ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Thursday, October 13, 2011
6:05 p.m.

Location

Flagstaff City Hall
Council Chambers
211 West Aspen Avenue
Flagstaff, Arizona 8600

Attending

Colleen C. Mathis, Chair
Jose M. Herrera, Vice Chair
Linda C. McNulty, Commissioner

Stuart Robinson, Public Information Officer
Kristina Gomez, Deputy Executive Director

Mary O'Grady, Legal Counsel

Reported By:
Marty Herder, CCR
Certified Court Reporter #50162
www.CourtReportersAz.com
Flagstaff, Arizona
October 13, 2011
6:05 p.m.

PROCEEDINGS

(Whereupon, the public session commences.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Good evening. This meeting
of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission will now
come to order.

Today is Thursday, October 13th, and the time is
6:05 p.m.

Let's begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Well, it's wonderful to be in
Flagstaff this evening and it's so great to see such a
wonderful turnout.

We know that this has been a difficult week for
your city. And the Commission, again, extends its
condolences on the loss of Chief Cooper. We are very sorry
about that, and appreciate you all coming out tonight and
participating in the process.

Let's go around the table and talk about who's
here tonight.

Linda McNulty, commissioner, and
Vice-Chair Herrera are both present.

The other two commissioners, Scott Freeman and -- who's vice chair, as well as Richard Stertz, are not attending tonight, but I'm sure they're watching this streaming online. Not all the commissioners go to all of the meetings. And so we're all kind of taking turns and divvying it up accordingly.

So I'm sure they're watching online tonight. And given the very fancy technology in the beautiful chambers that we're in, I'm sure it's very easy for them to follow along on the Internet as well as everyone else tuning in tonight.

Other folks around the room include our legal counsel, Mary O'Grady.

Our mapping consultant, Andrew Drechsler and Korinne Belock.

We have a court reporter, Marty Herder, who's taking an accurate transcript of tonight's events.

Kristina Gomez, who's our executive direct deputy director. She's in the back, along with Lisa Schmelling, Kristi Olson.

Stu Robinson, who's our public information officer.

And I think that is all the crowd -- all the staff that we have here tonight. So please feel free to talk to
any of those folks if you need anything or want to give them anything to give to us. They'll be happy to take that from you.

So, I have a very large stack of request to speak forms. It's very impressive that all of you are wanting to provide testimony tonight.

So you're probably -- most of you are familiar with this form, but it is in the back. If anybody didn't get one and would like to address us tonight, please fill it out.

And we'll be getting to the hearing -- the public comment portion of our hearing very shortly, but we do need a request to speak form from you if you'd like to go on the record tonight.

We have a translator this evening. It's part of complying with federal law. And I'm hoping that Dr. Vasquez is in the audience.

Oh, great.

Would you like to come up and say a few words of introduction in English and Spanish for the group?

MIQUEL VASQUEZ: Good evening, everybody. My name is Miguel Vasquez. I'll be translating this evening for anyone who needs Spanish interpretation.

(Whereupon, the interpreter makes a statement in Spanish.)
MIQUEL VASQUEZ: Okay. I don't see anyone.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. Thank you very much.

If anyone does not want to address the Commission tonight but would like to just submit input to us anyway, you can do that on the blue forms. I didn't mention that. But there should be blue forms in the back at the table, and you can fill that out, and it will get entered into the record the same as it would as if you were giving the testimony tonight at the microphone.

With that, I don't think there's any more housekeeping items. So we'll go to the next item on the agenda, which is our mapping consultant will give an introductory presentation to the process.

Mr. Drechsler.

ANDREW DRECHSLER: Good evening. Good evening.

We're here today to discuss the draft maps that have been presented by the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission. The draft maps are currently under a 30-day review, and that's one of the main reasons we're here today is we want to hear input on the maps, what your thoughts are, what you like, what you would change, and anything else that you want to comment on the maps.

Before we display the two draft maps, the congressional draft map and the legislative draft map, we wanted to just go over a quick overview of the process.
I have a presentation that you can see on the screens.

Arizona's redistricting process is governed by the state constitution as amended by voters in 2000 with the passage of Proposition 106. It stipulates that the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission redraw Arizona's congressional and legislative districts to reflect the results of the most recent census.

Due to the 2010 census, Arizona gained a congressional seat. So we're going from eight congressional seats to nine.

What are the main guidelines of Proposition 106.

A, must comply with the U.S. Constitution and Voting Rights Act.

And, B, equal population.

Those two are federally mandated.

The other four are to the extent practicable. The districts must be compact and contiguous, respect communities of interest, use visible geographic features, city, town, and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts.

F, favor competitive districts where no significant detriment to other goals.

Just wanted to quick go over the Voting Rights Act.
Arizona's constitutional -- congressional and legislative districts must receive preclearance or approval from the Department of Justice or a federal court under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act before they can take effect.

To get preclearance, Arizona must demonstrate that the new districts do not discriminate against minority voters in purpose or effect, which means there can be no intentional or accidental discrimination.

Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting plans cannot be retrogressive. The plans cannot weaken or reduce minority voters' rights.

The presence of discrimination can be determined by analyzing population data and election results.

So just wanted to go over the timeline of the Commission, and there's sort of six big steps, main steps involved.

First, the first step was setting up the Commission.

Back earlier this year the commissioners were appointed following a thorough screening process. Each of the five commissioners are serving in a voluntary role.

The commissioners are Vice-Chair Scott Freeman, Vice-Chair Jose Herrera who's with us tonight, Chair Colleen Mathis who's here tonight, Commissioner Linda McNulty who's
here tonight, and Richard Stertz.

Next was the first round of hearings.

Before drawing a single line, the Commission held 23 public hearings around the state in July and August to get input from members of the public about issues relevant to redistricting, such as geography, communities of interest, minority voting rights, and competitiveness.

The third step was the mapping.

After the first round of hearings, we started with the grid map, which was approved on August 18.

And per Proposition 106, the grid map took two things into consideration: Equal population and compactness.

Since adopting the grid map -- the grid map, the Commission has met more than 25 times to consider adjustments to the grid to accommodate all of the state constitutional criteria.

During this time they received additional public comment and draft maps.

Approval of the draft maps -- on October 3rd, the Commission approved the draft congressional that incorporated the changes based on all the constitutional criteria, and just a few days ago, on October 10th, it approved the legislative maps.

Step four, second round of hearings.
Currently we're in the process of visiting 25 towns and cities to share the draft maps and receive additional public input during the month of October. After this step, they will be working on the final maps.

Upon completion of the public comment period, the Commission will adopt the final maps. And then the final step in the redistricting process is preclearance. Because Arizona is subject to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, the district maps must be approved by the federal Department of Justice or a federal court in Washington, D.C., before they can be used for Arizona elections.

Before we show you the congressional draft map, we just wanted to go through the process. This is the last map that -- this was the map that was approved by the last Commission based off of the 2000 census and most recently used in 2010. This is the starting point. Per Proposition 106, they asked us to start with a blank map, so we started with a blank map. And as we discussed earlier, we did a grid map. This was the congressional grid map that was approved on August 18th.
And now you have the congressional draft map shown here.

Some of the highlights of the draft map is it has two predominantly rural districts, three border districts, two districts in the city of Tucson, five districts that are entirely in Maricopa County, it avoids splitting Arizona's Indian reservations, and two districts where minority voters have the opportunity to elect their candidate of choice.

The legislative map follows a very similar process. And I just wanted to show -- this was the last -- this was the map that was approved by the last Commission and most recently used in the 2010 elections.

And just like the congressional map, we started with a blank map.

And then we came up with the grid map in, in -- on August 18. And the grid map, again, took into consideration two things, and two things only. It took consideration equal population and compactness. So it did not consider the other four criteria.

And, finally, once the other four criteria and public comments were taken into consideration, this is where we came up with the draft map.

And this is the draft map that was approved just on Monday.

So some highlights of the draft map.
In the current map that we just saw a couple slides back, the old districts, the population ranges from 155,000 to 378,000.

So obviously we've -- given the change in shift in population, we had to change the districts.

So the new map has roughly 207,000 to 215,000.

To comply with the Voting Rights Act, the draft map includes ten districts which minority voters should have the opportunity to elect the candidates of their choice.

The draft maps include three districts wholly within Pima County, and three additional southern Arizona districts, 17 districts within Maricopa County, and nine districts primarily rural.

One of the main reasons we're here today is to hear your input, as we stated before.

There's many different ways to give us.

You could fill out a request to speak form, the yellow sheet that you saw on the back table, and speak at the hearing and provide us your inputs.

Some of the examples of the inputs that we've been hearing, we love to hear, is any, any comments on the constitutional criteria, any comments on the congressional draft map and any comments on the draft legislative map.

You can also submit your input if you are watching online, or here in the audience and you don't want to come
up and speak today, you -- besides speaking, you can fill out one of the blue public input forms and hand them in to one of the staff members. Or you can visit us at our website where we have a section and a link where you can add your comments on there.

And the website is www.azredistricting.org, or you can give us a call at (602)542-5221, or toll free 855-redistrict.

This is just a shot of our web page. I just wanted to point out a couple items.

At the -- this is the home page, and what you'll see on the left-hand side, you'll see a link for maps.

There's a link for our meetings where you'll see other meetings that are going to be taking place for round two, and you can go view past meetings.

So if you wanted to see any of the video, wanted to see the deliberation that the commissioners did during the 25 meetings to come up with the draft map, all of that is online, and you can watch that.

The public input that I just was talking about, there's the link there.

And then besides the map link on top, down at the bottom is, is the link -- are two links, one for the draft map and one for the congressional map.

If you click on either of those links, you'll come
to this screen, which is -- which has the two draft maps.

Obviously during throughout this process, other -- if you go to the maps link, you can find all the what-if maps, the grid maps that were under consideration. So if you wanted to see sort of the process evolving, you can go back and look at those maps. But the two main maps that we're looking at are the draft maps, and these are the maps that we want public comment on.

One feature that a lot of people have been asking, they wanted to see their district in more detail.

You see the red circle around what is the KMZ or otherwise known as the Google maps. If you click on either of those, you will come to a page, a Google page, and it will show the map.

One of the really nice features about this map is that you're able to click on it, and you can scroll in and see your exact boundaries and see what the exact boundaries are for your district.

One other thing is for the other maps we have some maps in the back of the room, we have one on the board, and we have a couple blown-up maps of the Flagstaff area, so you can see the boundaries between the districts surrounding Flagstaff.

And finally we would really like to have you stay connected. You can visit our website at
www.azredistricting.org.

This gives you -- there's the opportunity to draw your own maps. We have an online mapping software program. So if you would like to do that and submit those maps, we would take those into consideration.

You can watch current meetings, or, as I mentioned before, you can go view past meetings. And you can get updates on future meetings.

You can follow us at Twitter as /AIRC or find us at Facebook.

Thank you very much for your time.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Mr. Drechsler.

So, our primary purpose is to be here to listen to you tonight. And to the extent you can give us detailed descriptions of your changes, what you propose needs to be changed, or if you think it's fine the way it is, we'd like to hear that as well.

So both sets of comments are welcome.

And we'd really like to drill down to the extent we can and hear from you exactly what detailed modification you think need to be made.

And also if you thought about what ripple effects those might have around the surrounding areas and how we might mitigate those, that's also helpful.
Because, as you know, any little change on these maps produces a domino effect, and we need to deal with all the changes that result.

So to the extent you can help us out, we'd like to have that.

So just a few reminders.

We'll start the public comment period now.

When you come up to the microphone, once your name is called, please say your name so that the court reporter can type it out, and be sure to spell your last name. So that we'll get an accurate accounting.

You can state where you live. You don't need to give us your personal address. In fact, we prefer if you don't. Just tell us your city, town, or county, where you reside.

We're going to limit comments tonight to three minutes each, just because we have so many folks that would like to speak and we'd like to give everybody an opportunity tonight.

I don't know if we have somebody timing that, because Mr. Forst, our chief technology officer, I don't think he is with us this evening, and he's normally our timer.

Do we have a timer?

Oh, great. Okay.
I'm assured we have a timer. So when you hear the
timer go off, if you still have a few things to say, please
feel free to say them, but if you could just try to wrap it
soon after that would be most appreciated.

Okay. I think I've covered everything that we
need to. We've got a few more.

Our first speaker tonight is Sara Presler, mayor
for the city of Flagstaff.

MAYOR SARA PRESLER: Good evening, everyone. Glad
you're here.

(Applause.)

MAYOR SARA PRESLER: Good evening. My name is
Sara Presler, S-A-R-A, P-R-E-S-L-E-R, mayor, city of
Flagstaff.

Madam Chair, members of the Commission, and those
that are watching from home, welcome to Flagstaff. We're
very glad that you're here. And welcome, of course, to your
staff and legal counsel, public information folks, everybody
that makes this independent Commission work.

The people of the state of Arizona through
Proposition 106 established this independent Commission, and
we respect the hard work and independence that you've
offered from beginning of your work to now, and that I know
you'll continue to offer as you move through this 30-day
comment period.
On behalf of the city of Flagstaff, we know because we've spent quite a lot of time with you, and many members of our business community and both sides of the aisle, including just a few Independents, who are very important to is future of Arizona, what a difficult task you've had in this process.

Tonight we've got the chairman of the Hopi Tribe, Chairman Shingoitewa, members of the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission, other tribal members and leadership, and importantly our neighbors, the Coconino County Board of Supervisors, our Chair Lena Fowler from Coconino County is here, and many members of that board.

You're going to hear tonight from council member Scott Overton on behalf of the city of Flagstaff.

I'll give you a break from my comments in our own community.

But I want to share with you that we're a small but mighty community, meaning that our interpreter tonight, Dr. Vasquez, is also a member of the Flagstaff Unified School District school board. So we know each other well, and we with live and work and play in a community hopefully that is reflected in the interests that you'll producing in your map.

So I just wanted to take the time to thank you for your work, welcome you to our mountain community, and wish
you well through this process.

I know you're headed up through Indian country next, and I know our neighbors to the north and the east are looking forward to seeing you.

On behalf of the entire city of Flagstaff and really our greater Flagstaff community, I couldn't be more proud of all of the diverse voices that you'll be hearing here tonight.

This really is democracy in action.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

Our next speaker is Leroy Shingoitewa, chairman of the Hopi Tribe.

(Applause.)

(Whereupon, Chairman Shingoitewa makes a statement in Hopi.)


Welcome to the Commission. Thank you for coming to Hopi country, aboriginal lands that we once occupied.

The Hopi Tribe today has officially taken a formal action to support what you now present as the congressional map, as well as the legislative map.

First and foremost, you have combined all the lands that we now own within northern Arizona, which is east
of Flagstaff, up north on the Hopi reservation, all the way to Eager and Springerville. This has been something that we want to make sure was included in the design that you had put forth to us.

Because of this, we feel confident that now that we will have equal representation, both in congress as well as in the state legislative district.

I appreciate the fact that in the past two times that I did appear before the Commission that as we watched the progress that we did see you begin to take into account those areas that we were concerned with, as well as other native groups, that are now together in a cluster, that we now will have a voice in what is taking place, not only in the state but also in the congressional districts.

