

Public Comments: M - Z

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Comments received between midnight on October 29, 2021, and 5 p.m. on
November 2, 2021

Distributed electronically November 2, 2021

From: [Sandy Mack](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: I support Redistricting Map 11
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:21:24 AM

Hello,

My name is Sandy Mack and I moved to MT in 1978. I support Redistricting map #11 and I urge you to do the same.

Thank you,
Sandy

From: [Beth Madden](#)
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 now Support CP 13
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:13:53 AM

To the Commission,

Thank you for persevering in finding proper districts for us.

After being a reluctant proponent of CP 11, I am happier with CP 13, as it does well for representation of our Native American communities by having two reservations in the western district. Most importantly, this map makes a competitive western district, where many others fail in that regard.

Yes, it does split Gallatin County (where I live), but Gallatin County IS split politically and socio-economically, with the Belgrade area being more Republican.

I think CP 13 is the best compromise so far.

Thanks again,
Elizabeth Madden
408 Overbrook Drive
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Richard Magoffin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map-Support CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:13:38 PM

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

From: ahoytmalloy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Thomas Malloy](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Montana's Congressional Map
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 10:39:40 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I respectfully submit my support for the ADOPTION of Map Number CP 11 as it is clearly more competitive to BOTH political parties, without improperly favoring either political party.

I respectfully request the Commission REJECT Map Number CP 10, for several reasons, most importantly because it splits Gallatin County, which as you know, is the fastest growing County in the State. Although both maps provide approximately equal populations in both proposed Districts, Map Number CP 10 clearly favors one political party by including BOTH Lewis & Clark County (Helena) and half of Gallatin County (Bozeman) in the Eastern District.

Please REJECT Map Number CP 10.
Please ADOPT Map Number CP 11.

Thank you very much for your work and your dedication to the principles of fair competition.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Malloy
2901 Harvard Avenue
Butte, America 59701

Sincerely,
Thomas Malloy
2901 Harvard Ave Butte, MT 59701-4659
ahoytmalloy@gmail.com

From: [Marian](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 1:05:28 PM

Hi

I am a resident of Big Sky. I strongly favor map 11. It does not split Gallatin County or my small city of Big Sky as does map 10.

Thank you for your time. Marian. Kummer

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sherry Marsillo](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MT Districting
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:56:58 PM

Regarding the Montana Districting I support Map 12 (CP12). Counties should not be split.

Sherry Marsillo
100Terrace Way
Missoula MT. 59893
4065498897

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Julie Martin](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Support Map CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:58:45 PM

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.

Julie Martin
103 Shelter View Drive
Kalispell, MT 59901
406.250.1137
JulesRNacn@protonmail.com

Sent from ProtonMail for iOS

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Tyrel Massar
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:12:19 PM

From: Tyrel Massar Massar04@icloud.com
Residence: Circle Montana

Message:

My comment is in support of CP12. It best represents agricultural economics in the east and the recreational/tourism economics in the west.

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

From: [Susan Matule](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In favor of Proposal 11
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 5:07:53 PM

I am in favor of Proposal 11

Sent from my iPad
Susan Matule

From: [Robin Maupin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supporting Map CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:17:54 PM

To the Chair & 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
- 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

Montana has MCA 5-1-115 that must be followed. God lead you in this fair decision to accept Map CP12 to keep your oath to the people of Montana!!

God Bless those who Trust in the Lord God Almighty!

Robin Maupin
Kalispell, MT

From: [Christopher Maurillo](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 3:27:09 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Christopher Maurillo, belgrade/Bozeman. Lived here my whole life.

Map 11, I want the opportunity to be represented.

Elections should be fair, I dont want my representatives chosen for me with a biased map.

Please do the right thing, thank you!

Regards,
Christopher Maurillo
2203 Sturnella Ln
Belgrade, MT 59714

From: [Michele Maxwell](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 12:45:06 PM

I'm for map CP#11.

From: [Dave McAlpin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Dist plan 11
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 3:11:55 PM

Dear Commission,
Montana needs competition for better candidates and campaigns.
Please support District plan 11.
Dave McAlpin
Former legislator
716 Power St, Helena, MT 59601

From: [Mindy McCarthy](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:05:21 AM

CP 11 is the only FAIR map that represents our state's western interests and values and doesn't attempt to dampen our voices. I support CP 11!!!

Mindy McCarthy
24 N. Benton
Helena, MT

From: [Ronald McClellan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP 12 Comments because site is broken
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:54:27 PM

Looks like the commenting function on the website has crashed so I'll make my comments on CP 12 here.

I can support CP12 as a workable successor to CP1 which was the best map. CP11 is absurdly gerrymandered, Flathead county obviously belongs in the western district, and CP 13 splits too many counties. CP 12 also provides a more coherent Tribal voice in the western district by encompassing the CSKT & Blackfoot reservations in one district. CP12 fits the practical and legal necessities of the districting process well enough to withstand any adverse scrutiny, let's get this over with.

Thanks,

Ronald McClellan,

32442 Masumola Lane

Polson, MT 59860

From: [Linda McCulloch](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting comment
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:55:30 AM

Chair Maylinn Smith - I am very opposed to GOP CP12 that gerrymanders and creates two noncompetitive Republican districts. CP12 is GOP gerrymandering at its best to move Lewis and Clark County into the new Eastern District. Redistricting should not be a tool for the Republicans.

I do support CP11 or CP13 which create competitive districts where candidates from either party have a chance of winning. New districts should be party neutral.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to these new districts.

***Linda McCulloch
Former Secretary of State
Former State Superintendent
Former State Legislator

From: [Susan McFarland](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:45:51 AM

I am a resident of Trout Creek, MT and have reviewed the proposed maps for redistricting. I support CP13 (or the Map 10/11 compromise). Of the choices available, this map meets the criteria set forth for consideration by your commission. Thank you for the opportunity to take part in this decision.

Susan McFarland
32 Dagny Ct.
Trout Creek, MT

From: [Jeff McGarvey](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MAP 10 KEEPS COMMUNITIES INTACT
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 7:27:55 AM

I live in Flathead County and I do not want to have my community divided by two districts. Flathead County is unique in that we all live and shop and gather in the same places. Map 11 will only create division in our community and increase divisiveness in our state!

Sincerely,
Jeff McGarvey

Get [Outlook for iOS \[aka.ms\]](#)

From: [Ashley McGrath](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment on Re-Districting State Options
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:22:42 AM

Dear Committee Members,

On the [State Tools \[mtredistricting.gov\]](#) published [maps \[app.mydistricting.com\]](#) for comment, I had previously written in support of Map 10. However, if the Committee considers the two proposals submitted on October 28th, I write in support of the "proposed congressional map from Democratic Commissioners Joe Lamson and Kendra Miller" [[source \[ktvh.com\]](#)]. I support this redistricting proposal because it merges major aspects of Map 10 and Map 11. Through the state's online resources I was unaware of new proposals under consideration and open for public comment. I hope the Committee will consider these new proposals as this version submitted by Lamson and Miller keeps the Flathead County whole in the west including the Blackfeet Nation which was a concern of mine in the former Map 11. I also think it nicely balances Gallatin County, and as a resident of Helena, it keeps the city of Helena in the West. Please accept the correction to my former comment below in favor of the new map proposal from Lamson and Miller.

"I support Map 10 because I believe that it fairly bisects the state into equal represented areas from a geographic perspective and state demographics. I think this map of the two will ensure that all voters' voices are heard. It is important to keep the integrity of Montana's geography, communities, and demographics into consideration and I believe Map 10 does this by fairly balancing the politics of the two regions. Map 11 seems to segregate communities in an attempt to ensure strong tribal and native voice which I respect the vision and process, but I don't think Map 11 with its state bisection addresses the need for equality in both regions. The lines of Map 11 were drawn in a way that does not balance the two regions as a whole for the state of Montana. In this redistricting process, we must have fair and equal representation of all voices and Montana's demography; therefore, I think Map 10 is the most fair and equitable representation of the state."

Sincerely,
Ashley McGrath
Resident of Helena, MT

From: [CTM](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:29:38 AM

I write in support of the most recent proposal submitted on October 28 by Commissioners Lamson and Miller. While not perfect, I believe this map represents the best compromise to date.

Carter McGrath - Helena, MT

From: [CAROL MacIntyre](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting Choice Comment
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:46:45 AM

Hello.

My name is Carol MacIntyre, and my husband and I live in PRECINCT 7, LAKE COUNTY. I fully support Option 11. I am opposed to Option 10.

Thank you for hearing my opinion,

Carol MacIntyre
39958 Montana Highway 35
Polson, Montana 59860
406 880-8319

Sent from my iPad

From: mckinney.mollyr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Molly McKinney](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 12:35:35 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Molly McKinney
1308 1/2 Phoenix Ave Helena, MT 59601-0951
mckinney.mollyr@gmail.com

From: [Margarita McLarty](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; ["Rita Rozier" <rtrozier@gmail.com>](mailto:Rita.Rozier@gmail.com) (rtrozier@gmail.com);
Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Montana's two seats in the U.S House of Representatives
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:46:56 AM

Hello Commissioners,

We want to lend our voices to support for the proposed map number 11 as the very best possible compromise, and you have been given the reasons already by many wise voices. We want to add the consideration that, while precedent has no legal sway in your decision, consideration of adherence to previous district divisions may carry some weight. Montana is now riven with suspicion and distrust of governmental directives, and you folks have the opportunity to reassure us all that you are committed to honest, fair and open governmental processes in our state by choosing either 11 or 13.

Thanks for your efforts,

Margarita

Don & Margarita McLarty

Mclarty1@outlook.com

(406) 333-4746 Home

(406) 570-1112 Cell (rarely "on")

From: [Margarita McLarty](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:39:34 AM

Dear Commissioners,

While I personally prefer map 11, map 13 is an acceptable compromise. I am loathe to see Gallatin County chopped up, but if 13 will knock 12 out of the running, then please go for it !

Margarita McLarty

Don & Margarita McLarty

Mclarty1@outlook.com

(406) 333-4746 Home

(406) 570-1112 Cell (rarely "on")

From: [Sherry McLauchlan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Latest maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 8:06:02 AM

These new maps do not appear to represent greater consensus on what is best for Montana voters so much as partisan agreements on who gets what. How can ordinary voters comment meaningfully when the “final maps” are changed every day with little time to study them or comment. The chairperson of this commission should fulfill her responsibility and make the decision based on voter input rather than acquiesce to a partisan “deal” The members of the commission need to behave in a non-partisan manner rather than fight over partisan advantage. The choice needs to be made on the more recent set of maps which were supposed to be “final.” Map #11 is still the best choice.

