

Craig,

Please see below for my statement made last night in testimony of the 10-1 preliminary map.

Good evening.

Thank you for your time this evening. My name is Derek Villemez and I am a resident of Central Austin. I reside in District 9 and Precinct T-274. I'd like to take the time to thank each of you for your work to date and your efforts to draw the lines of the 10 new districts in an impartial and equitable manner. With the many stakeholder interests and competing views for the future of this city, I understand this has not been an easy undertaking.

As we move through the rest of this process, I would urge you to continue the work in the same trajectory that you have been to date. After 12 public hearings, I believe the process has been properly vetted by the community. The map produced by the citizen-led and independent commission is sound and reflects the majority of the desires of the community. Please continue your work to draw 4 minority opportunity districts to give a political voice to groups of our community who have been underrepresented in the past. I would also urge you to base any small changes to the current map, as drafted, on input that you receive in these public and transparent meetings rather than interests communicated to you in private. Again, I thank you for your work and look forward to the impact this redistricting commission will have on the future of Austin.

Derek Villemez