are approximately 400 property owners who live around Dunham Lake in communities planne...</p>



c930 (25509)	<b>Quinn Livingston Cty/nearby areas COI:</b> This community of interest is important to us as it contains nearby recreational areas and parks that we utilize as well as infrastructure such as the LETS transportation system, Senior Centers, Libraries, Livingston County United Way and Meals on Wheels	<b>Livingston and Nearby Counties Region:</b> Current make up of Livingston County and nearby county regions to include all the nearby recreation areas and parks, the LETS transportation system (Livingston Essential Transportation System) and the Howell, Brighton, Hartland Senior Centers, Brighton, Howell, Pinckney, Hartland libraries, and Livingston County United Way and Meals on Wheels are all important to remain in the same community of in...
p70 (18329)	<b>51 State District plan:</b> I believe that those that live within these communities see eye to eye on most issues and value the gift of loyalty and respect each other.	<b>District 1.</b>
p989 (25988)	<b>Livingston County House Districts:</b> This plan includes two House districts for Livingston County and incorporates the Grand River community of interest as described in my written testimony.	<b>District 1.</b>
c1839 (32521)	<b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.	<b>Community 11:</b> Howell, Marion Townships <b>Community 12:</b> Fowlerville, Webberville, Williamston
c1549 (29615)	<b>Livingston County House Districts:</b> Southeast Livingston County is a community of interest with the Grand River corridor as its core, running from Howell to Brighton and with the townships on either side of Grand River. People go to the Grand River corridor for shopping, entertainment, post office, health care, restaurants, and more. The rest of the county is more rural and less of an exurban area. They should be two separate House ...	<b>House District 47:</b> This is the more rural part of the county that is less densely populated. The rural area has more in common than with the more exurban areas of southeast Livingston County.
c1556 (29634)	<b>People from "Fenton" vs People from Fent:</b> Those these are different municipalities they are actually one community and should be kept together.	<b>People Actually from Fenton:</b> People Actually from Fenton
c1569 (29873)	<b>Fairer State House Districts - Livingsto:</b> This map neatly creates two equal-population State House districts in Livingston County, one urban/suburban and one rural/agricultural.	<b>Livingston House District 47:</b> This community is the 47th House District and is the more rural, agricultural, less densely populated parts of the county that have more in common with each other than with the southeastern portion of the county. The townships of Unadilla and Iosco in the southwestern corner of the county are tied more to Ingham County due to being in the Stockbridge school district.
c1735 (31531)	<b>Dave's Greater Fenton Area Community.:</b> Fenton and the greater area are a great place to live, raise a family and share the amenities of with one another. Please keep it whole in every way possible!	<b>City of Holly and Holly Township..</b>
c1916 (33053)	<b>Arab Americans Count!:</b> Genesse County has an estimated population of over 20,000 Arab Americans in the metropolitan-Flint area. We want to make sure that the Arab community is seen, heard, and represented as new district boundaries are drawn.	<b>Community 2.</b>
c2696 (38633)	<b>LIVINGSTON COUNTY THREE DISTRICTS 2021:</b> Map shows three specific communities of interest for Livingston County redistricting consideration. Each community has approximately 97K population.	<b>Community 2.</b>
c1735 (31531)	<b>Dave's Greater Fenton Area Community.:</b> Fenton and the greater area are a great place to live, raise a family and share the amenities of with one another. Please keep it whole in every way possible!	<b>Linden-Argentine Area..</b>
c1839 (32521)	<b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.	<b>Community 3:</b> Brighton, Hartland



<p>c2696 (38633)</p>	<p><b>LIVINGSTON COUNTY THREE DISTRICTS 2021:</b> Map shows three specific communities of interest for Livingston County redistricting consideration. Each community has approximately 97K population.</p>	<p><b>Community 3.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Fenton/Tyrone Twp.:</b> Identified as a community of interest.</p>
<p>c1735 (31531)</p>	<p><b>Dave's Greater Fenton Area Community.:</b> Fenton and the greater area are a great place to live, raise a family and share the amenities of with one another. Please keep it whole in every way possible!</p>	<p><b>Grand Blanc.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Livingston County:</b> County identified as a community of interest in a post.</p>
<p>c1735 (31531)</p>	<p><b>Dave's Greater Fenton Area Community.:</b> Fenton and the greater area are a great place to live, raise a family and share the amenities of with one another. Please keep it whole in every way possible!</p>	<p><b>Dunham Lake:</b> Identified as a community of interest.</p>
<p>c1735 (31531)</p>	<p><b>Dave's Greater Fenton Area Community.:</b> Fenton and the greater area are a great place to live, raise a family and share the amenities of with one another. Please keep it whole in every way possible!</p>	<p><b>Heartland Area.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C27-1		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1235 (26977)	<b>Community of Interest of A2 area:</b> these communities are all inextricably linked and need to be together.	<b>Community 1:</b> these communities are all inextricably linked and need to be together
c1602 (30738)	<b>Chelsea &amp; Northwest Washtenaw Greenbelt:</b> Chelsea and its surroundings in Northwest Washtenaw are what I would describe as greenbelt and should be characterized as an exurban area or as an I-94 Ann Arbor satellite community like Dexter, which is a similar size and has similar economic activity and commuting patterns. The main economic activities are manufacturing, retail, and healthcare. Many people commute to Ann Arbor or to Jackson for ...	<b>Chelsea and Greenbelt Northwest Washtenaw:</b> Chelsea and its surroundings are what I would describe as greenbelt and should be thought of as an exurban area or as an Ann Arbor satellite community like Dexter, which is a similar size and has a similar economy. The main economic activities are manufacturing, retail, and healthcare. Many people commute to Ann Arbor or to Jackson for work. The purpose of this map is to explain that land use in N...
c1606 (30722)	<b>New 7th district:</b> A lot of people live in Jackson and work in Ann Arbor, or vice versa. This would also make a more competitive district .	<b>New 7th district:</b> This will combine Jackson and Washtenaw counties in a new 7th district.
c1607 (30776)	<b>Patrick Laguna Community of Interest:</b> As requested. Thank you.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1778 (32153)	<b>My community:</b> These are the areas I interact with most in my daily life. I live in Novi and work in the Livingston ESA.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1835 (32522)	<b>Chelsea/Dexter/Ann Arbor/Ypsi Community:</b> We have lived in this community for 45 years. It is unique in that it has a combination of rural interest as well as a technological orientation. It is an innovative community with the University's providing the fuel.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1839 (32521)	<b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.	<b>Community 1:</b> Novi, Northville, Plymouth
c1994 (34002)	<b>Headwaters &amp; Contiguous Natural Areas:</b> Jackson County serves as headwater for three major watersheds as well as the only large contiguous natural areas provided by the Pinckney-Waterloo State Park system and viable farmlands. Protecting and preserving these natural areas reduce flooding events downstream, recharge groundwater systems, provides varied habitats, and off-set carbon emissions.	<b>Community 1 Jackson County:</b> Jackson County serves as headwater for three major watersheds as well as the only large contiguous natural areas provided by the Pinckney-Waterloo State Park system and viable farmlands. Protecting and preserving these natural areas reduce flooding events downstream, recharge groundwater systems, provides varied habitats, and off-set carbon emissions.
c2551 (37326)	<b>County Community of Interest:</b> We depend on the county government to provide police and public services. Our community of interest is the county.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2561 (37418)	<b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b>	<b>West Outer Detroit:</b> western Detroit suburbs and exurbs
c2582 (37563)	<b>Huron River Watershed:</b> I would like the commission to consider the Huron Valley Watershed as a Community of Interest. Many citizens living within the watershed advocate for important environmental causes such as safe drinking water (the watershed supplies more than 85% of Ann Arbor's drinking water supply) and many local causes. Recreational activities in the watershed include over 2.3 million paddlers and swimmers per...	<b>Community 1.</b>



c2851 (39566)	<b>Following Constitutional Rank Order:</b> The citizens of Michigan chose a Rank Order of redistricting factors. We established communities of interest as a more important than partisanship. This means community is more important than party. Any map that chooses party over community is a gerrymander, plain and simple. Importantly, if local representatives are responsive to common community needs first, we may actually return to a time...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3037 (39995)	<b>Combine Western Wayne-Washtenaw:</b> Earlier in the process, I submitted a COI offering to make the commonsense combination of western Wayne with Washtenaw County. As the clusters were released yesterday, I noted Dr. Moon's suggestion that Ann Arbor-Ypsi cluster be combined with the Western Wayne cluster. I've also observed Commissioner Clark make this point numerous times. Anyone who has lived in this area knows the interconnectedne...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3115 (40274)	<b>Committee Assignments - Why COIs Matter:</b> While communities of interest were deemed the "top" criteria for drawing districts by 61.3% of Michiganders in 2018 (only behind following existing law and contiguity), I want to explain the wonderful impact of COIs on government. Michiganders agree that we should be districted together with our community, not for partisan reasons; however, communities of interest will better our government throug...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3126 (40388)	<b>Correction: Huron Riv Valley COI Cluster:</b> I am grateful for the commission deeming the Huron River Valley a COI cluster based on public feedback. However, this geographic cluster must be combined to include the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area. Ann Arbor receives 85% of its drinking water supply from the watershed and is at the center of the watershed in both a geographic sense as well as culturally. For a more detailed map, please refer to c258...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3138 (40428)	<b>The peri-urban interzone:</b> Hello, my name is Maggie and I am a resident of Canton. I have attached my map of my community of interest. This area is an interzone between industrial and urban areas including Detroit, Pontiac, Ann Arbor, and Ypsilanti. While many people in my community access resources in these urban areas, this area is distinct from these cities as well as the suburban communities in central Oakland and Macom...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3174 (40540)	<b>AA-Plymouth Canton:</b> Having lived in both Ann Arbor and Plymouth for many years, I think these are two similar communities and should be coupled together along with the nearby communities of greater A2 and the Plymouth-Canton area.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3387 (41273)	<b>Monroe/Washtenaw:</b> Good afternoon, I live in Monroe County and work in Washtenaw County. The two counties have much in common. Monroe County isn't rural and is different from other border counties. Thank you.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c408 (21754)	<b>South West Washtenaw County:</b> Due to its agricultural economy and rural area, the Southwest corner of Washtenaw County is distinct from the rest of the county. It faces challenges far more similar to the small towns and townships to its south and west.	<b>Community 1.</b>
p223 (19760)	<b>Congressional district Washtnaw/Livingst.</b>	<b>District 1.</b>
c2560 (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>Washtenaw County:</b> Observed to be a community of interest in a post.



<p>c2851 (39566)</p>	<p><b>Following Constitutional Rank Order:</b> The citizens of Michigan chose a Rank Order of redistricting factors. We established communities of interest as a more important than partisanship. This means community is more important than party. Any map that chooses party over community is a gerrymander, plain and simple. Importantly, if local representatives are responsive to common community needs first, we may actually return to a time...</p>	<p><b>Community 2.</b></p>
<p>c2561 (37418)</p>	<p><b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 6.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Novi:</b> Listed in a post as a community of interest. Not clear if other communities in the area were meant to be coupled with it.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C27-2		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1084 (26437)	<b>Voting District Map:</b> The Salem of Township is a unique rural/farming community in the Ann-Arbor/Detroit Metro area. Our environment is so different from the residents of the surrounding large cities. Our township should be kept intact as a voting district and if needed should be combined with similar neighboring rural/farming townships such as Northfield, Webster, Dexter, Sylvan, Sharon, and Green Oaks	<b>Salem Township:</b> The voters of Salem Township
c1614 (30805)	<b>Pittsfield Township:</b> We are surrounded by resources from healthcare to education to programs and activity for all age groups. We have public safety and historical treasures and cultural treasures among an diverse and international population. We are Washtenaw County which is split by East and West. However, we rural and urban but we seek to be whole and receive the fullness of Federal dollars to support both our urba...	<b>Pittsfield Twp 3:</b> We are surrounded by resources from healthcare to education to programs and activity for all age groups. We have public safety and historical treasures and cultural treasures among an diverse and international population. We are Washtenaw County which is split by East and West. However, we rural and urban but we seek to be whole and receive the fullness of Federal dollars to support both our urba...
c1655 (31137)	<b>Jim's Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti Plan:</b> Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti is an island of urban and university liberalism sitting in an otherwise conservative rural area of southeast Michigan. It's political influence has been minimized by slicing and dicing it so there is one heavily democratic US District extending all the way to Detroit and Lake Erie (!) while the rest of the districts have been diluted with large rural areas calculated to prov...	<b>Community I:</b> Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and surrounding suburbs. This area has been sliced and diced by gerrymandering to minimize the influence of all the urban, city, university people living there by diluting with large rural sections of Michigan.
c1659 (31149)	<b>UM/Ann-Arbor COI:</b> The Ann Arbor & U-M COI includes a community of people that depend on Ann Arbor and University of Michigan for Employment, Health Care, and Recreation. This COI shares educational attainment interests, employment interests, and economic interests related to U-M and the state of Michigan.	<b>U-M/Ann Arbor:</b> Members of Ann Arbor and surrounding community that depend on Ann Arbor and the University of Michigan for Health Care, Employment and recreation. I am currently stuck in a gerrymandered district that makes no sense from a COI perspective, and I am not attached to my community of interest.
c1889 (32888)	<b>Moderation is the best policy:</b> This will be a decent swing / moderate area who cares about nature and education	<b>West Ann Arbor and Surrounding:</b> Education-minded with appreciation of the outdoors and moderate political leanings regarding size of state
c1891 (32909)	<b>Lansing &amp; Ann Arbor area districts:</b> Having lived for many years only in two different Michigan communities, I'm offering my input on the boundaries around the greater Lansing area, and the greater Ann Arbor area. While a resident of these places, these are the bounds of my mental map that always felt as though they were in the social and economic "gravity" of their respective largest cities.	<b>Metro Ann Arbor:</b> Having lived in Ann Arbor for many years, this is the community that, in my experience, residents perceive as the area with Ann Arbor as it's geographic/cultural center. Many people within these bounds work in and commute to Ann Arbor. Outside this area to the East, and it feels much more like Detroit suburbs; to the West like Jackson; North like Flint; NW like Lansing, etc.
c1984 (33855)	<b>Ann Arbor Surrounding Area Community:</b> This community is diverse in race, education and income. It reflects the make-up of the state of Michigan and provides an opportunity for all voices to be heard and counted.	<b>Ann Arbor / Saline / Ypsi Community:</b> Community that is diverse in race, education and income.
c2193 (35147)	<b>Ann Arbor Community:</b> I have lived in Ann Arbor for 10 years and think that this map captures the greater Ann Arbor area. I have always been confused why Ann Arbor and Dearborn were in a district together because we have little in common beyond both having a UMich campus. I have spent much time in Ann Arbor associating with folks who lived in Ann Arbor, Ypsi, Pittsfield, Belleville, Scio Township, and Chelsea. There s...	<b>Ann Arbor Community:</b> I have lived in Ann Arbor for 10 years and think that this map captures the greater Ann Arbor area. I have always been confused why Ann Arbor and Dearborn were in a district together because we have little in common beyond both having a UMich campus. I have spent much time in Ann Arbor associating with folks who lived in Ann Arbor, Ypsi, Pittsfield, Belleville, Scio Township, and Chelsea. There s...



<p>c2448 (36623)</p>	<p><b>Night life vs in bed early:</b> I wrote description on the map.</p>	<p><b>Night Life:</b> These area are where I go for a social and night life. These areas also have lots of international food, groceries, and entertainment that other areas of the state do not. I see lots of college students and millennials in this area too.</p>
<p>c2454 (36671)</p>	<p><b>Univ. of Michigan students:</b> This is a map of our University of Michigan student community. It is hard to get exactly where students do and don't live, but I think this represents well the geographic area where students live. It's really important to remember that we live here too. We are affected by the decisions our elected officials make and we need to be properly represented. It is honestly hard to think of a more cohesive...</p>	<p><b>UMich student community:</b> This is where many University of Michigan students live. They should be counted together.</p>
<p>c2571 (37424)</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-18 - 2020 Census:</b> Honorable Commissioners – On August 4th we published (submission 01993) the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past seven months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC's redistricting process. We are in the process of updating our maps to reflect population shifts...</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-18 - 2020 Census update.</b></p>
<p>c2581 (37566)</p>	<p><b>Ypsi - Arbor Area:</b> Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor are linked as two sister cities in Washtenaw County. Most of the county is rural/ex-urban. The Ypsi-Arbor area is urban/suburban. These two cities developed as separate from the Detroit suburbs, although there is no some cross-over now. The two cities share St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor hospital, which is just off of their shared commercial road, Washtenaw. The hospital i...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2683 (38606)</p>	<p><b>A2Y and Red-lining:</b> I had previously submitted a comment regarding the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti community. The Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti ties are near endless from environmental concerns to economic development projects to higher education (EMU/UM) to shared public transit. The Chamber of Commerce chapter is even called A2Y (Ann Arbor Ypsilanti). I have serious concerns with reimposing artificial separations, especially in lig...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2938 (39791)</p>	<p><b>Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti:</b> Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti are two very similar cities within Washtenaw County, Michigan. Both contain universities, have similar cultural ties, and are very close geographically. I am submitting this Community to reassure that commission that these two cities are both part of a close-knit community and that attempts to separate the two in early sessions of the Commission's mapping sessions appear to...</p>	<p><b>Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti:</b> Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti are two very similar cities within Washtenaw County, Michigan. Both contain universities, have similar cultural ties, and are very close geographically. I am submitting this Community to reassure that commission that these two cities are both part of a close-knit community and that attempts to separate the two in early sessions of the Commission's mapping sessions appear to...</p>
<p>c2941 (39798)</p>	<p><b>Combine A16 &amp; A17 Clusters:</b> I would like to commend the commission and Dr. Duchin on the COI clusters. I would like to voice support for Dr. Duchin's suggestion that the Greater Ann Arbor Area (cluster A16) be combined with Western Wayne (cluster A17). As Commissioner Clark has noted numerous times, the Ann Arbor area is much more like western Wayne than it is like Jackson County or the border counties to the south. It seems...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3123 (40323)</p>	<p><b>Suburban I-96 Corridor:</b> My community is the suburban I-96 corridor. Many people in this area commute into Detroit or Ann Arbor for work/business. However, this area has distinct interests from both Ann Arbor, Detroit, and northern Detroit suburbs so I do not believe it should included in the same district as these areas. This area is united by its suburban character, watershed natural resources, and family-oriented activ...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>



c3145 (40446)	<b>My Community of Interest:</b> I have drawn my COI based on school districts. My kids often interact with students from these other districts in debate competitions and track and field so I believe these districts are the most closely connected to us.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3169 (40516)	<b>Education in Washtenaw/Wayne:</b> Western Wayne and Washtenaw counties are a good match to be districted together due to their populations having a high level of education, similar job opportunities, and shared cultural attributes. Washtenaw boasts two major universities (University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University) as well as several distinguished community colleges, so keeping all of Washtenaw County together should b...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3190 (40650)	<b>M14 Corridor: Ann Arbor-Plymouth Canton:</b> I had lived in Ann Arbor for a number of years and see Plymouth-Canton as an extension of Ann Arbor. There are similar workforce and labor traits and an incredibly high emphasis on education amongst the population. I firmly believe that these two communities are a perfect fit to be grouped together. This area is connected by M14. The same medical institutions (Michigan Medicine and St. Joseph Merc...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3191 (40656)	<b>AA+Plymouth Canton+Novi:</b> Both the Ann Arbor area and Plymouth-Canton have developed to the point where they are becoming a single community. This will only be strengthened over the next ten years with all of the development taking place in these areas. Additionally, these areas, along with Novi, boast a strong AAPI population which has been well documented in the portal. Combining these areas would allow for a strong voic...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3358 (41599)	<b>Respect Senior Citizens and their wishes:</b> I wrote about a wonderful community Centennial Farm +55 neighborhood. Individuals average age is 80 and there are 320 family units. Because many do not drive any longer, we count on each other for assistance. We shop locally to support our neighborhood, go to church in South Lyon, enjoy the Brighton mall and New Hudson mall, car pool to local restaurants, enjoy the events that take place at our co...	<b>Centennial Farm +55:</b> 320 families live in Centennial Farm. It is an over 55 community. I have lived here since 2010 and was President of the Phase II Board of Directors. The average age of the residents is about 80 years old. Because many of the residents do not drive, we depend on each other. The community has a clubhouse and every day there is a club meeting based on one's interest, we are on a small lake and prov...
c3403 (41772)	<b>Ypsi Arbor LGBTQ+:</b> I ask the commission to please keep Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor together to avoid splitting the LGBTQ+ population in the area. I appreciate that some commissioners want to include Ypsilanti with Monroe county or some other areas in order to make more Democratic districts. Ordinarily I would be all for it. But the quality of representation matters. Simply put, I don't expect that a Monroe County De...	<b>Ypsi Arbor LGBTQ+.</b>
c525 (22956)	<b>Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti+ Community:</b> As a decades-long resident of Ann Arbor, these are the communities most inter-connected with the city, itself, and this community of interest should be preserved. Public transportation like "The Ride" runs various lines in an interconnected fashion between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. "The Ride" also has a route to Romulus and DTW. Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti are inseparable communities as the area aro...	<b>Ann Arbor-Ypsi + Community:</b> As a decades-long resident of Ann Arbor, these are the communities most inter-connected with the city, itself, and this community of interest should be preserved. Public transportation like "The Ride" runs various lines in an interconnected fashion between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. "The Ride" also has a route to Romulus and DTW. Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti are inseparable communities as the area aro...
c61 (18202)	<b>NoVille - county line crossed COI:</b> This community covers the former township of Plymouth, which now contains the communities of Plymouth Twp, Plymouth City, Northville Twp and Northville City. Northville City and the school district CROSS a county line. This COI should remain together, and not be split at "base line" which is 8 mile road between Wayne and Oakland Counties. Keep these communities together that have many shared servi...	<b>No-Ville and Plymouth:</b> The Northville Novi Community that crosses a major county line but is a single community. Northville City is in Oakland and Wayne. These NEED to be kept together. This is the original 6x6 mile Plymouth Twp plus some Northville City area to the north. This is a SINGLE COMMUNITY.



