

Public Comments

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Comments received between 5 p.m. on November 2 and 12 Noon on
November 3, 2021

Distributed electronically November 3, 2021

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Georgina Allred
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:58:49 AM

From: Georgina Allred Georginaba40@aol.com
Residence: Bigfork, Montana

Message:
Great

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [JAMES ANDREWS Owner](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP12 redistricting of Montana counties
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:55:28 PM

Commission needs to minimize the splitting of counties, as stated in the Commission goals. The Democrat Commission members map splits three counties, while the Republican map only splits one. Lewis and Clark County, Jefferson and Broadwater Counties should be kept in the east, they are in the Missouri River drainage, which flows in the east. Like Eastern Montana, these three counties also rely on agriculture. Between the two maps, it is clear CP 12 is the best choice.

From: [Tom Arvidson](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I approve of maps 11 and 13
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:59:09 PM

Maps 11 and 13 offer competitive districts. 10 and 12 are Republican giveaways.
Tom Arvidson
Missoula

From: barils@mt.net
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] adopt Map 13
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:59:00 AM

Please adopt Map 13 as the best balance for Montana's diverse citizenry and for voters in Lewis and Clark County to have a real choice.

Thank you,
Cynthia Baril
Helena MT 59602

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Tricia
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:33:03 PM

From: Tricia sweetlcb@gmail.com

Residence: Essex, MT

Message:

Hello,

I'm writing to state that I oppose the action of separating Flathead county. I foresee it would cause unnecessary complications and I also don't see any reason or benefits.

Thank you.

Tricia Barthel

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: Submission from Redistricting
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:01:59 AM

From: leg-noreply@mt.gov <leg-noreply@mt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:58 AM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: Submission from Redistricting

Submit Information to the Redistricting Commission

Date: 3rd November 2021 09:57

Your Full Name:
taylor bartholomew

Email Address:
Taylor.bartholomew41@Gmail.com

Subject Line:
Redistricting

Your Comment:
Has someone raised in Southeastern Montana currently running a business in the Miles City surrounding area I do not agree with my volt being mixed in with Dallas Bell is it completely degrades the voice of Southeastern Montana. The eastern and western portions of Montana are as different economically as they are geographically and that line should not be blended for someone's political game.

Upload Information:
—

Sent via uat.leg.mt.gov/districting/2020-commission/public-comment/

From: [Maryrose Beasley](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support CP map 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:24:24 PM

I do not like the idea of making districts competitive, as that is not allowed by our state constitution. A committee can't get together and decide to break the law to benefit one political party. Hard to believe that was even tried.

I support CP map 12 because

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district
- it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole
- it only splits 1 county

- I don't like cp11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties

- keep Lewis and Clark county whole

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Maryrose Beasley, DVM
Roundup, MT



Virus-free. www.avg.com [[avg.com](#)]
[\[avg.com\]](#)

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Carole berkoff
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:34:14 PM

From: Carole berkoff cberkoff@icloud.com
Residence: Victor MT 59875

Message:

To give all interests a more equivalent voteI choose map 11

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Barbara Bonifas](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support CP13 and CP11
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:38:16 PM

Commissioners

Thank you for your work over these many months to consider and create fair boundaries for Montana Congressional Districts. I am writing to express my support for CP Map 13 and CP Map 11. These two maps provide the best opportunity for an equal playing field for all candidates; they honor historical political boundaries of unified counties and cities and respect communities' common concerns for the dominant natural resources within each district.

I have lived and owned my home in Helena, Montana since 1970. Along with working in public service for 50 years, I have voted in EVERY election to date and was honored to serve as an Election Judge in statewide and national elections. Maintaining Montana's rich history of citizen involvement and participation is vital to our way of life and reaps great benefits to the State.

I am reassured by the Law's clear call for creation of competitive Congressional districts where all qualified candidates have the opportunity to meet citizens, express their opinions, and earn or not earn support from voters. Equal playing fields.

CP Maps 10 and 12 are crystal-clear examples of one-party Gerrymandering. They seem solely intended to benefit the Montana Republican Party and its candidates in future elections. I am deeply concerned CP Maps 10 and 12 purposefully divide current and historically-joined communities of like interests. Example: the slicing of Park to the East and Gallatin to the West -- and dividing Jefferson County from Butte despite the many Jefferson County residents who work and attend school in Butte. These illogical and unfair boundaries should be rejected.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in this important process; and to express my support for CP Maps 11 and 13.

Regards,
Barbara Bonifas
421 Monroe Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
406.431.4268

From: [Kerry Bronson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support 13 or 11
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:02:45 PM

Dear Commission Members,

This letter is to voice my support for congressional district maps 13 and 11 and to say I strongly oppose map 12.

Map 13 is the best proposal and is a great compromise. The map does not split Flathead County and also keeps Helena in the Western District where it belongs. This map will also add two reservations into a competitive district. I believe this is what the tribes have been in favor of.

Proposal 11 does create a competitive district, however the map splits Flathead County.

I strongly oppose Proposal 12 which draws both districts to heavily favor the Republican party. The Commission's goal is to draw competitive districts. It is very easy to see that Map 12 does not fit this criteria.

Thank you for your time and consideration
Kerry Bronson
Missoula, MT

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:Kerry.Bronson@missoula.gov) for Windows

From: [GREGORY BROOKS](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support Map CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:39:47 PM

I support Map CP12 because:

It keeps Flathead County in the Western District

- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfoot Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district· It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead, and Gallatin counties whole
- it only splits 1 county
- I don't like CP11 because it puts most of Flathead County in the east.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties
- Keep Lewis and Clark county whole.

Thank you.
Greg Brooks
Stevensville, MT

Sent from the iPhone of Greg Brooks

From: deerslayermontana@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: deerslayerMontana@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:14:48 PM

SUBJECT: Redistricting

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration.

Ron Burnes
439 Grand Ave # 301
Bigfork, MT 59911
530-559-2173

From: [Burt Caldwell](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Disappointment
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 8:12:05 AM

I am a Montana citizen who strongly opposes maps CP10 and CP12.

Let me remind you that in July, the Redistricting Commission adopted the central goals for the Congressional mapping process. Those goals included not favoring either political party and promoting competitiveness. These goals were adopted by all commissioners and, according to the public record, the general public.

I respectfully, but forcefully request that the Commission follow its own established criteria by adopting a map with at least one competitive district that doesn't unduly favor either political party.

CP10 and CP12 abandon the established criteria and goals. Both CP 10 and CP 12 have Cook PVI scores outside of the range of competitiveness.

Furthermore, I wish to express my frustration that CP12, a last-minute proposal, is even being considered as a "compromise." CP12 is not competitive; divides the communities of Butte from Jefferson County and Helena, despite their shared cultural, economic, and historical identities; rips Livingston away from Gallatin County despite sharing the same regional economy; and denies rural voters a voice.

A final reason to reject CP12 is because of its unabashed targeting of working people and their unions. CP12 splits workers who have banded together for better working conditions, wages, and benefits.

In Montana, we honor our commitments. Please honor your commitments by rejecting CP10 and CP12 for violating the criteria you established and dividing linked communities, and silencing both rural and union voters

C. Burt Caldwell

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Katie Catlett
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:39:40 AM

From: Katie Catlett katecat1872@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Map 12 does not represent Montana's traditional values in election of political parties. The western district needs a closer split to represent Montanans historically choosing a balance of political parties. Rarely do we have a sweep of one party. The western district needs to reflect that tradition and not unduly favor one party. Choose Map 11 over Map 12. Maps 10 and 13 split Gallatin County, which does not make sense to me as a resident. No map is going to be perfect, but Map 11 meets the goals of the commission better than any of the rest. Thank you for your time and efforts.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Lisa Cordingley](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Cc: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:43:48 PM

Ms Smith and Members of the Redistricting Commission;

I have communicated before and I testified before you on Saturday. I appreciate the opportunities and I am truly grateful for your work; however I am closing on in frustration overwhelming my gratitude.

I have lived in Montana all of my life. My forebearers were homesteaders and ranchers on one side, and miners on the other. I typically scoff at the "4th and 5th generation Montanan" claims to credibility, but I want to ground my statement in what Montanans used to be, and assert my understanding of same.

The last minute proposal of Map 12 is nothing more, nor less, than an effort to gerrymander and I find myself in a fury over this. We Montanans used to be better than this. We weren't afraid of our two party system; in fact we prided ourselves on our tendency to reach to the middle. Republican governor and a Democratic legislature? We embraced those self-imposed measures.

Please, in the name of what we used to represent, what we used to stand for, in the name of Mike Mansfield if that helps, please reject Map 12 in favor of either 11 or 13, preferably Map 11, to eliminate splitting Helena from East Helena, an entirely unnecessary division of communities with evident common interest.

Sincerely,

Lisa Cordingley

From: [Tom](#)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Districts
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:49:51 PM

Members of the the Commission;

I expressed my opinion last week on the maps that were presented then as choices. I find it curious that, apparently at the last minute, additional maps were submitted. I believe you've been meeting for a few months. I assumed you had waded through the best of available options.

I find Map 12 to be offensive and a blatant partisan effort. Lewis and Clark County has no place in the Eastern District. We are already subjected to 2 of 3 of our delegation who are disinterested in meeting with or responding to their constituents. Do not consign us to an additional Congressional representative who cares not at all for the concerns of western Montanans.

Please vote against Map 12. Make your historic contribution one of which you can be proud.

Tom Cordingley
Helena

From: mdstirrup@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SUPPORT CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:02:43 PM

I support Map CP12 because: 1) it keeps Flathead County in the Western District, 2) includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district, 3) it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.

CP12 is in the best interest of the whole state.

Thank you.

Maureen Davey

51 LE Peterson Rd.

Columbus, Montana 59019

mdstirrup@gmail.com

406 321-0956

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Louise Davis
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:45:57 AM

From: Louise Davis louisedavis53@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:
Hello Redistricting Commissioners!

I strongly believe Map 11 is best for Montana because:

1. The Gallatin City-County Health Dept. has been a leader in supporting the needs of public health. When they took measures to keep people safe and healthy, businesses & individuals complied for the most part, while Flathead (Kalispell in particular) did not and was and is splintered in its Covid response.
2. Gallatin County, the cities of Belgrade, Bozeman, and Manhattan are working collectively on a Regional Water & Sewer study to support infrastructure needs.
3. The Triangle Plan is a concrete example of the cities of Bozeman, Belgrade and Gallatin County working closely together to come up with a cooperative and comprehensive community plan for growth in the Triangle. This is a model of cooperation in problem-solving for land use development and keeping these entities together is in the communities' interests.
- And 4. Keeping Gallatin in one district and putting Yellowstone and most of Flathead in another will equalize growth across both congressional districts over the next 10 yrs as these three counties are the fastest growing counties in the state.

Next best is Map 13 but I don't like that it divides Gallatin County.

I strongly oppose May 12!

