

Weiss, Rachel

From: Bruce Peterson [bpeterson@valleycountymt.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 12:13 PM
To: Redistricting
Subject: valley county commission input

RE: Input on Redistricting effort from Valley County Commission

After discussion the Valley County Commission recommends the following:

1. Keep the City of Glasgow in one district
2. Instead of using Highway 2 for district lines we would hope that you can use Milk River and still be able to meet population criteria

I know that you have an near impossible job and best to you as to you try to meet all the criteria and requests from across the state.

A further suggestion would be to allow a larger allowance of variance in population per district, but without research I assume that MCA or the Constitution has a set percentage.

Thanks for your time and I know you will give good effort.

Bruce Peterson
Chair, for the Valley County Commission

Weiss, Rachel

From: Betsey Hedrick [bsghedrick@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 6:38 AM
To: Redistricting
Subject: redistricting maps

I support the SUBDIVISION plan.

Thank you
Betsey Hedrick
Glendive MT

Weiss, Rachel

From: Joel Brandvold [temoindearbre@att.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 3:56 PM
To: Redistricting
Subject: Please don't split Cut Bank

A recent Cut Bank Pioneer Press article suggests comments to this website where the Glacier County Commissioners can receive feedback from the public concerning redistricting plans and proposals for representation in Montana government for the next 10 years. After reviewing the redistricting maps, options and information provided, I strongly support the Urban Rural plan for Cut Bank. **Please don't split up Cut Bank**; I really think CB needs to be represented as one city, and grouped with other nearby towns (Conrad, Shelby, etc) with similar interests.

Also, there seems to be some talk to divide Glacier County into two new counties: one with county seat Browning and the Reservation, and a second county seat Cut Bank with its own county. I feel this would be very good for the area, and may ease some of the friction and problems that many feel. Both communities are wonderful in their own way, but definitely have different needs.

Cut Bank deserves and needs the Urban Rural plan for its growth, progress, and issues, while Browning and the Reservation deserve and need its own, unique type of representation for its citizens and members.

Thank you.

T & K Enterprises
P.O. Box 430
Black Eagle, MT.
59414-0430

Chairman Regnier
District Apportionment Commission

P.O. Box 201706, Helena MT.
59620

Black Eagle is three blocks wide and five blocks long. There is certainly a great need to break it up.

You Folks need something to do! The purpose of a district is to represent the people in the district – Black Eagle is a (one) district and should remain that way. Who gives a hoot about the same number voters in each district as that is not in the best interests of the existing district.

Montana supposedly has all this money in the Bank and most roads aren't fit to drive on. The county is broke and can't figure out how to get money for the fire departments or anything else that needs doing.

Feel free to call on me when you wake up!

Thank You


Harold Tuss

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MAY 07 2012

Montana Legislative
Services Division

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Legislative Services Division
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620

Chairman Regnier and Commissioners,

Of the proposed legislative redistricting plans before you for consideration, the Communities Plan is the best baseline. It splits notably less small towns (both incorporated and unincorporated) than any of the others, and it keeps the average population deviation between districts to 1.18%. These communities represent critical Montana communities of interest, and they are overall best served by the Communities Plan.

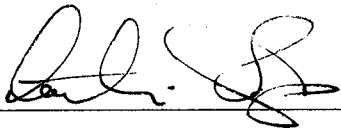
The Communities Plan has other benefits as well. It best recognizes the shared commonalities between urban and suburban voters. Suburban voters shop in town. They work in town. Their children go to school in town. Splitting them off into rural, agricultural districts serves neither their interests nor the interests of Montana farmers and ranchers.

In these highly partisan, gridlocked times, it is important to create districts that encourage legislators to work hard, listen to voters, and come together to compromise and get things done. As the most generally balanced plan, the Communities Plan offers that benefit as well.

I support the Communities Plan and encourage you to do so as well.

Sincerely,

Name:



Address:

413 W. Clark St.
Livingston, MT 59047

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MAY 07 2012

Montana Legislative
Services Division

TO THE MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

districting@mt.gov

FAX: 406-444-3036

Dear Commissioners,

As a resident of Jefferson County, I am totally opposed to having Jefferson County split up for the benefit of Butte/Silver Bow County. Each of the four plans submitted by the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission and the plan submitted by the Democrats on the Commission all put some portion of Jefferson County into Butte/Silver Bow County. This is simply unacceptable.

If you are going to consider the three discretionary criteria you set up at the beginning of this process, you will understand why none of these proposals make any sense.