<p>p1393 (27569)</p>	<p><b>Mason's Ann Arbor Plan:</b> Ann Arbor should be redistricted with the West Bloomfield and Farmington Hills parts of Oakland County. This would make the most sense, as the two areas share similar economic and cultural values.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c1543 (29587)</p>	<p><b>Community of Interest map:</b> The community of interest focus is on shared experiences in western Wayne county with school districts, infrastructure such as roads/bridges, parks, community college, retail and local employers and the need for better transit in this area.</p>	<p><b>Community 2:</b> Shared main roads, community college, retail, employers and other resources also in western Wayne county.</p>
<p>c2463 (36705)</p>	<p><b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.</p>	<p><b>Southeast MI:</b> Southeast Michiganders and residents of Anne Arbor share some culture and exchange of ideas with our southern Neighbors in Ohio. Whether it's a trip to cedar point or interstate commerce, they would be more familiar with the needs of people in the area.</p>
<p>c2318 (35586)</p>	<p><b>Washtenaw + Western Wayne:</b> As a lifelong resident of rural southern Michigan, border counties, I do not want my representation to be taken away from me by lumping me in with Washtenaw and Western Wayne county. These should be separate. Thank you.</p>	<p><b>Community 3.</b></p>
<p>p1189 (26798)</p>	<p><b>Washtenaw/ US Senate:</b> I'm an Ann Arbor resident, working in the school system and close to retirement, and I'm very connected to people in the rural part of the county. I've had the occasion to teach music and to substitute teach in Dexter, Chelsea, and Saline, and to do musical presentations in Jackson schools, and I feel strongly that we have a common interest in having equitable access to education- to funds and bud...</p>	<p><b>District 4.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Plymouth/Northville:</b> Identified as a community of interest.</p>
<p>c1839 (32521)</p>	<p><b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.</p>	<p><b>Community 6:</b> New Hudson, South Lyon</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C28		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1595</a> (30721)	<b>Water brings us together:</b> Water is a profoundly important resource, not just in Michigan but for all live on planet Earth. Communities brought together to preserve and enjoy a particular watershed have great motivation to work together for common goals	<b>Huron River Headwaters:</b> The area of lakes and streams that feed into the headwaters of the Huron River
<a href="#">c1697</a> (31259)	<b>White Lake redistricting:</b> I believe this makes more sense for diversity.	<b>Community 1:</b> The voting districts changed for this community shortly after we moved here. I believe it was political. If you look at the state senate boundaries we are cut out to be with Milford a highly Republican area.
<a href="#">c1710</a> (31354)	<b>New district.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> Milford Township, Milford Village and highland township. Oakland county MI
<a href="#">c876</a> (25089)	<b>W. Bloomfield - A Community of Interest:</b> I greatly appreciate the task the Independent Redistricting Commission is conducting and the bipartisan manner in which the members are cooperating. I also thank each of you for your service. I would like to share my input on our "community of interest." The communities of West Bloomfield Township, Keego Harbor, the City of Orchard Lake Village, and Sylvan Lake have a shared history as well as a...	<b>Greater West Bloomfield:</b> This area includes the original West Bloomfield Township and the communities which have since become independent incorporated entities; however, they still maintain many common and shared resources. The communities of West Bloomfield Township, Keego Harbor, the City of Orchard Lake Village, and Sylvan Lake have a shared history as well as a continued close connection. The communities exist in wha...
<a href="#">p1696</a> (31290)	<b>White Lake:</b> I believe our State districts for congress and state senate were gerrymandered.	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p1772</a> (32009)	<b>West Bloomfield State House seat:</b> This district includes the West Bloomfield District plus a very small portion of Farmington in order to reach the preferred 88k population. This district is compact, very close knit within the community, and has a very strong balance in partisan fairness. Many communities all across the state have done a great job elaborating on their communities of interest. I have done so myself during my public...	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1839</a> (32521)	<b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.	<b>Community 10:</b> Highland, White Lake
<a href="#">c2560</a> (37414)	<b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.	<b>West Bloomfield:</b> Identified as a community of interest in a post.
<a href="#">c1839</a> (32521)	<b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.	<b>Community 2:</b> Commerce, Milford, Walled Lake Wolverine Lake



Supporting Data for Cluster C29		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1543 (29587)	<b>Community of Interest map:</b> The community of interest focus is on shared experiences in western Wayne county with school districts, infrastructure such as roads/bridges, parks, community college, retail and local employers and the need for better transit in this area.	<b>Community 1:</b> Shared public school district resources, parks, retail, employers and lack of connected public transit within Wayne County.
c1714 (31369)	<b>Farmington and Farmington Hills together:</b> Farmington and Farmington Hills should be in one US Congressional district, just as we are for State representation. Farmington Hills is in one of the most Gerrymandered districts in the State.	<b>Community 1:</b> Farmington and Farmington Hills should be together in the same congressional district. Farmington Hills is currently in one of the most gerrymandered districts in the State of MI and the Country. Our State senator and State congress person represent both Farmington and Farmington Hills. Our Federal representation should be this way, too.
c1804 (32427)	<b>Farmington/Farmington Hills:</b> 2 cities that share a school system, libraries, and many other city services	<b>Farmington/Farmington Hills:</b> 2 cities that share a school system, libraries, and many other city services
c1917 (33107)	<b>Eugene Greenstein Farmington Area of Int:</b> I live in Farmington Hills at 14 and Middlebelt a stones throw from West Bloomfield. Our school district also extends into West Bloomfield . Farmington and Farmington Hills are a community of interest that is important to me as we share a common School District, Libraries and other services. Downtown Farmington is in effect the Downtown of Farmington Hills. We should be a contiguous unit when it...	<b>Farmington/Farmington Hills:</b> I live in Farmington Hills at 14 and Middlebelt a stones throw from West Bloomfield. Our school district also extends into West Bloomfield . Farmington and Farmington Hills are a community of interest that is important to me as we share a common School District, Libraries and other services. Downtown Farmington is in effect the Downtown of Farmington Hills. We should be a contiguous unit when it...
c1949 (33528)	<b>Northwest Metro Area Community TRC.</b>	<b>1950s NW Ring Suburbs:</b> Heavily settled by WW II and Korean veterans and the cradle of baby boomers from the 1940s through 1970s. Solid Middle and upper middle class families in automotive related companies or educators and small business owners. Related by common experiences within this geography, cultural and religious affiliations.
c2024 (34370)	<b>Linda Levy's Map:</b> Farmington Hills and Farmington share strong historical, cultural, recreational and civic ties. The commonality is recognized by how local community centers, libraries and school systems define themselves and share resources. Even local news sources, print and online, recognize the affinity of these communities in their area of reporting.	<b>Farmington Hills/Farmington:</b> COI sharing historical and cultural connections, and shared resources such as our district library, school system, and community and activity centers.
c2327 (35613)	<b>A Northwest Wayne County Community:</b> The municipal areas of Redford Township, Livonia, Northville and Northville Township share major shopping and commercial corridors of 7 mile, I 96 and Plymouth Roads. My family travels easily between these municipalities when shopping, for personal medical care and veterinary services, libraries, farmers markets, festivals, and in seeking a variety of other services. Given the proximity of the co...	<b>Redford Twp.-Livonia-Northville Corridor:</b> An area encompassing the Western Wayne County communities of Redford Twp., Livonia, Northville and Northville Township. These communities combined at least approach the population requirements to form a compact state Senate District. Seven Mile, I-96 and Plymouth Roads are major shopping and commercial corridors for this area. These communities are within the service area of The Senior Al-ian...



<p>p1613 (30794)</p>	<p><b>Livonia and State House District 19:</b> Currently, House District 19 is comprised of all of the City of Livonia less three precincts: 35A, 35B, 35C. These three precincts are on the southern edge of the city but a contiguous part of the city to the east and west. Please consider consolidating District 19 as all of the City of Livonia as we are a community of shared interests and it is unfair to the City and to the residents of these...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c1839 (32521)</p>	<p><b>Scott's NW Metro Community:</b> My submission is based off of common boundaries by city/village/township in the NW section of the Metro Detroit area.</p>	<p><b>Community 4:</b> Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield <b>Community 8:</b> Livonia</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C30		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1939</a> (33331)	<b>My Community.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> It is the area I live in.
<a href="#">c2032</a> (34596)	<b>Rachelle's Lapeer County:</b> I believe I speak for others in my community by stating we want to KEEP our COUNTY TOGETHER. We are a close knit, secure, interdependent, rural & farming community. Our interests are absolutely separate from that of Oakland or Genesee Counties. Please RESPECT our COUNTY, TOWNSHIP & CITY LINES. If you must add us to another County, due to population, please add us to Counties of similar interests &...	<b>Rachelle's Lapeer:</b> I believe I speak for others in my community by stating we want to KEEP our COUNTY TOGETHER. We are a close knit, secure, interdependent, rural & farming community. Our interests are absolutely separate from that of Oakland or Genesee Counties. Please RESPECT our COUNTY, TOWNSHIP & CITY LINES. If you must add us to another County, due to population, please add us to Counties of similar interests &...
<a href="#">c2049</a> (34762)	<b>Ann's Lapeer:</b> In the interest of my community I do not want to see our county, city or township lines changed. We are a rural community that should never be part of Genesee or Oakland County. If you must combined counties due to population then please combined us with Tuscola and or Sanilac County. There will be protest organized if we are combined with Genesee or Oakland county. We want to be heard and we wil...	<b>Ann's Lapeer:</b> In the interest of my community I do not want to see our county, city or township lines changed. We are a rural community that should never be part of Genesee or Oakland County. If you must combined counties due to population then please combined us with Tuscola and or Sanilac County. There will be protest organized if we are combined with Genesee or Oakland county. We want to be heard and we wil...
<a href="#">c3302</a> (41240)	<b>Community 1 Districting Plan.</b>	<b>Community 1:</b> Ex-urban areas of northern Oakland, Genessee, Shiawassee, western northern Macomb Counties.
<a href="#">c722</a> (24114)	<b>46th District:</b> 46th District of Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison, & Brandon townships is a Community of interest. Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commision MICRC PO Box 30318 Lansing MI 48909 Dear Commissioners, The area of Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison, & Brandon townships all share alike objectives of their communities. They work with each other to share services and ideas to create better communities....	<b>Community 1:</b> 46th district of Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison and Brandon Townships.
<a href="#">p1997</a> (34064)	<b>thumb area plan:</b> obviously this is less than ideal as far as the "ideal population" but the misrepresentation of Democrats in the thumb area is unfair.	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p557</a> (21946)	<b>Macomb County MI House District:</b> Presented in public comment live on 5/27/2021. Based on school districts, this plan encompasses roughly three school districts in which people within the community associate with. These districts all have a combination of rural and small town communities that then feed into the respective school districts. People within this region also shop within this boundary as well.	<b>District 1.</b>
<a href="#">p723</a> (24113)	<b>46th District:</b> Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission MICRC PO Box 30318 Lansing MI 48909 Dear Commissioners, The area of Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison, & Brandon townships all share alike objectives of their communities. They work with each other to share services and ideas to create better communities. They work with groups of people from different areas and backgrounds get together to solve p...	<b>District 1.</b>



<p>p724 (24117)</p>	<p><b>8th Congressional District:</b> The area of indicated in the map drawn all share alike objectives of their communities. They can work with each other to share services and ideas to create better communities. They can work with groups of people from different areas and backgrounds get together to solve problems that affect them all and should be the next Federal 8th district They would work together to learn from each other and ...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2030 (34583)</p>	<p><b>Renee's "Lapeer".</b></p>	<p><b>Lapeer COI:</b> Lapeer County is a Community of Interest. Our community is a very close nit county of small towns, farming communities, and villages. Whether we are from Lapeer or Imlay City or North Branch or Brown City, we see ourselves as "Lapeer." We have very similar economic and social interests. We respectfully ask that you refrain from dividing our county when drawing state legislature maps or congression...</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Lapeer County.</b></p> <p><b>Northern Oakland County:</b> Rural area identified as a community of interest.</p>
<p>c2463 (36705)</p>	<p><b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.</p>	<p><b>East:</b> Diverse culture ranging from rural to suburban and startup industrial, the eastern portion of Michigan stands near to but not directly on our centers of industry and has unique requirements.</p>
<p>p978 (25941)</p>	<p><b>Thumb Congressional District:</b> Compact. Contains rural farms, small towns, and urban centers. Reflects communities of Interest.</p>	<p><b>District 7.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C31		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1071 (26355)	<b>People Count:</b> Communities of interest encompass the Tri-Cities (Saginaw, Midland, Bay City) and Flint. These cities have shared history such as the automotive industry, geology, and environment with its shared lakes and rivers. We need to unite the Great Lakes Bay region away from bigotry, and rampant gerrymandering, voter suppression, and allow all votes to count! In Midland alone we have had only one party r...	<b>Community I:</b> #MidBaySagGenesee Communities of interest encompass the Tri-Cities (Saginaw, Midland, Bay City) and Flint. These cities have shared history such as the automotive industry, geology, and environment with its shared lakes and rivers. We need to unite the Great Lakes Bay region away from bigotry, and rampant gerrymandering, voter suppression, and allow all votes to count! In Midland alone we have ha...
c1742 (31580)	<b>Karen's community:</b> I live in Atlas Township but identify with Flint as that is where we spend much of our time	<b>Home:</b> my home town and areas I spend time in nearby
c1768 (31990)	<b>Flint Metro League COI Map:</b> See my submission of 7/27/21 on Proposed Congressional District Based on Two Similar, Adjoining Communities of Interest and a Smaller, Overlapped Community of Interest for related testimony. Also see public comment #6 at Pontiac Hearing, 6/10/21 for related testimony.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1769 (31983)	<b>Flint/Genesee County COI:</b> See my submission of 7/27/21 on Proposed Congressional District Based on Two Similar, Adjoining Communities of Interest and a Smaller, Overlapped Community of Interest for related testimony. Also see public comment #6 at Pontiac Hearing, 6/10/21 for related testimony.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c1844 (32619)	<b>Greater Flint Region:</b> The city of Flint is an anchor for the small communities in Genesee, Shiawassee, and Lapeer counties. Most of the non-agricultural households in the region were connected to Flint due to the auto industry throughout the 20th century. Greater Flint continues to be a hub and point of connection for transportation, culture/arts, health care, commerce, and economic activity in the region.	<b>Greater Flint region:</b> All of the smaller towns in the three counties of Genesee, Shiawassee, and Lapeer have economic and social history going back to the time when the auto industry was dominant. Many non-agricultural households have auto industry workers in their recent past. Flint is the anchor point for commerce, hospital services, arts, and communications for the region.
c1916 (33053)	<b>Arab Americans Count!:</b> Genesee County has an estimated population of over 20,000 Arab Americans in the metropolitan-Flint area. We want to make sure that the Arab community is seen, heard, and represented as new district boundaries are drawn.	<b>Flint.</b>
c2344 (35654)	<b>Saginaw-Flint Coalition:</b> The black and Hispanic communities in Saginaw and Flint deserve representation. If they are combined, the coalition could elect 2 minority state reps from the area . This would give real representation to the black-Hispanic coalition in the area.	<b>Flint - Saginaw Minority Community.</b>
c489 (22576)	<b>Flint &amp; Genesee County's Latinx Communit:</b> Flint & Genesee County's Latinx Population	<b>Flint's Latinx Community:</b> Flint's Eastside historically has had the highest concentration of the Latinx community throughout the years. The Eastside has been home to many Latin families, Latin owned businesses, the Latinx Community Center, and other culturally relevant businesses/places of community. Genesee County is the 5th largest county in the State of Michigan with a 4.4% Latinx population. Flint as a 4% Latinx popul...



