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STATE OF ARIZONA
ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Mesa, Arizona
June 25, 2001
7:00 p.m.

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR
Certified Court Reporter

1 THE STATE OF ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING
2 COMMISSION convened in Public Session on June 21, 2001,
3 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in Maricopa County at Mesa
4 Community College, 1833 West Southern Avenue, Mesa,
5 Arizona, in the presence of:

6

7 APPEARANCES:

8 VICE CHAIRMAN ANDI MINKOFF

9 COMMISSIONER JAMES R. HUNTWORK

10 LISA T. HAUSER, Commission Counsel

11 FLORENCE ADAMS, President of NDC

12 ADOLFO ECHEVESTE, Outreach Coordinator

13 AUGUSTA KNIGHT, Outreach Staff

14 LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR, Court Reporter

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1 PRESENTATION BY: VICE CHAIRMAN ANDI MINKOFF

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SPEAKERS FROM CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

3

Meg Burton-Cahill

4

Dale Despain

5

Mike Evans

6

Thomas Padilla

7

Mayor Neil Giuliano

8

Senator Harry Mitchell

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Phil Amorosi

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Dean Cooley

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Scott Burge

12

Chuck Daggs

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Kevin Adam

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Jay Blanchard

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Joe Miller

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Evelyn Ensminger

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Fritz Tuffli

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Bill Bruno

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Alan B. Kerman

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Gary Pierce

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Councilman Hugh Hallman

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Chris Quigley

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Chuck Gray

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Dean Smith

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2 SPEAKERS FROM CALL TO THE PUBLIC CONT'D:

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4 Bill Regner

5 Gary Christensen

6 Kirk Adams

7 Stephanie Sivak

8 Monique Cordova

9 Creation Desautels

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Public Session
Mesa, Arizona
June 25, 2001
7:00 o'clock p.m.

P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. HUNTWORK: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Jim Huntwork. I'm a member of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission.

I'd like to call our meeting to order now. Please find your seats.

Before you say anything further, I would like to call on our outreach coordinator, Adolfo Echeveste, to make a brief announcement in Spanish.

MR. ECHEVESTES: (Whereupon, an announcement to the public that Spanish translation services are available for Spanish speakers.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you. There are a few more introductions I'd like to make before we get started.

Here at the podium to my immediate right, Andrea Minkoff, another member of the Redistricting Commission.

Seated at my far left, Augusta Knight, outreach coordinator.

1 Seated next to Augusta is Lisa Nance, a
2 court reporter who will be making a verbatim transcript
3 of everything that is said here this evening.

4 Next to her is Lisa Hauser, one of the two
5 attorneys we've hired to assist us with this
6 redistricting process.

7 And to my immediate left is Dr. Florence
8 Adams who is President of National Demographics
9 Corporation, the primary consultant we have retained,
10 also, to help us.

11 I would like to point out to all of you
12 that we have sign-up sheets that were handed out at the
13 door as you came in. Anyone that wants to speak to us
14 this evening needs to fill one of these out and hand it
15 to one of our representatives who will bring it up here
16 and we'll attempt to call on you in the order we receive
17 these notices.

18 If, in the course of the evening, you hear
19 somebody say something you want to respond to, make
20 yourself known and someone will bring you the form and
21 we'll give you the chance to speak before we're done.

22 Our primary purpose this evening is, of
23 course, to hear from you. We'll give you ample
24 opportunity to make your comments a little later.
25 Before we do, we have a brief presentation we want to

1 make to you to explain how our Commission has been set
2 up, what our job is, and how we are going about it.

3 My fellow Commissioner, Andi Minkoff, is
4 going to make that presentation.

5 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: Thank you, Jim.

6 If I can direct your attention to the
7 screen at the end of the room. We have a Power Point
8 presentation.

9 Adolfo has given me a lovely laser
10 pointer. He assured me if I point it at someone in the
11 audience inadvertently, I won't vaporize you.

12 Let me explain how the Redistricting
13 Commission came to be, how our task came to be, how
14 we're approaching the task, and give you an idea what
15 we're doing and what our time limit is.

16 The subject is redistricting. That's why
17 we're all here. We're drawing new district lines for
18 districts under Proposition 106.

19 An extremely important difference this
20 year from the way it's been done in the past is that
21 citizens play a crucial role in the process and the
22 redistricting decisions are made by a group of
23 independent citizens rather than by the State
24 Legislature which is how it's been done in the past.

25 These public hearings are to educate you

1 about the process, but mostly they're to educate us
2 about what is important to you and what you want to see
3 in new district lines.

4 We're going all around the State of
5 Arizona. We have 23 formal meetings and we have several
6 other smaller informal ones.

7 We're really trying to cover this with
8 you. We're trying to share our plans with you and find
9 out what you think.

10 We want to make this a fair process and
11 achieve districts that fairly represent the 5.1 million
12 people that live in this wonderful state.

13 Often in the past states around the
14 country involved in redistricting has been accused of
15 being very, very political. It's been a divisive,
16 highly political process. There have been accusations
17 of partisan power plays, protection of incumbents,
18 racial discrimination. The word for such abusive
19 redistricting is gerrymandering. We'll explain why the
20 real pronunciation is gerrymandering.

21 This is a cartoon from the Boston Globe in
22 1811. The Governor at the time was a man named Elbridge
23 Gerry. He was very, very concerned about keeping his
24 political supporters in power. A district was drawn.
25 This was an actually district that went through the

1 various counties listed here. When the political
2 cartoonist drew the district, he added a head, wings,
3 feet, tail. He added these little bits and said it
4 looks like a salamander; no, not a salamander, a
5 gerrymander. The term stuck and is used today for any
6 district that is drawn with the idea of protecting the
7 party in power at the expense of other groups.

8 Here are a couple ways political
9 redistricting can be done for partisan reasons. On the
10 left you will see we've got a couple pockets of what I
11 call the pink party. Here and here is where they live.
12 The rest of it is the green party. The green party
13 wants to stay in power. They figure if they chop up all
14 the pink party areas and spread them among all four
15 districts, they'll be able to control all four of those
16 districts and the pink party won't be able to elect
17 anybody. In effect, what they've done is dilute votes
18 of the pink party so they keep all four districts.

19 On the right is a way of doing the same
20 thing. They've taken two pockets of pink party voters
21 and instead of spreading all the voters, they've packed
22 them into district four giving them that one district.
23 The green party controls the other four districts;
24 therefore, they control the majority of whatever
25 legislative body it is we're using for an example. Both

1 parties have done this. And both parties have done this
2 to the detriment of the voters in whatever group it's
3 being done, because it diminishes the vote.

4 Another type of gerrymandering, not
5 partisan gerrymandering, is racial gerrymandering. You
6 have a block of Hispanic voters here. Hispanic voters
7 traditionally tend to vote, traditionally, with the
8 Democratic party.

9 On the left is a tactic the Republican
10 party might use in creating one single ethnic district,
11 to pack all Hispanic voters and a Democratic incumbent
12 and the other Democratic voters all in one Democratic
13 district giving the Democrats control of two districts,
14 win two, three, and one.

15 On the right, that's what Democrats might
16 do to disenfranchise Democratic voters to preserve a
17 white Democratic incumbent, they'd spread them,
18 minimizing their voice, and protecting the white
19 Democratic incumbent.

20 Both parties do it. Both parties are
21 equally guilty. And it does dilute the votes of the
22 significant segment of people every time it is done.

23 The voters in Arizona wanted to clean up
24 the redistricting process and prevent this kind of thing
25 from happening, so they created a new entity, the

1 Redistricting Commission, to be responsible for a new
2 kind of redistricting process.

3 These are the members of the Redistricting
4 Commission.

5 We were chosen in an affirmative process.
6 That means we applied to be members of this Commission.

7 Prop 106 said that the four leaders of the
8 two Houses of the Legislature each participated in the
9 process.

10 What happened was 311 people were employed
11 to be members of this Commission. The applications were
12 sent to the Commission on Appellate Court Appointments.
13 That Commission narrowed it down to 10 Democrats, 10
14 Republicans, five Independents as finalists, if you
15 will, and sent those names on to the Legislature. The
16 majority minority leaders of each of the Houses of the
17 Legislature each selected one person.

18 The first selection went to the Speaker of
19 the House of Representatives, Jim Weiers. He's a
20 Republican. He selected the senior member of our
21 Commission, Jim Huntwork.

22 Jim is an attorney living in Phoenix. And
23 he was the first selection.

24 Then the Minority Leader of the House
25 Representatives Ken Chevront made the next selection

1 from the 10 Democrats and selected me. I also live in
2 Phoenix. That meant that none of the next two
3 appointees could be from Maricopa County. Prop 106 says
4 no more than two could be from the same county. That
5 meant any people from Phoenix, Glendale, Scottsdale,
6 those finalists were no longer eligible to be selected
7 which really narrowed the list somewhat.

8 The next selection was made from the
9 Leader of the Senate.

10 He chose Daniel Elder, a landscape
11 architect from Tucson.

12 The final partisan selection was made by
13 Jack Brown, not the minority leader because the Senate
14 is divided 15, 15, and he selected Joshua Hall.

15 Josh owns a real estate title company in
16 the White Mountain area, Pinetop, Show Low area, and is
17 the only Commission member from a rural area and brings
18 an important perspective from that perspective.

19 The four of us, two Democrats, two
20 Republicans, got together to select a Chairman. To
21 select a chairman we got together to select a Chairman
22 from the five names. All five were registered
23 Independents for a minimum of five years. By the time
24 we were ready to select, one of the five removed his
25 name from consideration because he accepted a position

1 as a paid lobbyist. Prop 106 says you cannot accept a
2 position on the Commission if you hold office, hold an
3 office of a political party, or are a paid lobbyist. He
4 had taken a position as a paid lobbyist. His pay as a
5 lobbyist is much better.

