

Excerpts From the Independent Redistricting Commission Public Hearing in Casa Grande, AZ: June 13, 2001

“Our second wish is we keep Western Pinal County whole. In the best of all worlds we’d have the entire county kept whole.” – Bob Mitchell, Pg 7 Ln 3-5

“...Pinal county is the third largest community, or county, in Arizona and is sandwiched between the Tucson and Phoenix metro areas which have been growing by leaps and bounds and spilled over to Pinal County. There are a lot of things, a lot of cities, transition cities, transitioning to a metropolitan area still that should not be part of Phoenix or Tucson.” - Bob Mitchell, Pg 8 Ln 13-20

“We started from the premise that the Indian communities were communities of interest themselves and would be kept whole in any design that you would come up with under prevailing law. And we attempted to fit this proposal to the Voting Rights Act, as we understand it, and the concept of communities of interest.” –Bob Lynch, Pg 11 Ln 17-23

“In conclusion, the larger question remains: Should communities such as Casa Grande be split into pieces to make a Legislative or Congressional District? Obviously the answer is no.” –Ken Taylor of the Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce, Pg 14 Ln 15-18

“I can assure you, throughout Pinal County, school districts see themselves as a community of interest.” –Frank Davidson of the Elementary District of Casa Grande, Pg 15 Ln 23-25

“We think Pinal County should be a unique district in the state simply from the fact we still carry the four Cs Arizona was founded on, cotton, copper, corn and cattle.” – Roger Hooper, Pg 17 Ln 25 and Pg 18 Ln 1-3

“I think especially those of us in agriculture would like, I think those of us that have been here would like to make that transition and the decisions about that transition for ourselves rather than have them imposed from others on the outside. And for lots of us reasons that others will discuss, decide about agriculture in Pinal County as a whole.” –Brett Benedict, Pg 18 Ln 25 and Pg 19 Ln 1-6

“Water is an economic development driver. It is – it is a public resource which is closely managed. And it is something which underlies most of Pinal County and is part of that.” –David Snider, Chair of the Pinal County Water Augmentation Authority, Pg 25 Ln 24-25 and Pg 26 Ln 1-2

“We support a district that not only keeps Casa Grande whole, keeps Pinal County as much as possible whole as well.” –Snider, Pg 26 Ln 17-20

“You’ve got very good people from District Four, but they live in Show Low, Snowflake. That’s their home. That’s their community of interest. Yet when I trace the line down the riverbank down through Coolidge, it wraps in not all Casa Grande but bifurcates Casa

Grande. You don't have to be a rocket scientist.” – John Klein, president of the Central Arizona College, Pg 28 Ln 22-25

“ ‘By one of the children, our current slogan is ‘I love Casa Grande.’ We hope we when this is finally completed it will still be ‘I love Casa Grande,’ not merely ‘I love my part of Casa Grande.’” – Kim Weatherly Benedict, reading from a note, Pg 40 Ln 1-4

NOTE: These summaries and excerpts were developed for the Independent Redistricting Commission by its consultant, National Demographics Corporation, and have not been reviewed by the Commission prior to posting. They are not official statements of the Commission and represent only the consultant's best effort to identify major themes and highlights of each public hearing. The excerpts were chosen by the consultant in an effort to identify common themes and especially noteworthy statements.

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