Sherry McLauchlan

From: [Ken McLean](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map preferences: first, CP#11; second, Lamson"s & Miller"s 10/28/21 submission
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 6:39:29 PM

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

From: [Leslie Mcshane](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] We need competitive and balanced districts which don't favor only one party
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:28:51 AM

Dear Commissioners,
I am a registered Montana voter, and I implore you to choose a map which, as your commitments require, would make a competitive district which does not favor one party over the other. Voters' voices need to be heard in these matters; no one should be disenfranchised.

Thank you,
Leslie McShane
Missoula, MT 59808

From: [Charles Meienberg](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 9:04:56 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello, my name is Charles Meienberg and I've lived in Eureka Montana for a little over ten years.

I am in favor of map 11 because it does not favor one political party over another.

If districts are chosen simply to guarantee that either a democrat or republican candidate wins the election, then we've lost free and fair elections.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

Regards,
Charles Meienberg
382 Evergreen Dr
Eureka, MT 59917

From: [Bob Kathe Mensik](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting -- Map CP12 is the best choice for Montana!
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 3:59:47 PM

To Chairwoman Maylinn Smith and the Redistricting Committee members:

Thank you for hearing public comments from Montanans regarding this very important issue; this is how democracy is supposed to work!

We feel strongly that CP12 is by far the best choice for Montana for the following reasons:

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District
- It puts 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

We don't like CP11 or CP13 for the following reasons:

- CP11 puts most of Flathead County, which is geographically in the western part of the state, into the eastern district. This is not in the best interest of Montanans, and we don't support it.
- CP13 splits too many counties, whereas CP12 keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead, and Gallatin counties intact and only splits 1 county.

Thank you for recognizing these problems with CP11 and CP13. Vote to adopt CP12.

Respectfully,
Kathe and Bob Mensik
Red Lodge MT

From: [David Mihalic](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Maps for Nov 4 meeting
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 4:34:57 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. As a Montana resident, especially one residing now (Missoula) and previously (Columbia Falls) in the "western" district, and as an enrolled Tribal member, I am IN FAVOR OF MAP CP-12

While not perfect, this map splits fewer counties and keeps Flathead County in the "western" representative district. It ALSO has CKST and Blackfeet in one district where their voices will have greater impact than previous options. This is important for Tribal issues including water compacts.

The other alternative, Map CP 11 is unacceptable because it splits Montana's interests, in particular Flathead County as well as leaving only ONE tribal entity while congregating the other 7 tribes into Eastern Montana. Blackfeet's interests are more in common with CKST's interests than with far-eastern Montana tribes.

Map CP13 is unacceptable because it splits counties and appears to 'bend' and 'reach' into eastern Montana interests - both at the northern border and then again at the southern Montana borders, especially linking the Yellowstone ecosystem's interests to the northern Rockies/Glacier park's interests, which are more "western focused" while Yellowstone looks down the Missouri and east.

I urge the Commissioners to think of ALL Montana and choose map 12 which, of these options, is the BETTER choice to reflect the unique cultural/resource-based flavor of an "eastern" and "western" Montana district, which will allow elected representatives to BETTER represent constituents' interests.

Note this sent in this form because, filling out the website form, I used a different email address than what was 'registered' with the Commission.

David Mihalic
Dave@mihalic.com
406-251-3388
908 Polaris Way
Missoula, MT 59803

From: [Jeri Mihalic](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:14:09 PM

Here are my comments for your consideration determining the redistricting maps.

I live in western Montana. I am in favor of map CP-12.

This map includes Flathead county in the west, where it belongs. It also has the Blackfeet and CSKT reservations in the same district, which makes more sense than lumping the Blackfeet with the tribes in eastern Montana. This map also splits fewer counties, which also makes more sense.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Jeri Mihalic

From: [Anne Millbrooke](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] in favor of #11
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 8:13:57 PM

Dear Commissioners:

I think that there are the four remaining proposals - I must rely upon unofficial sources since the commission website doesn't say. Second-hand information discourages informed public participation in democratic decisionmaking, as does adding late proposals, too late for most people to even know of them before the comment deadline and today's hearing. Of course, instilling confusion and frustration may cause an I'm-just-it's-over response in the end. That is not what the state needs. I therefore comment on what I think are the four proposals still under consideration.

I favor #11. Why? Because:

#10 splits the Bozeman vote, Bozeman population, and Bozeman economically and social ties with Livingston. Such an attack on any population center is not acceptable!

#11 has Indigenous peoples and their concerns in both districts, keeps the labor axis of Butte–Helena connected, keeps the mountain resort communities together (common interests and common environmental concerns), keeps the economically and socially linked Bozeman–Livingston together, splits no major population center. #11 holds people who identify with the Mountain West together, albeit the Front ranges going with the plains to the east, but counties include both Front ranges and plains so that makes sense. Lewis and Clark clearly identifies more with the Mountain West than the Plains East so this placement makes sense, plus it keeps the city of Helena in the district of its commuting workers. Flathead is split into three - it's hard to tell why other than too strict population divide between East and West districts, but I read that Whitefish stays in the West with the Big Sky resort so that is appropriate.

#12 severs the labor vote of Butte and Helena and severs the economically and socially tied Livingston and Bozeman. Severing two Democratic voting centers and no Republican centers does not appear fair nor in the public interest. Two reservations in the West strengthens the Indigenous influence in that district and balances Indigenous issues across the two districts, but a single reservation in any district should be adequate for Indigenous issues to be taken very seriously! Pondera County is split in order to keep the reservation whole, probably the best reason to split a county, although still unfortunate. Given low population of most counties, it seems that counties in general could be kept intact. The population split need not be mathematically precise to within a few votes. Divisiveness should not be a goal or explicit and anticipated outcome; in other words, competitiveness need not mean divisiveness. I would like to believe that both major parties want what's best for the state and nation, and minor parties seem to have no place in the considerations of the commission. Based on the previous maps in this vein, this looks like another attempt to weaken the Bozeman/Gallatin vote by hanging the county out on a limb and cutting off the commuters and businesses of Livingston. Severing the Gallatin County/population aroused such ire that not cutting off less is proposed as if inflicting less pain is an acceptable alternative to inflicting pain: It's not. The late introduction of this proposal reinforces suspicion that this is not offered in a sense of fairness or in the interests of the state. Changing the decision schedule at the last minute also raises a red flag. What's going on behind doors? In other words, the process has tainted this proposal beyond what outlines I can see.

#13 splits Pondera, Lewis and Clark, and Gallatin Counties, including the greater Bozeman population center. Totally unacceptable.

Sincerely,
Anne Millbrooke

280 W Kagy Blvd D-248, Bozeman, MT 59715

anne27m@yahoo.com

From: [jr.m](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:08:23 AM

Dear 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.

Jeri Miller, 675 Vonderheide Lane, Kalispell, MT, 406-314-2353, 27focused@gmail.com

From: [Thomas Millett](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - I Support CP-12
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:50:06 PM

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.

Thomas Millett
PO Box 1075
Marion, MT 59925
406-212-3613

From: bullheadm@aol.com
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of CP13
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:30:11 AM

Dear Commissioners,

Please support CP 13. This plan is population equal, does not unduly favor any political party, and respects communities of interest.

As someone originally from rural Eastern Montana who lives in a rural area now, I particularly like that the Eastern District gives a majority voice to people from rural communities. Politicians often overlook rural Montana, but this district will make sure that they hear rural people and we have a strong voice in Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Terry Minow
502 Lower Valley Road
Boulder, MT 59632

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jerome Miratsky
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:17:58 PM

From: Jerome Miratsky jeromemiratsky@frontiernet.net
Residence: Livingston, Montana

Message:

Park and Gallatin Counties should not be split into different districts but be together in the western district.

--

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

From: [Cass Mitchell](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 12:57:14 PM

I favor map # 11. Seems more fair to the voters of Montana.

From: [Cathy Mitchell](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP12
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:41:11 PM

Madame Chair 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.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration and your effort to listen to the people of Montana,

Cathy

Cathy Mitchell
598 Prairie View Road
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-607-0235
longlakenmf@msn.com

From: [kim fields](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on CP 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:26:07 AM

Chair Smith,

My Husband and I are registered voters in Mineral County, Montana. We are in support of Map CP 12 because it follows the parameters that are set forth in HB506 and concur with all other comments on this map.

Regards,

Kim Mitchell
1206 Little Joe Creek rd.
Saint Regis, Mt. 59866
(509)990-4879

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bob](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] State redistricting
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:22:36 PM

Hi

My wife and I have looked at the proposed Montana redistricting maps and we both prefer proposal 11. Proposal 11 seems more equitable and sensible than the other proposals..

Respectfully Robert and Muriel Moretti

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Mauri Morin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 2:55:23 PM

I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District where it actually resides;
- 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 one county;
- I don't like CP11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east, which is silly and obvious gerrymandering since Whitefish is left in the west;
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans and never a serious map;
- CP13 splits too many counties;
- We should keep Lewis and Clark county whole.

From: mules2798@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Leslie Mullette](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please select map CP11
Date: Thursday, October 28, 2021 2:09:19 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Leslie Mullette and I reside in Missoula County. I appreciate all the work your commission has done in choosing Montana's new redistricting map. It is clear to me in reviewing the final two maps being considered that map #CP11 is the only map that meets the criteria set forth initially by your commission. The advantages to this map over the alternative map being presented are:

1) This map does not unduly favor any political party, WHICH ASSURES THAT ALL MONTANANS WILL BE FAIRLY REPRESENTED!

2) I like that map CP11 keeps Gallatin County whole and does not split any towns, whereas map CP10 splits Gallatin County and splits the towns of Gallatin Gateway and Big Sky. As the community of Bozeman continues to face rising housing costs, more and more Montana workers and families find themselves commuting from Belgrade, Gallatin Gateway, and Livingston to Bozeman for work. CP 11 ensures this critical economic connection isn't divided by district lines.

3) Map CP11 only moves 1.5 counties from the historic 1980's congressional line as opposed to 4.5 counties being moved by the proposed map CP10.

Thanks again for all your hard work on this commission and for seeking input from citizens like me who will be impacted by your decision.

Sincerely,
Leslie Mullette
2798 Fleet St Missoula, MT 59808-5874
mules2798@gmail.com

From: [N.R. Munn](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 11:46:47 AM

Redistricting

I am a resident of Ravalli county and I favor option 11.

Thank you

Norton Munn
923 Our Lane
Hamilton. MT 59840

From: [TEAM Munson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:02:15 PM

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.

