

THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF LISTENING TOUR PUBLIC MEETING

Surprise, Arizona  
Flagstaff, Arizona  
San Luis, Arizona  
Kayenta, Arizona  
Online via WebEx  
October 7, 2021  
4:13 p.m.

**Miller Certified Reporting, LLC**  
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Reported By:  
Angela Furniss Miller, RPR  
Certified Reporter (AZ 50127)

1                   GRID MAP PUBLIC MEETING, BEFORE THE INDEPENDENT  
2                   REDISTRICTING COMMISSION, convened at The Vista Center for  
3                   the Arts, 15660 North Parkview Place, Surprise, Arizona on  
4                   October 7, 2021; with satellite locations at High Country  
5                   Conference Center, 201 West Butler Avenue, Flagstaff,  
6                   Arizona; Cesar Chavez Cultural Center, 1015 North Main  
7                   Street, San Luis, Arizona; Kayenta Township Town Hall, 100  
8                   North Highway 163, Kayenta, Arizona; and online via WebEx.

9  
10                   COMMISSIONER PRESENT:

11                                 Ms. Erika Neuberg, Chairperson

12                   COMMISSIONER PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE:

13                                 Ms. Shereen Lerner

14                   STAFF PRESENT:

15                                 Mr. Brian Schmitt, Executive Director  
16                                 Ms. Loriandra Van Haren, Deputy Director  
17                                 Ms. Valerie Neumann, Executive Assistant  
18                                 Ms. Michele Crank, Public Information Officer  
19                                 Mr. Alex Pena, Community Outreach Coordinator  
20                                 Ms. Marie Camacho, Community Outreach Coordinator  
21                                 Mr. Daniel Arellano, Ballard Spahr  
22                                 Mr. Ryan Regula, Snell & Wilmer  
23                                 Mr. Mark Flahan, Timmons Group  
24                                 Mr. Parker Bradshaw, Timmons Group  
25                                 Ms. Ivy Beller Sakansky, National Demographics  
                                  Corp.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT SPEAKERS:

2	<u>SPEAKER NAME:</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
3	Skip Hall	Surprise, AZ
4	Steve Gallardo	Surprise, AZ
5	Bill Cook	Surprise, AZ
6	Gisell Garcia	Surprise, AZ
7	Matt Ryan	Flagstaff, AZ
8	Miranda Sweet,	Flagstaff, AZ
9	James Gregory	Flagstaff, AZ
10	Paul Deasy	Flagstaff, AZ
11	Tony Reyes	San Luis, AZ
12	Africa Luna-Carrasco	San Luis, AZ
13	Jesse Lugo	San Luis, AZ
14	Priscilla Weaver	Kayenta, AZ
15	Jaynie Parrish	Kayenta, AZ
16	Adelita Grijalva	Surprise, AZ
17	Lynn Peters	Surprise, AZ
18	Bonnie Angster	Surprise, AZ
19	Clair Van Steenwyk	Surprise, AZ
20	William Graves	Surprise, AZ
21	Kathy Kinsella	Flagstaff, AZ
22	Michele James	Flagstaff, AZ
23	Marilyn Weissman	Flagstaff, AZ
24	Ray Bladine	Flagstaff, AZ
25	Julie Pindzola	Flagstaff, AZ
26	Laura Huenneke	Flagstaff, AZ
27	Tom Broderick	Flagstaff, AZ
28	Brendon Walsh	Surprise, AZ
29	Marilyn Wilbur	Surprise, AZ
30	Blair Tarman	Surprise, AZ
31	Crystal Chaffin	Surprise, AZ
32	Trey Terry	Surprise, AZ
33	Timothy Schwartz	Surprise, AZ
34	Ralph Johnson	Surprise, AZ
35	Linda Busam	Surprise, AZ
36	Steve Peru	Surprise, AZ
37	Quintus Schulzke	Surprise, AZ
38	Tega Maido	Surprise, AZ
39	Bill Regner	Flagstaff, AZ
40	Ernie Strauch	Flagstaff, AZ
41	Karen Strauch	Flagstaff, AZ
42	Cathy Rutherford	Flagstaff, AZ
43	Kate Saunders	Flagstaff, AZ
44	Leonard Gorman	Flagstaff, AZ
45	Arlene Reinfelder	Flagstaff, AZ
46	Matt Capalby	Flagstaff, AZ
47	Phyllis Schiller	Flagstaff, AZ
48	Ann Heitland	Flagstaff, AZ

## 1 PUBLIC COMMENT SPEAKERS (continued):

2	<u>SPEAKER NAME:</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
3	Nohl Rosen	Surprise, AZ
3	Yvonne Dominguez	Surprise, AZ
4	Arianna Reyes	Surprise, AZ
4	Gina Mendez	Surprise, AZ
5	Wes Crew	Surprise, AZ
5	Betzabeth Rosas	Surprise, AZ
6	Timothy Castro	Surprise, AZ
6	Leidy Robledo	Surprise, AZ

7 \*American Sign Language

8 \*Spanish Interpreters

8 \*Navajo Interpreter

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P R O C E E D I N G

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2  
3 MS. VAN HAREN: Good evening, everyone. I  
4 apologize for the delay, but we are excited to get started  
5 here. At this point we will introduce our interpreters at  
6 each site; we'll start with the one in Surprise first.

7 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Hello, I am Gabriela; I am  
8 the Spanish interpreter. If you need interpretive services,  
9 please come see me. (Spanish language.)

10 MS. VAN HAREN: Thank you so much. We'll send it  
11 over to Flagstaff now.

12 THE INTERPRETER: (Spanish language.)

13 (Technical/audio disruption.)

14 MS. VAN HAREN: And next we will go to San Luis.

15 THE INTERPRETER: (Spanish language.)

16 I'll be interpreting in San Luis. My name is  
17 Angelica Diaz De Leon, interpreting in Spanish.

18 MS. VAN HAREN: And then we will go to Kayenta.

19 MS. CRANK: We don't have a Spanish interpreter  
20 here on the Navajo Nation.

21 MS. VAN HAREN: Okay. Thank you.

22 And if you will all join me for standing for the  
23 pledge of allegiance.

24 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance is recited.)  
25

1                   CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Well, hello, everyone; it is  
2 wonderful to be here. My name is Erika Neuberg; I am the  
3 Chairwoman of the IRC.

4                   We will dive into Agenda Item No. I, call to order.

5                   I now call to order the public hearing. We are  
6 here in Surprise and have satellite meetings in Flagstaff,  
7 San Luis, and Kayenta; we are also streaming meetings online  
8 via WebEx and will be posting online afterwards via YouTube.

9                   We ask that you follow the Arizona Department of  
10 Health guidelines in regards to COVID-19. If you are not  
11 fully vaccinated, you should wear a mask in a public space.

12                   If you would like to make a public comment, you may  
13 do so by signing in with staff and filling out the public  
14 comment card. We will be taking public comment in a random  
15 order. Even though this meeting began at 4: -- what? --  
16 15 p.m., anyone can attend and submit a public speaker card  
17 at any time, and we will stay until the last speaker is  
18 heard.

19                   There's an American Sign Language interpreter and a  
20 transcriptionist who be transcribing every meeting.

21                   Please speak slowly and clearly so we have a clear  
22 record of your input.

23                   Now we are going to introduce ourselves. As I  
24 said, my name is Erika Neuberg, I'm the Chairwoman; I live  
25 in the North Chandler area. Loving this 202 West Freeway

1 that connects the East Valley to West Valley; it's really  
2 been a game changer.

3 So really excited to be here tonight with you-all.

4 I believe I have a couple of colleagues virtually  
5 with us. I believe -- maybe I can turn it over first to  
6 Commissioner Lerner if you're able to connect.

7 COMMISSIONER LERNER: Thank you, Chairwoman.

8 Hello, everybody. My name is Shereen Lerner; I am  
9 one of the commissioners, and I represent Maricopa County.

10 Glad everybody is here.

11 HEARING OFFICER NEUBERG: Thank you,  
12 Commissioner Lerner.

13 Vice Chair Watchman, I believe, is joining us in  
14 Flagstaff. I don't know if they're in the room right now  
15 and connected; and, if not, that's okay.

16 But whatever point you're there, fabulous.  
17 Vice Chair Watchman represents Apache County.

18 Okay. And, with that, I will turn it over to other  
19 introductions of legal and mapping and staff.

20 MR. ARELLANO: Good afternoon. My name is Daniel  
21 Arellano, and I am one of the attorneys representing the  
22 Commission at Ballard Spahr.

23 VICE CHAIR WATCHMAN: Hello? Hello? Madam Chair?

24 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Okay. There's  
25 Vice Chair Watchman.

1 VICE CHAIR WATCHMAN: Yes.

2 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Please introduce yourself and  
3 let us know where you are.

4 VICE CHAIR WATCHMAN: Like I indicated to  
5 everybody, I am here in the Flagstaff quorum, and so --  
6 audio is loud here.

7 Can you hear me in Phoenix?

8 HEARING OFFICER NEUBERG: We absolutely can.

9 VICE CHAIR WATCHMAN: Okay. We couldn't hear  
10 Commissioner Lerner, by the way. So, sorry about, that  
11 Shereen; it was all choppy.

12 COMMISSIONER LERNER: I was on the moon.

13 VICE CHAIR WATCHMAN: So, Ya''a't'e'e'h. Good  
14 evening, I'm Derrick Watchman; and as Commissioner or  
15 Chairwoman Neuberg said, I represent Apache County, and I'm  
16 from Window Rock; and I'm the Democratic appointee to the  
17 Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission.

18 So it's good to see everybody here. This is my  
19 birthplace. My -- my parents actually went to college here,  
20 and I was the creation of their college career. So it's  
21 good to be here and we look forward -- I look forward to all  
22 your comments.

23 So thank you and thank you fellow Commissioners.

24 HEARING OFFICER NEUBERG: Thank you.

25 And now I'll turn it back over to our legal staff.



1                   And just remind everybody to speak up in the mics.

2                   MR. REGULA:   Ya`'a`t`e`e`h.   My name is Ryan  
3                   Regula, I'm with the law firm of Snell & Wilmer; and I help  
4                   assist the IRC.

5                   MR. FLAHAN:   Hi, everyone.   My name is Mark Flahan  
6                   from the mapping team.   I'm our project manager on the  
7                   Timmons side.

8                   MS. SAKANSKY:   Ivy Beller Sakansky; I'm with  
9                   National Demographics Corporation, and I'm one of the  
10                  demographers.

11                  MS. VAN HAREN:   Good evening, everyone.   My name is  
12                  Lori Van Haren, and I am with the IRC; I'm the Deputy  
13                  Director.

14                  And here we have Parker with Timmons; and then we  
15                  have our transcriptionist as well.

16                  HEARING OFFICER NEUBERG:   And now we will turn it  
17                  over to our team to give a presentation.

18                  First up is our legal team.

19                  MR. ARELLANO:   Good afternoon.   As I mentioned, my  
20                  name is Daniel Arellano; I'm one of the attorneys for the  
21                  Commission.

22                  And it's my pleasure this afternoon to give a brief  
23                  introduction and overview of the structure of our Commission  
24                  and the process for redistricting in our state.

25                  We begin with the federal constitution which

1 provides for a decennial census, which is every ten years  
2 and requires reapportionment of congressional districts among  
3 the 50 states; however, the constitution leaves it to the  
4 states themselves to actually draw those districts within  
5 their boundaries as it pertains to both congressional seats  
6 and legislative and other districts.

7 In most states this is done by the state's  
8 legislature; and in Arizona redistricting was done by the  
9 legislature as well from statehood up until the year 2000,  
10 which is when Arizona voters adopted Proposition 106, which  
11 amended the Arizona Constitution to create an Independent  
12 Redistricting Commission.

13 The purpose of the -- of the proposition was to end  
14 the practice of gerrymandering and to improve voter and  
15 candidate participation in elections by creating an  
16 independent and balanced commission.

17 A new commission is drawn every -- every ten years  
18 following the decennial census.

19 Under the constitutional amendment, the Commission  
20 is -- is comprised of five members; no more than two of whom  
21 may be from the same party, and of the first four  
22 appointments, no more than two of them may be from the same  
23 county.

24 The Commissioners, some of whom you've been  
25 introduced to this afternoon, are our Chair, Erika Neuberg,

1 Independent of Maricopa County; Vice Chair Derrick Watchman,  
2 Democrat out of Apache County; Commissioner Shereen Lerner,  
3 Democrat of Maricopa County; Commissioner David Mehl,  
4 Republican out of Pima County; and, Commissioner Doug York,  
5 Republican, of Maricopa County.

6 The state constitution requires that the Commission  
7 take into account a number of factors in the process of  
8 drawing maps.

9 The first of these is to comply with the  
10 United States Constitution and the federal Voting Rights  
11 Act; the next is that all districts are to have equal  
12 population to the extent practicable; that all districts are  
13 to be geographically -- geographically compact and  
14 contiguous to the extent practicable; that all -- that  
15 district boundaries should respect communities of interest  
16 to the extent practicable; and also to the extent  
17 practicable that district lines use visible geographic  
18 features such the city and town and county boundaries and  
19 undivided census tracts; and, finally, to the extent there's  
20 no detriment -- there's no significant detriment to the --  
21 the preceding goals, that districts be competitive.

22 The Commission very much welcomes and it highly  
23 values public involvement in the process; it is after all a  
24 public, transparent process. Commission meetings are open  
25 to the public, members of the public may submit public

1 me- -- public comments at those meetings; there's a link on  
2 the website where public comments can be submitted.

3 The public -- the Commission heard robust public  
4 input this summer on communities of interest when members of  
5 the public can inform the Commission of what are the  
6 geographic areas and neighborhoods that should be considered  
7 when drawing maps; and, of course, that feedback continues  
8 to be welcome.

9 Members of the public can submit proposed maps and  
10 also comment on in-progress draft maps prior to the IRC's  
11 ultimate selection of a final map.

12 Members of the public may also submit proposed  
13 revisions and comments after the IRC has -- has officially  
14 selected draft maps; and, the public can also comment on  
15 near-final maps, pretty much at any stage in the process.

16 And with that, I'll turn it to Mark Flahan.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: May I? We have -- am the  
18 one who can't hear this gentleman?

19 You have to speak into the microphone so that we  
20 can hear you, please.

21 MR. ARELLANO: Okay. I'll -- I speak more loudly.  
22 But that happened to be the portion of the presentation, the  
23 gist of the -- of the presentation.

24 (Applause.)

25 Is that the Commission -- I think if you take

1 anything away from that is that the Commission very much  
2 welcomes public input at every stage of the process; map  
3 drawing is -- is certainly an iterative process that, you  
4 know, will consider many different drafts and iterations of  
5 maps; and the Commission welcomes comments as well as draft  
6 maps and even revisions to draft maps at every stage of its  
7 map drawing process.

8 And with that, I'll turn it over to Mr. Flahan.

9 MR. FLAHAN: Good afternoon, everyone. Can you  
10 hear me okay out there?

11 (Chorus of noes.)

12 MR. FLAHAN: No?

13 HEARING OFFICER NEUBERG: Speak way up.

14 MR. FLAHAN: Can you hear me now?

15 (Chorus of yeses.)

16 MR. FLAHAN: All right, Basically, we want to talk  
17 about -- I'll show you the different tools that we have that  
18 we can put information in your fingertips.

19 The first tool you've probably already seen, the  
20 socioeconomic report and the community of interest report;  
21 then we'll talk about those in the next slide.

22 The other two that we have is your redistricting  
23 system, which allows you, the public, to draw and submit  
24 your proposed map drawings with the URL there; and then the  
25 IRC mapping hub, which is really the central location to get

1 any data mapping applications, data related.

2 So what is the socioeconomic report? If you joined  
3 us on the community of interest tour, you've already seen  
4 this slide, but it's basically a statewide web app that's  
5 available 24/7 in the IRC mapping hub, with a bunch of  
6 different demographics for the entire state of Arizona. So  
7 you should be able to go to any of those demographics points  
8 and see the map on the right side of how it looks in the  
9 state.

10 The second piece from our community of interest  
11 tour, we had 910 digital submissions of community of  
12 interest surveys; we took those 910 and looked for the  
13 amount of overlaps, so common areas of what people have  
14 submitted, and we found that there's 182 different groups  
15 that had commonalities that were submitted.

16 You can see here in the demographic this is a  
17 example of one of them in the Catalina Foothills. That dark  
18 red area in the middle has the highest number of overlaps;  
19 and then there's five different categories that goes from  
20 dark red to basically a very, very light faint gray with an  
21 outline that shows the least amount of overlaps for that  
22 common area.

23 And, again, that is on the IRC's mapping hub. You  
24 can go there and look at it today and see all of the  
25 communities of interest.

1           If you're more interested in paper maps, there's  
2           also a way to print each community of interest or an entire  
3           map book. There's also an Excel document that's up there  
4           with all the paper-based communities of interest that were  
5           turned in also. So all that data is there at your  
6           fingertips.

7           So what is a community of interest since we  
8           mentioned it a couple of times? It's basically a  
9           geographical area of common, socioeconomic interests, shared  
10          characteristics and experiences, similar issues, or impact  
11          of government policy; and then otherwise a geographic area  
12          with a shared benefit that we want to keep united in a  
13          single district.

14          So you heard me talk a little bit about the  
15          redistricting system. So the redistricting system is  
16          available 24/7 online. You can get it to, anybody can  
17          create an account; so you, the public, can go and create an  
18          account and draw your own maps. You can see all the maps  
19          that are there in the system.

20          You have access to the same data, the same  
21          demographics, the same competitive data that the Commission  
22          has; so all the data is in your fingertips also.

23          There is a URL there. One thing about the  
24          redistricting system, if you want to come and give public  
25          comment today and you did submit a map, if you let me know

1           what number your map is, I can bring it up on the screen and  
2           we can all see it.

3                    To date we have over 52 maps submitted to us; and  
4           we get more every day, so keep them coming.

5                    We've heard some feedback on the redistricting  
6           system, so we have also made some changes. So we allow you  
7           to draw a single district; and if you wanted to do that, you  
8           need to scroll down when you get prompted with a template  
9           plan and choose "focused legislative district template" or  
10          "focused congressional district template."

11                   So this will now allow you to submit a single  
12          district without having to draw an entire statewide map.

13                   The IRC mapping hub here is the URL of it. So what  
14          does it have?

15                   It's a centralized location of all the maps  
16          application data that we talked about today is available on  
17          the web 24/7, publicly available, and it's split into a  
18          bunch of different sessions. There's also a training  
19          session on the redistricting system with a bunch of a  
20          different YouTube videos that you can go to, and we added  
21          multiple YouTube videos that we added last week.

22                   So the grid map. The grid map was adopted on  
23          September 14th, 2021, by the Commission; you can see on the  
24          left-hand side is the legis- -- the congressional grid map,  
25          and on the right-hand side is the legislative grid map.



1           So the grid map was built starting at the township  
2 median, which is 19th Avenue and the corner of Grand and  
3 McDowell; then it was built from a clockwise manner from  
4 that median. So we divided the state into four different  
5 quadrants; and then we built the districts in a clockwise  
6 manner.

7           If you want more information on the grid map, you  
8 can find that at the IRC mapping hub; and that is the direct  
9 URL there on the screen.

10           And with that, I will turn it back over to staff.

11           MS. VAN HAREN: Thank you, Mark.

12           There are plenty seats in the front if anybody  
13 can't see. There's plenty of seats right here and plenty of  
14 seats right over here so you can see the screen.

15           I will now read the rules of the meeting.

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

20           In compliance with Arizona's open meeting law,  
21 speakers should confine their statements to the issue on the  
22 posted agenda which is posted before the Commission.  
23 Speakers are also requested to limit their comments to  
24 approximately three minutes. In an effort to allow for as  
25 many speakers as possible, the Commission may adjust the

1 time limits depending on the amount of speakers requesting  
2 to be heard.

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

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

10 If someone has already expressed the same sentiment  
11 you wish to express, you may say so and your comments will  
12 be recorded.

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

15 Opposing viewpoints may be expressed by the  
16 citizens present. As a courtesy, citizens are reminded to  
17 address their comments to the Chair and the Commission and  
18 not to the audience present.

19 Please show respect for all speakers and avoid  
20 personal comments.

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

23 We will now begin public comment.

24 Again, there are interpreters in Spanish and in  
25 Navajo and for anyone who needs one.

1 MR. PENA: Good afternoon, Madam Chair and  
2 Commissioners.

3 Our first speakers are going to be Mayor Skip Hall;  
4 Honorable Chairman of the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Robert  
5 Miguel, Chair Steve Gallardo of the Arizona Latino  
6 Redistricting Commission, Bill Cook, and Gisell Garcia.

7 Speakers, please come up to the mics and line up.

8 MAYOR HALL: Good afternoon. Thank you for coming  
9 here to receive input; I'm the mayor of Surprise.

10 My -- my concern is to keep all of Surprise in a  
11 congressional district not to be broken up; and also, when  
12 at all possible, the growth in the West Valley is  
13 unbelievable what's going on, and in the next ten years it's  
14 going to be even more, and I think that, from a legislative  
15 district standpoint, I think that it could be two  
16 congressional districts that could be in the West Valley  
17 totally because that's a community of interest the way I see  
18 it.

19 It's geographically contiguous and we share the  
20 same -- we share the same concerns: traffic, water, land  
21 use; those all come into play. Where -- where Phoenix, a  
22 lot of it is built out; and the rural community along the  
23 Colorado River doesn't share -- doesn't share our interests.  
24 They're not growing like we are; they don't have the same  
25 kind of concerns that we have.

1           So anyway that's -- that's my feedback. I want to  
2           keep Surprise in one legislative district; and I'd like to  
3           see the West Valley in two districts. There's about  
4           1,400,000 people in the West Valley, and I'd like to keep it  
5           contiguous in that way. I think our interests would be  
6           beneficial.