6 We selected Steve Lynn to be Chairman.
7 Steve works for Tucson Power and
8 Unisource, its parent company, and is Chairman of the
9 Commission.

10 The five of us are charged with
11 implementing Prop 106.

12 This is what it says: Establish
13 congressional and legislative districts. Commencement
14 of the mapping process for both Congressional and
15 Legislative Districts shall be the creation of districts
16 of equal population in a grid-like pattern across the
17 state.

18 We'll talk more about this.

19 I want you understand what the grid is and
20 more importantly what the grid is not.

21 These are the goals of redistricting that
22 are contained in Prop 106.

23 First of all, we have to comply with the
24 Federal Constitution and the United States Voting Rights
25 Act. Equal protection of the Constitution requires

1 districts be essentially equal in size and all votes
2 count same.

3 The Voting Rights Act protects the voting
4 rights of minorities, makes sure no voting rights are
5 diluted and electoral rights in the process.

6 Federal requirements are also restated in
7 Prop 106, the state requirements. Congressional
8 districts must be of equal population to the extent
9 practicable and state legislative districts must be of
10 equal population to the extent practicable.

11 The courts have held "to the extent
12 practicable" is pretty much exactly equal.

13 The population of the State of Arizona in
14 the 2000 Census, as provided to us by the Census Bureau,
15 divides by eight. We have eight Congressional
16 Districts. The government would like to see them have
17 all exactly equal districts.

18 in 1990 they were divisible by six with
19 three left over. Three districts one more person than
20 the other three. And that is what they mean by equal
21 population. We will come as close to that as we
22 possibly can.

23 We have a little more leeway with the
24 state than legislative districts. The courts
25 traditionally have held within five percent is okay.

1 We believe Prop 106 will hold a stricter
2 standard than that. We'll try come much closer than
3 that.

4 Districts shall be geographically compact
5 and contiguous to the extent practicable. They'll not
6 look like the Elbridge Gerrymander.

7 They shall respect communities of interest
8 boundaries to the extent practicable. And that's why
9 we're here. Communities of interest is why we're here.

10 Communities of interest is a term coined
11 by Sandra Day O'Connor in a voting rights case. The
12 only problem was she didn't tell us what she meant. We
13 have to figure that out. There are a couple ways to do
14 that. We can sit down and figure out what we thought
15 communities of interest are. We thought a better way to
16 do it is come to you and ask that you tell us what your
17 community of interest is. What group or groups have the
18 same political concerns that you have. What group or
19 groups should be represented by the same people so that
20 there issues and concerns can be adequately prepared.
21 And we're here tonight to hear from you and have you
22 tell us what you believe your community of interest is.

23 Point E, to the extent practicable,
24 district lines shall use visible geographic features,
25 city, town, and county boundaries, and undivided Census

1 tracts.

2 To the extent practicable, competitive
3 districts should be favored where to do so would create
4 no significant detriment to the other goals.

5 Where we have the extent to favor A
6 through E, that's favored, or one through six. We have
7 to comply with A through E regardless.

8 These are a couple things we can't do.
9 First of all, initially, we can't consider party
10 registration voting history. It has to be excluded from
11 the initial phase initially but can be used to test maps
12 for compliance with the above goals.

13 Places of residence of incumbents or
14 candidates shall not be considered at any point in the
15 process.

16 We had a situation at one of the earlier
17 meetings where somebody stood up and started telling us
18 the address of an incumbent. Our attorney at that
19 meeting stopped him immediately. That is not part of
20 the process. And because of that, we don't know where
21 any incumbents live. It is highly likely when we're
22 through, we'll find new districts creating and combining
23 incumbents that are currently represented by other
24 districts. It's not intentional; cannot be intentional.
25 We don't know where incumbents live.

1 charged our consultants with that grid, and we decided
2 to use Arizona townships for the building block for the
3 grid. It made sense for a couple of reasons. First of
4 all, townships had a straight line, they are six miles
5 square. Secondly, all of the western states have been
6 surveyed on the basis of townships, so it seems like a
7 sensible, neutral building block to use for these grids.
8 It didn't have any political overtones, was simply a
9 matter of surveying real estate.

10 We chose the Gila and Salt River Meridian
11 as that was the traditional point where all townships in
12 Arizona began. All townships in the State of Arizona
13 relate to that number. That divided the state into four
14 quadrants. We picked a quadrant to start by lottery.
15 Northwest one. Then we flipped a coin for clockwise or
16 counterclockwise. And counterclockwise won.

17 On June 7th we saw the grid for the first
18 time. We saw it in a public meeting at the same time
19 the people who had chosen to come to that meeting saw
20 it. It is the starting point for the Prop 106 process.

21 All right. This explains we use
22 townships. This is a township. Now, in urban areas,
23 townships in many cases have more population than we
24 need for one district. But in rural areas, we need to
25 aggregate townships. First thing we did is create a

1 grid for townships. When that was not enough, four
2 grids, four townships became an intermediate grid,
3 intermediate townships; some really sparsley populated
4 areas, four intermediate townships became
5 supertownships. Then we took the Census tracts and
6 overlaid them on the township grid. If you've seen the
7 grid, and many of you received copies of it when you
8 came in the door, you'll say it doesn't look like
9 straight lines. And that's because Census tracts don't
10 have straight lines.

11 A Census tract was overlaid on the
12 township and looked at where the majority of the
13 population in that Census tract resided. Wherever the
14 majority of the population in that township resided,
15 that's where the Census tract resided. Census tracts
16 don't cross township lines, so you'll see they stay in
17 counties.

18 The grid, but the grid is only a division
19 of 30 districts of equal population for the Legislative
20 grid, eight districts of equal population for the
21 Congressional grid. It's not a map. It took nothing
22 into consideration other than equal population.

23 We know we have split cities, that we have
24 split towns, we have split traditional communities of
25 interest. We have split Indian reservations.

1 Traditionally that's not done. Indian reservations are
2 kept together in a single district.

3 We did not consider minority voting
4 patterns in developing the grid. Prop 106 said the only
5 thing to consider is population.

6 A lot of people are concerned my district
7 should hook like this or my district is divided into
8 four districts. It is not. The grid is only a starting
9 point, and many adjustments will be made to that grid
10 before we have draft maps to share with the public.

11 The next part of the process is public
12 hearings. That's where we are now. After the public
13 hearings, after the input you give us and the input from
14 the other 22 hearings you give us, we'll develop draft
15 maps of the legislative districts. We'll advertise, put
16 it in the newspaper, put it on the website, put it on
17 television, put it anywhere they'll let us. And we'll
18 allow for 30 days' public comment. You can come back
19 during that time, come back around to the public
20 hearing, at that point round to the public hearing. At
21 that point if you don't like the lines, tell us. Those
22 are the lines we'll be considering.

23 We'll be sending those lines to the
24 Legislature, and they'll have time to send those to us.

25 At the end of 30 days, we will adopt a

1 semifinal map. Because what we are hoping to do at that
2 point is have enough time to put that out for a short
3 period public comment, a week or so, there may not be
4 enough outreach meetings, on the website; and people can
5 contact the Commission directly and let us know whether
6 we've hit the mark or not.

7 And then we send that plan to the
8 Department of Justice for their review and for their
9 concurrence.

10 When you came in tonight you got a citizen
11 input form, a very, very important part of the process.
12 I encourage everybody here, whether you choose speak out
13 or not, please fill out the citizen input form. We
14 really want to hear from you.

15 The first thing we ask is name, telephone,
16 address. We need this information in case there's
17 anything we don't understand so we can call you for
18 clarification, in case there's a asked question, so we
19 can get back to you with an answer to the question.
20 Tell us your name, address, telephone number.

21 Your major concern, whatever you think
22 that it is.

23 What boundary lines would you like to see
24 in your area?

25 What boundary lines would you not like to

1 see in your area?

2 What groups, neighborhoods, should not be
3 divided by new district boundaries?

4 And then there's a series of questions
5 that you rank in order of priority.

6 What information would you like us to take
7 into account in drawing boundary lines: Keeping a
8 community intact? Bringing particular groups together?
9 Using man-made or natural boundaries? Drawing
10 congressional and legislative districts that include
11 whole cities? Using local government boundaries when
12 drawing Congressional and Legislative lines? Keeping
13 Census tracts from being split? You'll tell us what is
14 important to you. Using freeways and major
15 transportation routes? Drawing compact and contiguous
16 shapes for districts?

17 SPEAKER FROM THE FLOOR: You went too fast
18 there.

19 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: That should be on
20 the citizen form when you came in.

21 There are several ways to get the form to
22 us. If you like, complete it, hand it in tonight. You
23 can mail it in. You can take it home and mail it in.
24 The address is on the bottom of the form. If you are
25 going to do that, I encourage you to do it very, very

1 quickly. This is the last week of public outreach
2 meetings. Our last meeting is Thursday night. Next
3 week we start drawing lines. We need to hear from you
4 as quickly as possible so we incorporate your input into
5 the lines we draw.

6 If you want to take it home, take more
7 time to fill it out, please get it to us as quickly as
8 possible.

9 The other thing is use the website,
10 www.azredistricting.org. The citizen input form is on
11 website. You can fill out this and send it in
12 electronically. We all get copies of those. Every day
13 the web master e-mails all the citizen forms turned in
14 so far. I look at them, print them out, read them, and
15 file them so they're available for me to look at at any
16 time. Every word written to us I take very seriously
17 and take every single bit of input so far, and I'll read
18 yours, too.

19 Use the website to complete the form.
20 Also use the website for other things. Find out more
21 about Prop 106, see draft maps when we have them, find
22 out a little bit about the Commissioners. There are
23 Frequently asked questions there, Census information on
24 existing districts, information about the State of
25 Arizona. Just browse it. There is a lot of information

1 about the redistricting process.