- 1.) Following the lines of political units. Jefferson County is about 1,500 people over the ideal district size. Since our existing district is most of Jefferson County, we should start there and make every effort to keep Jefferson County as whole as possible, the remaining population staying with its "Community of Interest" in Madison County.
- 2.) Following geographic boundaries. The Continental Divide separates Jefferson and Butte/Silver Bow Counties. That is a very distinct geographic boundary between our counties that should be respected.
- 3.) Keeping communities of interest intact. Many people live in Jefferson County because they don't want the impacts and influences of urban areas. Most of Jefferson County should be one district, with an area of the county South of Interstate 90 remaining as part of the district that represents Madison County. The Whitehall Elementary and Whitehall High School District both include portions of Madison County. The Jefferson Valley Rural Fire District also extends into Madison County. Kids from Jefferson County participate in 4-H and the Madison County Fair in Twin Bridges. Jefferson and Madison Counties share an MSU Extension Agent. In short, Southern Jefferson County and Northern Madison County are clearly a "Community of Interest", and should remain together.

Jefferson County is located between three large, urban counties, Lewis and Clark, Butte/Silver Bow, and Gallatin. It is important that we keep our own district so that we can maintain our proud identity. Please keep Jefferson County as whole as possible and allow a portion of Southern Jefferson County to remain with their "Community of Interest" in Northern Madison County.

RECEIVED

I support the Jefferson County Proposed Legislative District Map.

MAY 08 2002

Thank you for your consideration.

Montana Legislative
Services Division

Name

Gene Davenport

Address

30 Apple Lane, Whitehall MT 59759

TO THE MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

districting@mt.gov

FAX: 406-444-3036

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Montana Legislative
Services Division

Name

Address

Loree Ravenscroft
 30 Apple Ln. Whitehall, MT 59759

Karen Hollandsworth

1463 Prairie DR

Brady, MT 59416

May 8, 2012

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission

PO Box 201706

Helena MT 59620-1706

Dear Chairman Regnier,

I strongly urge you to reject maps that use political data and election results in the development of district lines for the legislature. Political parties should not manipulate boundaries to maximize the number of seats they think they can win in elections. That defeats the purpose of redistricting, which is to equalize the number of people in districts, protect minority voting rights, following existing political subdivisions and communities of interest.

The last map in Montana was developed through a heavy reliance on political data and election results. There is no way to explain how many communities were divided, other than it served a political purpose. The new map should have no resemblance to the current map, because it inconsistently ignores existing political subdivision, communities of interest, lacks the compactness requirement and all of the other official redistricting criteria.

The commission should use the three maps developed by non-partisan legislative staff as starting points for the new map: the urban-rural, deviation and subdivision maps. The fourth map is just a slightly modified version of the map the Democrats put forward in 2000 using political data and election results. Many local communities are putting forward suggestions for their areas – please pay attention to these.

Thank you for your work on building consensus through this process. I encourage you to reject partisan politics in the redistricting effort.

Sincerely,



Karen Hollandsworth

RECEIVED

MAY 10 2012

Montana Legislative
Services Division

Dear Chairman Regnier,

Mineral County has less than the ideal population size for a House district, so we should be kept together at all costs. Counties are communities, so every effort should be made to preserve county lines and keep them whole. We should be joined with southern portions of Sanders County because we have similar histories, industries and rural communities.

Having said that, the "Communities" map and the "Existing District" map clearly do not do a good job of keeping counties together. They split up many counties unnecessarily because the main goal is electing Democrats. Many of their districts are not compact as well.

Redistricting can be much easier if you put politics aside and focus on the criteria. If you do that, I think you will gravitate towards the Urban-Rural plan or the Subdivisions plan.

Name:

Richard C Seeman

Address:

5233 Mullan Ave.

Superior, MT 59872

Email Address:

Seeman@blackfoot.net

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MAY 08 2012

Montana Legislative
Services Division

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Name:

Debra M. Seaman

Address:

5233 Mullan Rd E
Superior, MT. 59872

Email Address: Seaman@blackfoot.net

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Name:

Joan Carroll

Address:

PO Box 108
St Regis, MT 59866

Email Address:

carroll@blackfoot.net

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Name: Gary Grippo

Address: 1871 Riverhen Rd
SUPERIOR MT. 59872

Email Address: F10Grip @ Blackfoot. net

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MAY 08 2012

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Services Division

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Name:

Jacquelyn H. Becker

Address:

P.O. Box 522
Superior, MT 59872

Email Address:

tcreekwoman@yahoo.com

Districts should be made
according to ~~the~~ needs & similarities,
Not party needs.