Renaë Munson
3000 8th Ave North
Great Falls, MT 59401
406-799-6509
rrmunson@msn.com

From: mrcattle@midrivers.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] redistricting
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:45:33 PM

Dear Commissioner,

I would encourage you to vote for CP12. This is a fair division of the state.

Thank you,

Arla Jeanne Murray

Custer County

From: [Judy Nakagawa](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:14:14 AM

I support CP12. It meets the mandatory requirements and only splits one county. Thank you for all your hard work on this very important issue.

Judy Nakagawa

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone \[overview.mail.yahoo.com\]](#)

From: terry_nelson
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#); Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment Verification
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:52:58 PM
Attachments: [11-4-21 Disrtricting Comments.pdf](#)

Dear Commissioners,

I submitted the attached comments in the interactive map but I am not sure if the attachment part worked so I am also emailing you this attachment.

Thank you and we will see you Thursday.

Terry Nelson

From: MyDistricting <noreply@mydistricting.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:41 PM
To: terryndar@hotmail.com <terryndar@hotmail.com>
Subject: Comment Verification

Please open this link to verify your comment on MyDistricting.
https://app.mydistricting.com/legdistricting/comments/validate_comment?dataset=23&token=59f90a06c0966dba5a9bfd09803af6a9 [app.mydistricting.com]
Please contact your administrator if you have any further queries.

Regards,
Team MyDistricting

Dear Montana Districting and Apportionment Committee,

Thank you once again for the ability to comment on the latest congressional maps. As I understand it, the choices are now down to CP11 per the Democrat wishes and CP12 per the Republican wishes. I also think based on the Chair’s comments that other maps of compromise could be brought and all maps can be commented on. Since it appears the main decision will be between Maps CP11 and CP12, I wish to offer comments on them. First off, I still don’t know how political data can be used which clearly breaks the law per MCA 5-1-115 but the process has been driven there. The Commission has heard from several people on both sides about not splitting their counties, but any realistic view of splitting the population equally while meeting the other mandatory criteria necessitates splitting something. I believe CP12 has the least impact on communities of interest being split and in fact only splits Pondera along lines that are meant to keep all of the Blackfeet Reservation together. CP11 guts the heart of Flathead County and makes no sense other than to achieve a political outcome. No one can honestly say there are any reasons that meet any other criteria or goals. It also goes against the spirit of the Voters Rights Act which only places one reservation in the West. The Chair has always indicated a desire for compromise and consensus. I wish to put forward numbers obtained by Dave’s Redistricting on each of the 13 maps. A lot has already been said on how Dave’s certainly doesn’t look at all races and the numbers can certainly be argued several ways with different races and data, and that there are other ways of determining competitiveness and compactness, I believe that the following numbers show the general trend of the different maps.

From Daves Redistricting	COMPACT	COMPETITIVE		COMPACT	COMPETITIVE		COMPACT	COMPETITIVE
CP1	95	33		95	33			
CP2	34	65					34	65
CP3	89	33		89	33			
CP4	37	66					37	66
CP5	72	37		72	37			
CP6	35	63					35	63
CP7	57	32		57	32			
CP8	8	58					8	58
CP9	53	65					53	65
AVERAGE	53	50		78	34		33	63
CP10	60	52		60	52			
CP11	33	67					33	67
CP12	58	58		58	58			
CP13	49	67					49	67
AVERAGE	50	61		59	55		41	67

This chart shows the Republicans first 4 maps ranged in compactness from 57-95 with an average of 78 and competitiveness from 33-37 with an average of 34. The Democrats first 5 maps ranged in compactness from 8-53 with an average of 33 and competitiveness from 58-66 with an average of 63. If you then look at the republican compromise maps, CP10 dropped in compactness from the 78 average to 60 on CP10 and 58 on CP12 in exchange for increasing competitiveness from an average of 34 to 16 points more in CP10 to 52 and 24 points more in CP12. The Democrats took their average on compactness from 33 to 33 (no change) in CP11 and to 20 in CP13 which they have now rejected. They also changed their average competitiveness of 63 to going further away from compromise to a 67 on each CP11 and CP13. Out side was then soundly criticized by Commissioner Miller about not compromising. I am learning completely opposite definitions of words I used to think I knew, but to say, using the Democrats sacred criteria of only competitiveness, using their sacred Dave's Redistricting, and showing that they have **moved away** from the Republicans **by 4 points on Competitiveness** while keeping a very substandard compact number, while the Republicans have moved **their competitiveness score 24 points toward the Democrats** and somehow Republicans haven't compromised leaves me questioning any definition of compromise, gerrymander, fair, or many others they put forward. I think it is also interesting that the democrat map CP8 has a competitive score of 58, which is the exact same as map CP12.

As pointed out at the last meeting. CP12 District 1 would have resulted in Ryan Zinke beating Denise Juneau in 2016, Rob Quist beating Greg Gianforte in 2017, Kathleen Williams beating Greg Gianforte in 2018 and Matt Rosendale beating Kathleen Williams in 2020. That shows a very competitive map for the US Representative Seat which is what is being drawn.

Terry Nelson

529 W River Road

Hamilton, MT 59840

406-360-2941

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jeff Neubauer
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:50:43 AM

From: Jeff Neubauer coachneubauer@yahoo.com
Residence: Wolf point mt

Message:

12 seems the most logical to me, keep the flathead valley in the west district and your only dividing 1 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: Gail E Nevin
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 3:21:08 PM

From: Gail E Nevin dgnevin@msn.com
Residence: Missoula, MT 59803

Message:

This is my second comment as I realized I failed to recommend a specific map. My strong opinion is that Map # 11 is the ONLY map that satisfies my desire to have at least one of the two MT districts competitive in an election for our only two Federal Representatives in the House! Thanks for considering this additional comment! Gail E Nevin

--

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

From: [Jordan Newberry](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Map CP11
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 2:48:21 PM

As a resident of Lewis and Clark county I support map #CP 11 which puts Lewis and Clark county with the western district which it shares community values with. Lewis and Clark county would be represented better by someone with familiarity with the western district rather than someone with the eastern district. Please consider map # 11. Thank you.

-Jordan

From: [Cathy Nolan](#)
To: [Maylinn Smith <maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov>](#); [Jeff Essman <jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov>](#); [Joe Lamson <Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov>](#); [Dan Stusek <dan.stusek@mtleg.gov>](#); [Kendra Miller <kendra.miller@mtleg.gov>](#)
Cc: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support CP 13
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 8:01:55 PM

October 30, 2021

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

Presiding Officer Smith and Commissioners Essman, Lamson, Stusek, and Miller:

Please lend your support to CP 13 as you go forward.

CP 13 best represents and respects the inclusion of indigenous American Indian communities and their voices in Montana's participation regionally and at the state level.

CP 13 keeps related counties/communiities intact. It keeps Flathead Valley whole. CP 13 keeps Livingston and Whitefish linked, and CP 13 keeps Yellowstone and Glacier linked. And it keeps the communities in Gallatin County and Park County intact, too.

CP 13 best represents an effective political map for Montana now and in the future.
Please base your ongoing efforts on CP 13. T

Thank you for reading my comments,

Catherine Nolan
209 E Crestline DR
Missoula, MT 59803

From: [John Nugent](#)
To: [Susan Matule](#); [Districting](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#);
[Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: In favor of Proposal 11
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 5:09:28 PM

I am in favor of Proposal 11

Sent from John W. Nugent

|

From: [sephrie](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Adopt Map CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:31:40 PM

November 2, 2021

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I **strongly** support Map **CP-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

After all your hard work and deliberations I hope that you agree that this is the best choice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joseph O'Rourke

Joseph O'Rourke
197 Stage Bend Lane
Columbia Falls, Montana 59912

Sephrie@protonmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jean O'Connor
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:04:57 AM

From: Jean O'Connor joconnor122@gmail.com

Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

I favor Congressional Proposal #11, the one proposed by the Democratic group for redistricting. This is more fair as to balance of political parties for those who live in it. 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: Steven O'Connor
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:16:11 PM

From: Steven O'Connor sboconnor@live.com
Residence: Proctor, 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: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:27:23 AM

From: John Oetinger <johnoetinger@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 9:47 AM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

I still prefer map 11 over the other 3.

Same logic:

I approve of districts including likeminded voters so that their representative can do a good job of representing their constituents.

As to those complaining the rep will have to travel long distances: really? It is MT.

Thanks

From: Weiss, Rachel [<mailto:RWeiss@mt.gov>]
Sent: Saturday, October 23, 2021 1:19 PM
To: John Oetinger
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

Hello Mr. Oetinger,

You can find additional information about each map, including pdf and interactive maps, online at: <https://mtredistricting.gov/congressional-maps-proposed-by-the-commission/> [mtredistricting.gov].

If you have additional comments about the maps after viewing those, you may send an email to districting@mt.gov or use the commission's webform at: <https://mtredistricting.gov/contact/> [mtredistricting.gov]. You can also comment directly on the interactive maps using the comment feature.

Sincerely,

Rachel Weiss
Legislative Research Analyst
406-444-5367

From: John Oetinger <johnoetinger@outlook.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 23, 2021 12:32 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Cc: Spencer, Nadine <NSpencer@mt.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

Based on the article and maps in the Missoulian yesterday (which are not very clear), I prefer the new map 11 over the new map 10.

Same logic:

I approve of districts including likeminded voters so that their representative can do a good job of representing their constituents.

It appears map 11 has Missoula, Butte, Helena and Bozeman in the west, and Great Falls and Kalispell in the east, which is fine. Like I said, the maps are not very clear in the Missoulian, so if that's incorrect, please clarify.

Thanks

From: Weiss, Rachel [<mailto:RWeiss@mt.gov>]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 6:27 PM
To: John Oetinger
Cc: Spencer, Nadine
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

Hell Mr. Oetinger,

I've sent your additional comments to the comments email so they will be included in the packet the commissioners receive tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Rachel

From: John Oetinger <johnoetinger@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:51 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Cc: Kolman, Joe <jkolman@mt.gov>; Spencer, Nadine <NSpencer@mt.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

Hi Rachel,

Now that I've had some more time to review the maps and see that Bozeman is in the east in CP7, I want to change my feedback: CP9 is my preferred map.

The logic is:

I don't approve of gerrymandering, regardless of who benefits, and 2, 4, 6 and 8 are gerrymandering.

However, I do approve of districts including likeminded voters so that their representative can do a good job of representing their constituents, if that can be done without blatant gerrymandering.

1, 3, 5 and 7 divide the state roughly along a north south line, so minimal to no gerrymandering, but too much of a mix of contradictory constituents.

Therefore, CP9 is the best choice (too bad there are no native American tribes in the west in CP9, but you can't have everything).