7           So that's my feedback. Okay?

8           Thank you.

9           SPEAKER MIGUEL: Madame Chairwoman, members of the  
10          redistricting committee, I want to say in my language:  
11          (Navajo language spoken.)

12          Good afternoon to all of you; and, again, thank you  
13          for allowing me the -- the privilege of testifying or giving  
14          testimony on behalf of the Ak-Chin Indian Community. We're  
15          located up north for those of you who do not know in the  
16          county -- county of Pinal County and near the city of  
17          Maricopa.

18          My name is Robert Miguel; I am chairman of the  
19          Ak-Chin Indian Community, have been for eight years and we  
20          are currently located in Pinal County.

21          Council currently has no more specific proposal  
22          regarding redistricting before it -- before it to act upon;  
23          I'm here today, however, to let you know that we are closely  
24          monitoring your work, the responses, public comments,  
25          submissions and proceedings. We are actively engaged.

1           The task before you is not easy as -- easy, and we  
2 appreciate the opportunity to comment now, and we will  
3 provide formal comments moving forward.

4           I wanted to come today to let you know that the  
5 Ak-Chin Indian Community appreciates the outreach efforts,  
6 particularly those of Vice Chairman Watchman, who has  
7 reached out directly to tribal leaders; and we're hopeful  
8 that this is an invitation that the Commission really wants  
9 to do right to work with the tribes.

10           Government functions best when -- is best when all  
11 levels of government are well informed and working towards  
12 solutions rather than divisions; tribes are critical  
13 partners in that effort.

14           Like politics, redistricting does not have to be  
15 controversial. Constitutional requirements and communities  
16 of interest are key to this. These communities of interest  
17 will be, in fact, the most important aspect of the initial  
18 process. It is not sufficient, however, to start -- to  
19 treat tribes all the same of similarly situated. And to  
20 lump us all together into one district does not necessarily  
21 (technical/audio disruption) community of interest.

22           Splitting any one tribe certainly creates problems  
23 and should not (technical/audio disruption) unless  
24 specifically requested by a tribe.

25           The bottom line is that this Commission should

1 place each tribe individually. Now just because I'm  
2 speaking for my tribe, it doesn't necessarily mean I'm  
3 speaking for all tribes; so it's really, really important  
4 and key that you reach out to the 22 tribes in general and  
5 get their feedback and input, so that's something we would  
6 certainly appreciate.

7 While Ak-Chin is -- it is critical that Ak-Chin  
8 community remain together and not be split. We are a  
9 farming community. Although gaming has come up -- became a  
10 big play in providing revenues and providing services for  
11 our people, we need the Commission and the State to  
12 understand that we are a farming community, we have been  
13 through our beginnings; that's our backbone and who we are  
14 as -- as indigenous people in the -- in Arizona.

15 The farming heritage makes us seem rural and yet  
16 our location in the (indiscernible) Maricopa open our role  
17 as the largest employer in Pinal County makes us something  
18 more distinct, yet not -- yet, not necessarily urban in  
19 nature.

20 Similarly our ties to our sister tribes might  
21 suggest we be grouped with them: The Gila River Indian  
22 Community, the Tohono O'odham, and/or the Salt River Pima  
23 Indian Community, we are considered the sister tribes of  
24 Arizona. Yet, the outgrowing growth of areas in Pinal  
25 County brings new demands on our community and has demand on

1 the communities and are also important to us.

2 We are active partners with them in areas like  
3 transportation, economic development, infrastructure,  
4 education, healthcare, public safety services, and flood  
5 control.

6 For all these reasons we appreciate the difficult  
7 task before you and understand the current maps reflect  
8 simply a starting point.

9 Like others, we are navigating the grid map and  
10 struggling with what option makes the most sense.

11 And, in closing, I'd like to add that -- that we --  
12 again, we do not envy your position, but we will do what we  
13 can to aid you in the development of thoughtful, competitive  
14 districts that represent the interests of all of us who call  
15 this place home.

16 Looking -- we look forward to submitting formal,  
17 written comments as the process moves forward and ask in  
18 advance that you give them thoughtful contemplation for  
19 actively reaching out to us for questions or concerns as  
20 plans are developed.

21 And, again, I thank you for the opportunity to come  
22 up and speak during your -- your Commission meeting; and,  
23 again, we look forward to working with the state of Arizona  
24 in this redistricting effort.

25 Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 SPEAKER GALLARDO: Good evening, Madam Chair,  
3 Commissioners.

4 For the record, my name is Steve Gallardo; I am a  
5 member of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and chair  
6 of the Arizona Latino Fair Redistricting Coalition.

7 The Arizona Fair Redistricting Coalition has been  
8 engaged in since the beginning of the creation of the  
9 Independent Redistricting Commission from 200- -- 2001 and  
10 2011 and once again this year.

11 We believe this is a very critical role that  
12 you-all are playing and we wish you the best. We're here to  
13 pretty much indicate that we are here to work with the  
14 Commission; we want to be partners; we want to engage the  
15 actual process of the redistricting maps drawing. We -- we  
16 have, as you are aware, have submitted a congressional  
17 district map that has been submitted and in the next couple  
18 of days, we will be submitting a legislative map.

19 I do want to point out, though, that the Arizona  
20 Latino population has grown over the last decade. It is now  
21 over 30 percent; and due to various factors, it is very  
22 likely that the Arizona Latino population was under counted  
23 during the 2020 census.

24 Additionally, we watched with great interest that  
25 the Arizona did not gain a tenth district during the



1 reapportionment process; this, the coalition has explored  
2 whether a third minority Latino congressional district could  
3 be obtained; we believe the answer is no.

4 There is belief that the Arizona -- oh. Thank you,  
5 sir.

6 There -- there is belief that the Arizona  
7 Independent Redistricting Commission is best -- best to  
8 comply with the Arizona Voting Rights Act. Arizona --  
9 Voting Rights Act of the United States. We're here to work  
10 with the Commission, to assure that it's obtained. We are  
11 hoping that the Commission looks at drawing two minority  
12 Latino districts to preserve the -- and expand the voting  
13 strengths of Hispanic citizens voting age population of its  
14 current congressional map.

15 Tonight I would like to provide a bit of  
16 information about these districts starting with ones in  
17 Maricopa County.

18 The Arizona coalition created two congressional  
19 districts, one in metropolitan Maricopa County and one in  
20 Southern Arizona.

21 The one in Maricopa County is a Southwest Phoenix  
22 or Maryvale -- are homes of large Latino population similar  
23 to social economic -- similar socioeconomic status; we are  
24 building majority Latino districts in Central Arizona. It  
25 is the -- it only makes sense to start with these

1 concentration of Latinos/residents starting with  
2 South Phoenix, it follows along South Mountain, and a large  
3 natural, visible geographical feature. You'll see in the --  
4 on the map areas that are connected are neighbors east and  
5 west of Guadalupe and Laveen, South Phoenix, and parts of  
6 West Phoenix. These particular areas have similar social  
7 demographics, similar household income, property values,  
8 there are areas of communities of commonality.

9 These -- these two districts, particularly the one  
10 in Phoenix as you see right now, will best represent the  
11 Latino community and be able to expand and continue to  
12 strengthen the Latino vote, allowing us to select candidates  
13 of our choice.

14 Southern Arizona is another area that we focused  
15 on; it is a predominantly large Latino population. My  
16 partner on this coalition, the cochair is Supervisor Adelita  
17 Grijalva, I believe she's on the phone now, I'm not sure if  
18 she's able to speak on behalf of the southern district. Is  
19 she on?

20 Can we turn that over to her so she can speak on  
21 behalf of the Southern Arizona district?

22 MS. VAN HAREN: I apologize, Supervisor, I thought  
23 she was in person here.

24 SPEAKER GALLARDO: Oh. Unfortunately, she is  
25 online. But let me go ahead and move on. She will be able

1 to speak, I believe she signed up to speak as well.

2 But the Southern Arizona district encompasses, of  
3 course, not only Tucson but the surrounding communities  
4 of -- of Tucson as well.

5 It is a -- a district that, once again, reaffirms  
6 the -- the -- the voting rights in Southern Arizona and  
7 allows candidates and voters to be able to select candidates  
8 of their choice.

9 The map is available; we are here to work with the  
10 Commission on the congressional and the legislative map. We  
11 look forward to entertaining as many conversations as  
12 possible to make sure that we have fair representation; but  
13 the coalition made it very clear that this particular  
14 redistricting map, that two Latino majority-minority  
15 districts would be the best fit to expand and continue the  
16 Latino voting strength in the state of Arizona.

17 If we were able to do a third district, we would do  
18 a third district.

19 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Supervisor, thank you so  
20 much. Do you mind sharing with us which map number it is?

21 Do you -- I don't know if you have that. And if  
22 you do not have it now, that's fine; but if you could maybe  
23 submit that information to the Commission so we know what to  
24 reference.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, Madam Chairwoman. We

1 did submit the map to the Commission yesterday; I am not  
2 sure if it's been given a number yet but, essentially,  
3 hopefully will be made available online shortly.

4 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: We'll look for it. Thank you  
5 so much.

6 SPEAKER GALLARDO: And Madam Chair, Commissioners,  
7 we will be able to send it directly to you as well just to  
8 ensure that we're looking at the correct map.

9 I appreciate your guys' work; I know it's  
10 challenging, a lot of work ahead of you, but the Latino  
11 Coalition looks forward to working with the Commission and  
12 helping any way we can.

13 Thank you so much.

14 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Thank you.

15 SPEAKER COOK: Madam Chairwoman, members of the  
16 IRC, I want to thank you very much for giving me the  
17 opportunity to speak tonight.

18 My name is Bill Cook, I am the general manager for  
19 the Recreation Centers of Sun City. We provide eight golf  
20 courses, eight community centers and fitness centers, two  
21 bowling alleys, and space for a 133 clubs; supporting over  
22 33,000 members who all reside in Sun City.

23 So for those of you who are not familiar with Sun  
24 City, it was started back in the '60s by Del Webb. We're  
25 the origin until Sun City; and it was created of Del Webb to

1 provide a community of interest for 55-and-over individuals,  
2 so we are a retirement community.

3 Those of you who are not living or who do not live  
4 in Sun City, you've probably driven through to go see a  
5 baseball game during spring training and heading over to the  
6 west and seen the golf carts, and probably wondered, "Why  
7 are their golf carts?" So this is a common interest that's  
8 associated with Sun City and it's very, you know, limited to  
9 Sun City.

10 So this is why I'm here. The -- the 36,000 or so  
11 cardholders and members that we have truly are a  
12 community -- it's probably one of the original communities  
13 of interest in Arizona.

14 We are a median age of 73; and if you look at a  
15 surrounding area of Glendale or Phoenix, the median age is  
16 34 and 31 respectively. Of course, 34 and 31 and 73,  
17 there's a lot of different -- very different divergent  
18 interests.

19 Some of those are economic. Okay? It's a  
20 retirement community, so we have many of them are on a fixed  
21 income. So there's certainly many different interests there  
22 between a 73-year-old and a 31-year-old.

23 There's the healthcare. I remember when I was in  
24 my 20s and got my first job, I traded in all my healthcare  
25 for vacation, okay? So 73-year-olds -- now as a

1 55-year-old, I look back on that and say that's crazy. And,  
2 of course, those folks that live in Sun City that's very  
3 important to them and healthcare is very important to them.

4 You can even see with the pandemic, I saw  
5 personally that very much was a common interest to that  
6 demographic, and fighting for that, you know, the -- the  
7 immunization and getting immunizations was a very important  
8 factor in the community; and it may not have been for the  
9 younger communities, who when we were younger, we all felt  
10 like we are invincible, right?

11 And then our activities that we support. You know,  
12 on any given day you will see hundreds, if not thousands, of  
13 people on our golf courses, in our rec centers, attending a  
14 club meeting; and so that -- that in and of itself, if you  
15 divide up the Sun City area and have a golf course that may  
16 not be in the same Sun City region, there could be some  
17 conflicts there, and that includes fitness centers as well.

18 So, with that being said, I respectfully ask that  
19 you keep Sun City within one district.

20 Thank you very much. We appreciate your time.

21 (Applause.)

22 SPEAKER GARCIA: Hello. My name is Gisell Garcia,  
23 and I am an organizer with Mi Familia Vota; and I'm here to  
24 speak on the Latino representation on the grid maps.

25 So I currently reside in Goodyear, Arizona but, I

1 have family and friends who reside in the Avondale, Tolleson  
2 area for more than 30 years.

3 The Latino community in Phoenix, particularly the  
4 West Valley, is heavily present and there is an importance  
5 in keeping our communities together; but we should not be  
6 packed too tightly into one leg- -- one legislative  
7 district.

8 We understand that people are arguing against  
9 keeping our communities together for partisan purposes, and  
10 to this I say don't bend to this partisan pressure and keep  
11 respecting our Latino communities and the Voting Rights Act.

12 The so Latinos are proportional -- appropriately  
13 represented in the maximum number districts, allowing for  
14 maximum representation in -- maximum opportunity for  
15 communities to elect representatives of their choosing and  
16 advocate for shared policy concerns.

17 Thank you and thank you for your time.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. PENA: We are going to hand it off to Valerie  
20 in Flagstaff.

21 MS. NEUMANN: Thank you. Good afternoon and  
22 welcome.

23 Our very first speaker we're going to have the  
24 Mayor of Flagstaff, Paul Deasy speak virtually. So if we  
25 can get him on the line.

1 (Brief pause.)

2 Let me know if you'd like to continue until he's  
3 ready.

4 MS. VAN HAREN: Val, he was -- Val, can you hear  
5 me?

6 He was online, but I don't see him now. Maybe we  
7 can go to the next speaker and come back.

8 HEARING OFFICER NEUBERG: Ask her to speak a little  
9 louder in Flagstaff.

10 Or was that you, Lori?

11 MS. VAN HAREN: I'm sorry, that was me.

12 Val, we had Mayor Deasy online, but I don't see him  
13 right now. I don't know if we can go to the next speaker.

14 MS. NEUMANN: Sure.

15 MS. VAN HAREN: And if you guys can speak a little  
16 bit louder or we can raise the volume here in order to hear  
17 you.

18 MS. NEUMANN: Okay.

19 Our first speaker is Matt Ryan, Chairman of the  
20 Coconino Board of Supervisors; next up is Lena Fowler,  
21 Coconino County supervisor, and she's referencing Steve  
22 Peru's map, so if the mapping team could get that pulled up,  
23 please; and our third speaker will be Waylon Honga, who is  
24 representing the Hualapai Tribe Chair.

25 SPEAKER RYAN: There we go.



1           Okay. Does that work well for you, Madam Chair?  
2           Sound wise?

3           I'm just going to assume and move on, then.

4           Okay. As noted, I'm Matt Ryan, chairman of the  
5           Coconino County Board of Supervisors; and thank you,  
6           Madam Chair and Mr. Watchman from the region as well as  
7           fellow Commissioners. You have a very difficult task ahead  
8           of you and we compliment you on your service to the state.

9           The Coconino County Board of Supervisors has  
10          submitted proposed congressional and legislative maps after  
11          much study and deliberation. They are map numbers LD 0013  
12          and CD 0016.

13          The legislative district map focuses on Legislative  
14          District 6 and 7. Vice Chairperson Fowler will speak to the  
15          Legislative District 7 map, and I'll speak to the District 6  
16          map.

17          All of the legislative districts have been balanced  
18          with the 5 percent deviation and follow the guidelines of  
19          Proposition 106.

20          The Legislative District 6 map in particular  
21          focuses on rural communities. The inclusion of the  
22          Verde Valley as a community of one: communities of Sedona,  
23          Cottonwood, Clarkdale, Camp Verde and Jerome as they share a  
24          common interest in the watershed and forest fire prevention.

25          The entirety of Sedona and Flagstaff into one

1 legislative district with no splits; we'd like to see cities  
2 kept whole. This district proposed is a competitive  
3 district.

4 The congressional district map also includes a  
5 balance within a plus or minus a 5 percent deviation and  
6 follows the guidelines of Proposition 106; it protects  
7 several communities of interest. The map takes into account  
8 the rural nature of the communities comprising CD-2, hence  
9 its sons (phonetic) for the rural component.

10 To that end, the CD-2 adds the copper and cattle  
11 interest, Globe, Superior, Kearney and parts of Casa Grande.  
12 Interest was expressed during the listening tour that the  
13 copper-cattle communities be included in the rural district.

14 The map removes Prescott and Prescott Valley from  
15 CD-2 because the IRZ -- the IRC listening tour testimony  
16 shows that the Prescott interests do not align with the  
17 other cities and communities drawn in CD-2.

18 The CD map pays particular attention to Native  
19 American populations. It includes the Native American  
20 communities of the Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, Yavapai  
21 Apache, San Carlos Apache, Tonto Apache, Zuni, Havasupai,  
22 San Juan Southern Paiute, White Mountain Apache, a portion  
23 of the Hualapai community.

24 We mistakenly left the western portion of the  
25 Hualapai community out of our CD map and will amend our map

1           accordingly to include the entire community.

2                       Therefore, it protects the Native Americans under  
3           the Voting Rights Act by including as many contiguous Native  
4           American tribes as possible in CD-2.

5                       Both of these maps incorporate a shared interest in  
6           major public policy issues including watersheds, forestry,  
7           ranching, agriculture, and regional economic development to  
8           name a few. We believe strongly that these maps fairly  
9           represent the Northern Arizona region and ask that you give  
10          them your serious consideration.

11                      Again, we thank you your -- your commitment to  
12          public service.

13                      Thank you.

14                      MS. NEUMANN: And I'm just been notified that  
15          Flagstaff mayor has another commitment, so we'll hear from  
16          him another time.

17                      SPEAKER FOWLER: Yá'át'ééh. I'm Lena Fowler,  
18          Coconino County supervisor.

19                      Thank you so much Madam Chair, Vice Chair  
20          Mr. Watchman, and fellow members of the Commission. Thank  
21          you so much for your team for your work on behalf of this,  
22          our state.

23                      I am the Vice Chair of the Coconino County Board of  
24          Supervisors, and I will be speaking to the legislative  
25          District Map 7, the map number is LD 0013.

1           We made sure that the map follows the guidelines of  
2           the Proposition 106; and with the knowledge that the tribal  
3           communities, the tribes that live in the region predate the  
4           establishment of the state of Arizona where they live, farm,  
5           ranch, hunt today.

6           So we kept the Navajo Nation and other tribal  
7           communities within the district whole. The district map  
8           also focuses on rural communities; the national monuments  
9           including Grand Canyon, the Colorado River, Oak Creek Canyon  
10          Forest -- Petrified Forest, Monument Valley, Antelope  
11          Canyon, and Walnut Canyon; protection of Native Americans  
12          and other minority groups under the Voting Rights Act.

13          This legislative district map rise -- raises the  
14          Native American population.

15          The board engaged thoughtfully in the development  
16          of these maps and ensured that all of the IRC guidelines  
17          were adhered to. We urge you to take our maps under serious  
18          consideration and we look forward to continued conversation.

19          Thank you.

20          SPEAKER HONGA: (Navajo language spoken.)

21          Thank you, Chairwoman Neuberg and the Commissioners  
22          of the IRC for hosting this hearing.

23          My name is Waylon Honga, I'm a former council  
24          member of the Hualapai Tribe, and I am speaking on behalf of  
25          Chairman Clarke and the Hualapai Tribe.

1           Representation for tribal communities is critical  
2           for representation in Congress and at the Arizona state  
3           legislature, and we hope that you seriously consider the  
4           input you are receiving tonight and in writing from the  
5           tribal communities in Arizona.

6           The Hualapai Tribe encompasses nearly a million  
7           acres along 108 miles of the Grand Canyon and Colorado  
8           River. Our land touches three Arizona counties: Mohave,  
9           Yavapai, and Coconino.

10          I'm speaking today because the grid maps give us  
11          cause for concern. The grid map configuration splits the  
12          Hualapai community in half, and we should be kept whole and  
13          connected to other tribes in our area.

14          We know that the grid maps are already under  
15          adjustment and so we submit these requests for adjustments  
16          that will greatly improve our representation.

17          Many of us are requested the same thing: That you  
18          keep our communities of northeastern and central rural  
19          together because we are connected and work together to  
20          advocate for our issues. These tribes often contend with  
21          similar economic interests, environmental preservation, and  
22          water issues that touch most rural regions.

23          The following tribes should be kept within a single  
24          legislative district: our own tribe, the Hualapai, should  
25          be connected to the Havasupai Tribe, the Kaibab Paiute

1 Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Hopi tribe,  
2 the Navajo Nation, the White Mountain Apache Tribe, and the  
3 San Carlos Apache Tribe.

4 We know that this legislative configuration will  
5 need additional population and the Commission should add the  
6 Verde Valley so that the Yavapai Apache Nation can also be  
7 connected to this district.

8 The following tribes should be placed within a  
9 single congressional district connected to the  
10 Hualapai Tribe: The Havasupai Tribe, the Kaibab Paiute  
11 Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Hope Tribe,  
12 the Navajo Nation, the White Mountain Apache Tribe, the San  
13 Carlos Apache Tribe, Gila River Indian Community, and  
14 Ak-Chin Community. These are all rural communities that  
15 need to be able to approach a single congressional official.

16 Our community has been made aware of a map proposal  
17 from Coconino County that seeks to split our community and  
18 Havasupai Tribe to go into a district with the greater  
19 Flagstaff area separating our communities from the rest of  
20 the tribes in the northwestern -- northeastern part of the  
21 state.

