

Commissioners,

At the end of your marathon session on Saturday, Sept 28, I pointed out to the Commission that you had inadvertently split the Shady Hollow neighborhood in South Austin into two Districts, placing precinct 309 in District 5 and 315 into District 8. Precinct 315 should correctly also be in District 5 for the following reasons:

- Precinct 309, in your District 5, contains the original part of Shady Hollow, including both *Shady Hollow Drive* and *Doe Run* (on which the Shady Hollow community center lies). Precinct 315 is, however, an integral part of Shady Hollow and is contiguous to both Precinct 309 and 408, both designated for District 5; but, 315 is not contiguous to any part of District 8. The only road access District 8 to Precinct 315 is by driving through District 5, Precinct 309 on Brodie Lane. Once I pointed out that 315 was an integral part of Shady Hollow's 309, and that 315 was contiguous to District 5 at the north (309), east (408) and south end (by Hwy 1626), only one Commissioner objected to reuniting precinct 315 to District 5 prior to the Commissioners' vote. He based his objection on the erroneous notion that there is a road connection between Circle C and Shady Hollow via Precinct 302. There is not. Only unincorporated open country side lies between the MoPac portion of 302 and Shady Hollow. He also stated that it was on the OHAN map, but again, OHAN had deleted Shady Hollow from its proposed SW District.

-Although a few of Commissioners were persuaded by the OHAN presentation on Wednesday the 25th to completely reverse their earlier logic in drawing a Far South District, most testimony had come from Oak Hill supporters, with almost no input from the HOAs of the many other affected neighborhoods. Even so, the latest OHAN map, presented on 9/25, did not include Precinct 315 or any Shady Hollow precincts, having dropped them to pare down to the requisite 79,800 population size. Neither did the Dan Page version of an OHAN map.

--In all respects but Precinct 315, the Commission has used Brodie as the western boundary of District 5. So moving 315 would not only unite Shady Hollow, but be consistent with the logic established by your district boundaries. Of note, District 5 is currently more than 3000 persons under the desired population goal and could easily absorb the added population of Precinct 315. (In the interim, District 9 remains well over the population goal and a move of one precinct to District 8 could make up for any decrease in population from the 315 shift).

Respectfully,

Mike Rodriguez
District 5, Onion Creek