<p>p1426 (28054)</p>	<p><b>Flint and Tri-Cities District:</b> Hello again commissioners, provided is a well thought out district that should be considered when creating the U.S. Congressional Districts. This area of the state is known as the Tri-Cities which are very economically tied together and they have much historical significance that includes Bay City, Saginaw, and Midland. Also Flint is included within this district to the same shared interests of th...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1662 (31156)</p>	<p><b>proposed state congressional map:</b> suggested state representation district because it need to be more diverse in representation.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1767 (31973)</p>	<p><b>Pontiac, Flint &amp; Flint Metro League COIs:</b> Proposed Congressional District Based on Two Similar, Adjoining Communities of Interest and a Smaller, Overlapped Community of Interest Submitted by:\tGary Morehead, Auburn Hills, MI See also Public Comment #6, Pontiac MICRC Hearing, 6/10/21 District Shape File: <a href="https://districtr.org/plan/31973">https://districtr.org/plan/31973</a> Three Adjoining/Overlapping Communities of Interest \tDistrict Level: Congressional District \tPrin...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p1600 (30742)</p>	<p><b>Tri-Counties/Flint/Genesee Congressiona:</b> This map keeps the Tri-Cities (Bay City, Midland and Saginaw) together with Flint/Genesee in a Congressional District. There are numerous reasons to hold this region together in a Congressional District. Historically these cities emerged in similar fashion. Together they comprise an industrial corridor that is served by I-75, and the Saginaw, Tittabawasee, SHiawasee, and Flint Rivers. With the d...</p>	<p><b>District 3.</b></p>
<p>p55 (18133)</p>	<p><b>New Congressional map:</b> Would like to see Dan Kildee pick up most of Saginaw county and all of Genesee county. I believe he would represent this area well.</p>	<p><b>District 5.</b></p>
<p>c2561 (37418)</p>	<p><b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 7.</b></p>
<p>c2463 (36705)</p>	<p><b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.</p>	<p><b>Flint:</b> The city of Flint has specific requirements, some of which have not seen proper representation such as the lead problems in the water. Identifying it as specific in requirement should help in the future.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C32		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1645 (31100)	<b>Congressional District 6 Map.</b>	<b>Congressional District 6:</b> A congressional district that includes the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek communities.
c1779 (32172)	<b>Western Michigan Communities of Interest:</b> I think this is the best representation of communities of interest in Western Michigan	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2044 (34720)	<b>Border Counties:</b> This is a rural community of interest. While it is not large enough to be a congressional district, I think it represents a community that should be united in representation due to its mostly rural lifestyle. If this should be used to make a congressional seat, it should not pick up any urban areas, as this would dilute the rural voice represented here. Border counties should be kept together and ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2317 (35584)	<b>Rural vs Urban Lifestyle:</b> Washtenaw and Wayne counties are vastly different than counties like Jackson, Branch, Hillsdale and Berrien.	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2321 (35588)	<b>Suburban Lifestyle vs Border Counties:</b> As someone who grew up and raised a family in rural Michigan, and now living in urban Michigan, I can say firsthand that these are two distinctively different communities, and therefore should not be stuck together in representation. They have different values, lifestyles, family structures, etc. They have different income levels, paces of life, and economies. Any attempt to combine these two comm...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2383 (35842)	<b>Beer:</b> As a lifelong resident of a border county I know how often I make runs into Ohio and Indiana for groceries and cold beer, and I know many others who do the same. In border counties we are always competing with Ohio and Indiana for the price of goods and services as well as labor. I have many friends who drive south to work out of state, do a majority of their shopping, attend parks, and attend chu...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2392 (35925)	<b>College Life:</b> As someone who goes to college in one of the communities of interest, and spend my summer months in the rural community, I can attest to the differences between these two areas. The Chi ties of Washtenaw and parts of Wayne are much more affluent, have different infrastructure needs, and have public universities. The rural parts are much more agricultural, smaller communities, etc. These two commun...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2403 (36120)	<b>Border Districts:</b> Districts that border Indiana ought to be kept together based on having similar problems and people groups.	<b>IN Border Counties:</b> The counties along the Indiana border face similar economic challenges & opportunities and should be kept together as part of the redistricting process. Many people commute to Indiana & the competition for jobs is fierce between these border counties.
c2493 (37016)	<b>Border county news:</b> Living in border counties many don't realize how much rely on newspaper and stations for our local news. I've provided more specifics on my map.	<b>Border News:</b> Our area is very unique being border counties. Here in Lenawee county we get the Toledo Blade (newspaper) and get WTOL Broadcast (from Toledo, OH). Monroe county is the same. This counties across the southern border. I know over in Cass county they get the South Bend tribune and Indiana broadcast TV.



c2498 (37040)	<b>Deposit:</b> Living in the border county it is annoying, inconvenient, and an economic disparity to have to deal with the bottle deposit.	<b>Deposit:</b> Living in the border county it is annoying, inconvenient, and an economic disparity to have to deal with the bottle deposit.
c2512 (36805)	<b>Southwest Michigan communities:</b> I feel that communities should be kept whole and people have gotten use to having adjoining communities, and adjoining communities have similar interest and interact with each other. I do not feel township should be broken up. This could change our schools, churches. We came to this area for the reason that I have stated Van Buran, and Allegan should be to together. Rural counties should stay toge...	<b>SW Border.</b>
c3136 (40425)	<b>Jackson + Border Counties:</b> Last week, Commissioner Szetela mentioned that Jackson County would be the most ideal candidate to be grouped with the border counties. I agree 100%. In so many ways Jackson County fits with the border counties. Throughout the Jackson public hearing, the predominant theme was that Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale are all tied closely with one another. Numerous intercounty agencies and organizations...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3225 (40858)	<b>Monroe is a Border County:</b> Monroe County is much more tied together with other border counties than it is alike the large cities to the North like Detroit, Ann Arbor, and Ypsilanti. Economically, our focus is on farming and have great deals of interstate commerce due to the border. Just like Lenawee County, and the counties to the west, we have many cross-state commuters and our communities often tie us to individuals livin...	<b>Community 1.</b>
c3240 (40942)	<b>Communities top priority:</b> Communities of interest are a top priority to not just me, but also the voters of Michigan who approved this commission. Communities are more important according to the Constitution than other measures pushed by political consultants and even other measures like compactness. We don't want lines splitting us up. We've had politicians do this for years, we don't want random splits. I understand thes...	<b>Community 1.</b>
pl712 (31371)	<b>JFW Plan.</b>	<b>District 1.</b>
p624 (23703)	<b>Border County Congressional District:</b> I am the Township Supervisor for Bedford Township. We are more similar to Toledo than we are to Detroit or Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti. To illustrate this point, here are some of the interests tying us more to our border than the vastly different communities to our north: shared infrastructure, unions, United Way, print and broadcast media, hospital (ProMedica), environmental concerns related to the River...	<b>District 1.</b>
c2561 (37418)	<b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b>	<b>Community 10.</b>
p83 (18482)	<b>Carter's SW Michigan plan:</b> Culturally significant SW Michigan plan. I've seen plans for the southwestern portion of the state which include Berrien County in the same district as Monroe County. This is deeply inaccurate and does not represent similar communities in the slightest. As a lifelong SW Michigan resident, I believe this district makes the most sense given our shared histories, commutes, and even aligned sports con...	<b>District 10.</b>



<p>c1943 (33399)</p>	<p><b>Three Southwest MI Communities:</b> Much of rural Michigan is similar, though in order to keep districts compact and contiguous it will need to be broken up. Allegan + Van Buren Counties + surrounding rural areas and small towns make a lot of sense as a Community of Interest. While they share similarities with rural areas to the south, the border counties have more in common and more reliance on Indiana than the counties to the north...</p>	<p><b>SW MI Community:</b> Cass, St. Joseph, Branch, Hillsdale, and most of Berrien Counties form a separate community that should be considered when drawing maps. Similarly rural + small town interests to the VBC/Allegan CoI, but it makes sense to separate the two communities when we consider compact and contiguous districts for state level seats. This part of Michigan also borders Indiana and many in Berrien, Cass, and S...</p>
<p>c2065 (34882)</p>	<p><b>Improving Regions:</b> I have mapped two communities of interest. One is Washtenaw and Wayne county, the other is the border counties and Jackson county. These two communities have little in common, and should not in any way be combined in representation. For example, the commission decided to lump Washtenaw County and Monroe county together in a regional plan. While these regions are starting points and were determined...</p>	<p><b>Rural Areas:</b> Heavily agricultural, smaller communities, lower median income.</p>
<p>c2377 (35737)</p>	<p><b>West and Southwest Michigan:</b> Allegan and Van Buren counties are a natural fit. They are shoreline, non-border counties with rural communities and small towns. They are largely based on agriculture, manufacturing and tourism businesses, the local governments work together, and they face the same environmental and access to broadband challenges. Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph counties are a community of interest. They are border...</p>	<p><b>Border Counties:</b> Community of Interest along Indiana Border</p>
<p>c2395 (35737)</p>	<p><b>Southwestern Michigan:</b> Growing up in West Michigan, I'm very familiar with which counties should be combined together for Senate districts. Allegan and Van Buren counties are a clear community of interest-agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, shoreline, rural with small towns, and schools, communities, businesses, and local telecommunications providers that cover both counties. Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph are all borde...</p>	<p><b>Border Counties:</b> Community of Interest along Indiana Border</p>
<p>c2402 (36073)</p>	<p><b>West and Southwest Michigan:</b> From experience living throughout West Michigan, certain areas fit together as communities of interest: Grand Rapids, Kentwood and East Grand Rapids share the same economic, culture and overall focus around Grand Rapids. Local hospital systems, public transportation, and infrastructure overlap, and many of the largest "Grand Rapids" manufacturers are in Kentwood, along with the big "Grand Rapids" ...</p>	<p><b>Border Counties:</b> Community of Interest along Indiana Border</p>
<p>c2410 (36204)</p>	<p><b>West Michigan Map:</b> Muskegon-Oceana-Newaygo: Muskegon based district with nearby counties. Good mix of urban and rural. Close proximity so easy for a Senator to represent and visit all areas of the district in-person. Allegan-Van Buren: Rural communities along the shoreline, with heavy agriculture, tourism and manufacturing economic engines. Overlapping broadband and government services. Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph: Bo...</p>	<p><b>Border Counties:</b> Community of Interest along Indiana Border</p>
<p>c2517 (36806)</p>	<p><b>Lorraine's SW Michigan Plan:</b> There are several communities in SW Michigan that should be kept together as much as possible. Border counties rely on other states and cities like South Bend, IN more than others to the north. Van Buren and Allegan share many functions of government and interests as manufacturing and agricultural communities along the lakeshore. Kalamazoo forms a self-contained community of interest as well. For ...</p>	<p><b>Border Counties.</b></p>



<p>c2519 (37149)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan Community:</b> Between Allegan and Van Buren they are very similar, share the Kalamazoo River, farmland industry, lakeshore.</p>	<p><b>Border.</b></p>
<p>c2635 (35796)</p>	<p><b>Communities of Southern and Lakeside MI:</b> I was born and raised in Southern Michigan. The people of this rural and agrarian region value small, close-knit communities. The communities near the border of Michigan are distinct in terms of culture, economics, and values from other small communities through the state, as are the lakeside communities where my wife and I enjoy vacationing.</p>	<p><b>Southwest Counties on Border:</b> Southwestern Communities along the state border. This is a separate community because of the distance from mid-Michigan and has a separate lakeside community that has interests along with Michigan City and other Indiana/Illinois lakeside communities</p>
<p>c3200 (40714)</p>	<p><b>SW and Border Communities:</b> My communities are explained in the map, but in a nutshell my communities are defined by their economics, agriculture, and community sizes.</p>	<p><b>Border:</b> Border counties have similar economic issues because of differing tax, insurances, and cost of services between Michigan and Indiana/Ohio. All of these counties are all more rural, and non have what would consider large urban population centers.</p>
<p>c1793 (32312)</p>	<p><b>Fair/Compact Map - Border County.</b></p>	<p><b>Community Collaboratives between border counties:</b> My name is Juliana Moore, and I live in Adrian Township in Lenawee County. My Community of interest links counties related by healthcare, including Monroe and Lenawee as well as Branch County with the common denominator of ProMedica Healthcare Systems. I have extended the community of interest by including border counties that have a unique interest as states dealing with interstate economic issu...</p>
<p>c2378 (35825)</p>	<p><b>South and West Michigan Communities:</b> These are several communities that each feature something unique. While they are mostly rural with some larger cities, the rural areas go together well on a map and share many interests, challenges, and governmental functions. The differences are based on location and proximity to other cities. Kalamazoo fits into its own community.</p>	<p><b>Indiana Counties:</b> These counties form communities that have a lot of interest in Indiana specifically, whereas residents in other border counties can easily travel to Ohio as well.</p>
<p>c2380 (35834)</p>	<p><b>My South Michigan Map:</b> I was born and raised in South MI and also believe that county lines are a good basis for communities of interest in Michigan. These four communities each share interests and cooperate within themselves in many ways such as government, economy, and tourism. They are also uniquely different from one another due to where they sit on a map. These communities would be a good base for our maps in Michi...</p>	<p><b>Indiana Border:</b> The four counties along the Indiana border are another community with people who often travel to Indiana for work, shopping, and entertainment</p>
<p>c2463 (36705)</p>	<p><b>Regions inspired by district commission:</b> Inspired by the commission's planned meeting locations to service each region. and the needs of the population in each region.</p>	<p><b>Southwest:</b> Bordering Indiana, similar to Southeast, the Southwest interact with a different neighbor and likely commerce, shipping from Chicago, giving them specific needs.</p>
<p>c2514 (37133)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan - KM from Hamilton:</b> Southwest Michigan has 3 distinct communities - Van Buren/Allegan which are rural with small towns/cities Kalamazoo County is urban and the 3 boarder counties of Berrien, Cass and St. Joe share a boarder with Indiana which is a huge community factor.</p>	<p><b>Boarder Communitnes:</b> These Counties all boarder the State Line</p>
<p>c2556 (35815)</p>	<p><b>Southwest Michigan counties:</b> These counties share many functions of government and similar economies.</p>	<p><b>Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph:</b> Counties along the border have a different interest that aligns more with IN than MI</p>
<p>c2794 (38967)</p>	<p><b>Anthony Eid don't flip flop, use COIs:</b> It seems that Anthony has lost his focus on communities of interest. Last month Mr. Eid said Monroe belongs with border counties and not the urban area. Searching data in the portal people agree. If you search county tags you will find lots of COIs that connect Monroe to Lenawee and additional border counties to the west. You will find very few COIs that make a real connection of Monroe to the urb...</p>	<p><b>Border:</b> Border counties have unique economic interest that require unique representation. There issues are different than in state areas and deserve representation.</p>



c3346  
(41432)

**SW MI COIs:** Here is how I would delineate SW MI COIs: Community 1 (tourism-oriented, more diverse)- Lakeshore cities and townships; Community 2 (urban/inner suburb, more diverse): Grand Rapids, inner Kent Suburbs, inland Ottawa, Muskegon; Community 3 (smaller urban, eds/meds, more diverse): Kalamazoo, Portage, Battle Creek; Community 4 (suburban-rural fringe, less diverse): Eastern Kent, Western Ionia, Barry...

**Community 5.**



Supporting Data for Cluster C33-1		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1535 (29550)	<b>Greater Kalamazoo and Greater Battle Cre:</b> The communities of Greater Kalamazoo and Greater Battle Creek share many commonalities: a 20-mile section of I-94, an international airport, economic and social services agencies, hospital systems, the Kalamazoo River, and many people commute daily because they live in one community and work in the other. Greater Kalamazoo and Greater Battle Creek need to be in the same US congressional district a...	<b>Greater Kalamazoo and Greater Battle Creek:</b> Kalamazoo County and Calhoun County, specifically the communities of Greater Kalamazoo (including Portage) and Greater Battle Creek.
c1544 (29590)	<b>I-94 Corridor-Kalamazoo and Battle Creek:</b> Kalamazoo and Battle Creek share many economic, non-profit, infrastructure, and news sources. They have historically been connected, and are more alike that Grand Rapids or Jackson.	<b>Kalamazoo/Battle Creek COI:</b> Kalamazoo and Battle Creek share an International Airport, a watershed, workforces, news stations, United Way and other non-profits, and much more. They have historically been connected, and were a common community as recently as the 1990s. Battle Creek, in particular, shares more with Kalamazoo than it does with Grand Rapids.
c1860 (32713)	<b>Branch county.</b>	<b>District 7.</b>
c246 (19889)	<b>Battle Creek Kalamazoo I-94 Community:</b> I live in Battle Creek. We are an I-94 community. Most people I know consider ourselves connected in a community of interest with Kalamazoo more so than with communities (like Jackson) to the east and much more so than with Grand Rapids to the north. I will submit written testimony that describes this connection in more detail.	<b>Battle Creek Kalamazoo I-94 Community:</b> I live in Battle Creek. We are an I-94 community. Most people I know consider ourselves connected in a community of interest with Kalamazoo more so than with communities (like Jackson) to the east and much more so than with Grand Rapids to the north.
c2676 (38604)	<b>Battle Creek Veteran Care and Military:</b> Together, these blocks include multiple military bases and veteran-care service organizations, including income-based veteran housing, the VA Hospital and Fort Custer National Cemetery. It is important that these services be redistricted together. Our veterans and military personnel deserve special attention that would be watered down if the establishments were split into two or more districts.	<b>Veteran Care and Military:</b> Together, these blocks include multiple military bases and veteran-care service organizations, including income-based veteran housing, the VA Hospital and Fort Custer National Cemetery. It is important that these services be redistricted together. Our veterans and military personnel deserve special attention that would be watered down if the establishments were split into two or more districts.
c2685 (38604)	<b>Branch and Calhoun Farmland and Water:</b> Together, these blocks represent many farms and rural waterways. The specialized knowledge and expertise needed to protect farmland and related natural resources can be complex and nuanced. Redistricting them together will allow a representative to focus on the unique needs of this district. Southern Calhoun County and northern Branch County have long operated in close friendship from school riv...	<b>Veteran Care and Military:</b> Together, these blocks include multiple military bases and veteran-care service organizations, including income-based veteran housing, the VA Hospital and Fort Custer National Cemetery. It is important that these services be redistricted together. Our veterans and military personnel deserve special attention that would be watered down if the establishments were split into two or more districts.
c2827 (39288)	<b>Marengo Living:</b> We live in a small community surrounded by many other small communities. I do not like larger cities so please do not group us with larger cities . It would not be beneficial for us to be over run by larger communities .	<b>Community 1.</b>
c2830 (39319)	<b>Calhoun County and Adjacent Farmland:</b> Calhoun County with Adjacent Farming Area and including Adjacent Military Establishments. Small City and College Area As Opposed to Large City and University.	<b>Calhoun and adjacent farmland:</b> Calhoun County with Adjacent Farming Area and including Adjacent Military Establishments. Small City and College Area As Opposed to Large City and University.