As we watch you go forth, we appreciate the fact that the hard work you've put into this. I know it wasn't easy.

Just like anything else in the political scene, it becomes a tough road to follow.

Yet, we believe from the Hopi Tribe that you have been fair in your assessment.

We really appreciate the fact that Nuvatukyaovi, San Francisco Peaks, has been put into our legislative district as well as the congressional.

As you know, this is very special to us. And now
with that encompassed in what we desire in our feelings about the district, we appreciate that.

So come Monday we want to welcome you up both onto the Navajo Hopi reservation. We look forward to seeing you, and I'm sure that some more of my fellow Hopis will also make some statements supporting what you have given us today. Kwakwhá.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Supervisor Matt Ryan, vice chairman, board of supervisors for Coconino County.

(Applause.)

SUPERVISOR MATT RYAN: Thank you, Madam Chairman, and members of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission.

Spelling of my name is M-A-T-T, R-Y-A-N.

On behalf of the entire board of supervisors, thank you for coming to Flagstaff for your second round of public hearings, and thank you again for your hard work and diligence in drafting the congressional and legislative maps for our state.

You're doing an awesome job.

It's a challenging job, and we acknowledge that.

Joining me tonight are some of my fellow board
members, Chairman Lena Fowler and Supervisor Mandy Metzger.

Supervisors Taylor and Archuleta had family matters that they had to attend to, otherwise they would have been here.

First, we are grateful to the Commission for listening to our written and verbal testimony.

Our stated values in that regard are regional economic development, ecotourism, transportation, forestry, ranching, and agricultural, institutions of higher learning, rural versus non-rural areas of the county, and tribal nations.

Those values and interests with like-minded communities clearly reflect a northern Arizona congressional district.

Therefore we thank you for listening to our view that we do not share a community of interest with Mohave or Yavapai County, or at least less so than these other areas.

On a day-to-day basis, the issues we face in northern and northeastern Arizona align Coconino County with its longtime neighbors to the east.

We have a shared interest in the major public policy issues which impact our constituents, including water, forestry, ranching, agriculture, and regional economic development, to name a few.

We have not come to our viewpoints lightly. They
have been the result of much conversation and deliberation with our constituents and colleagues in the region and beyond Coconino County borders over the past several months.

We also thank you for not combining the proposed Congressional District 1 with metropolitan Maricopa County.

With all that is said, Coconino County supports the IRC's congressional map that places Coconino County in the new Congressional District 1.

On the issue of the legislative districts, we have the following comments.

We appreciate the thought that has been put into establishing the legislative map and the amount of personal and professional work that it contains.

You have been sensitive to the testimony that we have provided over these past few days, weeks, and months and the testimony of so many of our constituents to keep greater Flagstaff contained in one legislative district. We also thank you for listening to our tribal communities and addressing their important needs.

The board has consistently testified before the IRC for including the areas surrounding the city of Flagstaff in a legislative district.

The board supports the concept of the IRC map, but requests that this map support our goal of including greater Flagstaff in one legislative district.
In the current map adopted by the IRC, a portion of the Schultz flood area is in a separate district than the city of Flagstaff, and the entire Schultz flood area split into two separate legislative district.

Specifically Doney Park is contained in your LD 6 and Timberline-Fernwood in LD 7.

As a point of reference, the Schultz flood area includes the Doney Park, Timberline, and Fernwood neighborhoods.

The area within the Schultz flood area that is excluded from LD 6 is comprised of approximately 3,000 residents who live in the unincorporated area a few miles outside the city of Flagstaff. Most of these residents work, shop in, recreate in Flagstaff, and they're children attend the schools in Flagstaff.

The flood area is part of a joint regional planning area of the city and the county, and is within the Flagstaff metropolitan planning organization, which is consistent with our transportation and community of interest.

The neighborhoods within the flood area need to be included in the same legislative district as the city of Flagstaff because the residents identify with Flagstaff and the two communities are interdependent.

In order to assist you and your staff in
understanding our points and in accommodating our request, we have provided a map in your packet and information on the Schultz flood area. The information was distributed to you prior to the meeting.

The County Board of Supervisors believes that it is important to include the entire Schultz flood area in the same legislative district as the city of Flagstaff.

I'm losing my place. There we go. Got back in line.

In addition to this change, our board is requesting that you work with our county elections administrator to make minor corrections to ensure precinct lines work within the current county precinct lines. Our staff will work with your staff to accomplish these objectives.

Finally, we would like to thank the commissioners for the inclusion of competitive districts in both the congressional and legislative draft maps. Competitive districts give voters legitimate choices. While we understand that competitiveness cannot be the main criteria for forming districts, it is an important consideration to provide citizens of our state meaningful choices in their representatives at the state legislature and in the United States Congress.

In closing, we want you to know how much we
appreciate the dedication of the IRC members and of your staff.

We appreciate the opportunities to express our viewpoints, the many hours you have dedicated to hear the views of the people across Arizona, and for your serious consideration of all perspectives.

We have hope that you will equally -- seriously consider our concerns that the greater Flagstaff area, including the Schultz flood area, be including in the same legislative district as the city of Flagstaff.

We look forward to working with you in the days to come to address our issues. The board feels strongly that making this change will allow communities of interest to remain intact.

Thank you, and good luck for 25 nights of doing this.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MATT RYAN: You're welcome.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Flagstaff city councilman Scott Overton.

(Applause.)

COUNCILMAN SCOTT OVERTON: Good evening. Thank you.

And I can assure you this is a hearty group.
And, Commissioner McNulty, you're sitting in my chair. And I keep a small pillow and some snacks right to the right.

But good evening, Chairwoman Mathis, Commissioner McNulty, Commissioner Herrera. Thank you. And it's great to have you in the community of Flagstaff this evening.

My name is Scott Overton, that is O-V-E-R-T-O-N.

I'd like to recognize just quickly we also have a number of our other counsel members with us this evening, our Vice Mayor Celia Barotz is with us this evening, as is council member Art Babbott, and of course our mayor did the welcome.

I'm a Flagstaff native and have served in the Flagstaff community since 2006 as a Flagstaff City Council member.

As a member of the Flagstaff City Council, it's an honor to provide testimony to this evening on behalf of the citizens and the city council.

Tonight I start by acknowledging the hard work of the commissioners, and thank you for your service to the state of Arizona.

Like you, being a representative for the citizens in Arizona, the Flagstaff City Council has worked diligently to become informed of the requirements and restrictions that
are placed upon the redistricting process.

And like you the commissioners, this city council has taken great effort to engage our citizens throughout our neighborhoods and communities in northern Arizona.

That's evident this evening.

This community engagement has taken place in the numerous city council meetings in these chambers.

It has included partnerships that have developed with our business community, local advocacy groups, our county officials, our neighboring communities, tribal nations, and just general interested citizens.

That combined, have helped us shape a message to you of a unified voice that is hopefully better to assist you at your task.

As leaders we took up the challenge of bringing these ideas and comments together to create a value statement, which you've heard in the past and I'll reread this evening, that reflect the elements that are most important to the citizens that we serve in this community.

Our city council and our city statement reads:

The City of Flagstaff values a redistricting outcome that is first and foremost compliant with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, does not regress in its representation of the native populations in northern Arizona, maximizes competitive
districts across the state and includes Flagstaff in such a
district.

We place value in Flagstaff in a district whose
communities share our same transportation, economic,
governance, and natural resource interests, and we value
placing a greater Flagstaff area in one single legislative
district.

To speak on the specifics this evening, it is our
clear desire that both the congressional and legislative
maps achieve preclearance from the Department of Justice on
the initial submission of the redistricting plan.

We believe this very important objective is
currently met by LD 7 as shown on the legislative merge map
dated October 9th of '11.

In addition, we ask that you the Commission --
that's really pretty cool -- I think I have another minute
though.

In addition we ask that the Commission maintain
the current rural focused congressional map, dated October 2
of 2011.

And in particular, CD 1, while very large and
quite vast in geographical area, it is a competitive
district that includes Flagstaff and many communities of
interest.

Regarding the legislative map, we ask that any
adjustments that are made to this map will consider the incremental improvement to competitiveness first and foremost. Specifically to LD 6 which includes Flagstaff.

For communities of like interest, both congressional and legislative maps reflect the regional interests that are important to your city.

However, we would request that the Commission keep the Verde Valley together by possibly realigning Camp Verde from Legislative District 14 to Legislative District 6 with adjoining Flagstaff and the greater surrounding communities.

It's important to note that the business community is an integral partner with the city, and we believe that the current configuration of LD 6 does keep similar business interests together.

LD 6 as currently drawn will give Flagstaff a voice in state business issues that are critical to our economic vitality.

Regarding our value to keep the greater Flagstaff community whole, I appreciate Supervisor Ryan's comments on behalf the county.

We have many of the community members here tonight from the surrounding neighborhoods.

The legislative map has done much to keep the Flagstaff area whole and intact.
However as a city maybe we were not as clear as we would like to have been on the rural neighborhoods that are part of our great community.

In addition to those communities currently shown within the LD 6 map, we would respectfully request your consideration of the inclusion of the neighborhoods slightly north of Doney Park, which are locally referenced to as Timberline-Fernwood and the Schultz Pass burn and flood areas.

Our community recognizes the importance of the Schultz fire restorations area, and therefore includes it within these neighborhoods.

Again, we ask that these areas be considered as inclusions to LD 6.

Chairperson Mathis, excuse me,

Commissioner McNulty, Commissioner Herrera, I commend the entire Commission for all of your work on behalf of the city of Flagstaff in completing the redistricting process to this point.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak, and we appreciate you being here with us this evening.

I personally take great pride in the tireless efforts of this community and the ownership of the values and vision that we have all agreed upon.

I believe it has been a sincere effort. I truly
do. And has resulted in providing a clear and consistent message to you as our Redistricting Commission. Thank you and enjoy your evening here.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next speaker is Kevin Burke, city manager for the city of Flagstaff.

KEVIN BURKE: Thank you, Madam Chairman -- woman and commissioners.

Just a couple of housekeeping items that I might offer.

Since we run a lot of meetings in here and we typically run on the three-minute schedule that you proposed, we have a little light system that you may see down here and in front of you, and offer to your staff if they want to sit where Darryl is, you can run that.

The green light runs until you're down to one minute. The orange light comes on at 30 seconds, and then the red light indicates when your time has expired. So it helps the folks that are sitting here to see just what time they have.

The other housekeeping item that I would throw out is just the computer itself.

I don't know if folks are going to want to play with maps or call them up or if you've got that ability to
put on these screens, but we can certainly just go to your website and then put that Google map that was referenced earlier so that if there is discussion there.

So, again, my name is Kevin Burke, that's K-E-V-I-N, last name is B-U-R-K-E. And I serve as the city manager for the city of Flagstaff.

The purpose of my presentation was to talk about how we can achieve what both Supervisor Ryan and Council Member Overton had described as making some adjustments to include the Schultz fire area.

I believe you have a packet in front of you that gives you kind of specifics here. And I'll start, I'll start with Timberline, you know, with the Schultz fire area. We have three particular census blocks that constitute these areas.

And they are block 1616, block 668, and block 353. Together this population equals 2,637.

We would be moving that from LD 7 to LD 6. So obviously you're looking for where's the push in the bubble.

The push in the bubble that we would recommend is south of Payson, and I think it's about four pages back. You'll see -- actually it's the second to last page there.

You'll see three census -- or two census tracts,
tract 1710 and tract 460.

Combined, those two tracts have a population of 2,170. And we would suggest that would be the alternate.

I know I'm down to 30 seconds.

Let me -- the other area was the request on Camp Verde.

And that Camp Verde represents a population of, going back to that front page, sorry, 11,295, moving them into LD 6.

Our proposal is to move the census tracts out of the Show Low area.

Again, Council Member Overton explained that we think Camp Verde has a great community of interest with the rest of the Verde Valley.

Conversely -- or similarly, we believe Show Low has a great community of interest with Pinetop Lakeside, and currently they're divided.

Our proposal would move Show Low with the 11,277 people out LD 7 -- or out of LD 6 into LD 7.

And so we think those might be the trade-offs to achieve the request we're making tonight.

With that, again, echo my thank-yous.

I will also communicate to the folks behind me, having attended several of your meetings and having watched very remarkable how well that you take citizen input and
really try to incorporate the changes. I know that we found
the Commission to be very responsive and really appreciate
that aspect.

I would convey that to the rest of the group, that
you've been great listeners, so thank you for your time.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Joe
Galli, vice president of government affairs for the
Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce.

JOE GALLI: Thank you, Madam Chair, members of the
Commission, and staff for the Independent Redistricting
Commission. Again, Joe Galli, vice president of government
affairs, Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce. That's spelled
G-A-L-L-I.

On behalf of the board of directors of the
Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce and our thousand plus members,
we welcome you to town and we hope you stay overnight, spend
some money, and enjoy our fine restaurants for dinner and
breakfast, if you're able to get out of here early enough
and catch one that's open.

I'd be remiss if I didn't thank the folks at the
City, particularly our elected officials, mayor, and
council folks that you've heard from, not just here tonight
but at your other meetings too at different parts of the
state. And the staff that have worked tirelessly. And additionally at the county too as well, our elected officials who have been before you in Phoenix at many of your meetings. And then the many business leaders that attended other hearings.

Our president/CEO Julie Pastrick spoke to you back in August on some of the important issues that the board of directors has related to redistricting in this effort, and that was at the executive tower at the end of August.

And so we've been engaged in this process from the inception. And I think one of the goals of the board of directors of the Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce was that we speak uniformly on a number of fronts, and I think we've been successful in doing that.

So thanks for listing to us prior to and to tonight as well.

Our two main goals have been communities of interest for both legislative and congressional districts and competitiveness, and we think you've done a fine job on both fronts.

I would like to address some issues about the congressional district though.

One of the issues that we had early on, one of the issues we've identified as far as the congressional district is concerned is we kind of like the way it was with CD 1,
and the reason for that was that we had benefitted from having a member of congress sent back to Washington for the entire decade from Flagstaff, representing both parties at different points during ten years.

I speak a little bit from experience. I worked on the political side of life in 1998 in the old Congressional District 6, which you'll recall had a number of communities from Maricopa County and then parts of seven other counties in rural Arizona, and then also in the early 2000s in Congressional District 1.

You know that district is currently 60,000 square miles, one and a half times the state of Pennsylvania, and larger than the state of Illinois.

I think that you have a little -- you might have a little bit of a representation problem moving forward with the existing district going from the Arizona border all the way to southern Cochise County.

And I'll leave it at that.

But we are grateful that it is a rural eastern district, and that's what we had hoped for.

Finally on the legislative merge map, our goal had been to be with communities of interest. As I mentioned earlier, the White Mountains and the Verde Valley communities, we've identified those as acceptable communities.
We like the Legislative District 6.

Understanding there are a number of folks in this room tonight that are concerned about Schultz fire area, and some of the folks that spoke before me, from the official side of life from the city and county.

Just real quickly wrapping up.

We've not taken up the specific changes that the City just supposed to you, but I can imagine that the board of directors would look favorable upon them and would anticipate that we'll take them up in short order and circle back with everyone else.

