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Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission City of Austin

Dear Commissioners:

The attached maps are presented to you tonight to illustrate Peck Young's comments at your last meeting regarding the difference between Voter Tabulation Districts (VTD) and the new voting precincts as redrawn by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

The first map is a sample map that I drew in 2011 to illustrate how Austin's population (as counted in the 2010 Census) could be divided into 10 districts of about 80,000 people each. The base map shows the VTDs in effect at the time. Please note in particular the intersection of sample districts 1, 2, and 9.

The second, color map represents my attempt to transfer the 2011 map to the new county voting precinct boundaries, in which we all voted in the 2012 election. You will notice that the intersection of districts 1, 2, and 9 is considerably different.

The third map is a close-up of that intersection (roughly around 290, Anderson Lane, and I-35). Voting precinct 139 now has a population of 12,615 and 156 is at 15,637, making it virtually impossible to draw those three City Council districts without exceeding the allowable population variation. I urge you to keep in mind that you will probably have to go back to the Census block data for these and other precincts (especially in southeast Austin), and be prepared to question residents in these areas closely about how they might like to have their voting precincts redrawn.

Thank you very much for your service on this vital commission.

Sincerely yours, Lorraine Atherton (Voting precinct 332)

2011 City Council Election Districts 10-District Sample Map B