<p>c2844 (39454)</p>	<p><b>USA Community:</b> My name is Bill Rees . I'm from Battle Creek. I was public speaker # 49 in Grand Rapids on July 1st.I screwed up and ran out of time so I want to finish my point to the commission . I request you personally review my comments. Thank you for the opportunity to present a view of the WK Kellogg Executive Airport. It is a real gem for the city of Battle Creek. Our airport, has been over shadowed in t...</p>	<p><b>USA Community:</b> My name is Bill Rees . I'm from Battle Creek. I was public speaker # 49 in Grand Rapids on July 1st.I screwed up and ran out of time so I want to finish my point to the commission . I request you personally review my comments. Thank you for the opportunity to present a view of the WK Kellogg Executive Airport. It is a real gem for the city of Battle Creek. Our airport, has been over shadowed in t...</p>
<p>c2858 (39700)</p>	<p><b>Small College versus large University:</b> We are a community of people of close knit neighborhoods. I grew up in Detroit city area and it was very busy. I have moved away because I wanted a quieter suburb .I would prefer if we did not get put in the same district as Kalamazoo.</p>	<p><b>Small College versus large University:</b> We are a community of people of close knit neighborhoods. I grew up in Detroit city area and it was very busy. I have moved away because I wanted a quieter suburb .I would prefer if we did not get put in the same district as Kalamazoo.</p>
<p>c2864 (39725)</p>	<p><b>caring for our community:</b> I am very interested in having input into how my district may be revised. While I live on the eastern edge of Kalamazoo County, I feel like my community of interest is Calhoun County, specifically the Battle creek area. After spending a 45 year career in nursing, I am retired now and finding more time to volunteer. I feel called to serving our less fortunate brothers and sisters by supporting th...</p>	<p><b>caring for our community:</b> I am very interested in having input into how my district may be revised. While I live on the eastern edge of Kalamazoo County, I feel like my community of interest is Calhoun County, specifically the Battle creek area. After spending a 45 year career in nursing, I am retired now and finding more time to volunteer. I feel called to serving our less fortunate brothers and sisters by supporting th...</p>
<p>c3055 (40037)</p>	<p><b>2 House Districts within Calhoun County:</b> I am a conservative and do not want to be overshadowed by liberals in Kalamazoo County.</p>	<p><b>Calhoun County House District 1.</b></p>
<p>c3090 (40118)</p>	<p><b>Agricultural and rural:</b> I was a 4H volunteer in my County for over 25 years. As such, I was able to see the inherent differences between urban and rural citizens. I believe that we must keep Battle Creek and it's surrounding rural community separate from the greater Kalamazoo area. I want my State Representative to understand the needs and values of my community.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3357 (41603)</p>	<p><b>Battle Creek, MI:</b> My community is important to me because I've lived in Pennfield Township in Battle Creek MI my entire life. We are a close-knit community with lots of help for our Veterans and elderly. Our Township has no place with a large city, like Kalamazoo. Do not re-district!</p>	<p><b>Battle Creek.</b></p>
<p>c3373 (41667)</p>	<p><b>Melissa's community of interest:</b> I have lived in Calhoun co for 26 years. I am a conservative and per not to be represented by Kalamazoo's Liberal community.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c585 (23528)</p>	<p><b>Southern MI Small Town Community:</b> Jackson County exhibits many of the qualities that make rural areas remarkable. Numerous natural sites and trails are ripe for exploration across the county. While our beloved small city provides economic opportunity and a sense of community, it is not an all-encompassing area that engulfs the rural feel of neighboring areas. Distinctive small towns scatter across the landscape of counties like ...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>p2742 (38748)</p>	<p><b>State House District for Battle Creek:</b> Albion and Battle Creek aren't really communities of interest. Emmet Township is closer to Battle Creek than Albion. It makes more sense to make a more compact district rather than a horseshoe like the 62nd district currently looks.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3078 (40092)</p>	<p><b>michigan house battle creekbattle cr:</b> battle creek and kalamazoo is very different .our values are very different and we do not want to be district together.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



<p>p3089 (40124)</p>	<p><b>battle creek augusta military veteran VA:</b> BC/augusta is a military area with the VA, National Cemetary our needs are for veterans and families</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3093 (40142)</p>	<p><b>State House:</b> This district represents the military and veteran region of south-central Michigan. This includes the facilities of DOD Logistic Center, W.K. Kellogg Airport (Air National Guard Base), Fort Custer (Army National Guard Training Center, V. A. Medical Center and Fort Custer Cemetery. This district thus includes all these centers under one State House District.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3141 (40431)</p>	<p><b>Protect tribal unity:</b> We need to protect tribal unity and tribal lands connected concerning population center in Athens with the economic center (Casino) in Emmett Township. Also we need to keep rural areas distinct from urban population to protect both.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3153 (40462)</p>	<p><b>MI Senate Southwest:</b> I hold to the values of personal empowerment, addressing government issues based on knowledge of a local area, and allocation of resources for long-term success.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c2685 (38604)</p>	<p><b>Branch and Calhoun Farmland and Water:</b> Together, these blocks represent many farms and rural waterways. The specialized knowledge and expertise needed to protect farmland and related natural resources can be complex and nuanced. Redistricting them together will allow a representative to focus on the unique needs of this district. Southern Calhoun County and northern Branch County have long operated in close friendship from school riv...</p>	<p><b>Branch and Calhoun Farmland and Water Resource Care:</b> Together, these blocks represent many farms and rural waterways. The specialized knowledge and expertise needed to protect farmland and related natural resources can be complex and nuanced. Redistricting them together will allow a representative to focus on the unique needs of this district. Southern Calhoun County and northern Branch County have long operated in close friendship from school riv...</p>
<p>c1943 (33399)</p>	<p><b>Three Southwest MI Communities:</b> Much of rural Michigan is similar, though in order to keep districts compact and contiguous it will need to be broken up. Allegan + Van Buren Counties + surrounding rural areas and small towns make a lot of sense as a Community of Interest. While they share similarities with rural areas to the south, the border counties have more in common and more reliance on Indiana than the counties to the north...</p>	<p><b>Kalamazoo + Battle Creek:</b> Similar interests between the two cities and their suburbs, less in line with some of the rural areas surrounding</p>
<p>c3200 (40714)</p>	<p><b>SW and Border Communities:</b> My communities are explained in the map, but in a nutshell my communities are defined by their economics, agriculture, and community sizes.</p>	<p><b>Kazoo-Battle Creek:</b> In recognition to the region it is even the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek Airport.</p>
<p>c3346 (41432)</p>	<p><b>SW MI COIs:</b> Here is how I would delineate SW MI COIs: Community 1 (tourism-oriented, more diverse)- Lakeshore cities and townships; Community 2 (urban/inner suburb, more diverse): Grand Rapids, inner Kent Suburbs, inland Ottawa, Muskegon; Community 3 (smaller urban, eds/meds, more diverse): Kalamazoo, Portage, Battle Creek; Community 4 (suburban-rural fringe, less diverse): Eastern Kent, Western Ionia, Barry...</p>	<p><b>Community 3.</b></p>
<p>p3149 (40450)</p>	<p><b>MI House District South Central:</b> I hold to the values of personal empowerment, addressing government issues based on knowledge of a local area, and allocation of resources for long-term success.</p>	<p><b>District 3.</b></p>
<p>c2380 (35834)</p>	<p><b>My South Michigan Map:</b> I was born and raised in South MI and also believe that county lines are a good basis for communities of interest in Michigan. These four communities each share interests and cooperate within themselves in many ways such as government, economy, and tourism. They are also uniquely different from one another due to where they sit on a map. These communities would be a good base for our maps in Michi...</p>	<p><b>Kalamazoo and Battle Creek:</b> These cities and their surrounding communities should go together. They are similar cities with shared interests and many small towns in their counties</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C33-2		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1473 (28914)	<b>Jackson Calhoun Counties share interests:</b> While diverse, the common needs bring people together.	<b>Community 1:</b> Jackson, Calhoun should be kept together because they have similar interests and attributes. Both have rural and small towns with one big city center each. There is a historical connection and the citizens value higher education in liberal arts setting. They have similar "at risk" populations too, which brings people together for common needs.
c1609 (30777)	<b>Balanced South Central Plan:</b> A true democratic district should have a true reflection of the state's political leans, with representatives swinging with the will of the people. No safe districts by either party.	<b>South Central Michigan.</b>
c1843 (32613)	<b>The Kalamazoo-Calhoun county COI:</b> Economically interdependent, sharing a large workforce and retail/service economy, the counties are also politically and culturally diverse. The major political parties would be competitive in district-wide races, which would foster stronger civic engagement and independent-minded elected leaders more inclined to listen to all constituents. Sharing a district would foster more collaboration and crea...	<b>Community 1:</b> Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties together form a cogent community of interest. Economically interdependent, yet politically and and culturally diverse, comprising urban, small town and rural communities. Both major political parties would be competitive in district-wide races. Prioritize the I94 corridor.
c2446 (36621)	<b>Urban sandwich:</b> Adding onto my original community of interest. I originally stated the tri-county area of Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee counties, but as I have reflected I realized this COI can be easily expanded to include Calhoun and Branch. These two counties have similar industry and one mid sized community each and are sandwiched between the urban areas of Kalamazoo and Ann Arbor.	<b>Rural w/small and mid size cities:</b> Adding onto my original community of interest. I originally stated the tri-county area of Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee counties, but as I have reflected I realized this COI can be easily expanded to include Calhoun and Branch. These two counties have similar industry and one mid sized community each and are sandwiched between the urban areas of Kalamazoo and Ann Arbor.
c2693 (38630)	<b>Small Colleges Small Towns:</b> These communities are a lot like each other compared to the neighboring counties. Each is a rural area with small towns every few miles. They also all have fairly small colleges compared to Kalamazoo with Western and Ann Arbor with University of Michigan. These counties need to be grouped together because they have similar needs economically compared to towns that rely on college students.	<b>Branch-Calhoun-Hillsdale-Jackson:</b> These communities are a lot like each other compared to the neighboring counties. Each are a rural area with small towns every few miles. They also all have fairly small colleges compared to Kalamazoo with Western and Ann Arbor with University of Michigan. These counties need to be grouped together because they have similar needs economically compared to towns that rely on college students.
c2819 (39248)	<b>I believe in Battle Creek:</b> Our community is one that can stand on its own! It appears that we are being lumped in with the city of Kalamazoo where we will have college students that are making decisions for those of us that are long time taxpaying citizens. Though I believe College students have the same rights as I do to vote their hearts and beliefs on the issues at hand, I don't believe they understand the long term eff...	<b>I Believe in Battle Creek:</b> Our community is one that can stand on its own! It appears that we are being lumped in with the city of Kalamazoo where we will have college students that are making decisions for those of us that are long time taxpaying citizens. Though I believe College students have the same rights as I do to vote their hearts and beliefs on the issues at hand, I don't believe they understand the long term eff...
c2859 (39708)	<b>Calhoun/Kalamazoo Regional Military Comm:</b> Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties contain 5 Military and Veteran installations: DOD Logistic Center, W.K. Kellogg Airport (Air National Guard Base), Fort Custer (Army National Guard Training Center), V.A. Medical Center, Fort Custer Cemetery. Fort Custer is divided between Calhoun & Kalamazoo Counties the Cemetery is in Kalamazoo County with the remaining installations in Calhoun County. This drawin...	<b>Calhoun/Kalamazoo Regional Military Community:</b> Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties contain 5 Military and Veteran installations: DOD Logistic Center, W.K. Kellogg Airport (Air National Guard Base), Fort Custer (Army National Guard Training Center), V.A. Medical Center, Fort Custer Cemetery. Fort Custer is divided between Calhoun & Kalamazoo Counties the Cemetery is in Kalamazoo County with the remaining installations in Calhoun County. This drawin...



<p>c3018 (39927)</p>	<p><b>Pam L..</b></p>	<p><b>Branch and Calhoun Farmland and Smaller School Communities:</b> This area would represent our feel of small town life and community that many of us still believe is fundamental to our lives and the way we raise productive children. We don't want to have to be lumped in with all of the industry, large colleges and hospital systems with their transient population making decisions that will affect those of us that have been here for generations. We support our m...</p>
<p>c3070 (40071)</p>	<p><b>Congressional District 3 Please keep big:</b> This Congressional District is full of rural communities and our values are the exact opposite from communities in Urban areas. Urban areas have a much larger population and would cancel out the rural areas surrounding them. We believe in a different form of Government, community colleges versus large university, home town medical clinic versus large hospital. Please don't let the big cities contr...</p>	<p><b>Congressional District 3 Please keep big cities and rural counties sepearate:</b> This Congressional District is full of rural communities and our values are the exact opposite from communities in Urban areas. Urban areas have a much larger population and would cancel out the rural areas surrounding them. We believe in a different form of Government, community colleges versus large university, home town medical clinic versus large hospital. Please don't let the big cities contr...</p>
<p>c3100 (40202)</p>	<p><b>fred's choice:</b> conservative voter who doesn't want to be associated with Kalamazoo.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c561 (23357)</p>	<p><b>Calhoun-Jackson District:</b> Calhoun and Jackson counties should be re-adjoined into a congressional seat. For years, Calhoun and Jackson had been linked until the most recent districting which needlessly separated these counties. These two neighbors are predominantly rural containing two smaller cities (Battle Creek and Jackson). These small cities are not the size of other metro areas (Kalamazoo-Portage-Oshtemo, Ann Arbor-Y...</p>	<p><b>Calhoun-Jackson:</b> Jackson and Calhoun counties are much more similar than the metro areas in Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor, Ypsi, and Lansing.</p>
<p>p226 (19763)</p>	<p><b>Redistricting plan:</b> Please consider this district plan, including communities of interest and neighboring counties. Thank you</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3091 (40133)</p>	<p><b>US congress:</b> agriculture small communities allow my voice in Washington DC</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3105 (40246)</p>	<p><b>Pam U.S Congress.</b></p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3152 (40462)</p>	<p><b>MI Senate:</b> Keeping rural communities together and free from metropolitan override protects rural women, who tend to fare better than their big-city counterparts. By allowing rural women to thrive in their own communities, we can better serve all women everywhere.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3154 (40465)</p>	<p><b>US Congress:</b> This proposed Senate district, though rural, is incredibly diverse, containing large segments of Americans from Burma, the Middle East, Central and South America, Japan, and other places. Through sharing our rural, home-town, small community lives with our immigrant neighbors, we build stronger communities that in turn build a stronger America. Large cities tend to be places where people can be ...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3157 (40468)</p>	<p><b>US Congress:</b> It is important to have a US congressman that understands the perspective of rural America. We value keeping federal issues federal, state issues state, and local issues local. At the federal level, we value having a strong military and protecting the rights of every American.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



<p>p3204 (40731)</p>	<p><b>Michigan House South Central:</b> I was born and raised in a small community and I feel it is important to keep rural and metropolitan areas separate. These areas have different needs and require entirely different representation.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3208 (40739)</p>	<p><b>US Congress - Michigan South Central:</b> It is important at a National level to protect Legal guest workers as the areas are agriculture based. It is important to link these areas together to a Congressional leader who understands the importance of a dignified guest worker program to support the agricultural communities. The areas also require a Congressional leader who understands small communities and the value of empowering women an...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3265 (41043)</p>	<p><b>Congress South Central:</b> To protect the guest worker communities and the dignity of the guest workers in these counties. To give a voice for farming in relation to agricultural concerns.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3341 (41407)</p>	<p><b>Calhoun, Branch, Hillsdale map:</b> Grouping of like community interests</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3342 (41415)</p>	<p><b>Congressional district map:</b> Groups counties with like opinions and geographical locations together in congressional district</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p515 (22918)</p>	<p><b>Rural Southern MI Congressional District:</b> My preferred district integrates various pre-existing factors which tie these areas together into a suggested congressional district. I live in rural Riga Township in southern Lenawee County. This community shares so many of the same cultural, economic, and even religious aspects as the other communities in this suggested district. Agriculture represents a major economic driver, along with many o...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>c177 (19257)</p>	<p><b>VITA and CAA Community of Interest:</b> Community Action Agency and its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program operates in the 3 counties of Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale. These should be kept in the same congressional district. VITA clients also come from adjacent counties which should be kept in the same district.</p>	<p><b>Community 2:</b> VITA clients come from adjacent areas.</p>
<p>p969 (25843)</p>	<p><b>South Central Congressional District:</b> I live in Hillsdale county and have lived in Monroe, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties. Having lived in these places I have a great respect for each of them, and their similarities and differences. Having lived in Hillsdale County for nearly 36 years I am very familiar with the area. I am an involved resident and have served my community on numerous boards and committees. In preparing a congressional ...</p>	<p><b>District 5.</b></p>
<p>c2561 (37418)</p>	<p><b>Keeping Michigan competitive.</b></p>	<p><b>Community 9.</b></p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C33-3		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c2378</a> (35825)	<b>South and West Michigan Communities:</b> These are several communities that each feature something unique. While they are mostly rural with some larger cities, the rural areas go together well on a map and share many interests, challenges, and governmental functions. The differences are based on location and proximity to other cities. Kalamazoo fits into its own community.	<b>Middle South MI Square:</b> Jackson and Battle Creek are similar cities that share similar interests. Their outlying farmland and less populated townships share a lot in common and often people work and shop in the larger cities nearby
<a href="#">c2820</a> (39247)	<b>Calhoun County can Stand:</b> Calhoun County is an individual county of its self and has it own identity. It is very much different than the fast pace of Barry, Branch, Kalamazoo, Eaton, Ingham, and Jackson Counties. The cites of Albion, Athens, Battle Creek, Marshall, Springfield, and Urandale have adequate, quiet, quaint, and unique shopping/restaurants that meet the needs of our community. I do not feel that we need to ...	<b>Calhoun County Can Stand:</b> Calhoun County is an individual county of its self and has it own identity. It is very much different than the fast pace of Barry, Branch, Kalamazoo, Eaton, Ingham, and Jackson Counties. The cites of Albion, Athens, Battle Creek, Marshall, Springfield, and Urandale have adequate, quiet, quaint, and unique shopping/restaurants that meet the needs of our community. I do not feel that we need to ...
<a href="#">c2822</a> (39264)	<b>Fair representation:</b> I live in Battle Creek but worked in Kalamazoo for fifteen years. During that time I saw first hand how different the priorities were of Kalamazoo proper and Kalamazoo county. Calhoun county is more rural and the priorities of our county reflect that.	<b>Fair Representation:</b> I live in Battle Creek but worked in Kalamazoo for fifteen years. During that time I saw first hand how different the priorities were of Kalamazoo proper and Kalamazoo county. Calhoun county is more rural and the priorities of our county reflect that.
<a href="#">c2828</a> (39287)	<b>Marengo Life:</b> I am a registered voter and feel compelled to testify about the redistricting that will happen here in Michigan. I appreciate the opportunity to stand before you to address this important decision of mapping Michigan districts. My name is Bonnie Kazmar, I live in Marengo Township in Calhoun County. I have lived in this area all my life, mainly because I love the rural community life. As a person ...	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c2842</a> (39428)	<b>Small Towns:</b> I live in Marengo township, which is very small. Last time I checked, Marengo Township is made up of only one precinct and has only 1600 registered voters. My area is full of communities just like mine. The Kalamazoo /Portage area is the exact opposite of how I grew up. In no way can they relate to the needs of any of my community members or my neighbors. Please keep us away from Kalamazoo.	<b>Small Towns:</b> I live in Marengo township, which is very small. Last time I checked, Marengo Township is made up of only one precinct and has only 1600 registered voters. My area is full of communities just like mine. The Kalamazoo /Portage area is the exact opposite of how I grew up. In no way can they relate to the needs of any of my community members or my neighbors. Please keep us away from Kalamazoo.
<a href="#">c2860</a> (39705)	<b>Paul Rose:</b> Industrial, surrounded by rural/agricultural. There is a large presence of of federal and military workers/retirees. Kalamazoo's history of being anti-military and anti-war, as during the Vietnam War, has made these two communities very incompatible. They are extremely liberal and seem to down play America and our roll in developing a better world for all.	<b>Paul Rose:</b> Industrial, surrounded by rural/agricultural. There is a large presence of of federal and military workers/retirees. Kalamazoo's history of being anti-military and anti-war, as during the Vietnam War, has made these two communities very incompatible. They are extremely liberal and and seem to down play America and our roll in developing a better world for all.
<a href="#">c2884</a> (39733)	<b>Small College versus large University:</b> We are a community of people of close knit neighborhoods. I grew up in Detroit city area and it was very busy. I have moved away because I wanted a quieter suburb .I would prefer if we did not get put in the same district as Kalamazoo.	<b>Battle Creek does NOT belong with K-zoo:</b> Battle Creek and Kalamazoo are very different. Battle Creek is my home and a very tight community. We live together, we work together, we go to church together, and my family has multiple generations of history here. Kalamazoo is home to transients, people who come in for a few years and then leave. Please keep my family in either Barry County or Eaton.