2 If you want to provide more detail, if you
3 want to draw a map, you received information when you
4 came in to help you do that.

5 You received some area maps, a map of the
6 State of Arizona, some instruction. If you want to draw
7 some lines and turn it in and say "This is what I think
8 a district should hook like, this is where I live and
9 this is what I see as the district that should best
10 represent me, please do that; because we want that
11 input. But when you are doing that, please keep in mind
12 that we have to follow the criteria in Prop 106.

13 So if you draw a district that doesn't
14 meet that criteria, it won't be much good to us: Equal
15 population, 641,000 people Congressional; Legislative,
16 171,000 people. If you give us 172,000, we can't use
17 it, it's too big. If you give us a Congressional
18 District with 571,000, it's too small.

19 Keep in mind the Voting Rights Act, be
20 cognizant we're not changing the voting rights in the
21 redistricting plan, and be aware of the other
22 requirements in Prop 106.

23 The schedule of the public hearings,
24 that's what we're doing now; development of plans; more
25 public hearings; final plans; and then submission of

1 plans to the US Department of Justice. We hope to do
2 that by about September 1st. They can take about four
3 months. We need to have plans in place by September
4 1st. People running for office need to have it in place
5 by the 1st of the year. They need to know who can sign
6 their petitions. And if they want to get small
7 contributions, they need to know who they can get
8 contributions from.

9 And now it's clapping, so it's time for me
10 to stop talking.

11 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you, Andi.
12 And now it is your turn to talk to us.

13 Before I call on the first speaker, there
14 are a few simple rules or suggestions I'd like to make
15 to make your presentation more effective. Come to the
16 podium and speak into the one connected to the amplifier
17 so everyone can hear you. And the other one is a tape
18 recorder. We're also making a tape-recorded transcript
19 of the meeting.

20 Secondly, before you start to speak,
21 please state your name and spell it for the court
22 reporter unless the spelling is completely obvious.

23 When you speak, take as much time as you
24 need to make your point. At the same time, be as brief
25 as you possibly can in courtesy to your fellow citizens

1 here tonight. Andi and I will stay as long as is
2 necessary to hear everybody anyway, but we have over 20
3 people registered to speak, so this could take quite
4 some time.

5 We appreciate your cooperation as much as
6 possible.

7 When you make your presentation, please do
8 not identify the address of a candidate or incumbent.
9 If you happen to be a candidate or incumbent, please
10 don't write your home address on the speaker slip or any
11 other written material you file with the Commission.
12 The proposition states this information not to be
13 identified or considered. Our is job not to consider
14 it. It's your job not to identify it. We'd appreciate
15 your help in scrupulously helping complying with the
16 Arizona Constitution.

17 Lastly, I'd say if you have a question
18 you'd like to ask us, please hold off until the end.
19 We'll stay with the consultants as long as necessary
20 afterwards and answer questions you have.

21 The primary purpose of this gathering is
22 to allow you to give input and make statements. I'd
23 just as soon hold questions until the end.

24 With those suggestions and no further ado,
25 I'll call on the first speaker, Meg Burton-Cahill.

1 REPRESENTATIVE BURTON-CAHILL: Meg
2 Burton-Cahill.

3 I didn't plan to speak. Of course I'd be
4 drawn to be the first person.

5 It deals with the whole state and my
6 personal community.

7 One of the things I heard since November,
8 a complaint I heard not about the Commission, the fact
9 we have some areas of the state, Casa Grande divided
10 into three districts, or Bullhead City in also more than
11 one district, that when you have a very small part of
12 any community taken and put into a separate district so
13 most of the community is in one district and a small
14 part of the community is in another district, at least
15 from what I've heard, people feel very disenfranchised.
16 Case in point, my community, Tempe, one of the things
17 I've heard, people West of Mill Avenue and North of, I
18 think, 13th Street and North of the lake have been in,
19 in the last 20 years, I believe, in two different
20 districts. One went to way east Mesa. One way into
21 north Scottsdale, and didn't feel they were part of
22 their community. And that's that.

23 I wanted to say one other quick thing.
24 And that is I think look at the school districts in
25 Tempe and the elementary school districts. The percent

1 of population broken down is roughly 39 percent, I
2 believe, Hispanic; 39 percent white non-Hispanic; and
3 the other 22 percent or so is a mixture.

4 I think we have a very diverse community.
5 I hope the sense of community would be respected by the
6 Commission.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. DESPAIN: It must be fortuitous I
9 follow Mrs. Cahill. I'm representing the Tempe
10 Elementary School District. She alludes to that.

11 I notice with interest one of the areas,
12 the guidelines you look at, or places, guide marks,
13 whatever you want to call it, you use to draw boundary
14 lines, would be freeways. I wanted to call your
15 attention to that the freeways in Tempe are hooked
16 together. There are a lot of them because they begin
17 converge there. I wanted you to be aware in Tempe
18 Elementary School District, if you follow freeways, our
19 school district, which is six miles by six miles, a
20 small area like that, 202 and Red Mountain Freeway, our
21 district lays north of that and part south. The
22 Superstition Freeway, part is north and part is south.
23 The 101, the Price Freeway, part is east and part is
24 west. And the Maricopa freeway, the same situation. So
25 when you get to that part of the area and look at

1 drawing lines, you might want to look at something other
2 than the freeway.

3 Now that I have some information, we'll
4 try to draw a suggestion and get that to you. Thank
5 you.

6 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

7 The next speaker is Paul Petersen.

8 MR. PETERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner,
9 members of the public. P E T E R S E N, get the O N a
10 lot; it's not O N.

11 I appreciate the time you are taking to
12 have public hearings. It adds credibility. I'm nearing
13 my last year at ASU of law school. I had the pleasure
14 of taking an election law class taught by Scott Bales in
15 his wisdom or sense of humor, he gave a redistricting
16 question on the final exam. We won't talk about what my
17 score was.

18 I'm a student, have grown up in Tempe,
19 between district 29 and 21. I think the most important
20 thing for you to consider, it looks like all you are
21 taking into consideration is townships. For example,
22 Tempe has -- is, as has been alluded to, very diverse.
23 Student population, another area that generally
24 residents have lived there a long time, Mesa, usually a
25 lot of Mesa residents, and they're drastically

1 different.

2 As long as you take those things into
3 consideration, Mesa is huge, will be divided into four
4 districts. Dividing townships, historical, legislative
5 lines, natural boundaries or whatever, it was difficult,
6 I had to do it on the test. It's hard.

7 I came to voice my concerns as just a
8 citizen, someone concerned in the political process.

9 I appreciate your time. Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Mike Evans.

11 MR. EVANS: Good evening. Thanks for the
12 tonight to speak.

13 I'm here to talk about minorities of
14 interest. I'm a minority in the East Valley, a
15 Democrat. Please take that as a community of interest
16 into consideration when you start drawing lines. There
17 are a few others of us scattered around.

18 I guess what I really do want to talk
19 about is communities of interest. Having lived in the
20 state 30 some years, this is now the third process I've
21 watched come through; no, the fourth one. I was paying
22 attention when we did it in 1971.

23 Clearly what Meg Cahill was talking about
24 is splitting up towns. It also gets to be a problem in
25 the Phoenix metropolitan area. I realize, of course,

1 what you have generated so far we have to look at is the
2 grids.

3 I used to be the Executive Director of
4 Common Cause. I was in on the first set of meetings
5 that came up with the idea for the initiative. If you
6 look at this, you have Mesa on the Congressional map.
7 You have Mesa, Gilbert, and Queen Creek basically lumped
8 together. Mesa is four times the size of Gilbert and,
9 what, 200 times the size of Queen Creek. Clearly we
10 would be dwarfed for representation.

11 I live in Gilbert. It would be best, if
12 we're going to have to group the municipalities like
13 that, from my point of view, having something like
14 Tempe, Chandler, Gilbert grouped together better than
15 being lumped in with Mesa so we don't get dwarfed by
16 Mesa.

17 Much the same way with the grids for the
18 Legislative Districts, one situated south of the
19 Superstition Freeway West of Gilbert north of Chandler
20 and Central Tempe and lumps them in together. So you
21 would have none of the Chandler, Tempe, Gilbert, none of
22 the municipalities in the east valley that, again, are
23 dwarfed by Mesa individually; but, together, we could
24 hold our own against the metropolis to the north split
25 up.

1 So, again, there's not enough of us in
2 Queen Creek and Gilbert to make a district. There will
3 be. Keep in mind, Gilbert grew to 74 percent in the
4 1990s from 9,000 to 90,000; today, 225 thousand now. Is
5 roughly growing today 20,000 a year.

6 I think when looking at it in the
7 metropolitan area, communities of interest make the most
8 sense as municipal boundaries. You can't really do it
9 with the school district boundaries, because the school
10 district boundaries don't make any sense.

11 The Gilbert School District likes to
12 remind the Town of Gilbert they existed before the Town
13 of Gilbert was even thought of. The railroad uses that
14 argument, too. I don't think it holds any water. The
15 police try to respect the municipalities so we're not
16 dwarfed.

17 I'm sure the Phoenix metropolitan area,
18 west Phoenix cities, don't want to be dwarfed by Phoenix
19 like we don't want to be dwarfed by Mesa. If you can do
20 that, we'd appreciate it.

21 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

22 The next speaker is Thomas Padilla.

23 MR. PADILLA: Good evening. What I'd like
24 to do is just read a letter I sent to you into the
25 record. I sent this letter.

1 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

2 MR. PADILLA: Thank you for the
3 opportunity to provide input on the new Legislative and
4 Congressional Districts. It's changes in Congressional
5 Districts that may have greater impact on. I think
6 you've heard that from other speakers already. I'm
7 deeply concerned about the impact on the process in my
8 city, Chandler; therefore, I want to offer my idea for
9 consideration.