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MAY 08 2012

Montana Legislative
Services Division

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Legislative Services Division
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620

Chairman Regnier and Commissioners,

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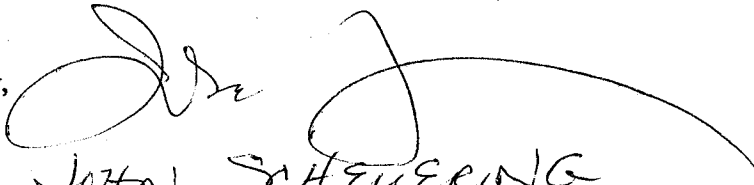
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In these highly partisan, gridlocked times, it is important to create districts that encourage legislators to work hard, listen to voters, and come together to compromise and get things done. As the most generally balanced plan, the Communities Plan offers that benefit as well.

I support the Communities Plan and encourage you to do so as well.

Sincerely,

Name:


JOHN SCHEUERING

Address:

819 MAW ST,
MILES CITY, MT
59301

RECEIVED

MAY 10 2007

Montana Legislative
Services Division

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Legislative Services Division
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620

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Sincerely,

Name: Mark Fix

MARK FIX
Address: 1198 TONGUE RIVER ROAD
MILES CITY MT 59301

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MAY 09 2012

Montana Legislative
Services Division

Weiss, Rachel

From: Bill and Colette Berg [bill@coolworks.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 4:45 PM
To: Redistricting
Subject: Support Communities Plan

Dear Commissioners,

I support the Communities Plan and I hope you do too. In these highly partisan, gridlocked times, it is important to create districts that encourage legislators to work hard, listen to voters, and come together to compromise and get things done. Montanans should choose their legislators, not let a map do the work for them.

The Communities Plan best respects the independent spirit of Montanans. It also splits the least towns and keeps the districts quite even in size, preserving our constitutional right to 'one person, one vote'.

Best wishes,

Bill and Colette Berg
PO Box 275
Gardiner, MT 59030

Weiss, Rachel

From: Gayle and Jim Joslin [joznpoz@bresnan.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 4:45 PM
To: Redistricting
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Best wishes,

Gayle and Jim Joslin
2763 Grizzly Gulch
Helena, MT 59601

Weiss, Rachel

From: Wade Sikorski [wds@midrivers.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 6:38 PM
To: Redistricting
Subject: Support the Communities Plan

Dear Commissioners,

Of the redistricting plans prepared for your consideration, the Communities Plan is best. It splits the least small towns, which are unique and critical Montana 'communities of interest'.

For Polson, Livingston, Four Corners, Glasgow, Ulm, Clancy, Troy, and more, we need the Communities Plan.

The plan manages to do this while keeping districts highly evenly sized, preserving our constitutional right to 'one person, one vote'.

Sincerely,

Wade Sikorski
1511 Hwy 7
Baker, MT 59313

Weiss, Rachel

From: Elli Elliott [elli@visi.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 7:16 PM
To: Redistricting
Subject: Support the Communities Plan

Dear Commissioners,

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Sincerely,

Elli Elliott
16 Fountain Park Drive
Red Lodge
Red Lodge, MT 59068

Weiss, Rachel

From: Kevin Dowling [kpdowling@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 9:16 PM
To: Redistricting
Subject: Support the Communities Plan

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Sincerely,

Kevin Dowling
1825 10th Street W
Billings, MT 59102

Weiss, Rachel

From: Emmitt Northup [teachinc@live.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 11:59 PM
To: Redistricting
Subject: Valley County redistricting

Dear Commission;

I am in favor of the "Communities Plan" for redistricting as I believe it to be the fairest choice proposed.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Emmitt Northup
214 Skylark Rd.
Glasgow, Mt. 59230

Weiss, Rachel

From: Robert and Rosemarie Barta [bbarta@mt.net]
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 5:54 AM
To: Redistricting
Subject: Support the Communities Plan

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The plan manages to do this while keeping districts highly evenly sized, preserving our constitutional right to 'one person, one vote'.

Sincerely,

Robert and Rosemarie Barta
11825 Hanover Road
Lewistown, MT 59457

Weiss, Rachel

From: Frank & Helen Cory [fhcory@nemont.net]
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 7:23 AM
To: Redistricting
Subject: "No!" - Communities Plan

Dear Chairman Regnier,

Stillwater County strongly believes it should be kept together as part of one single legislative district. Since the county population is under the ideal district size of 9,984 residents, it makes sense to add a portion of Sweet Grass County and keep Stillwater County in one piece. Also, we urge you to maintain a Senate district with Carbon County, which shares many interests with us.