Thanks

From: Weiss, Rachel [<mailto:RWeiss@mt.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 1:17 PM
To: johnoetinger@outlook.com
Cc: Kolman, Joe; Spencer, Nadine
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

Hello Mr. Oetinger,

Thank you for your comments. They will be distributed to the commissioners after an October 16 deadline. PDF maps of the prior Congressional districts are available at: <https://mtredistricting.gov/districting-maps/> [mtredistricting.gov]. If you scroll down to the Maps for Reference section, you'll see those map links.

Also, the interactive maps for the Commission Proposals should allow you to Zoom in to specific areas of the state, including towns. You can also change the view to see a regular map view or satellite images.

I hope this information helps.

Sincerely,

Rachel Weiss
Legislative Research Analyst
Montana Legislative Services Division

406-444-5367
Post Office Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

From: MDAC <donotreply@mtredistricting.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 10:21 AM
To: Districting <districting@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

From: John Oetinger
Residence: Missoula MT

Message:

CP 7 is my preference (assuming it has Bozeman in the west).

It is very difficult to tell which city is in which district, so adding at least the major cities, to the maps, would be helpful, especially Great Falls and Bozeman.

I'd like to know what the old 2 congressional districts were (I googled and could not find a map), so including a small history section and the old map to your webpage would be helpful. Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

--

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

From: [Brian OLeary](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional map comment
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:35:38 AM

Madame Chair and Commissioners,

I urge you to vote yes on CP 12. This map follows all of the criteria set forth by the commission. The population split is equal, only one county is split, and it follows all other county lines. As a resident of Lewis and Clark County, I believe that the county must remain whole and the agricultural nature of the county demands representation in the Eastern District. I also believe that CP 12 would keep the Western District competitive.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter. Please move CP 12 forward during the November 4th meeting.

Respectfully,

Brian OLeary

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elizabeth Oleson
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:07:30 PM

From: Elizabeth Oleson olesonea@onewest.net
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

Thank you for the additional work on proposed maps 12 and 13. I still prefer map 11. It only "splits" one county. It includes like-minded communities in the western district and puts Gallatin and Park counties in the same district. None of the current options under consideration consolidate all reservation voices into a single district, but map 11 concentrates all but the Salish-Kootenai reservation in the eastern district, thus magnifying that important demographic's voice and influence. Your efforts are appreciated. Elizabeth Oleson

--

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: Phillip Oliver
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:21:01 AM

From: Phillip Oliver pnpoliver@gmail.com
Residence: Billings

Message:

States with contorted district lines and unbalanced populations are criticized by the press and viewed unfavorably by public opinion. We should have districts that do not take major cities out of their counties. The lines should follow county lines as much as possible. Overall the population should be balanced. We want to be able to tell the rest of the country that Montana is fair and balanced, not contorted and lopsided.

--

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: Dan P. Olsen
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:32:09 AM

From: Dan P. Olsen pcsdpolsen@gmail.com
Residence: butte, mt

Message:

I support the redistricting plan proposed by the Commission Democrats with Gallatin, Park and Lewis & Clark count in the western district.

P.S. – the email address "district@Mt.gov" as published in the MT Standard returns an undeliverable error.

--

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

From: [Ron Olsen](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:12:17 AM

I believe map CP-12 is the best choice.

Thank you for what you do!

Ronald Olsen
Whitefish, MT

--

Make it a great day!
Ron Olsen

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.

- Ronald Reagan

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Luciele Olson
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:26:27 AM

From: Luciele Olson lorinandlu@gmail.com
Residence: Billings, MT

Message:

I encourage you to accept Map CP 12 .

It gives a stronger voice for the native population in the west.

It only splits 1 county.

Thank you!

--

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

From: [John O'Neil](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] redistricting CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:30:19 PM

Dear Committee members and Chairwoman,

I rise in support of CP12. It is the best fit according to the regulations with only one county being divided and a very balanced population between the east and west. It seems to have many of the features that both sides have in common.

Thank you for hard work.

John O'Neil
2867 Foothill Road
Kalispell 59901
406-755-5714
e-mail cbjon22@centurylink.net

From: [Harlan Orham](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 7:08:50 PM

I have reviewed the comments regarding the two maps which have been chosen as possible districts. Please choose wisely and select the proposed CP 11 as it appears to be the fairer of the two as it complies with the criteria set forth.

Thank you

From: [Marylou Osman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 8:10:22 AM

Go with map 13. Why? It is competitive and that's what elections should be. ML Osman

From: [Peggy Ousley](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:52:04 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am Peggy Jane Ousley. I live in Eureka, and have lived in Montana for 47 years.

map 11

It seems to be the map that does not favor one party over the other

Thank you for your time and consideration, this is a big project and I know it's been a lot of work.

Regards,
Peggy Ousley
2056 Sophie Lake Rd
Eureka, MT 59917

From: [Jeffery Padgett](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New maps - comment period should be extended for a week
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 7:36:11 AM

I think submitting two new maps two days before you are going to select the final map is a bad idea. I just found out about the two new maps this morning and I actually spent some time looking at the first two maps before I sent my comments earlier. I don't have that time this morning. I suggest you extend the comment period for another week. This smacks of some political shenanigans of some sort with these two new late entries.

From: [Shaun P](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:22:12 PM

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.

Shaun Pandina

Flathead County 29 year MT Resident

From: [laura Parr](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:59:49 PM

Hello, Today I tried to comment on Map 12 via the redistricting website but it wouldn't go through and just kept "processing" so I thought I'd email you directly. Thanks for hearing my concerns.

It is confusing to the overall process to add Map 12 at the final hour and undermines public trust in the process. Furthermore, Map 12 fails to meet the criteria of not unduly favoring a political party and considering communities of interest.

As a long-time Helena resident, I have never considered Lewis and Clark County as part of Eastern Montana. Putting Lewis and Clark Co in the Eastern district ignores the 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 connection to other agricultural counties in Eastern Montana.

I do not favor this Map as a viable option.

Thank you for this consideration.

Laura Parr
Currently, a Helena resident, born and raised in the Gallatin Valley.

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Eva C Patten
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:33:56 PM

From: Eva C Patten evapatten1@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, Montana

Message:

I have previously submitted comments in favor of Map #11. I continue to support this version. I am opposed to Map #12:

In my previous email I said how fortunate we are in Montana to have a Redistricting Commission. I expressly thanked the Commission for their commitment to having one competitive district for the State and to recognizing common values within a district. Plan 11 meets both of these criteria. The fair representation of both parties in the new district means any candidate, Republican or Democrat must listen to potential voters. Any winner will most likely be moderate in his/her approach. Secondly the shared cultural values and economic and governmental issues should be included in the consideration. Education, outdoor recreation, economic interests and the need for adjacent counties in a growing population center to have the ability to plan together for housing, open space, transportation, etc. A congressperson who represents both Gallatin and Park counties when we apply for federal grants or assistance is critical.

I strongly oppose the new map #12. It fulfills neither of the Commission's own criterion for one competitive district nor does it recognize shared interests. My vote is for #11. Thank you.
Eva Patten

--

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

From: [Sharon Patton-griffin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Thoughts on Map 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:13:24 PM

From: jhpavlock@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice Pavlock](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:30:32 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ms Janice Pavlock
30632 Mission Creek Rd St Ignatius, MT 59865-9797
jhpavlock@gmail.com

From: [Charline Payne](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:26:34 AM

Please use map CP12

Thomas and Charline Payne
316 Morning View Dr
Kalispell, MT 59901

From: [Becky Peltz](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting election maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 2:32:25 PM

As a resident and registered voter of POLSON, Montana I believe map #11 to be most fair for voters. Please make this the new district boundary.

Thank you
Becky Peltz
395 Claffey Dr
POLSON, MT 59860
Sent from my iPad

From: [Vaughn Penrod](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:38:28 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

Thank you for your consideration.

Vaughn Penrod
299 Whisper Ridge
Bigfork, Mt 59911
1-406-261-7698
Vaughn.penco@centurytel.net

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kathy Pesa
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:24:30 PM

From: Kathy Pesa pesamt2019@gmail.com

Residence: LIVINGSTON

Message:

I fully support re-districting certain counties in Montana to be more competitive for Democrats.

Thank you for working towards fair and accountable elections in our state.

--

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

From: [Aaron Peterson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:33:25 PM

I have lived my 81 years in Montana. If the committee is serious about making a fair decision for all Montana, it would make sure that communities that have like interests would remain together. Also, to be fair the committee would draw the redistricting so it does not favor one political party. What happened to map11?

Jeanne Peterson
911 Park Garden Road
Great Falls, Montana
406-452-3739

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Susan Peterson](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 12:53:56 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Susan Peterson. I am a retired teacher and working rancher. I have lived in Montana my entire life and at this Drummond ranch for 18 years.

I support Map 11 because it is competitive and keeps most communities intact.

It doesn't unduly favor a political party.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,
Susan Peterson
287 W Mullan Trail
Drummond, MT 59832

From: [Caroline Pharr](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Feedback on New Redistricting Maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:14:53 AM

Dear Districting and & Apportionment Commission Members,

I would like to advocate for maps 11 and 13. Both maps are population equal and competitive, giving each voter in district one a chance to make their voices heard and hold their elected officials accountable. Map 11 closely follows the historical precedent of the 1980 congressional districts. Map 11 also keeps several communities of interest together in a way that makes sense and gives voice to those unique constituents. These include communities that rely on ski tourism, our flagship universities, union towns Helena and Butte, and agricultural communities along the rocky mountain front, golden triangle, and the Hi Line. Map 13 holds two tribal communities within a competitive district, giving voice to Native communities and ensuring that elected officials would need to listen to and advocate for tribal nations to be elected.