Thanks for listening!
Louise

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[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](#))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gilbert Day
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:29:56 PM

From: Gilbert Day joshdetoy@gmail.com
Residence: Great Falls

Message:
I support Map CP12.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Nick Domitrovich
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:33:16 AM

From: Nick Domitrovich ndomitrovich@gmail.com
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

I am writing to comment on MAP #12 and opine that it improperly places the city of Helena in the eastern district, with which the city shares little in the way of a community of interest. For example, Helena's most stalwart employment sectors are wholesale trade, healthcare, information, finance, insurance, and real estate; whereas eastern plains communities have seen a substantial drop off in jobs in areas such as health care and government. The city of Helena also has some of the highest post-secondary higher education levels of any area of the state. Many of those people attended UM or MSU—both of which are in the western districts of the remaining maps. This is reflected in Helena's robust arts and theater communities, which share an affinity with similar communities in Missoula, Butte, and Bozeman. Again, placing Helena in the eastern district would ignore these important considerations. These are just a few examples, but illustrative of why MAP #12 should not be advanced by the Commission. Thank you.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kimberly Doney
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:31:39 PM

From: Kimberly Doney kedoney66@gmail.com
Residence: Heron Mt

Message:

I like cp12 it keeps flathead county in the west and splits the least counties

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Donna Eakman
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:31:03 PM

From: Donna Eakman deakman@bresnan.net
Residence: Great Falls, MT 59405

Message:

Of the maps under consideration, I prefer CP12—keeps Flathead County in Western District; has 2 Reservations in Western District; splits only 1 county; and keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead, and Gallatin Counties whole.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [AL Ekblad](mailto:AL_Ekblad)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:09:11 PM

Commissioners:

First, I wanted to thank you for your time and service on this project. This is no small feat, and you have the responsibility of making a difficult decision. For that reason, I am writing to you to ask you to reject CP 12, and adopt CP 11 as the tentative final congressional map for Montana.

As a Helena resident, retired member of IUOE 400 and elected union leader, I can tell you that it makes little sense to throw communities like Helena and Boulder into an eastern district, when Butte and Deer Lodge remain in the west. Butte Silver Bow, Deer Lodge, Lewis and Clark and Jefferson Counties represent a distinct economic region with similar industries and a shared workforce. Other maps considered by this commission (and adopted by previous commissions) honored the shared history and community interests Lewis and Clark and Jefferson Counties share with Butte Silver Bow and Deer Lodge Counties. Map 12 does not honor this precedent.

I understand the desire to keep counties intact to the greatest extent possible, but that should not be done by ignoring the strong community interests that bind neighboring counties together. It makes no sense for working folks in Jefferson County to have one representative where they live, and another representative for where they work in Butte. I haven't heard a reason for splitting these counties, but as a union member, I do know that this map will only serve to divide working families who reside in this distinct economic region into two districts. If the commission makes the decision to adopt CP12, they do so knowing that they are intentionally weakening the voice of working people as a constituency group.

Public service is not an easy job, and this Commission is going to have to make a tough decision. If there isn't a good reason behind the line being drawn, it's not the right map for Montana.

Thank you again for your service.

Respectfully,

Al Ekblad

IUOE 400

Helena, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gary H Eliasson
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:24:48 AM

From: Gary H Eliasson ccar@midrivers.com
Residence: Roundup, MT

Message:

I support map CP 12 as it more fairly divides the state, leaving Lewis & Clark, Gallatin, and Flathead counties whole. Maps CP 11 and 13 are not in the best interests of Montanans.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Mae Nan Ellingson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Districts
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:19:52 AM

Dear Commission Members,

In anticipation of your meeting on November 4, I would like to offer comment on the proposed district maps. But first I want to say thank you for your hard work. As most of you know I had applied to be the 5th member of the Commission and while it would have been an honor to serve with you, I am glad I did not get the nod. Maylinn Smith has proven to be so well suited for the task. I am optimistic that a good map will emerge from your work.

I continue to believe that the Reapportionment and Districting Commission is one of the best things to come out of the 1972 Constitution and that your work is critical to our democracy and the map you chose should be the one most close to fostering a vibrant, engaged citizenry.

So again, thank you for serving.

I have reviewed all of 4 of the extant maps and only 2 meet the Commissions adopted criteria. Further consideration should not be given to be given to maps 10 and 12.

I have also reviewed a map resubmitted by Fred VanValkenburg and think it deserves additional consideration as it too meets the adopted criteria, divides only 1 county and puts the SKC and Blackfeet reservations in District 1. And perhaps most importantly, it is the most equal in population of all maps you are considering.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Mae Nan Ellingson

Missoula

406-240-0322

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Janet Ellis](mailto:Janet.Ellis@mtleg.gov)
To: Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Congressional redistricting maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:38:55 PM

Dear Commissioners -

Thank you for all your hard work aimed at drawing fair Congressional redistricting maps for our state.

I am writing to support Map #11, and to a lesser extent Map #13, in the current 4-map discussion before the Montana Districting and Reapportionment Commission. I primarily support Map #11 because, of the four maps being discussed currently, I believe it is the map that most closely meets all self-identified, unanimously adopted, goals of the Commission:

> **Commission Goal 1:** "No plan may be drawn to unduly favor a political party." Both Map #11 and Map #13 have one Republican-leaning district and one competitive district. Map #10 and Map #12, which I oppose, have two Republican districts. Clearly, Map #10 and Map #12 favor one political party - and should therefore both be rejected.

> **Commission Goal 2:** "The commission shall attempt to minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible." I support Map #11 because it does not split the towns of Big Sky and Gallatin Gateway. Map #10, which I oppose, does split these two communities - for no clear reason.

> **Commission Goal 3:** "Keeping communities of interest intact. The Commission may consider keeping communities of interest intact. Communities of interest can be based on Indian reservations, urban interests, suburban interests, rural interests, tribal interests, neighborhoods, trade areas, geographic location, demographics, communication and transportation networks, social, cultural, historic, and economic interests and connections, or occupations and lifestyles." There are several reasons I think Map #11 is the best map:

1. As a resident of Helena, I support Map #11 because it keeps Lewis & Clark County in the western Congressional District, which is where most of the population in the county is linked economically. As an example, Missoula and Helena share physicians at their hospitals, with some specialists from Missoula working in Helena during each month. In addition, Bozeman, Missoula, and Helena all share the same climate change goals of becoming carbon neutral by 2030. Although sharing this goal may not seem important in some circles, it indicates the individuals in these 3 communities share urban interests/suburban interests, similar visions for transportation, and much more, increasing the reasons they should all be located in the same district. I also believe Jefferson County should remain with Lewis & Clark County *and* Silver Bow County, because many individuals who live in Jefferson County work and are otherwise economically tied to Helena or Butte. I believe that separating Lewis & Clark County, Jefferson County, and Silver Bow Counties could harm the interdependence of these three areas.

2. Map #11 puts Livingston and Bozeman together, which are two communities that also are deeply connected by individuals who work and are otherwise economically tied together. Map #12 separates these two closely tied communities.

3. Map #11 keeps all of the Rocky Mountain Front, Golden Triangle, and HiLine in-tact, which will serve agriculture well. None of the other maps keep this area in-tact.

<!--[endif]-->

> **Commission Goal 4:** "The commission may consider competitiveness of districts when drawing plans." As stated under Commission Goal #1 above, Maps #11 and #13 have one Republican-leaning district and one competitive district. This competitiveness will serve Montana well because whomever represents that district will be required to listen to both sides of any issue in order to make sure they are representing their constituents. Map #10 and #12, which I oppose, have two Republican districts. Clearly, Map #10 and Map #12 favor one political party.

Thank you for considering these comments. Please contact me if you have any questions.
- Janet Ellis, 703 Breckenridge St., Helena, MT 59601; 406-431-9157

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Marylis Filipovich
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:06:37 PM

From: Marylis Filipovich marylisj@aol.com
Residence: Helena

Message:
Redistricting Commissioners:

I most strongly support Map 11, though I am unsure that it is still being considered. The reason for my support is that it seems the most reasonable to me because it includes Lewis and Clark County in the western district and because it makes the western district a bit more competitive than the other maps in consideration. My second choice is Map 13. I believe that having at least one district be somewhat competitive is a positive for the state and will encourage higher voter participation.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Russ Fletcher](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support Proposal 11. I am a Montana citizen who strongly opposes maps CP10 and CP12
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 8:21:26 AM

Let me remind you that in July, the Redistricting Commission adopted the central goals for the Congressional mapping process. Those goals included not favoring either political party and promoting competitiveness. These goals were adopted by all commissioners and, according to the public record, the general public.

I respectfully, but forcefully request that the Commission follow its own established criteria by adopting a map with at least one competitive district that doesn't unduly favor either political party.

CP10 and CP12 abandon the established criteria and goals. Both CP 10 and CP 12 have Cook PVI scores outside of the range of competitiveness.

Furthermore, I wish to express my frustration that CP12, a last-minute proposal, is even being considered as a “compromise.” CP12 is not competitive; divides the communities of Butte from Jefferson County and Helena, despite their shared cultural, economic, and historical identities; rips Livingston away from Gallatin County despite sharing the same regional economy; and denies rural voters a voice.

A final reason to reject CP12 is because of its unabashed targeting of working people and their unions. CP12 splits workers who have banded together for better working conditions, wages, and benefits.

In Montana, we honor our commitments. Please honor your commitments by rejecting CP10 and CP12 for violating the criteria you established and dividing linked communities, and silencing both rural and union voters

Thank you,

Russ Fletcher

339 S. 5th St. E.

Missoula, MT 59801

406-531-8119

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: Redistricting Comment
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:33:31 AM

From: Erin Foley <erin.foley@teamsterslocal2.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:32 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Comment

Commissioners,

My name is Erin Foley, and I proudly serve as the Secretary-Treasurer for Teamsters Local 2 and as the President of the Montana AFL-CIO.

The Montana AFL-CIO is a federation of 38 unions and 500 locals that directly represent over 50,000 working Montanans as well as the interests of working families across the state. It is our belief that all working people deserve good jobs and the power to determine their wages and working conditions. And just as unions serve as democratic bodies, we believe firmly in the right and power of working people to have an active voice in our elections and to ensure that elected officials are responsive to the needs of working people, their families, and their communities.

As a lifelong resident of Butte and a long-time union member, I am writing to oppose Proposals 10 and 12. These maps divide working families living in Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Butte Silver Bow and Deer Lodge Counties into two districts. This Commission has identified a goal to keep communities of interest intact. As representatives of workers living in these areas, we contend that the communities of Butte Silver Bow, Jefferson, Deer Lodge, and Lewis and Clark Counties represent a unique economic region, with a shared workforce and strong community ties. In fact, many residents of these communities live in one county, and work in another, and under Proposals 10 and 12 would have one representative for where they live, and another for where they work. We believe that shared economies like those represented in this area of the state are a community of interest that should be honored in this Commission's congressional map.

In listening to the Commission's deliberations, I heard an expressed interest in preserving, to the best extent possible, the historic divide of our previous Congressional map. I have not heard a rationale given for why Jefferson and Lewis and Clark Counties are suddenly thrown into the Eastern District, when they were not in previous proposals considered by this Commission. And I would ask the Commission to only consider these changes when they are necessary to and clearly meet the Commission's goals.

We continue to voice our support for Proposal 11 which best meets this Commission's stated criteria and which will keep intact the families living and working in the communities of Helena, Boulder, Butte, Deer Lodge, and Anaconda in a district that does not unduly favor one political party. This will ensure that those running to serve us in Congress can only do so with the support of working Montanans.

I thank you for your time, consideration, and service to the State of Montana

Erin Foley
MT AFL-CIO President
Butte, America

Erin Foley

Secretary-Treasurer
Teamsters Local #2

[P.O. Box 3745 \[x-apple-data-detectors\]](#)

[Butte, MT 59702 \[x-apple-data-detectors\]](#)

[406-494-2747](#) tel

[406-494-4430](#) fax

[406-533-5528](#) cell

Check us out on FACEBOOK! <https://www.facebook.com/Teamsters-Union-Local-2-105253224402952/>
[\[facebook.com\]](#)

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From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Joe Furshong
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:14:00 AM

From: Joe Furshong jfurshong@mac.com
Residence: Helena, Montana

Message:

First, I am angry at the postponement of the decision for a final map and at the addition of new maps. I believe Chair Smith violated her own guidelines and thus greatly lowered trust in the final decision. The new maps are clearly much more partisan in one direction and can only benefit one party. So much for non-partisan.