So finally we would like to see a legislative district for Flagstaff that pairs our community with like communities in northern Arizona who share our forest health concerns, similar economic drivers, similar economies of scale related to the delivery of health care, and a clear acknowledgement of both parochial and regional transportation needs.

And with all of that, I thank you again for being here with us. You're doing great work, and we'll continue to weigh in as the process moves forward. Good luck.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Steven Darden, commissioner for Navajo Nation Human Rights
Commission.

STEVE DARDEN: Last name is spelled D-A-R-D-E-N.

Madam Chair, commissioners, city council, mayor, board of supervisors, my relations, yá'át'ééh.

I too wish to express as a former judge, magistrate here, city councilman, my condolences to the late police chief.

I went running this morning, and he was definitely in my heart as was his family.

And so I want to appreciate you for that too.

I have been here 35 years. Flagstaff. And in the county. I have properties both in the county and in the city.

I currently serve on the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission. I'm also a Diné traditional practitioner.

We wish to appreciate the Commission. Our commission and our Navajo Nation leadership has also presented to you many times.

As a citizen of Arizona we want to say thank you on behalf of our people, the Diné Nation, for listening to our people and listening to all the presentations of all sorts and sundries of things, including maps.

The Navajo Nation through the Human Rights Commission has made many presentations to you. You have
approved a draft legislative map that satisfies the requirements of the Voting Rights Act, which is very important to us.

You also approved a congressional map that increases the Native American voting age, what's called the voting age population in CD 1 from 16 percent to 20 percent, and we appreciate that.

We ask that you approve the map as they are drawn out in the drafts that you have presented most recently.

We also want to just state as the honorable chair of the great Hopi Tribe that we are grateful that the San Francisco Peaks, the Abalone Shell Mountain upon who's lap we sit this evening, is included in Congressional District 1 and Legislative District 7.

Navajo Nation has several ranches off the Navajo Nation.

We have the Big Boquillas, we have the Espil, and we have the Winslow tract.

In particular I wish to express on behalf of the nation the area known as the Espil Ranch. Espil has certain features that are paramount to my people, the Navajo people. Firstly, is encompasses and encloses the San Francisco Peaks sacred to my people.

There are private lands on it that is owned by the Navajo Nation. One of the private lands owned by the Navajo
Nation in this area is indeed in the Schultz Pass area, the
Schultz area.

And there has been negotiation about that.

Navajo Nation plans to develop the Espil Ranch by
developing the aquifers, the water system, and fencing for
grazing.

We ask that you keep Espil and other ranches owned
by Navajo in the Legislative District 7.

In conclusion, we support the draft congressional
and legislative districts as presented.

With that I say thank you much.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
Representative Tom Chabin, from Legislative District 2.

(Applause.)

REPRESENTATIVE TOM CHABIN: That's very nice.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And, representative, before
you begin, I've just been asked to ask all speakers to speak
louder.

REPRESENTATIVE TOM CHABIN: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

REPRESENTATIVE TOM CHABIN: I'll be happy to.

I'm Representative Tom Chabin. My last name is
spelled C-H-A-B, as in boy, I-N.
Madam Chair and members of the Commission, I am very, very proud to represent my district. It includes the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, Hualapai and Havasupai Tribes, and the city of Flagstaff, Coconino County.

Coconino County, city of Flagstaff, and the tribal entities have all prepared very well to present you with testimony that is meaningful and thoughtful, it is respectful, and to the constitutional issues that you must address.

As I told you before, Proposition 106 asks that non-political people, people who have never held public office, be appointed to this Commission to do the most political thing in politics.

And all of what we want is sweet and nice and we can talk about it, but the moment you draw a map, controversy arises.

We appreciate, all of us, and I personally, for what you've done, and I compliment you on what you've achieved.

I ask a couple of things.

One, hear us tonight about the Timberline area.

And the exchange, if you will, for the Camp Verde vicinity and that community.

And let me suggest that District 14, which is the Yavapai area, if there should be an exchange, that maybe the
Payson area for Camp Verde might work, and stay within the population exchange that’s being offered here. What that may also do and what I ask you to concentrate on is the issue of competitiveness with this district. As I shared with you before, this is the only legislative district that can be competitive in northern Arizona. This is it. And I compliment you on where you’ve gotten, but I ask you to go further and do your best. In many respects I ask you to be kind of like John Wayne in a bar room, if you will. John Wayne as an observer watching a fight develop, and he’s not really a part of it, but he sees a bunch of people kind of ganging up on the little guy. And as long as it’s one on one, he’ll take on the gang to make sure that it’s a fair fight. All I ask for, if I’m going to pursue an office for legislature in this legislative district, that I present my ideas, my opponent presents their ideas, and that we have a fair jury of voters to decide which set of ideas they want represented in the legislature. And to the extent that you can make this district as competitive as you can, I think will not only serve our
area, but the state of Arizona as well.

Thank you for your work. And thank you for hearing me.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

Our next speaker is Joy Iris Staveley, president of Canyoneers, Inc., representing small business, from Coconino County.

JOY STAVELEY: Good evening. I'm very, very sorry that Commissioners Stertz and Freeman are not here tonight. I hope that they are watching online.

My name is Joy Staveley, S-T-A-V-E-L-E-Y, president of Canyoneers, Incorporated, here in Flagstaff. We operate in Grand Canyon National Park. We also have an RV park and campground by Jacob Lake near the North Rim of the Grand Canyon.

In addition to being a businesswoman in Flagstaff for the past 33 years, I'm also past chairwoman of the Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce, a current advisory board member of the Small Business Development Center and of the Arizona Friends of Small Business, the Northern Arizona vice president for National Federation of Independent businesses, current treasurer and trustee of the Grand Canyon River Outfitters Association, and a current member of Flagstaff Forty.
I was very disappointed in reading in yesterday's Arizona Daily Sun that editor Randy Wilson said the final draft congressional district map gave this region nearly everything it could have hoped for.

I realize this is just one opinion, but it does not comport with my beliefs or those of many small business people and friends and neighbors I have been talking with.

We feel that the non-reservation portion of Coconino County belongs in the newly drawn rural -- western rural district of CD 4.

Northern Arizona communities such as Flagstaff, Prescott, and the Verde Valley share economic development interests, transportation, education, forest restoration, water management, medical and health interests, and of course tourism interests. Very important to us.

We currently work together on common legislative issues such as the Greater Arizona Mayors Association, Northern Arizona Council of Governments, and the Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Additionally, Grand Canyon National Park is located within the counties of Mohave and Coconino and will be well served by being in the same congressional district.

Arizona's 13 rural counties have a total population of 1,594,637 residents according to our 2010
That's enough to make at least two rural congressional districts, with an ideal district having 710,224 residents.

The Commission we hope would draw at least two districts completely outside metro Phoenix and metro Tucson, one in eastern Arizona and one in western Arizona.

If Coconino County must be included in a district with a heavily populated area, we feel that it should be kept completely out of Maricopa County and Pima County. The more populated northern Arizona areas within Yavapai County and Mohave County, for example, would we think be much more preferable.

No rural county should be joined with any part of metro Phoenix or metro Tucson, except when necessary to comply with the Voting Rights Act.

The new CD 1 places Coconino County with suburban communities of Marana, Oro Valley, and Saddlebrooke just north of Tucson.

The draft map does not comply with the Arizona Constitution in a number of ways.

The districts are much less compact than those represented in previous maps.

The districts do not represent the rural communities of interest.
All of the nine districts shown on the draft map have a connection to the metro Phoenix or metro Tucson area. This is a significant detriment to many of the constitutional criteria for the sake of competitiveness.

So we ask that you please do not split five counties, Pinal, Cochise, Gila, Pima, and Yavapai, for the sole purpose of keeping our one county, Coconino, whole.

The Arizona Constitution states that to the extent practical district lines shall use visible geographic features, city, town, and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts.

But we're asking please do not put the Pima County communities of Marana and Oro Valley in with the eastern rural district CD 1 that includes Coconino County. The rural counties should be able to elect a candidate from rural Arizona, not from suburban Tucson.

We ask that you please not split Yavapai County arbitrarily to include parts of the Verde Valley with the eastern rural district CD 1.

The Verde Valley is the link between Yavapai County and Coconino County. Many of the problems with the draft map could be resolved by adding the non-reservation portion of Coconino County into the new CD 4 and removing an equal population from Pinal County in CD 4 and adding it to...
CD 1, addressing many of the concerns of our friends and neighbors in Pinal County.

If two rural districts and three border districts are truly desired by the Commission, this can be accomplished without putting the eastern counties in with Pima County and without putting the western counties in with the urban areas of Maricopa County and Pinal County.

Arizona has more than enough people in the rural parts of our state to deserve a minimum of two completely rural districts.

So I ask if the Commission would please consider those requests that I have made on behalf of a lot of our business community and friends up here in regards to those two districts.

Thank you so much for your attention.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next speaker is L.G. Mace, representing self, from Prescott.

L.G. MACE: My name is L.G. Mace. The last name is spelled M-A-C-E.

A number of times here tonight people have said that you're here to hear us.

In looking at these maps and going on past meetings and what has been said at those meetings, I don't think you're listening.
You need to listen to what we're saying and the reasoning behind it.

I represent myself, but I'm also speaking for a number of people in Yavapai County and particularly those in the Verde Valley area.

We do not believe Coconino has a right to run down and grab off part of Yavapai just to make something even.

I'm looking more for a boundary on Yavapai County. We want Yavapai to be completely within a congressional district and completely within its own legislative district. We have a population to do that.

I agree with the previous speaker that one of the ideal CD 4 would be the non-reservation portion of Coconino, all of Mohave, all of Yavapai, all of La Paz, and then whatever portions of Gila County are needed to make any population change.

We do believe that the best area would be a square.

What you have here on these maps is a very gerrymandered CD 1, a very gerrymandered CD 4.

And on the legislative maps, you've really thrown out any idea that we have any kind of contiguous areas within a county.

So I would emphasize follow the county borders, keep them within congressional districts, keep them within
legislative districts wherever practical, and, whatever you do, do not weight -- weaken Yavapai County by throwing us in with the northern portion of Maricopa.

They will dominate us, they will elect our legislators, and we won't have any voice.

So please do not combine us with Maricopa.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

Our next speaker is Ken Dzugan, representing self, from Oak Creek.

KEN DZUGAN: Yes. My name is Ken Dzugan, and that last name is spelled D-Z-U-G-A-N.

Madam Chairwoman and members of the IRC, first I want to thank you for what has got to be one of the most thankless jobs in the world that you are doing. And I think you're doing a great job.

I do have one concern, and it -- and the main thing that I want to address is Congressional District 1. And my concern is I live in the Village of Oak Creek, which is just a few miles south of the southern border of the city of Sedona.

But we are a community of interest. And I want to tell you why I believe we are a community of interest.

The Sedona Oak Creek Unified School District
includes both Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek, and we have schools in both.

The Sedona fire district includes the Village of Oak Creek, and it has a fire station there.

The Sedona Public Library has a branch in the Village of Oak Creek, and they make presentations and give programs both in Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek.

All of the service clubs for the area, the Rotary, the Lions, and the Elks, have membership throughout Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek.

The Sedona Chamber of Commerce also includes the area of the Village of Oak Creek, and they hold programs there as well as up in the Sedona area.

Cultural organizations such as Chamber Music Sedona, the Sedona International Film Festival, and Sedona Jazz On The Rocks, have many members from both Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek.

On October 7th and 8th, Sedona Jazz On The Rocks held their annual jazz festival at the Sedona Golf Resort, which just happens to be located in the Village of Oak Creek.

The Red Rock News, the local paper that covers both Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek provides home delivery to their subscribers in both Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek.
Sedona Monthly, a magazine, which is mailed free to residents of both Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek. The U.S. Postal Service requires that residents of the Village of Oak Creek use Sedona in their mailing address.

So those are the reasons that I think we are a community of interest with Sedona. And I hope that you will be able to find a way to join at least the Village of Oak Creek into Congressional District 1, because I think that's where we belong.

As far as the Legislative District 6, I agree with what several other speakers have said. I think that Camp Verde ought to be included as well within Legislative District 6 as part of the overall Verde Valley area.

So, thank you all.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Karen Bradford, representing self, from Flagstaff.

KAREN BRADFORD: Thank you, Madam Chair.

My name the Karen Bradford, B-R-A-D-F-O-R-D. Karen with a K.

Well, this is my first time doing this. I am certainly not as prepared as many of the other people.
I am not a politician. I am simply here to state my opinion, and I thank you for letting ordinary citizens walk in here and address you like this.

And I agree with everybody else. You are doing a very thankless job, and I am glad I'm not having to do it.

My main purpose was to be here to support Joy Staveley with her comments about the communities of interest. I do believe that we have more in common with the Mohave and eastern and western counties than we do with some of the southern counties like Cochise.

Therefore I feel that it would be much better for us to be included with those counties that are in the new District 4, proposed District 4. I suppose it's not really there yet.

And I would like to -- and I also believe that there is an advantage in that it is more compact and more contiguous. I do think that -- I also appreciate the fact that it is more of a rural district than what we have going right now with the chunks of Maricopa and Pima now that gets stuck in with us sometimes.

So I know that's not a whole bunch of really informative stuff. I didn't do all the figures for the numbers, but I do believe that there have been some number studies that would be -- I think you could do it. It's not like it's really difficult to do.
There's some little pieces you can drop off the bottom.

Thank you very much for your time.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is David Arendt, representing self, from Coconino.

DAVID ARENDT: Good evening. Welcome to Flagstaff. It's a great town, and you'll notice while in your stay here that it's really kind of hard to tell the difference between the city of Flagstaff and the outlining rural communities and subdivisions.

My name is Dave Arendt. It's A-R-E-N-D-T.

I'm a registered nurse at Flagstaff Medical Center, and I am a retired law enforcement from Southern California.

And I'm requesting that the Commission reconsider the proposed legislative district map and keep greater Flagstaff within its like communities.

Really would like Flagstaff to remain within LD 6 and not split up some of the rural communities into a new legislative district, LD 7.

Proposed map redistricts several of the rural communities, like Timberline and Fernwood, into LD 7. And these subdivisions represent communities of interest within
the greater Flagstaff and should remain within LD 6.

This would comply more with the Voter Rights Act of compactness, and the proposed map does not follow the interest of maintaining a Flagstaff or a greater Flagstaff with a compact and common sense of interest.

So I thank you for your time. Enjoy your stay up here, that's why my wife and I moved out of Southern California, and thanks for your time.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Diana Arendt, representing self, from Coconino County.

DIANA ARENDT: Good evening, commissioners. And thank you for your service.

My name is Diana Arendt, A-R-E-N-D, as in district, T.

And I'm a resident of Flagstaff.

I'm also a registered nurse and community activist, and I'm involved in a variety of volunteer positions in our county.

I would like to address the proposed congressional map and why I do not believe that the IRC has adequately addressed communities of interest.

In 2001, IRC created an all rural congressional district.
Now this principle has changed.

The proposed map stretches from the northern border of Arizona to the Mexican border and includes much of Pinal County, Pima County north of Tucson, and Maricopa County south of Phoenix.

Where there was once one pure rural district in the 2001 map, there are now two urban/rural districts.

The new CD 1 will be dominated by the three urban counties, and the new CD 4 by Maricopa and Pinal Counties.