22 In this draft the western part of our tribe is  
23 connected to completely unlike communities of Kingman,  
24 Lake Havasu, and Bullhead City. We oppose such a  
25 configuration as it would leave us -- leave us unrepresented

1 at the state legislature, split between two legislative  
2 representatives and drowned out by both districts in rural  
3 and urban voters that do not vote as we do. Tribal  
4 representation at the state legislature has been a critical  
5 voice for our communities and our greater region. We cannot  
6 and will not see that representation ripped away from us.

7 I want to end with this emphasis on both of the  
8 legislative and congressional maps: Our primary concern is  
9 effective representation through strength in numbers. We  
10 understand, Chairwoman, that you have been interested in  
11 learning more about how minority communities can best ensure  
12 that they are heard by our elected officials.

13 In our legislative configuration, these tribal  
14 communities are able to elect a representative of our  
15 choosing to represent tribal communities. At the  
16 congressional level, we seek to maintain a level of  
17 influence that can only be achieved if we are united and  
18 kept whole with the other rural tribes that stretch between  
19 the northeastern and central, rural areas of our state.

20 We have outlined in our recommendations in a letter  
21 as well that we submitted on September 30th.

22 Again, thank you for your time.

23 MS. NEUMANN: Our next three speakers are Miranda  
24 Sweet, James Gregory, and Austin Alan.

25 SPEAKER SWEET: Thank you.

1           My name is Miranda Sweet, and I serve on the  
2           Flagstaff City Council. Thank you to the Commission for the  
3           inclusive and thorough public engagement process.

4           The city of Flagstaff asks that you keep the city  
5           intact and do not split the city among multiple districts.  
6           We are encouraged that Flagstaff is intact in both  
7           congressional and legislative grid maps; the city of  
8           Flagstaff would welcome an outcome that recognize the  
9           greater Flagstaff as a community of interest.

10          We would also like to re-emphasize that indigenous  
11          communities represent clear communities of interest. The  
12          values and needs of indigenous communities as articulated by  
13          indigenous people and leaders should be strongly considered  
14          by the IRC during the redistricting process.

15          Thank you for your time and consideration.

16          SPEAKER GREGORY: My name is James Gregory, I'm a  
17          Yavapai County Board of Supervisor for District 2.

18          I strongly would encourage the Independent  
19          Redistricting Commission to keep all of Yavapai County into  
20          one district. We strongly oppose splitting up the district  
21          like Coconino proposed.

22          I oppose any split within a county into two regular  
23          districts, and it just creates divisiveness within the  
24          county and our constituents.

25          District 2, one of the proposals shows it going



1 down I-17 and split the communities. We want to avoid that.  
2 We want to keep it just like the proposed map is -- all  
3 Yavapai County to include Sedona. Sedona is split by  
4 Coconino and Yavapai, but we would like to have that all  
5 included in one district and one district being Yavapai  
6 County.

7 The Arizona Constitution states to the extent  
8 practicable, district lines shall use geographic features  
9 such as cities, towns, county boundaries, and undivided  
10 census tracts. Why would we split any of our towns and  
11 communities?

12 We want it to stay whole; we would like to see all  
13 of one legislative district in Yavapai County which includes  
14 all of Sedona.

15 Thank you.

16 SPEAKER ASLAN: Good afternoon, everyone. My name  
17 is Austin Aslan. Someone said Alan, but that was probably  
18 because of my poor penmanship, so I apologize.

19 I am a city council member with the city of  
20 Flagstaff wrapping up my first term; and I have to tell you  
21 first and foremost that I feel a little nervous being up  
22 here, and I'm reminded, after having spent the past three  
23 years sitting up on the dais and watching public speakers  
24 come up, what a -- what a brave thing that is to do; and I  
25 just want to take a moment to thank everyone in the public

1 for -- for participating and speaking out and doing your  
2 part to speak. Truth is power.

3 I'm here today representing the City of Flagstaff.  
4 You know, with our city council, we do not have at-large  
5 districts. We are representing the entire community of  
6 Flagstaff, and it would be really weird for our city to be  
7 split into a variety of different legislative and  
8 congressional districts; it just wouldn't work so well.

9 And so I'm -- I'm here to say today just to  
10 reiterate what we've already heard from some -- some other  
11 folks. We -- we very much value remaining in the whole  
12 community, and we are encouraged that Flagstaff is intact  
13 both in the congressional and legislative grid maps. That's  
14 a great start, let's keep it that way.

15 And we've also communicated in our letter to you  
16 that we would welcome the outcome that recognizes the  
17 greater Flagstaff area as a community of interest. We  
18 continue to ask that the greater Flagstaff area be kept  
19 whole in any legislative and congressional districts, and  
20 that the current Legislative District 6 be expanded to  
21 include the rural areas as part of Flagstaff.

22 You know, we really desire an outcome that values  
23 unified communities of interest and Flagstaff has -- has  
24 several of those.

25 In terms of forest health and in terms of the

1 community that our hospital services, these things are very  
2 important to us. The way that we -- we legislate a positive  
3 impact on the ecosystems in our community. We host  
4 Grand Canyon tourists, and we have a strong interest in  
5 proving interconnected and infrastructure and shared  
6 transportation corridors and shared work for development;  
7 and these things are all part and parcel of  
8 Northern Arizona. We are a tight community, we operate  
9 together, and we should be kept together.

10 So thank you very much.

11 MS. NEUMANN: We will now move over to San Luis.

12 SPEAKER ASLAN: I was asked by our mayor to mention  
13 that he was online right now and able to speak if that's --  
14 if it's not too late for that.

15 I'm sorry I forgot that at the end there.

16 MS. NEUMANN: Okay. Mayor. Are you there, Mayor?

17 MAYOR DEASY: Yes. Thank you. I appreciate you  
18 letting me jump in here.

19 Well, I just want to say, you know, good evening,  
20 everyone; my name is Paul Deasy, and it's my honor to serve  
21 as the Mayor of Flagstaff.

22 I want to thank the Independent Redistricting  
23 Commission for these opportunities of public engagement and  
24 the process that has been implemented so far.

25 As we know, the work at the IRC is incredibly

1 important and represents a unique opportunity for Arizonans  
2 to share their values and concerns in shaping how our  
3 districts are redrawn.

4 Speaking on behalf of the Flagstaff City Council we  
5 are encouraged to see that the grid maps represent the  
6 greater Flagstaff area as a community of interest and -- and  
7 we continue to ask that the greater Flagstaff area be kept  
8 whole in future versions of the map, as residents in this  
9 area experience the same challenges and utilize the same  
10 resources, it is critical that we have a united voice when  
11 we go to the polls.

12 Additionally, I would like to reiterate that the  
13 Flagstaff City Council would value Flagstaff being placed in  
14 a district with other communities that share the same  
15 values, concerns and resources such as forest health,  
16 watershed protection, healthcare, and responsible tourism.

17 Thank you all for being here this evening and  
18 sharing your perspectives in the -- in this community. The  
19 public comments really do help inform the Commission of  
20 important values and concerns that are apparent in our  
21 community.

22 So thank you to the Independent Redistricting  
23 Commission and all the public participants tonight.

24 MS. NEUMANN: Thank you, Mayor.

25 Now we will heard over to Marie in San Luis.

1 MS. CAMACHO: Thank you, Val.

2 I have three speakers in San Luis. I have Tony  
3 Reyes, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for Yuma County;  
4 Africa Luna-Carrasco, Vice Mayor, City of San Luis; and  
5 Jesse A. Lugo.

6 SPEAKER REYES: Good afternoon.

7 First of all, thank you. I want to do -- I want to  
8 start off by actually thanking the board for the excellent  
9 job, and I know tough job you are tasked to do; and, second,  
10 thank you for listening to us and having opening up San Luis  
11 County for an opportunity to make a comment.

12 First of all, I want to talk about the district  
13 itself. And I'm talking about -- well, first of all, let me  
14 talk about Yuma in itself.

15 And it's sort of weird to listen to all the  
16 comments talk about not splitting up cities or towns, and  
17 then stand up in front of you and ask you to do so with  
18 Yuma.

19 I was not much of a fan of splitting up the city of  
20 Yuma in two separate legislative district and two separate  
21 congressional district, but I'm -- I'm stunned to be able to  
22 stand up here and say that it's worked.

23 So, contrary to what has been said before, for  
24 the -- for Yuma itself, for the County of Yuma, which is  
25 63 percent Hispanic, the majority of the Hispanic

1 population, though, is located mostly in South County, which  
2 where you, you know, the center of where you're having a  
3 hearing on today. So it just makes a lot of sense to not  
4 mess with something that has worked.

5 I've seen the population grid maps that you have  
6 available to us and you don't split up Yuma at all, you keep  
7 it together in one single district. While that may sound in  
8 some ways logical and reasonable, in our particular case  
9 we're asking you to take a second look at that and actually  
10 try to keep communities of interest, which in this case  
11 south county being one of them, and the eastern portion or  
12 the northern portion of being in another one, it has worked  
13 well.

14 So I'm just here to sort of reiterate that, that  
15 essentially for us what we have right now, which is actually  
16 four legislative districts, two senator district, and one  
17 congressional district. It's worked for us well. So I'm  
18 here just to tell you, please try to keep that in mind when  
19 you do your job.

20 And, again, I appreciate a lot of the work that you  
21 guys do and, again, thank you for allowing us to here in  
22 San Louis County to address you.

23 Thank you.

24 SPEAKER LUNA-CARRASCO: Hello, Chairman, members of  
25 the Commission; thank you for the opportunity to allow us to

1 speak this afternoon about the redistricting process.

2 My name is Africa Luna-Carrasco; I currently serve  
3 as the Vice Mayor for the City of San Luis. I'm born and  
4 raised in this city so I understand the community of  
5 interest which is important to all of our residents.

6 We are a predominantly Hispanic community; we are a  
7 border town. The Governor has even referred to us as the  
8 "boom town Arizona," because we are growing rapidly. As of  
9 the last census, our population was approximately 36,000  
10 residents.

11 So I'm just here this evening to ask you that you  
12 keep the districts as are, because I feel that that would  
13 provide equal representation in both the legislative and  
14 congressional -- congressional districts.

15 Thank you.

16 SPEAKER LUGO: Hello. My name is Jesse Lugo, I'm  
17 from Gadsden, I'm PC-28 [verbatim]; and I support my  
18 candidates from Yuma, Somerton, Gadsden, and San Luis, and  
19 I'd like those districts to be the same.

20 Why? Because I know all the workings how I do with  
21 my candidates. I don't want my candidates to be trying to  
22 decide be supporting either the same districts.

23 So please leave the same districts how are they.

24 Thank you.

25 MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.

1                   And now we'll go to Michele in Kayenta.

2                   MS. CRANK: Good evening, Madam Chair and  
3                   Commissioners, and those of the listening audience.

4                   Here in Kayenta I do have two speakers. The first  
5                   speaker is Priscilla Weaver and the next -- the following  
6                   speaker will be Jaynie Parrish.

7                   SPEAKER WEAVER: Ya´´a´t'e´e´h. Thank you,  
8                   Commissioners Watchman, Neuberg, Lerner, Mehl, and York for  
9                   allowing me to share my comments this evening, October 6th.

10                  I'm from Teec Nos Pos, Arizona.

11                  (Navajo language spoken.)

12                  I'd like to thank vice president -- or, Vice Chair  
13                  of the Commission, (Navajo language) Derrick Watchman, for  
14                  sitting on this committee, to listen to us and to understand  
15                  our concerns and our message that we want to share with the  
16                  Commissioners of the Independent Redistricting Commission.

17                  I live in Teec Nos Pos, Arizona. If you look at  
18                  the Arizona map, it is far north and as far east as you can  
19                  get in the state; and I have a lot of community interest  
20                  with the people on the Navajo region. We have many concerns  
21                  because we are rural community, we are indigenous community,  
22                  and we have many same interests as the indigenous people of  
23                  the state of Arizona; and because of that, I would like to  
24                  share my comments about the district maps for -- that was  
25                  drawn and that I saw, and I will be submitting that this



1 evening. And they are hard copies, the legislative map and  
2 the congressional map.

3 I support the Voting Rights Act, the Native  
4 American indigenous voting bloc. The Native Americans in  
5 the state of Arizona, people living on sovereign lands and  
6 population is higher -- and I believe that the population  
7 that was reported is higher than the 2020 census data. Why  
8 I know that is because I live on the Navajo Nation. I live  
9 about a half a mile off the main highway, and we were  
10 visited many many times -- more than five times --  
11 collecting data; and there were other people that live more  
12 than fi- -- half a mile from the main highway that were not  
13 visited.

14 So please revisit the census data that was  
15 reported, I believe that there was an undercount in the  
16 census report to Arizona.

17 Adding size to LD-7 will reduce and dilute the  
18 Native American indigenous voters creating unfair  
19 representation in Arizona representative lawmakers. It is  
20 very important that we have indigenous people are  
21 represented in state legislators.

22 Thank you.

23 Adding -- oh. The current LD and CD maps are fair  
24 and competitive -- maps are fair and competitive, giving  
25 better governance in the state of Arizona. These are the

1 current LD and CD maps, with any changes and with the  
2 undercount we will not be able to have fair representation.  
3 So please, Commissioners, revisit the data and make sure  
4 that all the indigenous sovereign land -- sovereign people  
5 are represented.

6 We want to maintain our rights to vote fairly as  
7 required by the Voting Rights Act. I believe that we are --  
8 we -- we do have human rights to vote and please keep --  
9 okay. Please keep us in -- in your -- in your  
10 decision-making.

11 Democracy is important to all USA citizens, and as  
12 Americans we need to protect our human rights to vote in all  
13 elections.

14 (Navajo language spoken.)

15 SPEAKER PARRISH: Ya''a't'e'e'h.

16 Jaynie Parrish.

17 (Navajo language spoken.)

18 So the first thing I would like to say is these  
19 paper maps have been really helpful up in this area because  
20 we have little to no Internet connectivity, and this is the  
21 only way me and my family were able to submit our maps; we  
22 were not able to do it online, so we're trying to encourage  
23 other community members to do the same. So please be aware  
24 that the maps are really needed in tribal areas.

25 I'm not going to say too much different than what

1           everybody else was saying because I did write it all down  
2           but, essentially, I also agree that there's been undercount  
3           in the census and that really has to be looked at, and I'm  
4           not sure how that will affect our population in the mapping;  
5           but it really concerns me.

6                       Also, I just want to make sure that representation  
7           of the Native people and tribal communities are fully  
8           represented; and that I would also like to see the current  
9           district maps also remain the same -- not the grid maps that  
10          were drawn out, but the -- the ones we've had, and I feel  
11          like this is more in line with the Voting Rights Act, and it  
12          really emphasizes the voices that should be represented and  
13          heard.

14                      So keep tribes intact, don't break up tribal voting  
15          and simply knowing that CD-1 is the (technical/audio  
16          disruption) in the whole (technical/audio disruption)  
17          tribes.

18                      Thank you very much.

19                      MS. CRANK: Madam Chair, with that I have 26  
20          submittals of hand-drawn maps and comments.

21                      Thank you. We'll send it back to Surprise.

22                      Thank you.

23                      MR. PENA: Our next speakers will be Adelita  
24          Grijalva, next speakers are Clair Van Steenwyk, Bonnie  
25          Angster, and William Graves.

1                   And -- and then I believe that Adelita Grijalva  
2 will be joining via WebEx.

3                   VICE CHAIR WATCHMAN: Can you repeat that one more  
4 time?

5                   MR. PENA: The first name was Adelita Grijalda --  
6 or Grijalva.

7                   SPEAKER GRIJALVA: Thank you. Can you hear me  
8 okay?

9                   CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Yes.

10                  SPEAKER GRIJALVA: Great. Thank you so much and  
11 thank you for the time.

12                  Chairwoman Neuberg, members of the Commission,  
13 thank you for inviting me to speak tonight on behalf of the  
14 Arizona Latino Coalition for Fair Redistricting; thank you  
15 for your service to the state of Arizona, we know this  
16 process is a major time commitment.

17                  My name is Adelita Grijalva, I'm a third-generation  
18 Arizonan, life-long resident of Tucson, and live in CD-3,  
19 LD-3, and unincorporated Pima County.

20                  As president of the Tucson Unified School District  
21 and Vice Chair of the Pima County Board of Supervisors, I'm  
22 here to speak for the legal need under the Voting Rights Act  
23 to per- -- protect both the Arizona Justice Department,  
24 approved Hispanic voting rights district, and Latino  
25 representation for Southern Arizona.

1 I have spoken before you on September 6th and  
2 September 29th, and appreciate the opportunity to speak to  
3 you tonight.

4 I'm proud to represent the Arizona Latino for Fair  
5 Redistricting Coalition, a statewide coalition of Latino  
6 leaders and community members that has formed to advocate  
7 for Arizona's growing Latino community during the  
8 redistricting process. Our primary objective is to work  
9 collaboratively with the Commission to ensure compliance  
10 with the Voting Rights Act and that the voting strength of  
11 the Latino community is protected in this redistricting  
12 process.

13 As you're probably aware, our coalition recently  
14 submitted a congressional map with two majority Latino  
15 districts, one is Phoenix based and the other is anchored in  
16 Pima County in Southern Arizona. We have formed our  
17 coalition to help advocate for Arizona's growing Latino  
18 community; and Southern Arizona has a large and vibrant  
19 Latino community that has benefitted greatly from having the  
20 ability to elect a candidate of choice.

21 The map submitted contains a majority Latino,  
22 Southern Arizona district with a majority of the population  
23 in Pima County. Community interests make Pima County Latino  
24 community deserving of a Voting Rights Act district. We  
25 achieved that goal with our maps with 50.24 percent of our

1 district coming from Pima County. We kept a split with  
2 minor adjustments over polarizing voting patterns and split  
3 created where the Voting Rights Act numbers needed for  
4 compliance.

5 The district keeps the majority Latino Santa Cruz  
6 County whole in a Voting Rights Act-compliant district; Yuma  
7 County is split to ensure compliance with the Voting Rights  
8 Act, removing areas of highly polarizing -- highly racially  
9 polarizing voting.

10 The coalition took great caution in drawing this  
11 split within the city of Tucson. The split recognizes the  
12 important communities of interest and takes into account the  
13 higher concentration of Latino population. We believe any  
14 attempt to go much further into the city of Tucson than we  
15 have outlined in this map will not serve the purpose of the  
16 Voting Rights Act.

17 In Pinal County our map keeps the Tohono O'odham  
18 Nation whole, incorporates some additional population west  
19 of Interstate 10 that includes the Latino population. The  
20 goal of the Pinal lines was to keep the Yeto (phonetic)  
21 Village and the rest of the Tohono O'odham Nation and not  
22 isolate them from their farming and agricultural neighbors.

23 One important component of our map is in Maricopa  
24 County. If Arizona were to -- would have received a tenth  
25 congressional district, there may not have been a need to

1 incorporate any Maricopa County population in this district.  
2 However, in a nine district map, we believe it's necessary  
3 that a portion of the district includes the West Valley  
4 communities with a large Latino population.

5 West Valley lines, as proposed, bolster the Voting  
6 Rights Act numbers, while removing large sprawl future  
7 growth and large Anglo voting areas that could impede Voting  
8 Rights Act.

9 Our map was drawn with the principle of removing  
10 high-growth areas in Buckeye and Goodyear and adding  
11 communities of Avondale, Tolleson, and small -- small  
12 portions of Phoenix and Glendale.

13 We look forward to continuing the conversation with  
14 the Commission, working together towards maps that comply  
15 with the Voting Rights Act and the Arizona Constitution.

16 The district must include Pascua Yaqui and Tohono  
17 O'odham Nations to the Pima County, including San Luis in  
18 southwest Pinal County, as well as Old Pascua, and the urban  
19 Yaqui area neighborhoods predating the recognition of the  
20 tribal nation off Grant Road; Santa Cruz County should stay  
21 with Pima County.

22 Our coalition again looks forward to our continued  
23 engagement with the Commission as we strive for an  
24 equitable, legally defensible and representative  
25 congressional and legislative maps.

1           Thank you very much for your time this evening and  
2           for your continued service.

3           CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Thank you for taking the  
4           time, everybody, the public, all of your submissions. And,  
5           you know, and a gentleman, you know, mentioned taking the --  
6           the risk of standing up and sharing thoughts, and sometimes  
7           I may not even be comfortable; but all of this information  
8           is so valuable and -- and we're so deeply appreciative of --  
9           of the citizens of Arizona for taking the time to do this.

10          Thank you.

11          SPEAKER PETERS: Chair Neuberg, Commissioners  
12          Lerner and Watchman, thank you for the opportunity today to  
13          speak directly to the Commission.

14          My name is Lynn Peters. I have lived in the city  
15          of Surprise for 21 years. Surprise has changed dramatically  
16          over those 21 years and continues growth to the west and  
17          north.

18          My primary request is that Surprise remain whole in  
19          a single CD and LD. Currently Surprise, along with  
20          Sun City West and parts of northern Peoria are in grid map  
21          CD-9. This CD is geographically mostly rural while the  
22          communities of Surprise, Sun City West, and Peoria are urban  
23          and densely populated.

24          Our issues and interests are dramatically different  
25          from rural cities and towns. We do not relate to



1 Lake Havasu City, Kingman, Bullhead City, Lake Mead, Mohave  
2 City, or the Colorado River Indian Reservation; all grouped  
3 with Surprise, Sun City West, and Northern Peoria in CD-9.

4 Because Surprise, Sun City West and Northern Peoria  
5 are not compatible with the other communities in grid map  
6 CD-9, CD-7, -8 and -9 need to be modified.

7 CD-8 needs to move north to include Surprise,  
8 Sun City West, and parts of North Peoria; adjustments to  
9 neighboring CD-7 and -9 should make this possible.

10 While I certainly agree that it is critical that  
11 rural -- rural voices are heard by representatives, I  
12 believe the -- including densely populated urban cities with  
13 rural communities seriously dilutes the message of those  
14 rural communities.

