

Dear Mr. Tounget and ICRC Commissioners:

Upon reviewing the Proposed Final Map, I was dismayed to note that the South Austin Combined Neighborhood (SACN) planning area is split among three districts. SACN boundaries are Ben White, South First, William Cannon, and along Westgate and the western city limits where Austin borders with Sunset Valley.

Individual residents, representatives from the Austin Neighborhoods Council, and the Southwood Neighborhood Association have politely given feedback that it is important for SACN to stay together in one district. We were happy with the earlier version of the map, where nearly all of SACN was together in District 5. So now, it's very upsetting to be split into three pieces.

Throughout the development of the SACN plan, we have had a consistent vision of how we want our neighborhood to be improved and what we want to maintain as our city grows. Our shared values and concerns make us a community of common interest. We want to keep our trees, affordable residential core, and diversity. Our area is quiet and relatively safe, and we want to keep it that way as the commercial areas along the major streets get redeveloped.

The latest proposed map splits SACN among the following districts, each of which has different concerns by virtue of their location:

District 2 - which includes the airport, Dove Springs, and far flung eastern neighborhoods.

District 3 - which stretches along East Riverside and north of the river

District 5 - which stretches from near Zilker Park down to Onion Creek, but at least it has the high school and ACC campus that's in the middle of SACN

Regardless of the district in which we are placed, we will compete with other neighborhoods in the district for projects and may or may not have the same opinion or interest on various city initiatives. However, if SACN is kept together, we would form a large enough group to have a voice within our district. The current map has roughly 60% of SACN in District 5, while the remaining portion is split into Districts 2 and 3. These small pieces of SACN would each need to compete with other neighborhoods (far away neighborhoods) in these districts to have their concerns taken seriously.

As I've said at one of the public meetings, SACN has more of an affinity with neighborhoods to our south, and certainly little connection to neighborhoods north of the river. I just cross the river to go to work - everything else I do is mostly south of the river and most of that is south of Ben White.

You have a most difficult job and must contend with competing factors in drawing boundaries. I appreciate your service and the time you have invested in this historic process.

Thank you,

Henrietta Cameron-Mann
Precinct 447