Rural Arizona will lose its voice.

I am aware that the mayor, the Flagstaff Forty, and some Coconino County supervisors have testified in favor of Flagstaff being in the eastern district, but that is not the voice of the majority of the population, with all due respect.

Coconino, Yavapai, Mohave, La Paz, and northern Yuma Counties have strong communities of interest.

Along with many others, I believe that respecting communities of interest and supporting two real rural districts in Arizona would ensure appropriate representation in congress.

Therefore I respectfully ask that you as commissioners serve the interest of the people of Arizona and not the interest of the politicians.

Thank you.
Chairperson Mathis: Thank you.

Our next speaker is Roger Boone, representing self, from Flagstaff.

Roger Boone: Madam Chair, commissioners, and staff, my name is Roger Boone, spelled R-O-G-E-R, B-O-O-N-E. Just like Daniel.

I'm a Flagstaff resident for some 20 years, a small business owner, and an operator.

First of all, I'd like to say, you guys are much more attractive in person than in the countless hours of blurry video I've watched off the website.

Good thing about it is the audio has been good, so I've at least been able to hear the testimony.

Thank you for all your hard work in your attempt to comply with the criteria you're mandated to follow.

I do have to say though that the process of Prop 106 is somewhat like throwing the baby out with the bathwater by requiring you to start with a clean slate.

Why reinvent the wheel. Why not improve it.

I'm here tonight to talk -- or voice my opinion on CD 1 and LD 6.

I'll try to keep it short.

Some of my items have already -- about four.

Regarding LD 6, the burn area's already been...
addressed, but there's also two little areas that are south of town to Winona Road and go eastward from 89-A to Winona. These areas are known as Mountain View Ranchos and Cosnino Equestrian.

I think they've been left out by error. People probably didn't understand that that was part of Flagstaff.

Regarding CD 1. I feel that Flagstaff has more in common, in interest with the river district CD 4 than CD 1.

I would suggest Flagstaff and all the non-reservation areas surrounding Flagstaff be brought into CD 4, which would increase competitiveness in CD 4. There is no competitiveness in CD 4.

If we have two rural areas, even if you have to split the competitive numbers, it would be better than what we have now.

Also, it would allow you to pull up some of the area around metro Phoenix, and possibly even some of the Payson area, which they have complained about. They don't want to be with Flagstaff.

Whether we want to admit it or not, Flagstaff is in trouble, the state's in trouble, and our great country is in trouble.

I would find it of great benefit for small businesses like mine to be included in CD 4, which has similar size communities and has similar types of
businesses.

I would also like to add a point. I have heard and read so much comments about the lobbying that's coming out of Flagstaff. Identities like the Flag Forty, Flagstaff City Council, Coconino County Board of Supervisors, and of course our honorable mayor of Flagstaff Sara Presler.

Which Sara holds a position of Vice Chair on the Greater Arizona Mayors Coalition, which is comprised of cities like Bullhead City, Camp Verde, Chino Valley, Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Humbolt, Kingman, Lake Havasu City, Prescott, Prescott Valley, Sedona, Williams.

Are all of those areas, all those towns located in the river district?

Unfortunately I have to work for a living.

And I'm not afforded the luxury of being able to lobby.

I do find it an issue to have groups like Flag Forty, City Council, NAU, and county try and move their agenda forward and tell you what is best for me.

Madam Chair, as a fellow Independent, I value maintaining my Independent values, and I respectfully request you maintain your core values with this process.

Listen carefully to both sides of the aisle and apply your core values as you see fit.

Once again, thank you for all your hard work.
It's a job I'd never apply for.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Robert Thorpe, representing self, from Flagstaff.

ROBERT THORPE: Good evening, commissioners.

Thank you for coming to Flagstaff.

According to Proposition 106, a district should be compact and contiguous.

There’s nothing compact or contiguous about the latest proposed CD 1. A district that appears to stretch over 400 miles, from Utah to the Mexican border, is not compact. And northern Tucson, a five-hour drive, is not contiguous with the city of Flagstaff.

Respecting communities of interest, Flagstaff does not have any -- anything in interest with communities that are hundreds and hundreds of miles away.

According to the Voting Rights Act, the plan that you put together cannot weaken or reduce minority voting rights.

CD 1 Republicans have been in the minority for over ten years.

The proposed CD 1 will ensure that CD 1 remains a stronghold for the Democratic party and will further the
minority status of Republican voters within CD 1.

My recommendation is that the non-reservation portions of Coconino County should be merged with CD 4 to make it compact and contiguous with other communities of interest.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Marilyn Ruggles, representing self, from Flagstaff.

MARILYN RUGGLES: My name is Marilyn Ruggles, R-U-G-G-L-E-S.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight.

I am representing self, but I have a funny feeling there are a lot of the Schultz fire/flood area residents, friends, neighbors here. So if they'll all stand up.

More than I thought.

I had no idea there were that many.

Since you began working on the LD map, I have streamed as much as possible of the IRC meetings. Having done so, I have gained much respect for your perseverance and your efforts.

It's been a painful process, and I'm afraid it will continue to be so for a little while longer.
Tonight I will speak just to the LD map, since I feel that your decisions about where those lines are drawn will have a greater effect on me personally than the CD map lines.

Specifically I wish to suggest some minor changes in the lines around the Schultz fire/flood area which will have a major impact on my life in the next several years.

As the lines to delineate LD 6 and 7 are presently drawn, they split the Schultz fire/flood area.

You know that.

Part of the area lies within District 6 and part within District 7.

City and county governments and residents of the greater Flagstaff area all feel that the Schultz fire/flood area is a community of interest for Flagstaff.

The city's landfill, the city's severely damaged water pipeline, and the burn area above the neighborhoods affected by the floods, the berms erected to protect Doney Park from further flooding, the cinder lake that absorbs some of runoff from the floods coming off the mountain, et cetera, all need to be in the same district as Flagstaff.

I could leave out some of this because some people have already said it.

Having streamed your meetings, I fully realize
what a challenge it is to move a line, because it affects another line and another line and another. And many requirements have to be considered, including the VRA, equalization of population, contiguousness, et cetera.

To the uninitiated, minor changes in the map seem minor, but for you they are big challenges.

I also realize that nobody is happy with the maps, and that you were receiving many requests for changes and the second public hearing process has just begun.

Knowing that, I still respectfully request that you redraw the line affecting the Schultz fire/flood area to include the entire area in the same LD as Flagstaff.

After the 30-day public comment period is over on November 10th, I know it can't be done now, I think that was the initial intent, but there was some confusion about which neighborhoods were included in the area.

Thank you for your service and for your consideration.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Grant Cooper, representing self, from Flagstaff.

GRANT COOPER: Madam Chair, commissioners, my name is Grant Cooper, C-O-O-P-E-R.

And my wife and I, we live in the Timberline area
a few miles north of the city of Flagstaff limits. And the proposed LD map shows our area outside the LD 6 and within a district containing the Navajo Hopi reservations and other very far outlying communities.

We should be in the same district as the city of Flagstaff. Our community of interest is with Flagstaff. That is LD 6.

As this is our town where we shop, work, where our kids, our grandkids go to school, where we have common interests, issues, and concerns.

In addition we live in the area severely impacted by yearly flooding caused by the Schultz fire.

The county of Coconino and the city of Flagstaff have mounted a coordinated effort to mitigate the damage that has and continues to occur. We need to be included in the same district as Flagstaff in order for these efforts to be successful.

We have very little common interest, issues, or concerns with the reservations in outlying communities. We would be without effective representation if left in this district.

We urge you to include our area in the same district as Flagstaff.

And thank you, and good luck on your endeavors.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.
(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Eve Ross, representing W.L. Gore & Associates, Flagstaff.

EVE ROSS: Thank you. My name is Eve Ross, R-O-S-S.

Gore is a major employer in the city of Flagstaff.

I have addressed you before, in Tempe a couple weeks ago, to discuss Gore's interest in our representation and the location of the district lines.

Gore is a part of Flag Forty. We are supportive of the information and points of view put forward by Flag Forty.

We support the current CD 1 map.

We value particularly the competitiveness of this district as it's currently drawn.

We think a competitive district allows more people to have a chance of winning. More people with a chance of winning brings more people to the table, makes for better conversations about the issues that face this area, our state, and our nation.

On the legislative district side, I want to echo what you have heard from other people tonight. It's important that the Schultz burn area be kept together.

Gore associates come from the greater Flagstaff community there. And their representation, their
orientation, and the like, is oriented towards the city of Flagstaff. A great number of people who work at Gore live out there. And aligning their interest with those of the city of Flagstaff to us makes sense.

So thank you for very much for all your work as we've -- you all deserve to be sanctified for participating for this long in this process.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I just want to do a court reporter check. It's 7:30. Thumbs up. Okay. Let us know when you need a break.

Our next speaker is Donald Weaver, representing self, from Flagstaff.

DONALD WEAVER: My name is Donald Weaver, W-E-A-V-E-R.

And I just want to make a few general comments.

My main concern about the congressional map is that I think, although you have tried to keep two rural districts, I think what you have actually done is eliminated two rural districts, because both CD 1 and CD 4 now extend down into population centers in the center of the state and in the southern part of the state. So that although you call those rural districts, they really are not rural districts, because the population centers in the Phoenix,
Maricopa County, area and the population centers down in Tucson area will actually dominate those counties.

So I just would like to say that I think you need to reconsider those two factors.

And I would also like to point out that although this meeting is part of the second round, I believe, the way you've put it up on your outline, if you will recall in the first round, you had a meeting scheduled here in Flagstaff but the meeting was cancelled because none of the commissioners were in attendance.

So I would just like to point out that --

(Applause.)

DONALD WEAVER: -- although this is the second round for Flagstaff population, it is really still the first round.

Thank you very much for your attention, and I appreciate being able to talk to you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Tom Broderick, from Flagstaff.

TOM BRODERICK: Good evening, commissioners.

B-R-O-D-E-R-I-C-K.

Thank you for your work and service.

It's been mentioned by everybody up here, I think,
because anybody who's looked at this understands that this is not an easy job or a -- one that gets a lot of thanks usually.

I'm here to support the existing congressional map that you have, particularly to have our community and our county included in the eastern district.

I've driven through some of these places that are referred to by other speakers as urban areas. And, in fact, they're pretty sparsely populated areas on the outskirts.

So, I wanted to support the congressional map that you have, with the community as -- our community as it is in CD 1, and that you have successfully gotten two rural counties.

And my only other comment is that on the legislative district -- by the way, I hadn't thought about this Schultz burn district, but I have shoveled a bunch of mud up there during the recovery from the initial floods, and that certainly is a Flagstaff community. If you look at the people where they were coming from that were helping shovel out there, it is all the people from the Flagstaff and of course surrounding areas.

So I want to support those folks in being included, but also to have -- work harder on getting our Congressional District 6 to be even more competitive and some of the other districts to be more competitive.
I think that the consensus, and I'm not an expert on all the numbers, but the consensus of people that I've talked to who have studied this a little more believe that more could be done to have competitive districts, particularly this one.

And I am going to save some time and get back to my seat so you can call the next person.

Thank you very much for your service.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Angela LeFevre, representing self, from Sedona.

ANGELA LEFEVRE: Yes, good evening. My name is Angela LeFevre.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sorry about that.

ANGELA LEFEVRE: LeFevre is French so it's hard. It's capital L-E, capital F-E-V-R-E.

And I'm from Sedona. And, again, thank you all for being here this evening.

And I've been following you from Sedona, so this is the first time I've actually been in front of you guys. And thank you for the opportunity to speak.

We in Sedona for the most part are absolutely thrilled that we are now in a competitive district. And we really, really, really appreciate that because Sedona is
full of wonderful people who've got great minds, greater intellect, and like a voice, and too often they've been denied that voice. So we appreciate that, and we appreciate the fact that you've given us this with CD 1 and for putting us towards the east.

We feel that is a community. We're very much a part of the eastern area, because of our forest, our lands, our natural -- natural resources, of course our water issues.

So we appreciate that we now can turn towards Flagstaff area rather than turning west to Prescott, which really has not got the same interest as ours.

And to illustrate this very quickly, we had some pretty bad experiences very recently with the county supervisors.

I don't know if you heard about this, but Yavapai County decided to draw their own map at the last minute after going to the public and actually ignoring everything that we had given them and drawing their own map.

We still -- Verde Valley only has one supervisor.

And -- although there's four on the other side of the mountain. So the people in the Verde Valley are not very happy about the western part of the county right now. We would on the whole prefer to go east.

So we thank you for that.
Just one small point. I had a colleague here talking about VOC, and what he said was very, very, very important.

I'd also like to point out that there are other areas surrounding Sedona.

You've moved the city of Sedona into CD 1. What you need to do is look at the precincts, and you have many precincts who are actually being divided into two by having what you have done.

So we have all kinds of anomalies here, and I'd be glad to put them in detail for you, but the fact is that you divided precincts, you've divided communities, and if could you look at that again it would be wonderful if you could put our whole -- the whole of greater Sedona into CD 1.

And as far as LD 6 is concerned, we are happy to go east.

It is what the city of Sedona council advised, and we're happy to have the Verde Valley as part of that looking on the eastern.

We really appreciate your work on that. Thank you so much.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is David McKell, professor emeritus at Northern Arizona University,
representing self, from Flagstaff.

DAVID MCKELL: Good evening. My name is David McKell. McKell, M-C-K-E-L-L.

And I have been a citizen, a resident of Flagstaff, Coconino County, for over 37 years.

And I want to take this opportunity to say job well done.

I know that it's really difficult to begin to tweak the maps, because you could pull the string out of the whole sweater and be doing the whole thing over again. And I appreciate that.

And I really appreciate that you've put Flagstaff in the new Congressional District 1.

Because I do want to kind of point out in terms of the Flagstaff is the community of interest. It's a community of interest actually for the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Nation, both in terms of commerce and in terms of education.

And I am speaking as a professor that's been with the university for 37 years.

We have, at the university, one of the largest population of native students, the vast majority coming off the Navajo and Hopi reservation.

And Flagstaff and the university serves that, Flagstaff as a border community, and NAU as a university.
It's really, I would say, a reservation university. It really does serve that population.

And I want to thank you for putting Flagstaff with the reservation.

I do want to echo the concern in terms of the Schultz flood area and the Timberline. That is definitely within the Flagstaff community of interest. And if you could tweak that map without pulling the string in the sweater, I would appreciate it, and many here I think would too.

And thank you again for your attention.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Phil Off, representing self, from -- you'll have to tell us which county.

Chairman Mathis and members of the Commission, thank you for your time. Good evening.

PHIL OFF: My name is Phil Off, spelled O-F-F, probably the shortest and easiest one so far tonight.

I'm a resident of Pine Mountain Estates neighborhood.

First I want to thank you for taking on the challenging and daunting task of creating balanced and competitive legislative districts in the state. I can only
imagine the breath and depth of the input that you've received so far.

Ranging north from the Flagstaff city limits, along Route 89, and on the west side of Doney Park, is a series of small neighborhoods. These neighborhoods range in size from only about 30 to around 100 homes each, with names of North Peak, Hutchison Acres, Timberline, Pine Mountain Estates where I live, Fernwood, and Wupatki Trails. And there are a few homes in between that don't have any distinct neighborhood identification.