15 Maricopa County communities in metro Phoenix should  
16 not be grouped with Mohave County communities so that their  
17 population requirements are met. That is a disservice to  
18 both groups. Metro Phoenix communities should be grouped  
19 with other metro Phoenix communities.

20 Surprise has been placed in grid map LD-29. While  
21 this LD is an odd shape, the grouping of communities is  
22 really quite good. I specifically ask that you be certain  
23 to keep the Surprise Heritage District intact within a  
24 single LD. This is a close knit, Hispanic community bounded  
25 north self -- south by Bell Road and Greenway Road,

1 east-west by El Mirage Road and Dysart Road.

2 I would also like to state that I am in the support  
3 of the LGBTQ community as a community of interest and hope  
4 that the Commission will thoughtfully review the EQ AZ maps  
5 that have been submitted by that community.

6 Thank you for your time.

7 SPEAKER ANGSTER: Good afternoon, Commissioner, and  
8 Commissions.

9 My name is Bonnie Angster. I have lived in Sun  
10 City for 27 years; it is my full-time residence, it is my  
11 home. Over the years my efforts have been made to seek the  
12 welfare of Sun City as I am doing so now.

13 Upon hearing the proposal to divide Sun City at  
14 Bell Road, placing the city in two separate congressional  
15 districts, I stand in opposition to such an action.

16 The northern part of Sun City has no identity with  
17 a rural area; nor does the southern part of Sun City have an  
18 identification with metro Phoenix.

19 Let me detail the uniqueness of Sun City. It is an  
20 active adult retirement community of nearly 38,000 residents  
21 according to the 2010 census; the average age, 75; desiring  
22 like-minded amenities.

23 Many residents are now on fixed incomes enjoying  
24 the benefits of affordable housing, close-by healthcare,  
25 facilities, and camaraderie of age-related activities of

1 recreation.

2 Often outside communities look upon Sun City that  
3 we are all nearly wheelchair bound. That is not true.  
4 We're not dead yet.

5 (Applause.)

6 Thank you.

7 The emphasis is active adults contributing to the  
8 city known as the "city of volunteers," and active adults  
9 contributing to other parts of the surrounding communities  
10 as well. Including myself, I actually work with the Air  
11 Force people from Luke Air Force Base.

12 Many of the residents are civic minded aiding to  
13 the self government of the Sun City, which is an  
14 unincorporated community.

15 Sun City boundaries: north, Beardsley; to the  
16 south, Olive Avenue is a contiguous community. Let me say  
17 that again. It is a contiguous community.

18 As a retirement community, we no longer are raising  
19 families, we have little income, and with the split that is  
20 proposed with surrounding suburbs, it is in the best  
21 interest of Sun City to be placed together in one whole  
22 community, in one congressional district and legislative  
23 district. I urge the board to keep Sun City intact enabling  
24 residents remaining strong in supporting one another in the  
25 years to come.

1 Thank you for your time.

2 (Applause.)

3 SPEAKER VAN STEENWYK: Good evening. I'm Clair  
4 Van Steenwyk, a retired former executive in the food  
5 industry, I handled marketing logistics and demographics  
6 throughout all of California.

7 And all I will say is what the young lady just said  
8 behind -- that spoke previous to me, I agree with. When you  
9 start taking certain districts, especially in the West  
10 Valley, and breaking them apart like Sun City where  
11 everybody goes to the same club, same meetings, same  
12 everything, it becomes kind of like taking a school and  
13 dividing it into first through third and fourth  
14 through sixth and you can't play together anymore. It  
15 doesn't work. It never will.

16 The same is true of LD-29 now -- or what was LD-22.  
17 You finally brought back Sun City Festival into the home  
18 where I used to live and I had to move from to get back into  
19 LD-4 which is now 22 because, quite frankly, the distance  
20 from where LD-13 met, was too far for most people in  
21 Sun City Festival to go to the meeting.

22 But the same is true of Tartesso. You've now  
23 decided to put Tartesso into LD-29, which is almost 30 miles  
24 away from here, when a much better fit would be to put it in  
25 LD-23; and you've also taken some of the northern part of

1 Biscuit -- or whatever that's really called up there -- and  
2 stuck it in LD-29, while taking away something just north of  
3 Sun City West; that you've given to somebody else, and you  
4 shoot us farther up north. It makes no logistic sense at  
5 all, and I did this for a living.

6 But one thing that is disturbing -- that's all I'm  
7 going to say about this.

8 One thing that disturbed me in sitting through  
9 this -- because I had other things I wanted to say, is I've  
10 listened to number of speakers come up here and talk about  
11 locations and we need two congressmen -- and we do in the  
12 West Valley, I have no doubt of that because of the  
13 growth -- and other mentions of Sun City, Sun City West,  
14 Surprise, I agree with all of that.

15 I've heard from all of these people talk about  
16 logistics, demographics, like-minded this and that; and then  
17 I've heard another group of people talk about we need  
18 special districts just for ethnic mixes. I don't know how  
19 with good conscious everybody can forget what we're supposed  
20 to be about.

21 I lived in the -- I was born in the '40s, lived  
22 through the '50s and '60s; I was raised in a community that  
23 was not segregated in California, I went to school with  
24 Asians, non-Hispanic, non-Black children, and Hispanic  
25 children; we didn't have any Blacks in that community that I

1 know of in that part of California, although they finally  
2 did move east from LA now.

3 We weren't segregated. We got along with each  
4 other. We voted together. We had potluck dinners together  
5 in our churches.

6 I take exception to people asking us in a  
7 constitutional republic to once again segregate us by saying  
8 these people have to live here so we can get representation.  
9 That is not a true fact.

10 (Applause.)

11 I don't find it to be a fact in Sun City West where  
12 I live. We have a number of Hispanics and Blacks and Asians  
13 living there; we all get along very well even though we may  
14 disagree politically on certain issues. The same is true  
15 of -- the truth about California when I finally left there.

16 But for a board to decide that you need to carve  
17 out special interest groups because of somebody's former  
18 nationality is abhorrent to me as an American because that's  
19 what I am. My ancestry comes from Europe, but I am an  
20 American, I'm not a hyphenated American. And I believe for  
21 any board, group or set group of people to decide that you  
22 need to carve out some little niche somewhere in this  
23 country or in the middle of a city to once again reinstitute  
24 segregation -- political segregation is wrong. It's not the  
25 American way. It's not "we the people."

1 (Applause.)

2 Remember, we are equal. If you want something  
3 changed, run for office --

4 MS. VAN HAREN: That's time.

5 SPEAKER VAN STEENWYK: -- as I have done.

6 I will say this to you, I know in LD-22 where I now  
7 live, we don't have one representative that's retired, even  
8 though that person represen- -- these three people represent  
9 a whole lot of retired people. Not very well at times, but  
10 they -- they were elected.

11 That's how that works. That's a representative  
12 government. We are not supposed to be segregated by race or  
13 once again by sex.

14 MS. VAN HAREN: Can we have the next speaker,  
15 please?

16 SPEAKER VAN STEENWYK: Pardon me?

17 (Chorus of boos.)

18 MS. VAN HAREN: All right. I will remind the  
19 audience --

20 SPEAKER VAN STEENWYK: No, I -- I --

21 MS. VAN HAREN: -- that you are to follow proper  
22 decorum and --

23 SPEAKER VAN STEENWYK: I didn't hear what you said,  
24 ma'am.

25 MS. VAN HAREN: I just said that was your time, can

1           you wrap up and we --

2                       SPEAKER VAN STEENWYK: Yeah, I'm going to wrap up  
3 right now.

4                       That's my only point. I hope all of you keep in  
5 mind that's what's America -- what makes our country great  
6 is our differences, and the best way for that to make us one  
7 again completely is to join together, live together, discuss  
8 things together, possibly not always agree; but please don't  
9 segregate us into little voting blocs where politicians  
10 quite honestly get control and we all -- all of us, no  
11 matter the color of our skin or whatever else you want to  
12 call us -- don't get treated fairly.

13                      Don't pit one person against another. Let us look  
14 as a bloc as Americans and Americans only. That's the only  
15 way this country is going to move forward.

16                      God bless you and you thank you for your time.

17                      (Applause.)

18                      CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Thank you.

19                      We -- we hear everyone.

20                      So, please, next speaker. Thank you. We hear you.

21                      SPEAKER VAN STEENWYK: Pardon me?

22                      HEARING OFFICER NEUBERG: I am just saying we hear  
23 each and every speaker. Next speaker.

24                      Thank you very much for sharing.

25                      Thank you.



1           SPEAKER GRAVES: Ladies and gentlemen of the  
2 Commission, my name is William Graves. I believe I'm the  
3 only speaker up here so far not as representing somebody,  
4 some organization, or some political viewpoint.

5           I'm here as an individual.

6           Today I found out there was this meeting; wasn't  
7 very well advertised, the public doesn't know about it that  
8 much. They don't know what you're doing.

9           I was surprised that I've -- my community, which is  
10 Sun City West, and the good portion of the western valley  
11 has been combined with an extremely large area that is  
12 completely different in structure and, yet, we're expected  
13 to have the same representative. I don't believe this is an  
14 effective way of getting representation to the individuals  
15 of both areas.

16           The true nature of counties, La Paz and Mohave, are  
17 completely different from the western -- West Valley here.  
18 I'm concerned that the effective representation will not be  
19 there.

20           Primary interest -- or the best interest somebody  
21 can have is self-interest, and I'm afraid that can be  
22 carried on to an extreme. Somebody who comes from one of  
23 these counties has -- does not have the same viewpoints,  
24 they don't have the same exposures on a daily basis to know  
25 what is necessary. Conversely, somebody in the western

1 valley here, certainly is not going to know what the needs  
2 for somebody in Lake Havasu or Mesquite. I don't believe  
3 they're going to be effective either way.

4 I believe this plan needs to be modified, and I am  
5 asking you to consider doing so. Simply before -- because I  
6 believe the effectiveness of representation simply will not  
7 be there.

8 Thank you very much.

9 (Applause.)

10 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Thank you very much. And,  
11 you know, as we're discussing these lines and it's deep and  
12 it's intense, you know, let's all remember the grid map that  
13 the Commission approved on September 4th is entirely  
14 arbitrary based on equal population, and the Commission has  
15 barely begun adjusting the lines.

16 So the information is so helpful, but -- but you  
17 don't have to be worried that these are anywhere  
18 representative of final lines.

19 So I just wanted to reassure everybody that this is  
20 a work in progress and we have many, many more days of  
21 deliberation to be incorporating the very feedback we're  
22 hearing.

23 Thank you.

24 With that, I don't know how many more -- we're  
25 going to have a break.

1                   So with that, we'd like to give our  
2 transcriptionist a five-minute break, the public as well.  
3 We'll reconvene and we will resume speakers here and in our  
4 satellite location.

5                   So five minutes, please.

6                   (Recess taken from 5:47 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

7

8                   MS. VAN HAREN: Okay. I think we're going to go  
9 ahead and get started again. We're going to send it over to  
10 Flagstaff.

11                   Flagstaff, if you can hear me. I want to reiterate  
12 there's an interpreter at every single location. So if  
13 anybody needs an interpreter, please see a member of our  
14 staff.

15                   Thank you.

16                   MS. VAN HAREN: And I don't know if Flagstaff heard  
17 me, but we are getting started, and we're going to throw it  
18 over to Flagstaff now.

19                   MS. NEUMANN: Thank you.

20                   Our first speaker, we have Holli Ploog, Kathy  
21 Kinsella, and Michele James.

22                   SPEAKER PLOOG: Thank you very much.

23                   My name is Holli Ploog, and I am a council member  
24 for the city of Sedona; and nice to see you again,  
25 Chairwoman Neuberg and Commissioner Lerner, I testified in

1 Prescott, and I really want to thank you for your listening  
2 to what we had to say about the difficulty in using the  
3 system and for the changes that you made allowing for  
4 single-district maps and some other things that we had asked  
5 you for. We really, really appreciate that you heard us and  
6 you quickly adapted the system to make it much easier for  
7 the public to be able to comment, you know, and to send maps  
8 and -- and paper maps as well.

9 We really appreciate your work. And I've been  
10 listening to the meetings this week where there was a lot of  
11 progress made in Northern Arizona, and I think it's really  
12 headed in the right direction. This is important and  
13 historic work, as you know, and it's clear that you've been  
14 listening to our constituents.

15 When we testified in Sedona during the listening  
16 tour, the vast majority of the local residents who spoke  
17 really emphasized the community of interest to include  
18 Sedona and the Verde Valley and Flagstaff, and the maps that  
19 you're working on recognizes those communities of interest.  
20 So thank you very much, and we hope they stay that way as  
21 you work towards your final draft maps.

22 My colleague Kassie -- Kathy Kinsella will be  
23 reading a statement that was approved by the Sedona City  
24 Council this past week, communicating the necessity to keep  
25 Sedona within one congressional and one legislative

1 district. It would be devastating to our small community to  
2 be in two legislative districts as the grid map indicates;  
3 but, as I said, in Prescott, I know you would take care of  
4 that, and it was just that the grid maps were drawn around  
5 county lines.

6 We also think it's important to keep cities  
7 together and districts wherever possible; and knowing  
8 Phoenix and Tucson are not possible, Flagstaff is, and so we  
9 support keeping Flagstaff together as a whole city in one  
10 district.

11 We ask that you continue to adhere to the request  
12 of the city of Sedona, to put us together with communities  
13 in the Verde Valley and Yavapai Apache Nation. We have a  
14 working group, we meet every month, it's called an Intergov,  
15 and we work on community issues that are common within our  
16 communities; and so to be in different legislative or  
17 congressional districts would really impede our ability to  
18 work across our city -- our small rural city lines and  
19 unincorporated areas as well.

20 So we thank you for your service and thank you for  
21 allowing Flagstaff to come and testify today, and we really  
22 appreciate it.

23 Thank you.

24 SPEAKER KINSELLA: Thank you.

25 Thank you, Chair Neuberg and Commissioners, I am

1 Kathy Kinsella. I am a council member for the City of  
2 Sedona; and as my colleague, council member Ploog said, the  
3 City of Sedona did present testimony at the IRC Commission  
4 hearing on July 27th. In that testimony, which was ably  
5 presented by our Deputy City Manager Joanne Keene, the city  
6 did request that it be kept intact in both the congressional  
7 district and the legislative district, and specifically  
8 asked first and foremost that the city be kept intact and  
9 not split by county lines. The city also requested an  
10 outcome that maintains the Verde Valley cities of Sedona,  
11 the Village of Oak Creek, Cottonwood, Camp Verde, Jerome,  
12 and Clarkdale, as well as the Yavapai Apache Nation together  
13 within congress- -- congressional and legislative districts.

14 The IRC has now released draft district grid  
15 maps -- and I understand again, thank you, that you're  
16 working on those, but as the basis, we did come forth with  
17 this statement.

18 The preliminary congressional state grid map  
19 represents the city of Sedona intact in what would become  
20 Congressional District 2. It also maintains the  
21 relationships that Sedona has with its neighboring  
22 communities with which it shares business and economic  
23 interests, residential housing opportunities, healthcare  
24 providers and facilities, transportation corridors and  
25 infrastructure, cultural and educational institutions, and

1 many other long-term alliances, as well as our shared  
2 history, natural resources, and physical features.

3 The preliminary legislative district grid map  
4 represents the city of Sedona, though, as split between two  
5 legislative districts which removes a portion of our city  
6 and its residents from the relationship and bounds that I  
7 just listed.

8 The City of Sedona requests reconsideration to  
9 proposed legislative district boundaries. We ask that the  
10 city of Sedona be kept intact to ensure our residents can  
11 continue to speak with one voice as one community.

12 We further ask that our city be kept with  
13 neighboring communities listed above so that our region may  
14 have unified representation in matters before the state.

15 We request respect for our communities of interest  
16 and geographic area.

17 We seek an outcome that recognizes the importance  
18 of aligning our city with our neighboring communities that  
19 have similar common interest; representation and community  
20 voice are the ideals at the heart of independent  
21 redistricting. A voice that is inclusive of our  
22 intrinsically bound communities is essential to the  
23 representation that Sedona deserves.

24 We would be happy to provide any documentation that  
25 might be helpful to your review. Again, we very much

1 appreciate the Independent Redistricting Commission's  
2 consideration of our request.

3 Thank you.

4 SPEAKER JAMES: Hello, Commissioners. I'm Michele  
5 James, Executive Director of Friends of Flagstaff's Future,  
6 also known as F<sup>3</sup>. As a Flagstaff-focused non-profit, we  
7 have been advocating for the well-being and sustainability of  
8 the community for 26 years. We appreciate the opportunity  
9 to comment directly to the IRC about the adopted grid maps.

10 One of the criteria the Commission will be using as  
11 a guide for new grid maps includes the incorporation of  
12 visible geographic features, including city boundaries. F<sup>3</sup>  
13 would like to see redistricting maps result in boundaries  
14 that keep the greater Flagstaff area in one and the same  
15 district.

16 We encourage the Commission to review the greater  
17 Flagstaff -- to view the greater Flagstaff area as a  
18 community of interest. Of particular concern to the greater  
19 Flagstaff area are ecological changes due to climate change,  
20 increasing -- including increasing wildfire intensity and  
21 size, forest and watershed health, flooding and the  
22 availability of water. These are issues that other nearby  
23 communities also share.

24 Additional issues that unite the greater Flagstaff  
25 area and nearby communities include the lack of affordable



1 housing for our workforce, the impact of short-term rentals  
2 and second homes, high housing costs, and the imperative to  
3 reduce our carbon commission -- our carbon emissions.

4 F<sup>3</sup> respectfully requests that these issues and  
5 needs are seriously considered when designating the district  
6 boundaries that include the greater Flagstaff community of  
7 interest. It's imperative to the future of Flagstaff that  
8 our community, with our specific issues and needs, is  
9 represented in Congress and the legislature.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. NEUMANN: Our next three speakers are Marilyn  
12 Weissman, Ray Bladine, and Julie Pindola -- Pindzola.

13 SPEAKER WEISSMAN: Hi. My name is Marilyn  
14 Weissman, I'm a Flagstaff resident. Thank you for giving us  
15 another opportunity to comment on the workings of the  
16 Commission.

17 Previously, I spoke to the Commission regarding  
18 Flagstaff's desire for representation in the state  
19 legislature that reflects the issues important to our town:  
20 tourism, growth and affordability, water resource protection  
21 and availability, reducing the threat of forest fires, and  
22 climate change to name the most precedent.

23 We need to be combined in our legislative districts  
24 with neighbors that are grappling with these same issues and  
25 that are connected to us geographically and culturally. I

1 was pleased to see that your test map and the grid map kept  
2 together all of the greater Flagstaff area and combined it  
3 with the Verde Valley. The lands in Northern Arizona south  
4 of us and lying east of Mingus Mountain share a lot in  
5 common with Flagstaff. These common interests stretch up to  
6 the south rim of the Grand Canyon, which unfortunately was  
7 not included in your proposed map version of our legislative  
8 district.

9 In the Verde Valley through Flagstaff and to the  
10 south rim of the Grand Canyon is a corridor, beautiful  
11 river, canyons, and mountains that all are residing here  
12 play and commute within. When friends and family visit me,  
13 these are the areas I take them to and consider our home. I  
14 would like to see this area become politically cohesive so  
15 we may lobby for the issues important to us.

16 Regarding the CD test and grid map for our area,  
17 I'm concerned that by including Prescott and Flagstaff both  
18 together, the strength of the Native American vote will be  
19 severely diluted, and this will potentially violate the  
20 Voting Rights Act. Prescott and Flagstaff should be in  
21 separate congressional districts.

22 Thank you.

23 SPEAKER BLADINE: I appreciate having shorter  
24 people ahead of me, I don't have to put the mic up or down.

25 Madam Chairwoman, Commission members, Vice Chairman

1 Watchman, I came with a list of things I wanted to talk  
2 about, but as I sat at this meeting, I realized a lot of  
3 them had been taken care of, so I'm not going to talk about  
4 them.

5 The first thing I'd like to say is I cannot believe  
6 how different this meeting is here than when I was here 10,  
7 11 years ago as the executive director, and I managed to  
8 mess up, and I didn't get a commissioner here, so I  
9 basically had to make the presentations until we could get a  
10 commissioner, and then he was in his kitchen; so I was lucky  
11 I didn't get fired.

12 I'm very impressed the changes you've made since  
13 you've got started. I believe you're now handling  
14 competitiveness as it should be; that's always been an  
15 issue. The tendency has been for people to -- in the  
16 Republican districts to say, "Well, that's a lesser thing,"  
17 people in Democratic districts saying "No, it isn't."

18 I'm going to give you my personal view because I  
19 think it affects government in Arizona, and that is if the  
20 decisions for who is going to be the leaders of our  
21 community are made in the primary elections in safe  
22 districts, it helps divide us; because the people are not  
23 electing their leaders, they are being given their leaders  
24 based upon partisan politics.

25 And I do believe that what we've seen in Arizona as

1 much as the last Commission pushed competitiveness is that  
2 we still have too many legislative districts where the  
3 decision is made in the preliminary election, and I would  
4 urge you to please think about that as you follow the  
5 constitution.

6 Second thing is, I'm sure you already have had a  
7 lot of pressure from the political parties, people that have  
8 an ax to grind in terms of the districts. All I can say to  
9 you is: I know that's tough; remember your constitution  
10 responsibilities and follow them; and you certainly seem to  
11 me that you're trying hard to do that.

12 The third thing is reaching out to minority and  
13 low-income areas. While it is nice to have satellite  
14 meetings and, well, it's nice to have things available over  
15 the Internet, there are a lot of people that don't have the  
16 Internet or have to work to get to the Internet. So I'm  
17 very pleased to see you reaching out to various communities  
18 and holding meetings in areas where you make it easier for  
19 minority and low-income people to show up.

