

Excerpts From the Independent Redistricting Commission Public Hearing in Bullhead City, AZ: June 12, 2001

The following are paraphrased from actual transcripts unless directly quoted.

I would like to keep counties in single legislative districts not divided among several. It has been detrimental to have cities like Kingman and Bullhead split.

“I believe community integrity is critical. If an area or region needs to be divided, then make sure that the communities are at least maintained.” – Mr. Matthew Capalby

It’s better not to be divided into little sections; that would be divisive for the state. I am concerned with the domination of Maricopa County.

Our common ties are the rural factor and that ties us to central Arizona: Prescott and Flagstaff. They depend on retirees as we do here. Their economy is also centered around tourism. – Mr. Larry Adams

“I believe that small communities such as cities, Bullhead City, or small rural areas that may be unincorporated, they should not be split.” You do have to take into consideration mountains and roads. So don’t divide an area. – Jim Zaborsky

It is confusing to have the present divisions. Bullhead should be with Mohave Valley. River cities have the same issues, i.e. sewerage. I see a division of interests between rural and Maricopa. Flagstaff and Prescott, Sedona, are alpine communities, tourist driven also but have different environmental issues, such as water, than the river communities.

“The lifestyle that we lead here along the river is entirely different than the lifestyle that they may lead in Prescott, Sedona, Flagstaff, Tucson and so forth.” – Jack Hakim

I would love to see Mohave county being its own district. I do not like being in a district that goes “clear across the top.” I would like to see the rural districts in their own counties so they could band together and act as a counter to Maricopa. – Jackie Jessie

River cities should be combined: Bullhead City and Lake Havasu and maybe all the way down to La Paz and Yuma. We have a different topography and climate. Our needs are very different from Flagstaff and Prescott. The division of Bullhead City is very confusing.

Our economy is based on tourism, they come here because of the river. - Jean Mace

I see a community of interests between Kingman and Bullhead. I do not like the division of Bullhead sending half to Lake Havasu. River cities do have different interests from Flagstaff and Prescott and Sedona.

We don’t really know what’s going on in Flagstaff. We haven’t got a clue what’s going on in Prescott. – Martin Rogers

County boundaries are a good start. “In Mohave County, Kingman regularly has to deal with Bullhead, Bullhead has to deal with Lake Havasu. Even if we are in different districts, we still have to deal with each other. We don’t have to deal with Flagstaff. If

you have communities that are constantly working together anyway, that's probably a good basis to work on."

"I don't know how you can get any more alike from what you have drawn here. Even in Colorado City they still have to deal with Mohave County, they don't deal with the people on the Navajo Reservation." – Sam Medrano

The river communities have to deal with the snowbirds in the wintertime, the weekenders from California. That's a common thing up and down the river. Another big issue we are going to face in the river communities is sewerage, getting people off septic tanks, all the way from here to Yuma. – Tom Sockwell

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

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