Maps 10 and 12 are not competitive in either district and allow elected officials to pick their voters as opposed to the other way around, as is intended in a true democracy. I strongly oppose both of these maps. As a constituent who lives in Helena, I am strongly opposed to Helena being placed in a noncompetitive eastern district where my voice and my vote won't count. It doesn't make sense to separate this western town from its neighboring communities with similar concerns and interests. There have been many maps proposed along the guise of an arbitrary east/west line that separate communities of interest to ensure that one party is unduly favored. Please follow the guidelines of commission and give a strong voice to all Montana voters. Best,

Caroline

On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 8:21 PM Caroline Pharr <crpharr@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Commission,

I am writing to advocate for the newly proposed map 11. This map is population equal and keeps communities of interest together. The map is competitive and does not unduly favor one party. It also gives a strong voice to our tribal nations by keeping the CSKT and the Blackfeet reservations together in one competitive district. Keeping MSU and U of M together gives education a strong voice and allows for the unique needs of those communities to be met. Lastly, and most importantly, it allows every voter in district one to have a vote that truly matters. Representatives will have to campaign and will be held accountable. Please do what is right and what is fair and select map 11. Best,

Caroline Pharr

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Marie Phillips
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:01:13 PM

From: Marie Phillips mariephillips222@gmail.com
Residence: KALISPELL, MT

Message:

I strongly urge you to to move CP10 forward, however, CP12 and CP13 would be acceptable

--

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: William Phillips
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:00:33 PM

From: William Phillips PHILLIPS.MTCPA@GMAIL.COM
Residence: KALISPELL

Message:

I strongly urge you to to move CP10 forward, however, CP12 and CP13 would be acceptable

--

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

From: [Lyle Phillips](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: [Lyle Phillips](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:14:37 AM

I SUPPORT THE CP 12 PLAN BECAUSE THE WESTERN REGION REMAINS INTACT. THE DEMOCRATS ARE ATTEMPTING TO WATER DOWN THE STRONG CONSERVATIVE PRESENCE IN THE FLATHEAD AND THE WESTERN PART OF THE STATE. (Well of course not counting liberal Whitefish and Missoula).

Lyle Phillips
41 2nd Street W
Whitefish, MT 59937

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Desiree Pihl
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:34:51 PM

From: Desiree Pihl dcpihl@hotmail.com

Residence: Pray, MT

Message:

I am completely opposed to CP-12. Splitting communities and creating non competitive districts will not make our congress people representative of all Montanans.

Why not have two representatives at large – each representing the entire state?

Please NO to CP-12!!

Thank you.

--

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: Pam Purinton
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:19:27 PM

From: Pam Purinton pamspurinton@gmail.com
Residence: Billings

Message:

I support CP12 Mapping as it keeps Flathead County in the Western District. I also think it is better not to split Gallatin, Flathead, and Lewis and Clark counties. I also have seen that Former Gov. Racicot and Max Baucus have agreed that the appearance of political divide is not in the best interest of the state of Montana

Thank you

--

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

From: [Susan Rabatin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map 11 is the fair choice
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 4:52:51 PM

Members of the redistributing committee:

I support Map 11 as a better choice than map 10 or either of the most recent maps put forward by the committee. Map 11 is equitable by population, keeps Gallatin County intact and is politically competitive moving forward.

Susan Rabatin
Gallatin Gateway MT

Sent from my iPad

From: [Marc Racicot](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: United States Congressional Districts
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:38:35 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I observed in the media covering the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission hearing conducted on Saturday, October 30, 2021 that it is necessary for the joint letter below to be submitted to the aforementioned address in order for it to be formally considered by the Commission as a part of the official comment process. As a result, the attached joint letter below is hereby submitted as a formal comment for consideration by the Commission.

Marc Racicot

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marc Racicot <mracicot22@gmail.com>
Subject: **United States Congressional Districts**
Date: October 29, 2021 at 5:16:47 PM MDT
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov, joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov,
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov, kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov,
jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov

The following is submitted on behalf of former Ambassador and U.S. Senator Max Baucus and former governor Marc Racicot. We extend our gratitude for your careful consideration of our recommendations.

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

Dear Presiding Officer and Commissioners,

Montana is in the midst of drawing a line to divide our state into two congressional districts. Our population has grown enough to re-gain a second seat in the US House of Representatives that was lost 30 years ago when we served alongside both of Montana's U.S. Representatives in public office at that time.

As you consider recommendations, we believe the divide should

be drawn in a way that Montanans will recognize and respect.

Montana is blessed with natural geographic lines that follow the Rocky Mountain Front and we believe we should respect that history and geography. We urge you to draw a boundary that allows Flathead and Gallatin Counties to remain whole.

Furthermore, we suggest you not divide any Montana counties, except for the purpose of maintaining the integrity and respecting the sovereignty of reservation boundaries and to satisfy the equal population requirements of each district. Additionally, we believe that two reservations should also be placed within a western district to ensure stronger tribal representation.

We urge the commission to finalize a compromise map that reflects these clear parameters.

The two final maps currently before the Commission inappropriately prioritize objectives of one party or the other. It is in the best interest of voters to not divide counties.

Montana's Constitution created this Commission that must work together for the common good of our state. We need a map that does what's right for Montana, not for just the Republican or the Democratic Party.

Max Baucus
Racicot

Marc

From: [K Rakela](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map 10 best - breaks up the big universities, one to each district
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 3:17:48 PM

The two big universities should not be in one district. Map 10 makes sure that the two big universities are in separate districts and makes sense.

From: [Shane Randle](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:39:55 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Shane Randle, I have lived in Missoula for the past four years.

I support map 11.

I support map 11 because it doesn't favor either political party, therefore creating competitive districts.

Thank you very much for taking my opinion into consideration. I hope you can make a decision which not only gives all Montanans a vote, but also a chance for their vote to make a difference regardless of districting.

Regards,
Shane Randle
2245 Briggs St
Missoula, MT 59803

From: [David Raney](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Map CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:28:18 PM

Dear Commissioners:

I am sending this email in lieu of using a link I was given to provide comments on Map CP12, regarding redistricting in Montana state. The linked website didn't accept my comments.

My name is David Raney
My address is: 1 Monarch Court, Clancy, MT 59634
My email address is: davidcraney@comcast.net
My phone number is: 360-509-5660

Here are my comments:

I am in favor of map CP12 for the following reasons:

- 1) Counties Lewis & Clark, Gallatin and Flathead are kept in tact, while only one county state-wide is split.
- 2) The tribes are provided a unified voice in the newly established western district.
- 3) And, map CP12 provides a balanced geographical and population split between the two districts.

I am opposed to CP11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the eastern district. And I am not in favor of CP13 because it splits too many counties.

I deeply appreciate all you have done as a commission in handling this difficult assignment.

David Raney
davidcraney@comcast.net
(360) 509-5660

From: [David Raney](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Second Email with my name and address
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:57:03 PM

Dear Sirs;

This email is to give you my full name and address in Montana.

My opinion is MAP 12 would serve Montana the best.

Map 11 and 13 divide the state with biased boundaries.

Pamela Raney
1 Monarch Court
Clancy, MT 59634

253-225-2285

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Pamela Kay Raney
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:44:42 PM

From: Pamela Kay Raney pamelaraney@me.com
Residence: 1 Monarch Court, Clancy, MT 59634

Message:

I was able to testify at three of your meetings at the Capitol. Please accept my support of MAP 12.

This leaves the Flathead together. MAP 12 includes two native tribes.

Map 11 is unconstitutional.

--

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

From: [David Raney](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] To the Redistricting Commissioners
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:50:49 PM

Dear Sirs:

I am in favor of map CP12 for the following reasons:

- 1) Counties Lewis & Clark, Gallatin and Flathead are kept in tact, while only one county state-wide is split.
- 2) The tribes are provided a unified voice in the newly established western district.
- 3) And, map CP12 provides a balanced geographical and population split between the two districts.

I am opposed to CP11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the eastern district. And I am not in favor of CP13 because it splits too many counties.

I deeply appreciate all you have done as a commission in handling this difficult assignment.

Pamela Raney
253-225-2285

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Carla Rask
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:09:51 PM

From: Carla Rask carla.rask@nemont.coop
Residence: Scobey

Message:

I would like to voice my support for Map 12 as I feel strongly about trying to make the state as evenly regionally divided as possible and this seems to be the best option in my opinion.

--

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: Laurel Rhodes
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:29:35 PM

From: Laurel Rhodes drlmrhodes@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston

Message:

I support Map 11. Please move a map forward that ensures that Park and Gallatin County are kept together, and creates at least one competitive district. • CP 12 slices Park County off from Gallatin. Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin regional economy. A large number of Livingston residents commute to Bozeman for work as well as shopping, dining, and recreation. Livingston is a hot spot for Bozeman residents to dine, and enjoy the outdoors. Park county interests will be ignored in District 2. • CP 12 creates a district where Republicans have won over 75% of statewide elections over the last 8 years in one district and 100% of elections over the last 8 years in the other district. That's not competitive and intentionally drawing both districts to heavily favor the Republican party violates this Commission's goal of not unduly favoring a political party.

--

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: Laurel Rhodes
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:43:45 PM

From: Laurel Rhodes drlmrhodes@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston

Message:

I am a resident of Livingston and I support Map 11. Bozeman and Livingston are closely connected economically and socially. The needs and concerns of Livingston are closely in tune with Bozeman and quite out of step with the proposed district 2. Map 11 keeps Park and Gallatin counties together. If Park county is split off from Bozeman and pushed into district 2, I feel like our voices will be silenced. Please don't let that happen to us or other small county communities.

It seems most equitable to me to keep all of Gallatin in one district and put Yellowstone and most of Flathead in another. Over the next 10 years, these will be the fastest growing counties in the state.

I am opposed to Map 12 which slices Park County off from Gallatin county. As I have said before, Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin regional economy and our interests will be ignored in District 2. I would like county splits to acknowledge and respect communities of interest.

I also oppose Map 10 which both separates the cities of Bozeman and Livingston and divides Gallatin Gateway and Big Sky from the rest of Gallatin county. Map 10 does not allow for competitive districts because it unduly favors the same one political party in both districts 1 and 2.

Thank you for working toward a fair, equitable redistricting map which will help keep our special state a desirable color purple. I appreciate your hard work for Montana's citizens, all of them!

--

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: Beverly Rice
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:16:05 AM

From: Beverly Rice briceskigirl@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston MT

Message:

My husband Paul and I both believe that the redistricting plan 11 that would partner Gallatin and Park County together makes the most sense. Many people live in one county and work in the other and believe these two counties should be in the same division. Thanks for listening.
Bev and Paul Rice

--

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

From: bstnrad1987@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bev Richardson](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Keep Montana competitive
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 8:30:21 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.please chose map CP11. I live in Gallatin & do not want my county divided any more than it already is. Allow our communities to stay together. Additionally, as a teacher and member of MFPE, I request that our two districts be as competitive as possible. Map CP 11 will do that

Sincerely,
Bev Richardson
329 N Hunters Way Bozeman, MT 59718-1813
bstnrad1987@gmail.com

From: [Jim Riley](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#);
[Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] map 12 Support
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:48:09 AM

Commission Chair -

Thank you for listening the community on Saturday and removing maps 10 and 11. I believe that Map 12 best represents the people of Montana.

Jim Riley
58 Morning View way
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-607-0728

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ann Ripley
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 6:21:57 PM

From: Ann Ripley apripley50@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:

I feel it is important that there be a strong district for both Republican and Democrat not just Republican, so I would opt for the Democrats' map. That said, there has been much discussion about making sure the Native population has a voice but as either map is drawn, they will not be heard as they traditionally vote Democratic and are in a strong Republican portion of the State. I am curious why it is important to have districts. Why are the representative for the House selected differently than for the Senate? My choice would be no districts at all.