20 You can't expect -- from my experience in  
21 government and many years working in the inner city, you  
22 can't expect people who are working to keep food in their  
23 mouth and keep housing, to make a lot of extra effort to get  
24 to meetings, so I think it's your responsibility to go to  
25 them. I think you've made some recent changes and some work

1 with minority community leaders and you're doing that, and  
2 for that I -- I thank you.

3 And I just want to say: I know it's a terrible  
4 job, I'm very glad you took it, we need it done, and I think  
5 you're off to a good start.

6 Thank you very much.

7 (Applause.)

8 SPEAKER PINDZOLA: Thank you Independent  
9 Redistricting Commission Commissioners for making yourselves  
10 available again to receive first-hand testimony on this most  
11 important project.

12 I'm here today to make my request in  
13 Flagstaff/Coconino, though I live in Prescott/Yavapai  
14 County.

15 I'm Julie Pindzola. I have submitted my draft maps  
16 for your consideration, LD 0015, if you can put that up, is  
17 my sincere effort as bringing some competitive -- retaining  
18 competitiveness in Northern Arizona.

19 Thank you again, too, for the added mapping  
20 flexibility and enhancements. They're very, very much  
21 appreciated.

22 Yavapai County has two sub regions of note. On the  
23 west is Central Yavapai quad cities you've heard about many  
24 times, that central Yavapai County stops at Mingus Mountain;  
25 from there eastward is the second sub region, which is the

1 Verde Valley and the communities of Cottonwood, Jerome, Camp  
2 Verde, Cornville, Sedona and Oak Creek, about 65,000 people  
3 when you take in unincorporated areas.

4 Central Yavapai is unique with its official -- my  
5 home turf, with its official Central Yavapai Metropolitan  
6 Planning Organization whose boundary stops west of  
7 Mingus Mountain. They recognize Mingus Mountain as a  
8 divide.

9 The Verde Valley has its own regional planning  
10 organization so that they can control their own decisions;  
11 they have their representation that way. The Verde Valley  
12 has its own regional courts, jail, college campus, hospital  
13 system; they are their own large-scale community of  
14 interest.

15 Water resource management also stops at  
16 Mingus Mountain. The Prescott Active Management Area  
17 designated by the Arizona Department of Water Resources  
18 overlays Central Yavapai County. It does not include the  
19 Verde Valley. They each have different aquifers and  
20 different water management structures. Please acknowledge  
21 this and keep them in their currently separate LD and CDs.

22 The Verde Valley contributes to a competitive  
23 adjacent CD-1. If you lump them together with the rest of  
24 Yavapai County, you create two red districts instead of a  
25 red and purple which we have now. We Independents want

1 quality choices on your ballots; we want there to be a real  
2 competition and not just safe districts that are  
3 predetermined at the primaries.

4 We know some districts like LD-1 and CD-4 of  
5 Central Yavapai County cannot easily be made competitive.  
6 That's why we implore you to keep the whole of Arizona fair  
7 and competitive as Prop 106 sets out.

8 It's my belief that indivisible -- sorry invisible  
9 county boundaries used as district boundaries can strain the  
10 goal of competitiveness and true communities of interest,  
11 and I know many of that to be true. Excuse me.

12 Given the whole of Yavapai, two Congress people and  
13 four state legislators will be more, not less, responsive to  
14 the citizens.

15 Thank you very much.

16 MS. NEUMANN: Our next two speakers are Laura  
17 Huenneke and Thomas Broderick.

18 SPEAKER HUENNEKE: Thank you, Commissioners, for  
19 the opportunity to speak and thank you, Vice Chair Watchman,  
20 for being here with us in person.

21 My name is Laura Huenneke. I submitted map LDF 005  
22 for a legislative district here in Northern Arizona that  
23 links communities and regions with similar natural and  
24 physical environments, similar economic dependence on  
25 tourism and outdoor recreation, and a shared predominance of

1 national parks and national forests.

2 This proposed district links Flagstaff, Sedona,  
3 Cottonwood, most of the Verde Valley as you've heard several  
4 times tonight which share many interests and stresses; it  
5 links these communities to similar forest recreation  
6 vacation-based communities to the east like Pine,  
7 Strawberry, Pinetop; by stretching to the state's  
8 northwestern corner, it incorporates both the south and the  
9 north rims of Grand Canyon and the national recreation areas  
10 along Lake Mead and Lake Mohave.

11 This westward extension also brings in the Kaibab  
12 Paiute, the Havasupai, and the entirety of Hualapai tribal  
13 lands and links those groups to Flagstaff, and it's strong  
14 indigenous connections.

15 But, importantly, the plan carves out the  
16 Navajo Nation portion of the Eastern Coconino County so the  
17 Navajo Nation could be kept whole in another legislative  
18 district.

19 This districts excludes Prescott itself. As the  
20 prior speaker just described, the Pres- -- Prescott  
21 groundwater active management area provides a discrete  
22 boundary based on watersheds, and also sets Prescott apart  
23 economically and politically from this proposed district.

24 And this district does not incorporate any portion  
25 of Maricopa County.



1           Finally, it appears to be relatively competitive  
2 politically according to your adopted metrics.

3           In sum, this proposal illustrates the feasibility  
4 of a relatively compact rural legislative district in  
5 Northern Arizona that's responsive to the wish of Flagstaff,  
6 Sedona, and Verde Valley folks to be connected, that links  
7 communities with shared interests in natural environment and  
8 the outdoors recreation economy, that uses natural and  
9 governmental geographic features for boundaries, and that it  
10 acknowledges the importance of keeping Navajo Nation whole  
11 while also be relatively competitive to maximize our chances  
12 for fair representation and attention.

13           Thank you for listening to our input.

14           SPEAKER BRODERICK: Good evening, Commissioners.  
15 Thank you. My name is Tom Broderick; I'm a 25-year resident  
16 in Flagstaff -- and taller than the other speakers.

17           The map -- the map that shows what the points I'm  
18 going to make are listed as Ryan 1084. That map has been  
19 submitted, but you may have not have it yet, or you may not  
20 have uploaded it.

21           We appreciate that Flagstaff and Verde Valley were  
22 combined together; and one of the maps that you have, the LD  
23 Test 1 shows that you got some of the four valley corridor  
24 which has been brought up in our -- in the last meeting that  
25 I was also at; but the -- the map for this legislative

1 district, we support going -- I support going right up to  
2 the south rim of the canyon because that allows you to tie  
3 the tourist economy of the Grand Canyon with Flagstaff which  
4 is the gateway.

5 And the other point that I wanted to make on the --  
6 on the congressional district -- that's legislative  
7 district.

8 The congressional district, you have a map that  
9 shows it going down to the Mexico border, and that  
10 incorporates a group -- a community that is obviously a  
11 border community, but that those -- there are two districts  
12 that have a lot of border mileage, and there's no need to  
13 have a CD -- that CD -- what you call 2, going to the Mexico  
14 border because the border communities should be held  
15 together.

16 So the -- the illustration, though, of the map for  
17 Ryan 1084 shows that it also incorporates in that district  
18 quite a few Native American communities, and we -- I'd also  
19 support having, as the indigenous communities have already  
20 said, they would like to be held together to the maximum  
21 extent possible, and that certainly is something that I -- I  
22 would support as well.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. NEUMANN: We'll go back to Surprise for a bit  
25 now.

1 MR. PENA: Thank you. Our next speakers are  
2 Brendon Walsh, Marilyn Wilbur, Ann Fener, Patti Cipro, and  
3 David Gilbreth.

4 SPEAKER WALSH: Good evening, Chairs [verbatim] and  
5 Commissioner, my name is Brendon Walsh; I'm the executive  
6 director of an organization called CASE, Central Arizonans  
7 for Stimulating Economy. We've been around for ten years  
8 now, and we do a lot to engage people in the civic process:  
9 voter registration, citizenship, all kinds of saf- --  
10 excuse, testifying at city council, things like this that  
11 people are nervous to do. So I'm glad to be here.

12 Our interest is largely along with others, first of  
13 all, in preserving the -- the Voting Rights Act districts of  
14 majority-minority districts, I believe we have two  
15 congressional and eight legislative. We're very much in  
16 support of keeping these together. Most of the people we  
17 work with live in places like Legislative District 19, 29,  
18 27, and we feel like the communities of interest are held  
19 together very well there; and so we hope that that will be  
20 something that stays taken into account.

21 I think in general I'm not going to respond too  
22 much to the grid maps because they are so tentative as you  
23 said, but I want to talk about something different.

24 We also work a lot in other areas. I live in LD --  
25 Legislative District 20, which I think is a particularly

1 interesting place. It's a place where it is a competitive  
2 district. I think the competitiveness is important; but I  
3 live at 35th Avenue and Thunderbird, my kids' school is the  
4 most diverse school that I've seen. It has African-American  
5 students, African refugee students, Latino students and --  
6 Anglo students.

7 If you -- if we were to lose our association with  
8 people south of us like, let's say, Peoria, Cactus, Dunlap  
9 to northern, we would be in almost an exclusively white  
10 district, right? And it would be -- it would be, frankly, a  
11 lot less competitive in that respect.

12 So I think -- I think if you think about the  
13 communities around Metrocenter; you can think also of the  
14 Black Canyon High School up to Sunnyslope, there's Latino  
15 communities that don't necessarily -- wouldn't be easily  
16 grabbed into places like Legislative District 20 or 30 or --  
17 or 29, which are largely Latino; but that heavily Latino  
18 areas are market class areas, and I think they are better  
19 served being in competitive districts where there is a  
20 diversity of constituents, and where folks have a chance to  
21 really -- you know, there's a lot of compromise and there's  
22 a lot of give and take that needs to take -- that needs to  
23 happen in order to be properly legislative.

24 I can't remember, one of the other speakers spoke  
25 about competitiveness in this exact way about not having

1 things decided before the primary and -- or, in the primary.  
2 And I think outside of the areas where we want to have  
3 majority-minority districts as indicated by the Voting  
4 Rights Act, we really do hope to have competitiveness and  
5 diverse districts while keeping, you know, my case, very  
6 working class communities together.

7 So we thank you for this process. We'll be  
8 participating in further hearings.

9 I did have one question is that we -- we would like  
10 to submit grid maps once there is some consensus amongst --  
11 not grid maps -- draft maps once there is consensus among  
12 folks about what the majority-minority districts are. Is  
13 the deadline to submit maps tomorrow or is there a further  
14 deadline? Because we've heard one thing from staff and  
15 other things from other people.

16 Thank you very much for time.

17 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: There are no deadlines to  
18 submit maps. You may want to pay attention to the  
19 Commission deliberation schedule --

20 SPEAKER WALSH: Right.

21 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: -- because we will be  
22 adjusting lines. We may end up concluding with a draft map  
23 as early as October 21st --

24 SPEAKER WALSH: That's right.

25 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: -- as late as -- well, I

1 don't want to say "as late as," but aspirationally, we  
2 certainly hope we have lines at the end of October.

3 Even after then, those draft maps are taken around  
4 the state for further deliberation; and -- and -- and  
5 communities and citizens are welcome to submit maps even  
6 after then.

7 SPEAKER WALSH: Okay. All right. Thank you very  
8 much.

9 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: So -- so it's going to be an  
10 ongoing process.

11 SPEAKER WALSH: Okay. Thanks so much. Thanks for  
12 your time.

13 SPEAKER WILBUR: Good evening, committee. My name  
14 is Marilyn Wilbur, and I'm a combat Air Force veteran; I'm  
15 also a resident of Surprise.

16 But I'm speaking today as a member and leader of  
17 the hospitality workers' union, UNITE HERE Local 11. UNITE  
18 HERE represents hotel workers and food service industry  
19 primarily in the city of Phoenix; the majority of us are  
20 women and people of color. The largest number of us live in  
21 West Phoenix, South Phoenix, and the area around Sky Harbor  
22 Airport.

23 At the moment our situation in the legislative  
24 districts of District 19, 27, and 29 as well as 30, keep us  
25 together with neighbors who share our economic and

1 educational as well as social interests. We hope that this  
2 stays the same.

3 But I would like to speak briefly about the element  
4 on the grid that does concern me, particularly the potential  
5 separation of the African and the African-American  
6 community. I believe the grid map separates the large Black  
7 communities in the South Phoenix, west of Central, from  
8 those who live in -- from those who live close to the  
9 airport. Being such a small portion of Arizona's  
10 population, we need a density of African and  
11 African-American residents to have a chance to choose our  
12 own representation. I hope you will take that into account.

13 We at UNITE HERE Local 11 are grateful for your  
14 work and look forward to the continued participation in this  
15 process.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: I just want to -- I want to  
19 acknowledge that comment and say thank you because the  
20 African-American community, unlike some of the other ethnic  
21 communities are not, you know, obviously in one specific  
22 geographic location; and so we want to learn, and so the  
23 more information and data you can share, I just want to say  
24 that's -- that's very helpful.

25 So, thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. PENA: Next speakers are Walter Montgomery,  
3 Richard Hale, Blair Tarman, Crystal Chaffin, and Steve Peru.

4 SPEAKER TARMAN: Good evening, Chairwoman Neuberg,  
5 Vice Chair Watchman and members of the commission.

6 My name is Blair Tarman, and I am a Native Vote  
7 Fellow at the Indian Clinic at ASU Law.

8 Communities of interest organized around religion,  
9 schools, and common industry have been discussed at length,  
10 but I'm here to discuss Arizona's communities of interest  
11 that predate Arizona: The State's 22 federally recognized  
12 tribes.

13 American Indian tribes, according to law, are  
14 sovereign nations with unique rights and political status  
15 while also being racial and ethnic minorities. Within the  
16 boundaries of 20 reservations in the state of Arizona,  
17 tribes provide most of the governmental functions and  
18 sustain day-to-day life. These geographic boundaries are  
19 paramount and entitled to respect when drawing district  
20 boundaries.

21 In light of these considerations, a reservation  
22 should not be separated into multiple districts unless a  
23 tribe specifically requests division. Courts have  
24 recognized reservations as communities of interest, and the  
25 District of Arizona has stated that Native voters should not



1 be engulfed in a structure that minimizes their potential  
2 for political process.

3 The Voting Rights Act instructs this Commission to  
4 use its lawful discretion to protect the interest of the  
5 only Native American majority-minority legislative district  
6 in Arizona. In 2016, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld  
7 legislative -- Arizona's legislative map because the maps  
8 were drawn in a good-faith effort to comply with the Voting  
9 Rights Act. The Court affirmed that total population  
10 deviations of 10 percent or less are presumptively  
11 constitutional.

12 We know that Arizona tribal communities were  
13 undercounted in the 2020 census. Arizona has the highest  
14 number of Native Americans living in hard-to-count census  
15 tracts, with 68.1 percent of the state's Native population  
16 living in such areas.

17 In addition to living in hard-to-count areas,  
18 poverty increases the likelihood of being undercounted. In  
19 Arizona, 35 percent of Native Americans live in poverty  
20 compared to the state average of 14.9 percent. Lack of  
21 access to basic infrastructure also contributes to the  
22 undercount.

23 Undercounting is detrimental to tribal communities  
24 and ultimately results in Native voters being denied  
25 adequate representation and the ability to elect candidates

1 of their choice. A balance must be struck to satisfy  
2 one-person, one-vote while protecting Native American voters  
3 in the redistricting process.

4 During the last redistricting cycle, the Commission  
5 approved a legislative district to strengthen the ability of  
6 Native Americans to elect their candidates of choice under  
7 the Voting Rights Act. Today the Voting Rights Act  
8 instructs the Commission to continue to protect the strength  
9 of the Native vote.

10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 SPEAKER CHAFFIN: Hello. My name is Crystal  
13 Chaffin, I'm a member of the governing board for Dysart  
14 Unified School District, and I'm also a precinct  
15 committeeman for Legislative District 21.

16 And I would just like to oppose what you're  
17 proposing to do to LD-21. For us precinct committeemen, it  
18 would be really difficult for us to get up to Kingman or for  
19 Kingman to get down to us for our meetings; and as what  
20 you're doing with Congressional District 8, too, separating  
21 Sun City into two separate parts and separating Sun City  
22 from Sun City West, what you are doing, in your nonpartisan,  
23 is you are taking the highly conservative areas and divvying  
24 them up into largely more liberal or left areas. This is  
25 what you're doing, and I'm calling you out.

1                   Okay? This is not okay.

2                   And I'd also like to know why you cut off  
3 Mr. Van Steenwyk when you seemed to let every other person  
4 ramble on for 5 to 10 minutes. I would like to know why you  
5 only cut him off and not some of the other speakers?

6                   (Brief pause.)

7                   CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: I'd like you to please just  
8 continue your comments. I'd -- I'd like to learn from --  
9 from what you would like to share with us.

10                  Thank you.

11                  SPEAKER CHAFFIN: I would like to share with you  
12 not to break up Sun City, Sun City West, LD-21; I would like  
13 for you not to include our district in with Kingman; and I  
14 would like for you keep our districts as they are and not  
15 split up our conservative areas so that they will turn blue.

16                  And I would still like an answer for the question  
17 on Mr. Van Steenwyk. Can you please tell me why you only  
18 cut him off and you didn't cut anyone else off?

19                  CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: I have no response to that.  
20 I would like to remind you that all maps as of this point  
21 are -- are quite arbitrary, and so I encourage the public to  
22 please not draw too many conclusions based on lines. It's a  
23 work in progress.

24                  And with that, I'd like to ask for the next  
25 speaker.

1                   SPEAKER CHAFFIN: Thank very much. Those are my  
2 conclusions.

3                   And I would like the record to show that I did not  
4 get my question answered.

5                   (Applause.)

6                   MR. PENA: Our next speakers are Trey Terry,  
7 Timothy Schwartz, Cathy White, Rick Gray, and Ralph Johnson.

8                   SPEAKER TERRY: Hello, Madam Chair, Commissioners.

9                   My name is Trey Terry. I am actually serve on the  
10 governing board of the Agua Fria Union High School District,  
11 which is Southwest Valley. I live in Goodyear; it includes  
12 the communities of Litchfield Park, Goodyear, Avondale,  
13 Buckeye, Waddell.

14                   And last time the Commission did some work on our  
15 area -- my district contains five high schools, about almost  
16 10,000 students, so it's quite a large populace area -- we  
17 got split into four different legislative districts just in  
18 our little neighborhoods. And keep in mind, my high school  
19 district is over 60 years old; it represents one of the  
20 older communities out here in the Southwest Valley. When I  
21 say "out here," I would argue that we are different than  
22 Northwest Valley of Surprise and Sun City.

23                   So I would just like to advocate for keeping the  
24 Southwest Valley together, those communities of Buckeye,  
25 Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Waddell.

1           And that kind of relates into my second and final  
2 point which is actually going to be about Yuma.

3           Yuma County likes to argue that they, you know,  
4 want to be split even though they are a, you know, almost  
5 the population needed for a legislative district. They  
6 argue kind of in one voice that they like the extra  
7 representation.

8           Well, however, my communities have kind of been  
9 victim to that practice because when you leave that area you  
10 have to travel over a hundred miles of barren desert and go  
11 somewhere; and that has, over the last ten years, has been  
12 the Southwest Valley. To where I live in the city of  
13 Goodyear, which actually is the same population as the city  
14 of Yuma, however the city of Goodyear is one of the fastest  
15 growing cities in the entire country. Buckeye right next  
16 door is the fastest in the entire country and the entire  
17 state.

18           And the city of Goodyear, at any point in time, has  
19 never had more than one resident serving in the legislature;  
20 Yuma County has had at times as many as four.

21           So I would argue that the county of Yuma, you know,  
22 they are not making an argument based on the constitution  
23 criteria for redistricting. They're not talking -- you  
24 know, they're arguing as a community of interest. It  
25 doesn't make geographic sense to go hundreds of miles across

1           barren desert elsewhere.

2                   And, you know, when -- when you do that, you  
3           disenfranchise other communities. So I would like to ask  
4           for the Southwest Valley to kind of remain together as we  
5           were, you know, more than ten years ago. Also Yuma County,  
6           I believe would be a majority-minority district, so it would  
7           meet the qualifications of a VRA district.

8                   So that's just my input. In the Southwest Valley  
9           we've been -- we got chopped up pretty badly in the past;  
10          and as a school board member, you know, having four  
11          different legislative districts where we only make up a very  
12          tiny sliver of any of those districts. So I would argue  
13          that's a case where being split up isn't helpful. It  
14          doesn't mean that I have 12 different legislators looking  
15          out for us.

16                   My state representative -- I live 20 minutes from  
17          Downtown Phoenix. My state representative lives closer to  
18          Sea World in San Diego than he does to me. I see him maybe  
19          two or three times during election season, despite being of  
20          same party, and I'm an elected official within his district.

21                   I would just like you to keep that in mind when it  
22          comes to the Southwest Valley. We're not just, you know,  
23          brand-new, growing communities, we are also old, like,  
24          long-standing communities that just have massive growth up  
25          around us. So keep in mind we are suburban; we are Maricopa

1 County, we are not rural district and -- or we are not a  
2 rural community.

3 And with that, I would like to say thank you. I  
4 know you guys are quite busy and hearing a lot, but I  
5 appreciate the time.

6 (Applause.)

7 SPEAKER SCHWARTZ: Good afternoon, Chair and  
8 members of the Commission. My name is Timothy Schwartz,  
9 chairman of Legislative District 30.

10 I was the Chair prior to the previous -- or the  
11 last redistricting and was concerned about the outcome ten  
12 years ago because the final maps were not fair and favored  
13 one political party over the other. I took consolation,  
14 however, from friends who assured me that if I waited ten  
15 years that there would be great effort to see this wrong  
16 corrected.

