

[REDACTED]

From: Friends of Austin Neighborhoods [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 10, 2021 8:20 PM
To: HPD ICRC Commissioners
Cc: Friends of Austin Neighborhoods
Subject: FAN Letter - Redistricting Priorities
Attachments: FAN Letter - Redistricting and Communities of Interest (2021-10-10).pdf

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Honorable members of the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC),

Please find attached and [here](#) a letter from Friends of Austin Neighborhoods (FAN) regarding redistricting priorities, communities of interest, and your service on the ICRC.

We thank you for your work and are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Friends of Austin Neighborhoods (FAN)

Friends of Austin Neighborhoods (FAN) is a coalition of neighborhood associations and residents reclaiming the word "neighborhood" to include the full diversity of voices, moving beyond neighborhood protectionism.

FAN represents about 3,000 neighbors (homeowners, renters, and small business owners) among its 18 member neighborhood associations and individual members living in 212 other neighborhoods throughout the city. A complete list of member neighborhood associations and individual members is on the FAN website.

[REDACTED]

CAUTION: This 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.

*An inclusive voice for
Austin neighborhoods.*

Felicity Maxwell
Zilker
President

Roger L. Cauvin
Downtown
Treasurer

Thomas Ates
Hyde Park
Adviser



October 10, 2021

Honorable members of the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC),

Friends of Austin Neighborhoods (FAN) thanks you for your service on the ICRC and for the important work balancing numerous factors and priorities as you drew new boundaries for Austin's city council districts.

Friends of Austin Neighborhoods (FAN) recently polled its membership on priorities for redistricting, and we would like to express our support for the proposed maps in areas where they provide more effective representation for historically-marginalized, or sometimes-overlooked, communities of interest.

A supermajority of FAN's voting members approved the following statement and criteria in a secure online vote. Full results of these and all other online votes are on the [Votes page](#) of the FAN website.

FAN champions the needs of the citywide community and representation of the full diversity of neighborhood stakeholders – not just the vocal minority of incumbent homeowners that sometimes dominate neighborhood conversations. Accordingly, FAN calls for redistricting that enables neighbors belonging to the following groups to have fair and effective representation in city government:

- 1. Historically marginalized ethnic groups, including Hispanics and African-Americans.*
- 2. Fast-growing Asian communities.*
- 3. Overlooked socioeconomic groups such as renters, residents of multi-family homes, and students.*

FAN believes that drawing district boundaries to support better representation for these groups is far more important than blind consistency with self-defined neighborhood boundaries.

FAN represents about 3,000 neighbors (homeowners, renters, and small business owners) among its 18 member neighborhood associations and individual members living in 212 other neighborhoods throughout the city. A complete [list of member neighborhood associations and individual members](#) is on the FAN website.

Again, thank you for your work, and we are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

Board of Directors of Friends of Austin Neighborhoods (FAN)

Friends of Austin Neighborhoods (FAN) is a coalition of neighborhood associations and residents reclaiming the word “neighborhood” to include the full diversity of voices, moving beyond neighborhood protectionism.