--

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: bill roberts
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:44:54 AM

From: bill roberts broberts59601@gmail.com
Residence: helena,mt

Message:

I have lived in Helena since I moved to Montana in 1975. I have an equal dislike of both the Republican and Democratic parties since they both tend to be more self-serving than focusing on what's in the best interest of our State and country. Forcing Lewis and Clark county to be thrown into the same congressional district with Billings and the eastern part of the state is the most ridiculous idea imaginable.

--

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: Howard Roberts
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:37:42 AM

From: Howard Roberts hroberts@3rivers.net
Residence: Fairfield

Message:
Fully support map 12, it follows the constitution.

--

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: Michael Rodrique
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:45:45 AM

From: Michael Rodrique trishandmike55@gmail.com
Residence: POLSON, Montana

Message:

I agree with the Republicans contention that there is no provision that the districts must be fair. BUT, I also see no provision that both districts must lean Republican and be made so that both are set by your commission to almost automatically elect two Republicans to the US House of representatives.

--

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

From: [Judy Rolfe](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Maps
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:00:50 AM

Good morning Redistricting Commissioner's,

My name is Judy Rolfe and I am a resident of Helena.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the countless hours you have spent considering the new Redistricting maps for Montana and to apologize for the rude, misguided testimony from a fellow Republican, Dennison Rivera. Please know he does not speak for me or many other well meaning folks in many Republican circles.

I am writing to encourage you as you draw the final map, to please consider not dividing counties. Keeping each county in tact is very important to keeping our communities together.

Your work and commitment to Montana is greatly appreciated.

Judy Rolfe
226 Willowbrook Drive
Helena, MT 59602

Sent from my iPhone

From: mtvickie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vickie A Roller](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Thursday, October 28, 2021 9:58:59 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

To Who It May Concern; (Commission Members)

Not knowing if my vote will count or not, as a single homeowner, I cast my choice for Map # 11.

I just want things to be fair and equal even if my first choice of the previous choices was not accepted.
I am so tired of the state infighting and division. Please with integrity, and a push for the common good of the people,
choose Map # 11

Sincere Thanks,

Sincerely,
Vickie A Roller
835 Ahoy Ave Billings, MT 59105-2523
mtvickie@yahoo.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rob Romsa
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:35:46 AM

From: Rob Romsa rob@rss-pos.com
Residence: Billings, MT

Message:
Committee Members:

I'm writing in support of Map CP12 for the following reasons:

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District which is where it belongs
 - 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, which does not make sense. CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I do not support it.

Map CP13 splits too many counties and Lewis and Clark county should be kept whole.

Thank you for accepting comments on this extremely important decision that will impact our state for many years to come.

--

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: Stephanie S Romsa
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:09:35 AM

From: Stephanie S Romsa ssridley67@yahoo.com
Residence: Billings

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

Thank you for considering my comments regarding this issue.

--

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: Thomas Paul Ross
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:39:23 PM

From: Thomas Paul Ross montanagrizzfan@msn.com
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

Dear Commission Members,

I strongly favor CP12 as a way to establish the new Congressional District for our state. I note that some plans, CP11 for instance, go to lengths to split counties for reasons that are not apparent. CP12, on the other hand subjects only one county to that fate. While CP12 is best I do not understand why any political construct like a county should be divided.

There are also benefits of having some Native American Reservations included in the Western District to balance the several that are in the Eastern District.

In conclusion, my cursory analysis makes me believe that CP12 is superior for the people of Montana, far more so than any of the others, particularly CP11.

--

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: Steven J Rossiter
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:45:30 AM

From: Steven J Rossiter SteveRossiterMT@aol.com
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

I favor Map CP-12 as the best most equitable option available at this time. Thank you for considering my thought on this matter.

--

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: Vera Roth
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:19:43 PM

From: Vera Roth vlarroth89@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell

Message:

please choose what is best for the voters to be able to vote for their needs and interests rather than for a political party. thank you for your willingness to do what we want and need.

--

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

From: acrothen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of A.C.Rothenbuecher
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 12:32:19 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ms. A.C. Rothenbuecher
323 State St Helena, MT 59601-5788
acrothen@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Susan M Ruiz
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:56:02 PM

From: Susan M Ruiz dwolfdesigns@hotmail.com
Residence: Marion, Montana

Message:

I am writing in support of Map CP-12. This Map keeps Flathead County in the Western District, both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations stay in the Western District, which is beneficial to those tribes. Lewis and Clark as well as Flathead and Gallatin counties stay whole with only one county being split. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

--

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

From: [Susan Ruiz](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:40:21 PM

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP-12 for the following reasons:

- 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

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan Ruiz
280 Idaho Hill Rd., Marion MT 59925
(406) 261-8966
[dewolfdesigns@hotmail.com](mailto:dwolfdesigns@hotmail.com)

From: [Bill Rule](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Just another voice
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:28:35 PM

begging that you not neutralize the progressive voices (like mine) of Lewis and Clark County by throwing us in with the wild western part of the state. Same with Gallatin County.

I guess the best we can hope for is CP 11 or CP 13.

Please and thanks,
Bill Rule

From: [Christina Russell](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MT Congressional Map
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:42:46 PM

Dear members of the Montana Districting & Apportionment Commission,

Map #11 is the best fit for Montana. Please ensure fair and equitable lines are drawn for for Montanans.

Thank you for your time & consideration. Your efforts are appreciated!

Kindly,
Christina Russell
(Bonner, MT)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Meggen Ryan
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:15:24 AM

From: Meggen Ryan m.ryan@montana.com
Residence: Evaro, MT

Message:

I like that CP 11 keeps Lewis and Clark County whole, vs CP 13. I also like that CP 11 includes Jefferson County which has economic ties to both Helena and Butte. Can we remove Park and Broadwater Counties and use these population counts to include more of Flathead County in the western district? It seems like CP 11 would be more competitive than CP 13. If that is the case, I support CP 11.

I like that CP 13 keeps the CSKT and Blackfeet communities in one district. Could we move Park County to the eastern district and use that population count to keep more of Lewis and Clark County in the western district? Also, Jefferson County's economic ties with Helena and Butte should keep it in the western district; at the least, keep the northern part of Jefferson county in the western district. This map is visually better than CP 11, but it seems like CP 11 would be more competitive. If CP 13 is at least as or more competitive than CP 11, then I support CP 13.

CP 10 and CP 12 are non-starters as neither of these maps create competitive districts.

Thank you for your great efforts working on the redistricting process. Such a monumental task! We Montanans can be proud of our open and inclusive process.

--

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

From: [David Saslav](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please do not adopt redistricting map 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:00:48 PM

Redistricting Commissioners:

I oppose Map 12 as it splits communities of interest and utterly fails to create even one competitive district based on the outcomes of the last ten years' worth of voting data.

Elections have become more partisan over the past decade. Creating districts that issue "free passes" to candidates instead of making them engage with and listen to voters across all their voter cohorts — to whom they are ultimately accountable — would be a terrible idea that can only further divisiveness in Montana.

Map 13 is the far better choice, as it creates at least one competitive district of the two that will exist in Montana for the next ten years.

Thanks so much,

David Saslav
Great Falls, MT
Candidate for Neighborhood Council 1

From: [Evelyn Sass](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Support CP12 all Major Points
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:59:59 PM

Hello, I'm registering my support on all the major points on Map CP 12 that follows all the mandatory criteria. Keeps Flathead County in the Western District, includes both CSKT & Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, it only splits one county unlike [CP13.My](#) [\[cp13.my\]](#) support input Includes CP10 -11- 12-13. Thank you for honoring my input.
Evelyn Sass, Helena MT 59601 406-431-8010

From: [Gary Saurey](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Halloween Comments
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 9:24:36 PM

October 31, 2021

Chairman and Members Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission:

I am extremely disappointed in the tone and direction of the recent work session, in which you proposed the two new maps, CP 10 and CP 11. The Commission has really gone off the rails, now to more maps 12 and 13! I fault you, Chairman Smith for badgering Commissioners Stusek and Essmann to come up with so-called “competitive” maps. All of these new maps should be relegated where they belong to the scrap heap in favor of the map which had the most support during the first round, CP 1! This is the one that best follows the Constitution and the Law, and was overwhelmingly supported during the first round of comments. Contrast that with the “competitive” gerrymandered map CP 2, which was overwhelmingly rejected! Commissioners Stusek and Essmann, you need to stand up for your original maps instead of being badgered by the other side and the Chairman to abandon your clearly superior original product in favor of the nonsense of “competitiveness” and political favoritism.

Commissioners Lamson and Miller are blatantly carving out maps which attempt to favor their political party, making mischief out of the process using “competitiveness” and “communities of interest”. Particularly Commissioner Miller’s discussion of communities of interest tying parts of the Flathead to Southeast Montana 500 plus miles away was laughable and pathetic. And yes, Chairman Smith, that is exactly what they are doing: drawing maps that unduly favor one political party over the other! It is up to you as the nonpartisan Chairman to recognize and reject these efforts of partisan political gerrymandering, and I am hopeful you will rise to the occasion for the sake of your fellow Montanans!

Stop the shenanigans!

Gary Saurey
PO Box 2763
5200 Blankenship Rd
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

406-314-8382

From: [Samantha Savage](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 1:35:07 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello,

My name is Samantha Savage and I am from Bozeman MT, I have lived in Montana for 17 years.

I am in full support of map 11 because it ensures a competitive district, and better represents the voice of Montana.

Thanks for your time!

Regards,
Samantha Savage
3229 Hidden Springs Ln
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: allison.dancer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Allison Sawyer](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 10:10:37 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Allison Sawyer
Missoula, MT 59802
allison.dancer@gmail.com

From: [Ken and Edna Scalzone](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:32:02 AM

Please **support** the **Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map**.

It is clearly the fairest of all the proposals made so far and solves many of the problems inherent in the other proposals.

Edna Scalzone
267 Buffalo Drive
Dillon, MT 59725

From: [patrick schelle](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 11:50:01 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am Patrick L Schelle, D.O. in Billings MT, previously of Lewistown. I have lived in Montana since 1992.

I support map #11 as it is most inclusive and evenly represents the political parties, which doesn't appear to be the case with the other map.

It doesn't unduly favor one party.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of my comments.