10 As a community activist Hispanic, I ask
11 you not divide our downtown surrounding area. This area
12 is the nucleus of our Hispanic community, contains the
13 oldest neighborhoods, and a very heavy concentration of
14 Hispanics reside there. This section is a cohesive area
15 of the Chandler community. In many cases, generations
16 and generations make this part of the city their home.

17 Another concern is Chandler is divided
18 among a number of Congressional Districts.

19 Again, I think that is something you'll
20 hear all over tonight.

21 Two Legislative Districts have a
22 meaningful influence on the legislative process. If the
23 population of Chandler is carved up into two districts,
24 our community's voice is greatly diminished at the
25 Legislature.

1 Based on these concerns, our first concern
2 is to divide Chandler into two districts using Dobson
3 Road as the center dividing line. If this concept is
4 not feasible, putting all of the City of Chandler into a
5 single district. A single district somewhat limits our
6 representation but is far preferable than many
7 legislative districts at the bottom core of the
8 community.

9 I hope you'll consider these remarks as
10 you consider the City of Chandler.

11 Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker
13 is Neil Giuliano.

14 MAYOR GIULIANO: I'm Neil Giuliano,
15 G I U L I A N O.

16 I appreciate the opportunity to comment on
17 our community of interest, having been in Tempe almost
18 10 years now. I support and appreciate the work you are
19 doing.

20 There are different ways to look at the
21 topic of community of interest. One way to look at it
22 is geographic boundaries, which I know you are looking
23 at. Another way is look at issues of communities of
24 interest you've have had to address over a period of
25 time.

1 The greater region as a community of
2 interest had to address the issue of transportation
3 awhile a back. The greater community in the region
4 voted down the VAL Transit. Tempe supported it. Voters
5 in the region, the community, did not support Rio Salado
6 in mid '80. Voters of Tempe did.

7 I would say the voting patterns of
8 individual areas, especially our community of interest,
9 Tempe, is very important to consider when looking at
10 potentially dividing a community of interest.

11 I, in looking at some of the current
12 concepts out there, Tempe is being divided much more
13 than we are right now. I think that would dilute the
14 community of interest we have as a community.

15 More and more as a region grows further
16 and further into the desert, Tempe more and more is in
17 the center of the region. That's why we, it's very
18 important our community of interest be contained rather
19 than further split.

20 Since we have communities of interest
21 different than quickly growing parts of the region, it's
22 different than growing parts of concern. As you take an
23 opportunity to look at goals, and so forth, the concept
24 of the grid, Tempe is basically laid out in the grid.
25 You can easily choose one of the east-west streets in

1 the northern part of the community, one of the major
2 east-west streets in the southern part of the community,
3 one of the north-south streets on the east and west, and
4 find a pretty self-contained rectangle, very
5 geographically compact, and meet the goals.

6 I appreciate the opportunity to comment
7 and the difficult task before you.

8 Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker
10 is Harry Mitchell.

11 SENATOR MITCHELL: Thank you very much.
12 And a great deal of what I today say has been said by
13 those people from Tempe.

14 I've lived in Tempe all my life, gone to
15 school 28 years, same high school, served that community
16 in a governmental capacity for 24 years. I feel I know
17 the community very, very well.

18 One of the things I kind of alluded to, it
19 may be hard to determine what is a community of
20 interest.

21 When I was a child growing up in Tempe.
22 Tempe was all off on its own, separated by the river.
23 All the towns in this area are pretty distinct
24 communities.

25 One thing Tempe has noted been for since

1 many years ago, it's a small sleepy college town and you
2 could know Tempe because of all the smells, lots of feed
3 lots, lots of sewage disposal plants along the riverbed.
4 Only those that had a good feel is those that lived
5 there.

6 One of the great places in Tempe, I'm
7 proud to live there, have done that, I've spoken as a
8 choice, as said before, on traditional issues. Tempe is
9 the most densely populated city within the state.

10 When you look at the freeways, as Dale
11 pointed out, it's not a good test where the communities
12 of interest are. I don't think anybody identifies
13 themselves as north, south, east, west of the freeways.
14 Those are not the boundaries that identify the city or
15 communities of interest.

16 Our City Hall is symbolic, it's upside
17 down and yet not upside down. We're a point where this
18 community and the valley meet. That's why you find so
19 many freeway miles, thoroughfares through the community.
20 Looking at some, the grid map as laid out, it's all
21 different districts or areas Tempe could be involved in.

22 I think it's important we look at schools.
23 Dale mentioned Tempe Elementary School. It's one of the
24 few schools that pretty much are the boundaries of a
25 city. And some of the other districts that sever Tempe

1 go over. Tempe Elementary is pretty much within the
2 city boundaries.

3 I guess what I'm here to say is after
4 listening to the presentation, this is not the time to
5 comment on particular areas.

6 Communities of interest is a very
7 difficult thing. People intend to be feeling, feel
8 different from other communities.

9 Tempe is one not growing very fast. It's
10 highly, densely populated. I'd say the City of Tempe
11 right now, the population is about the same as you are
12 looking for in the numbers for Legislative Districts,
13 about 170,000 people. It's not the time -- this
14 district is as effective as it will be.

15 Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

17 Next speaker is Phil Amorosi.

18 MR. AMOROSI: Phil Amorosi, A M O R O S I.

19 I've lived in the City of Tempe since
20 1975. And it pained me to see that initial grid, see
21 Tempe drawn and quartered. We're not really like Mesa,
22 not like Gilbert. The last Census showed the City of
23 Tempe to have 160,000 people. If a Legislative District
24 is 170,000, we could easily add to that, City of
25 Guadalupe adds to Tempe, that adds another 6,000

1 citizens. Guadalupe gets discounts at parks and
2 recreations in the City of Tempe. We consider them a
3 good neighbor. I consider them a good neighbor.

4 Keep the City of Tempe together.

5 Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Dean Cooley.

7 MR. COOLEY: I'm Dean Cooley, C O O L E Y.

8 I want to commend the Commission for the
9 difficult task that you are taking on for yourself here.

10 I do have a few suggestions. I was born
11 and raised in Mesa. The last 40 years I've lived in the
12 Lehigh area of Mesa, which is on the north side. That
13 area is commonly known as the area north of McKellips,
14 east of Country Club, and west of Gilbert Road.
15 Currently there are some precincts left north of
16 McKellips which takes them out of the Lehigh community
17 of interest. This is a community of a more rural area,
18 and I would like to see that maintained.

19 As far as gerrymandering, 10 years ago, I
20 was -- had the opportunity to look at maps when those
21 decisions were made. The Salt River Indian Reservation
22 was part of the Legislative District in northeast Mesa.
23 And with the changes that were made 10 years ago, there
24 was a significant, as you all know, significant
25 gerrymandering to create a safe district, District

1 Seven, which included the Salt River Indian Community
2 and went all the way around to Laveen. That is extreme
3 gerrymandering.

4 I appreciate the guidelines that you have.
5 I'm not sure that they will stand up when it's taken to
6 the Justice Department, but I personally have lived in
7 the Lehigh area for 40 years. We have close
8 relationships with the Indian community. I personally
9 have. I have no problem personally with the thing about
10 the Indian Community, Salt River Indian Community being
11 associated with northeast Mesa as it is currently drawn
12 on the maps that I have here.

13 There are a couple of areas that I wonder
14 about, north of the Salt River Indian Reservation
15 boundaries, there is a certain section between the north
16 boundary and Shea Boulevard, which is white man's land,
17 not Indian reservation, part of Scottsdale, or some
18 other part that is absolutely not part of the community
19 of interest of Mesa nor the Indian Community. I think
20 that's improper to have that section north of the Indian
21 reservation included in this particular district.

22 Also, on the south and west corner with
23 Pima Road being the west boundary of the Indian
24 reservation, there appears to be a block of land that
25 goes into south Scottsdale or north Tempe that is being

1 thrown into the northeast Mesa district, again. And I
2 think that is improper. Those people do not have a
3 community of interest with the major part of the
4 district. And, therefore, that little section that is
5 east of Pima Road, somehow, ought to be left in those
6 districts that are in Tempe and Scottsdale.

7 If, in fact, there is a problem with the
8 Salt River Indian Community becoming a part of this
9 northeast district that you are proposing in your grid
10 here, and that has to be gerrymandered to create some
11 other thing to satisfy the Justice Department, then, of
12 course, I would prefer to see the eastern boundary of
13 that particular district moved on out to Ellsworth or
14 so. Because that -- there's still a community of
15 interest, northeast Mesa moved on out to North Power
16 Road. Those people are still part of Mesa, east Mesa.
17 If you have to draw the Indian reservation out of east
18 Mesa, you'd do well look at Ellsworth as a dividing road
19 rather than Power Road as you now have that map drawn.

20 Thank you very much.

21 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker
22 is Scott Burge.

23 MR. BURGE: I must be a kook. I didn't
24 grow up in Tempe.

25 When I got out of college, got out of the

1 service, I moved to Tempe. I Knew how to like people,
2 there were more hugs than critics. It was a city with
3 100,000 people, a diverse group.

4 Most people run to the Tempe section of
5 the paper than run to the headlines. That's unique.

6 I don't think we should be split up.

7 Look at what we have, two Democrats, one
8 Republican. We're not supposed to talk about that. One
9 Democrat, one Republican. That's what happens. Parties
10 don't matter.

11 Look at the schools. Look at things that
12 impact our lives.

13 We have a nice community. Don't divide it
14 up.

15 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Can I ask you to
16 spell your name for the court reporter?

17 MR. BURGE: Last name is Burge, B U R G E.

18 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker
19 is Chuck Daggs.