17 I did wait ten years. I know the maps proposed are  
18 not final; but as I look at the proposed map of LD-24,  
19 instead of correction I see a greater injustice, which is  
20 power given to one political side.

21 That's because currently our greatest strength is  
22 north of Bethany Home Road, that's where the line is drawn  
23 is at Bethany Home Road. I happen to live south of Bethany  
24 Home Road, and of our 93 members -- which I worked very hard  
25 to recruit over the years and train, organize, mobilize --

1 78 of those people live north of Bethany Home Road, and I  
2 happen to live south of Bethany Home Road.

3 As the LD chair, the current map would mean that  
4 I'm now chair of only 15 of our 93 members. I spent  
5 year- -- as I said, I spent years organizing those members.  
6 So I take -- a little disheartening that things are broken  
7 up.

8 So currently, and I know it's not final, but this  
9 current map of LD-24, the center of it's Maryvale. I've  
10 lived in current location for 58 years, and I've seen  
11 Maryvale change drastically; it's now predominately an  
12 illegal alien community even though it's always been a  
13 Hispanic community.

14 It would be very hard for us to compete politically  
15 as the current map. So I know it's not a final say, but --  
16 excuse me. I'm having trouble reading, I had eye surgery,  
17 little bit of a disability here.

18 In the last ten years, our group has tried to run  
19 for office and win a Senate seat or House race, but because  
20 of the current lines being so heavily weighted towards one  
21 party, we certainly cannot win no matter how much effort we  
22 give. Unless your Commission redraws the proposed lines  
23 giving us a fighting chance, our efforts would be vain.

24 I'd like to cite three portions of Article IV, Part  
25 2, Section 1 of the Arizona State Constitution.



1           Part D: District boundaries shall respect  
2 communities of interest to the extent practical and  
3 nothing -- or practicable; and nothing about the proposed  
4 LD-23 map is practical unless you belong to one of the two  
5 parties.

6           Part F: To the extent practicable, competitive  
7 districts shall be favored where -- where to do so would  
8 create no significant detriment to the other goals.

9           Again, forgive my vision.

10           I believe that my comments reflect that these lines  
11 are not practicable or competitive, and there will be  
12 significant detriment with the current LD-24 map.

13           Part C: Districts shall be geograph- -- I'm sorry.  
14 Excuse me.

15           Districts shall be geographically compact and  
16 contiguous to the extent practicable.

17           Let me state that it's been very difficult to work  
18 in LD-30 and govern the current LD-30 area with our area  
19 being west of I-17 freeway with only a very small strip on  
20 the other side of the freeway east of I-17. To be  
21 geographically compact, we need to fix this.

22           I'm not opposed to losing that small strip east of  
23 LD-17, but we really must have our maps moved to northern  
24 areas so that we can -- north of Bethany Home Road and  
25 towards Glendale and Northern for part of our map.

1           Again, I'm sorry for my not being able to read.

2           Anyway, I beg you. Thank you for your work, thank  
3 you for your consideration. God bless your efforts.

4           (Applause.)

5           MR. PENA: Our next speakers are Patti Fitzgerald,  
6 Bob Fitzgerald, Kenneth Moyes, Mary Ziola, and Linda Bushman  
7 [verbatim].

8           Then go ahead, sir, I'm sorry. My apologies.

9           SPEAKER JOHNSON: As with the previous gentleman, I  
10 have two eye disabilities, so I need to get my flashlight on  
11 my phone and urge you folks to have good lights up here for  
12 us.

13           My name is Ralph Johnson. I am the president of  
14 the Property Owners and Residents Association of  
15 Sun City West. We're commonly name by the acronym PORA, Sun  
16 City West PORA. We are the quasi governmental arm or our  
17 community as an unincorporated area; we interact with the  
18 legislative representatives and also very much involved in  
19 the corporate commission with regard to the utilities and  
20 working very closely with RUCO, et cetera, et cetera.

21           I want to imply that earlier a couple hours ago you  
22 said that if we could refer back to some of the previous  
23 speakers in the interest of time, to please do. I want to  
24 reference Mayor Hall from Surprise, Sun City General Manager  
25 Bill Cook, a woman by the name of Lynn Peters from Surprise

1           who made very poignant remarks, and three of my  
2           Sun City West residents who also made very appropriate  
3           remarks which will help me eliminate some of my talk.

4                     But now I want to quote: It is clear that the  
5           current proposal, if adopted, would significantly erode the  
6           important and long-standing West Valley bloc of voters by  
7           splitting Sun City and Sun City West, as well as including  
8           them in unrelated areas and people with totally different  
9           concerns and issues.

10                    In short, the people of Sun City West and Sun City,  
11           along with Surprise and other communities that have been  
12           noted, would no longer have much of a voice in legislative  
13           issues if they would be controlled by the communities --  
14           well, also the congressional districts of communities of  
15           Kingman, Yuma, and other areas such as Phoenix.

16                    Also, who in our communities would be interested in  
17           running for a legislative position considering the size and  
18           locale of the areas where they would be required to campaign  
19           and serve their citizens.

20                    The Sun City and Sun City West show of boards urge  
21           the Commission to maintain the integrity of maintaining two  
22           legislative districts for each of our communities. Our  
23           current legislators work very well together which gives us  
24           further opportunity for stronger representation for each of  
25           our communities.

1           And in closing, when I look at the industrial --  
2           congressional district map that carves out a small portion  
3           of Maricopa County, it is very visibly disproportionate to  
4           the scope of CD-9 that goes all the way up the western  
5           border of the state and all the way to the -- to the Utah  
6           line. Just seems very disproportionate and not compatible  
7           with the needs of our community.

8           I thank you for your difficult, hard work and best  
9           wishes to every one of you at the head table.

10          Thank you.

11          (Applause.)

12          MR. PENA: I'm going to repeat those names again.  
13          Patti Fitzgerald, Bob Fitzgerald, Kenneth Moyes, Mary Ziola,  
14          and Linda Busham [verbatim].

15          SPEAKER BUSAM: Thank you everybody for letting me  
16          speak today.

17          First I want to tell you my name is Linda Busam,  
18          and I'm a retired resident of Peoria; and I wholeheartedly  
19          agree with earlier speakers Bonnie Angster and Clair  
20          Van Sweek [verbatim]; they've said everything that I've  
21          wanted to say.

22          I just want to say that all of my family, my  
23          friends, my church, my medical facilities, my shopping are  
24          all located within a ten-mile radius of my home; and mostly  
25          to the west, north, and east of my home, I rarely travel

1 south for anything except for on a rare occasion.

2 So Peoria, Sun City, Surprise, El Mirage,  
3 Youngtown, and Glendale are my communities of interest, as  
4 well as Litchfield and Goodyear and Avondale and Buckeye and  
5 Sun City West.

6 The mayors of these towns, they all work together  
7 and they depend on one another.

8 When you've got them split into other counties,  
9 they can't possibly get fair representation; it robs them.  
10 So they need to be grouped with neighboring retirement  
11 communities and nearby suburbs.

12 So I'm asking to please redraw your maps and  
13 reflect the common interests of our communities so that they  
14 are given fair representation and so they can continue  
15 working together.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. PENA: Next speakers are Steve Peru, Quintus  
19 Shulzke, Nohl Rosen, Tega Maidoh, Johny Melton.

20 SPEAKER PERU: Good evening. My name is Steve  
21 Peru, Coconino County manager in Northern Arizona. I  
22 submitted maps LD 0013 and CD 0016.

23 Previously this evening our Board Chair Matt Ryan  
24 and our Vice Chair Lena Fowler addressed the Commission.

25 A couple things I wanted to -- to also indicate,

1 Coconino County is the second largest county in the United  
2 States, 18,600-some square miles, larger than some states in  
3 the Northeast, larger than the country of Switzerland. It's  
4 also home to many, several variety of sovereign tribal  
5 nations which, of course, add to the vibrancy and the  
6 diversity of our county.

7 Our county board of supervisors, as it's always  
8 been, is very committed in working with the tribal nations  
9 in the redistricting effort to ensure that adequate  
10 representation, equal representation is ensured while  
11 maintaining and respecting tribal sovereignty.

12 Having said that, earlier this evening our  
13 honorable gentleman from the -- from the Hualapai Nation  
14 spoke in favor of being included in the districts that  
15 Coconino County submitted on both the legislative and the  
16 congressional maps. I do -- I do want to say that on  
17 behalf of the board of supervisors we will be submitting  
18 amended maps to honor that request for our tribal nation  
19 partner, as well as the Kaibab Paiute Tribe. We found that  
20 that's also an omission on our part.

21 I submitted the maps, but I do want to state that,  
22 for the record, we will be making those changes to our maps  
23 and then, of course, apologize to our tribal partners for  
24 that omission on my part.

25 So with that, Madam Chair, members of the

1 Commission, I thank you for your service to the state of  
2 Arizona and really look forward to future conversations with  
3 you.

4 So thank you.

5 SPEAKER SCHULZKE: Hello, I'm Quintus Schulzke; I'm  
6 a resident of Surprise. I'll keep my comments pretty brief,  
7 it's a marathon here, and we'll try to make it to the end.

8 I just want to represent, yeah, I've been living in  
9 Surprise for 13 years, and we have a proposed division, at  
10 least from computer modeling, that -- that seems to be  
11 happening in the middle of our town.

12 We just need to sit back and I want the Commission  
13 respectfully to just look at the -- the role that you have  
14 now: Computers can generate models, but it's communities  
15 that build up Arizona. And that's what we're here to do is  
16 keep those communities strong.

17 You've heard from many people -- I lived in Tucson  
18 for eight years, glad to hear them speaking up and from all  
19 over the state, and I just hope that will be kept in mind.  
20 It's a very important variable, which is the communities.  
21 And every other factor that you can throw into the computer  
22 and data modeling and the cute little clockwise from the  
23 middle of -- down McDowell and 19th and Grand, all those can  
24 come together, but in a reasonable fashion with the help of  
25 your work. So this is the challenge now.

1           Hopefully you're not going to be rushing that to  
2           try to get it in before the end of October, but whatever it  
3           takes now to bear in mind everything that the communities  
4           have said. Yes, you've been hearing, this is a hearing, now  
5           it's time to listen.

6           We hope you will listen to our feedback and take  
7           that into account.

8           Thank you.

9           (Applause.)

10          SPEAKER MAIDOH: Good evening, Commissioners. I'm  
11          Tega, actually saw you at the grid map meeting in Phoenix,  
12          and I said I was going to turn in a map. It is LD 0018. If  
13          you could bring that up, that will be appreciated.

14          I would like to talk about some numbers. From my  
15          map, the overall population deviation is 3.25 percent and  
16          each district has a plus-or-minus division under 1 percent  
17          the exception of the old LD-7 which is about 2.4 percent; in  
18          terms of proportionality, it has a Dave's Redistricting app  
19          score of 93 percent. So in other words, the vote -- the  
20          voters translates into the LDs proportionality. In other  
21          words, it is really fair.

22          I live in Tempe, so I'll start by saying for CD-18,  
23          we would like to keep the Kyrene School District intact with  
24          Baseline Road being the northern boundary; and for LD-26,  
25          I'd like that -- I'd like the southern edge of Scottsdale to



1 be added to that district.

2 But overall, I'd like to spend a lot of time  
3 talking about minority districts. It's important that,  
4 though you have districts that are Hispanic opportunity  
5 districts or Native American districts, that you don't  
6 overpack these districts and -- and have competitive  
7 districts that are politically diverse.

8 Particularly the Southwest Valley I have -- I  
9 created a district that has the cities of Avondale,  
10 Goodyear, and Gila Bend whole; and have the Maricopa County  
11 part of the Gila River Reservation and a good chunk of the  
12 city of Buckeye. That district creates a district that is  
13 both majority-minority and competitive. If you emphasize  
14 that, I would appreciate it if a district similar to that is  
15 created because it also creates a district that  
16 Southwest Valley deserves.

17 And for all the changes to the other minority  
18 districts. LD-29, I would like to see the city of El Mirage  
19 at least added to it and that unified to a compact strip of  
20 Southern Glendale.

21 Another major change to my map is that Glendale is  
22 divided into three parts as opposed to five.

23 For LD-30, I'd like that to just be in West  
24 Phoenix.

25 For LD-27, I'd like Van Buren Street to be northern

1 border.

2 And finally for LD-19, I'd like that to be just  
3 Southern and West Phoenix.

4 And then moving over to LD-4. And what I drew, I  
5 have all of the city of Yuma in it; I have the Yuma County  
6 split between north and south, but I have that going across  
7 the border all the way to the city of Nogales and Rio Rico;  
8 and then the rest of Santa Cruz County is taken up up to  
9 southwest Tucson to create the LD- -- old LD-2.

10 And for LD-3, I'd like that to be Northwest Tucson  
11 and Flowing Wells to majority-minority.

12 And then finally for LD-7, I was able to draw a  
13 Native American district that doesn't include all the city  
14 of Flagstaff at all and loops all the way into Pinal County.

15 So the point of that is that if you're going to  
16 have parts of Flagstaff in LD-7, it should only be a small  
17 part because I was able to draw a district that doesn't have  
18 Flagstaff at all.

19 Finally, I'll talk about the city of Tucson and how  
20 it should be divided.

21 I have -- a version of LD-10, that's the east side  
22 of Tucson, and though it favors one party, the partisanship  
23 is not as extreme, and I really like the version of LD-9  
24 that I drew because it's completely suburban. It has the  
25 cities of Morona -- Marana, sorry, Oro Valley, Tucson,

1 Catalina Foothills; and it is competitive.

2 'Cause people from Tucson complain we don't want to  
3 be part of Tucson. So, fine, you can draw a completely  
4 suburban district of Tucson, but it is possible to make it  
5 competitive, and that's my point there.

6 And then I'd also add for the city of Mesa, it will  
7 be great if you have two LDs entirely within Mesa; and I  
8 also believe that should have an LD that's Queen Creek,  
9 San Tan Valley, Apache Junction, and Gold Canyon.

10 And then for the North Valley, I have Cave Creek  
11 and Carefree --

12 MS. VAN HAREN: That's your time.

13 SPEAKER MAIDOH: Okay. I'll run over really  
14 quickly.

15 I have the city of Cave Creek and Carefree in the  
16 Scottsdale district; and the other two North Valley cities  
17 in the North Phoenix district; and for the north extended  
18 north to include the city of Paradise Valley.

19 And, finally, LD-28 is a very compact, horizontal  
20 strip district that is extremely competitive. It is the  
21 most competitive in the whole state; but, more importantly,  
22 it is compact.

23 And thank you. That will be all.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. PENA: Thank you.

1 We're going to hand it off to Flagstaff.

2 MS. NEUMANN: Okay. First up we have Bill Regner,  
3 then Ernie and Karen Strauch, and then Cathy Rutherford.

4 SPEAKER REGNER: Thank you, Madam Commissioner --  
5 Madam Chair, Vice Chair, Commission members, and the IRC  
6 staff.

7 My name is Bill Regner from the Clarkdale; and  
8 while I'm an elected council member of the town of  
9 Clarkdale, my comments tonight are my own.

10 In rural Arizona we understand that the best  
11 solutions are often regional solutions. We urge your  
12 recognition of and actions towards preserving our community  
13 of interest consisting of the Verde Valley municipalities of  
14 Camp Verde, Cottonwood, Clarkdale, Jerome, and Sedona, along  
15 with the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the unincorporated areas  
16 of Eastern Yavapai County.

17 I also encourage you to retain the integrity of the  
18 communities of interest, whether they be groups of small  
19 rural municipalities or a larger municipality such as  
20 Flagstaff in our greater northern Arizona region. LD 0013 I  
21 believe is a good example of how to do this.

22 Thank you very much.

23 SPEAKER E. STRAUCH: Good evening, Madam Chairman  
24 Neuberg and Commissioner Lerner. I'm Ernie Strauch, I'm a  
25 23-year resident of Sedona, a former city councilman, and

1 vice mayor. I currently live in the Coconino County area of  
2 Sedona and feel somewhat separate from my other friends that  
3 form the majority of the community.

4 So I am appreciative so far of what appears to be a  
5 desire to keep all of the Verde Valley together and also to  
6 join the Verde Valley, frankly, with the Flagstaff area.

7 I was a former Sedona representative here in  
8 Flagstaff to the Sustainable Economic Development Initiative  
9 in Flagstaff here as a total Sedona representative, not just  
10 the Coconino County portion. So, please continue to do  
11 that.

12 I'm going to point out two particular, very  
13 specific reasons in addition to those you've heard before.

14 Northern Arizona healthcare, the main hospitals are  
15 here in Flagstaff, but each one of our communities:  
16 Cottonwood, Sedona, and Camp Verde have subsidiary  
17 facilities that we utilize. But when anything of a real  
18 serious nature occurs, we come to Flagstaff and -- and we  
19 deal with Flagstaff routinely in this area; many of the  
20 specialists are here in town. We don't go to Prescott for  
21 that.

22 The second is, we share a lot of interests in  
23 tourism with Flagstaff as a gateway for the Grand Canyon,  
24 Sedona, the Oak Creek, and we are all part of the Coconino  
25 National Forest. The Coconino National Forest is managed,

1           frankly, out of the district office in Flagstaff, so we  
2           don't share national forest in the management of our  
3           recreational areas with Prescott or anyone else, and all of  
4           the Verde Valley is consistent with the Coconino National  
5           Forest.

6                        So, again, for those reasons, I thank you for so  
7           far keeping the Verde Valley together, and I hope that in  
8           the future we will retain that feature as well as its  
9           connection to Flagstaff.

10                       Thank you much.

11                       SPEAKER K. STRAUCH: Thank you Commissioners for  
12           the opportunity to speak. My name is Karen Strauch; I am a  
13           23-year resident, as is my husband, of Sedona. And we love  
14           Sedona and the Verde Valley and we ask that it all be kept  
15           together with Flagstaff.

16                       Our tourism interests are the same but our values  
17           of environmentalism and keeping our -- our beautiful areas  
18           dedicated to -- to the environmental -- environmentalist  
19           movement are most important to us.

20                       So thank you very much.

21                       SPEAKER RUTHERFORD: Good evening. It's getting  
22           into the evening, isn't it. I'll try to make this brief.

23                       My name is Cathy Rutherford, and I want to thank  
24           the Commissioners for giving us another opportunity to be  
25           heard.

1 I speak for myself and other concerned citizens  
2 from Sedona and the Verde Valley. I have lived in Sedona  
3 for 12 years.

4 First of all, we want to thank you so much for  
5 listening to our input regarding Sedona and the Verde Valley  
6 and Flagstaff as a community of interest. We know that the  
7 current drafts reflect our input. I was the originator --  
8 you may remember my name -- of the petition of citizens for  
9 fair redistricting requesting a change --

10 There's some kind of something --

11 (Multiple speakers.)

12 UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: (Via videoconference) You  
13 know the rules, go now. Do either of you need a beverage?

14 UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: (Via videoconference)  
15 I'll have one if you'll have one.

16 SPEAKER RUTHERFORD: So, I don't know, there was  
17 somebody else talking.

18 A polic- -- we requested a change in the policy  
19 regarding the IRC mapping tool, and we greatly appreciate  
20 that you listened to our request and gave us more  
21 opportunities for input by allowing single-district maps,  
22 paper maps -- which are particularly important for the  
23 indigenous tribes in our states -- in our state -- by  
24 allowing uploading from other mapping software to the IRC  
25 mapping tool. Thank you so much for that. That's been so

1 helpful.

2 I'm going to quickly reinforce that Sedona, the  
3 Verde Valley, and Flagstaff are closely connected and a  
4 community of interest. We residents live within that  
5 community of interest on a daily basis. We are all -- we  
6 live in a tourist-based economy whether we're in Sedona or  
7 Cottonwood or Flagstaff or the areas that surround them;  
8 tourists impact our lives on a daily basis, and we need  
9 representatives at our state level, legislature, and federal  
10 that understand our needs and can listen to our concerns.

11 It's also true that we shop. Everywhere. We go to  
12 Cottonwood, we can't find what's there in Cottonwood, we go  
13 to Flagstaff; we do not, however, drive three hours  
14 roundtrip to Prescott unless we have to.

15 Mingus Mountain is a giant barrier, and it is not  
16 the county's boundaries that determine what we do and where  
17 we live; it's that geographic barrier. It's major.

18 I also want to emphasize that public safety is  
19 something we all have in common. My husband works in  
20 Verde Valley Search and Rescue; and just a week or a week  
21 and a half ago, something happened up Oak Creek in Coconino  
22 County's search and rescue area, there was a man,  
23 unfortunately he -- he died of some kind of a trauma like a  
24 heart attack or something; and Coconino was out there all  
25 night looking for him, so they were exhausted; so they



1 called Verde Valley Search and Rescue, which is basically,  
2 you know, in our area and our people went out and searched  
3 for him and found him. So we work together on a daily  
4 basis.

5 As Ernie pointed out, our healthcare systems are  
6 so, so integrated throughout the valley and into Flagstaff.  
7 I come up for my knees, I come up here for my women's needs,  
8 you know, I come up here because that's where the doctors  
9 are. Sometimes you visit Sedona, but if you need really  
10 good care, you come to Flagstaff. It's really important,  
11 rural healthcare is so different, and we need good doctors.

12 We also have a lot in common that we do  
13 recreationally and we bring visitors back and forth: People  
14 from Flagstaff come to Sedona, people from Sedona go to  
15 Cottonwood; we work together.

16 The other thing -- so I just want to emphasize that  
17 because we have all of these activities and necessities in  
18 common, we need representatives that will listen to those  
19 common interests. We are a community of interest and thank  
20 you so much for putting that into your draft maps, and we  
21 really emphasize that we want it to stay that way.

