Excerpts From the Independent Redistricting Commission Public Hearing in Mesa, AZ: June 25, 2001

“…I’ve heard, people West of Mill Avenue and North of, I think 13th Street and North of the lake have been in, in the last 20 years, I believe, in two different districts. One went to way east Mesa. One way into north Scottsdale, and didn’t feel they were part of their community. And that’s that.”–Meg Burton-Cahill, Pg 27 Ln 17-22

“I wanted you to be aware in Tempe Elementary School District, if you follow freeways, our school district, which is six miles by six miles, a small area like that, 202 and Red Mountain Freeway, our district lays north of that and part south.” –Mr. Despain, Pg 28 Ln 17-21

“I think the most important thing for you to consider, it looks like all you are taking into consideration is townships.” –Paul Petersen, Pg 29 Ln 19-21

“Mesa is four times the size of Gilbert and, what, 200 times the size of Queen Creek. Clearly we would be dwarfed for representation.”–Mike Evans Pg 31 Ln 8-10

“I think when looking at it in the metropolitan area, communities of interest make the most sense as municipal boundaries.” – Evans Pg 32 Ln 6-8

“Based on these concerns, our first concern is to divide Chandler into two districts using Dobson Road as the center dividing line.”-Thomas Padilla, Pg 34 Ln 1-3

“I, in looking at some of the current concepts out there, Tempe is being divided much more than we are right now. I think that would dilute the community of interest we have as a community.”–Neil Giuliano, Pg 35 Ln 11-14

“Dale mentioned Tempe Elementary School. It’s one of the few schools that pretty much are the boundaries of a city.”–Harry Mitchell, Pg 37 Ln 23-25

“In regard to Legislative Districts, the city is very much in favor of respecting city boundaries as well as communities of interest.”–Kevin Adam Pg 44, Ln 4-6

“I think it is most important, keeping communities intact, bringing particular groups together, such as a neighborhood association or minority concentrations.”–Fritz Tuffli, Pg 50 Ln 3-6

“I would like to address one issue no one has raised here, that rural areas in general and urban areas in general are diverse and separate communities of interest.” – Alan B. Kerman, Pg 54 Ln 15-18
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.

These materials are placed here for citizen review and with the hope that they will encourage comments. Comments can be made on the form provided.