<p>c2940 (39785)</p>	<p><b>Branch and Calhoun Farming Community:</b> The rural community I outlined has deep roots in agriculture. I grew up on a family farm in this area and hold a Bachelors Degree in Agriculture. The people of this outlined area have similar goals for land usage and water usage. We need to protect our farmlands in order to grow the food our nation requires.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2943 (39800)</p>	<p><b>Rural culture in my community:</b> I have lived in this area of rural land and small towns most of my life and I have raised my family here. The culture here is different from big cities and needs to be kept separate. We enjoy space to spread out, small town activities such as high school sports and church or community gatherings. Our way of life needs to be preserved and our voice needs to be heard.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3059 (40046)</p>	<p><b>Southcentral Congressional District:</b> I am a retired architect engineer who grew up in Battle Creek and have lots of family history here. I enjoy my family farm and would not like to be included with a big city. Thank you</p>	<p><b>Southcentral Congressional District:</b> I am a retired architect engineer who grew up in Battle Creek and have lots of family history here. I enjoy my family farm and would not like to be included with a big city. Thank you</p>
<p>c3066 (40054)</p>	<p><b>Rural vs. Urban:</b> Living in a rural community gives stability and family values usually for generations. We don't connect with fast paced urban cities that are primarily transient.</p>	<p><b>Rural Vs. Urban:</b> Living in a rural community gives stability and family values usually for generations. We don't connect with fast paced urban cities that are primarily transient.</p>
<p>c3073 (40077)</p>	<p><b>two house district:</b> I live in a rural community and want to keep it that way.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3075 (40083)</p>	<p><b>state house districts:</b> Communities of rural values and needs</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3079 (40097)</p>	<p><b>Proposed Rural Redistricting Of Calhoun:</b> It's imperative that our rural values are represented with the redistricting. Being lumped in with liberal Kalamazoo will eliminate our voice.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3084 (40103)</p>	<p><b>Rural:</b> Maintaining representation of the values and concerns that people who reside in our small town and rural areas predominately hold. I have nothing personal against the citizens of the larger urban areas, but their daily concerns are not typically that of the citizens of my rural community. With this in mind, Battle Creek, and the rural community surrounding it, should remain separate from the Cit...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3103 (40229)</p>	<p><b>2 house districts for southwest Michigan:</b> A very competitive district that takes into consideration that these are rural communities with very similar population &amp; business interest. Also, a these communities have unique personalities and activities that are not compatible with larger metropolitan areas.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3116 (40286)</p>	<p><b>Bipartisan agreement on border county:</b> During the Jackson public hearing in May, Regen Stahl, vice-chair of the Branch County Democratic Party gave testimony which I would like to echo. She asked the commission to draw equitable lines keeping communities of interest together, specifically asking for the border counties of Branch, Hillsdale, St. Joseph counties to be drawn together as a common region sharing a tri-county health departme...</p>	<p><b>Bipartisan Support - Health department.</b></p>
<p>c3185 (40607)</p>	<p><b>Map for Calhoun County:</b> I am born and raised in Calhoun County and many family and friends are farmers. Calhoun county has a rich farming conservative history which is very different from the liberal Kalamazoo area. Calhoun County is mainly republican and splitting up our county will only dilute our influence and voices.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>



c3359 (41619)	<b>Calhoun County.</b>	<b>Calhoun County.</b>
c3364 (41627)	<b>Keith's Senate District:</b> Contiguous District of Agricultural/Rural Interest	<b>Keith's Senate District:</b> Contiguous District of Agricultural/Rural interest
p1455 (28690)	<b>Tom's Border/Agriculture District:</b> This district proposal groups the southern border counties and townships, particularly those with an emphasis on the agricultural industry. The border counties have significant synergy with the northern counties of Ohio and Indiana which are also heavily agriculture with the exception of the metro Toledo area. The southern boundary counties share in the River Raisin watershed and its environment...	<b>District 1.</b>
p3074 (40079)	<b>Michigan House Rural Calhoun Branch:</b> I want no part of Kalamazoo, because Kalamazoo does not represent my interests. We are a rural community and want to stay that way. I don't want a big University town dictating policy in our rural area.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3076 (40084)	<b>Farmland Branch and Calhoun:</b> Most of Calhoun County and Branch County are rural and have needs that are very different than the needs of those who live in metropolitan areas. These rural residents deserve to be represented by elected officials who will not ignore them for the more populace areas in large towns.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3080 (40100)	<b>State Senate:</b> This district features farmland, rural communities, small colleges, and rich history.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3085 (40113)	<b>US congress:</b> these counties are filled with agriculture small collages small town values	<b>District 1.</b>
p3087 (40111)	<b>US Congress:</b> These counties rely on agriculture and are home to many family farms. They need a US House Rep who can focus on those rural distinctions.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3095 (40148)	<b>State Senate:</b> Rural communities, small population centers, family farms plus community colleges make up the preeminent character of this State Senate district.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3097 (40164)	<b>Congressional District South-Central MI.:</b> Rural communities, small population centers, Family Farms, community colleges, military and veterans constitute the preeminent character of south-central Michigan to be best served in the Congress as a single Congressional District.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3108 (40252)	<b>Pam Senate District:</b> These communities have a lot in common. We like our mostly small town life, even in our bigger towns everyone likes the rural areas. Our schools are comparable to each other and love their rivalries. We enjoy college life without having to deal with huge campuses and their issues. We enjoy the life of generations of families having lived in our areas and being able to have a voice locally and at...	<b>District 1.</b>
p3144 (40439)	<b>Battle Creek is NOT Kalamazoo:</b> Battle Creek should NOT be districted with Kalamazoo. Our approach to governance is different as regards education, government policy, policing, thus the communities should be in separate districts. Distinct population differences/types, i.e. transient vs rooted, university vs community college, and industry vs "mom and pop" businesses.	<b>District 1.</b>



<p>p3150 (40458)</p>	<p><b>Michigan House Calhoun Branch:</b> Rural Southwest Michigan women, like myself, are rugged, strong, and capable. We are farmers, business owners, school leaders, and community activists. We are heroes in healthcare, education, and industry. We need the power to make choices on our own without a one-sized-fits-all government dictating its will to us. These rural communities are thriving thanks to women, and I want a rep who does...</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3165 (40501)</p>	<p><b>Michigan Senate south-central:</b> Important to correlate our rural counties that are rich in multigenerational farms, ongoing agriculture, diverse ethnic populations that foster close relationships that enjoy life together as rural Americans. Our small communities enjoy the personal relationship we have with our public officials that are difficult to develop in metropolitan settings.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3167 (40505)</p>	<p><b>UIS Congress South Central:</b> This area is rich in agriculture and relies heavily on seasonal workers many of whom are migrant. Thus we need compassionate, dignified laws to welcome and protect temporary workers from foreign countries.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3203 (40730)</p>	<p><b>Michigan House South Central:</b> It is important to keep Metropolitan areas separate from Rural Farm communities. I am from a small rural community that has different needs than larger cities and require different representation.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3205 (40733)</p>	<p><b>Michigan Senate Southcentral:</b> I was born and raised in a small community and I feel it is important to keep rural and metropolitan areas separate. These areas have different needs and require entirely different representation.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3206 (40734)</p>	<p><b>Michigan Senate South Central:</b> Being a professional woman, it is important to keep rural communities in tact. Women, in small communities have a greater voice and are empowered for success. In addition, children have more ability to try and excel in different areas in school due to the size of rural community schools.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3207 (40740)</p>	<p><b>US Congress Michigan Southcentral:</b> At the national level we need to have an immigration policy that protects the legal guest worker policies. This district requires a representative that will uphold the principles of this nation's legal immigration. These counties are all primarily agricultural and need a representative that understands these needs.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3260 (41030)</p>	<p><b>house calhoun branch:</b> I feel it is important that rural voices not be drowned out by bigger municipalities.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3263 (41038)</p>	<p><b>Calhoun Branch Hillsdale Senate:</b> To keep rural community control separate from the bigger municipality influence.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3275 (41103)</p>	<p><b>MI House South Central:</b> It is important to keep rural areas separate from Metropolitan areas. I attended school and church in a rural farming community. The small communities have different needs in comparison to larger communities.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>
<p>p3277 (41106)</p>	<p><b>MI Senate South Central:</b> It is important to have a representation for smaller farming communities which has different needs than a metropolitan area. I grew up in a small community, where as a female, I have had many opportunities to be involved in the community as I grew up because I live in a small town. Small towns give more opportunities for females to be successful.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



p3278 (41113)	<b>US Congress - Mi South Central:</b> It is important to have a US representative that is experienced and versed in agricultural communities. We are diverse small communities that require legal guest assistance for the farming communities. The rural communities are diverse and respect our differences which makes our communities stronger with little to no racial tension as seen in larger communities.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3282 (41136)	<b>congress southcentral:</b> WE ARE AN AGRICULTURE AREA SMALL TOWN WITH IMMIGRANT WORKERS AND TO STAY SAFE WE NEED TO ABIDE BY WHAT OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS AND BIG CITIES ARE NOT IN CONTROL OF OUR DECISIONS TO HAVE SAVE IMIGRATION AND POLICYS. SOP WE NEED COMMUNIY TY	<b>District 1.</b>
p3334 (41374)	<b>MI House South Central:</b> It is important to keep metropolitan areas separate from rural farm communities. I am from a small rural community that has different needs than larger cities and require different representatives.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3335 (41379)	<b>MI Senate South Central:</b> I believe small communities need to have their own voice.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3336 (41383)	<b>US Congress - MI South Central:</b> We need a US representative that is well versed in small farming communities, as our needs are different than those of bigger metropolitan cities.	<b>District 1.</b>
p3337 (41398)	<b>Calhoun County State House:</b> To keep opinions of smaller populated townships separated from the larger municipalities	<b>District 1.</b>
p3366 (41636)	<b>Keith B's Congressional Plan:</b> These counties are more rural and agricultural than the surrounding counties with larger cities	<b>District 1.</b>
p3104 (40242)	<b>State Senate Map for southwest Michigan:</b> Similar rural areas that have shared common interest & communities	<b>District 19.</b>
c1780 (32175)	<b>Hillsdale, Branch, and Jackson Counties:</b> These three counties are close neighbors and friends. We cross county lines for work and pleasure DAILY. Please consider keeping them together as a district. With colleges, shopping, and recreation, these three counties, Hillsdale, Branch, and Jackson, benefit each other.	<b>Branch County:</b> Branch and Hillsdale county share county lines and is a shopping district for Hillsdale. It offers another choice for a hospital and many connecting recreational opportunities for Hillsdale residents with all the lakes. Branch county also relies on Hillsdale for the many lakes it has a well. They are close neighbors who share many roads and properties. It is important to keep them in the same dist...
c2448 (36623)	<b>Night life vs in bed early:</b> I wrote description on the map.	<b>In bed by 10:</b> This area is where I live and work. While I love the and appreciate its rural flavor it is very different from my blue color community. Our restaurants close early and are not open on Sundays. Our entertainment options are more park, lake, and trail based rather than flashing lights, shows, and museums.
c2676 (38604)	<b>Battle Creek Veteran Care and Military:</b> Together, these blocks include multiple military bases and veteran-care service organizations, including income-based veteran housing, the VA Hospital and Fort Custer National Cemetery. It is important that these services be redistricted together. Our veterans and military personnel deserve special attention that would be watered down if the establishments were split into two or more districts.	<b>Branch and Calhoun Farmland and Water Resource Care:</b> Together, these blocks represent many farms and rural waterways. The specialized knowledge and expertise needed to protect farmland and related natural resources can be complex and nuanced. Redistricting them together will allow a representative to focus on the unique needs of this district. Southern Calhoun County and northern Branch County have long operated in close friendship from school riv...



c3055 (40037)	<b>2 House Districts within Calhoun County:</b> I am a conservative and do not want to be overshadowed by liberals in Kalamazoo County.	<b>Calhoun County House District 2 with Branch:</b> I am a conservative and do not want to be overshadowed by liberals in Kalamazoo County.
c3073 (40077)	<b>two house district:</b> i live in a rural community and want to keep it that way.	<b>Community 2.</b>
c3075 (40083)	<b>state house districts:</b> Communities of rural values and needs	<b>Community 2.</b>
c3079 (40097)	<b>Proposed Rural Redistricting Of Calhoun:</b> It's imperative that our rural values are represented with the redistricting. Being lumped in with liberal Kalamazoo will eliminate our voice.	<b>Community 2.</b>
c3084 (40103)	<b>Rural:</b> Maintaining representation of the values and concerns that people who reside in our small town and rural areas predominately hold. I have nothing personal against the citizens of the larger urban areas, but their daily concerns are not typically that of the citizens of my rural community. With this in mind, Battle Creek, and the rural community surrounding it, should remain separate from the Cit...	<b>Community 2.</b>
c3090 (40118)	<b>Agricultural and rural:</b> I was a 4H volunteer in my County for over 25 years. As such, I was able to see the inherent differences between urban and rural citizens. I believe that we must keep Battle Creek and it's surrounding rural community separate from the greater Kalamazoo area. I want my State Representative to understand the needs and values of my community.	<b>Community 2.</b>
c3100 (40202)	<b>fred's choice:</b> conservative voter who doesn't want to be associated with Kalamazoo.	<b>Community 2.</b>
c3103 (40229)	<b>2 house districts for southwest Michigan:</b> A very competitive district that takes into consideration that these are rural communities with very similar population & business interest. Also, a these communities have unique personalities and activities that are not compatible with larger metropolitan areas.	<b>Community 2.</b>
c3185 (40607)	<b>Map for Calhoun County:</b> I am born and raised in Calhoun County and many family and friends are farmers. Calhoun county has a rich farming conservative history which is very different from the liberal Kalamazoo area. Calhoun County is mainly republican and splitting up our county will only dilute our influence and voices.	<b>Community 2.</b>
p3081 (40101)	<b>branch hillsdale calhoun:</b> this is a rural area filled with small towns and collages	<b>District 2.</b>
p3106 (40248)	<b>US HOUSE CONGRESSIONAL SOUTHWEST MI:</b> Rural communities with similar interest, activities, businesses, and population. These communities vary from metropolitan centers that operate very differently & have extremely different issues & concerns.	<b>District 3.</b>



Supporting Data for Cluster C34-1		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
<a href="#">c1067</a> (26340)	<b>Vincent R. Elie's Community of Interest:</b> My Community of Interest My name is Vince Elie. I, and my family, live in western Washtenaw County. We live in the city of Chelsea. This is where we raised our children. This area of Washtenaw County holds a deep place within my heart. However, my ties are stronger to Jackson County than to the eastern section of Washtenaw County. I worked in Jackson County. We visit service establishments, r...	<b>Vincent R Elie Community of Intrest:</b> My Community of Interest My name is Vince Elie. I, and my family, live in western Washtenaw County. We live in the city of Chelsea. This is where we raised our children. This area of Washtenaw County holds a deep place within my heart. However, my ties are stronger to Jackson County than to the eastern section of Washtenaw County. I worked in Jackson County. We visit service establishments, r...
<a href="#">c1447</a> (28576)	<b>Existing Regional Partnerships:</b> I think most of the heavy lifting on communities of interest has already been done over the years. What I mean is programs, offices, and agencies have all been aligned based on demographics to create service areas already. To divide these established and working service areas up would do a disservice to the people they serve. For example regional planning commission, the aging agency, the departme...	<b>Existing Regional Partnerships:</b> I think most of the heavy lifting on communities of interest has already been done over the years. What I mean is programs, offices, and agencies have all been aligned based on demographics to create service areas already. To divide these established and working service areas up would do a disservice to the people they serve. For example regional planning commission, the aging agency, the departme...
<a href="#">c1630</a> (30899)	<b>Lenawee County Community of Interest:</b> Lenawee County which is a border county in southeast and has unique needs and interests which are best represented by ONE state representative. Lenawee County has numerous school districts that coordinate with the county LISD. Lenawee County has small (mostly) township volunteer fire departments who provide mutual aid for each other when needed. Lenawee County has a County Sheriff department that ...	<b>Lenawee County Community of Interest for State Representative district:</b> Map for Community of Interest comments w1174
<a href="#">c1642</a> (31052)	<b>Katie's border counties:</b> Having lived in southern downriver, I recognize those area relates to more of Monroe counties, and other border counties like lenawee, hillsdale, and beyond, more than it relates to areas like Plymouth or Canton.	<b>Community 1.</b>
<a href="#">c1705</a> (31342)	<b>NEW Jackson Co SH Distr. -Urban/Suburban:</b> See my written testimony of May 11, 2021. Jackson County should have one state house district that represents the uniquely urban/suburban character of Greater Jackson. This would be more fair than the current two predominantly rural districts.	<b>NEW Jackson Co. State House Dist. - URBAN/suburban:</b> This shows Jackson County's proposed district lines for the state house, drawn in a more fair and more compact way than they are currently. It is more fair because it includes an URBAN/Suburban community (Greater Jackson), with its own unique interests and concerns that differ from outlying rural Jackson County. In other words, Jackson County's urban/suburban area can be considered a COI. See my ...
<a href="#">c1780</a> (32175)	<b>Hillsdale, Branch, and Jackson Counties:</b> These three counties are close neighbors and friends. We cross county lines for work and pleasure DAILY. Please consider keeping them together as a district. With colleges, shopping, and recreation, these three counties, Hillsdale, Branch, and Jackson, benefit each other.	<b>Hillsdale County:</b> Small town with a wonderful agricultural fair that residents look forward to every year. We are home to Hillsdale College which greatly impacts the economics of our small town. Residents from both Branch and Jackson consider Hillsdale to be local and we are family. Our roads and properties overlay and we are neighbors.
<a href="#">c1789</a> (32303)	<b>County wide non-profits:</b> My community of interest is Lenawee County which is on the Ohio border between Hillsdale and Monroe Counties. Lenawee County has just under 100,000 residents. My desire is to keep Lenawee County whole to maintain the cohesiveness within our non-profit community. Our community, Lenawee County, best understands the basic needs and growth of our citizens and therefore, should remain whole. Lenawee Co...	<b>County wide non-profits:</b> I previously submitted a community of interest in regard to the many non-profit organizations in Lenawee County.