Together historically most of these have been called Black Bill Park. I have no idea who Black Bill is or was, but more recently our group of 2500 residents has been given a new name, the Schultz fire burn and flood area.

A map of our area has been prepared using -- I'm the only person so far that brought you a map, you asked us for a map, I brought you a map -- using your IRC mapping tool for your review.

The last 18 months have been pretty hard on us. First the recession -- we all suffer from that -- then a devastating forest fire, and now ongoing floods have ravaged our small neighborhoods. Roads and homes have been damaged, property values are reduced to less than 40 percent of their previous values -- if they can be sold at all -- retirement plans of whole lives have been scrapped, shattered, and
It is only with the loving care and assistance of our greater Flagstaff community that we've coped with this crisis.

Greater Flagstaff residents you've heard tonight that filled and placed sandbags, shoveled mud, provided food and housing, and operated the heavy equipment needed after each one of these floods.

We have no infrastructure of our own.

We work in Flagstaff. I'm one of the Gore associates.

We shop in Flagstaff. Our children go to school and play football and soccer in Flagstaff. We worship in Flagstaff. Our medical care is in Flagstaff.

Even the water we drink comes from wells and pumps in District 6.

We are wholly dependent upon, and inextricably linked with, the greater community of Flagstaff.

I ask you and I respectfully implore you to include our neighborhoods in District 6 along with the rest of our Flagstaff family.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)
Hoge, from Flagstaff.

GLENN HOGE: Thank you.

My name is Glenn, G-L-E-N-N, Hoge, H-O-G-E.

I'm actually a resident of Kachina Village, just a community just south of Flagstaff.

I want to thank you folks for the service and your -- and for your service on the Independent Redistricting Committee.

I voted for the proposition that established the committee, and I think that you've done me proud.

I appreciate your sacrifice.

I support your CD 1 map.

I think it shows a great deal of thought. I think you've listened carefully to the Flagstaff community, to the city council, to the board of supervisors, to the Native American tribes, and to the business interests that have given testimony previously.

To refute one of our earlier speakers, I don't see the city council, board of supervisors, and the Native American tribes as lobbyists. I see them as elected representatives.

I think that you have -- with your CD 1 map, I think you have created a community of interest. I think it is competitive. I think you have adhered to the Voting Rights Act.
And Coconino County is left whole, and it's placed in the eastern part of the state where it belongs. I support -- for the most part I support the map LD 6.

However, I would ask the committee to relook and make sure that it is competitive.

I think that some small adjustments need to be made.

For instance, I think that Show Low is not as much of a community of interest as is Winslow.

Also, I believe, as some of the previous speakers, that Timberline should be included with LD 6.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Louise Hublitz.

If you could let us know where you're from, that would be great.

LOUISE HUBLITZ: Good evening, Madam Chair, and members of the IRC. My name is Louise Hublitz, H-U-B-L-I-T-Z, and I am a resident of Flagstaff.

I have to use the word volunteer as in my thank you to you guys for doing the job you do.

It is an amazing volunteer effort on your part,
and I really do appreciate the kind of time you take from your personal lives and your family to be here.

And I appreciate this opportunity to speak with you.

It's not an easy task to sort through all the considerations that are presented to you. I think you've heard a variety of points of view here tonight. Some of them quite different from others.

But I think that you have listened and been independent in the choices that you've made with your map. I think you've done the right thing.

I know that sometimes it's not easy to do the right thing.

I believe that as a resident of Flagstaff I'm happy with the choices that you made with the Congressional District 1.

I think I will continue to have a voice in my community and the choices that affect the quality of life here in Flagstaff. That's why I'm here, for the quality of life.

I believe that the voice of the majority of the people in this community, in this city, and in this county have been heard by you. And I know that by the way you have designed the congressional map.

As for the legislative district, LD 6, I would ask
that you listen to the considerations that are very heartfelt from the people that live in the Schultz fire area, Timberline-Fernwood. I think that's an area that really needs to be taken into special consideration.

And I would ask that you listen to the voice of our representatives that are voted into office here in our town, specifically Matt Ryan, Scott Overton, Kevin Burke, and Tom Chabin, listen to some of the suggestions they've made about tweaking that map a bit, the LD map six, and, and do the right thing.

And I know that's not always easy, and I know that this is a thankless task, but I so much appreciate you giving us the opportunity to speak to you.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Martin Valentine, representing self, from Coconino.

MARTIN VALENTINE: My name is Marty Valentine. That's V, as in Victor, A-L-E-N-T-I-N-E. I'm a longtime resident of Flagstaff. I am more than a little concerned over the redistricting as I've seen it so far. Specifically in the congressional district.

With all the political and economic strife today,
I feel that we need to look for commonalities more than differences.

Specifically metropolitan tribal interests should not dominate rural communities such as Flagstaff.

Having spent my youth in Phoenix, later in Tucson, I assure you that this is not what my family wanted when we moved to Flagstaff 20 years ago.

Urban concerns have little in common with western -- with western and northern regions, and should therefore not be included in our congressional district.

What I'm really interested in is specifically moving the Marana and Oro Valley southern district of the congressional division, and possibly bringing other elements possibly north of -- in the Mohave area, let's say, into the district.

I appreciate your efforts. It's not an easy job.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Barbara Valentine, representing self, from Coconino.

BARBARA VALENTINE: Good evening. I don't know about this wife following husband thing, but I will try it.

My name is Barbara Valentine, V-A-L-E-N-T-I-N-E.

With no disrespect to the mayor of Flagstaff, the
Coconino County supervisors, the Flag Forty, and the city council, they do not reflect my views and the views of many others in the community regarding redistricting.

I moved to Flagstaff 20 years ago because of its rural leanings. It is my opinion that Flagstaff should be in the western district, not in the proposed eastern district.

According to the 2010 census, there is enough population to make two rural districts.

I feel that we in Flag have much more in common with Yavapai, Mohave, La Paz, northern Yuma County, and other western Arizona communities rather than the Navajo and Apache Counties as proposed in the eastern district.

Myself and many others believe that respecting communities of interest and supporting two genuine rural districts would ensure proper representation in congress for business and for individuals.

Please do not base your decision on voting blocks, but rules that govern the Commission and common sense.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Michael Martin, representing self, from Coconino.

MICHAEL MARTIN: I'm not going to spell Mike.
Martin is M-A-R-T-I-N.

On August 2nd I gave this map to your administrative assistant when you weren't at the meeting. I recognize that what you're doing is a noble effort.

I'll read my prepared remarks.

Is Ray Bladine here?

Is that you, Ray Bladine?

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: He is not here.

MICHAEL MARTIN: He's not here. All right. Fine. I mean, it's a fact.

The ten-year actual enumeration specified in our constitution is a philosophically correct and essential component of the historical anomaly represented by the form of government we all enjoy.

I got to say we enjoy it.

This is good.

However, the revised district plans following these -- from these enumerations historically have instead proven to be burdens to be endured.

Over the course of 20 plus previous redistricting programs, the practitioners somehow managed to increase the quality of their attempts.

This is historically over the United States history.
The bar measuring their attempts has now risen to the level of a tripping hazard. This has provided Arizona's first Redistricting Commission with a perverse measure of cover. However flawed their district plan based on the 2000 census may have been, it is nothing if not traditional.

The 2010 census affords the current Redistricting Commission -- and all of us -- you all -- an opportunity to be mutually supportive.

Together we might aspire to raise the bar untraditionally higher.

Such is the good faith intention of this alternate plan.

Which you all have had since the 2nd of August.

The following nine federal congressional districts and 30 state legislative districts were conceived shortly after the public Flagstaff city council meeting of 7 July. The redistricting issue was the topic of discussion of the initial two hours of that meeting.

The underlying goal of this alternate plan is functional clarity. The plan is functional by providing the critical political equity of one person, one vote. The plan achieves clarity by being understandable, if not to everyone, to as many such persons as possible.

That's not the case with what you're giving us.
There's, there's a woman that had an accent, French, from Sedona, or English?

English, excuse me.

Has it ever been a legitimate goal of redistricting to intentionally distract, disorient, and repulse the voting public? In the context of Arizona's governance receivership status, the question is not as incredible as it might seem.

This discussion invites the current Redistricting Commission to seriously attempt to answer a single essential question: Can 39 districts somehow fairly provide critical equity in a clear form that is widely understood?

This alternative suggests yes.

Subordinate to the belatedly adopted standard of one man, one vote, the 39 districts are based on a single principle. The existing government designated jurisdictions with elected legislative bodies are to be utilized whole, as their populations, per the '10 census, are less than the respective target populations.

It's just that simple.

The designated jurisdictions are the community of interest that this alternative will recognize, respect, and maintain.

Which none of your plans state.

You do not state what is the community of interest
per each.

You can't, and you should, and you have not.

In most locations, the jurisdictions will be state designated counties, municipalities, and school districts. In the few remaining jurisdictions -- locations, the jurisdictions will be federally designated Native American reservations.

I've not been as systematic of those as I'd like to, and I apologize to the Native Americans for that.

The target populations are given. It's math.

As presented in the following tabulations, actual specific populations of the alternate districts reflect their several circumstances will vary. In each case the difference will be presented as a percentage.

You've all done that.

It will remain for the dedicated staff to determine the political party distributions of the voters in this alternate's district. Such distributions are based on the self-declaration by individuals during the voter registration process.

As the numbers -- let's see, okay.

As the numbers of registered voters, by party or declared Independents, are obtained, they should continue to be listed per district, all districts, all alternate plans.

You're doing that.
That's not bad.

In a similar vein, a more rational analysis of alternate plans may become the norm, when all of the several -- presumably several communities of interest in all of the alternate plans are listed per each. Further, the degree to which these communities are maintained whole or fractured can also be listed and become part of the norm.

You just heard the story about Sedona having its voting precincts being divided by your work.

That may be a finetuning that you can edit, so to speak.

Recognizing Arizona's political receivership status requires that the obvious be stated.

The federal and state -- state designated jurisdictions are explicitly and objectively defined communities of interest.

Again, the redistricting process will not be less equitable if all the alternate plans are also obliged to be systematically explicit.

This is no more consistent because my plan does it.

The alternate plan is after all a draft.

Consequently the use of intra-county divisions and reservations is intended to represent benchmark goals within the overall census figures. The alternate attempts to
impartially presume that all women then are created equal. Respectively all Arizonans are invited to speak for themselves in good faith.

I'd just like to highlight a couple of very nice obvious things.

Talking about CDs. People attack a lot of problems with our proposed congressional district running down the east side of the state.

If you take the five northern counties, you'll end up with a population of 724,607.

That's Mohave, Yavapai whole, Coconino, Navajo, and Apache.

That's two percent over the limit.

I think on a congressional district, that might be too much of an error that the feds will accommodate.

If we delete the -- and this reflects positively on the Apaches. If we delete the Apache reservation areas in southern parts of Navajo and Apache County, that may help that.

By the way, this gives you three rural districts. You seem to be struggling so hard to have that problem.

VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Madam Chair, we need to respect the three-minute timeline and --

MICHAEL MARTIN: Is it over?

VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Yeah.
I think we need to bring back the buzzer. It will be helpful.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sir, if you could ensure though that we get that map. Kristina Gomez, our deputy executive director, will take that from you, and any prepared statements that you've got written out that you want to give us.

MICHAEL MARTIN: Where is she?

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: She is standing -- she just waved.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Take a break?
Okay. We'll take a quick recess.
Five minutes.
It's right now 8:02 p.m.
Thank you.
(Brief recess taken.)
CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Recess is now over. The time is 8:17 p.m.

We've got a lot of folks who want to get home tonight because they have long drives, so we're trying to be respectful of that, and we'll get started.

I did -- before we take more public comment, I wanted to note that someone thankfully to us pointed out
some discrepancies in some data that went out tonight. And we're doing some checking on that. It's on these charts that say Commission approved congressional draft map voting age population breakdown.

So we're -- our mapping consultant is looking into those numbers and making sure that they are accurate, and we'll ensure that the right numbers are on our website as soon as possible.

So with that, our first speaker is Dea Brasgalla did he yeah backs call law from Yavapai County.

DEA BRASGALLA: My name is Dea, D-E-A, last name B-R-A-S-G-A-L-L-A.

And my concern is about the outlying districts surrounding Sedona.

They are put into a different legislative district, I believe.

And they are only like -- I mean, they're maybe two or three miles outside of Sedona. I don't understand why they were not included.

One is the Shadows community.

And the other one is the Lower Loop Road, and has the state park, the Arizona state -- one of our state parks there.

Anyway, I really feel also that the Village of Oak Creek needs to be included with Sedona on all of the
maps, because they share the same fire and school districts
as well as the ZIP code.

And the Village of Oak Creek is, like, maybe
five miles from the city limits of Sedona.

Anyway, I also wanted to say that I have lived for
14 years on the Hopi reservation, and I am very proud to see
that the Hopi and Navajo reservations are included in CD 1,
and I'm glad that Sedona is included in CD 1, and I thank
you very, very much for all your hard work.

And I certainly wouldn't want to be sitting where
you are.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Marian
McCollister, from -- representing self, from Coconino
County.

MARIAN MCCOLLISTER: Thank you very much for
coming up here and for all of your hard work. We really
appreciate it.

I just want to say, first of all, I really do like
all of the maps that you've done, especially the CD 1 map.

It fits what I would like to see.

I live in the Schultz fire burn area, and last
year I was evicted -- evacuated.
Should have been.

Evaluated by the fire and now I suffer flood damage.

And as Mr. Off said, Flagstaff will never be the same. It will not recover in our lifetime.

I went to all the community wide events that were held, especially by the board of supervisors, all of the different agencies around the area.

I live in LD 2, and both of my representatives and my state senator are from Prescott. And I have never seen them up here.

I can't even remember their names. I have to keep looking them up.

As far as I know they've never even visited Flagstaff.

So I just want to go on record by saying I really do hope that you keep us with communities of interest in the east rural district. Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. And spell your name for the record. Thank you.

MARIAN MCCOLLISTER: McCollister, M-C-O-L-L-I-S-T-E-R.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

Our next speaker is Bryan Bates, representing self.
Our next speaker is Lula Stago, representing --

LULA STAGO: Stago.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: -- Stago, thank you, from Navajo County.

LULA STAGO: First of all, I want to thank the Commission for your hard work.

I am a product of NAU. It was mentioned. I did my bachelor work here, master's, and doctoral work in Flagstaff. And NAU has been pretty good with me.

So thank you.

Anyway, I am Lula Stago. I'm a tribal member of the Navajo Tribe, a community member of Tees Toh, 50 miles north of Winslow. I also reside and have a home in Winslow, since 1982.

I vote in the city election of Winslow, state, federal, and also the Navajo tribal election.

I want to briefly mention where I'm coming from and why I am really thankful for what you -- with the two maps that you have designed.

We have a cultural background and a traditional history that goes years back.

And we have a culture which is ethnically unique. We have a cultural preference, and have a customarily -- and are customarily different. And because of this we are often misunderstood.
And, in fact, we have -- our people have suffered, Native American people have suffered historic injustice from forced colonization and a disposition of land and resources. And it has been very, very difficult.