I favor either Map #11 or Map #13 because each of them is competitive for both parties. We all know the E district is a shoo-in for Republicans and fair enough, because that is the overwhelming make-up of that district. But the balance of Democrats and Republicans in a W district is much closer and the district that is created should be competitive as well. At the present (with the exception of one Senate seat) Montana is a case of one-party rule. We have become the northernmost Southern state. Let's return some fairness to this process and create a western district that shows democracy at work.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Dawn Gandalf](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support CP 13
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:54:21 AM

This has been a VERY frustrating and confusing public engagement exercise, generally. NOT well presented nor managed with these additional maps and deadlines for input at the last minute. Makes me leary of a true bi-partisans' committee managing this process.

However this is my last attempt to contribute to this "fair map" redistricting process. I support CP13.

Dawn Gandalf
Trout Creek, Montana
Sanders County

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows



Virus-free. www.avast.com [[avast.com](#)]
[\[avast.com\]](#)

From: [Stacey Gasta](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:49:50 AM

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for your consideration regarding my opinion. I sincerely feel my reasons are both sound and logical.

1. CP12 keeps Flathead County in the Western District
2. CP12 includes both the Confederated Salish and Kootenia Tribes of the Flathead Reservation and Blackfeet Reservation in the Western District which allows for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
3. CP12 maintains continuity with Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties by keeping them whole.
4. CP 12 only splits 1 county so that makes sense.
5. My feeling and opinion is strong against CP11 as it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
6. Without doubt, CP11 is NOT in the best interest of Montanans. Therefore I cannot, in good faith, support it.
7. CP13 splits too many counties and will ultimately create a nightmare.
8. CP12 keeps Lewis and Clark County as a whole which makes perfect sense.

Respectfully,

Stacey Gasta
40 Westover Gulch Rd. #63
Jefferson City, MT 59638

From: [Tom Gasta](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing Maps
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:53:17 AM

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for your consideration regarding my opinion. I sincerely feel my reasons are both sound and logical.

1. CP12 keeps Flathead County in the Western District
2. CP12 includes both the Confederated Salish and Kootenia Tribes of the Flathead Reservation and Blackfeet Reservation in the Western District which allows for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
3. CP12 maintains continuity with Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties by keeping them whole.
4. CP 12 only splits 1 county so that makes sense.
5. My feeling and opinion is strong against CP11 as it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
6. Without doubt, CP11 is NOT in the best interest of Montanans. Therefore I cannot, in good faith, support it.
7. CP13 splits too many counties and will ultimately create a nightmare.
8. CP12 keeps Lewis and Clark County as a whole which makes perfect sense.

Respectfully,

Tom Gasta

Mac Pass Radio, LLC
40 Westover Gulch Rd
PO Box 63
Jefferson City, MT 59638
406-459-3625
t.gasta@macpassradio.com
<http://www.macpassradio.com> [macpassradio.com]
<http://www.wr7hln.org> [wr7hln.org]

From: [Megan Gontz](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:40:15 PM

I just wanted to add my support for Map CP12.

Thank you,
Megan Gontz

From: [Bruce Haroldson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:07:54 PM

I support Map 11 which will promote competitive races for congress. Other considerations and requirements for redistributing are met with this map.

Please do not place Lewis and Clark county in the eastern district as this represents gerrymandering at its finest.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bruce Haroldson
414 Eddy
Missoula, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mindy Harwood
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:53:16 AM

From: Mindy Harwood harwoodmt@hotmail.com
Residence: Polson, Mt.

Message:

In Montana it is clear that there is a Republican majority. Although I have disagreed with some of their politics, I also have found agreement with some of their views in the past. We used to be able to find common ground and agreement. Not so anymore, not for several years. It is alarming to see the lack of concern for discussion of dissenting views and a basic bullying of people who express their opinions at this time. Democrats are in the minority, but they still number more than 400,000 in this state, and their opinions should be considered. At present some in the GOP in our state is showing their character when in power, and it is alarming. Just yesterday a Republican lawyer joked about shooting the superintendent of Big Sky high school if he kept the mask mandate in place. The state superintendent of schools, a key speaker, took no offense to his "joke." In our present environment, none of this should go unchallenged. But it will if Democrats are "muted" as they sometimes have been in the legislature when on zoom meetings chaired by Republicans. The state's Attorney General has abused his power of office in the recent event at St. Peter's hospital, as well. Our own paper in my home town is afraid to report on school closures or covid in our community, it appears, due to fear of losing readership in a Republican county. If the Democratic map prevails, the western side would still be a majority Republican. But the balance of power would strengthen voices and cause civility and discussion to occur. Bullying and intimidation should not be the rule if the voices of all Montanans count.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elizabeth Hogenson
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:44:28 AM

From: Elizabeth Hogenson dlhogenson@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:
Please adopt Map CP 12.

This map keeps Flathead in the Western district where it belongs. CP 12 also keeps the Lewis and Clark County whole—and this is important as Lewis and Clark is the seat of our state government. Furthermore, CP 12 keeps Flathead and Gallatin counties whole. Both districts are even in population, and the districts are as contiguous and compact as possible while keeping counties intact.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

October 13, 2021

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-17

Dear Presiding Officer and Commissioners,

Thank you for soliciting responses from citizens in regard to the options for dividing Montana into two congressional districts.

I was encouraged to read the Mandatory Criteria for Congressional Districts. The criteria were well considered and appropriate. In light of those, I'm most impressed with the map labeled CP-2. It best reflects thoughtful attention to the criteria. For instance:

-CP-2 divides the state into closely equal populations.

-CP-2 keeps intact existing jurisdictional boundaries, i.e. counties, reservations. No split cities. No split counties. Those kinds of divisions are frustrating for the citizens affected and do not feel legitimate.

-CP-2 acknowledges communities of interest.

-CP-2 is compact and contiguous with an easily understood logic.

-CP-2 provides for the western district to be competitive between parties, which leads to a more robust discussion and debate of issues facing the state and the country. That is healthy for our state and country's democracy.

To the extent your final decision is seen as fair and objective, you will earn the respect and appreciation of Montanans for the coming decade. For the reasons outlined above, I believe CP-2 will best accomplish that.

Thank you for your attention.



Mary Holt
Helena, MT
holtsz@charter.net

From: [James A. Humphrey](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Cc: [James A. Humphrey](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New Congressional Districts
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 7:53:50 AM

Dear Commissioners:

I have been following the proposals regarding creation of two new Congressional Districts for Montana. After examining the four current proposals, maps (10, 11, 12, 13), I definitely favor proposal 11 because –better than other proposals—it avoids dividing up counties and communities of interest, and because it does the best job of creating two competitive districts. Everyone is tired of excessive partisanship and wants Montanans with conflicting viewpoints to work together.

Putting aside differences and working together is the Montana way. Two competitive Congressional districts is supportive of the Montana way.

Jim Humphrey
Great Falls, MT

From: [Karla Johnson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] VOTE YES CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:12:15 PM

To Whom it May concern,
I have been trying all afternoon to comment on the website.
CP-1 was the best, but I chose CP-12.
It seems the most fair and least gerrymandering.
Thank you
Mitch Johnson
58 Stillwater Dr
Absarokee, MT 59001
email: karlaj@nemont.net
406-855-3689

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Liane Johnson
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 7:51:21 AM

From: Liane Johnson lsjohn58@protonmail.com
Residence: Cut Bank, MT

Message:

The continental divide needs to be a dividing point for the districts. Yet no one, but those who have or will represent seems to understand the importance of this division. It marks all the differences in the state and it eliminates an often-times impossible travel problem. If the Commission would focus on proper boundaries instead of political parties it would be very evident as the point of division. There is not a true need to worry about the representation of Montana's Indian people; after all, we are just people like the rest of you. We will be properly represented by the elected U. S. Representative, not the Commission.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Michael W Johnson
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:57:14 PM

From: Michael W Johnson mike.w.johnson111@gmail.com
Residence: Clancy, Montana

Message:

I support maps 11 and 13 as they provide 1 competitive district. I strongly encourage using competitive criteria in your selection as it forces candidates to be more moderate in their stances in order to appeal to a broader constituency. Gerrymandering is one of the biggest threats to our democracy.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: karlaj@nemont.net
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] VOTE YES FOR CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:11:35 PM

To Whom it May concern,
I have been trying all afternoon to comment on the website.
CP-1 was the best, but I chose CP-12.
It seems the most fair and least gerrymandering.
Thank you
Mitch Johnson
58 Stillwater Dr
Absarokee, MT 59001
email: karlaj@nemont.net
406-855-3689

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David Jones
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:41:17 AM

From: David Jones david2jpix@yahoo.com
Residence: Roundup Montana

Message:

I support the CP 12 redistricting map. It better represent the people of Montana

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sandra J Jones
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:38:30 AM

From: Sandra J Jones dsfossils61@yahoo.com
Residence: Roundup Montana

Message:

I support the CP12 redistricting map. I believe that it to the best to serve and represent all of the constituents of the State of Montana

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Nancy Keenan](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New congressional district
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:50:44 AM

Dear Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing Montanan's the opportunity to comment on the new congressional district lines.

First, let me say that I OPPOSE CP12 for the following reasons:

*Republicans won every single statewide election in both of these districts in 2020. It was a watershed year as republicans won 8 of the 8 statewide elections that cycle. The basic definition of fair and competitive is not met with the CP12 map and flies in the face of the goals the Commission unanimously adopted.

*CP12 creates a district that the republicans have won statewide elections over 75% of the time and 100% of the elections over the past eight years. Again, this does not meet the definition of competitiveness and clearly favors the republican party which blatantly violates the Commissions goals.

*As Montana has grown in population, people travel even more between communities for work. CP12 separates Butte from Jefferson county and it is illogical to separate these two communities.

*As a union member, it appears that CP12 intentionally looks to bust union communities. Separating Butte, Anaconda, Helen and Deer Lodge who have worked to maintain a strong union presence in their communities and ensure more equitable workplace standards is not only wrong but down right un-American! Having been born and raised in Anaconda, my opportunities for success were built on the values of hard work, union wages and family. CP12 is a blatant attack on unions and their positive effective on Montana families.

*CP12 splits Park and Gallatin counties. The community of Livingston is a bedroom community of Bozeman and a vital economic and social partner in that region. The people of Livingston would be an "outlier" between the two congressional districts likely to be ignored by both. If there is a true intent to have both rural and urban residents having a say in choosing their

congressional member, then this configuration fails the test.

* Last but not least, CP12 would ensure that rural residents would never really have a voice in any Congressional district. By equally splitting our largest urban communities between the two districts, rural residents' opinions and voices would be outgunned by the urban area.

It appears that CP13 the only real competitive, constitutional option. It meets all of the Commissions agreed upon criteria and will withstand a lawsuit challenge. Although both CP11 and CP13 are more competitive, CP13 is the clear preference.

I trust that the Commission will truly make the new congressional district both fair and competitive. It's what we Montanan's deserve and expect. Thank you for your work as I know this has been a often difficult and cumbersome process.

Respectfully,
Nancy Keenan
3040 River Bend
Bonner, MT 59823

From: [Virginia Kelly](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP 12 is the better choice
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:20:26 PM

I have reviewed maps C10, C11, C12 and C13.

CP12 does the best job of these four maps of not splitting largely populated counties (Gallatin or Flathead) or splitting communities such as Bozeman. Flathead County belongs in the western district.

Thank you for your work on this committee.

Virginia Kelly
2325 Whitetail Road
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [kristeen keup](mailto:kristeen.keup)
To: Districting; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Map 13 Compact Competitive Contiguous
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:48:13 PM

Please:

Keep your word.

Follow your own guidelines.

LISTEN to us.

Vote for 13.

Stop changing the parameters.

I hope the commission will keep your 3 C's: compact, contiguous and competitive, foremost in your minds when casting a final, FAIR vote for our Montana opportunity for a representative new congressional district.