<p>c1790 (32301)</p>	<p><b>Educational Interests:</b> Good Evening, my name is Kristine Yeutter. I live in Adrian and I am a life- long resident of Michigan. I have worked 43 years in education teaching English, Spanish, and English as a Second Language. In my career the partnerships between individual schools districts and the county intermediate schools districts are invaluable. Individual districts and the county ISD rely on each other for in-serv...</p>	<p><b>Educational Interests:</b> Good Evening, my name is Kristine Yeutter. I live in Adrian and I am a life- long resident of Michigan. I have worked 43 years in education teaching English, Spanish, and English as a Second Language. In my career the partnerships between individual schools districts and the county intermediate schools districts are invaluable. Individual districts and the county ISD rely on each other for in-serv...</p>
<p>c1826 (32481)</p>	<p><b>Vandercook Lake:</b> This is where I grew up, and where I still live.</p>	<p><b>Vandercook Lake:</b> This is the town of Vandercook Lake. It is unincorporated but everyone who lives there would agree that it is a community.</p>
<p>c1913 (33023)</p>	<p><b>Jack's Jackson Hillsdale District:</b> Includes all of Jackson and Hillsdale counties, along with the Albion area to the west and the lake communities in NW Lenawee county. I have lived in Jackson county, Hillsdale County, the Lake areas mentioned, and in Albion and in all locations we considered ourselves part of the Jackson area.</p>	<p><b>Greater Jackson / Hillsdale area:</b> Includes all of Jackson and Hillsdale counties, along with the Albion area to the west and the lake communities in NW Lenawee county. I have lived in Jackson county, Hillsdale County, the Lake areas mentioned, and in Albion and in all locations we considered ourselves part of the Jackson area.</p>
<p>c1921 (33133)</p>	<p><b>Southern Border Counties:</b> Those of us in the southern border counties prefer to keep our border counties together since we deal with the same economic situations that living close to to neighboring states causes. Many of our state policies and and laws are very different from neighboring states. That way our representatives know the issues that affect us first hand and can speak for us when it comes to our concerns. Som...</p>	<p><b>Southern Border Counties:</b> Those of us in the southern border counties prefer to keep our border counties together since we deal with the same economic situations that living close to to neighboring states causes. Many of our state policies and and laws are very different from neighboring states. That way our representatives know the issues that affect us first hand and can speak for us when it comes to our concerns. Som...</p>
<p>c1952 (33542)</p>	<p><b>Jackson / Western Washtenaw county:</b> Outdoor recreation areas physically connected and utilized by Jackson and western Washtenaw county residents.</p>	<p><b>Jackson / Western Washtenaw Counties:</b> The wonderful community of out door recreation, art , and entertainment within Jackson County and western Washtenaw County.</p>
<p>c2268 (35355)</p>	<p><b>Lenawee Hillsdale and Jackson COI Map:</b> This map represents my community of interest comments submitted in July. The community of interest includes the Region 2 Planning Commission and the Region 2 Area Agency on Aging. Both of these groups work in Lenawee Jackson and Hillsdale Counties to provide services for all three counties and should remain together in the redistricting process.</p>	<p><b>Lenawee Hillsdale &amp; Jackson Community of Interest:</b> Lenawee, Hillsdale and Jackson Counties community of Interest Map</p>
<p>c2380 (35834)</p>	<p><b>My South Michigan Map:</b> I was born and raised in South MI and also believe that county lines are a good basis for communities of interest in Michigan. These four communities each share interests and cooperate within themselves in many ways such as government, economy, and tourism. They are also uniquely different from one another due to where they sit on a map. These communities would be a good base for our maps in Michi...</p>	<p><b>Tri-County South Michigan:</b> Hillsdale, Jackson, and Lenawee counties share a lot as a tri-county area. Many people from the less populated small towns go to Jackson for work and entertainment</p>
<p>c2393 (35929)</p>	<p><b>Irish Hills:</b> I now live in Southeast Jackson County and, as a concerned resident, I decided to attend the Jackson public hearing. We live in what is known as the Irish Hills. The Irish Hills region encompasses Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee counties.</p>	<p><b>Irish Hills:</b> Irish Hills is a economic, tourist, recreational, business, and law enforcement region.</p>
<p>c2394 (35945)</p>	<p><b>R2AAA:</b> I reside in Norvell Township in Jackson County Michigan. I am a Board Member of the Region 2 Area Agency on Aging often referred to as the R2AAA. There are 16 Area Agencies on Aging throughout Michigan created through the Older Americans Act of 1965. The R2AAA officially began in May of 1974 and is comprised of Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee Counties. The Mission of the R2AAA is to "improve condit...</p>	<p><b>R2AAA:</b> Service area for the Region 2 Area Agency on Aging.</p>



<p>c2396 (35958)</p>	<p><b>Community Mental Health:</b> In Jackson and Hillsdale counties we proudly support our local community mental health association. Lifeways Community Mental Health is a great asset to our region and has already created a defined community.</p>	<p><b>Lifeways.</b></p>
<p>c3229 (40886)</p>	<p><b>Jacob's Boarder District:</b> These communities share with the boarder of different states and have very similar issues they face regarding interstate travel, emergency services, local roads, watershed, and other similar geological factors that these communities share in.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Southeast MI:</b> Identified as a community of interest in several posts, coupled with Adrian/Monroe Counties.</p>
<p>c1777 (32149)</p>	<p><b>Sue's Community of Interest:</b> I presented an oral public comment at the commission's meeting held in Jackson, Michigan earlier this year.</p>	<p><b>Community 2:</b> Hillsdale and Lenawee Counties. These two counties are adjacent to Jackson County with similar agriculture, lakes and parks, moderate central cities, smaller surrounding villages and school systems, culture. Community Action Agency and Catholic Charities already service these three counties showing their close ties.</p>
<p>p1062 (26335)</p>	<p><b>Jennifer Fairfield State Senate District:</b> This State Senate District combines all of Jackson County and portions of Washtenaw County. Please see my written testimony for an explanation of why I feel this district is appropriate.</p>	<p><b>District 22.</b></p>
<p>p1064 (26335)</p>	<p><b>Jennifer Fairfield State Senate District.</b></p>	<p><b>District 22.</b></p>
<p>c1780 (32175)</p>	<p><b>Hillsdale, Branch, and Jackson Counties:</b> These three counties are close neighbors and friends. We cross county lines for work and pleasure DAILY. Please consider keeping them together as a district. With colleges, shopping, and recreation, these three counties, Hillsdale, Branch, and Jackson, benefit each other.</p>	<p><b>Jackson County:</b> Jackson provides many shopping choices for both Branch and Hillsdale residents. Jackson is also home to JC, a community college that has a branch in Hillsdale. It is important to keep these two counties in the same commission for many reasons. Another reason is because of the closeness with Hillsdale residents. They are neighbors, close neighbors.</p>



Supporting Data for Cluster C34-2		
Portal Link (District)	Overall Submission Information	Individual Area Information
c1572 (30007)	<b>Keep Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, Jackson:</b> Monroe County should remain in a US House Congressional district with Lenawee, Hillsdale, and Jackson counties. Monroe County has more in common with these counties economically, seeing as they are all situated on the border of Ohio near Toledo. These counties also share a common culture as they are more rural and suburban and see Toledo as the closest major city rather than Detroit. I do not thin...	<b>Keep Monroe with Lenawee, Hillsdale, and Jackson counties:</b> Monroe County should remain in a US House Congressional district with Lenawee, Hillsdale, and Jackson counties. Monroe County has more in common with these counties economically, seeing as they are all situated on the border of Ohio near Toledo. These counties also share a common culture as they are more rural and suburban and see Toledo as the closest major city rather than Detroit. I do not thin...
c1634 (30946)	<b>Southeast Michigan Agricultural/Border:</b> The southeast corner of Michigan has a history of agriculture and a synergy with the bordering communities of Ohio. This area has many small close knit communities with smaller enrollment school districts. There are many family owned farms and small family owned manufacturing and retail businesses.	<b>Southeast Michigan:</b> Southeast Corner of Michigan with an emphasis on agriculture and synergy with bordering areas of Ohio
c1708 (31348)	<b>NEW Jackson Co. SH District - Rural:</b> See my written testimony of May 11, 2021. This map represents a totally rural district comprised of Jackson County's outer-ring townships. This area is a COI having uniquely rural needs and interests, and deserves to be represented in Lansing by a rural state representative. (Jackson's urban/suburban COI should NOT be represented by a rural state rep., but by someone more reflective of the needs...	<b>NEW Jackson Co. State House district - RURAL:</b> This shows Jackson County's proposed district lines for the state house, drawn in a more fair and more compact way than they are currently. It is more fair because it includes a RURAL community, with its own unique interests and concerns that differ from urban/suburban greater Jackson. In other words, Jackson County's rural townships can be considered a COI. See my written testimony of May 11, 20...
c177 (19257)	<b>VITA and CAA Community of Interest:</b> Community Action Agency and its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program operates in the 3 counties of Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale. These should be kept in the same congressional district. VITA clients also come from adjacent counties which should be kept in the same district.	<b>Community I:</b> Community Action Agency and its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program operates in the 3 counties of Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale. These should be kept in the same congressional district.
c1777 (32149)	<b>Sue's Community of Interest:</b> I presented an oral public comment at the commission's meeting held in Jackson, Michigan earlier this year.	<b>Jackson county:</b> Moderately sized centrally located city surrounded by small communities with own school systems, farm land, lakes and more lakes, source and watersheds of three major rivers, three colleges, parks and museums.
c1787 (32288)	<b>SE Agriculture:</b> I am Galen Engel from Lenawee County, Adrian, Michigan (galen.engel@live.com). I have been a life long farmer growing up here. My Great Grandfather from Germany settled on the southern edge of Palmyra Township in Lenawee where a road is named after the family. My Grandfather established a farm operation in Raisin Township on the border of Raisin and Palmyra Township in Lenawee County. My father wi...	<b>Agriculture in SE Michigan:</b> I am Galen Engel from Lenawee County, Adrian, Michigan (galen.engel@live.com). I have been a life long farmer growing up here. My Great Grandfather from Germany settled on the southern edge of Palmyra Township in Lenawee where a road is named after the family. My Grandfather established a farm operation in Raisin Township on the border of Raisin and Palmyra Township in Lenawee County. My father wi...



<p>c1788 (32296)</p>	<p><b>Hear our voice:</b> My community highlights how my area relates more to our rural neighbors to the East and West rather than the urban areas to the North.</p>	<p><b>Hear our voice:</b> Dear Redistricting Committee, My husband and I are lifelong residents of Lenawee County. My husband has his own CPA firm and I have been a teacher at our local public school. I am concerned about two redistricting maps proposed that split Lenawee County down the middle, uniting the eastern half with the Ann Arbor area. The western half is united with the Jackson area. We are a county comprised of ...</p>
<p>c1791 (32306)</p>	<p><b>Rural County Fairs.</b></p>	<p><b>City vs Country:</b> I am Sydney Ann Engel (e-mail sydney.engel@live.com). I live outside Adrian, Michigan in Lenawee County. I am writing as a farmer's wife Of 44 years. I also grew up on a farm. I went to the University of Michigan and lived in Ann Arbor so I have some understanding of the difference between city and country life. The focus of life is different in the country with farmers meeting for breakfast in lo...</p>
<p>c1792 (32311)</p>	<p><b>MI Border:</b> Honorable Commissioners, As a resident of Lenawee County, a border county, and a Certified Public Accountant who deals with complex tax issues and business policies, as well as business regulations for my clients and myself, I am writing to ask that you leave our southern border counties united in the redistricting map—Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and possibly even Branch for bigger areas of repres...</p>	<p><b>Border:</b> Honorable Commissioners, As a resident of Lenawee County, a border county, and a Certified Public Accountant who deals with complex tax issues and business policies, as well as business regulations for my clients and myself, I am writing to ask that you leave our southern border counties united in the redistricting map—Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and possibly even Branch for bigger areas of repres...</p>
<p>c1864 (32715)</p>	<p><b>Planned water communities:</b> Living in or on a lake area is special and sometimes the interests of lakes, agriculture and cattle farming do not mix, so it would take someone who understands these problems to be able to work through them. It seems that a lot of legislation is directed or concerns, the main lakes and this is not always applicable to smaller lakes and that is why a designated district such as this should be est...</p>	<p><b>Watersland:</b> This community is made up of a large part of lake communities whose main concern would be continuing to care for the lakes and waterways that make up this area.</p>
<p>c2052 (34778)</p>	<p><b>River Raisin Watershed:</b> This is a map of the River Raisin Watershed. We share many similar interests - environmental, recreational, economic, etc. These shared interests should have shared representation. I have seen comments and heard talk of splitting up Monroe county from Jackson and Lenawee county. As a resident in the Watershed, this would be disastrous. Why would the commission split the watershed? The environmenta...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2318 (35586)</p>	<p><b>Washtenaw + Western Wayne:</b> As a lifelong resident of rural southern Michigan, border counties, I do not want my representation to be taken away from me by lumping me in with Washtenaw and Western Wayne county. These should be separate. Thank you.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c2491 (37008)</p>	<p><b>River Raisin:</b> This rural watershed is a COI as water is our most precious resource. The needs of this watershed are far different from neighboring urban watersheds</p>	<p><b>River Raisin:</b> This watershed heads to Lake Erie, it is a rural area that has work collaboratively with agriculture to improve the regions water resources. This watershed differs from neighboring watersheds which are much more urban, and have to deal with city issues.</p>
<p>c2495 (37031)</p>	<p><b>SE rural lifestyle:</b> Monroe, Lenawee, Jackson, and Hillsdale counties are very similar to each other with lifestyle and business. Our region is rural and and we choose live in more rural areas and commute to major cities for things we need.</p>	<p><b>Lifestyle:</b> Monroe, Lenawee, Jackson, and Hillsdale counties are very similar to each other with lifestyle and business. Our region is rural and and we choose live in more rural areas and commute to major cities for things we need.</p>
<p>c2499 (37042)</p>	<p><b>Hunting:</b> My family and friends are avid hunters. We hunt land from Monroe to Hillsdale and rural areas of Washtenaw</p>	<p><b>Hunting:</b> My family and friends are avid hunters. We hunt land from Monroe to Hillsdale and rural areas of Washtenaw</p>



<p>c2500 (37046)</p>	<p><b>Limestone:</b> My work is based along the southern edge of Michigan. We extract limestone, sand, and gravel which is abundant in the region.</p>	<p><b>Limestone:</b> My work is based along the southern edge of Michigan. We extract limestone, sand, and gravel which is abundant in the region.</p>
<p>c2569 (37427)</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-16 - 2020 Census:</b> Honorable Commissioners – On August 4th we published (submission 01993) the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past seven months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC’s redistricting process. We are in the process of updating our maps to reflect population shifts...</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-16 - 2020 Census update.</b></p>
<p>c2570 (37426)</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-17 - 2020 Census:</b> Honorable Commissioners – On August 4th we published (submission 01993) the Fair Maps Project, an effort undertaken by the Michigan AFL-CIO and our 1 million active and retired members over the past seven months to survey union members and their communities in an effort to provide insight on the MICRC’s redistricting process. We are in the process of updating our maps to reflect population shifts...</p>	<p><b>Fair Maps Project - SD-17 - 2020 Census update.</b></p>
<p>c2635 (35796)</p>	<p><b>Communities of Southern and Lakeside MI:</b> I was born and raised in Southern Michigan. The people of this rural and agrarian region value small, close-knit communities. The communities near the border of Michigan are distinct in terms of culture, economics, and values from other small communities through the state, as are the lakeside communities where my wife and I enjoy vacationing.</p>	<p><b>South MI Counties on Border:</b> Southern Michigan Border Community where I live and grew up. These counties form a neat community with similar interests to the rural areas in Ohio and Indiana nearby</p>
<p>c3142 (40436)</p>	<p><b>Jackson is rural:</b> As a resident of the City of Jackson I know that Jackson is far different than the urban and college town atmospheres to our west, east, and north. Jackson and the county are more relatable to our southern neighbor. Prior to moving to Jackson I lived and worked in Ann Arbor. Ann Arbor is a bright vibrant city, but it is far different than Jackson. People settle in Jackson knowing that it is diffe...</p>	<p><b>Keep Jackson rural:</b> As a resident of the City of Jackson I know that Jackson is far different than the urban and college town atmospheres to our west, east, and north. Jackson and the county are more relatable to our southern neighbor. Prior to moving to Jackson I lived and worked in Ann Arbor. Ann Arbor is a bright vibrant city, but it is far different than Jackson. People settle in Jackson knowing that it is diffe...</p>
<p>c3143 (40438)</p>	<p><b>South Central Rural Areas:</b> Having lived in Jackson County for many years, I recognize we have many different challenges than areas like Kalamazoo and Ann Arbor, which face the challenges that come with heavy urbanization. Directly surrounding Jackson County, there are many other rural areas that have the similar makeup, similar industry, similar agriculture, and similar culture. Recently, I have noticed rural Calhoun County...</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3226 (40868)</p>	<p><b>Border interests:</b> All the border counties are predominately rural. I know commissioners that are from different parties have expressed support for combining these areas and I want to voice my support for this idea. Thank you.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>c3228 (40875)</p>	<p><b>Southern Ag Community:</b> As a farmer, this area represents my direct community which is based upon agriculture. This community stretches from the Lake Erie shore across southern Michigan. This extends into Jackson and even rural Calhoun county.</p>	<p><b>Community 1.</b></p>
<p>p1394 (27571)</p>	<p><b>Mason’s Irish Hills Plan:</b> The Irish Hills area should exclude major cities like Ann Arbor. Ann Arbor should be included in areas such as Oakland County, due to their economic and cultural similarities. Irish Hills differentiates from Ann Arbor on almost every level of economic and cultural factors.</p>	<p><b>District 1.</b></p>



<p>c2501 (37048)</p>	<p><b>SE MI:</b> These areas are close in proximity but very different. In Ann Arbor and Detroit they have very different interests than we do in Monroe, Adrian, and Hillsdale. Our industries differ too, they are focused on high tech manufacturing and we focus on traditional industrial.</p>	<p><b>Rural/border:</b> I am born and raised in Monroe county. I know that Monroe doesn't at all relate to area north of us. Our area is rural and covered with villages and small cities. We don't have a major populated urban core.</p>
<p>c2560 (37414)</p>	<p><b>Mapping out "communities of interest":</b> I started this because I was thinking there was no way to accommodate all identified communities of interest, then I decided to draw them out and see. The result is attached - most submissions up to this point are included.</p>	<p><b>Jackson &amp; Hillsdale:</b> Identified as community of interest with the Hillsdale community of interest.</p>
<p>c2794 (38967)</p>	<p><b>Anthony Eid don't flip flop, use COIs:</b> It seems that Anthony has lost his focus on communities of interest. Last month Mr. Eid said Monroe belongs with border counties and not the urban area. Searching data in the portal people agree. If you search county tags you will find lots of COIs that connect Monroe to Lenawee and additional border counties to the west. You will find very few COIs that make a real connection of Monroe to the urb...</p>	<p><b>River Raisin Watershed:</b> These areas are uniquely connected by the rural watershed.</p>

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That takes some away from 11, no.

Let me check to be sure I didn't leave something unassigned.

That is a water block.

You can tag it into 11 or into 6.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Put it into 6 I think that makes sense.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: While he is doing that Cynthia are what did you have as the population of 12 and 13 not what is on the map but from your calculations?

Because I'm 2000 off.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Here is another little piece of a block.

It's in the middle.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would put that one to 11.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, ma'am.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: To answer your question Doug my 12 is quite different than what is on the map now because it's on the districts we corrected but I had it down to 0.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Which one down to zero?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Both using you know a few blocks and things.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Is that what we want to do here?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Not yet I don't think.

We decided that once we have VRA analysis and everything we can move the little bits.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I understand, okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would like to note nor the public comment that Commissioner Kellom has joined for the public record can you designate where you are at.

>> COMMISSIONER KELLOM: Hi everyone this is Commissioner Kellom and I'm attending remotely from Wayne County Michigan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay so we want to leave the map as is.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Leave this and create a clone and try to fix the Flint issue.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would too.

So from a clone standpoint from clone standpoint I would wait for adjustments until we hear from Bruce.

So I will pass and let Commissioner Eid take it over.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay well.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm making a clone now or something else.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That is fine.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioner Eid this is a copy of what was just created.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, we had quite a bit of comment telling us to essentially start over.

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So over the weekend I submitted a different map that I'd like to take my turn to talk about.

Kent, can you pull that up? It's the one with version four.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Version four, okay.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay, and I also have a little to help me talk about it since we are saving time since I don't have to draw it, I put together a little PowerPoint so I was going to share my screen so the public can see it as well.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioner Eid, this is the V4 up in the name.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Wonderful thank you.

Department of State will it mess up the Zoom if I share my screen?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: It will not, but just so you know you can't screen share two things simultaneously.

So sharing of the PowerPoint will supersede the sharing of your map.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I see.

Okay well let's look at the map real quick and then I will share my screen then we can go back to the map.

So you know the two Districts that were just drawn for districts one and two here match up pretty closely with what I did on my own so that is really nice to see.

And I went ahead and renumbered the districts to be the closest approximation of the Districts that are currently in place to limit confusion.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, my only comment relative to renumbering is all the public comment we get they reference the numbers that we've been using here.

And not the old ones.

We see a lot of that.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Oh, that is very true.

I didn't think about that.

I guess they could reference a specific option because this just going to end up being an option or we could go ahead and renumber them too, that's fine.

They are just numbered.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think we should renumber them but not until the very end.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes.

Okay so here is what came up with.

Spent a lot of time working on this but first get stuff out of the way and there were comments after Thursday saying we adopted a map.

We have not adapted a map and no maps are final until we all vote on it.

The purpose of this map is so that we can have something to discuss and be edited as a group and also to generate positive sorry to generate public feedback.

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Also I'm not a VRA or racial bloc voting or partisan expert.

These measures have to be analyzed by our staff and consultants that we've hired and are subject to change until that point and I also wanted to list data sources I used to M coup with this.

I used Autobound edge software, the MGGG community of interest report, the public comment tool, plans.org and Dave's redistricting.org.

So there are a few futures this map has.

Here I wanted to state pictures and embed it in while I'm doing this so we have two VRA compliant districts.

Both at 45%.

Black voting age population.

