



## Pemberton Heights Neighborhood Association

October 29, 2013

Magdalena Blanco ( Chair)  
Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission ( ICRC)  
c/o Craig Tounget, Executive Director

Email [icrc-craig.tounget@austintexas.gov](mailto:icrc-craig.tounget@austintexas.gov)

Dear Commissioners,

Re: Pemberton Heights Neighborhood Association Input and District Map Proposal

The neighbors of Pemberton Heights appreciate your efforts in attempting to meet diverse interests while drawing the boundaries for ten new districts. We realize what a herculean task this is.

We are writing to express that we have serious concerns about the proposed configuration of Pemberton Heights in District 7 on the proposed ICRC map.

We do not agree that the district shown, which runs from Lady Bird Lake to Pflugerville, represents a cohesive or suitable group of voters, interests or neighborhoods. Currently this map splits several central west Austin neighborhoods into three competing districts.

All of these neighborhoods have similar community interests, similar land development concerns and similar transportation issues. WANG ( West Austin Neighborhood Association ), along with our neighborhood plan contact team, consists of Pemberton Heights, Brykerwoods, Tarrytown, and the Deep Eddy neighborhoods. A more appropriate map would include these neighborhoods in one district.

Alternative maps have been proposed to realign Districts 7, 9 and 10 which affect Pemberton Heights and we would hope the Commission would consider either of these as a more appropriate representation of a group of central city voters.

For example:

While we would not object to the proposed Compact District Coalition Map ( attached) placing Pemberton Height in a District 9, we would prefer the Alternative Pemberton Map with Compact Districts (attached) which places Pemberton Heights into District 7, combining Pemberton Heights with the other WANG neighborhoods and modified to include the entire neighborhood as shown outlined.

In addition to respecting our local neighborhood issues, these small modifications would allow this proposed District 7 to more fully comply with other mapping criteria, including encouraging geographical compactness, using geographically identifiable boundaries, and conforming to the census tract boundaries (Census Tracts 16.03 and 16.04) for our neighborhood.

While we respect the difficulties of drawing ten districts to meet all citizens concerns, if the ICRC's current District 7 cannot be modified as addressed in this letter, then we must stress that it is important to our neighbors to modify the current District 7 to include the portion of west Austin that is south of 35st to the Lake and to include the portion of Pemberton Heights that is north of Windsor Rd east of MOPAC, therefore keeping the Pemberton Heights area intact. This is a modification which WANG has also requested.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns and your consideration of our modification request.

Sincerely,

Craig Duewall, Carla Hatler, Betty Trent, Sasha Edwards  
Board of Directors, Pemberton Heights Neighbor Association