And this is why I am looking at the two maps. I want to thank you for what you have done, the way that you've designed the maps, because it shows that you have considered our -- the situation that we're in, and that you designed the maps in accordance to our needs and our interests.

It will give us an opportunity to determine our political status. It will also help us to pursue our own economic, social, educational, political, and cultural development.

I want to thank you again for the work that you have done, and I also want to bring up just a little activity that we're doing in Winslow.

Since I've been there for many years, that we have a group that started about a year ago.

And you see we have Navajo lands within the city, and also surrounding the northern part of the city. That belongs to the Navajo Tribe. And we've been looking at these lands to develop them so that we can become economically sufficient and so that we can work to rebuild what we have lost in the past.
And so looking at the two maps really illustrates that you're giving us that opportunity, and we thank you for that.

And, again, thank you so much.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Dorothy O'Brien, representing Big Park Council, from Yavapai County.

DOROTHY O'BRIEN: Good evening, and thank you for this opportunity.

My name Dorothy O'Brien, capital O, apostrophe, capital B-R-I-E-N.

And it's my great pleasure and privilege to represent -- be here for Big Park Regional Original Coordinating Council.

We are the regional council over the unincorporated part of Sedona. So we're here -- you've heard lots of conversation tonight about the greater Sedona area. And I am here to speak to you -- one of the reasons I wanted the map up is to just show you, and this doesn't represent it properly, but the point is, there is a jut, for lack of a better word, I don't know how to describe it, but what you've done is you've left out all the unincorporated parts of Sedona.

We very much as a greater Sedona community want to
be linked with CD 1.

We are well pleased with your work on this map.

We have a historic link with the communities of Flagstaff. Historically we've been linked with them.

When you think about our economic development, our economic drivers, they go in this direction. We have almost three -- more than three million visitors a year.

They come in through the gateway, into the greater Sedona area, and then they either come up here through Flag to go to the Grand Canyon. Or culturally we're very linked to the Nations, to the Native American, to the tribes, the Navajo, the Hopi lands. Many, many, many, many people come through our community, the greater Sedona area, to move towards the Flagstaff area for the rest of their visits or business or vacations, whatever.

So it's critically important to us that we be, number one, combined as the greater Sedona area.

You heard we have ZIP codes in common.

I live in Sedona. That's my ZIP code. Even though I'm in the unincorporated part.

We have schools. We have libraries. We have fire districts.

So, you know, yes, we are in Yavapai County, but our, our lives are centered around Sedona, and more common interest would be for us east and north.
So we understand that there are issues in Pinal County, and some of these other population centers that perhaps could be adjusted. And we would ask you to do that.

What I'm going to do is just take a few minutes and go through my comments, because I'm standing here for approximately 7,000 people. And if you bring in the rest of the unincorporated areas like Red Rock Road and Dry Creek areas, all around the city of Sedona, you come up to about 8,000 people.

So not that I'm representing all of them, but the Big Park planning district is almost 7,000 people.

So, what I'd like you to know from them is that we consider the Flagstaff area part of our economic driver. Our economic development is intrinsically linked to the way people travel through to see the Red Rocks and then to do things like visit the cultural sites on the nation and Hopi lands as well as the Grand Canyon.

So that's huge for us.

We're surrounded by Coconino Forest, by Coconino National Forest.

We're part of -- we're hoping that at some point we'll be a national scenic area, and that will be a huge economic driver for the whole region, the whole region north and east.

I will say, lastly, on the congressional district
and then I want to take a brief moment on the legislative
district.

We need, excuse me, we need more equal
representation. We have not been well served.

We have many good people in elected office, no
doubt. And I don't want to criticize anyone that way, but
our voice gets lost.

There is some political machinery in places, and
we are a community that our voice gets lost.

We are a huge economic driver to the whole of
Yavapai County. Greater Sedona area, yes, we are. But we
don't reap the benefit of that.

Our voice is not heard or listened to.

So that's, that's a big consideration for us when
we look at who can we bring to the legislature to be elected
and represent us and hear us and understand our issues.

The natural resources are huge for us. Water,
timber, the environment.

So -- and we're very closely linked with what
Flagstaff is trying to accomplish. So that's one thing.

Legislatively you will hear more from our
community.

So forgive me for not having serious detail, other
than to say when we as a community look at the next
ten years, which you're doing, God help you, you're doing
it, and we appreciate that. But when we look at the next ten years, we've got to improve on the past ten years.

Because the way the maps are drawn now, we don't have a voice.

When you push us towards the west, we get swallowed up and we're completely ineffective.

So, we would like to see what the legislative districts -- if the greater Sedona area can be cohesively kept together, super. That is our primary goal.

Secondary goal would be the rest of the Verde Valley.

At least parts that are maybe contiguous or close to Sedona, if not the whole.

But we would prefer the whole Verde Valley be a part of some of the legislative districts that would not necessarily put us under the thumb, and I am going to say the word, of Prescott.

But that's the truth.

I mean, we don't have the political machinery to work in that environment. We don't. So subsequently our voices are not heard.

So for equal representation, we would prefer, as a community, to be moved a little bit further east.

Thank you so much, and thank you for this opportunity.
CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

DOROTHY O'BRIEN: We'll have more for you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Is Stu keeping time for us?

Okay.

STUART ROBINSON: We're using the --

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Oh, the system. Great.

Okay. I can't see it, because of a name tag, so I wasn't sure.

Okay.

Our next speaker is Greg Dalder, president Black Bill Park Neighborhood Association, Coconino County.

GREG DALDER: Good evening.

As you said, my name is Greg Dalder. Last name is D-A-L-D-E-R. And I'm the president of Black Bill Park Neighborhood Association.

My comments are -- have to do with the legislative districts.

And I live in Timberline.

On June 20th, 2010, the Schultz fire started. And in the course of just several short days 15,000 acres were burned. Many of us were evacuated from our home during that time briefly.

About 30 days later, the first of many devastating floods came to our community.
In that first flood, a young girl lost her life.

On that day we became a community of interest.

And it was borne from that shared experience and our common needs as a community that the Black Bill Park Neighborhood Association was formed, our grassroots effort, with the goal of protecting and preserving and restoring our community.

Sadly, about a month ago, we had this time a young boy that died in our community. Run over by heavy equipment that was attempting to build a berm to protect a home from flooding.

There's been a lot of damage to homes and property. Nothing compared to the loss of life.

It's been a tough year and a half for me and many of my friends that are here in the room tonight.

You can only imagine how we felt when we saw that Timberline and Fernwood and other communities that have been affected by the continuing floods were not included in Legislative District 6 along with other flood affected communities and the city of Flagstaff.

It was sort of like enough already.

We're tough, resilient people. But it was another, another blow.

Now, the most generous explanation for that, to not be included, to have our community of interest divided,
was that there was an oversight. Maybe an error.

But your presence tonight and your deep listening
says to me that you're here because you are committed, in
fact have a responsibility, to correct an oversight like
this one. Indeed, I think, an error in the way the
boundaries of Legislative District 6 were drawn.

And so I'm here to ask you to redraw those
boundaries so that the flood affected communities are
included in Legislative District 6, along with some of the
other flood affected communities and also along with the
city of Flagstaff.

And then lastly I would like to just say for the
record, I'd like to express my gratitude to Supervisor Ryan
for his support of our community, Council Person Overton,
Mr. Burke, city manager, and many, many, many of you that
are still here and those that have already left that have
been here and have given their time to say that they support
this change and are advocating for our community of
interest.

So thank you very much. I appreciate your time.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Sallie
Kladnik, representing self, from Flagstaff.

SALLIE KLANDNIK: Thank you, and good evening,
commissioners.

It's Sallie with an I-E, and Kladnik is K-L-A-D-N-I-K.

And I've lived in Flagstaff for eight and a half years. It's a wonderful community. And it is a greater community.

So I too support including the Schultz fire area, Timberline and Fernwood, in our greater Flagstaff community.

I think if it wasn't an oversight, it was an error, and really should be looked at.

My understanding from the August 3rd meeting and the various meetings that have occurred here in Flagstaff at the city council is that communities of interest are one of the criteria for drawing these lines. And I know you have a lot of criteria, and you've had a huge amount of input from all over the state.

And I do applaud all the work you've done.

I, in general, I feel very fairly represented by these new districts, by the congressional district. I feel it is very fair and that you've tried to listen to input, and have done extremely well. So I'm very pleased.

I feel as if I might be in a democracy again, which is a nice feeling.

And with the legislative districts I think there are a few areas that could be looked at and tweaked, and
probably in the congressional district too, when I hear about the Verde Valley, about Camp Verde, and the Village of Oak Creek and some of the surrounding greater Sedona areas.

However, I don't know how much that means of pulling the thread in the sweater, as somebody said earlier, David McKell.

And I also was a little surprised to see that Bellemont was split. Bellemont is split. The residential part has been excluded, even though parks and the commercial park was included in LD 6. So that seems to me somebody should look at Bellemont and why the residents who all work in Flag and are a part of Flag were excluded from LD 6.

So I know there's going to be lots of input for the rest of the month.

I appreciate your time, your patience, and your commitment to this very awesome task.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Alison Zelms, assistant city manager for the city of Sedona.

ALISON ZELMS: Chairwoman Mathis and commissioners, thank you for spend are your evening with us tonight.

My name is Alison Zelms. Last name is Z, like
I am here on behalf of the Sedona City Council. They send their apologies that they couldn't be here tonight, but they're providing the Sedona Spirit Awards this evening.

I'm here to thank you for your work on the maps that you have proposed and generally support the legislative map. Sedona appreciates being located in District 6 with our regional partners, the Village of Oak Creek and surrounding Sedona areas, as well as the Verde Valley, although we would echo the request to include Camp Verde within Legislative District 6 to keep the Verde Valley whole.

However, we do have great concerns about being placed -- displaced from our regional partners within Congressional District 1 in the proposed map.

As was stated by several people this evening, we are a community at large, although we are in our corporate city limits much smaller than the greater Sedona area. If you were to be able to change the map to include the voting precincts for both the fire district and the school district, you would basically be incorporating the areas that were discussed this evening.

We do share schools and fire districts and all of those things.
And we really share a community identity that most of our visitors don't realize the difference between the corporate city limits of the city of Sedona and our regional partners in the Village of Oak Creek.

So there's two to four million people who won't know that, that, you know, they're in a different represented area because they don't see it as a different area.

We share a chamber of commerce, as was mentioned. And we really share commerce with each other, as was represented by the Sedona Hilton, which is not in the city of Sedona, but is representative of our local area.

In addition, we really would like to see the greater Verde Valley included within the same congressional district, although that will be pulling the string sweater as was discussed earlier.

We do feel like this is a very important change to make, having these maps be our future for the next ten years. And we would like to respectfully request that you observe our two primary goals, the first being to be included with the Village of Oak Creek and the surrounding Sedona areas, and the second being included with the Verde Valley in a congressional district.

Thank you for your time, and you'll be hearing from the rest of the city council at future meetings.
Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Appplause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is J.R. Murray, chairman, Flagstaff Forty.

J.R. MURRAY: Thank you.

Again, it's J.R. Murray, M-U-R-R-A-Y.

And I am the chairman of Flagstaff Forty. And I'll just mention that Flagstaff Forty is a nonpartisan organization comprised of CEOs and executives of the largest employers and organizations here in Flagstaff, greater Flagstaff area.

And we -- certainly our membership represents a very wide range of viewpoints.

Chairman Mathis and fellow commissioners, welcome to Flagstaff.

I'm the 40th one to welcome you, but I mean it sincerely. And thank you for holding this public meeting here during the 30-day public comment period.

I also would like to thank you for your dedicated service to the state of Arizona by volunteering for this Commission.

You will hear many opinions on the final maps that you have adopted, and for many reasons. Speaking on behalf of Flagstaff Forty, we are satisfied that you took our
testimony and our values to bear on both the congressional and legislative maps.

Flagstaff Forty has been engaged with this Commission from the very first round of meetings.

We have attended or monitored over 15 meetings, and we have supplied written comments and letters for the record by many of our members who were unable to travel five or more hours round trip for three minutes of speaking.

I trust that those comments have been included in the record and that you and your staff have digested and validated our input.

I'd like to reiterate our original and our current objectives and values so you remember them as you contemplate making changes to the maps.

We desire competitive districts, we wish that Flagstaff be placed with nearby communities of interest, and we also intend for you to keep greater Flagstaff whole.

Flagstaff Forty does not support making any major overall to the rural districts you have adopted.

If you do find the need to tweak either the congressional or legislative adopted maps, and we acknowledged right from the beginning that they are not perfect, then we would note that competitiveness in the existing maps, which for CD 1 is 9 percent in favor of Dems, Democrats, and Legislative District 6, I believe, is
7 percent in favor of Republicans.

And any tweaks could only improve that competitiveness.

As you hear from citizens and organizations around the state, I encourage you to focus on minor tweaking, and not make major changes that will require us to follow you around the state from meeting to meeting.

Some areas may certainly have legitimate concerns.

However, I'd like to repeat that even though the maps we have reviewed and you have adopted are not perfect, we certainly believe that our voices have been heard, and we can move forward for the next ten years with the adopted maps.

As you know, Flagstaff has a very unique economic development platform based on high tech and leading edge technologies.

Flagstaff is the center of government for northern Arizona -- I'll finish -- and of course home to NAU.

Many transportation issues in common with our communities of interest.

Our main objective at the beginning was to become familiar with the process, find common ground within our community, communities of interest, and engage in the process.

I'm very pleased, and we are very pleased, that
Flagstaff has turned out both in the first round and here tonight.

And I think our community and the folks that travel from the south and north and east and west that are here with us should be commended.

We live in a very challenging time.

Real leadership is required to develop good strategies in a collaborative environment to rescue the economy.

That process begins with district mapping.

We certainly would be willing to help in any way.

We will be keenly interested in any moves you make as a result of the public comments, but for now, today, Flagstaff is content that the maps are generally reflective of our objectives.

Thank you again, and I would like to acknowledge the many community partnerships that we have worked with and the many people here that are engaged in this process.

That's where it all starts, with that one vote, one person. And we just look forward to the districting process, people, good people to run for office, good people with smart ideas making tough decisions to help our state.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)
CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Sophia Katz, representing self, from Flagstaff.


And I would like to talk about map and mostly first I would like to think that these maps arrived. It's more easy to talk.

And I would like to talk about this congress legislature map, because Arizona is unique state. We have Indian population, Navajo and Hopi Nations. And this is unique culture. They have their own tradition, their history, and their way of life.

And to clip them artificially to area of very different people will never present their needs.

So this congress map doesn't reflect that we have such unique population in Arizona.

And it may be not easy question to decide.

I don't think we have to look at on population density in this area because it's very unique situation.

More like representative of minority.

So, this is about this map.

About this map, I am glad that in legislative ability to present themselves in legislature, but a little bit nervous borders on the north of Flagstaff.

I think Timberline, it's like several suburb
Flagstaff. And to exclude, it's artificially. And it would be more smooth border in this area.

This is what I want to say.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Alvin Thompson, representing Winslow Diné, from Winslow.

ALVIN THOMPSON: Good evening.

My name is Alvin Thompson. I'm from Winslow. And my last name is Thompson, T-H-O-M-P-S-O-N.