20 MR. DAGGS: It's spelled D A G G S.

21 Thank you. I'll be brief.

22 First of all, I'm glad to see you
23 recognize municipal lines in some of the grids you drew.

24 The second thing, I live in Mesa. I'm one
25 of the millions that came in the last 10 years.

1 I like Mesa. I think we have a lot of
2 common problems we deal with and our community of
3 interest ought to be maintained.

4 On that account, I do not believe
5 Scottsdale and Fountain Hills should be included with
6 Mesa. You can hardly get there from where I live.
7 Also, if looking for a line, Salt River makes a good
8 line. There are no bridges there. You don't generally
9 cross it. And also, by the same token, Power Road is
10 not a good divider. It doesn't divide anything, really.

11 I'd suggest, if you would, please, look at
12 school districts. They do cross Power Road. They make
13 better lines than Power Road would. Otherwise, I ask
14 you to consider that.

15 I support you. Come up with good,
16 contiguous, nongerrymandered districts.

17 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Kevin Adam.

18 MR. ADAM: Thank you. I'm Kevin Adam, a
19 representative for the City of Mesa, a public relations
20 representative there. I appreciate you coming to the
21 City of Mesa.

22 The first thing I would like to address is
23 the level of public participation.

24 As we've been told, the grids look very
25 much, or probably very far away, from what the final

1 product would be. I encourage the Commission to allow a
2 high level of participation until we get to the end
3 product.

4 In regard to Legislative Districts, the
5 city is very much in favor of respecting city boundaries
6 as well as communities of interest. In many ways, we
7 consider the city to be a community of interest.
8 Residents share common identity, rely on the same city
9 services, rely on the same locally elected officials.
10 We consider ourselves a community of interest. We want
11 to make sure that is considered with the district
12 boundaries.

13 Looking at Mesa's population, 400,000, if
14 we were compacted, we'd make two Mesa districts plus
15 possibly a third of another. We'd probably prefer to
16 have representation in more than three districts, but at
17 the same time we want to make sure we don't have small
18 slivers of Mesa that are an insignificant percentage of
19 a different percentage. We have that situation now in
20 Dobson Ranch, are actually represented in District Six,
21 but it's primarily the Chandler District.

22 We think those folks have more in common
23 with Chandler than with their Mesa neighbors that reside
24 in the other Mesa districts. We hope a situation like
25 that will not occur with the redistricting.

1 In regard to the Congressional Districts,
2 currently we have a heavy representation in two
3 congressional districts right now, CD One and Six.
4 Because of the explosive growth we're experiencing in
5 Mesa, we clearly don't want to see our influence in two
6 districts diminished. At a minimum, we'd like to stay
7 in two districts. In fact, looking at the grid system
8 to date, the grid that looks the closest to
9 Congressional District Four appears to have a smaller
10 portion of Mesa in it. And again, we would hope that we
11 would have a significant percentage in at least the two
12 districts.

13 With that, thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

15 The next speaker is Jay Blanchard,

16 MR. BLANCHARD: Jay Blanchard, J A Y,

17 B L A N C H A R D.

18 I'd like to talk about communities of
19 interest from a slightly different angle.

20 As you are aware, 40 percent of the folks
21 out there weren't here 10 years ago. They're here from
22 somewhere else. Often they think they're on vacation
23 with their furniture. They sometimes don't affiliate.
24 In fact, life was better in Iowa. Life was better in
25 Illinois. Everybody was above average somewhere else.

1 Their politicians were better than our politicians.
2 Life was great back there. And they don't affiliate.
3 And we face a difficult decision when our Legislative
4 and Congressional Districts break apart our cities.

5 Our mayors, city councilmen, city
6 councilwomen work hard to build affiliation, resources,
7 time, resources to build a sense community, and, sadly,
8 we look at some Congressional and District maps and it's
9 torn apart.

10 So we try to show folks life can be good
11 in Arizona and work as hard as possible whenever
12 possible to work hard to maintain cities in the
13 Legislative and Congressional Districts.

14 Thank you for your work.

15 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

16 The next speaker is Joe Milner.

17 MR. MILNER: M I L N E R.

18 I wish to speak to the point of community.
19 I want to speak particularly to the point of Tempe as a
20 community.

21 I lived in Tempe since 1967. I know
22 there's not another community in the valley like the
23 community of Tempe, because the community of Tempe is a
24 group that has worked together, never sought or been
25 helped by a caucus, but the people of Tempe has worked

1 together over the years, has come together over the
2 years.

3 I'd like to mention a few of those:
4 Arizona State University Center; Arizona Merchants
5 Association; Tempe Town Lake; Rio Salado; Tempe
6 Historical Society; Tempe Pile Society; Hackett House;
7 and one of the other things is the Tempe Sister City
8 Octoberfest, 1,200 Tempeians, people that like Tempe,
9 make Octoberfest such success. Although a lot of people
10 that work in the valley would like to choose Tempe, I
11 would urge the Commission to consider establishing Tempe
12 as a unit itself, as a Legislative District.

13 Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker
15 is Evelyn Ensminger.

16 MS. ENSMINGER: E N S M I N G E R.

17 I'm a five-year resident of Michigan --
18 Arizona, excuse me. My children preceded me here by 30
19 years, so I don't feel like I'm an alien to Arizona.
20 I'm not one of those that didn't affiliate right away.
21 I'm in that little corner of east Mesa split off. I
22 can't imagine myself as involved as I am with community
23 projects going out to Fountain Hills. I can't even get
24 there. Like Chuck, I can't get there from where I live.
25 And also up to north Scottsdale. I think that's an area

1 that just rips us apart and puts us with somebody else
2 that we just don't seem to fit with. I want to be with
3 what we're involved with, get back with the neighbors
4 I've been involved with.

5 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: This name, I
6 apologize in advance. I believe it's Fritz Tuffli.

7 MR. TUFFLI: Actually, you did a pretty
8 good job.

9 My name is Fritz, F R I T Z, T U F F L I.

10 First of all, I'd like to commend the
11 Commission for doing, I think, a very conscientious and
12 complete job of giving us a starting point with these
13 grids and adhering to the provisions of the proposition
14 that created this process. It certainly lacks a human
15 touch. And I guess that's what we're here for today.

16 Before I get into my point I'm here to
17 make, I have a couple concerns I'd like to raise I hope
18 you'll address.

19 One is I guess I've looked on the internet
20 you've put up. I've called the Commission, talked to
21 the executive director. I've asked for the mail piece
22 and gotten the maps, such as they are, from the
23 Commission, and sorted through all of this. I still am
24 at a loss to be able to, even as a starting point, to
25 have exact boundary lines I can make reference to.

1 That's a problem for me in anticipating this process.

2 The company produced these maps. The
3 company explained how it was done: completely
4 objective, in order to produce maps. They had to have
5 exact boundary lines.

6 My first concern and my request is you
7 post on the internet and provide in the material what
8 exact boundary lines are these proposed grids so we have
9 a little bit better starting point.

10 Another, not so much a concern but
11 suggestion, is in the process, I understand how
12 townships are used and how it's counterclockwise and
13 from the center. That's all fine and good.

14 It seems something that might have made
15 the process a little easier for a lot of us is missing,
16 I've never heard. I've heard of gerrymandering of
17 districts, certainly on Legislative and Congressional
18 Precincts. I don't think that's a concern. I think it
19 would be a lot easier if the existing precinct structure
20 could be attacked so within these grid areas so we make
21 reference to those in terms of defining an area, make it
22 easier for me, and I think a lot of other folks, too.

23 Looking at the input sheet you provided
24 us, question five, what information would you like us to
25 take into account in drawing boundary lines in your

1 area, please rank order all you think should apply, one
2 being most important, and provide additional comments,
3 the very first one that appears there, this is one I
4 think is most important, keeping communities intact,
5 bringing particular groups together, such as a
6 neighborhood association or minority concentrations.
7 I'd put that as secondary importance to all issues you
8 put there, put that number one. That's really the
9 intent of the proposition.

10 And, unfortunately, with the completely
11 objective computer drawing that this computer came up
12 with, it doesn't really do that.

13 And in part I agree with some of the other
14 comments.

15 I'm one of the Tempe complainers. I'd
16 like to see Tempe more intact than this grid process,
17 I'd like Tempe more intact, closer than District 27.
18 I've lived in Tempe most of that time, now District 27.
19 Unfortunately, comparing this objective process that
20 you've gone through and comparing the current District
21 27 and what I just read as what I consider the most
22 important consideration, in terms of demographics,
23 racial mix, levels of -- income levels, and so forth,
24 and various other areas of interest that would unite a
25 community, the current District 27 boundary line comes a

1 lot closer to the area circumscribed than what I
2 consider now the new District 27 by means of this grid.
3 I'm talking about the area north of Baseline, west of
4 Price, east of 19th Avenue, and south of McDowell.

5 One of the boundary lines I've been very
6 frustrated with, the boundary line east-west from Price
7 out of the river bottom close to Baseline, it seems
8 close to University, I'm not sure what that is, I would
9 like to know what that is.

10 Looking at the demographics, one of the
11 things I agree with, I agree Tempe is as close as you
12 are going to get in terms of the city meeting the
13 criteria populationwise as one of these grids.
14 Shapewise, it's almost perfect.

15 I'd disagree with one of the other
16 comments someone made that Guadalupe is similar to Tempe
17 and should be included there. I think it's as far away
18 from Tempe as could be. That suggestion seems to me to
19 look more like one of the gerrymandering maps Democrats
20 do, rather than homogenous, 160,000 population, 170,000
21 with the current area of Ahwatukee; demographically,
22 incomewise, otherwise they're very similar to Tempe.
23 Contiguous, demographics, pretty much fit the whole
24 piece together. Tempe and Ahwatukee fit together very
25 nicely.

1 loaves and fishes, no matter how many speak, the pile is
2 the same size.