On Mon, Nov 1, 2021 at 12:01 PM kristeen keup <kristeen.keup@fulbrightmail.org> wrote:

As a born and raised Montanan and retired Montana educator, I feel that it is critical to represent all of Montana in a fair and non-partisan manner. Montanans deserve to have a say and to have their unique voices heard.

I urge this commission to support Plan 13.

Plan 13 meets all three of your requirements for new districting:

1. contiguous, 2. compact, and most importantly, 3. competitive.

Competitive districts are necessary. When no party has a distinct advantage, each must answer to the other for their actions, providing balanced representation of all Montanans.

Competitive districts also require more general election voter contact to **listen** to voters. To truly create and maintain a government of the people, by the people and for the people, Montanans require this vital level of accountability.

Candidates who "win" a general election not by what they stand FOR, but by adding an R or D behind their name on the ballot, is not true representation, but politics. When gerrymandered districts heavily

favor one party over the other, candidates do not have to work as hard to earn their constituents' trust; thus, they are not as likely to be held accountable for the votes they may or may not take while "representing" us. To truly represent us, decisions **MUST** be based on what is best for the people, not the candidate.

I hope the commission will keep your 3 C's: compact, contiguous and competitive, foremost in your minds when casting a final, **FAIR** vote for our Montana opportunity for a representative new congressional district.

Peace. Understanding. Light.

Kristeen M. Keup
Billings MT

From: [CHERYL KIPPEN](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support Map CP12
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:24:52 AM

I support Map CP12 because:

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district
- it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole
- it only splits 1 county
- I don't like cp11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties
- keep Lewis and Clark county whole

Sent from my iPad

From: aknutson@sagepointadvisor.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Split Counties in Legilative Districts
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:25:41 AM

I was observing the Missoula County Elections Team processing ballots and assisting voters yesterday. There were a fairly large number of voters that arrived at the election center to cast their votes. In my opinion the staff of the election center was striving hard to assist voters and make the process work for local Montana Citizens.

I cannot imagine the challenges a County Election Center would face if a county was split between congressional districts. I can see more funding would be required to hire more personnel to sort out "who's on first, who's on second"; Election center employees would need to be educated as to which walk-in voters qualify for a related congressional district; and I could see that construction of ballots to represent two districts would require more thought to comply with Montana Statutes.

A tour of a well run election center should have educated the partisan players to RESOLVE that any Montana county Should Not be split for the sake of gerrymandering US congressional districts. I would hope that the partisan reps on your commission would have done that before serving. If not, the Montana party leadership of both parties failed miserably with the commission selection process.

I support a Map that does not split Montana counties into separate Congressional Districts.

Thanks for allowing an input.

Andrew C Knutson, Cdr, Usn ret

From: aknutson@sagepointadvisor.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] redistricting
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:08:04 PM

The chair of this commission should be complemented in her effort to mediate a fair/balanced solution for Montana voters and ensuring the differing parties concerned stay within Montana statutes and not gerrymander the districts.

Looks like CP12 ought to be satisfactory meeting Montana needs.

The chair's status as a professional mediator should rise if she can achieve a fair solution for Montana voters.

Best,

Andrew C Knutson, Cdr Usn ret

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Lori Kronebusch
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:44:44 PM

From: Lori Kronebusch tedandlori@3rivers.net
Residence: Conrad

Message:

I am in favor of Map 12. I feel it is a fair division of our state with equal numbers in each part, It keeps the tribal area around the Flathead in one "parcel". Pondera County is the only county that is split in Map 12, but I feel it would be beneficial as we would be exposed to candidates running for both districts.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jeffrey C. Lasch
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:32:21 PM

From: Jeffrey C. Lasch laschmt@bresnan.net
Residence: Great Falls, Mt. 59404

Message:

I favor CP 12 because it only splits one County, unlike CP 13. CP 12 is a competitive map, that follows all the mandatory criteria. CP 13 splits too many counties.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Monika Lawrence
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:17:31 AM

From: Monika Lawrence monikal.inbox@gmail.com
Residence: Hamilton, MT

Message:

I implore the Commission to follow their own criteria and goals by adopting a map with at least one competitive district that doesn't unduly favor either political party. Competitiveness can be measured by Cook PVI scores, an industry standard. Both Republicans and Democrats agree that any newly drawn district between D+5 and R+5 is competitive.

I oppose maps CP10 and CP12, which have Cook PVI scores outside of the range of competitiveness. CP 10 has a Cook PVI score of R+7 and CP 12 has a Cook PVI score of R+6.5.

I support maps CP11 and CP13, which have scores of R+5 and R+4.59, respectively.

Thank you.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Roger Lawrence
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:19:09 AM

From: Roger Lawrence rogerl.inbox@gmail.com
Residence: Hamilton, MT

Message:

I implore the Commission to follow their own criteria and goals by adopting a map with at least one competitive district that doesn't unduly favor either political party. Competitiveness can be measured by Cook PVI scores, an industry standard. Both Republicans and Democrats agree that any newly drawn district between D+5 and R+5 is competitive.

I oppose maps CP10 and CP12, which have Cook PVI scores outside of the range of competitiveness. CP 10 has a Cook PVI score of R+7 and CP 12 has a Cook PVI score of R+6.5.

I support maps CP11 and CP13, which have scores of R+5 and R+4.59, respectively.

Thank you.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [edward.leblanc](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 12:19:13 PM

I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District, in keeping with its geographic location
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole

I do not support CP11 because:

- it puts most of Flathead county in the east, where it is not located.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties

Sincerely,
Edward F. LeBlanc

From: [Vickie Le Blanc](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-22
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:52:26 PM

This is after the fact, but I hope you will still accept. As you can see from the date and time, this was submitted before the deadline. However, your website was not working properly and neither email nor my website form with comments did not go through.

Thank you.

Vickie Le Blanc

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Vickie Le Blanc** <liondogzleblanc@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Nov 2, 2021, 4:24 PM
Subject: Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-22
To: <Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov>, <Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov>, <Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov>, <Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov>, <Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov>

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration.

Vickie Le Blanc
Tel. (562) 480-7975
Email: liondogzleblanc@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rabecca Lindal
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:49:15 AM

From: Rabecca Lindal rlindal@yahoo.com
Residence: HELENA

Message:

I support Map CP12 because:

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district
- it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole
- it only splits 1 county
- I don't like cp11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties
- keep Lewis and Clark county whole

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Kat Welch Lui](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal 11
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 7:38:07 AM

Dear Districting Commission,
I am writing to express my support for Proposal 11 which creates a competitive district for Montana.

I oppose CP 12 & 13 which would manipulate the boundaries of our state.

Thank you,
Katherine W Lui
875 Wyoming St
Missoula

From: [James Lyon](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Cp12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:56:31 PM

I support CP12 map. Seems like a better and common sense approach.

Jim Lyon

4812 Christian drive

Missoula Montana. 59803

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From: [Richard Magoffin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map-Support CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:04:33 PM

Chair and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because 1) It keeps Flathead County in the Western District 2) It includes both the CSKT & Blackfoot Reservations in the Western District allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new Western District 3) It keeps Lewis & Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole 4) It only splits 1 county.

Thank you,
Richard L Magoffin
PO Box 1381 - 417 1/2 Grove Street
Thompson Falls, Montana
(406)499-2534
rich1_magoffin@hotmail.com

From: [mary_maj](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Redistricting
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:51:13 AM
Attachments: [11.3.21 Redistricting Maps Comments.docx](#)

My comments - Mary Maj, Gallatin Co resident

November 3, 2021

Montana Legislature
Helena, MT.
Ref: Redistricting Maps

As a resident of Gallatin County and Montana since 1973 I am submitting my comments to the redistricting maps you are creating. Of the four maps still under consideration: Maps 10, 11, 12, and 13, **I am supportive of Map 11 which keeps Gallatin County together**. Map 13 is unacceptable as it for no logical or fair reason divides Gallatin County. Map 13 is no consensus!

I am opposed to Map 13 for these reasons –

- It intentionally draws both districts to heavily favor the Republican party which violates this Commission's goal of not unduly favoring a political party. Republicans won every single statewide election in both these districts in the most recent election. There were 8 statewide races in 2020 and Republicans won all of them in both districts. Tell me how this plan meets the basic definition of `competitiveness` that this Commission unanimously adopted as a goal.
- This plan slices Park County off from Gallatin. Livingston and other Park County communities are an integral part of the greater Gallatin regional economy and community.
- Separating Helena union workers from their colleagues in Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge isn't just bad policy. It's immoral.
- This plan separates Butte from Jefferson County. Jefferson County people live, work, and invest in Butte every single day, and it makes no sense at all to separate the two communities.
- This plan ensures that rural voices can never carry the day in any Congressional district. Our largest urban areas are equally split between the two districts, meaning that rural Montanans can never elect a Congress person of their choice. County splits should respect communities of interest and large counties have distinct communities of interest within them that can be split more logically and ensure real representation for communities divided within a county.

Your responsibility is to create districts that ensure the citizens of this state can be fairly and equitably represented through their voice and vote. Time to consider this as your moral responsibility and not just feathering your and your party's future elections.

Mary Maj
3403 S. 21S. Ave
Bozeman, MT 59718

From: [Cynthia Marble](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MAPS INPUT--LIKE CP 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:15:36 PM

I appreciate that CP 12 map divides only one county. Good to have in-tact counties during elections. Less challenges on the county level administering the elections and it maintains county unity. Otherwise the numbers look evenly divided. I like CP 12.

My comment is late because the website was down and wouldn't accept my comment earlier.

Thanks,

Cynthia Marble

7 Mountain View Rd,

Red Lodge, MT 59068

406 425-1226

From: [Noah Marion](#)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Open letter for the Districting and Apportionment Commission's Nov. 4th hearing
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:13:49 PM
Attachments: [Letter in Favor of Map 11.pdf](#)

Commissioners and Commission staff,

Thank you for once again taking public comment on proposed maps CP 10, 11, 12, and 13. Please see the attached open letter signed by 414 Montanans, indicating **support for map 11** and **opposition for maps 10, 12, and 13**.

These 414 members and supporters have been closely following this process and have submitted comments in favor of map 11 before your hearing on Oct. 30th. This letter is meant to reaffirm that support. Please take this letter and all previous comments into account when making your decision on Nov. 4th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your efforts throughout this process.
Noah Marion

To the members of Montana's Redistricting and Apportionment Committee:

We, the undersigned, **request that the Committee advance Map 11**, which is the only map under consideration that meets all the criteria and goals that the Commission has unanimously approved.

Map 11:

- Does not unduly favor a political party.
- Minimizes splitting of towns and counties.
- Considers communities of interest.
- Considers competitiveness.

Map 11 succeeds in not unduly favoring a political party. It splits only one county and does so in a way that does not split any communities or towns. It keeps all federal reservations whole. It keeps both Gallatin and Lewis and Clark counties in the Western District, in alignment with their cultural and economic interests.

Map 10 fails to meet these same criteria. It unduly favors a political party and fails to consider competitiveness by creating zero competitive districts. It also fails to minimize the splitting of towns and counties by dividing the communities of Gallatin Gateway, Big Sky, and the growing suburbs of Bozeman. Map 10 fails to adequately consider communities of interest, as it puts Lewis and Clark County in the Eastern District, ignoring both current and historic ties that Lewis and Clark County has with Western Montana, and Pondera County in the Western District, splitting it away from similar agricultural counties in the Eastern District.

Map 12 fails to meet the criteria of not unduly favoring a political party and considering communities of interest. It puts Lewis and Clark County in the Eastern District, ignoring current and historic ties between Lewis and Clark County and Western Montana. Likewise, it puts much of Pondera County in the Western District, despite its clear historic and cultural connection to other agricultural counties in Eastern Montana.