We understand that there are proposals out there that split our community. This plan used voting preferences and election results as the main driver for drawing lines, and it should not be taken seriously. Any proposal brought forward in such a manner should be suspect.

Counties are communities. When you split them up unnecessarily, you are splitting up those traditional communities we have recognized for 100 years. As such, the best choices to use are the Subdivisions 100 map and the Urban-Rural map.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Frank & Helen Cory
19 Cottonwood Way
Absarokee, Montana 69001

Weiss, Rachel

From: Michael Ruger [ruger michael@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 8:07 AM
To: Redistricting
Subject: Re-Districting

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We understand that there are proposals out there that split our community. One of which is a map put forward from the Montana Democratic Party. This plan used voting preferences and election results as the main driver for drawing lines, and it should not be taken seriously. Any proposal brought forward in such a manner should be suspect.

Counties are communities. When you split them up unnecessarily, you are splitting up those traditional communities we have recognized for 100 years. As such, the best choices to use are the Subdivisions 100 map and the Urban-Rural map.

Sincerely,
Michael & Melissa Ruger
7 Rose Lane
Columbus, MT 59019

"Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what's for dinner; Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote." - Benjamin Franklin

"It can not be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great country was founded not by religionists, but by Christians, not on religion but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ." - Patrick Henry

TO THE MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 201706 HELENA, MT 59620-1706
districting@mt.gov FAX 406-444-3036

Dear Commissioners,

As a resident of Jefferson County, I am totally opposed to having Jefferson County split up for the benefit of Butte/Silver Bow County. Each of the four plans submitted by the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission and the plan submitted by the Democrats on the Commission all put some portion of Jefferson County into Butte/Silver Bow County. This is simply unacceptable.

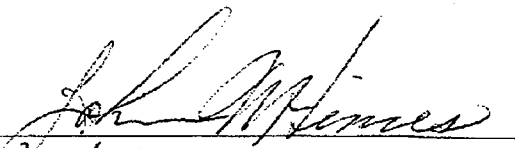
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MAY 11 2012
Montana Legislative Services Division

Jefferson County is located between three large urban counties, Lewis and Clark, Butte/Silver Bow, and Gallatin. It is important that we keep our own district so that we can maintain our proud identity. Please keep Jefferson County as whole as possible and allow a portion of Southern Jefferson County to remain with their "Community of Interest" in Northern Madison County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Name John W. Himes 
Address 35 FISH CREEK RD, Whitehall, MT. 59759
(Lower)

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Thank you for your consideration.

Name X Collene Madson

Address 618 - WHITETAIL RD WHITEHALL 59759
MONTANA

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P.O. BOX 201706 HELENA, MT 59620-1706
districting@mt.gov FAX 406-444-3036

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MAY 11 2009

Montana Legislative Services Division

Jefferson County is located between three large urban counties, Lewis and Clark, Butte/Silver Bow, and Gallatin. It is important that we keep our own district so that we can maintain our proud identity. Please keep Jefferson County as whole as possible and allow a portion of Southern Jefferson County to remain with their "Community of Interest" in Northern Madison County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Name Kevin Brown

Address 1166 Hwy 55 Helena MT 59719

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Legislative Services Division
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620

Chairman Regnier and Commissioners,

Of the proposed legislative redistricting plans before you for consideration, the Communities Plan is the best baseline. It splits notably less small towns (both incorporated and unincorporated) than any of the others, and it keeps the average population deviation between districts to 1.18%. These communities represent critical Montana communities of interest, and they are overall best served by the Communities Plan.

The Communities Plan has other benefits as well. It best recognizes the shared commonalities between urban and suburban voters. Suburban voters shop in town. They work in town. Their children go to school in town. Splitting them off into rural, agricultural districts serves neither their interests nor the interests of Montana farmers and ranchers.

In these highly partisan, gridlocked times, it is important to create districts that encourage legislators to work hard, listen to voters, and come together to compromise and get things done. As the most generally balanced plan, the Communities Plan offers that benefit as well.

I support the Communities Plan and encourage you to do so as well.

Sincerely,

Name: Sileen Morris

Address: 1323 Janie St.
Billings MT 59105

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MAY 11 2012
Montana Legislative
Services Division

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
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PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620

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I support the Communities Plan and encourage you to do so as well.

Sincerely,

Name: Lessa Chariton

Address: 13838 Hwy 87 N
Shepherd, MT 59079

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