Some folks that live out there anxious or maybe thought (inaudible).

I am from Winslow, and I've pretty much -- you can say I'm a product of the Winslow education system, because I've grew up not far from there, perhaps about 50 miles north of Flagstaff.

And I went to school up there on the rez for up to about third grade, and then from there went straight to Winslow school system. And I finished there through high school.

Then ever since I've left Winslow from when I didn't totally leave, but I did leave for a time and then came back to it, and so I'm pretty much there now. And I've observed its growth and -- or lack of growth is kind of my
concern in Winslow area, since I've left, graduated -- since I graduated from Winslow back in '74, and now I've been observing it, and there hasn't been that much growth economically that I've seen, you know.

But we've had a few stores. Maybe Wal-Mart is our biggest store that has been added that's of any big significance I see.

But other than that, with that in mind, I've had a little bit renewed interest in what's been holding back Winslow as far as its growth and the like.

So I am pretty much thankful that Winslow has been included in the way that it's been drawn with the legislative district map and then with the congressional also being where they are.

You know, Winslow comes up pretty much a special city, where it's, it's influenced a lot by the neighboring tribes that come into Winslow, and then shop there, go to school there, their kids go to school there, their grandkids go to school there.

And, you know, there's a pretty long history of people coming to Winslow and, you know, availing themselves of the education and economic interest that they have there.

So it's pretty nice to know that, that we were included in a place where there -- the influence it gets
from the reservations is being recognized and so Winslow is
in with that so that it could be developed according to the
way, you know, people want to see it developed.

So I'm pretty thankful about that. So I just want
to say that.

Thanks for all your hard work you guys do, and we
hope we can be a good economic center sooner or later back
in Winslow.

And so thanks a lot again.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Joan
McClelland, representing self.

And if you can tell us where you're from, that
would be great.

JOAN MCCLELLAND: I'm a little stiff from sitting.

My name is Joan McClelland, M-C-C-L-E-L-L-A-N-D.
First C is little C. Then a capital C.

And I live in Sedona, but I live in the part of
Sedona that has a name, the Village of Oak Creek. And some
of us also call it the park, but we're all Sedona. I work
as a volunteer at the visitors center for the Coconino
Forest, which is the gateway to Sedona. It's just before
you see the sign Village of Oak Creek. There really isn't
any Village of Oak Creek.
We have an unincorporated -- we're an unincorporated community, and we have a body that speaks for us to the legislature or to the county called the Big Park Council. I think Dorothy O'Brien said she's representing them.

And our -- my only thought is, please do not separate the Village of Oak Creek from the city of Sedona. We are all the same thing.

We are the gateway to the Red Rock Country.

When people come into the visitor center, we could have 1,000 people a day come through there. And we're all Sedona.

I mean, I left with your lady in the back for each of you five commissioners a little thing to remind you. It's a picture of Cathedral Rock, which is probably the most photographed picture in the United States.

That's in the Big Park. That's why we are Sedona. We are -- you know, the Bell Rock, I'm sure you're all familiar with Bell Rock. I think you've all been to Sedona. Bell Rock is in Big Park area. It's in our planning area. So we are Sedona.

Please keep us with the city of Sedona.

I'm personally very pleased to be in legislative -- Congressional District 1 with Flagstaff, because we are -- when you come up the I-17 corridor, you're
going through the Verde Valley, by Camp Verde and Rimrock, and all that. We're all together. We're all -- it's very important.

The -- it's an economic driver. A lot of people have said this, but it's very, very true. We have to hang together because we are together.

Please don't separate us.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Dr. David Johns, representing Diné Hatáálií Association.

DAVID JOHNS: Yá'át'ééh.

(Whereupon, Dr. Johns makes a statement in Navajo.)

DAVID JOHNS: My name is Dr. David Johns. Johns is spelled J-O-H-N-S.

And I am self-employed artist.

I received my formal education from Northern Arizona University. I have a bachelor of fine arts degree in painting and print making. And I was awarded honorary doctorate degree in humane letters in 1996.

And I was born in Winslow, Arizona, and raised in Seba Bidáágai, Arizona, on the Navajo Nation.

And I'm here on behalf of the medicine people of
I'm a vice president of Diné Hatáálíí Association, Incorporated.
And I am an herbalist.
I am a citizen of Navajo Nation and Arizona.
I'm a voter of Arizona in Navajo County.
And I came here to talk a little about the
San Francisco Peak as a sacred site.
One of the critical issue to the Navajo people is protecting sacred sites and around the Navajo Nation.
We as a Navajo people, as well as other indigenous nation or caretaker of this land, we speak on behalf of what we hold sacred.
Our land, our animals, water, air, the insects, the four legged, and the winged.
San Francisco Peaks is one of the sacred mountains.
Sis naajíni sits to the east. It sits just east of Alamosa, Colorado.
To the south sits Tsoodzil, and it's located at Grants, New Mexico.
To the west is Dzil Dook'o ńöóslíid, north of Flagstaff.
The Dibé Nitsaa sits north and sits west of the Durango, Colorado.
And then there's two doorways, Dzil ná'oodilhii and Ch'óól'í'í'.

The San Francisco Peak, Dzil Dook'o óóslííd, is our mother.

Our way of life is linked, tied and imbedded to Dzil Dook'o óóslííd.

Our ceremonies, songs, language, and spirituality are embedded in our creations, our emergent stories that is our path for life and our way of being.

Who better to advocate for the protection of sacred sites. An indigenous person can better represent and advocate for indigenous concerns such as protecting the sacred site.

Protection of sacred sites is not a ten-year issue, like redistricting.

We as indigenous nations have been here since time began, and we do not intend to move anywhere because we are home.

We are home within the four sacred mountains. Man-made laws come and go, whereas the natural laws are stationary.

Protecting sacred sites crosses multi-generations, crossing millennia.

We must abide and continue to respect the natural laws as directed and practiced by our grandfathers and
grandmothers before us.

In conclusion, I support the congressional and legislative draft map. It's important to have the San Francisco Peaks within LD 7 as proposed.

Especially the legislative map, you as the Redistricting Commission are protecting the voting rights of the Navajo voters in LD 7.

I want to thank you for your work.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our the next speaker is Michael Dugan, representing self and Flagstaff Tea Party.

(No oral response.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Adam Fox, representing self, from Flagstaff.

(No oral response.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I think this says Brent Thorley, from Fountain Hills.

BRENT THORLEY: Good evening, commissioners. My name Brent Thorley. Last name T-H-O-R-L-E-Y.

And I'm from Fountain Hills, Arizona.

Happy to be in this beautiful area of northern Arizona this week and decided to attend this meeting.

Fountain Hills, as some people may have seen, we are now being proposed as part of Congressional District 4.
And, that kind of brings up a large concern for those in Fountain Hills.

We feel like we're part of the community of Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa, that area.

We'd like to be re-included in that for the election process.

As I been talking to some of the people here tonight too, one of the concerns I have also with Congressional District 1 is down in Pinal County.

I'm looking at that stretch between Phoenix and Tucson as probably going to have the absolute greatest growth in the whole state in the next ten years.

That area of growth is probably going to dwarf the votes of northern Arizona in this Congressional District 1.

So that's just, just one of the side thoughts I had.

But, in general, it's -- and, again, it's just a -- my major concern is keeping Fountain Hills as part of Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa area, as far as a congressional district. And I'd like to kind of see the -- I don't know, Congressional Districts 1, 4, and 3 kind of almost unwound around.

Because right now they're almost wound around Phoenix in a way.

I know it's a lot of work, but it just seems like
the distances are very great right now for those three
districts.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Gayle
Eckert, representing self, from Flagstaff.

(No oral response.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: How about Maude Gosar,
representing families in Coconino.

MAYOR SARA PRESLER: Madam Chair, that's
Congressman Gosar's wife, and her child sent her a message,
and she had to leave.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Oh.

MAYOR SARA PRESLER: But she just wanted to thank
you for being here today on behalf of the congressman. He
couldn't be here. But just to greet you and welcome you to
Flagstaff. She had to go.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

Our next speaker is Rich Hull, representing self,
from Coconino.

(No oral response.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: How about Julia Currivan,
representing self, from Coconino.

JULIA CURRIVAN: And I'm still here.
Good evening. Thank you, Madam Chairman and members of the Commission.

My name is Julia, J-U-L-I-A, Currivan, C-U-R-R-I-V-A-N.

I am a resident of Timberline.

I work in Flagstaff.

My social and material support comes from Flagstaff.

I concur and -- concur with and support everything my neighbors have said in terms of us not being excluded from our community, which is Flagstaff, and prefer very -- request very strongly that we be included in Legislative District 6.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Appause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Sally Tyrrell, from Flagstaff.

SALLY TYRRELL: Good evening. My name is Sally Tyrrell, T-Y-R-R-E-L-L.

I've been in Flagstaff since the early '70s, and I thought I was coming to the warm desert.

Thank you for all your hard work and for listening to us here.

Your congressional map reflects our wishes,
particularly that Coconino County be kept whole and placed in a greater eastern Arizona district.

Regarding your legislative map, we want our district to be competitive.

And think your map is basically right in this regard, but believe that you can make minor boundary adjustments to make things more competitive.

I don't have specific suggestions, but in the light of what you're accomplished so far, I'm sure you can do that too.

Again, thank you so much for your time and your effort and your service to Arizona and to our community, and congratulations on your good work.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Doug Ballard, representing self, from Coconino.

DOUG BALLARD: Hi. Thank you. It's Doug Ballard, B -- it's okay.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sorry.

DOUG BALLARD: That's okay. You've gone through an awful lot of names this evening.

B-A-L-L-A-R-D.

First and foremost and to echo the vast majority of people here today, thank you so much.
What maybe not everyone is aware of is that you commissioners in particular, thank you, staff, certainly also, but you commissioners are citizen volunteers, giving up your own time for the betterment of the state in what sometimes has been a thankless task.

And, Chairman Mathis, I want to thank you in particular and the other -- all of the other commissioners for everything you've done.

Just to keep my comments kind of brief.

Very, very pleased with the work that you've done on CD 1, Congressional District 1. Keeping us great -- most greater Flagstaff whole and in an eastern congressional district that's competitive.

I think the vast majority of people that testified at the last hearing testified along those lines. A lot of written comments that came forward came forward along those lines and we really thank you very much for listening to us. That was great.

I do want to echo some comments though about greater Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek.

If there's any way to tweak that map a little bit to include those two together, they are really pretty much joined at the hip and it would be great if you could find a way to include the Village of Oak Creek with, with -- within CD 1 as well.
On the LD front, I think you've also done a commendable job, not making perhaps everybody happy. We'd like to see it maybe -- I'd like to see it a little bit more competitive.

The one area I would suggest you look at and try to tweak a little bit is to try to include the Verde Valley as a whole in that legislative district.

And also I would echo the comments that have been made previously about the Schultz fire area. Certainly dividing that area up creates some difficulty, and it's a strong community out there. They, they identify very strongly with Flagstaff, and I would urge you to continue -- or to look at including that area as well.

And thank you very much for your service.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Sandra Cosentino from Yavapai County.

SANDRA COSENTINO: My name is Sandra Cosentino, C-O-S-E-N-T-I-N-O.

And, again, I also thank you for the hard work. Overall I'm really happy with what you've done here.

I live in Sedona, a 21-year business operator down there.
And I can assure you that we are directly related to Flagstaff and the Colorado Plateau. We love being in CD 1. And like the other Sedona people, we really want to see Sedona Shadows, Lower Red Rock Loop, VOC, Village of Oak Creek, be part of -- go with us into CD 1.

And I wonder if there's any way to tweak it to have more of the Verde Valley and less of Pinal County in CD 1. It's important to keep it rural and to keep that good representation, that fair representation.

So we thank you for the good work on that.

And even from the ecosystem standpoint, we're right underneath the edge of the Colorado Plateau. It wraps around the north and eastern sides of the Verde Valley.

Our watershed, our economics, our tourism, everything relates to Flagstaff, the Grand Canyon, and the native cultures. And we're really happy to have -- to be part of a district with the Navajo and Hopi people. They're part of our life, our culture in Sedona and the business in Sedona as well.

And Legislative 6 is a really good community of interest.

You basically got Mogollon Rim and just above and below it in a cohesive group.

If you can at all possible bring in Camp Verde so we have the whole Verde Valley together along with
Flagstaff, we would -- that would be just amazing.

And I can tell you we absolutely don't want to follow Yavapai County lines. We do not want to be tied to Prescott.

All of our representatives now in the Arizona legislature come from Prescott. And as Angela said earlier, they took four of the five county supervisor seats, a total undemocratic process.

We have no voice.

So we really do not want to be part of the western areas. We support the way you've done this with the eastern communities, that ecologically and economically that we're all tied together.

Thank you so much for the good work here.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is John Mitchell, Sedona Tea Party president.

JOHN MITCHELL: Hi. My name is John Mitchell, M-I-T-C-H-E-L-L.

First of all, when I look at your schedule, I want to thank you for your hard work, because I know of where I speak because I've been in your position to one degree or another in the past, and it's daunting at best.

And I look at your schedule, and I -- you all are
showing great grace and perseverance in doing what you're doing.

I mean, I'm grateful that you are keeping with a schedule such as this and hearing us out.

I just have a couple of comments actually that I think are pertinent.

I thought about actually yielding my time, but there was a couple of questions that weren't addressed, and one of them is this.

When I look at the map, I'm a little bit perplexed actually and I'm wondering how is it that the new proposed congressional map is considered to be compact or practicable when it encompasses nearly one half of the state, making it -- in my opinion it makes it almost impossible to travel and to encompass for the representative.

CD 1 it appears will be dominated by people who aren't rural at all.

And the second point or question I wanted to make, it's my understanding that Tom Horne has filed a suit against this map in regards to possible violations of open meetings law, and in combination with the decision on this mapping district with the support of the sitting governor.

Now, I find myself wondering why would that be if this decision was fair and in compliance with Proposition 106 and the Voting Rights Act.
Again, I yield the rest of my time. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Clifford Alexander III, representing self.

(No oral response.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

How about Jay Parkinson, representing self, from Yavapai.

JAY PARKISON: Good evening. My name is Jay Parkinson, P-A-R-K-I-S-O-N.

And I am here representing myself, to express my displeasure at the proposed map.

My choice would be that Yavapai County remain intact, that Verde Valley not be carved out.

We have an extensive history as a county. The Verde Valley has been a part of this since 1891, I believe. So this is not an overnight relationship.

You know, we have a historical, cultural relationship as a county, as well as water issues out at the Big Chino Wash area.

The folks that are worried about splitting up Sedona and Big Park, well, that's an easy fix. Leave them in the Verde Valley and a part of Yavapai County.

We're large enough and meet the threshold for
legislative and congressional districts, and we'd ask you to consider that history and keep us intact.

That's all I have.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

Our next speaker is Brandon Kavanagh, from Flagstaff Forty.


I am here on behalf of Flagstaff Forty, and this is the second time I've had the chance to appear in front of you, Madam Chair and commissioners.

I feel I have a special relationship with you as I think I'm probably the only one on the official record being wished to get some sleep, as I showed up for the last hearing within ten days of my son being born.