Map 13 fails to meet the criteria of minimizing the splitting of towns and counties. It splits three counties and does so in such a way that the growing suburbs of Helena and Bozeman are split from the rest of their respective cities.

Further, the last-minute introduction of Maps 12 and 13, despite overwhelming public support for Map 11, gives Montanans little time to comment and undermines the public's ability to participate meaningfully in the redistricting process.

We respectfully request that the Commission abide by its unanimously agreed-upon criteria and goals and select Map 11 as the final Congressional Map.

Dr.	Alexandra	Adams	Bozeman
Mr.	peter	Aengst	Bozeman
	Gwendolyn	Aldrich	Helena
Ms.	Sarah	Anderson	Bozeman
Mr.	Zach	Angstead	Great Falls
Dr.	Christian	Appel	Bozeman
	Daniel	Armstrong	Bozeman
Mr.	Thomas	Arvidson	Missoula
Mrs.	Elizabeth	Avila	Ronan
Mr.	DOUGLAS	BROADIE	Mcallister

Mr.	Orville	Bach	Bozeman
Ms.	Janine	Baker	Bozeman
Mr.	Joe	Baker	Missoula
Ms.	Lisa	Baker	Bozeman
Ms.	Anne	Banks	Bozeman
Mr.	Steven	Barkley	Bozeman
Ms.	April	Barnes	Manhattan
Mr.	Douglas	Bartholomew	Bozeman
Ms.	Sally	Baskett	Dixon
Ms.	Kara	Basko	Kalispell
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Ms.	Barbara	Belt	Helena
Mr.	Peter	Bennett	Bozeman
Mr.	Nicholas	Benoit	Bozeman
Ms.	Avery	Berg	Bozeman
Mr.	Troy	Bertelsen	Bozeman
Ms.	Jan	Bertelsen- James	Eureka
Ms.	Aubrey	Bertram	Billings
Mr.	Charles	Bertsch	Polson
Mr.	Christian	Black	Bozeman
Mr.	Alex	Blackmer	Helena
Ms.	Sherry	Bloker	Missoula
Dr.	MArshall	Bloom	Hamilton
Ms.	Blair	Bodie	Bozeman
Ms.	Lorinda	Bollwitt	Missoula
Mr.	Lee	Boman	Missoula
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Dr.	Kayje	Booker	Missoula

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Ms.	Wendy	Bowlin	Missoula
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Mr.	John	Brock	Missoula
Mr.	Ed	Brown	Missoula
	Jesse	Brown	Bozeman
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Ms.	Beverly	Brumbaugh	Trout Creek
	Bob	Bukantis	Helena
Mr.	John	Bundy	Hamilton
Mr.	Edgar	Butler	Missoula
Ms.	Virginia	Caplette	Bozeman
Mr.	Robert	Capriccio	Missoula
	Pete	Cardinal	Wolf Creek
	Sandee	Cardinal	Wolf Creek
Ms.	Deborah	Carter-Drain	Absarokee
Ms.	Donna	Caruso-Hirst	Valier
Mrs.	Casey	Cassidy	Bozeman
	Janene		

--



NOAH MARION (he/his)
 State Policy Director
 Wild Montana

406.624.9622
 nmarion@wildmontana.org

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Dr.	Mark	Hanson	Missoula
	Suzette	Harkin	Bozeman
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Drs.	Valerie	Hedquist	Missoula
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	Barbara	Holliday	Helena
	Olivia	Hollis	Missoula
Ms.	Sharon	Hubbell	Helena
Mr.	Jeffery	Hunnes	Billings
Ms.	Patricia	Hunt	Bozeman
Ms.	Emmy	Ibison	Florence

Mr.	Charles	Janson	Huson
Dr.	Roger	Jenkins	Bozeman
Ms.	Patricia	Jensen	Bozeman
Ms.	Nicki	Jimenez	Bozeman
Ms.	Karen	Johnson	Missoula
Mr.	Gary	Jones	Bozeman
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	Mark	Jungerman	Whitefish
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Ms.	Mary	Kelly	Missoula
	Margaret	Kemner	Bozeman
	Linda	Kenoyer	Livingston
Ms.	Robin	Kent	Missoula
Ms.	Kathy	Kinzfogl	Bigfork
Mrs.	Lynn	Kirtley	Bozeman
	Jill	Kolb	Butte
	Angela	Kray	Bozeman
	Robert	Kray	Bozeman
Ms.	Nancy	Krekeler	Red Lodge
Mr.	Karen	Larsen	Whitefish
Mr.	John	Larson	Kalispell
Mr.	Cameron	Law	Kalispell
	Bobb	Lawrence	Helena
	Charline	Lawrence	Helena
Mr.	Nick	Lawyer	Plains
Ms.	Megan	Leach	Libby
Mrs.	Cedar	League	Helena
Mrs.	Dean	Leary	Sheridan
Mrs.	Jerilyn	Lessley	Belgrade
	Shelley	Liknes	Great Falls
Mr.	Bert	Lindler	Missoula

Dr.	Stephanie	Lindsay	Toston
Ms.	Thomas	Literski	Helena
Mr.	Bret	Luedke	Whitefish
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Mr.	Tim	Lynch	Helena
Mr.	Richard	Lyon	Bozeman
	Mary	M	Belgrade
	MARY	MCCARTHY	Helena
Mr.	BRENT	MORROW	Bigfork
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	Jayne	Maginot	Bozeman
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Mr.	Dean	Martin	Lewistown
Mrs.	Anne	Martinez	Great Falls
Ms.	Janet	Maul-Smith	Corvallis
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Mr.	Ned	Maxson	Bozeman
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	Julieann	McGarry	Bozeman
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Ms.	Rebecca	McLaughlin	Helena
Ms.	Kay	McOmber	Helena
Mr.	Kyle	Meakins	Livingston
	Tim	Mehrens	Helena
Mr.	Errol	Meidinger	Clinton
Mrs.	Pam	Meissner	Billings
	Joshua	Meyer	Bozeman

Mr.	Seth	Meyer	Bozeman
Mrs.	Shelly	Meyer	Missoula
	Christine	Michaels	Trout Creek
Ms.	Molly	Miller	Whitefish
Mrs.	Ashea	Mills	Gardiner
Ms.	Cecilia	Mink	Whitefish
Dr.	Twila	Moon	Billings
K	Scott	Morgan	Missoula
Ms.	Mary	Morrison	Missoula
Ms.	Lisa	Mueller	Three Forks
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Mr.	Rick	Mulliganl	Darby
Ms.	Maddy	Munson	Bozeman
	Patrick	Murtagh	Billings
	Joseph	Nangle	Livingston
Mrs.	Ruth	Neff	Whitefish
Dr.	Samuel	Neff	Whitefish
	Stuart	Nelson	Livingston
Mr.	Garth	Neuffer	Bozeman
Ms.	Kristin	Neva	Billings
Mr.	Alex	Newby	Bozeman
Mr.	Michael	Ober	Kalispell
Mr.	Taylor	Orr	Stevensville
	Judith	Palmer	Columbia Falls
	Marilyn	Palmer	Bozeman
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Mr.	Bill	Parker	Lame Deer
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Mr.	David	Patenaude	Belgrade

Mr.	Anthony	Pavkovich	Mc Leod
	Liese	Pessl	Bozeman
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Ms.	Debo	Powers	
	Karen	Pratt	Seeley Lake
Mr.	John	Preston	Bozeman
Mr.	James	Prime	Missoula
Ms.	Michele	Puiggari	Missoula
	Matthew	Purcell	Ennis
Ms.	Jennifer	Read	Bozeman
	Maureen	Redfield	Lolo
Mr.	John	Reeves	Butte
Ms.	Connie	Rhoads	Bozeman
Mr.	Douglas	Rhodes	Whitefish
	Laurel	Rhpdes	Livingston
Ms.	Gail	Richardson	Bozeman
Dr.	Mark	Roberts	Superior
Mrs.	Sherri	Roberts	Helena
	Amy	Robinson	Columbia Falls
Mr.	Phil	Robison	Helena
Mr.	David	Rockwell	Dixon
Mrs.	Jan	Roddy	Missoula
Mr.	Thomas	Romine	Billings

Ms.	Lisa	Ronald	Missoula
Mr.	Bob	Ronan	East Helena
Mr.	Curtis	Rosman	Charlo
Mr.	Tom	Ross	Gallatin Gateway
Mr.	Beth	Rothermel	Missoula
Ms.	Christine	Ryan	Missoula
Mr.	Robert	Saint-Louis	Polson
Mrs.	Erica	Sandiland	Missoula
Dr.	Michael	Schaub	Bozeman
	Kathy	Schiffman	Helena
Mrs.	Kimberly	Schlenker	Bozeman
	Sue	Schmidt	Darby
	Bethany	Schoessow	Bozeman
	Forrest	Schoessow	Bozeman
	Karen	Schoonover	Great Falls
Mrs.	Christine	Schultz	Hamilton
	Darien	Scott	Helena
Mr.	Eric	Scranton	Bozeman
Mr.	Bob	Seibert	Bozeman
Mrs.	Kendra	Selser	Helena
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Ms.	Jane	Senter	Bigfork
Mr.	Micah	Sewell	Missoula
	Julia	Shaida	Bozeman
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Ms.	Sheila	Shapiro	Whitefish
Mrs.	Karla	Sheehan	Belgrade
	Bonnie	Sheehey	Bozeman
Mr.	Mark	Sheets	Thompson Falls
	Paul	Shefelbine	Butte

Mr.	Roger	Sherman	Whitefish
Ms.	Donna	Shull	Helena
Mr.	Jeff	Sillick	Helena
Mrs.	Patricia	Simmons	Bozeman
	Karen	Simpson	Helena
	Michael	Sinclair	Bozeman
Ms.	Theresa	Sinopoli	Belgrade
	Elisabeth	Sirr	Bozeman
Mr.	Robert	Smith	Bigfork
Mr.	Ira	Smotherman	Bozeman
			J
			r
Dr.	Reggie	Spaulding	Missoula
Mrs.	June	Sprout	Great Falls
Mr.	David	Steinmuller	Bozeman
Ms.	Patti	Steinmuller	Bozeman
Mrs.	Karen	Stevenson	Clancy
Mr.	Michael	Stevenson	Clancy
Mr.	Jeff	Stickney	Missoula
Ms.	Rosemary	Stoudt	Missoula
Mrs.	Bonnie	Streeter	Whitefish
	Bob	Stringer	Helena
	Peggy	Stringer	Helena
Ms.	Judith	Strom	Whitehall
Ms.	Janis	Strout	Bozeman
Mr.	Andrew	Sullivan	Missoula
Mr.	Roger	Sullivan	Kalispell
	Kyle	Surratt	
Mr.	Arrick	Swanson	West Yellowstone
Ms.	Heather	Swanson	Bozeman

Mrs.	Lorie	Swanson	West Yellowstone
Ms.	Betsy	Swartz	Bozeman
Ms.	Emma	Swartz	Missoula
Mr.	Chuck	Swenson	Bozeman
Ms.	Janet	Tatz	Helena
Mr.	Allen	Tays	Whitefish
Ms.	Mary	Thomas	Hamilton
	Catherine	Thompson	Helena
	Marion	Thompson	Helena
	Ronda	Thunder	Bozeman
Mr.	John	Todd	Bozeman
Sister	Wilma	Toth	Bozeman
Ms.	Sara	Toubman	Helena
	Lisa	Trankley	Bozeman
Ms.	Amy	Trebella	Bozeman
Mr.	Matthew	Trebella	Bozeman
Ms.	Frances	Tucker	Missoula
	Jennifer	Turchin	Helena
Mr.	David	Tyler	Belgrade
Dr.	Barbara	Tylka	Bozeman
Ms.	Katherine	Vargas	Bozeman
Ms.	Shannon	Walden	Helena
	Mary	Warthen	Hot Springs
	Arthur	Weatherwax	Missoula
Ms.	Jill	Weiser	Kalispell
	Jean	Weiskotten	Whitefish
Mr.	Joel	Weltzien	Dillon
Dr.	Oliver	Weltzien	Dillon
	Nicolet	Whearty	Helena
Mrs.	Jane	Whezel	Alberton