We have a low population deviation all within plus or minus .37% and many of them are much lower.

I think there are five that are below 0.05%.

It maintains many of the communities of interest.

It has a relatively even split politically.

Only 10 of 83 Counties are split meaning 73 remain whole and it's relatively compact.

The first District is very close to what we drew.

It contains Northern Michigan and the UP.

I think it might be helpful to look at the MGGG report of the heat maps while looking at this because I really tried to overlay these maps to the heat maps that were drawn.

So this part of the map contains cluster A1.

The core Upper Peninsula A2.

The upper Mitten A3, rural northeast and a four Mackinac.

It would be a solid republican District.

And I also wanted to include in this you know potential for the rest of y'all to examine.

I know Thursday Steve had talked about you know an east-west split versus a north, south split.

And that is something that can be examined if you want to examine it.

I know we just kind of undid that.

But we can look at it again if you want.

District two has western and central Michigan again it's pretty close to what we drew just now.

It has clusters A28, A33 and A33 within it.

It's a solid republican District.

Potential to examine again we have that east-west split I was just talking about and I think of importance is where we put Muskegon.

We could either you know leave it here, maybe change it to be with Grand Rapids or to be with the rest of District 3 on here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Anthony can I stop you for a second.

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>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So I know a lot of us have worked on maps and I know at some point we were planning on discussing each other's maps.

But I'm just not really sure this is the point where we should be looking at your map.

And I just kind of want to take a check if everybody is okay with this because we have limited time and I know we would like to wrap up that Congressional map.

So if this is not -- this is not collaboratively mapping.

This is you showing your map and talking about it which is great.

I think it's a good map, no dislike of it I just want to make sure everybody is comfortable with that because this is not a collaborative map.

Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I would have to disagree with you completely it's his turn to show a map if he chooses to and he can do that.

He is not we are not making any adjustments if we want to make adjustments to it after he presents how he did what he did to make this map it becomes is collaborative mapping so I think it's perfectly fine.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Anyone else have any comments? Ms. Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I agree with Dustin.

I think this is the proper time for Anthony to show his map.

We are drawing the maps.

It's his turn to draw so I mean he could go on the fact we have and make all the changes.

Because it is his turn.

So.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right I just want to make sure.

Go ahead Anthony.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I'm not going to take that much more time.

I just thought it would be faster than going and making a clone and redrawing it. By myself.

And then you know having to do all that.

But here is the did you have something to say? Did you have a hand? I thought I saw you raise your hand.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Very briefly it is part of the mapping process document.

So the Commissioners may either have the mapping expert assist them in drawing their alternate map during the session or as Commissioner Eid has done map that on their own, submit it for posting and then cover it during their turn but I think it was adequately addressed but it is part of the mapping process.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay well so we have now this is what I call District 3, contains urban Grand Rapids and grand P haven MGGG and it was more of a toss-up

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and the potential to examine is Muskegon and could be used to gain better or worse partisan fairness.

We have District 4 here it's the same one we drew in our collaborative process on Thursday.

It's Greater Lansing and the Tri-Counties.

I think this was one of the really good ones that we drew on Thursday together.

It includes clusters A21, A25 and A31.

And when I was looking at cluster A21 there was a really big emphasis on the suburban and rural farming communities ties to the Greater Lansing area which I think supports you know drawing a map like this and this is another competitive District.

District 5 would put the Tri-Cities of Saginaw and Flint together.

They have a significant minority population that I don't think should be split.

If you look at the numbers on this map which we will take a look at in a little bit as 23.73 minority voting age population and of course some of the clusters we have A23, which is the Flint and I-75 corridor.

A29 the Tri-Cities aren't a little bit of A30.

For the central college zone and while this is a competitive District important was leaned democratic.

We have District 6 of Southwest Michigan and Kalamazoo and Holland and includes clusters A23, A35 and A36.

This would be another competitive District.

And some things to examine here would be that split between Kalamazoo and Battle Creek.

District 7 is very similar to what we drew in the collaborative process on Thursday.

It kind of extends Monroe all the way through the border and also includes Jackson.

It includes the clusters A22 of Hillsdale.

A23 of the southern border counties and A20 the Eerie shores and Monroe area and this would be a solid republican District.

We have District 8.

This one is more of a suburban District with also including Ann Arbor and the University areas.

We have clusters A16 focused around University of Michigan for employment and healthcare.

A33 and A17 we also have an A16 that was later merged into A17 according to MGGG report.

And this would be a solid democratic District.

We have District 9, this is another suburban District also includes Pontiac according to the clusters it would include A7, A12, A13, A14 and A15.

This would be a solid democratic District.

We have District 10.

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Which kind of is similar to what we drew but because District 5 includes Flint with the rest of that I-75 corridor, had to move it around a little and move it down in the northern part of Oakland County that is a potential area to examine.

If we had a 14th District, I think that northern part of Oakland County probably could be where we put it.

But we don't have a 14th District unfortunately.

We have District 11.

So this is working class people of Oakland, Grosse Pointe and St. Clair shores includes A5, A6, A7, A8, A9 and a competitive.

We have District 12 a VRA and 45% Black voting age population and a 54% minority voting age population.

It would include A17 and A18 and be a solid democratic District.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Anthony Rhonda has a question for you.

Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Actually I have a question for our General Counsel.

In regards to the e-mail we received about competitiveness.

Can you please tell me exactly again? I'm concerned about if some of the statements being made could hurt us, I guess or if I misread the e-mail.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you so much Madam Chair.

Certainly the Commission has heard me say numerous times that competitiveness is not a criteria in Michigan.

We cannot add criteria to the Constitution.

And while I acknowledge that there has been public comment focused on the competitiveness or partisan fairness or a lot of the terms much like the VRA terms are being used somewhat interchangeably which is not competitiveness is a different analysis, is in a different criteria than partisan fairness.

Partisan fairness looks at statewide maps and translating seats to votes comparisons. Competitiveness would be a different analysis.

And the important part for the competitiveness and partisan fairness for both of them that the data that is currently in the active matrix does not support the analysis for any of them the partisan fairness algorithms are separate for compactness there is a ratio test that is done.

So again that I think you get an idea maybe on the political composition of an area or a proposed District based on the disagree gaited election results that are present that are used for VRA compliance analysis.

But again that at this time that data is not there, that the algorithms are not there to run the partisan fairness analysis.

That the data is not there and nor is it a criteria to consider competitiveness so I would encourage that the Commission focus on running the partisan fairness measures the

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three that Dr. Handedly has outlined and in her presentation in July the lopsided margins, the mean median and the efficiency gap.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA:

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I'm not an expert on these topics, what I said in the beginning.

We need everything analyzed by our consultants and until that happens you know it's not written in blood and are subject to change.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Anthony what I think our General Counsel was asking and I think the reason that Commissioner Lange also pointed it instead of using the word competitive explain it toss up District that seems like better and more appropriate language.

>> COMMISSIONER EID:

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Did you have something to add General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: The only thing I would add and it's not solely directed to Commissioner Eid's statement for the benefit of the entire Commissioner but competitiveness is not a criteria so it really should not -- the thrust and the intent of the constitutional amendment was to take the political to make it as nonpartisan as possible and the work of the Commission would be approached in that fashion so it really wouldn't be analyzing it.

The drafters of the constitutional amendment let me say it a different way the drafters chose the partisan fairness criteria and did not choose competitiveness they did not choose any other host of different language they could have inserted such as nesting or I think another example I highlighted in the past was maintenance of core districts.

None of those things are currently in our criteria.

So not only do we not have the criteria we don't have the data necessary to be able to make those to make those conclusions thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think we are back to you Anthony.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I will continue, I'm almost done.

This is another VRA District.

It combines Detroit with Down River.

46.64% Black voting age population, 62% minority voting age population again these numbers need to be checked by our VRA expert.

I think we should really take a hard look at cluster A19, it has the Down River Area.

I know there was some discussion of this on Thursday's meeting.

If Down River should be with Detroit or not.

We then ended up drawing Down River with some of Ann Arbor I believe.

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And I personally think it has there is more in common with Detroit and Down River and I think that is supported by the cluster which has it going all the way down to the Monroe, Wayne border.

But that's a place to examine.

Like I'd said before we need to edit this.

We need to go over it as a whole body.

I did run some numbers on this via the plan score.

That does go over some of the data that is in the criteria that we've talked about in the past but this is from a third-party source so we need to reexamine it from our experts, but I think it gives us a good cursory look at where this map would take us and how it could be improved.

You can see the efficiency gap would be 4.2 plus republican versus the current map which is 11.5 and the mean median is 1.8 versus the current map which is 6.1.

And I think this would give us a proportional map and it would probably end up giving us a 7-6 split with majority being with whatever party is able to achieve the most votes.

But again it what's to be checked later.

As far as County splits I got this from City Gate and analysis function only ten counties are split.

Meaning that 73 are kept whole and only 7 municipalities are split.

So mostly everything is whole which I think you know is something that the public has said and finally for compactness, we I ran it using our EDS software.

It has the Palsby Popper score being 0.3934 versus the current map which is 0.2865.

With this unit of measurement the larger numbers are better so this is a more compact map than what's currently in place.

And I think you can probably tell that just by looking at it.

So areas to improve.

I'd like to try to get that partisan measure closer to zero.

Even though I think this would generally be a proportional 7-6 map that number still is above 0 and I think we should try to get it as close to 0 as possible.

We could look at areas that were listed to examine for potential changes and we can clean up the borders to get the deviation down.

And that is about all I got.

So let's stop sharing this and we can pull up the map on the drawing tool and y'all can have at it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: When we finish with this can we get a shape file this evening so we can take a look at it and evaluate it? Individually?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Our staff has it now so I think they can I believe it's going to go on the website probably.

So.

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COMMISSIONER CLARK: I wanted to get the shape file so I can import it in our tool and take a look at that.

Can we take another look at the Macomb Sterling Heights District and then the thumb District? And could you talk about some changes you made here?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Kent, I'm wondering if you could change the lettering to the normal black so we can read it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'd like to.

I have not been able to figure that out.

If somebody knows please turn me on to it.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: What was your question, Doug?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I want to look at Sterling Macomb District then the lakeshore going up into the Mitten or into the thumb.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: The thumb one was above this.

This one that we're over in kind of the Peach color had most of the County and Macomb with Troy which are two areas that said they wanted to be together.

It also kept the five points with St. Clair shores.

So yeah, take it away.

What do you want to look at?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Talk about the changes you made from the original map we had.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I started from scratch with this one.

So I didn't -- the only things I took from the map that we drew together was the border District and the Lansing District.

Everything else it was kind of incongruent with what I was going for.

So this one was drawn after the two Detroit VRA districts were drawn.

But I think you know what we are going for here is supporting communities of interest.

I mean you have Sterling Heights with Warren together.

You know these are all you know working class communities.

And it also keeps the Grosse Pointe the five Grosse Pointe areas with St. Clair shores which is something we've heard they wanted.

And it's a cross over into is East Point a little bit for 13 in order to allow Kentwood to be with the points.

But yeah, what I was going for was you know kind of what you see here.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would contend that even the first map we factored in communities of interest.

I would not want to say we redid this one just because of that and we did a lot of work with that.

I tell you I know the central focus is around Flint from the conversations we've had with the public and in the comments.

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But I'm looking at Pontiac and I think it just doesn't fit into the areas that it's in at all. This is how I view Pontiac, like Flint, it's got not a lot of manufacturing for example when I talked Pontiac, I'm going to talk auburn hills as well and Flint you have the truck Plant up there.

Look at Auburn Hills and you have the Orion assembly plant Pontiac a metal fact plant and you have all of the just in time suppliers in both of those areas.

So I see that very similar too.

I see no difference in taking Flint and moving it in the Saginaw Bay City and not including Pontiac.

I know there is a population issue doing that but I see no difference in that.

And so the people in Pontiac could have the same argument as the people in Flint.

I can see that coming.

So I think that's one thing we got to rethink.

About how we do that.

I'm not 100% in favor of moving Flint into Bay City and Saginaw.

And then leaving Pontiac out here as an island.

Maybe those two should be combined.

They are both on I-75 corridor and that is one of the arguments from the folks up in Flint.

So I'd like to have some more discussion and get the comments from the Commission on that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: On Pontiac specifically or in general?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Pontiac specifically and why it's not in with Flint, you know.

Rather than Bay City and Saginaw.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I'm personally curious as to why like what your thought processes is on Down River with Detroit.

Because I don't recall ever hearing anyone in Down River saying that they felt they were affiliated with Detroit particularly the east side of Detroit.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So I think with let's address Commissioner Clark's question first.

I think that the people of Flint are very specific with what their community of interest is.

And I don't think any of them have ever said that Pontiac is a part of that community of interest.

But I do agree with much of what you're saying.

I mean Pontiac is kind of an island.

But it's an island within the suburbs.

Right? Which is why I kind of drew it within the suburbs.

I think part of the problem with the current map how it stands is they have Pontiac drawn with Detroit.

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And I think that is something that we heard at our Pontiac public hearing that really is something that gets on a lot of people's nerves.

I think that drawing it with Flint would also get on a lot of people's nerves.

That's just my opinion.

As far as Down River goes, you know we got to put it somewhere.

And I think this doesn't split it up.

It keeps all of Down River together and it follows the heat map that we have.

A19.

That heat map does include all of Down River being with all of that whole County.

I mean, in my opinion there are similarities.

I mean it's in the same County.

It's pretty close geographically.

There's a lot of manufacturing that happens Down River that travels up to Detroit and vice versa.

But you know that's why I put it as an area to examine.

You know if you can think of a better place to do it, I would welcome that and I would love to see it and I think that is exactly what we should be doing.

Trying to come up with the best idea.

I did try a few other configurations.

But none of the configurations had had the numbers as far as efficiency gap and mean median difference.

None of them were as close to 0 as this one.

This was the best one I came up with as far as those objective measures.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So you also split the Bengali community into two different districts because you have Detroit in one and the Warren area and the other. And then you also have Bellville Van Buren Township split in half which I think is kind of an o choice.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Why don't we focus on one area two areas have been brought up and the Down River which we can focus on then the Pontiac area and from what Rebecca said I'm looking at the first map we did.

And we have drawn the City of Detroit from Hamtramck up into the Warren and to support the Bengali community of interest.

And it looks like here you've split the two back again.

Where the Hamtramck is in the City of Detroit.

And not going up into Warren where the remainder of the Bengali community of interest.

So I would like Rebecca I would question that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So Kent, I see you adding a layer on here so what is this layer that you're adding on? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is the layer you finished the day with last Thursday. Or the original what we started with before it was changed.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can you scroll down to District 13 so we can see the statistics on that one?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: The whole other part of the Bangladesh community is now moved to a different District and it's split between 11-13 which is I think one of the things we were trying to avoid.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We can totally take a look at that.

Maybe moving 13 up.

That the only thing is with population you know where would you get it.

Also for minority population, it probably would work.

There probably is a configuration that could work.

When I was drawing 13, I really did go District I mean precinct by precinct to try to figure out what the best way to keep that voting age population of the African/American population two at about 45 to 46% and it was done in a precinct by precinct fashion as we have been advised to do.

And but yeah, I mean let's examine that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, there is also the LBGTQ community is split into three districts.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I agree there are things that are going to be split here.

I do think something of note though is it keeps most of Detroit together.

I think probably the biggest community of interest in Michigan is the you know Detroit is the Blackest City in the country and I think that is something we take into account when making these maps Szetela se Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: One of the things we tried to do in the original map was to you know Detroit was 95% group and we tried to disburse that out.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: And go with the spoke concept that we used.

The Bangladesh community was one of those spokes in my mind.

And then the others were dealing and coming out from the District 12.

Out into the suburbs.

So.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I'd like to see Bruce's analysis on this map because I'm worried you packed Detroit quite a bit.

But we will see.

He is the expert on that.

Because I understand trying to keep Detroit together but when we drew our map, we were deliberately trying to break it up a bit based on Dr. Handley's report, about coalitions and how we didn't given the you know cross over voting and the general demographics in the area that we didn't need to have as high a percentage in order to have a minority majority District because of cross over voting.

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And so I think like that 49% might be kind of high but we will you know I will leave that to the experts on that Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, what appears to me when I look at this, the Bangladesh area going up into Warren took some of the white population from what we originally did and then you took Grosse Pointe and separated that off.

And that took a lot more white population.

So I think we may be back where we started from in the Detroit area with the V RA problem.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I welcome changes.

You know if anyone wants to edit this, copy it and edit it and let's try to come up with something better.

This is not the best version.

It's just what I came up with.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I personally like our map better honestly but go ahead Commissioner Lett.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well, sitting here listening because I'm listening to the Detroit experts and one common theme that I'm hearing everybody say is let's see what our expert Mr. Adelson has to say.

So it's close to the Noon hour.

He is supposed to be here by at 1:00 I believe I read somewhere.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes 1:00.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I agree we break for lunch and when he gets back let's go back to this so that we have his input.

We may be trying to change something that won't do us any good to do that without his input.

So that's what I would suggest.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Wise as always Commissioner Lett.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, General Counsel.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: And I can confirm, my 1:00PM estimated arrival for Mr. Adelson was of course conditioned barring travel delays and I'm very happy to report there were none and he is in route so he should be on that mark.

And he has reviewed the maps that were drawn last week.

He has not had the benefit of viewing the map that Commissioner Eid is looking at now but I'm sure he would be happy to do so thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right.

Go ahead Commissioner Eid.

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Comments, thoughts? Views? Cheerleading for your plan? Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, in my opinion I think the Chestnut plan is the one we should adopt.

I see it as kind of a compromise between all of the plans that we have.

For example, you know we have Ottawa County and Apple it's not split at all.

And Birch it's split twice.

Chestnut there is a compromise and only split once with part of it going in the lower District and the other half going in the Grand Rapids-Muskegon District.

Likewise I see a compromise in Midland County.

And this map almost all of Midland is kept whole except for a few sparsely populated Townships that only have about 9500 people in them total.

Which is less than some single precincts in the more populated areas of the state.

And I see that as a compromise because most of that County is kept whole.

And finally I think the next biggest difference is the BVAP is a little bit higher on districts 12 and 13 in Metro Detroit.

They are at about I believe they are, I will find it out now, they are about 45 and 43.8%.

Which are just a couple of percentage points higher on Birch and Apple configuration.

And finally I think while it wasn't made to be this way, I would ends up shaking out is it also has more competitive districts than Apple or Birch.

So I think it's the best one.

I think that is what we should adopt.

And I also like Commissioner Szetela's individual map.

And I also like Birch.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Any additional discussion? Rhonda, I can't see you Commissioner Wagner I can't see you, miss Reinhardt?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

Per the Commission's adopted final vote procedure, if you're entering into step two for U.S. Congressional, the first step or step 2A states a motion will be made that each Commission shall state the top plans under consideration and then proceed into discussion after disclosure of your top two favorite plans.

Did you hear me okay? Do you want to repeat it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for the reminder I would entertain a motion for Commissioners to state their top two favorites among the Congressional plans.

Motion made by Commissioner Eid and seconded by Commissioner Witjes is there any discussion or debate on the motion? Hearing none let's vote we have a motion by Eid and seconded by Commissioner Witjes to request that Commissioners identify their top two favorite Congressional plans all in favor please raise your hands and say aye.

Opposed raise your hands and say nay.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Nay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lange.

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I think that might have been Commissioner Wagner as well.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Curry can you disclose what your vote was?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're on mute.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I voted for yeah.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you Commissioner Curry and Commissioner Kellom can you let us know what way you voted as well.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: She said yeah.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I didn't see that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: For the record Commissioner Kellom is now in person in the room with us so we no longer need her to verbally indicate.

Okay the motion is adopted.