And he is now five weeks old, and so I'm here to speak with you and then run home and severely apologize to my wife for still being here.

But with that in mind, I would definitely like to thank you and support your hard work.

Definitely I think you have suffered more than the sleep deprivation that I've suffered. But the work that you have produced is something that Flagstaff Forty is proud to support.

It's something that you have listened to our
concerns, to our core issues, to our questions about communities of interest, to our questions about the I-17, I-40 business corridors.

We appreciate that in your mapping of Congressional District No. 1.

We also appreciate the fact that we are a nonpartisan group. And that we certainly present to you, as we were thanked for doing, our clear bias. We have an agenda, and we are here to present it to you, and we appreciate that the maps that you have produced meet with what our goals have been.

And I applaud everybody else that has stood up tonight because everybody who has stood up tonight should be applauded for voicing their opinion, whether it's in agreement with what I'm here to say or whether it's completely contrary to what I have to say.

Because everybody needs to stand up here and have their voice be heard, and I certainly support that.

What that does lead to is actually the comment, if you remember from before, I am a registered Independent. And that is why I appreciate the competitiveness of the districts that are being formed.

I like the way that the maps are drawn, both the congressional and both the legislative district maps that you have done.
I certainly appreciate that. And any tweaks that can be made that make that more competitive, I certainly appreciate as a registered Independent.

Now, I would also say that we are the Flagstaff Forty.

We are business owners and executives, as J.R. explained to you.

We represent the business interests in greater Flagstaff.

And that is certainly why we also support the comments tonight of the Schultz Pass fire neighborhoods, because they are our greater Flagstaff members. They are our employees. They are our friends. They are our business associates. They are a part of greater Flagstaff.

I mean, there really is no other way to say that, and so we certainly support that. And that's why we say that we support the general overall view of the map, but that we certainly support the small tweaks that are needed to make the differences that fit with the comments that you've heard here tonight.

And so for all of that, we definitely appreciate your work, we appreciate your perseverance, and we hope that we can reach a map that everybody is equally unhappy with, to be perfectly honest, because you will never make everyone happy.
So we appreciate your work and we appreciate seeing the maps that you have produced after all the comments that you have heard, as J.R. said, as we have followed you around the state harassing you.

So thank you very much, and I appreciate it.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Ron Lee, representing self, from Navajo.

RON LEE: Yá'át'ééh. Good evening, Madam Chair, members of the committee.

For the record, my name is Ron Lee. And that last name is difficult to spell, L-E-E.

On behalf of my relatives -- and who are they? Well, as I've shared with you before, I have four main clans that expands and it expands exponentially, which makes me a significant relative to my people, the Diné people living on the Navajo Nation.

So on behalf of my thousands of relatives, I would like to go on record to make a few points with respect to communities of interest and competitiveness within the congressional district draft map.

Tonight I would like to remind you that as a young boy I started school here in the Flagstaff in the 1960s while my father, uncles, and grandfathers lived and worked
at what used to be called the Navajo Army Depot, in Bellemont.

I also remember as a young boy the exodus of my Navajo people coming off the reservation to attend the Flagstaff Indian pow wow during the 4th of July.

Today many of our people still live in and around the Flagstaff community while either contributing to the labor force here or while attending one of the K-12 education system and others attending NAU or Coconino Community College.

I for one received my masters in public administration from NAU, go Lumberjacks.

So having said that, many studies have shown over the years that for every one dollar wage earned on the Navajo reservation, 71 cents of that dollar is spent off the reservation. And I would suspect that much of that dollar is spent here in Flagstaff and other border towns.

Today if I want to see my relatives all I have to do is go to Wal-Mart.

And if I don't see my relatives there, I'll see the rest of them at the other Wal-Mart.

While you may hear from the business communities in support or not in support of the current congressional draft map, it is our strong belief that we have greatly contributed to the Flagstaff economy since probably it's
incorporation, and will continue to do so in the future, into the distant future.

And it is a given that Flagstaff needs the Navajo commerce. And it is this economic interdependency that Flagstaff and its surrounding communities, such as Sedona, and the Navajo Nation is a community of interest.

As for competitiveness, I would like to -- I would have -- I have been hearing that there are some out there that are arguing that voter registration is a better indicator of competitiveness than voter performance.

History and data has shown us that voter turnout on the Navajo reservations -- reservation falls somewhere between 15 and 20 percent below the statewide average.

For example, in the 2008 presidential election, Arizona statewide turnout was 72 percent, while turnout on the Navajo Nation was 54 percent.

The turnout during the midterm election is even much lower on the Navajo Nation.

And it's that lower voter turnout is something that we have in common among tribal communities for various reasons.

One, isolation, remoteness, and lack of telecommunications, and so forth.

Therefore, I ask that you take into consideration voter turnout in tribal communities when determining
competitiveness.

And on behalf of all my relations, we support the current congressional draft map.

And we ask that you keep up the good work.

Ahéhee'. Good evening.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker, and just to note, this is the last of the yellow forms. There's so many people here that we had to make copies, and we'll be moving to the white forms.

But, Lauren Bernally, representing Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission.

(Applause.)

LAUREN BERNALLY: Madam Chair, commissioners, I want to also extend my appreciation to you. You obviously have a thankless job. But as far as I'm concerned, you know, you're real troopers. You've hung in there.

Thank you.

As you know we've commented on a number of occasions with respect to the development of maps.

And at this point the Navajo Nation and the Navajo Nation Human Rights who has the authority to speak on behalf of the Navajo Nation has endorsed or supported CD 1 as the way it is.
We do want to keep Gila River and we do want that to remain in CD 1.

I would like to also comment on the proposal presented by the Flagstaff city manager to move certain tracts of LD 7 into LD 6.

Specifically the land referred to as the Schultz fire and Timberline, as well as the trade off of population between LD 7 and LD 6 in the areas of Show Low and Camp Verde.

LD 6 is a minority -- or majority-minority district with a voting age population of 62 percent.

That meets the Voter Rights Act.

You have heard Mr. Darden speak of the importance of the Espil Ranch area.

Paramount to the Navajo Nation is electing candidates of our choice.

In working on LD 7, we met with the City of Flagstaff.

We did compromise our position by leaving Doney Park in LD 6.

We are concerned that changes proposed may reduce the voter age population.

Like the chairman of the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo people have a community of interest with the border town of Winslow and the fee lands that surround Winslow.
We thank you for including LD -- including these areas in LD 7.

We hope you will maintain both LD 1 and LD 7 as the way they're presented.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. I've got five more request to speak forms, all white.

The next one, the next speaker is Lina Waller -- or Wallen.

And you'll have to -- representing self -- you'll have to tell us from what city or town.


First of all, I want to thank you, commissioners, that you are here today. So I really appreciate that, because I know that in the first hearing in Flagstaff I give it the command and sat and frankly you leave us. So thank you.

So, I really happy with the CD map, that for us, and also I know with several tweak it might be that several people saying it about Sedona, Village of Oak Creek, and Verde Valley, that included and such.

And also in LD 6, if other people also saying if
we could have it decide some kind of trade between Winslow and Show Low.

But I'm here tonight really talking about Timberline.

I don't have any relative or such in Arizona.
I volunteer a lot in community.
And among others, is that fire and flood, the volunteering is, we not divided about whether that's city of Flagstaff or whether that's county. We are one community. And I really have to emphasis about that.

Please just don't divide us. Please include them in our LD 6.

And also the other thing that I am fortunate, actually live in Flagstaff, that we presented with elected officials that talk what I want to express, and they talk a lot better than I could express that. So please listen to the elected officials that from Flagstaff.

And I really have to commend all your work. You work hard, and the result is shown.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Do you mind just stating where you're from, what city or county?

LINA WALLEN: Oh, I'm sorry.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: No problem.

LINA WALLEN: I live in Flagstaff here for
nine years.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Margaret Kirch, from -- representing self, from Coconino County.

(No oral response.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: How about Loris Taylor, representing self.

You can tell us what city or town you're from.

LORIS TAYLOR: Good evening. My name is Loris Taylor, T-A-Y-L-O-R.

I was raised on the Hopi reservation, but I also call Doney Park home. I have lived in Flagstaff for more than 30 years, and I have raised my children here.

While one could argue that Native American homelands are communities of interest to the entire state, I will instead focus on the following.

My home was the poster child of the Schultz fire. Located on Moonbeam Drive in Sunset Crater Estates and featured on the front page of the Arizona Republic.

The experience from this fire has established a stronger affinity of my neighborhood with Fernwood and Timberline.

We suffered together, and we are recovering together.
As a result, I support inclusion of these neighborhoods in Legislative District 6, and I support Dook’o’oosliid or the peaks including tribal fee lands to be placed in District 7.

I also want to mention that there's a large native population in Doney Park who maintain strong ties to reservation homelands.

As for the congressional district, I believe that the neighboring tribes, including Hopi and Navajo, are very strong communities of interest with the city of Flagstaff. Not only do tribal communities share an educational interest, we share a strong cultural and historic relationship with Flagstaff.

This entire region is dotted with Hopi ancestral villages.

NAU, a land grant institution, and my alma mater, is home to the largest population of native students in the state.

Many tribal members like myself migrated to Flagstaff for educational and employment opportunities and make Flagstaff our home. However, we continue to maintain our connection and our deep roots to our tribal homelands.

On an economic basis, the Hopi Tribe owns property within the city limits of Flagstaff.

Navajo and Hopi people consider Flagstaff as their
shopping destination, bringing a source of revenue to the city and region that helps to sustain the local economy.

I support Flagstaff in Congressional District 1.

I believe that maintaining balance in both the legislative and congressional districts is important to our representational muster.

Thank you for including tribal interest in the electoral and political interest of the state.

And thank you also to the city of Flagstaff for hosting this hearing.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Arthur Piccinati, representing self, from Parks.

(No oral response.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And my last request to speak form is Matthew Capalby, representing self, from Coconino.

MATTHEW CAPALBY: Excuse me. Good evening, Madam Chair, commissioners. It's a pleasure to see you.

I'm actually going to wear a different hat this evening.

I was for five years the northern Arizona director for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. And I'm going to speak regarding geographic features of this particular area, and related interests.
Excuse me.

I'd like to speak to the issues regarding the Verde Valley and why it needs to remain whole.

The Verde River is one of the most sensitive watersheds and critical watersheds for the water supply in Arizona.

And having it split or actually going to the west is problematic.

For those five years I dealt almost daily with issues, resource management protections, et cetera, pertaining to the Verde River and the Verde River watershed with Oak Creek, Beaver Creek, et cetera.

And having that watershed, the whole Verde Valley either split or in a noncompetitive district is a disservice to, to its interests. It needs a number of different protections as well as resources regarding storm water, waste water, watershed protection, watershed development, et cetera.

And so that, we believe, or I believe, that it is imperative that the entire Verde Valley, that the communities of Sedona, the Village of Oak Creek, Clarkdale, Cornville, Jerome, Cottonwood, and Camp Verde, need to be in one legislative district and also congressional district.

Having them in a competitive district means they will get a lot of attention from both sides when it does
come to resource management and protections for the Verde River.

    I think that's imperative.

    I think it would be a disservice to the Verde River and its related communities in the Verde Valley if it went to legislative and congressional districts to the west that are not competitive, for that very reason.

    And also being a resident here in Flagstaff, I just want to speak to the map maker. I know it's an issue trying to find the appropriate border line regarding the Doney Park, Timberline area. I think the best thing to do rather than look at Highway 89, look at the forest service boundary that surrounds the peaks.

    I think that's a topographical feature that may be helpful in delineating the areas between the peaks and the flood and fire impacted areas.

    So as always, I thank you for your time, and I do hope that you do consider these matters.

    Excuse me.

    And also I think if you haven't -- having the Verde Valley in with Flagstaff definitely makes for a very, very competitive legislative as well as congressional district.

    So, thank you as always, and welcome to Flag.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.
(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mayor Presler would like to just say a few words, I think.

MAYOR SARA PRESLER: Thank you to all of you, and thank you to the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission, and thank you -- I know Commissioner Freeman is watching from his home and office, and I know Commissioner Stertz wanted to be here. So thank you to your colleagues as well for tuning in.

And thank you for your staff and all of the good work that you've done listening and working with our community.

So I just wanted to extend our thanks to you and most importantly to all the people from our region who have come out tonight, so thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

DARYL MELVIN: Commissioners, I had received this gift here from the executive director, Ray Bladine. And we asked that we present this to Mayor Presler.

I think this was... 

MAYOR SARA PRESLER: It's a huge picture of Commissioner Herrera's head.

I'm going to hang it in my office.

Thank you.

That's awesome. Thank you. Thanks.
CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Wow. Well, what an amazing turnout.

I'm so impressed with the Flagstaff community for all of you participating in the process. It's really wonderful to have so many of you out here tonight and those who came earlier.

We really, really appreciate it and listen to everything you said.

I'm sure that a couple of my fellow commissioners here, at least present tonight, would like to say a few words, so I'll give them the chance.

Maybe I'll start with Vice-Chair Herrera since I think he's a Lumberjack.

VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: You know, I, I really wish, wish I would have been here in person last time. It just didn't work out that way.

But I'm glad that I'm here today and Flag -- this is, this is where I went to school, both my undergrad and my master's and where I met my wife. So Flagstaff is very dear to me.

So I want to make sure that you are represented well. Even though I don't live in Flagstaff anymore, you are being represented on the Commission, not only myself, but also the other commissioners as well.

So, I think Brandon Cavanagh said it best that we
thank the people that are here whether they are disapproving of the maps or whether they approve the maps. It doesn't matter to me. Just the fact that they are here, spending your time with us, and giving us your opinions.

But, again, these are draft maps, so if you care about these maps, whether you want us to make changes or keep them the same, you need to continue pressing us and attend as many meetings as possible.

Again, we have 23 more hearings, and then we have to make some changes. So this is the, this is the third hearing, out of the 25, so we have a ways to go.

I continue to, to, to recommend highly that you continue to attend these meetings or send us e-mail messages of the changes you want us to make. So thank you again. And go Lumberjacks.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Commissioner McNulty.

COMMISSIONER McNULTY: One of the best things about this whole process is that people that you meet along the way, and I've met some wonderful people in Flagstaff, made some new friends here, and I really appreciate that.

I want to thank you all for the time and thoughtfulness and energy that you've put into this process.

It benefits not just northern Arizona, but the whole state.
To have members of the community like the members of your community have put so much energy into the redistricting process, it helps us do the job better, and it really does set an example for the rest of this state.

And lastly I'd just like to thank you for your hospitality this evening.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I echo that as well. Thank you very much to everyone, and for these amazing chambers that you're letting us host this meeting in. It's been really nice, and we greatly appreciate it.

So with -- the only thing left on the agenda being adjournment, I declare this meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Thanks again for coming.

(Whereupon, the meeting adjourned.)

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BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceeding was taken before me, Marty Herder, a Certified Court Reporter, CCR No. 50162, State of Arizona; that the foregoing 147 pages constitute a true and accurate transcript of all proceedings had upon the taking of said meeting, all done to the best of my skill and ability.

DATED at Chandler, Arizona, this 26th day of October, 2011.

__________________________________________
C. Martin Herder, CCR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 50162