Mr.	Gordon	Whirry	Great Falls
Ms.	Erin	White	Missoula
Dr.	Regan	Whitworth	Missoula
Ms.	Carolyn	Widman	Bozeman
Mr.	Gary	Wiens	Helena
Ms.	Beth	Wilson	Missoula
	Bob	Wilson	Missoula
Mr.	Harold	Wing	Missoula
	Ellen	Winter	Livingston
Mrs.	Jennifer	Wirth	Bozeman
	Keith	Wood	Helena
	Nancy	Wood	Helena
Ms.	Sarah	Wood	Missoula
Ms.	Tina	Zenzola	Bigfork
Ms.	Erin	Denton	Livingston
Ms.	gayle	gregovich	Great Falls
Mr.	Henry	hudson	Clancy
	elizabeth	marum	Belgrade
Mr.	stephan	schoenfield	Stevensville
Mr.	paul	shefelbine	Butte
Mr.	william	steadman	Bozeman
Dr.	Fredrica	van Berkum	Huson
	Lester	vargas	Bozeman
The Very Reverend Raymond Brown			Helena

From: [Novelene Martin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting Comment
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 7:47:39 AM

I would like to voice my support for the proposed district map 13. Please adopt this map as the best balance for the diverse citizenry of Montana. This map also allows the voters of Lewis and Clark County to have a real choice.

Thank you,
Novelene Martin

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Valerie Martin
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:42:51 AM

From: Valerie Martin mvmartin@bresnan.net
Residence: Great Falls

Message:

I support Map CP12. I do so because it keeps Flathead County in the Western District. It will include both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District which gives the tribes a stronger voice. It also keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead, and Gallatin counties whole.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elizabeth Marum
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:34:40 AM

From: Elizabeth Marum emarum3@gmail.com
Residence: Belgrade MT

Message:

Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,

Each time I write, I hope I thank you enough for your service to the people of Montana. These are words and you get a lot of them, so I repeat, THANK YOU!

I serve on several planning boards in Belgrade and Gallatin County and am part of a training on Affordable Housing that is a collaboration of Gallatin County, the Cities of Belgrade, Bozeman, Big Sky HRDC and OneValley Community Foundation. We are a county that works together and I hope you will affirm those efforts by approving Map 11. That allows us to further support and cooperate with Park County, a county that works, recreates, shops, is workforce trained and educated in Gallatin County.

There is cohesion in Gallatin County that deserves to be encouraged and strengthened —

- We cooperate—The city of Bozeman and Gallatin County are cooperating when they have worked at odds with each other for years. Belgrade and others do, too
- We support law and justice – a bond passed last night will build a new Gallatin County Courthouse. Efforts to do this have failed in three elections over the past 20 yrs.
- We work on Affordable Housing together– A small group of stakeholders is working on local solutions using tools that make sense to alleviate some of our Affordable Housing challenges
- We serve everyone in the county – the Gallatin Valley Food Bank serves Bozeman, Belgrade, Big Sky, Three Forks and MSU at those sites. Its' not an MT1 – MT2 Food Bank.
- Ours is the busiest airport in the state with the call sign BZN, our airport is located in Belgrade. Thousands of people a year are shuttled to Big Sky, Yellowstone National Park (via West Yellowstone and Gardiner) to various vacation destinations in the Rocky Mountains.
- Character and personality of Gallatin County is like the Western District while Flathead County resonates with the Eastern District and Billings.

This commission should keep Gallatin County whole in this process and pair us with Park County. As the fastest growing county, I believe that you want counties fully functional to better serve the interests of the State of Montana. Gallatin is working hard together, while Flathead County seems to be fractured in its efforts. The character and personality of Gallatin County is more like the western district and Flathead resonates with the eastern district and Billings, communities of interest.

Please vote to approve Map 11 to keep Montana strong and moving forward!

Elizabeth Marum

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David A Mihalic
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:15:48 PM

From: David A Mihalic davemihalic@bresnan.net
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

Re: the November 4 meeting – IF the Commission goes on to consider or reconsider OTHER maps (than CPs 10,11,12&13) perhaps you ought to go back to MAP CP-1 – that is starting to look like a potential compromise and better than some of the more recent, twisted alternatives.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elaine J Mitchell
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:02:25 AM

From: Elaine J Mitchell elaine.m@bresnan.net
Residence: Cut Bank

Message:

Please select Map CP 12, It follows the law. It is the most logical, It keeps Flathead County in the Western District and it only splits one county

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jeffery William Morrow
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:48:40 PM

From: Jeffery William Morrow morrowsaddles@hotmail.com
Residence: Niarada, Montana

Message:

My name is Jeff Morrow and I live at 730 Battle Butte Road, Niarada, Montana, which is in the southern tip of Flathead County.

I would like to express my opinion about the Montana redistricting maps to the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission.

I am in favor of the map formerly numbered 11, the one that puts most of Flathead County in the eastern district and keeps Gallatin County intact in the western district, as well as Lewis and Clark County. I think this is the only remaining map that allows at least one competitive district!

Please make the right decision.

Thank you for listening to my opinion,

Jeff Morrow 730 Battle Butte Road, Niarada, MT 59845-9524. 406-261-2699

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Joanne Morrow](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment to MT Districting & Apportionment Commission
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:43:40 PM

My name is Joanne Morrow and I live at 730 Battle Butte Road, Niarada, Montana, which is in the southern tip of Flathead County.

I would like to express my opinion about the Montana redistricting maps to the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission.

I am in favor of the map formerly numbered 11, the one that puts most of Flathead County in the eastern district and keeps Gallatin County intact in the western district, as well as Lewis and Clark County. I think this is the only remaining map that allows at least one competitive district!

Please make the right decision.

Thank you for listening to my opinion,

Joanne Morrow
730 Battle Butte Road
Niarada, MT 59845-9524
406-261-2699

From: [Sandy Neal](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP13
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:45:51 PM

I am a registered voter in Lewis and Clark County and I am firmly in favor of CP13.

Sandy L. Neal
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Katherine Orr](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Set the Redistricting process on a Correct Course
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:59:20 AM

Greetings. I STRONGLY support Dem CP11 or CP13 where candidates from either party can win. GOP proposal 12 just dilutes the competitiveness so that the GOP gets more votes baked into the process. Classic unfairness built in with Proposal 12. Let's just let people vote without suppressing them or diluting them fair and square. Katherine Orr

From: [Karlene Khor](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal 12 - first time commenter
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:46:04 PM

Proposal 12 favors the Republican Party and therefore does not meet the goal of competition (competitiveness) which this Committee unanimously adopted as a goal. It really sadden me to see Proposal 12 as it reduces our state to some gerrymandered districting formula that just does not reflect our Montana values. We are not Ohio or New Jersey - we are Montana. This is my first comment on this subject and I am only doing so as Proposal 12 smell of unfairness and ugly partisanship just isn't who we are. Splitting a small rural county, isolating the great town of Livingston ...Proposal 12 is just fundamentally a flawed plan. Please do not implement Proposal 12. We are bigger than this and can always be fair and equitable to our citizens. Proposal 12 will leave too many voiceless and their interests ignored. I work so will not be able to zoom your meeting. Thank you. Karlene Osorio-Khor 229 7th Street West Kalispell Montana 59901

From: [Karlene Khor](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Proposal 12 - first time commenter
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 8:12:47 AM

Per my email below, I neglected to state proposal 13 seems to follow a more traditional Montana way of districting. I prefer it as it is a field filled with diversity and fairness and looks like our historic past. My apologies for this omission but I am new to this kind of involvement in government but am so appreciative of the opportunity to comment.

On Tue, Nov 2, 2021 at 8:45 PM Karlene Khor <madamekarkosa@gmail.com> wrote:

Proposal 12 favors the Republican Party and therefore does not meet the goal of competition (competitiveness) which this Committee unanimously adopted as a goal. It really sadden me to see Proposal 12 as it reduces our state to some gerrymandered districting formula that just does not reflect our Montana values. We are not Ohio or New Jersey - we are Montana. This is my first comment on this subject and I am only doing so as Proposal 12 smell of unfairness and ugly partisanship just isn't who we are. Splitting a small rural county, isolating the great town of Livingston ...Proposal 12 is just fundamentally a flawed plan. Please do not implement Proposal 12. We are bigger than this and can always be fair and equitable to our citizens. Proposal 12 will leave too many voiceless and their interests ignored. I work so will not be able to zoom your meeting. Thank you. Karlene Osorio-Khor
229 7th Street West Kalispell Montana 59901

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patti Pastor
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:43:13 AM

From: Patti Pastor josefwpastor@hotmail.com
Residence: Bigfork, MT 59911

Message:

I previously submitted my support for map 11 as a business owner in the hospitality industry as well as convenience store. We have been consistently disenfranchised by a republican administration that does not support the tourism industry. We do not need another Republican oriented representative. If not Map 11, I strongly support map 13. We need at least one competitive district. Do not vote for map 12.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Thoughts
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:16:59 AM

From: Sharon Patton-griffin <pattongriffin@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:18 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Thoughts

Rachel, thank you! I do not understand why blank pages appeared rather than my email. But, I sent another one. I am late because I have been watching my grandchildren and didn't get your email right away.

I also sent in a request to testify at the hearing on November 4th. I hope it got there.

If the email I just sent is blank, here is what I said. It isn't profound, but it is heartfelt. I am so worried about our country.

Again, thank you!

Dear Redistricting Committee:

I oppose Map 12 for the following reasons:

1. Map 12 does not keep communities of interest together, i.e. separating Butte from Jefferson County and Livingston from Gallatin County. I have spent a great deal of time in these areas and know how similar each of the pairs are. It is not inconceivable that the pairs might be joined as communities as Montana continues to grow. They have little in common with Eastern Montana.
2. Unions form communities of interest, too. Keeping Helena in the same district as Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge gives the those unions a voice. They form a community of interest that is very important to economy of Montana.
3. Finally, minority rights are an important part of a healthy democracy. Giving one political party control over both Montana Districts, as is the case with Map 12, allows no room for the other party's voice. Although Democrats are a minority in this state, they are still an important population and deserve at least a chance to have a voice. Giving one party total control of our state, when there is an option for at least giving the minority party a chance to win control in one of the districts, is unduly favoring one political party over another and not protecting the rights of a minority.

For these reasons, and more, I urge you to oppose Map 12 and support Map 13.

Thank you!

On Tuesday, November 2, 2021, 03:21:04 PM MDT, Weiss, Rachel <rweiss@mt.gov> wrote:

Hello Sharon,

Each of the two emails you sent to the Districting Commission came through blank. You might try resending with your comments.

Sincerely,

Rachel Weiss

Legislative Research Analyst

406-444-5367

From: Sharon Patton-griffin <pattongriffin@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:14 PM

To: Districting <districting@mt.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Thoughts

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Nancy Pence
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:44:00 AM

From: Nancy Pence rapence45@gmail.com
Residence: Billings, Montana 59106

Message:

I support Map CP12 because:

- keeps Flathead County in the Western District
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district
- it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole
- it only splits 1 county
- I don't like cp11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties
- keep Lewis and Clark county whole

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Karla Johnson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP-12 VOTE YES
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:05:24 PM

To Whom It May Concern,
Mike Poppleton, Cindy Poppleton,
30 Cottonwood Way
Absarokee, MT 59001
435-881-7205
Email: mrpoppleton@yahoo.com

It would be nice if they would extend the deadline, since I have spent all afternoon trying to post my comments.

