

[REDACTED]

From: Paul Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 12:57 PM
To: HPD ICRC Commissioners
Subject: Proposed Redistricting Map

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Redistricting Commissioners:

Thank you for your volunteer service on this Commission.

I looked at the proposed map of the district I live in, District 7, and was struck by how skinny and convoluted it is, like the salamander that the term "gerrymandering" is derived from.

Residents who live near 45th Street and Burnet Rd. would seem to have little in common with those living east of Mopac and north of Parmer.

Isn't the point of the redistricting process to create districts of residents with similarities of demographics, income levels, etc.?

A factor that should not come into play is drawing district lines specifically to allow current City Council members to maintain their existing residences within the districts they currently represent. (As non-political appointees, you should feel free of political pressure to draw lines with current councilmember residences in mind.)

I suggest moving the part of the proposed District 7 that is south of 183 into District 10, moving the western and northwestern parts of District 10 into District 6, and moving the northeastern parts of District 6 into District 7. You should be able to do that in a way that maintains the relative populations of each district in the proposed map.

Regards,
Paul Kevin Smith

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] email was received at the City of Austin, from an EXTERNAL source. Please use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. If you believe this to be a malicious and/or phishing email, please forward this email to cybersecurity@austintexas.gov.