Regards,
patrick schelle
203 Skokie Cir
Billings, MT 59105

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Dan Schmauch
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:42:32 AM

From: Dan Schmauch wolkpackfan@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell, Montana

Message:

This is my first comment submission. I look at the 13 maps on the commission's site to-date, and see politics in almost all of them and flat out gerrymandering in many. These splits are difficult, so the commission MUST try to stick to objective and legal criteria, in this order: US constitution and law, MT constitution, MT law. There is some debate as to the commission operating independently of MT law, but there is no reason to ignore duly passed laws if they do not conflict with our constitution or federal law. The commission should avoid splitting counties, but I think it more important to not split "metro" areas. Splitting Flathead county, as isolated as it is from eastern MT, is ludicrous. Gallatin county and areas around Bozeman are the biggest challenge, as that area ties to both western "tourist" and eastern agricultural tendencies. It is also rapidly growing. As for competitiveness, that is interesting, but the pendulum of politics swings back and forth, and these districts will be with us for a decade. It makes no sense to favor competition over other factors based on only the most recent political leanings. All of that said, of the most recently posted maps, CP12 is a better compromise than others, though I much prefer earlier submissions, CP1 in particular. It includes some compromise between R's and D's biases, and the splits it includes are not crazily unreasonable like some many others.

--

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

From: [Hal Schmid](#)
To: [Maylinn Smith](#); [Jeff Essman](#); [Joe Lamson](#); [Dan Stusek](#); [Kendra Miller](#)
Cc: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support CP 13
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 1:24:18 PM

October 30, 2021

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

Presiding Officer Smith and Commissioners Essman, Lamson, Stusek, and Miller:

Please support CP 13 as you go forward.

I favor CP 13 at this point as it best represents and respects the inclusion of indigenous American Indian communities and their voices in Montana's participation regionally and at the state level.

CP 13 also keeps Flathead Valley whole. It keeps the communities in Gallatin County and Park County intact, too.

CP 13 keeps Livingston and Whitefish linked, and CP 13 keeps Yellowstone and Glacier linked.

Therefore, to me, a third-generation Missoulian living in southern Lake County who has worked in the woods and in construction across Western Montana, as well as in education across the entire state, I feel CP 13 best represents an effective political map for Montana now and in the future.

To be honest, I have written and participated in the districting process for the past couple years. I respect your work and your commitment to Montana and its future. It is therefore quite frustrating to me as I listen to folks who now bus to Helena and speak to you about "follow the law" while making vague threats as members of the Derek Skees' cheer squad. "Do the right thing?" "Your maps are all illegal except CP 1?" As a teacher, I have to shake my head.

There has been great arrogance expressed at times by some speakers, and I am amazed at the integrity and patience you have all shown as well as by your willingness to listen to everyone. You are all exceptional human beings. I truly mean that. Thank you.

I will continue to pray for you and your continued work on behalf of Montana.

Please base your ongoing efforts on CP 13. Thank you.

Hal Schmid, Ed.D.

Arlee, MT 59806

hschmid@montana.com

Mailing address: PO Box 3603, Missoula, MT 59806

From: [DIANNA SCHMID](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: In support of Map 11
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 2:17:24 PM

Since you have added two more choices, I'd like to amend my previous message to urge your support of Map #13.

Thank you,
Dianna Schmid

----- Original Message -----

From: DIANNA SCHMID <dischmid@comcast.net>
To: "districting@mt.gov" <districting@mt.gov>, "maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov" <maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov>, "jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov" <jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov>, "Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov" <Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov>, "dan.stusek@mtleg.gov" <dan.stusek@mtleg.gov>, "kendra.miller@mtleg.gov" <kendra.miller@mtleg.gov>
Date: 10/27/2021 8:47 AM
Subject: In support of Map 11

Fellow Montanans,

Please register my support for Map #11 of the two remaining choices.

Thank you for your best efforts at ensuring fair representation of all Montanans.

Sincerely,

Dianna Schmid
223 Mansion Heights Drive
Missoula, Montana 59803

From: [Alicia Schreibeis](#)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#); Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote Map CP12
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 4:48:55 PM

Redistricting Members,

As you reconsider the district split, please note that I support Map CP12 because it only splits 1 county, while including Flathead county in it's entirety in the western district.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your desire to make Montana an even more desirable place to live.

Alicia Schreibeis
Billings, MT

From: [Nicole Schubert](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MT Redistricting Map 12 vote from Flathead County resident
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:55:02 PM

Dear Chair and Districting Committee,

I am a resident of Flathead County and have been following your process for the past few months. Thank you for doing due diligence and listening to our voices to come up with Map 12!

Map 12 keeps the big counties together with two in each district. Great! I am so happy to have my country plus Glacier as one. Map 12 has two tribes in the West and two in the East which gives the tribes a voice! The split along the Continental Divide makes sense geographically and will give the House Representative in each District the chance to easily travel and get to know constituents in order to effectively represent us in Congress. Each district also borders Canada, which is fantastic.

Map 12 feels fair and nonpartisan and if the margin between opinions is narrow, the Representative will get to do their job and move to the center. People will have to work together. There will be no extremes. Thank you for doing your job fairly and coming up with Map 12. I hope this is your pick!

Have a nice day.

Cheers,
Nicole
Happy Flathead Valley resident & mom

Nicole Schubert
YA author & screenwriter
[Blues Harp Green \[amazon.com\]](#)
[Saoirse Berger's Bookish Lens In La La Land \[amazon.com\]](#)
[nicoleschubertwrites.com \[nicoleschubertwrites.com\]](http://nicoleschubertwrites.com)

mobile 310-962-0359



From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Aaron Schuerr
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:35:36 PM

From: Aaron Schuerr contact@aaronschuerr.com
Residence: Livingston

Message:

As a Livingston resident I oppose Map 12. Livingston is connected socially and economically with Bozeman- I have one son living and working in Bozeman and another going to college in Bozeman. It makes no sense to put Livingston in District 2. Make the districts fair for voters.

--

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

From: [David Schuldberg \(schuld\)](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Committee
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:23:13 AM

Dear Honorable Members of the Districting and Apportionment Commission:

I am writing to urge you in the strongest possible terms to support either redistricting proposal 11 or proposal 13, and oppose redistricting proposal 10 and proposal 12. Options 11 and 13 are the fairer of the four remaining options and would best ensure proper representation of Montanans in Congress.

Thank you for the opportunity and for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,
David Schuldberg
4624 Aspen Dr.
Missoula, Montana 59801

From: [James Schulz](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:09:52 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Greetings, my name is Jim Schulz and I am a retired school teacher from Helena. I have lived in this fair city for 35 years.

I strongly support voting district map 11 because it does not favor one political party over the other.

Map 11 makes the district competitive and not just a gerrymandered mess favoring only one political party. As a citizen of Lewis & Clark Co., it makes no sense to be included in the same district as Billings.

I would like to commend the commission for the many hours they have spent working on this very important issue. Please consider my request for Map 11. Thank you.

Regards,
James Schulz
1021 Butte Ave
Helena, MT 59601

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Anne Schumacher
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:46:17 PM

From: Anne Schumacher annebenschumacher@yahoo.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

My name is Anne Schumacher. I live in Bozeman, MT.

I favored Map 11 before Map 13 was proposed. However, Map 13 looks like a good compromise for Montana and I now support it over all of the other maps. It allows for a competitive Western District, keeps communities of like interest together and gives minority voices a say.

Thank you all for the incredible effort you have put into this important step for our democracy.

--

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: Karen Searle
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:22:05 PM

From: Karen Searle karen@montanabunkhouses.com
Residence: Livingston, Montana

Message:

As a resident of Park County, I'm quite concerned about the last minute efforts to move a map forward that separates Park and Gallatin County ... that separates Helena from Butte ... that splits communities of interest.

Rural Montanans do not take kindly to gerrymandering.

Please move a map forward that ensures Park and Gallatin Counties are kept together ... Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin regional economy.

--

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: Mary Sedwick
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:35:17 AM

From: Mary Sedwick onetallredhead@msn.com

Residence: E. Is, MT

Message:

Maps 11 and 13 seem to be the most fair. Every eligible voters should have an EQUAL opportunity to have his/her vote to count.

--

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

From: jackiedsemmens@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jackie Semmens](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 1:40:30 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jackie Semmens
409 Geddis St Helena, MT 59601-5515
jackiedsemmens@gmail.com

From: [Teri Seth](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.com; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps 12/13
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 7:49:49 AM

Greetings it is Teri Seth from Gallatin Gateway again, 35+ years in this great state!

Now you are considering maps 12 and 13. I urge you to choose map 13 for the following reasons. It is compact. I divides the population well. It keeps the western towns and cities together - Missoula, Butte, Helena, Bozeman. Those cities have much in common. Their populations have very diverse views. They need a voice that will represent their diverse views - meaning the whole political and social spectrum. Their economies also are more similar. Truth is the eastern district electee will represent the views of rural and conservative Montanans statewide. If map 12 or 10 are selected it is highly unlikely that the views of moderate, progressive and liberal Montanans will be heard and those views make up nearly half (45% approximately) of the population. Map 13 is not a sure win for either side but a candidate would need to be attentive to the needs and desires of a broader constituency. If map 11 is still on the table it is better than 13 for these same reasons.

Thank you for your continued diligence.

Please allow all Montanans to have a voice.

Sincerely, Teri

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mary Sexton](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Favoritism
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:38:18 AM

Hello Chair Smith and Committee Members,

As a rural resident and former Teton County Commissioner, I urge you strongly to reject Proposal 12. It demonstrates distinct favoritism to Republicans! Plus it separates communities of interest. Rural interests will be muffled, and urban interests separated. Not a good choice!

I will also add that keeping to county lines can be tricky. When counties were formed, it was often not very thoughtful or intentional, more haphazard. When I was a commissioner, we looked into bringing Augusta into Teton County - similar communities of interest. They (Augusta community) were interested and we, Teton County, were interested. BUT, the statutory process was onerous, involving taxes and school districts. We didn't pursue the effort. My point is that having a fair, workable map for apportioning voters in Montana for Congressional Districts may not necessarily mean keeping counties together.

Again, as a rural voter, PLEASE reject proposal 12. Take another look at 11 or perhaps 13.

Thank you for your time and considerable effort!

Mary Sexton
Rural Teton County



Mary Sexton
406 590-2751 | Msexton@3rivers.net
Choteau, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sheila Shapiro
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 12:29:14 AM

From: Sheila Shapiro sheshapiro@centurtel.net
Residence: Whitefish

Message:

I am a longtime resident of Montana, living in Whitefish over 42y., all 3 children have been born in Whitefish, and I've worked as a Nurse Practitioner for Flathead County as well.