CP-12 Cindy Poppleton my wife. And myself
Michael Poppleton would like to keep CP12 as is and not
change our voting district at this time...

From: [Sanna Porte](#)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on CPs 11, 12, 13
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:10:45 PM

Dear Chair Maylinn Smith and Montana Districting & Apportionment Commission Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposals for Montana's new congressional district.

In brief, I strenuously OPPOSE CP 12. I support CP 11 or CP 13, with a preference for CP 11.

CP 12 has numerous fatal flaws, but the worst is that it puts Lewis & Clark County in the Eastern District.

I'm a lifetime Lewis & Clark County resident. I grew up in Helena. So did both of my parents. So did 10 of my nieces and nephews, and many of them are now raising their kids here. Four generations of my family live in Helena. We have deep roots here, and I can tell you that **Helena and Lewis & Clark County have always been part of WESTERN Montana. We belong in the Western District.**

It makes absolutely no sense to put Lewis & Clark County in the Eastern District – unless of course the goal is to create two noncompetitive Republican districts. That is clearly what CP 12 intends to do. Deliberately drawing both districts to heavily favor the Republican Party violates the Commission's goal of not favoring one political party over the other. It also violates the Commission's goal of competitiveness.

Lewis & Clark Co. residents identify with Western Montana in spirit and geographically. Our economy has been tied to other Western Montana

communities for well over a century. We share so much, including a mining heritage and a union heritage. The union family, in particular, is a clear community of interest. CP 12 separates Helena union members from their union family members in Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge. As a union member myself, I strongly object to splitting this community of workers.

CP 12 also splits Jefferson Co. off from Butte, despite the number of Jefferson Co. residents who work in Butte. And CP 12 guarantees that rural Montana voters can never elect a congressional representative of their own choice.

CP 11 and CP 13 both are fair and competitive districts where candidates from either party would have a chance to win. I urge you to adopt one of them, preferably CP 11.

Thank you.

Sanna Porte

Helena, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Valerie Radu
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:05:27 AM

From: Valerie Radu erbchoice@hushmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:

I tried to submit the comment drop on the redistricting map. It does not work, freezes up on processing.

I would like to put my comment about the proposals In viewing them, I support CP12. Keeping the western half of Montana with only one split county is good. The other ones split too many counties. Also It splits the population near 1/2 of the state which is fair.

Thank You for taking my comment.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Virginia Reeves
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:00:37 AM

From: Virginia Reeves virginiatreeves@gmail.com
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

I write with strong fears for the future of our state should the last-minute district map 12 be approved. Per your commission's own goals, approved in July 2021, "no plan may be drawn to unduly favor a political party." Furthermore, your commission has the stated goal of "Keeping communities of interest intact."

Map 12 directly violates both of these goals by separating the common communities of Butte and Helena and creating a district that predominantly favors Republican candidates. Additionally, this plan undercuts the voices of many rural constituencies.

Lastly, I find it woefully inappropriate and disingenuous of Chair Smith to stall this decision and open the discussion to an additional (biased) map. If our government officials cannot honor their own unanimously agreed-upon goals nor meet their own framework and timelines, we are left with an ineffective and failing democracy.

As a proud Montanan, I ask for transparency, authenticity, and equity.

I am in favor of map 11 or 13.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: ELAINE REMEZ
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:25:23 PM

From: ELAINE REMEZ elaineremez@gmail.com
Residence: Somers, MT

Message:

I support Map CP12 because:

It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.

It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.

It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.

It only splits 1 county

I don't like cp11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east.

CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it

CP13 splits too many counties

· keep Lewis and Clark county whole

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: George Renner
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:39:55 PM

From: George Renner geroge.renner@outlook.com
Residence: Bozeman MT

Message:

I'm really confused by these maps. This is tough. I don't know which map keeps Gallatin County in one piece but I think that is the way to go. Flathead Co is largely Republican, except for Whitefish. So it makes sense to split that area rather than Bozeman and Belgrade. Just my opinion. Thanks

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: TERRY J RIEHL
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:51:31 PM

From: TERRY J RIEHL tjmariehl@gmail.com

Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

I'd prefer map 1. Will accept map 12, until it goes to court. Not interested in accepting gerrymandering!

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Anne Ross
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:04:20 AM

From: Anne Ross anne.menge@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Montana is a state with diverse views and values, though it is often portrayed as a deeply conservative state. It is highly important that we make our elections fair to all political views and lend all constituents the opportunity to have their voices heard in our federal government. If you marginalize and entire faction of Montana voters by making their chances of winning representation in an election, you will discourage them from voting altogether. This is not gerrymandering like the Republicans are arguing, it is equitable representation. Gerrymandering is of concern when you sway an entire state in one political direction, which is the full intent of the Republicans despite their veiled arguments about compact districts.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: kiki.rydell
To: Districting
Cc: districting@montana.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] comments on map 12
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 8:55:30 AM

Dear Members of the Redistricting Commission:

We are beginning to feel and sound like a broken record. We keep saying the same thing because what we are saying is not being heard: it is unethical to create two districts in Montana that favor the same party. Furthermore, it is one of your own goals to create competitive districts. By way of reminder, in July 2021 the Commission voted unanimously in favor of the proposition that the Commission “may consider competitiveness of districts when drawing plans.” This is the Commission’s language, not the language of a single political party. We are writing to urge you to stick with your stated goal about competitiveness and be certain that the map you select comports with your duty to act as body that is independent of the legislature. Failure to abide by your own goals, effectively undercuts your constitutional mandate to act as an independent body. In other words, do not be intimidated by threats of lawsuits coming from the legislative branch.

After weighing in on maps 1 through 9 and then on maps 10 and 11, we weigh in yet again. This time on maps 12 and 13.

Please remember that the Commission represents the voices of all Montanans not just the voice of one party and that to abide by one of its own goals, the commission should try to create competitive districts or at the very least, one competitive district. (Please do not be distracted by one party’s references to HB 506 which is likely to be overturned as unconstitutional per a 1973 attorney general’s decision which states that the legislature is not allowed to interfere with the commission’s work on drawing district boundaries.) As we have said twice before, competition is essential for giving Montanans a sense that their vote matters, that they should inform themselves about the issues facing their state and weigh in by supporting a candidate that is attentive to their needs. Competitive districts mean that candidates need to moderate their extreme views by appealing to people from both sides of the aisle because listening to the voice of just one side won’t give them a majority of votes. Without competitive districts, more and more Montanans will turn away from politics and no longer make any effort to solve the problems facing their state. They will withdraw into a world of fantasy and entertainment because they know their representative does not need to listen to their perspective or care what they might have to say because their votes do not matter. The representative has his/her election all sewed up...it’s a done deal before it’s even begun.

This is the only opportunity we will have for a long time to draw congressional districts that encourage all Montanans to participate in the governing of their state. Please, please do the right thing: do what you can to create competitive districts (or at least one!). Map 12 does not

do this: it outlines two districts that favor the same party. We urge you to go for map 11 or 13. Both recognize that competition is possible in at least one district.

If you don't like map 11, here are some good reasons to go for map 13 over map 12;

- In map 13, both districts would have at least two reservations;
- In map 13, at least one district is competitive (in map 12, this is not the case).

Respectfully yours,

Carol and Robert Rydell

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kay Satre
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:19:47 AM

From: Kay Satre ksatre@carroll.edu
Residence: Helena

Message:

Dear Committee,

I strongly (I cannot say this strongly enough!) support Maps #11 and #13 as we head into Montana's next decade. At the outset of its process, the Commission articulated their commitment to ensure that the selected proposal would balance opportunities for both our major political parties. Maps #11 and #13 comply with this principle. The other two maps now under consideration, and especially Map #12, violate this principle. Maps #10 and #12 contain a clear bias towards one party. A choice of either Map #11 or #13 would create a more competitive political process, where candidates would be required to reach out to include a spectrum of political positions, rather than just appeal to one. I believe that this—creating situations that press our candidates, elected representatives, and parties to seriously listen to and consider a range of perspectives—is CRUCIAL for the health of Montana and National politics. Even more, I think it is crucial for rescuing democracy. Representative democracy relies on ensuring representation for plural views, minority voices as well as majority voices. I repeat: this is CRUCIAL. All parties should want to create a competitive political environment, for the long-term good of our system of government. I'm sure that's what motivated the Commission to adopt its basic principles at the beginning of this process. I call on you, now, to stick to that principle. Choose map #11 or #13 to create more balanced, competitive political districts.

Thank you for this hard work you are doing and for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Kay Satre

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Gina](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] YES Map CP-12
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:52:11 AM

Please approve the only sensible map for Montana- CP12.

*I don't like CP11 because it puts
most of Flathead County in the east.
*CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans.
* I don't support
CP13 splits too many counties
Keep Lewis and Clark county
whole.

Sincerely,
Gina Schafer
2301 37th Ave SW
Great Falls MT 59404

From: [Michele Shea](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; jeff.essman@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Support for District 13
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:51:02 AM

This request should've been registered as support for District 12 and NOT 13.

Please register my support for District 12 and my opposition to District 13.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

> On Nov 2, 2021, at 5:47 AM, Michele Shea <michelemshea@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> Good morning,

> I am writing in support of the District 12 map for redistricting. This would be a competitive district that will allow officials to be elected based on policy, not politics. In this day and age, we really need to encourage bi-partisanship.

>

> Thank you for your service, please do right by Montanans who crave a less political environment and a more functional government.

>

> Regards,

>

> Michele Shea

> 2309 Harvard Ave.

> Butte, Montana

>

>

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Pamela Shore
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:55:58 PM

From: Pamela Shore pamelashore@gmail.com
Residence: MT

Message:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please consider map 13 as best option. It provides only seven percent advantage to Republican representation. That is the closest option for equal representation. In addition it appears to divide the state as best as can be done given population distribution. Healthy government requires debate between informed points of view. One party not be allowed to dominate by districting.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: kstanford@cybernet1.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote for CP11!
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:33:43 AM

Dear Members of the Commission,

This is Karin Stanford once again. I feel like we should be on a first name basis. I'm still 73, retired, and living in the Bitterroot.

I am extremely disappointed in your most recent attempt at redistricting! Montanans are people of their word! Your Commission unanimously adopted, in July, a set of criteria and goals. CP10 and CP12 are both gross violations of your OWN goals and criteria! Please go back to CP11, the only acceptable map that has been presented in this last attempt!

Respectfully,

Karin Stanford

From: wstanford@cybernet1.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reject CP10 and CP12!
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:04:08 AM

Dear Redistricting Commission,

Once again, this is Wayne Stanford from Stevensville. Having been born and raised in the Bitterroot Valley, I find CP12 particularly offensive and anti-Montana. It does not meet your own goals and criteria that you unanimously voted for in July! Of the last three (3) maps you designed, CP11 is the only one which comes close to meeting your own objectives and criteria! Please reject CP10 and CP12. Use CP11!

Respectfully,

Wayne Stanford

From: [Jeremy Stoshick](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Support of Map CP12
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:39:54 AM

Hello,

I am writing in support of map CP12 regarding the redistricting effort.

After studying the maps, I believe this map best reflects Montana's interest areas.

Thank you for allowing comment.

Best,
Jeremy Stoshick
TROY, MT

From: [Eliot Strommen](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map #12/#13
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:47:03 PM

Dear Commissioners,

First of all, allow me to thank you for your hard work with such an important decision.

The following comments are in support of Map #12. I will try and make this as short as I can.

