

Chair Blanco & Commissioners:

I am a resident of Precinct 263 Walnut Crossing in North Austin. Via the city's Channel 6 and with backup material from your website <http://www.austinredistricting.org>, I have reviewed your proceedings and studied all of the different maps that your body has been considering and their affect on our area of the the city and the city as a whole. The three most prominent of those maps affecting Pct. 263 have been your ICRC Sept. 28th map, the ICRC Nov. 6th map, and the most recent NWAC Nov. 14th map. Since the NWAC people appear to have not fully stated a point-by-point comparison of their map relative to the ICRC Nov. 6th map, **for the record**, I would like to point out **substantive** similarities and differences between the two:

- 1.) The NWAC Nov. 14 map respects the 4 minority opportunity districts and maintains their strength relative to the ICRC maps.
- 2.) The NWAC Nov. 14 map also maintains the required population variance around the target population of 79,783, as do the ICRC maps.
- 3.) Once the first 3 priority of Charter requirements were addressed first, the NWAC Nov. 14 map appears to **improve** the handling of geographic integrity of local neighborhoods and the compactness of the districts relative to the ICRC's Nov. 6th map.
- 4.) **Measurements of NWAC's Nov. 14th map shows that it improves the compactness of ICRC's Nov. 6th map for not only Dist. 9, but also Dists. 6, 7, & 10.** In fact, the ICRC's Sept. 28th map only had a compactness problem with Dist. 7, but starting with the dramatic changes to Dist. 6, the ICRC's Nov. 6th map dramatically reduced compactness in Dist. 6 & 10 only to slightly improve that measure in Dist. 7. NWAC's Nov. 14th map improves the compactness in Dist. 6, 7, 9 & 10.
- 5.) A noteworthy point, **the ICRC Nov. 6th map unnecessarily increased the spread of Dist. 6 from 8 miles wide to almost 18 miles from East to West**, by a number of miles the widest point in any district on the map. That is a strip **only about 4 miles wide** that spans from Williamson County near I-35 in the Brazos River watershed (the county line) to more than halfway across Travis County beyond the Colorado River. The NWAC Nov. 14th map reverses this unnecessary spread.
- 6.) **The unnecessary clipping of Dist. 10 and elongating of Dist. 6** in the ICRC Nov. 6th map between Pcts. 234 & 233 also splits a portion of the River Place

neighborhood between Dist. 6 & 10. The streets of James Ryan Way, Lagood Dr., Narrow Ridge Dr., and portions of Big View Dr. are arbitrarily split between Dist. 6 & 10. The NWAC Nov. 14th corrects this.

7.) The NWAC Nov. 14 map seeks to maintain the neighborhoods of Barton Hills, Zilker, Bouldin and most of Travis Heights together as they have requested with a minimum of Dist. 9 crossing the river. The ICRC Nov. 6th Dist. 9's crossover of the river between I-35 and MoPac can be limited to a minimum as requested and balance if only slightly different from the NWAC Nov. 14th map. This configuration also seeks to keep the Zilker park and south of the river shorelines in the same district with those neighborhoods immediately contiguous to them and logically requesting to be so on Nov. 13th.

8.) The NWAC Nov. 14 map provides a balanced manner in which Pct. 356 can be moved from Dist. 8 to Dist. 5 as both the OHAN and Barton Hills neighborhoods have requested. Also, the NWAC Nov. 14 map allows Pct. 307 to be moved from Dist. 8 to Dist. 9 which the OHAN neighborhood folks and some Commissioners have expressed sentiment toward. Both of these differ from the population limitations of the ICRC Nov. 6th map.

9.) Dist. 9 remains a student opportunity district in the NWAC Nov. 14 map, with the inclusion of the Lake Austin Blvd. U.T. housing moved from ICRC's Nov. 6th Dist. 10 into NWAC's Nov. 14th Dist. 9. That is about 1,200 additional students into Dist. 9.

10.) For Dist. 10, instead of stretching from Spicewood Springs Rd., 183, and Jollyville Rd. all the way down to the U.T. apartments on Lake Austin Boulevard and everything diverse in-between (about 12 miles) in the ICRC Nov. 6th map, the NWAC Nov. 14 map's Dist. 10 south stops just north of Pct. 237/240 leaving the Highland Park West/Balcones neighborhoods to be with the Brykerwoods/Rosedale neighborhoods, in Dist. 9. Further, the latest NWAC map of Nov. 14th leaves Pct. 220 and Pct. 231 in Dist. 10 as a number of their neighbors recently requested.

**Commissioners, given the above point-by-point comparison with your Nov. 6th map, it is believed that substantive changes to your Nov. 6th map are in order. You are ahead of schedule, you have the time, please take a few extra days to improve your map before you make it final.**

**Thank you for your hard work and conscientious consideration Commissioners,**

Colin McInerney

Precinct 263