3 You are making excellent comments, very
4 much on point, very succinct. I appreciate that. There
5 are still quite a number of people that wish to speak.

6 The next speaker is Bill Bruno.

7 MR. BRUNO: B R U N O.

8 I want to thank the Commission, first of
9 all, as volunteers, I know you spent a lot of time on
10 this, and I appreciate your commitment to the process.

11 I'm from Chandler, and speaking as a
12 citizen not representing a group or special community
13 here.

14 I have to agree with Mr. Padilla's
15 comments. I live in Chandler and live in downtown
16 Chandler, and I've chosen to do so. I moved three
17 times. I live there because it's a neighborhood. I
18 urge you to at least keep that area together.

19 On the other hand, Chandler's size seems
20 to be at least ideal for one Legislative District. I'd
21 also like to see our town undivided, for several
22 reasons. I'm trying to think of things maybe you
23 haven't already heard.

24 Some other ideas. Our town has an
25 excellent public cable TV station, lots of TV programs,

1 lots of good, as most towns, community program, good
2 community newspapers' service -- excellent forums for
3 public dialogue.

4 It seems like it would be better if fewer
5 politicians were representing us so we could concentrate
6 on straightening them out.

7 Another reason would be there would be
8 more districts in our town and that would mean more
9 candidates. More candidates would mean more junk mail
10 and more signs. Spare us. Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

12 Next speaker is Alan Kerman.

13 MR. KERMAN: Good evening. I'm Alan B.
14 Kerman, K E R M A N.

15 I would like to address one issue no one
16 has raised here, that rural areas in general and urban
17 areas in general are diverse and separate communities of
18 interest. And really portions of one should not be
19 lumped in with portions of the other, one with the other
20 swamp the other. If you have small areas of a city with
21 an urban area, the rural area can be swamped and vice
22 versa. Rural areas should be kept separate as much as
23 possible as far as maintaining representative
24 government.

25 Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Next speaker is
2 Gary Pierce.

3 MR. PIERCE: My name is Gary Pierce,
4 G A R Y, P I E R C E.

5 I want to make a few comments, and some
6 are pretty much triggered by a lot of what we've heard
7 here.

8 I looked at the grid when it first came
9 out. I think it's a great start, especially the
10 Congressional outlook, four broad Congressional
11 Districts within Maricopa valley, the east valley its
12 own CDs, northwest is represented, south central and
13 west valley. That's a good thing, blocks those things
14 up. I can see how those things came together.

15 I came a little late as far as where the
16 starting point was.

17 As I tried to draw this, you have to
18 determine a starting point and draw out. As I listen to
19 comments here and think about Mesa, the planning area of
20 Mesa, 400,000 with a planning area, probably enough for
21 three districts, the starting point would have to be
22 Mesa. Tempe is just enough, a starting point for Tempe.
23 The starting point would have to be changed and
24 everybody else gets gerrymandered. So that's the
25 problem you deal with.

1 I truly understand that.

2 As I look at the grid, I live in northeast
3 Mesa, pretty close to the line. I'll still be in Mesa,
4 Mesa District. I think there are natural boundary
5 lines.

6 The history of Mesa, I grew up in Mesa,
7 lived there many years, lived in Yuma many years,
8 Cochise County. Look at communities of interest. Mesa,
9 Mesa had pretty much of a line on Gilbert Road when I
10 was growing up, stretched out to Power Road, then went
11 on to the county line.

12 I taught school in east Mesa almost to the
13 county line. Folks out there, just sort of -- east Mesa
14 is one to themselves, almost connected to Apache
15 Junction, almost connects them to Apache Junction. That
16 historical point of view is there.

17 I'm not sure. I need to slip these on
18 pause I wrote a few comments down.

19 It would seem to me if in fact we started,
20 for instance, in Tempe, we'd have oddly shaped districts
21 in other places. And in the grid system, even though
22 there are Is and other things, the reality of it is
23 there's not a lot of funny business going on in the
24 grid. It really was a good start.

25 As I look at it, from an ease valley point

1 of view, it's not bad. It's really not bad.

2 I'm sure others would have issues.

3 One of the issues, when the proposition
4 was on the ballot, initiative was on the ballot, it
5 appeared to me they were trying to balance the
6 initiative between party elections. How can you do
7 that? If you could do that one, good luck. I'd be
8 amazed if you could balance that one. That ranks down.
9 I don't know how you can do that.

10 The district in Mesa I live in is so much
11 more heavily Republican than Democrat, if you were to
12 change that, then reaching and affecting, the first
13 thing would be community of interest.

14 I suspect, as mentioned before, community
15 of interest is probably, if you stick to that,
16 especially minority population, as best you can, will be
17 odd looking lines. That's going to be the objective.

18 Rural areas, because I lived in rural
19 areas for 20 years, don't have a lot of people, if you
20 say we'll make the rural area Districts One and Two
21 themselves, you have to reach across a lot of land, a
22 lot of miles, to make those, even legislativewise.

23 If I lived in the rural area Queen Creek,
24 it wouldn't be along the lines of Gilbert, those areas.
25 If I was doing it, was over there, I know I'd be doing

1 O'Connor mean when she said "community of interest"? I
2 wrote the best I can think of, "common ties that bind
3 us, overriding interests we cling to."

4 I come from Tempe. You heard a variety of
5 people speak from Tempe. You wouldn't know from the
6 fact they stated that Tempe is some concept, some great
7 community of interest observed. I come from the very
8 far left, very far right, Republican legislative
9 representatives, Democrat legislative, Democrat
10 precinct, Democrat, Republican, Libertarian precinct
11 committeemen, that's something very unique about the
12 city called Tempe.

13 It started because of its historic
14 aloneness in the east valley. It expanded to a certain
15 set of borders and said, contrary to a certain set of
16 order, Tempe made a decision not to annex to the south
17 but instead to let Chandler annex south of the border to
18 prevent Tempe from growing anyplace else. Why? There's
19 a community of interest there that overrides school
20 district boundaries, overrides other geographic
21 boundaries, freeways, terrible geographic or community
22 in Tempe.

23 The city council in Tempe knows there is
24 one small neighborhood, less than a square mile, about a
25 half a square mile, 800 residents, segregated them in a

1 piece, a geographic area by I-10 east of that
2 neighborhood. That area is bounded by Phoenix on the
3 west, Phoenix to the south, and by Phoenix to the north.
4 It only connects to Tempe by the eastern boundary, and
5 the eastern boundary is bisected by I-10. They are as
6 committed as you will come.

7 My family owned house yet I had to go to
8 school in Scottsdale. Could have gone to Tempe if we
9 lived 50 feet south. All the other kids were in Tempe
10 schools. Kids that went to Havasupai School and
11 Coronado School still don't think or view themselves as
12 Tempeians first.

13 There is something unique about that
14 community that creates ties that bind us together
15 despite the fact that for 20 years my neighborhood has
16 been segregated off. I live in the far east Mesa
17 Legislative District or into the Scottsdale Paradise
18 Valley District. Talk about a way to moot your voice.
19 Live in a district that makes up about one-sixteenth of
20 a legislative community and be from a community that
21 defines itself differently, and you will not be heard.

22 So I ask you to listen to the folks here
23 tonight who showed up from Tempe saying despite the
24 facts we're liberal Democrats, Republicans, or
25 Libertarians, despite the fact we're divided by

1 meaningless freeways, despite the fact we're divided by
2 school districts, the main one, Tempe Elementary
3 absolutely should not be divided, another one with
4 greater cohesiveness, by the same token, what all the
5 people are saying to you, Tempe is a special community
6 of interest even if we may not be able to articulate it
7 completely.

8 Maricopa referred to historic interests
9 they latched onto.

10 Mayor Mitchell, the previous Mayor said
11 communities of interest. Those mean something. One
12 gentleman said if you start with Tempe, you have to move
13 other district boundaries about. I ask you one thing,
14 to ponder one thing about the maps currently set by the
15 grids, the boundaries. Legislative Districts include
16 all of Tempe. They're not in all of the Legislative
17 Districts.

18 In creating that grid system, somebody
19 made a conscious choice that Legislative Districts not
20 abide by same the geographic boundary.

21 One of the reasons I suggest, where
22 possible, the Census tracts remain undivided. I can
23 think of no less important geographic boundary than a
24 Census tract to honor in making that first cut. I could
25 think of a variety of other things over a Census tract.

1 It certainly makes it easy to count, but I can't think
2 of a single person or community concerns ever
3 identifying with Census tracts.

4 Precincts. I can't think of anybody
5 precinct gerrymandered.

6 Make the cut. But in redrawing lines, I
7 hope the Census tract takes the furthest down the list
8 as far as geographic distinction.

9 Do take the Tempe geographic boundary
10 itself. Five, maybe six criteria as a base of
11 distinction. Three are immediately met, the concept of
12 Tempe, geographically compact and contiguous, and a
13 variety of interests.

14 There are a number of people that want to
15 say Tempe's District, or a Tempe district, most Tempe
16 Districts are captured in Tempe.

17 Third, visible geographic features, city
18 boundaries.

19 Finally, as a thumb on the scale, Tempe
20 would then be one of the most competitive districts in
21 the state given our registration mix.

22 Thank you for taking the very difficult
23 task. It has to be one of the most difficult tasks.
24 People praise you quietly in family rooms and come
25 screaming at the high heavens at the microphone.

1 Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker
3 is Chris Quigley.

4 MS. QUIGLEY: I don't envy your job
5 whatsoever. I apologize for being repetitive. During
6 Ms. Minkoff's presentation, I was busily scribbling
7 notes, some comments.

8 If you bring one thing away, Tempe
9 citizens here hammering away at communities of interest.
10 I won't be any different.