First of all, regarding the notion that Bozeman and Livingston are “joined at the hip”, please Google “Bozeman Real Estate Group” website, click on “Communities”, click on “moving to Livingston”, and read their article entitled “6 things to know before moving to Livingston”. It was written on April 15th, 2020 from a Bozeman perspective.

3 short summaries included in the articles are as follows:

1. The short drive to Bozeman is subject to “terrible driving conditions” because of the “winding mountainous road” especially in the winter when the “pass is closed due to weather”.
2. Livingston “is a town completely its own”. Livingston is **not** (their emphasis) a bedroom community of Bozeman”.
3. Livingston is a “long way from big city amenities” like “shopping, professional sporting events, and Broadway-style entertainment”. In other words, Livingston ain’t Bozeman.

I suspect that in the future Livingston will have less and less in common with Bozeman simply because Bozeman is pricing itself out of “Montana”. Who needs to drive to Bozeman for a \$100 dollar hamburger....or whatever! I-90 runs both ways. A significant number of residents in Park County will tell you that Park is more than just Livingston, much more. Park borders Meagher (White Sulfur Springs), Sweetgrass (Big Timber/EAST), Stillwater (Columbus/EAST), and Carbon (Red Lodge/EAST) counties but we are to assume that Park belongs with Gallatin strictly because of....well...Livingston?

I also suspect that a significant number of folks in Lewis & Clark county (including Helena) would argue that they have just as much, if not more, in common with Cascade county (Great Falls) than say...Deer Lodge, Anaconda, or Butte.

Considering all the arguments and guidelines, Map #12 is about as fair as you can get. Much more than #13.

Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Eliot Strommen

305 Nelson Ave.

Vandalia, Montana

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gary Stubblefield
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:30:49 AM

From: Gary Stubblefield stubbs113@aol.com

Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

I have reviewed the input and believe that the map CP12 is preferred from my perspective. I wasn't able to paste it into my response but prefer that division map. Thank you for allowing my input.

Gary Stubblefield

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Vicki Swank](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: [Vicki Swank](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Redistricting Comments
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:25:25 PM
Attachments: [Montana Redistricting Maps CP11, CP12, CP13 Comments.docx](#)

Good Afternoon,

I have been trying to send my comments on the redistricting via the Map link for several hours this afternoon. The link was having technical issues per Debbie Churchill. Mrs. Churchill then sent me another link to try about 4:30 p.m.

That link also did not work. I have tried it several times.

She has just sent me this email to send to you.

I do hope my comments will be entered into the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission's upcoming hearing.

Please see my attachment that show my comments.

Thank you,

Vicki Swank
13 Big Dipper Drive
Montana City, MT 59634

--

Vicki Swank
(406)417-8945

November 2, 1021
RE: Montana Redistricting
Subjects: Maps CP11, CP 12, CP 13

Attention: Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission,
Maylinn Smith, Chair

I support Map CP12 because it keeps Flathead County in the Western District; It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district; It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole; it only splits one (1) county.

I do not like CP 11 because it puts most of Flathead County in the east; CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I do not support it.

CP13 splits into too many counties.
Keep Lewis and Clark whole.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Swank
13 Big Dipper Drive
Montana City, MT 59634

From: svelaski@aol.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional map recommendation
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:07:36 AM

After recent election results, Helena deserves to be aligned with Western Montana when determining congressional districts. To do otherwise would be to ignore the citizens of Helena. Steve Velaski and Gayle Grana, Helena MT

From: [Edward Walker](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:10:25 PM

I would like to offer my support to CP 12 for the following reasons.

- Maps should not favor one political party over another
 - The Commission needs to minimize the splitting of counties, as stated in the Commission's goals. The Democrat Commission members map splits three counties total, while the Republican map only splits one.
 - Lewis and Clark County, Jefferson, and Broadwater Counties should be kept in the East. They are in the Missouri River drainage, which flows in the east. Like Eastern Montana, these three counties also rely on agriculture.
 - Park County should also be put in the Eastern district. The county is located in the Yellowstone drainage, which also goes East.
- *Between the two maps, it is clear CP12 is the best choice.*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

E. Walker

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Michael E Wallace
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:14:23 AM

From: Michael E Wallace mikewallace777@msn.com
Residence: Florence

Message:
Kalispell is in the west. The Cp10 map is more realistic.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [evonne wells](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:23:40 PM

I am in favor of #12 redistricting map. Splitting counties doesn't seem right to me. Thank you.

Evonne Wells
628 Shoreline Drive Polson

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Eleanor Wend
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:06:24 AM

From: Eleanor Wend bluemoonopp@yahoo.com
Residence: Livingston Montana

Message:

To the Redistricting Commission members: I want to voice my concern over the last minute introduction of two more maps. I feel we had fair and competitive choices with Maps 10 and 11 and I supported Map 11 due to my primary desire to be in the same community of interest with Gallatin as a resident of Park County. I felt that the midnight hour submission of Map 12 was inappropriate and not following the process as it had been communicated to the public. I still feel that Map 11 is the best meeting of criteria for the Districts. Thank you Eleanor Wend

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: kathy.whitman
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:02:13 PM

I would like to offer my support to CP 12 for the following reasons.

- Maps should not favor one political party over another
 - The Commission needs to minimize the splitting of counties, as stated in the Commission's goals. The Democrat Commission members map splits three counties total, while the Republican map only splits one.
 - Lewis and Clark County, Jefferson, and Broadwater Counties should be kept in the East. They are in the Missouri River drainage, which flows in the east. Like Eastern Montana, these three counties also rely on agriculture.
 - Park County should also be put in the Eastern district. The county is located in the Yellowstone drainage, which also goes East.
- *Between the two maps, it is clear CP12 is the best choice.*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Kathy Whitman
mika59802@gmail.com

From: [Kathy Whitman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supporting of CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:07:57 PM

I would like to offer my support to CP 12 for the following reasons.

- Maps should not favor one political party over another
 - The Commission needs to minimize the splitting of counties, as stated in the Commission's goals. The Democrat Commission members map splits three counties total, while the Republican map only splits one.
 - Lewis and Clark County, Jefferson, and Broadwater Counties should be kept in the East. They are in the Missouri River drainage, which flows in the east. Like Eastern Montana, these three counties also rely on agriculture.
 - Park County should also be put in the Eastern district. The county is located in the Yellowstone drainage, which also goes East.
- *Between the two maps, it is clear CP12 is the best choice.*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Kathy Whitman
Representative HD96

From: [Kimberlie Whitman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:13:39 PM

I want to voice my support for CP12.
This map is the only one that makes sense and is clearly a fair map for Montanas

Thank you

Kim Whitman

From: [Mike Whitman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:18:06 PM

Please consider and choose CP12
This map is the most fair for all Montanas
The map chosen should not favor one political party over another.

Please make the choice that is best for MONTANAs and all that deserve to be represented
FAIRLY

Mike Whitman

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Robert Wigton
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:25:39 PM

From: Robert Wigton rwigton@hotmail.com
Residence: Clancy

Message:
Please consider!

I support Map CP12 because:

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district
- it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole
- it only splits 1 county
- I don't like cp11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties
- keep Lewis and Clark county whole

Thanks so much! Rob Wigton

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Robert G Williams
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:11:54 AM

From: Robert G Williams mthlc@3rivers.net
Residence: Mc Allister

Message:

The inability of partisans to make a decision that does not favor their party is an expected result. The rules then refer the decision to the Presiding Officer. However, her past history, speaking engagements, personal comments and actions are partisan. If Ms Smith decides this to the disadvantage of the dominant party in Montana, there will be endless problems and distrust of her, the commission, and the Supreme Court who appointed her. This is not wise and will continue to produce a division of the people in Montana. The people or their elected representatives should be the deciders if the commission cannot do the job. Since this is not allowed by the parameters controlling the decision, I make the argument that those not in the dominant legislative party should accept the map proposed by the dominant party. This assures Montanans that for the non-dominant party to win they need to start pleasing more Montanans rather than gaining office by pleasing a smaller number concentrated to their advantage. Ultimately this benefits all Montanans and creates a more equitable solution for the majority no matter where they live in the state.

Regards
Bob Williams

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Juliann Wolf
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:57:27 AM

From: Juliann Wolf juliemwolf52@gmail.com
Residence: Great Falls

Message:

I support Map CP12 because it keeps Flathead County in the Western District and it includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.

It also keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole and only splits 1 county. CP 11 is not in the best interest of Montanans and CP 13 splits too many counties. CP12 is the best option. Thank-you

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Bonnie Wolgamot
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:27:52 AM

From: Bonnie Wolgamot bnwoutside@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

CP 11 is by far and away the better choice of the two districting maps that are proposed. It makes no sense at all to split Gallatin county – the two sides of the county are economically and socially linked, stronger than the proposed split of Flathead that CP 10 has. In addition, CP 11 is a much more competitive map. If we truly want our government to represent ALL Montanans and their issues, we need districting that will force candidates to campaign in earnest and actually listen to the people they want to or do represent. CP 10 does NOT do this – but CP 11 will. It's important to have a government that works for everyone who lives in this wonderful state, and to do that, we need CP 11 to be our districting. CP 11 is the only map that will truly help our government continue its work FOR the people of Montana, rather than in spite of them. Vote yes on CP 11 and no on CP 10!

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Hugh Zackheim](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Cc: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:09:30 AM

Maylinn Smith, Chair
Montana Redistricting and Apportionment Commission

I support the adoption of CP 13 or CP 11. These maps provide a fair and competitive framework for Montana elections over the next decade, and help ensure that candidates effectively and honestly engage with Montana citizens and communities as they seek electoral support.

I strongly oppose CP 12. This proposal would place Lewis & Clark County with all of the eastern counties — a transparent attempt to prevent congressional votes from Lewis & Clark County from having any electoral influence. CP 12 also splits Park and Gallatin Counties, despite how these two counties function as a closely linked community and economic unit. Similarly Butte and Jefferson counties would be in different districts, although their populations link closely for employment & housing opportunities.

Overall, the proposed district structure of CP 12 is utterly uncompetitive — essentially advanced gerrymandering — and should not be adopted.

Thank you for your work and for your dedication to our democratic system.

Hugh Zackheim
33 S. Howie St.
Helena, MT 59601

From: [Karen Zackheim](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Proposals
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:36:05 AM

Maylinn Smith, Chair
Montana Redistricting and Apportionment Commission

I support the adoption of CP 13 or CP 11. Both of these options provide the most fair and competitive framework for Montana elections over the next decade, and help ensure that all Montana citizens have a real voice in their future.

I strongly oppose CP 12. This proposal would place Lewis & Clark County with all of the eastern counties — a transparent attempt to prevent congressional votes from Lewis & Clark County from having any electoral influence. Also, CP 12 splits Park and Gallatin Counties, and splits Butte and Jefferson counties even though these counties function as closely linked community and economic units for employment & housing opportunities. It doesn't make any sense.

Overall, the proposed district structure of CP 12 is totally uncompetitive and should not be adopted. Please don't support advanced gerrymandering and the bad politics it represents.

Thank you for your work and for your commitment to our democratic system. Let's make Montana an example to other states of how this process can work for the benefit of all citizens. We need all voices to be heard.

Sincerely,
Karen Zackheim
33 S Howie St
Helena MT 59601

10/14/21

MDA commission

This is a tough decision for you to undertake - to try to be fair in this division - That is why I believe Proposal 7 is the most correct choice.

When you look back in history as why Montana looks the way it is - we were to end at the continental divide and the area west was to be Idaho, well that didn't work out but what a great way to divide our State.

Proposal 7 east will be old (original) Montana and to the west of divide will be the new Montana being able to more closely represent their constituents.

I strongly endorse proposal 7

Louffziger
711 Fort St
Missoula City MT 59301