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VOLUME VI

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DISTRICT 11

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

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.

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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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

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.

Map

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View in Districtr

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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 LGBTQ and elected officials creating a sanctuary for our community by introducing LGBTQ 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 LGBTQ 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 Renautt

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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 ROTHHORN: 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 shows I can tell you I have not been there in decades so I thank you for your time.
Yeah okay.
>> VICE CHAIR ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: Thank you.
Number nine and number ten on deck please.
>> Good morning.
>> VICE CHAIR ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 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 ROTHHORN: 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 comonnality 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 ROTHHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next is number 12Barb-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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: Thank you let's move on to Judy Hart.

>> Can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: Thank you. How about 22 Ben, Umanos.

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>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Numbers 32 and 33 are not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: Do we have 37 Wendell.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present we will move to 38.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHHORN: 38 Robert Hosack.

>> Can you hear me now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHHORN: 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 Congressinal 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.

ne	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
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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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Map Sty

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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
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DISTRICT 12

DISTRICT 12

← Next Previous →

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-

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 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

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.

View in Districtr

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

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

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Location: Livonia
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View in Districtr

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

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 →

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.)

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South Oakland and Northern Wayne.

Basic Info

Submitter: Ani Manolatos
Location:
Submitted: 9/9/2021
Type: coi
ID: c4276

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 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.

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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CD 13 map that reflects diversity

Basic Info

Submitter: Debbie
Location:
Submitted: 9/22/2021
Type: plan
Congressional Districts
ID: p5268

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.

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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Southfield

Basic Info

Submitter: Chevar Barrett
Location: Southfield City
Submitted: 10/1/2021
Type: coi
ID: c5854

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% way .2% Native American 1.7% Asian2.8% 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.

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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South Livonia/North Westland Community

Basic Info

Submitter: Nick Ferguson
Location: Livonia/Wayne
Submitted: 10/7/2021
Type: coi
ID: c6089

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.

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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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

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.

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.)

• 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 ROTHHORN: Thank you. No. 34, Holly Hughes.

>> Can you hear me now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 37, Emma.

>> Hello.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: Thank you for your comments.
Number five, Amer Zahr.

>> MR. AMER ZAHR: 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 ROTHHORN: 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 ROTHHORN: Thank you.
Jennifer Austin.

← Next Previous →

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.

← 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 Congressinal 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.

rget	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

ame	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)
nassign	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
strict 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