11 Tempe voters historically think outside
12 the box. You only need to look at that upside down
13 pyramid to know so.

14 Neil talked about voting for Rio Salado.
15 Maricopa County voted it down and Tempe citizens voted
16 for it. Historically it was a dry, old river bottom.
17 People in Tempe were thinking. Instead of a geographic
18 divider, all citizens of Tempe should take pride in that
19 project and great interest in seeing it developed.

20 I'd like to see a little minority Chandler
21 get put in their own community, a minority Phoenix,
22 Ahwatukee, pull that in. If that's not enough
23 geographically, let us know. We can improve.

24 Barring that, a natural community of
25 interest would be to continue up to McDowell. People

1 live near McDowell, in Scottsdale south of McDowell
2 don't think the same way those that live in Scottsdale
3 north of McDowell do. I think we could make them happy.

4 The way the map is divided right now,
5 there are four districts. It's conceivable we'd have no
6 Representative in the Legislature or Senate within our
7 city boundaries. I would assume you think that's as
8 unacceptable as the rest of us do.

9 I'll just conclude saying very often Tempe
10 voters demonstrate uniqueness in the electorate by
11 dividing four, five groups which ignores communities of
12 interest. Once divided, loses interest. Voter apathy.
13 What greater way to divide people up so they don't care
14 about what is going on?

15 So, please, don't let that happen.

16 Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

18 Chuck Gray.

19 MR. GRAY: Hello. My name is Chuck Gray,

20 G R A Y.

21 Thank you for the opportunity to speak
22 tonight. I'll try to be brief.

23 I want the board to recognize, number
24 one, while I'm from Mesa, and from far east Mesa, I want
25 the board to recognize what I'm about to speak to you

1 goes along what all Tempeians said to you. I'm not from
2 Tempe. They want their community held together. I
3 agree with the premise, based on reasons they said, and
4 Chandler, Gilbert, for other reasons.

5 You've seen tonight, and in Apache
6 Junction, Apache Junction is tired of being divided into
7 three, four different ways. It breaks up
8 representation. The whole purpose of representative
9 government is to be represented.

10 Like Mrs. Squiggly said, what greater way
11 promote voter apathy than to break people up or sliver
12 people off?

13 With that in mind, and recognizing the
14 grid pattern is a starting point, there are certain
15 things. Dividing the reservation won't hold up in the
16 Justice review coming.

17 I would like to offer suggestions for
18 boundary lines in Mesa that would try to alleviate some
19 of those things and try to keep communities of interest
20 in Mesa together.

21 It's obvious Tempe, as you heard tonight,
22 is very big on education. It's a university town. They
23 group together, talk about school districts a lot.
24 There are, according to the grid map talked about so
25 far, a chunk of people in Tempe that are in the grid

1 that is in Mesa. And so I would suggest as a boundary
2 line for that would be either the Tempe canal, which is
3 really the dividing line between Tempe and Mesa, rather
4 than Price Road, are people east of Price Road in Tempe.
5 They'd be divided out. The Tempe Canal was not talked
6 about. I used to live by the Tempe Canal on the east
7 side, grew up there for 20 years, was born and raised
8 there. Now I live in the other end of Mesa.

9 Now, I have that experience. Power Road,
10 while a long time ago was kind of the edge of Mesa and
11 now is nowhere near the edge of Mesa. Mesa goes clear
12 out to the county road on Meridian. Using that as a
13 starting point is fine but not an ending point. The
14 grid line that way should go at least to Ellsworth Road
15 because of the great growth done there.

16 If it's not possible, the CAP Canal takes
17 in more area. Ellsworth is still a better grid line
18 than dividing line.

19 Our areas of interest to the south are
20 quite a bit different from Gilbert and Chandler, I
21 agree. Baseline Road, generally speaking, runs along
22 there as it parallels US 60. Either one of the two
23 lines generally cuts things off. US 60 is a cut-off and
24 cuts off some people in Mesa. And they'll feel the same
25 way Tempeians feel.

1 I suggest Baseline Road to the south,
2 Tempe Canal to west, Ellsworth Road to the east, and
3 Ellsworth Road to Price Road, and such. Those would be
4 my suggestions based on community of interest.

5 I agree with everything else. I have a
6 list of reasons why different from communities. I
7 recognize Mesa is so large it could be two districts and
8 some extras shoved out somewhere else. I hope we keep
9 those grouped together as much as possible.

10 Thank you for your time.

11 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: If you have
12 comments written down, submit them to us and we'll make
13 sure they're included in the record. Keep that in mind.

14 The next speaker is Dean Smith.

15 MR. SMITH: Dean Smith, S M I T H.

16 I'm here from Tucson. You get me because
17 I'm up here for training for two weeks, so I won't be
18 seeing you in Tucson.

19 I have a couple of comments on this.

20 The first thing is I don't believe the
21 reservations should be cut up like they are. Even if
22 you do, I don't think the courts will let you do it.
23 That concerns me greatly.

24 Another piece, as I listen to people talk
25 and I get peoples -- get an impression on what people

1 think, is rural Arizona, I'm somewhat amused. I'm from
2 Tucson. I actually live six miles outside the city
3 limits of Tucson. I don't count myself as rural
4 Arizona. I think anywhere within 20, 30 minutes.

5 I'm very concerned about rural Arizona and
6 the lack of these meetings for rural Arizona, not that
7 they're not -- you don't have several scheduled. You
8 do. But I can get to one, one of several up here within
9 20 or 30 minutes, as I can where I'm from in Tucson.
10 When I look at some of the other areas, it looks to me
11 like you are talking an hour and a half, two hours to
12 get to some of these meetings.

13 The reason I bring up the definition of
14 "rural Arizona" is when look at the definition of
15 Congressional Districts, I'll tell you, in a lot of
16 other activities, talk about disenfranchising voters.
17 I'm here to tell you the rest of the state does not
18 revolve around the Phoenix area and does not revolve
19 around the Tucson area. When I look at the
20 Congressional Districts, that's exactly what they
21 revolve around. I know if you don't have it that way,
22 it's going to be very difficult. I also know someone
23 had to tell you this isn't going to be easy.

24 I appreciate your coming here. Appreciate
25 your efforts. Appreciate your volunteering for the

1 state. Also appreciate your taking a hard look at rural
2 Arizona. Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

4 The next speaker is Bill Regner.

5 MR. REGNER: Thank you very much. My name
6 is Bill Regner, R E G N E R. I am turning in a form
7 with most of my comments. It's pretty redundant.

8 I'm from Tempe. I want to talk to you
9 about community of interest, actually two areas.

10 Points have been made, we've historically
11 been split into two districts, at least two districts.
12 I think we'd like to come together in one. Contrary to
13 some of the opinions expressed previously, Guadalupe, it
14 would be included in a district with Tempe. I think you
15 would be forgiven since it is -- Tempe does completely
16 surround that community. And I think gerrymandering
17 would be very difficult to do in that instance. There
18 is a very strong sense of identity.

19 Many of the aspects of Tempe were
20 mentioned. It is a very progressive community. A
21 couple were not identified I'd also like to talk about,
22 one, the Fiesta Bowl, the New Year's Eve event, one of
23 the premier events on New Year's Eve, the Kiwanis Tempe
24 sponsored celebration July 4th Tempe Town Lake Premier
25 Event for Fourth of July.

1 Tempe is landlocked. We're focused,
2 strong, a community focused. The second area, we speak
3 on Indian reservations and encourage Indian reservations
4 not be over shadowed by an adjacent reservation that
5 might be larger and try to protect the interests of the
6 smaller reservations. Specifically I'm talking of the
7 Hopi reservation.

8 Thank you very much.

9 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

10 Next speaker, Gary Christensen.

11 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I believe I come from a
12 family Danish family, C H R I S T E N S E N.

13 I notice you have six stated goals of
14 redistricting. And I would comment these aren't
15 necessarily goals. These are sometimes constraints.
16 Without prioritization, how those constraints would be
17 put together, there's no indication how some of those
18 constraints have been given higher priority or lesser
19 priority than others. Obviously I would assume that the
20 judicial review is probably extremely high priority.
21 Many other constraints or goals may be given the same
22 scrutiny.

23 I'd also say by the time King Solomon said
24 "Divide the child in half" and the real mother said "No,
25 no" to save the child, it didn't really matter, the true

1 mother was going to be disappointed either way the cut
2 was made.

3 As a parent, I learned some wisdom. When
4 there was one piece of cake on a plate and two children
5 come in, give the knife to one of the children, let the
6 other child choose which piece to choose.

7 I see no such decision.

8 I assume you'll have a difficult decision.
9 You'll either lose your hair or have gray hair. At
10 least half of us will look like you.

11 I don't know what a competitive district
12 will look like.

13 And community of interest, there is the
14 ASU community. A large percentage of the geographical
15 environment is occupied by the campus and there are
16 multiunit dwellings adjacent to that. Were you to
17 divide that down the middle one way or the other, it
18 might make a minority district, two different. If you
19 leave it intact, that becomes an overwhelming majority
20 district. Those are competing strengths and goals
21 you're dealing with.

22 I assume by the time you understand all of
23 the citizen input and can adequately take that into
24 account and make recommendations, it is, in essence,
25 it's no longer an illogical construction but a more

1 logical construction. And unlike a computer grid that
2 goes through dispassionately dividing lines and
3 territory to come up with the right numbers of people
4 and territories of people to come up with communities of
5 interest and special considerations, it's the same sorts
6 of pressures from a community which caused the citizenry
7 to vote for a separate, dispassionate redistricting
8 plan.

9 I'm not sure what the solution is other
10 than to say that the citizen input seems to sway in many
11 different ways. And school districts, economic
12 concerns, the dividing lines of freeways, lakes, et
13 cetera, run very deep.

