Excerpts From the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission Public Hearing at Pima Community College-Desert Vista Campus in Tucson, Arizona, June 18, 2001

"I'm a little concerned about the arbitrary nature of the grid as it now stands. And I guess it had to be arbitrary given the nature of the process. The township and range system was pretty arbitrary in and of itself, and the township and range system of dividing land has caused problems in the past, access to water and that sort of thing."-Tom Prezelski, Pg 28, Ln 15-21

"The upper Santa Cruz Valley turned out to be a different place than the lower Santa Cruz Valley. The Sulphur Springs Valley turned out to be a very different place than the San Pedro Valley. And people think that just because of our modern level of technology that those boundaries don't matter anymore and that we can just go by roads or some arbitrary boundaries, and that's something you have to keep in mind when you draw this and that's something you should look at is, you know, the historical, geographic corridors." – Prezelski, Pg 29 Ln 25 and Pg 30 Ln 1-10

"It doesn't make any sense to have the second largest Indian reservation in the whole United States to be the way, way northern part of Tucson, and I will give you a reason. What we're dealing with here is a community that is one of the poorest communities per capita in the State of Arizona. To put it with one of the richest communities doesn't make any sense. And to put the Tohono O'Odham Nation, which has had a lot of power and influence as a vote particularly in Democratic primaries, put it in the Republican district will only serve to dilute their political voice."-Deborah Norris, Pg 32, Ln 4-16

"Traditionally and historically, the Tohono O'Odham Nation has always had a relationship with Tucson."-Norris, Pg 33 Ln 2-4

"The issues that are shared between western Tucson and southwest Tucson and the Tohono O'Odham Nation are very, very similar. There's economy, number one. There are language issues. There are issues of economic development."-Norris, Pg 34 Ln 2-6

"And the way I see the map, I think it goes against a community of interest which has grown to my vision in the last 15 years, which is the midtown neighborhoods have a politically active participatory tradition that they have developed."-Ron Spark, Pg 35 Ln 12-16

"Apache County in my opinion has very little to do with Tucson. That doesn't seem to go with Tucson. Pima County being split up the way it is right now, I'm referring to the congressional map, Pima County being split up, and particularly the division in Tucson doesn't make any sense."-Speaker from the audience, Pg 45 Ln 2-8

"Working along county lines, like the Pinal County versus Gila County line seems to be an artificial boundary that needn't exist and doesn't exist as those communities were."-Speaker from the audience, Pg 45 Ln 12-15

"The way the line is drawn about along Irvington, for example, in Long Park leaves the City of South Tucson in an area where I think that there may be less of a community of interest going north and west than typically goes south."-Walker Smith, Pg 48 Ln 21-25

"I would like to amplify a little bit more on this part of the grid precinct Pima, Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, and Apache. While on the map that appears contiguous, in actuality it isn't because we've got a geographical figure in there called the Memorial Rim."-Tom Bowen, Pg 48 Ln 13-18

NOTE: These summaries and excerpts were developed for the Independent Redistricting Commission by its consultant, National Demographics Corporation, and have not been reviewed by the Commission prior to posting. They are <u>not</u> 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.