22 Thank you so much.

23 MS. NEUMANN: Next up we have Kate Saunders,  
24 Leonard Gorman, and Arlene Rhethfelder [verbatim].

25 SPEAKER SAUNDERS: Good evening, Commissioners and

1 Madam Chairwoman; my name is Kate Saunders. I've spoken at  
2 several of these, so we should be familiar with each other  
3 by now.

4 For those who don't know, my name is Kate Saunders,  
5 I'm a recent graduate of Arizona State University with a  
6 master of science. I'm actually a resident of Phoenix,  
7 Arizona, a queer constituent of Phoenix in LD-24 and CD-7,  
8 but I'm up in Flagstaff today. There's several people of  
9 the LGBTQ community and some leaders here in Flagstaff that  
10 wanted to speak today but were unable to make it, so I just  
11 want to say before I say the comments to look out for their  
12 public comments and maps that they're going to be  
13 submitting.

14 Hold on one second.

15 A few things to point out. We don't have a map yet  
16 produced for Flagstaff as far as LGBTQ presence in the  
17 community, but we will be submitting that soon from input  
18 from residents here; and that will be composed of Chamber of  
19 Commerce data, of LGBTQ+ owned and allied business, LGBTQ+  
20 churches and religious organizations, university clubs and  
21 programs, historical sites and community groups, art  
22 collectives, and health clinics across Flagstaff.

23 There are a few things to point out that I just  
24 want to name in Flagstaff, like Flagstaff Pride, which is  
25 historically held in Wheeler Park; it's now held at Thorpe

1 Park because it has grown to be such a large and celebrated  
2 event; Civano Coffeehouse and nightclub, the LGBTQIA  
3 Commission and student services programming at NAU which is  
4 a big hub here in Flagstaff, and Living Christ Lutheran  
5 Church, and many or LGBTQ+ sites.

6 Flagstaff is a place where queer and trans people  
7 access public services, work in and frequent the places of  
8 business, attend college, raise children, run clinics, start  
9 business, and care for one another like we have mentioned in  
10 other parts of the state.

11 On behalf -- oh, yeah. I'm speaking on behalf of  
12 personally today as a queer person, but also on behalf of  
13 Equality Arizona, who is the statewide LGBTQ advocacy group;  
14 and we appreciate you paying attention to the maps that  
15 we've been submitting along the way.

16 And our concern is as queer folks is that we're  
17 advocating that Flagstaff not be split up and divided as is  
18 currently the case in Tucson which divides through part of  
19 our cultural hub where queer people congregate in order to  
20 access services, share information, and build safety with  
21 one another.

22 So we're still putting together the maps, and for  
23 those who could not attend, please keep an eye out for  
24 those, and we'll be paying attention to the way you draw the  
25 maps in Flagstaff.

1           We also echo the concerns that many Flagstaff  
2 residents have been mentioning in order to stay with  
3 Verde Valley; and we also want to speak up and -- and say  
4 that we support what the Native nations and tribal  
5 communities have been saying that their needs are, because  
6 queer people are across the state of Arizona. So tribal  
7 needs are also queer needs as we support our queer and trans  
8 and two-spirit communities as well.

9           So, thank you.

10           SPEAKER GORMAN: Good evening Madam Chair and  
11 members of the Commission, Vice Chair Watchman.

12           I just wanted to express appreciation and be  
13 thankful to the folks that spoke here supporting indigenous  
14 communities, illuminating the need to respect the indigenous  
15 people's efforts to ensure that the Voting Rights Act is  
16 appropriately applied in this round of redistricting.

17           The first and form- -- I have four points. The  
18 first one is Navajo Nation -- actually, I'm representing the  
19 Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission. We have a group, a  
20 working group in the Navajo government that has the  
21 responsibility to forward -- devise maps and forward them to  
22 the various agencies that are conducting redistricting.

23           And my name is Leonard Gorman.

24           Ten years ago we had an opportunity to have a map,  
25 LD-7, to have it go down below the negative 5 deviation; we

1           were offered that opportunity by the Commission then,  
2           through their lawyers, because their lawyers and the  
3           Commission at that time found that it would be appropriate  
4           to justify that the LD-7 have an opportunity to go beyond --  
5           below -- well below the negative 5 deviation.

6                         And I think that's a part of the legal construct at  
7           the moment, because the Harris case that went up to the U.S.  
8           Supreme Court provides for no limitation on the plus 5 and  
9           negative 5, and it seems to us that there is a floating  
10          deviation of 10 percent; and that's where I think for those  
11          folks that have come up to speak in favor of indigenous  
12          communities and assuring that there is an opportunity for  
13          indigenous people, particularly in the LD-7, to elect a  
14          candidate of their choice, I embark upon them to also  
15          support Navajo Nation's effort to solicit the Commission  
16          here, to study and formulate ways and means to go below the  
17          negative 5 deviation.

18                        The reasons why is that currently LD-7 has  
19          63 percent Native American voting age population. It's  
20          important that we strive to exceed the 63 percent the next  
21          go around. The congressional district has 28 percent Native  
22          American voting age population. It's important to also make  
23          the effort to reach that benchmark for Congressional  
24          District 1, too, but more importantly the Legislative  
25          District 7.

1           So here's some of the aspects of what we're  
2           seeking: Is for you to accept the white paper that we are  
3           developing, and I will share the current white paper that we  
4           have submitted to the New Mexico redistricting Committee to  
5           the Vice Chair this evening.

6           It talks about the legal constructs and the issues  
7           as to the justification to go below the negative 5  
8           deviation. So for all of those that spoke in favor of  
9           ensuring that the LD-7, the indigenous peoples in those  
10          communities successfully elect the candidate of their  
11          choice, we need your support to further the need to go below  
12          the negative 5 deviation to ensure that we acquire  
13          successfully a Native American voting age deviation that is  
14          closer to 63 percent.

15          Now, how does that happen? We have maps that are  
16          drawn to take the entire city of Flagstaff into LD-7. And I  
17          am -- and I know having been standing here, having heard the  
18          rest of the evening, many of the people here saying keep  
19          Flagstaff to the south. I heard that the greater Flagstaff  
20          area means look to the south, don't look to the northeast.

21          We need to look to the northeast as a part of the  
22          greater Flagstaff area. Navajos also used the same economic  
23          initiatives in the city of Flagstaff. I've heard so many  
24          stories about the medical facility, Navajo has used the  
25          Flagstaff medical facility intensely, particularly last year

1 during the height of the pandemic. Many of our relatives  
2 passed unfortunately in the Flagstaff Medical Center. We  
3 contribute enormously economically to the city of Flagstaff,  
4 every ten vehicle that's sold in the city of Flagstaff, nine  
5 of them go to Navajo Nation.

6 That's the reality of the community of interest  
7 that we have with the city of Flagstaff.

8 LD-7 has the sacred mountain San Francisco Peaks;  
9 LD-7 also has the land tract that the Navajo Nation  
10 Boquillas owns north of Seligman; and as you've also heard,  
11 and I'm -- I'm glad that the Coconino County will reassess  
12 its map that it submitted which is well, well below this  
13 standard of the voting age population that's necessary. I'm  
14 glad that we will be embarking upon that conversation.

15 So for the purpose of this evening, we will be  
16 working with the region communities; and we just met with  
17 the Coconino County representatives today, and they are very  
18 eager that we will embark upon a map that represents a -- a  
19 robust Native American voting age population.

20 And so with -- and then the Apaches have also  
21 expressed the same thing as the Hualapais and Havasupais as  
22 the communities of Fredonia.

23 And, lastly, I want to ask how we can submit the  
24 maps to the group here? We are using the Maptitude  
25 application, and I know sometimes it's very difficult to

1 have the different applications interfacing with the mapping  
2 system that the Commission uses, and that's the trouble that  
3 we're having on the New Mexico side. So if we're able to  
4 submit shapefiles, I'm hoping that they will be incorporated  
5 into the designs of the maps I am showing.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. NEUMANN: And Arlene Rothfelder [verbatim] is  
8 next. She has submitted a map, LDF 003.

9 SPEAKER REINFELDER: Good evening. My name is  
10 Arlene Reinfelder, I'm a Native Arizonan, and 27-year  
11 resident of Yavapai County.

12 I came today to express my concern with proposed  
13 LD-5, LD-7 division of Yavapai County in the last revision  
14 of the LD map; and I do realize that those are not final  
15 maps, they are in process. But it showed me that there was  
16 some confusion on the part of the Commissioners as to  
17 communities of interest in Yavapai County.

18 The southeast portion of Yavapai County has the  
19 Verde River as its eastern boundary. Ranchers who live in  
20 that part of the county do not drive to Payson for groceries  
21 because there's no bridge to cross the river in that area;  
22 they drive west to I-17 and over to Prescott Valley.

23 The ranchers that live at Horseshoe Ranch off of  
24 Bloody Basin Road, and those that live in Dewey send their  
25 children to the Mayer School District.



1 Dividing Yavapai County at I-17 in this area  
2 completely disregards the communities of interest in this  
3 part of the county, which is more closely aligned with  
4 Mayer, Dewey, and Prescott Valley because of the impassable  
5 river barrier.

6 And I do appreciate that the Commissioners carved  
7 out Cordes Lake, but my neighbors to the east of me on the  
8 Kelton Ranch and on the E-Z Ranch were separated into a  
9 different district even though they are a few miles away and  
10 cannot cross the Verde River.

11 Additionally, those who live along -- live along  
12 Horne Ranch Road in Cherry and other communities along  
13 Highway 169, attend school and shop in Mayer,  
14 Dewey-Humboldt, and Prescott Valley. They are not part of  
15 the Verde Valley area; they are not -- they have no affinity  
16 to that. They are not going to drive over to Camp Verde to  
17 shop; they're going to head in the other direction.

18 I know the Commission heard a lot of testimony of  
19 people who stated that Sedona and the Verde Valley belong  
20 with Flagstaff. Sedona, the median age is 61; Flagstaff,  
21 the median age is 25; Prescott, the median age is 58. So  
22 there's a very large dichotomy there between Sedona and  
23 Flagstaff, even though they share some other interests.

24 I know they share some medical resources; however,  
25 the Flagstaff Medical Center is a Level 1 trauma center,

1 they're fabulous. All of us send people here for trauma  
2 cases. Prescott and Prescott Valley do not have a Level 1  
3 facility; we either fly them to Flagstaff or we fly them  
4 down to Phoenix to the Osborn facility. So Flagstaff has  
5 been very blessed with that, and I am so happy for them  
6 because it saved my son's life.

7 One of the problems with that they've -- they've  
8 mentioned is that Mingus is this impassable barrier, so I  
9 wanted to give some perspective on that.

10 The Verde Valley is about 3,000 feet elevation;  
11 Sedona is about 4,000 feet; Flagstaff is at about  
12 7,200 feet, and crossing Mingus is about 7,500. So whether  
13 you go over Mingus or whether you have to go up Oak Creek  
14 Canyon, you're still dealing with the same kind of barrier:  
15 You're going from a valley up to a mountain.

16 One of the problems that you have coming out of  
17 Sedona in the winter months is you have to deal with the  
18 snow. So if you go up I-17, you're dealing with ice-packed  
19 I-17, or you go up Oak Creek Canyon which can become  
20 impassable due to the snow; and those times that you travel  
21 south and come over to the Prescott area or the  
22 Prescott Valley area.

23 I know this from personal experience because my  
24 father lived in Cottonwood for many, many years. He would  
25 go and hike in Sedona daily, but he never would go shopping

1 in Flagstaff. If he wanted to go shopping, he would go over  
2 to Prescott or Prescott Valley.

3 Another issue in the summertime traveling from  
4 Sedona up to Flagstaff, if you go up through Oak Creek  
5 Canyon, you're going to be dealing with serious traffic  
6 because of tourism traffic which just crawls through  
7 Oak Creek Canyon; or you can go up I-17, which on the  
8 weekends is typically very difficult to deal with. It's  
9 often crawling traffic or completely shutdown due to car  
10 accidents or wildfires.

11 I own a business in Prescott; I don't live in  
12 Prescott. I have clients who drive over from Sedona and  
13 Cottonwood and Camp Verde; I've also driven to Sedona and  
14 Cottonwood to meet with clients. I don't have any clients  
15 in Flagstaff nor do I drive to Flagstaff to meet with  
16 clients. However, I did come here just for you guys,  
17 because I appreciate you.

18 Yavapai College which is in Prescott has satellite  
19 campuses in both Cottonwood and Sedona; Yavapai College does  
20 not have any satellites in Flagstaff.

21 The students that attend the Red Rock Junior and  
22 Senior High School in Sedona, the Cottonwood students that  
23 attend Mingus Mountain High School and Mingus Mountain  
24 students all have the opportunity to take dual enrollment  
25 course at Yavapai College, which would put them more closely

1 aligned with Yavapai County rather than Flagstaff.

2 For these reasons, I think that the division that  
3 was on the last proposed map is not respecting the  
4 communities of interest, although I do think the  
5 Verde Valley and Sedona do need to stay together; I think  
6 they're more appropriately put with the rest of Yavapai  
7 County.

8 I want to thank the Commissioners. God bless you  
9 all and give you the wisdom of Solomon as you divide this  
10 up.

11 MS. NEUMANN: Our last three speakers are Matt  
12 Capalby, Phyllis Schiller, and Ann Heitland.

13 SPEAKER CAPALBY: Good evening, Madam Chair, and  
14 good evening, Vice Chair Watchman. It's a pleasure to have  
15 you here. Appreciate, again, your time and consideration  
16 regarding these matters.

17 You've heard me speak before, but I'm going to  
18 reiterate some of the points that have been made tonight.

19 Again, I'm a third-generation Arizonan, born and  
20 raised in Kingman and now reside in Flagstaff area.

21 As I had mentioned earlier, I think we heard a lot  
22 from the folks in Sun City and the Peoria and Surprise area.  
23 I grew up in Kingman when Peoria and Glendale represented  
24 Mohave County, and it was not in Mohave County's best  
25 interest; and so I think it's very important that we do what

1 we can to maintain two solely rural congressional districts  
2 and nine solely rural legislative districts. It can be  
3 done, the population is there, the demographic and  
4 population shifts have not been that significant, so it's  
5 still a strong possibility to do.

6 And then also regarding the stipulations and recent  
7 statement mission goals of the Commission is  
8 competitiveness. We need to have competitive districts when  
9 and wherever possible to begin, because as we heard from  
10 some of the folks in the Phoenix metro area earlier, that  
11 it's in the overall best interest, it should be about ideas  
12 and who can mobilize and run the best campaign, not  
13 necessarily should an election be decided in a primary by  
14 one party or -- or the other, too. It's definitely best for  
15 democracy to have as many competitive districts as possible.

16 And I think the current configuration of  
17 competitive districts isn't bad. I think we can do better,  
18 but I think the current ones that we have are good, too.

19 And then to Mr. Gorman's comments and overall the  
20 issues to the tribes and the other communities throughout  
21 Arizona, is I equally think that the Voting Rights Act is of  
22 the utmost importance; we don't want our -- our maps or you,  
23 Chairwoman, or any of the Commissioners to be drawn into a  
24 court battle over the maps relating to the Voting Rights  
25 Act, too.

1           Arizona has had a checkered history in that regard,  
2           and I think if we can focus on competitiveness and  
3           maintaining the issues surrounding the Voting Rights Act and  
4           protecting our minority communities, I think we're going to  
5           be in good shape, too.

6           So, again, I thank you for your time and  
7           consideration and look forward to seeing the new maps as  
8           they come out.

9           And, again, appreciate your efforts. Have a nice  
10          evening.

11          SPEAKER SCHILLER: Thank you. I'm just going to  
12          hold it.

13          My name is Phyllis Schiller, I've been a Flagstaff  
14          resident -- I hate to say this -- for 41 years, so I've had  
15          a lot of exposure to Northern Arizona and the tremendous  
16          growth that has happened in this area.

17          What explains this growth is largely due to one of  
18          the six criteria you are using to redistrict the state:  
19          Namely, the communities of interest with respect to social  
20          and economic commonalities.

21          I'm defining these geographic communities of  
22          interest to include the Grand Canyon Village to the north  
23          down to the Verde Valley communities of Jerome, Camp Verde,  
24          Cottonwood, Cornville, and Clarkdale to the south with  
25          Sedona in between.

1 I support the submitted legislative map Ryan 1084  
2 for District 6, and this is why:

3 This north-south corridor comprises ties to tourism  
4 and recreational activities not found in any of the large  
5 geographic areas of the state.

6 The elevation goes from 8,000 feet down to  
7 3,500 feet above sea level in this corridor. And I'm going  
8 to get very concrete what this means to me as a retired  
9 individual.

10 Nowhere else can I ski in the morning, play golf in  
11 the afternoon, and have lunch in a vineyard patio in the  
12 winter; or play golf in the morning, swim at Slide Rock in  
13 the afternoon, have dinner along Oak Creek, and then see a  
14 classic movie at the Sedona Film Festival Auditorium or go  
15 stargazing at Flagstaff's Lowell Observatory in the evening  
16 during the summer months.

17 This geographical corridor provides its residents a  
18 kaleidoscope of cultural and recreational experiences  
19 unmatched anywhere else; I am not exaggerating this, and  
20 this explains the population growth of these communities of  
21 interest.

22 Greater Flagstaff can be seen as the urban -- and I  
23 put this in quotes -- center of the corridor with NAU, major  
24 companies such as Gore, and cultural and social -- excuse  
25 me -- festivals almost every weekend during the summer

1 months, outlying communities of Kachina Village, parks,  
2 Mountainaire, Dove (phonetic) Valley and Doney Park are  
3 suburban area of this urban center; Williams to the east and  
4 Winslow to the west are becoming bedroom communities to this  
5 urban growth. The rest of the corridor represents the rural  
6 life of farming ranching and laid-back leisure and  
7 recreation.

8 A common thread in this corridor is an acceptance  
9 of Native American, Hispanic, Asian, and white people  
10 sharing activities and coexisting with mutual respect and  
11 concern for a fragile environment as far as fires and the  
12 closing of the forest during fire season is met with  
13 observance; water usage limitations are observed; air  
14 quality is monitored as the clean air of this region is so  
15 valued, and people are responding with less wood burning  
16 stoves and more gas powered heating stoves in the winter.

17 In essence there is a common understanding of the  
18 value of this Northern Arizona corridor as communities of  
19 interest for many of us.

20 Thank you.

21 SPEAKER HEITLAND: Hello. My name is Ann Heitland;  
22 I've spoken to you before at the community of interest  
23 hearings in Flagstaff and in Window Rock.

24 I represent a group of people, many of whom you  
25 have heard from this evening in support of the community of



1 interest ranging from the south rim of the Grand Canyon  
2 through the Verde Valley.

3 And I'm going to be speaking tonight to the test  
4 maps that the Commissioners adopted earlier this week, as  
5 well as to a map -- actually four maps that were submitted  
6 under the username Ryan 1084 earlier today, but as I drove  
7 over here were not yet assigned official numbers by the  
8 Commission.

9 I want to thank you and your consultants for  
10 acknowledging the community of interest we represent during  
11 the listening tour earlier this will -- in this cycle.

12 Your test maps keep greater Flagstaff together and  
13 unite us with the Verde Valley.

14 With regard to the legislative district test map,  
15 it makes sense to extend that further north to include the  
16 south rim of the Grand Canyon. The east corridor of that  
17 legislative district test map should be moved to the west,  
18 somewhere in the middle of Navajo County; while Winslow  
19 shares commercial interest with the Flagstaff area, the  
20 eastern portion of Navajo County is different commercially,  
21 culturally, politically.

22 The balanced maps submitted today under the test  
23 name Ryan 1084 accommodate these changes and also place  
24 Williams with LD-5, whose population more closely matches  
25 the community of interest described by the Williams'

1 residents who spoke here during the community of interest  
2 hearing earlier.

3 This also might allow you to make some adjustments  
4 in the Sun City area moving that line further to the north.

5 I heard some discussion during your meetings  
6 earlier this week about splitting Flagstaff between LD-6 and  
7 LD-7. We do support Mr. Gorman's suggestion that the  
8 deviation be allowed to be greater in order to recognize the  
9 needs under the Voting Rights Act of allowing our Native  
10 American members to elect representatives of their own  
11 choosing.

12 However, we are concerned under the Voting Rights  
13 Act that, by including Flagstaff in the same district with  
14 our Native American neighbors, we may experience a voting  
15 rights regression, actually reducing the voice of the Native  
16 Americans in electing their representatives.

17 Again, I refer you to the map submitted by user  
18 Ryan 1084 for a possible solution to this problem.

19 Regarding the congressional maps now for CD-2. The  
20 southern line should not go to the border as it does in the  
21 grid map; and the test map is unacceptable because it would  
22 violate the Voting Rights Act.

23 Maps submitted again by user Ryan 1084 address  
24 these problems.

25 While the border communities of Arizona deserve

1 representation in Congress that focuses on their interests,  
2 our interests in Northern Arizona in environmental,  
3 commercial, cultural, and political needs are quite  
4 different.

5 Finally, while none of Arizona rural areas want to  
6 be with Maricopa County, the Gila River Indian Community  
7 wants to be with the Northern Arizona tribes and its leader  
8 has expressly said that. We believe that by designing CD-2  
9 maps can be accom- -- can accommodate that request in a way  
10 similar to the 2011 maps.

11 So, thank you. Thank you all for sticking with us  
12 this evening. Thank you for your service. We know you  
13 Commissioners are all volunteers, and it's a tremendous  
14 service you're doing for the state of Arizona and our  
15 communities.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. NEUMANN: Back to Surprise.

18 MR. PENA: Our next speakers are Nohl Rosen, Alexis  
19 Delgado Garcia, Arianna Reyes, Gina Mendez, and Wesley Crew.

20 SPEAKER ROSEN: Thank you for allowing me to be  
21 here to testify.

22 I'm up in the Wickenburg area. I don't know if you  
23 want to pull up that map because there's going to -- I think  
24 there's a few things that need be addressed.