14 I saw Tempe for the first time in 1959 as
15 a child when I stood in the D wing of the engineering
16 building when they were putting the first computer on
17 campus. I looked out and just beyond that was the edge
18 of Tempe. I've seen it grow. I've lived in Tempe all
19 my life. I'm not sure any particular plan is better or
20 worse; because in the end, we're all going to be very
21 dissatisfied with many of the constraints put forth and
22 I was somewhat dispassionate. And logical
23 representation is going to be to complied with.

24 Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Kirk Adams.

1 DR. ADAMS: I appreciate the opportunity
2 to speak on this issue.

3 Much has been said on community of
4 interest in Tempe and we've heard lots about how Tempe
5 is special and unique. I'm a life-long resident of
6 Mesa. I concur. Tempe, you are different.

7 As a resident of Mesa, I'll say Mesa has a
8 community of interest.

9 I commend your interests in attempting to
10 do a difficult job. I'd point out a few areas you might
11 be able to better the map you've done thus far.

12 Currently you have much of Mesa lumped in
13 with the reservation to the north. I think it's fairly
14 unlikely that the Department of Justice will approve the
15 way that is drawn now. That being said, there are other
16 issues, hanger ons to the core of the mass, how you've
17 drawn the core of that district.

18 For example, a portion of that district
19 west of Pima Road, I would venture to say that that
20 neighborhood west of Pima Road has absolutely nothing in
21 common, nor would they like to be lumped in with the
22 core, the center of Mesa.

23 In addition, to the north of the
24 reservation, it appears it takes in what appears to be
25 areas of north Scottsdale. Again, that is not an area

1 that has much in common or a community of interest core
2 mass. You've drawn here Gilbert to Power Road as you
3 have it now. Rather, I would suggest what the
4 Commission do is extend the voters of Mesa district from
5 Power Road to approximately Ellsworth Road as this would
6 do two things for you. First of all, meet the first
7 goal of a geographically compact district. It would
8 nearly be a perfect square. The second thing it would
9 do is maintain community of interest.

10 Power Road as it stands right now, there
11 is no significant dividing line between -- or in the
12 city. As a matter of fact, as it's drawn right now, the
13 district lines would actually divide the current high
14 school district at Red Mountain. The community right
15 there, Red Mountain High School, becomes two different
16 districts. That's a community of interest now being
17 split.

18 In addition, the districts east of Power
19 Road are suddenly lumped in to Fountain Hills and all
20 the other areas of far north Scottsdale.

21 As stated previously, you can't get there
22 from here. Those are not continuous geographically
23 because of geographically, an ability to get there.
24 Also, they are not communities of interest. They are
25 different communities.

1 As a life-long resident of Mesa, a proud
2 citizen of Mesa, it would be my recommendation to the
3 Commission that the eastern boundary be extended at
4 least to Ellsworth Road so Mesa can maintain its
5 community of interest and unique lifestyle.

6 Thank you very much.

7 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

8 We have three speaker slips left here. Is
9 there anybody else that wants to speak that hasn't
10 filled one in? We're rapidly coming to a conclusion.

11 The next speaker is Stephanie Sivak.

12 MS. SIVAK: I'm Stephanie Sivak,

13 S I V A K, S T E P H A N I E.

14 I live in Keaons Canyon, Northeast Keaons
15 Canyon.

16 My concern is the Congressional grid. We
17 seem to be represented a bit by Maricopa County. It's
18 wonderful Maricopa County is intact. Instead, we'd
19 rather join Gila or Navajo. We just don't have a whole
20 lot in common with Anthem Way. It would be really nice
21 for us to be grouped with the Colorado River Community.
22 Colorado Plateau, Black Canyon City, possibly Mohave
23 County, keep us with the east counties, probably more
24 communities of interest. I'm referring to the Hopi
25 issue. I teach there.

1 Navajo, if you address that issue, it will
2 look like gerrymandering, Navajo, Tonalea, the Moenkopi,
3 the Hopi community outside of Tuba.

4 The Native Americans see themselves as a
5 community of interest. They might get a greater voice
6 as Native Americans, the Paiute, Hualapai, Havasupai
7 voices might be heard better than being seen as separate
8 tribes. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

10 The next speaker is Monique Cordova.

11 MS. CORDOVA: I'm Monique Cordova
12 representing myself. I'm a citizen of the City of
13 Tempe, born in Phoenix, my family goes back over a
14 hundred years in the Phoenix area.

15 I'd like to make two points, first dealing
16 with the city and people of Tempe and then with the
17 issue of minority voting rights.

18 First, I join with my fellow residents of
19 Tempe requesting you consider the City of Tempe as a
20 small community of interest. Although I was born --
21 although my father was born in Phoenix, he fell in love
22 with the City of Tempe when a college student in the
23 1950s. In the late 1960s, we moved to Tempe. He
24 proceeded to get very active in community activities,
25 Tempe Chamber of Commerce, Tempe Diplomats, various

1 Tempe organizations. He really wanted to see Rio Salado
2 developed, but due to his untimely death, he never was
3 able to see that developed. He'd be very proud to see
4 what has been accomplished.

5 A lot of people like my father feel very
6 passionate about the city. As for myself, Red Mountain
7 School, McClintock High, currently we're very involved
8 at church, the ASU service, the services are the oldest
9 church in Tempe, St. Mary's Church.

10 If some of the residents don't know me, I
11 work as a legislative auditor, and it prevents me from
12 getting involved in a lot of political types of
13 activities. I do work for people that represent us.
14 I'm very interested in state government.

15 I know I personally should make a point
16 getting to know neighbors better. This would not be
17 difficult to do. So I don't flaunt my fellow residents.
18 I fault myself for not getting to know neighbors better.

19 I'd like to discuss voter rights. I'm
20 fifth generation, and a Native American. I want, I
21 first identify as a citizen of Tempe, and I feel I
22 should first work to affiliate myself with my neighbors
23 as opposed to affiliating with the Hispanic community.

24 I am involved Hispanic affiliations and do
25 value these affiliations as well.

1 Grandfather, Jesus, was very active in the
2 1930s and 1940s with foreign franchisement of Hispanic
3 voters. He ran for the House of Representatives in the
4 1940s. It was very important for him, the people of
5 Mexican American descent to get involved with that part.
6 He imparted those values to my father.

7 My dad, the first thing that happened when
8 I turned 18, he took me to go register to vote.

9 Looking at the issues, though, I hope you
10 consider neighborhoods first and that you work not to
11 divide historic neighborhoods.

12 I guess my views are like the gentleman
13 from Chandler where I think it would be a shame if you
14 divided downtown Chandler given the long standing of the
15 neighborhoods and especially since they did start out as
16 strong Hispanic neighborhoods.

17 As far as the issue of Guadalupe, if I
18 were wanting, I'd seek the input of the residents of
19 Guadalupe, if they want to affiliate with Tempe or
20 Chandler. Their views should come first.

21 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The last one is
22 Creation Desautels.

23 MS. DESAUTELS: My name is Creation,
24 C R E A T I O N, Desautels, D E S A U T E L S.

25 I have three brief comments.

1 I agree the redistricting is a little
2 unfair to the Indian reservations. I think they should
3 be lumped much closer together.

4 I'm not heavily involved, but I think if I
5 were in their shoes, I would want to be lumped with like
6 minds.

7 Secondly, I am in what will be
8 legislative -- what currently is legislative District
9 18. And the reshaping of my district does cross I-17
10 the way it is currently drawn. I would much prefer it
11 to go further south, not cross I-17.

12 The third thing, I think it's mutually
13 exclusive to have competitive districts if you involve
14 yourself in the concept of community of interest. If
15 you get yourself with like minds very active in a
16 community, you tend to have staunch political focus one
17 way or another.

18 If not politically active, quite frankly,
19 I want to be in a district staunchly Republican.

20 Other Democrats want to be in a district
21 Democratic.

22 You can't look for Republican and
23 Democrats and target heavily loaded districts.

24 By heavily loaded, I think you can look at
25 the type of civic activities. Someone involved in

1 minority activities, heavily into the arts, it's not a
2 mystery the way they vote.

3 Someone into the NRA, it's not a mystery
4 the way they're voting towards.

5 Load towards people with like minds so
6 they tend to contribute to easily definable groups or
7 what their tendency in voting would be.

8 Load some heavily Republican; some heavily
9 Democrat; some really fair, gut-wrenching, split
10 Republican, Democrat, and let them be the ones to fight
11 it out on the floor.

12 That's all I have to say.

13 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

14 Well, if no one else wishes to speak at
15 this stage, I would like to briefly thank all of you on
16 behalf of the Redistricting Commission for taking your
17 valuable time for coming out this evening and help us
18 participate in this experiment in democracy.

19 I think we'll adjourn this meeting as a
20 formal matter and go off the matter.

21 I want to remind you Andi and I will stay
22 up here with our consultants.

23 Feel free to come up and we'll speak on an
24 informal basis.

25 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: I'd like to thank

1 you. Mesa wins the prize for the most surprises. Tempe
2 is unique, as is Mesa, Gilbert, Queen Creek, and
3 Chandler.

4 Thank you all for being here.

5 (Whereupon, the hearing concluded at
6 approximately 9:26 p.m.)

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2 STATE OF ARIZONA)
3 COUNTY OF MARICOPA) ss.

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6 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing hearing was
7 taken before me, LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR, Certified
8 Court Reporter in and for the State of Arizona,
9 Certificate Number 50349; that the proceedings were
10 taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced to
11 typewriting under my direction; that the foregoing 81
12 pages constitute a true and accurate transcript of all
13 proceedings had upon the taking of said hearing, all
14 done to the best of my ability.

15 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am in no way
16 related to any of the parties hereto, nor am I in any
17 way interested in the outcome hereof.

18 DATED at Phoenix, Arizona, this 28th day
19 of June, 2001.

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LISA A. NANCE, RPR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate Number 50349

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