I know we had said alphabetical order is it okay if I just go rounds the table? So let's start with Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Number one Chestnut, number two Birch.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: My first preference would be Chestnut.

My second preference would be Birch.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: My first choice excuse me is Chestnut and my second one would be Birch.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: I have but one choice.

Only one choice.

And that is Chestnut.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I likewise have one choice Chestnut.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Apologies for the interruptions Weiss and Lett but the motion was to disclose your top two.

So if you do have a second, I would encourage you to disclose that at this time.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Chestnut.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Too many mics on.

First Birch, second Chestnut.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And I am Birch and Chestnut.

Commissioner Kellom? .

>> COMMISSIONER KELLOM: Commissioner Kellom requested I skip her and come back around so Commissioner Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Birch and Chestnut.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

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>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Chestnut and Birch.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: If I'm being 100% honest none of them.

I'm just being honest.

I think they need work.

And I find errors with all of them.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we accept that, no, you have to.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Apologies Commissioner Lange because the motion was to disclose your top two favorite or preferred.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I don't have a preferred.

I do not have a preferred map.

Fine.

I'm going to go Palm and Lange.

Wait that is Senate.

Okay, Apple and Lange.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You do have a Congressional map Commissioner Lange so Apple and Lange.

Commissioner Curry?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, I'm going to choose Birch and Chestnut.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I had to remember which device I was on.

Like Commissioner Lange I don't like any of them but since that is not a glorified answer on this Commission I will also go with Apple and Lange.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay thank you very much.

And back to Commissioner Kellom? .

>> COMMISSIONER KELLOM: Chestnut and Birch.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, all right so we have gone through everybody at this point.

Is there something else I need to do at this point, miss Reinhardt? I'm sorry.

Let's continue with the discussion.

Any additional comments? Commissioner Witjes did you have a comment?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: The next subpart under this step two is discussing each published plan for the District type under consideration in alphabetical order.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Commissioner Wagner has her hand up too.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Wagner go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I have one question.

Are we actually voting for maps at this point? Because I thought we were going to readdress, okay, thank you.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: No, we are not voting at this point, identifying the top two favorite maps and move into a discussion.

And per our planned document we are supposed to do it in alphabetical order so starting with collaboratives that would be in Apple.

Is there any discussion or debate on the Apple?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Wagner for your reference, in the voting procedure document, the final vote procedure we are moving into 2B which the Commission will discuss each published plan for the District type under consideration in alphabetical order.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm not seeing any hands on the Apple.

Okay, do you want to talk about the Birch, any comments about the Birch? Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So I think the reason I'm choosing Birch is because there has been in the southeast Michigan area it's the most populated area.

And I guess concerned about the way that and recognizing that Grand Rapids is our second most populated City.

But with I believe Detroit and then I think Warren and Sterling Heights it has the top four cities are the most populated area and I think Birch treats that area that the communities of interest that are preserved or the community of interest that we heard from during our process are most reflected in that Birch map.

I recognize that it's not perfect as many have said.

But that is why because it's the most populated area that has the most communities of interest, the most diverse communities of interest preserved that is why I'm leaning towards Birch.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes then Commissioner Clark then Commissioner Lett.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm basing my decision I know we are talking about Birch here for a good second but going to hit two birds with one stone.

I'm taking my own personal beliefs here out of almost everything we are doing when coming to voting. There has been an overwhelmingly positive response to Chestnut. More so than Birch.

So that would be the reason why I put Chestnut above Birch however both maps are decent.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, and I'd like to talk about Birch and Chestnut together.

The reason I selected Chestnut was I felt it had more swing districts that depending who the candidates are I could go republican or democrat and that is one of the things we

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heard from the public a lot, they used the word competitiveness and I just associated that word with the way Anthony configured this.

So I think that's a very positive thing and something the public talked about quite a bit.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, I agree with Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Witjes.

Clearly the sentiment from the public was for Chestnut.

Really without many reservations at all as I recall.

And it seems I recall that people would say you know Birch looks good but Chestnut looks better.

And number two I think our deliberations as we develop Birch and develop Chestnut, I think we made the corrections to the Birch that provided us with Chestnut and therefore I believe that is the one that should be voted in.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, so I have some comments on this.

I think in terms of the public comment it's been frankly equal and actually favors the Birch and that was something I believe Chris Andrews mentioned today that when you tally that 67% of the comments related to the Birch are positive 55% of the comments related to Chestnut are so I think the Birch actually has more favorable comments. I think the Chestnut in particular it wasn't something that we drew as a collaborative map.

It was something this Commissioner Eid did on his own and adopting it and making it a collaborative map.

Unlike the Birch where we did draw it in live meetings and discussed at length what we were doing and why we were doing it we never had that sort of background with the Chestnut and I think you see that reflected the in the communities of interest on the two maps because for the Birch we have particular configurations particularly Detroit and Oakland County where we have you know little jut outs here and there and done with a deliberate purple and we went through the communities of interest.

We were specifically discussing the Bengali and Asian and Chaldean, the Hispanic communities, the Arab and Muslim in Dearborn in particular and really trying to preserve those communities of interest and we ended up with the lines we drew.

Where I feel the Chestnut did not preserve those communities of interest in the same way and I think from a defensibility perspective that makes it difficult to go in and say Yeah, we considered the Bengali in Birch we carved out its own District for it yet we completely threw that in the dumpster when it came to Chestnut.

If it was important for us to incorporate in the Birch it should have been incorporated in the Chestnut as well and a big weakness with the plan.

I feel that is a big weakness that a lot of people have identified with the Chestnut in particular including outside entities that have looked at both maps.

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Have consistently rated the Chestnut as being the lowest on communities of interest in terms of taking those into account.

And I think that is concerning because we have the Birch which does well with communities of interest.

We have the Apple which does well with the communities of interest then we have the third ranked which is the Chestnut.

So I think if you are looking at all things being equal which they mostly are because the public impression of it is equal if slightly favoring Birch and we have different metrics we are looking at.

Whether it be population, whether it be efficiency gap, whether it be mean median.

They are pretty equal.

And so the big differentiating factor for me is the COIs and we have one map that I think does a really good job of respecting the COIs and in addition to that was well documented as to why we were doing that.

And very open to the public then we have another map that frankly I think compromises COIs.

In favor of competitiveness which is not even one of our constitutional criteria.

Nowhere in our constitutional criteria is competitiveness and I'm sure our General Counsel will jump in on that point so that is not something we should be considering as a factor.

And when people are asking us to consider that they are asking us to deviate from the 7 ranked criteria we are supposed to be following.

So I think they are both good maps.

It's not going to kill me either way if we adopt one or the other but I definitely think in terms of complying with our constitutional mandate I think the Birch is superior.

And I would encourage everybody to think about that and consider whether we want to make sure that we are going with the map with better COIs versus the map that is more competitive.

Commissioner Witjes I think you had your hand up first then Commissioner Eid.

I'm sorry can we let Commissioner Curry go first thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I just want to reply that I agree with Madam Chair in her response to the Birch map.

I agree wholeheartedly with that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you Commissioner Curry.

Commissioner Witjes then Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Between the two I think communities of interest are represented both quite well in the Birch and the Chestnut map.

That being said when it came to percentages that were brought up today in public comment by the individual from Haslett I'm wondering if he went on to the actual public

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comment not the portal but the website with the proposed maps where you can place the pins.

I'm taking it in account when we actually had our first maps to that we published and all of our public comments hearings we went on the next five plus everything that we've heard in our public meetings that we had every two weeks Chestnut is indeed superior out of the two in regards to what the public has said.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: A couple things.

One I just want to point out that the Detroit configuration that is in Chestnut was also in map Juniper that went on the second round of public comments which was a collaborative map and we came back and selected this map and made it a collaborative map on Chestnut based on what Commissioners said was the preferred Detroit configuration.

So that is the first thing.

Second, just looking at how people said their preferences, there were 7 preferences, 7 first place preferences for Chestnut.

And four for Birch.

And out of those for Chestnut there were more than -- there were two independents two republicans and one democrat and just wanted to point that out.

Finally I think the independent analysis actually shows the opposite.

I think independent analysis are good tools we should use but most of the ones I read specifically IPPSR report from MSU preferred the Chestnut map.

I looked at other things, the Princeton gerrymander project, which has the maps as A's, which are good.

And 538 also has them all being the same.

So I think from an independent analysis standpoint they are all pretty good all three of them.

As far as community of interest goes, I think the Chestnut map is better in supporting communities of interest because the biggest community of interest here is the you know the minority community in Detroit.

And the BVAP being higher I think it does a better job of having that community of interest being represented.

While we have the Bengali community of interest represented very well in other versions of maps.

You know we said all along that not everybody is going to get every single thing they want in every map but I think it's a good compromise.

There are other pluses to as far as Oakland and Troy is included with the Oakland County District which is something that at Oakland University the community made very clear to us, they want to be in with most of Oakland County.

There are negatives though, you know.

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It's not a perfect map.

I don't like how Chestnut has upper Oakland County.

I think the Birch map is superior to Chestnut in that regard.

But overall looking at all things in totality, I prefer Chestnut and going by what most people said 7 people said Chestnut was their preference.

So I'm wondering if we can get any wiggle room, maybe have somebody change their mind so we can come to consensus something like that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: This is why I have a problem of listing the top two it's like a round Robin and I don't think that this is how we should do it.

I don't think we should be forced to say which ones we are.

And put somebody on the spot saying oh, well, 7 Commissioners think this one is the way to go so we just need to swing the last one.

That is round Robin in my opinion and I don't like it.

I just want to put that out there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for your comment, Commissioner Lange.

So I do want to address the MSU report because I did read that in full like I read everything.

And the primary reason why MSU tipped in favor of Chestnut is because number one they are of the opinion that we are required to have 50% BVAP in order to have voting rights compliance and they favored Chestnut because it has a slightly higher BVAP in District 12 and 13 so to me I disregard that entirely because I trust the expert opinion of Mr. Adelson and he what's said we do not have to have 50% so the fact they are favoring one map over another because it has a slightly higher BVAP when that is not what we are supposed to be -- that is not a goal we are trying to achieve, I disregarded that analysis entirely.

Otherwise their analysis was there was no difference between the Birch and Chestnut they were functionally the same in terms of every factor they looked at.

All right, I feel like we talked about Birch and Chestnut so do we want to talk about I think Lange would be next on the list.

Any discussion, comments about Lange? And anything about Szetela? Did you have a comment Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I was going to say I like the Szetela version.

It would rank after Chestnut and Birch because I think the collaborative maps should be ranked first but just generally speaking, I think I saw what you are trying to do.

I saw you did a good job of trying to put together the best parts of both maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right so let's go back to our.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Let's go to Clark.

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>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I liked the Lange map and represented some of the areas that I think needed more representation than they have had.

I think she did a decent job on that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay this is okay so we just discussed the Congressional maps now we are going to move on to Senate then the house basically do the same thing.

Does that make sense? Now we actually discussed the Congressional map, wouldn't it make more sense to go through the voting process now?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think Ms. Reinhardt wants to chime in and General Counsel probably wanted to chime in too.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Yes, Commissioner Witjes that is how what the voting plan contemplates is that we will go through all of the steps for each plan sequentially and then move on to the next District type.

So first we would go through all the steps for U.S. Congressional and then move on to the next set, which I believe is State Senate.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Just to clarify going through all the steps you are saying voting at this point.

Okay that is what I understood.

Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: There was the topic of potentially making changes to the maps.

At the beginning that said we would be coming back to after discussion.

So when do we come back to that?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm going to make a motion right now that we do not make any changes to the maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Is that all maps or just these Congressional maps?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: All maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay so we have a motion by Commissioner Witjes seconded by Commissioner Vallette to oh, gosh, how do I want to say this not make any changes to the map I guess, any maps, just any District type maps any discussion or debate on the motion?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: My hand has been up a while this is Commissioner Wagner.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I can't see you.

Please go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Thank you I also wanted to get back to actually amending the maps because as everyone on the Commission is aware I've got a letter of demand out there.

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And thank you for whoever linked it to bridge Michigan.

That was much appreciated.

But this is where we are having a problem is this all pertains to round one voting.

My letter pertains to round two voting.

We are being pressured into accepting a plan that we may not concur with.

And my problem is I was prohibited from actually submitting a plan because I contracted diabetes and could not see to tell anyone to draw or anything.

That's why I passed when we had Detroit because I could not see to do it.

So I have effectively had my rights as a Commissioner taken away to not be able to submit any plan whatsoever to this Commission.

And I'm being pressured into accepting a plan or plans I do not concur with.

And at that point it's taking away every Commissioner's right who wanted to submit anything at this point and thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you Commissioner Wagner.

Any additional comments about the voting General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Yes, thank you Madam Chair.

So I might suggest as a part of step two your discussion before the vote that the compliance chart tracking that is available on the Commission's website that also be examined and that data referenced as well as part of your discussion before voting.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm sorry could you repeat that? I was answering a question at the same time go ahead.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: That I would suggest that as part of your step two as part of the Commission's step two discussion before the vote that the compliance tracking chart that is available on the Commission's website as far as partisan fairness and compactness scores be referenced and it magically appears from Ms. Reinhardt as.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So before we talk about this, we do have a motion that's been seconded and restated on the floor.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Let's vote on the motion so we have a motion by Commissioner Witjes seconded by Commissioner Vallette to that we are no longer going to amend maps.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I ask for a roll call vote.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I was going to ask for the same thing.

Roll call vote, please.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Are we ready to proceed with the roll call vote.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead Ms. Reinhardt.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioners please indicate your support of the motion with a "Yes" or "No."

Once again, the motion is to not edit any of the current maps further.

Is that accurately captured.

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>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That would be correct so voting yes means it would be fixed.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you again please indicate your support of the motion of a "Yes" or "No" and I will call on Commissioners in alphabetical order starting with Erin Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Doug Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Brittini Kellom? .

>> COMMISSIONER KELLOM: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rhonda Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: By a vote of 9 yes to 4 no, the motion carries.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

All right, so can we get that chart back up again so I can -- do you need me to read it into the record or?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair and I apologize for making that observation while there was a motion pending.

My mind was on compliance.

So I think really again having that information available to this is taken directly from the Commission's website that is posted.

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I would note that the if the public accesses it, the tabs at the bottom, the Palm State Senate plan and Szetela State Senate plan that go individually those districts have been renumbered consistent with the Commission's process.

But the numbers on this summary comparison chart are accurate.

So just for those Congressional plans it demonstrates the partisan fairness scores so whatever method the Commission would find best to incorporate it into their discussion.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay anyone have any comments? Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Thank you.

I would note just for the record that all of this information that we are now viewing on the screens are items that we have looked at repeatedly over the period of time that we have been developing these maps so there is nothing new there.

So other than simply being something to look at, at the present time.

All of this information has been considered prior to today.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, and I believe this version of this was first produced after our initial round of maps as well.

So it has as we have changed maps, we updated it as we.

All right any additional discussion? I think we might actually be ready to vote at this point now that Commissioner Witjes has returned.

Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I would move that we adopt the Chestnut map.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is not our procedure.

Motion to take a roll call vote to adopt a plan then we state our preference.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Or that too.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I move that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we get a second.

Motion by Commissioner Lett to go to step three of our Commission final vote procedure which is roll call vote to adopt a plan of the District type under consideration which is Congressional.

And it was seconded by Commissioner Witjes.

At this point each Commissioner will cast a vote stating the name of the plan they wish to vote for out of the published plans of the Congressional type.

So once again we are going to have a roll call on this obviously.

Ms. Reinhardt.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioners, when called upon, please state the name of the U.S. Congressional plan that you would like to vote for.

I will call on Commissioners in alphabetical order starting with Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Chestnut.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Chestnut.

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- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Doug Clark?
  - >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Chestnut.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry?
  - >> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Birch.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?
  - >> COMMISSIONER EID: Chestnut.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Brittini Kellom? .
  - >> COMMISSIONER KELLOM: Chestnut.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rhonda Lange?
  - >> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Lange.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?
  - >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Chestnut.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?
  - >> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Chestnut.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?
  - >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Birch.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?
  - >> CHAIR SZETELA: Birch.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?
  - >> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Chestnut.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?
  - >> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Lange.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Please allow us one moment to tally the votes.
  - >> CHAIR SZETELA: They got it, yeah, they got it.
- Chestnut.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: The U.S. Congressional plan adopted but I the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission is Chestnut.
- [ Applause ]
- >> COMMISSIONER CURRY: All right let's roll it.
  - >> CHAIR SZETELA: All right one down.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I'm sharing the results of the vote on the screen right now.
  - >> CHAIR SZETELA: Congratulations everybody.
  - >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah.
  - >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: You can see that chest shut achieved a score of 8 total votes and reached the affiliation requirements with two R, two D and two non-or four nonaffiliated.
  - >> CHAIR SZETELA: All right, Commissioner Witjes?
  - >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Take a break.

Code Name	Link to View	Partisan Fairness							Population Deviation	Compactness		Max VAP			
		Lopsided Margin	Mean-Median	Efficiency Gap	~D Seats	D Prop Bias	~R Seats	R Prop Bias	Total	Most	Least	BVAP	AVAP	HVAP	MVAP
Cherry v2 State Senate Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.60%	1.20%	3.40%	20	0.32%	18	-0.32%	4.78%	0.61	0.2	44.78%	16.23%	16.83%	59.46%
Palm State Senate Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	5.70%	3.20%	6.10%	19	-2.30%	19	2.30%	4.87%	0.61	0.2	44.78%	16.23%	16.83%	59.46%
Linden State Senate Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.50%	1.20%	3.30%	20	0.30%	18	-0.30%	4.78%	0.62	0.2	44.78%	16.23%	16.83%	59.46%
Szetela State Senate Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.50%	1.20%	3.50%	20	0.30%	18	-0.30%	4.78%	0.62	0.21	44.78%	16.23%	16.61%	59.46%
Lange State Senate Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.50%	1.60%	3.40%	20	0.30%	18	-0.30%	4.74%	0.76	0.2	44.78%	16.23%	16.83%	59.46%
Kellom State Senate Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.70%	2.10%	3.20%	20	0.30%	18	-0.30%	4.27%	0.62	0.15	50.52%	12.64%	15.50%	68.34%
Hickory State House Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	5.30%	2.70%	4.30%	57	-0.50%	53	0.50%	4.96%	0.68	0.14	55.60%	26.00%	39.49%	81.33%
Magnolia State House Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	5.70%	2.90%	5.40%	56	-1.40%	54	1.40%	4.69%	0.68	0.14	55.60%	28.39%	39.49%	81.33%
Pine v5 State House Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	5.30%	2.70%	4.30%	57	-0.50%	53	0.50%	4.74%	0.68	0.12	54.90%	28.39%	39.69%	82.76%
Szetela State House Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.50%	1.80%	2.50%	59	1.30%	51	-1.30%	4.96%	0.66	0.14	55.60%	28.39%	39.49%	81.33%
Birch v2 Congressional Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.10%	2.20%	0.70%	7	1.50%	6	-1.50%	0.26%	0.55	0.24	42.18%	8.36%	8.60%	58.15%
Apple v2 Congressional Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.00%	2.40%	1.20%	7	1.50%	6	-1.50%	0.48%	0.55	0.24	42.18%	8.37%	8.87%	58.15%
Chestnut Congressional Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.00%	2.30%	0.60%	7	1.50%	6	-1.50%	0.13%	0.57	0.27	44.70%	10.12%	8.81%	60.45%
Szetela Congressional Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.10%	2.40%	0.60%	7	1.50%	6	-1.50%	0.22%	0.53	0.24	42.18%	8.36%	8.80%	58.15%
Lange Congressioal Plan	<a href="#">Link</a>	4.20%	2.00%	1.00%	7	1.50%	6	-1.50%	0.25%	0.53	0.24	42.18%	8.36%	8.52%	58.15%