25 Where we are in Wickenburg; we're actually in two

1 counties, we're in both Maricopa and Yavapai, unfortunately  
2 with the district maps that you have drawn, we're still in  
3 two -- we'll eventually -- right now we are presently in two  
4 different legislative districts, but in one congressional  
5 districts [verbatim].

6 If you go to a part of the map where the 93 and the  
7 89 interchange is, there's a place called Wickenburg Ranch  
8 which was the next into-the-town limits, so it is a part of  
9 the Wickenburg, but on the map you cut it off -- you cut it  
10 off vis-à-vis the county line there at Vulture Mine and the  
11 93. So it is in the best interest for Wickenburg to be in  
12 one rural district, for all of us to being together.

13 So if there's a way to actually draw these maps to  
14 where we can have that part of Wickenburg -- you can cut it  
15 off around the 89, 'cause Congress is also an area we have  
16 in common with, it is also rural; and that would be an ideal  
17 thing to -- to stay together.

18 I think a lot of what we have right now, we in  
19 LD-13 where we're at, we have -- you know, we're going to  
20 have, you know, the map that you have right now, LD-13 is  
21 Buckeye, it's Tonopah, it's Litchfield Park, it's Goodyear,  
22 and those areas. We don't really have anything in common  
23 with those areas except for maybe Tonopah.

24 Whitman, Morrystown on the map that you have right  
25 now, the -- the grid map, keeping them together with

1 Wickenburg is just fine with us, okay? They're rural  
2 communities. Aguila is also a rural community.

3 I think the current grid map that you have has it  
4 going all the way to Salome which is also rural. We have a  
5 lot in common with them; and then of course it loops around  
6 to, I believe, Lake Havasu.

7 This is -- this is the grid map you have that I'm  
8 speaking about.

9 You have it going all the way to a Lake Havasu and  
10 Kingman. Well, Kingman is a long way away from Wickenburg.

11 That being said, we're pretty conservative in  
12 our -- in our district, okay? Large basis Republican.

13 So when you look at what we have as far as  
14 commonalities, Wickenburg is a roping, Western town, okay?  
15 We have rodeo, we have roping, we have -- I mean, we do have  
16 an interest in culture and it is very mixed 'cause some  
17 people moved up from the Valley or moved into the area from  
18 other areas.

19 Which kind of brings me to my next point. I saw a  
20 lot of people testifying that, you know, they want -- I  
21 heard the LGBTQ thing, and I've heard all of these things  
22 and the progressive left stuff, and you don't cut those  
23 people off, but you cut the people off that, you know, are  
24 speaking about Americans. We are Americans. I don't look  
25 at Black, white, purple, orange, you know, 'cause we are

1 Americans.

2 And as Clair said earlier, that's how we have to  
3 see ourselves. We're looking at demographics -- and this  
4 whole thing with the mapping process is supposed to be stuff  
5 that we have actually in common. We start dividing by race;  
6 we start dividing by color, all of that stuff, of course  
7 we're the human race so we're supposed to be one race. But  
8 the bottom line is the left -- you've allowed the leftist  
9 agenda to hijack this thing, and it's not about that, this  
10 is about redistricting and where we're going to be.

11 Like I said getting back to the redistricting, you  
12 said the maps aren't final, but there's a lot of confusion  
13 as to when we're going to start seeing the final maps and  
14 the draft maps.

15 And, like I said, we need -- Wickenburg really is  
16 kind of forgotten on these maps. They really are.

17 And I -- around the -- if you go up towards the 93  
18 where Congress, like I said, we have commonality with them.  
19 So we -- I would rather not be split up congressionally  
20 because the grid map that you have, like I said, splits us  
21 up. Okay?

22 Right now we're in CD-4 and I think the map is  
23 going to put us --

24 MS. VAN HAREN: Thank you. That's your time.

25 SPEAKER ROSEN: Can I -- let me finish my point

1 here.

2 The map that you have, the congressional map, has  
3 us currently in CD-4; we don't want to lose that. On the  
4 Maricopa side, like I said, we're split into two counties,  
5 and I believe that we really should be in one legislative  
6 district, all of Wickenburg, and in the same congressional  
7 direct.

8 So I hope that you'll look at that, those areas  
9 that I'm talking about.

10 Thank you.

11 SPEAKER DOMINGUEZ: Hello, everybody. I actually  
12 will be speaking for Alexis. So my name is Yvonne  
13 Dominguez, and will be speaking on behalf of Arizona Center  
14 for Empowerment.

15 And I am from the Maryvale area of LD-29. That is  
16 where I have grew up in; and from there, like, I went to  
17 Estrella Middle School, along with going to Atkinson Middle  
18 School; and after that, you know, I went to Maryvale High  
19 School, and then I graduated the class of 2018. And, you  
20 know, now I am a current four-year student that goes to  
21 Phoenix College.

22 And I can consider myself as a Latina, and I also  
23 especially identify myself as an autistic woman; and I am  
24 here being in voice for the near divergent community along  
25 with including the disabled community, including myself.

1 I am here because I feel that there needs to be  
2 changes in the community for more support and more  
3 acceptance towards disabled folks like me, but also to know  
4 that we have a voice, too.

5 And now that I have mentioned this, there has been  
6 two majority-minority congressional districts in Arizona and  
7 we need to make sure to keep two to comply with the Voting  
8 Rights Act.

9 The hub for one of the congressional districts  
10 should be the Latino population in Phoenix, and for the  
11 other one of the Latino populations in Tucson.

12 Back to where I grew up, South Glendale and the  
13 West Phoenix areas has benefits from being representative  
14 together. They're all parts of a community of interest.  
15 Majority Latino areas who share similar challenges and  
16 priorities in economic and social interests. Dividing these  
17 communities would really weaken the power of the votes.

18 Thank you so much for your time.

19 (Applause.)

20 SPEAKER REYES: Hello. Good afternoon, can you  
21 hear me? Does it sound good?

22 I know that volume was an issue. I guess.

23 But hi, ya-all. My name is Arianna Reyes. I  
24 currently reside in the Central Phoenix area, Central West,  
25 I'm in, like, 19 Ave and stuff like that; and I kind of just



1 wanted to talk specifically about Central Phoenix.

2 As I'm 20, I'm a college student, I go to ASU, ASU  
3 West/ASU Downtown which reside in Central Phoenix and  
4 that's, like, as a whole is a hub for, like, academic and  
5 economic stuff; and specifically a lot of folks from the  
6 West Phoenix area do go to Central Phoenix. It's where we  
7 go to work; it's where we go to school. Like I said, I go  
8 to school, I drive there, take the shuttle from West to --  
9 I also went to Carl Hayden for high school, so I've been in  
10 the area for a while; and I also go there to, like, shop go  
11 to movies and stuff like that.

12 And it's a diverse area. Like I said, I've known  
13 it well. There's Black folks, brown folks, Asians. Like,  
14 there's hella different types of people and cultures that  
15 reside in Central Phoenix.

16 Which also I wanted to touch on, I know that we're  
17 over here in Surprise and it's -- it was a pretty far drive,  
18 it was like 40 minutes. So maybe in the future, we can have  
19 a meeting closer to over there so we can have people like my  
20 parents, my classmates, younger folk, people of color in the  
21 space and to have them in a conversation as well because I  
22 feel that was a lack in this meeting, which is -- yeah.  
23 Anyways.

24 But, like I said, I would prefer if you-all would  
25 keep Central Phoenix, like, tied together rather than

1 splitting it up. I said it's a diverse area; we really want  
2 to strengthen all the different types of voices in the area  
3 and keep that voting power really strong, stuff like that.

4 But, yeah, that's me. Thank you so much for  
5 letting me speak.

6 SPEAKER MENDEZ: Hello. Thank you all for allowing  
7 me to be here.

8 My name is Gina Mendez; I live out in Laveen, in  
9 Legislative District 27.

10 So I'm here to talk about, you know, why it's  
11 important to ensure that the Laveen, South Mountain,  
12 South Phoenix area is held together. And so just to tell  
13 you a little bit about where I grew up from. And in  
14 south -- on the south side. So I live right there south of  
15 35th Ave and Baseline, in between Baseline and Dobbins.  
16 Just a few homes behind me, it is South Phoenix; just a few  
17 homes above me, it's still South Phoenix.

18 I went to -- to Southwest Elementary and the  
19 Roosevelt School District, I went to Cesar Chavez High  
20 School out in Laveen, and I also went to South Mountain  
21 Community College on 24th Street and Baseline.

22 The folks that are out here have common things that  
23 we care about. We share common experiences and are dealing  
24 with similar issues. As you all know, Latinos are now more  
25 than 30 percent of Arizona's population and our -- it's our

1 voting strength and we must -- and we must not let it be  
2 diluted. That has happened because of the work of various  
3 organizations who care about ensuring the Black and brown  
4 and indigenous folks are voting.

5 There has -- we have seen that there's a lot of  
6 voter suppression that has happened for -- for decades. We  
7 go out into the schools and we talk to parents, talk to  
8 youth to ensure that they know about the -- the power in  
9 voting and how, you know, decisions get made if we do not  
10 participate, if we are not civically involved.

11 There have been two majority-minority Latino  
12 congressional districts in Arizona and we need to make sure  
13 that we keep the two to comply with the Voting Rights Act.

14 What are the consequences if we do not do that? A  
15 lawsuit. I work hard for my money, y'all. My mom works two  
16 jobs; she's a minimum wage worker. A lot of the people on  
17 the south side and South Phoenix and Laveen have more than  
18 one job, we do not want our tax paying dollars to go to a  
19 lawsuit. We want representation; we want to make sure that  
20 the issues that are -- that we care about are addressed.

21 I organize in the community. I have worked with a  
22 lot of the schools in Laveen, in Phoenix Union, in  
23 South Phoenix. Have you all ever received a call from a  
24 school because you do not know what to do if a parent -- if  
25 a parent is being detained or deported? I do.

1           South Phoenix looks like me. Not like a lot of the  
2 people who are here.

3           The consequence of not -- of splitting up these  
4 communities is we are going to see that that -- our issues  
5 that we care about do not get addressed. We are dealing  
6 with the school-to-prison pipeline, criminalization in our  
7 communities, and family separation.

8           So I urge you that Laveen, South Phoenix, South  
9 Mountain be kept together. They share many of the similar  
10 concerns and interests, including being majority Latino.

11           And in addition to that, it's the south side y'all.  
12 And if you have not been to the south side, go a little down  
13 west to the 59th Ave and Baseline, it is still the south  
14 side.

15           So thank you.

16           (Applause.)

17           SPEAKER CREW: Hello, Commission, Executive  
18 Directors.

19           Hi. My name is Wes Crew. I spoke during the  
20 satellite location of Tucson, I personally wanted to thank  
21 the Chairwoman for the comments that she made earlier about  
22 how tentative these maps are. I think statements like that  
23 being continued really incentivize the public to keep giving  
24 you guys good data to use for the furthering of these maps.  
25 So I would like to respect you and say thank you.

1 I would also like to thank the Commission for  
2 meeting with us and the Arizona Center for Empowerment; it  
3 means a lot that you hear our voices and that you hear us  
4 out and that you let us voice our concerns.

5 Regarding those concerns, the one that we still  
6 remain prominent about as well as others as some of the  
7 materials we would like to see distributed in Spanish as  
8 well as the materials that you currently have in English,  
9 such as the YouTube playlist that you have for the  
10 redistricting hub. The redistricting hub is a technical  
11 software to use if you're not tech savvy; it makes it even  
12 harder if there's not materials submitted in both languages,  
13 so I still suggest that those YouTube videos be submitted  
14 and be uploaded in Spanish as well.

15 But regarding the congressional districts, I am  
16 from Tucson, I'm here representing my family that's here in  
17 Phoenix. I'm a proud citizen of Adelita Grijalva's  
18 District 5, so I fully support the Arizona Latino Commission  
19 prepared districts as well as their maps.

20 But regarding here in Maricopa County, I support a  
21 greater portion of Glendale the further west and south of  
22 Northern Ave. This would benefit being a part of a district  
23 that also includes West Phoenix, Maryvale, some major  
24 streets that would be great boundaries for these would be  
25 Camelback and Northern Ave; the residents of this part of

1           Glendale share much in common with those parts of Maryvale  
2           and West Phoenix and have modest incomes.

3                   And -- but in regards to the repairs for district  
4           or for the grid 7 and 8, the communities along South  
5           Mountain range should be kept together fully. That includes  
6           Laveen, South Mountain, and Guadalupe. Connecting Guadalupe  
7           to the rest of those communities preserves their presence in  
8           a district with other minority populations that are in  
9           Laveen and South Mountain. These areas are all connected to  
10          natural boundaries along South Mountain Park and Preserve.

11                   Once again, thank you for the job. You're doing  
12          this is a very hard thing you do and have a lot of respect  
13          for the time you put in. I just ask that you continue to  
14          take it as seriously as you have and adhere to some of the  
15          concerns that we have regarding the Spanish population and  
16          their ability to have the equal accessibility to some of  
17          these district maps.

18                   Thank you.

19                   (Applause.)

20                   MR. PENA: Our last three speakers are Betzabeth  
21          Rosas, Tim Castro, and Leidy Robledo.

22                   SPEAKER ROSAS: Hi, everyone. Good evening. My  
23          name is Betzabeth Rosas, and I'm here with Arizona Center  
24          for Empowerment; and I will be speaking for the Phoenix  
25          district of South Glendale and West Phoenix/Maryvale.

1 Overall Latinos are now more than 30 percent of the  
2 Arizona's population, and our voting strength must not be  
3 diluted. South Glendale and the West Phoenix/Maryvale area  
4 benefit from being represented together. They are all parts  
5 of a community of interest: majority Latino areas who share  
6 similar challenges and priorities in economic and social  
7 interest. Dividing up these communities will weaken the  
8 power of their votes.

9 As somebody who has grown up here and lived here, I  
10 have a seen those troubles since I was the age of 8 years  
11 old. It doesn't matter what age you are. From the age of 8  
12 to the age 70, you have -- you can see the struggles that  
13 people go through. I have seen how people from my community  
14 have struggled and not have the same attention in our  
15 schools; we don't have the same amount of resources, we  
16 don't have the same amount of teachers who are there to  
17 support us; and the amount of resources around us aren't the  
18 same as a neighborhood up here in Surprise or somewhere  
19 else -- in Scottsdale.

20 And people here in Phoenix, South Glendale, and  
21 Maryvale are people who are a community; people of color;  
22 people who have gone through the same experiences and who  
23 need somebody who can stand up for them and speak about  
24 their struggles and who understand where they come from.

25 We ask that you don't break up these boundaries

1 because we are together, and we have pride in who we are,  
2 and we just need somebody who can speak up for us and who  
3 can say anything that -- who has been through our lives and  
4 who can help us out.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: You know what, I have a  
8 question and it's so late and we're all so tired, but you  
9 actually piqued a, you know, a thought of mine.

10 That is, we're starting to get maps from the Latino  
11 district -- from the Latino community, are there school  
12 districts that are particularly important to empowering the  
13 youth of the Latino community and will that be communicated  
14 within those maps that the communities are -- are  
15 submitting?

16 You don't have to answer that. But -- but based on  
17 what you just shared, based on the youth and the education,  
18 it was something that popped into my mind.

19 Thank you.

20 SPEAKER CASTRO: Good afternoon. To that, for you  
21 guys to like, I was starting to talk to my friends about  
22 this topic, and it's quite the not sexy topic. So, wow.

23 To answer your question, what comes to mind is the  
24 Peoria School District, as far as it goes to when you're  
25 looking at why it has not been successful in passing school



1 bonds so many more times than it had been in being  
2 successful in passing school bonds, and that's because you  
3 have a large elderly population that goes to the voting  
4 booths and consistently knocks down those opportunities to  
5 put tax dollars to, right? We know that's a bond, against  
6 it.

7 So they tend to not pass those, so the Peoria  
8 School District for the longest time is suffering from  
9 having inadequate funding. And I think that's a very good  
10 point to bring up.

11 And that's the kind of point I want to bring up. I  
12 am a native of Arizona. My name is Timothy Castro.

13 Representation matters so much. I was one of  
14 the -- my grandmother's family was one of the first families  
15 displaced with the extension of the I-17 north, displaced  
16 and then put into an area that we now pass 'cause it's in  
17 the shadow of the airport, and there's no economic  
18 development opportunities there. So, it's barely starting  
19 to come back through regentrification.

20 Driving here for the long -- I'm in LD-24, driving  
21 here I reminded myself of the extension of Grand Avenue and  
22 that massive wall that they built up that closed off  
23 El Mirage from economic development. That was a massive --  
24 I went to Peoria High School, 83rd and Peoria was cotton  
25 fields. It was nothing. My family was given land because

1 they're a migrant family; that land was taken by the Boys  
2 and Girls Scouts to put up their building in Peoria.

3 All of these things are predicated on this concept  
4 of representation. There's folks here that said golf  
5 courses are important; there are folks here that have said a  
6 unique voice, a monolithic voice, is important. And I  
7 disagree with that because we do not need to have diversity,  
8 we do need to have representation; and these communities,  
9 regardless of how they identify themselves -- LGBTQ,  
10 disabled, however they identify themselves -- those are very  
11 important topics and you have a very important, horrible  
12 job. I would not -- I found out right now you guys are all  
13 volunteers. My goodness. I was hoping that was not the  
14 case.

15 But I just want you -- and I want to say I do  
16 support the Latino districts because I am a product of  
17 Arizona, and I do agree with the Arizona Latino  
18 Redistricting Coalition because it is important that we keep  
19 these voices in place because we know that the Latino  
20 population is only going to continue to grow and the most --  
21 the most harm we can do is try to keep that voice down.

22 That voice has to be at that golf course and say,  
23 well, what if we do do 3 percent less water? We saw the  
24 reaction; it was a monolithic response.

25 So I know my time is short. I just really want to

1           implore that. We just need to have these representations;  
2           we need these districts to be drawn fairly, accurately; and  
3           for not just today but for the future representation because  
4           we don't want to continue to exclude communities from  
5           economic development, and that's exactly what happens  
6           sometimes.

7                     Thank you.

8                     SPEAKER ROBLED0: Hello, everybody. My name is  
9           Leidy Robledo.

10                    I'm actually really excited to be here. When I  
11           learned about how redistricting worked, it was 2011, I was  
12           in college, and I had just missed the last redistricting.  
13           So I had to wait ten years to be here again.

14                    I think that, you know, just I really want to say  
15           thank you to all the young people who are here instead of  
16           enjoying their nice, cool evening; instead of, like,  
17           watching TV, being on their phones. They're here because  
18           they care. And so I just really thank them for being here  
19           and empowering us to be here.

20                    A lot of the points I wanted to make have already  
21           been made. We do not want to be split up out in the west;  
22           we want to be able to elect officials that represent those  
23           communities, I'm talking about West Phoenix.

24                    And I think this is my first time here trying to  
25           understand the maps, trying to understand the tables; and I

1 think one of the things that just, you know, came up to my  
2 mind, is seeing how little -- how many districts the Latino  
3 community are a majority in, there's very little. And there  
4 are districts -- there are many, many districts where we  
5 have a white majority. And so I just want to point that  
6 out. I don't know if I'm reading the maps wrong or  
7 whatever, but even in the places where we have a higher  
8 representation, we're not a majority.

9 So what does that mean? It means that even though  
10 for the last 30 years of my life I haven't been represented  
11 in Arizona and congressionally as a brown Latina, and that  
12 for the next years I probably won't be represented. So I  
13 really want us to, like, really understand those numbers.

14 I might be looking at it wrong, but the way I see  
15 it I see those numbers and they look horrible for me and for  
16 the next ten years.

17 The other thing I wanted to just point out is I  
18 really want to see you all in Maryvale. It would be amazing  
19 if you could hold one of these in Spanish. It would be  
20 amazing if you-all can go to one of our Native Nations and  
21 hold one of these in their Native, because it's not fair  
22 that we're not doing that; and it's not fair that, like,  
23 satellite locations get canceled last minute; and it's  
24 just -- it's just not inclusive, and if this is about  
25 representation, like, that's already a big mistake.

1 Thank you all.

2 And I know that this is going to be hard and then  
3 though you're not going to get -- not everybody is going to  
4 be happy, but I really hope that you take into account all  
5 of the people that have historically been unrepresented  
6 historically, and I hope that you really take that into  
7 account when you have to decide where to draw the line, and  
8 I hope that you finally give some reparations to those  
9 communities.

10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHAIRPERSON NEUBERG: Okay. I want to thank our  
13 robust state for showing up and expressing your voices.  
14 It's been a truly an honor to receive the awesome feedback.

15 With that, we are going to move to Agenda Item  
16 No. III, which is adjournment.

17 I encourage everybody to please go online and  
18 submit a map using our mapping software at IRC.AZ.GOV.

19 Our next business meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on  
20 Tuesday, October 12th, and our next decision meeting is at  
21 8:00 a.m. on Friday, October 15th.

22 Please go online again at IRC.AZ.GOV for more  
23 information.

24 With that, we will adjourn the meeting, and I look  
25 forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming hearings.

1 Good night.

2 (Applause.)

3 (Whereupon the proceeding concludes at 8:11 p.m.).

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13 ***"This transcript represents an unofficial record. Please***  
14 ***consult the accompanying video for the official record of***  
15 ***IRC proceedings."***

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ARIZONA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF MARICOPA )

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

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

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I have complied with the requirements set forth in ACJA 7-206. Dated at Litchfield Park, Arizona, this 1st of November, 2021.

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

\* \* \*

I CERTIFY that Miller Certified Reporting, LLC, has complied with the requirements set forth in ACJA 7-201 and 7-206. Dated at LITCHFIELD PARK, Arizona, this 1st of November, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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