I support map 11. It meets the criteria and is contiguous with towns and communities in a more balanced way. At this time, when emotions are fragile, political party favoring is to be avoided. Fair districting can help improve some of the negative impacts we are seeing as we meld our newcomers with our old timers. Montana has always been such a friendly state, and even when folks didn't see eye-to-eye, we had an acceptance and tolerance for "to each his own". Let's try to bring this back around.

As I said previously, it looks like most of the maps are inappropriately splitting communities/towns which fails to keep them in accordance with the criteria.

Thank you so much for the time and patience you have offered with this comment period. May we find a compromise we can all be proud of.

--

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

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] Support for District 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:47:09 AM

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: [Hannah Shepherd](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:54:00 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Hannah Shepherd, I've lived in Montana my entire life, and I've been in Missoula off and on since I started college in 2000.

I support Map 11, because I think it's important that the map not support one political party over another.

Map 11 will be the most competitive of the final maps.

Thank you so much for your work and for taking the time to read comments from the public!

Regards,
Hannah Shepherd
315 Plymouth St
Missoula, MT 59801

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Lisa Slattery
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:53:23 AM

From: Lisa Slattery lisa@exitrealtylaurel.com
Residence: Laurel, Mt

Message:
For CP 12

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

From: [Douglas Smith](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 11:23:57 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Douglas Smith Bozeman loved here 27 years

Map 11

More competitive- makes politicians speak to all Montana

Thanks for your time and consideration

Regards,
Douglas Smith
3035 Tumbleweed Dr
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kristin Nell Smith
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:41:58 PM

From: Kristin Nell Smith knell7@yahoo.com
Residence: Libby

Message:

I strongly encourage you to adopt Map #13

This plan is population equal, with only a one person difference between the two districts.

This plan includes the Flathead and Blackfeet Reservations in a competitive district, meaning that any candidate who runs for the seat on either side of the aisle must win over Native voters in order to win.

This plan does not unduly favor any political party because it establishes a truly competitive district.

This plan keeps Flathead County whole, and is a major move toward consensus, which has taken a lot of give and take on both sides.

This plan follows the historical precedent of the 1980's congressional map, keeping intact as many historical communities of interest as possible while achieving perfect population equality that acknowledges where Montanans live today.

This plan recognizes the importance of county lines, city limits, and communities of interest. It splits no cities or towns and achieves population equality by acknowledging community of interest concerns in Lewis & Clark and Gallatin Counties.

The tourism economies centered around Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks are both included in the western district, keeping a bipartisanly recognized community of interest intact.

The Canadian interface has representation in both districts, which addresses a concern raised by citizens along the border.

Both districts include sections of the Empire Builder Amtrak line, meaning both Representatives will have to advocate for funding for the train line.

This plan ensures District 2 has strong rural voices. Of the major cities in Montana, only Great Falls and Billings are in District 2, ensuring one seat where rural voices will be a majority.

This plan keeps the union towns of Helena, Anaconda, Deer Lodge, and Butte in the same district.

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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: Michael Smith
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:36:45 PM

From: Michael Smith pmountain5@hotmail.com
Residence: Livingston Montana

Message:

Please move a map forward that ensures that Park and Gallatin County are kept together, and creates at least one competitive district.

- CP 12 slices Park County off from Gallatin. Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin regional economy. A large number of Livingston residents commute to Bozeman for work as well as shopping, dining, and recreation. Livingston is a hot spot for Bozeman residents to dine, and enjoy the outdoors. Park county interests will be ignored in District 2.
- CP 12 creates a district where Republicans have won over 75% of statewide elections over the last 8 years in one district and 100% of elections over the last 8 years in the other district. That's not competitive and intentionally drawing both districts to heavily favor the Republican party violates this Commission's goal of not unduly favoring a political party.

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

From: [Thompson Smith](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] revised comment on redistricting
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 4:40:46 PM

Dear Montana Redistricting Commission,

Since the Commission decided yesterday, October 30, to continue deliberations, I am submitting this revision of my previous comments. I believe there was some confusion due to the last-minute submission of new compromise maps from both Republican and Democratic members of the Commission.

First, I will reiterate my thanks to all of you for your service and your citizenship, and for this opportunity to submit comments.

I have been a resident of Lake County and the Flathead Indian Reservation for 38 years. I served as a governor-appointed member of the Flathead Basin Commission for 3 terms, 12 years, from 2005 to 2017, including several years as chair.

I am writing to urge you to support redistricting map 13. I believe it is the fairest of the options still under consideration and would best ensure proper representation of Montanans in Congress.

Many of the comments from participants in the hearing yesterday stressed the need of the Commission to follow the law in making your decision, but some were not acknowledging that part of the difficulty you face is that the laws call on you to draw the lines in consideration of a number of factors which can pull you in different directions.

There was little mention of one of the most important of those laws, even though it is noted on the website of the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission: 42 USC 1973, which states that no district, plan, or proposal for a plan is acceptable if it affords members of a racial or language minority group “less opportunity than other members of the electorate to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice.” In addition, as your website also notes, the Commission must consider “communities of interest.”

In Montana, the “racial or language minority groups” of primary concern, acknowledged in our state Constitution, are our Indigenous citizens and communities. They are also groups that have historically been underrepresented. In the political process that non-Indians imposed upon Indigenous communities, they have been harmed more often than given voice over the past 132 years.

When we are drawing lines in regard to these provisions and mandates as they affect Indigenous people in Montana, it is therefore appropriate that we give careful consideration to the comments from representatives of those communities.

The sole Indigenous testimony, to my knowledge, at the October 30 hearing was from Shelly Fyant, Chairwoman of the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Due to time limits she was not able to complete her testimony, which would have clarified, as is stated in her full written testimony, that her preference is for map 13. (I will note here that while I am submitting my comments as a private citizen, I work as a historian and geographer for the CSKT.)

Ms. Fyant noted in particular that both of the districts should include at least two Tribal nations, something that is accomplished by map 13, which includes both the Blackfeet and Flathead Reservations.

It is worth noting that the CSKT and Blackfeet not only work closely together on many issues, but have also been intermarried for many years, with many families now closely related. This was recently shown in powerful ways when our state mourned the passing of Blackfeet Chief Earl Old Person. One of his great-grandsons is Vance Homegun, who is an enrolled member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, one of the ablest young learners of the endangered Salish language, and a teacher at the Nkwusm Salish Immersion school in Arlee. When Chief Old Person's body was transported from the funeral home in St. Ignatius to Browning for the funeral services, many members of the CSKT showed their respect for the Blackfeet leader by standing in silent tribute along Highway 93 as the hearse — led by law enforcement vehicles of both the CSKT and Blackfeet — passed through St. Ignatius, Ronan, Pablo, and Polson. In a sense, the people of the CSKT were showing the same respect that Mr. Old Person had shown to the Salish community five years before, when renowned elder Louie Adams passed away and Mr. Old Person drove to Arlee to deliver a stirring eulogy in the jam-packed community center.

All of which reinforces our understanding that the Flathead and Blackfeet reservations indeed constitute a “community of interest,” and that both should be included in the western congressional district.

Map 13 also satisfies the two main concerns raised by many Flathead County residents at the hearing: that Flathead County not be split or attached to eastern Montana, and that the laws are followed.

As former chair of the Flathead Basin Commission, I would also note that map 13 has geographic coherence, as is also called for in Montana law, by encompassing the totality of the Flathead drainage system within Montana.

In fairness, we should all note that many aspects of our political and cultural geography straddle the Continental Divide, and this poses special challenges for the Commission. Every one of the maps has certain unfortunate lines in this respect, including map 13; as the testimony of many residents of Helena noted, their affinity is far more with Butte-Anaconda-Deer Lodge than with places to the east.

However, the same is true of Glacier County. It encompasses the east side of Glacier National Park, which for 111 years has defined and protected the “Crown of the Continent,” a world-renowned symbol of how both the environmental and cultural identity of this part of the world span the Divide. Indeed, during my time on the Flathead Basin Commission, we expended considerable resources in working with the Blackfoot Nation to protect the Flathead Basin through the establishment in Browning of a check station for aquatic invasive species — a check station that guarded the eastern gate to the Flathead system.

For all these reasons, it is clear that map 13 makes sense, and is the best and fairest of the available options.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of my comments, and again for your dedicated service to Montana.

Respectfully,

Thompson Smith
53950 Marsh Creek Rd
Charlo, MT 59824
406-396-5479
thompsonsmith@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Debbie Smithlin
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:11:13 AM

From: Debbie Smithlin debsjeep98@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell Montana

Message:

I see that CP 12 map to be the fairest way to redistrict the state.

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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: Grant Snell
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:53:54 PM

From: Grant Snell grant.snell@yahoo.com
Residence: Kalispell

Message:

I strongly favor CP11. It's fair to both Republicans and Democrats in Montana, allowing for a competitive election for at least one of the seats.

--

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: Annette Sontag
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:12:30 PM

From: Annette Sontag amsontag@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

I am writing to document my input about redistricting in Montana and the recently proposed maps from the Commission.

I prefer Proposal 11 for the following reasons.

First, Proposal 11 would not split Cascade, Gallatin, or Missoula Counties, although it does split Flathead County. The Commission has minimized dividing cities, towns, counties, and federal reservations between two districts when possible.

Second, Proposal 11 would include all Native American tribal reservations except one, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai (Flathead) reservation, in one district which would enhance the influence of Native peoples. The Commission has kept these communities of interest intact to the extent possible.

Third, Proposal 11 would create functionally compact districts in terms of travel and transportation, communication, and geography.

Finally, Proposal 11 would create a reasonably competitive western district, rather than two districts which would be dominated by Republicans and would never be competitive.

Proposal 12 would split Pondera County, move Lewis and Clark County from the west district where it has been historically to the east, split the Native American representation between the two districts which would reduce their influence, and would create two districts which would not be competitive. I oppose Proposal 12 for these reasons.

Proposal 13 would split Gallatin, Lewis and Clark, and Pondera Counties, split the Native American representation between the two districts which would reduce their influence, and would create two districts which would not be competitive. I oppose Proposal 13 for these reasons.

I believe the next district lines should be drawn in a manner that adequately reflects and fairly represents my community's interests. Please approve Proposal 11, my favored alternative, as the final Congressional district map.

These maps will be the basis for our political representation for the next decade and it's important that the maps fairly reflect our communities. Thank you for taking the time to read my public comment.

Annette Sontag
3825 Trails End Rd., Missoula, MT 59803

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

From: [Jane Gerber](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 11:02:54 AM

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

I am in favor of map CP12. It is the ONLY fair Map. It does NOT favor on County/Counties over another. It should not favor one Political Party over another. This is the only fair choice.

Thank you.

Jane Sour
Carbon County

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jeanne-Marie Souvigny
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:48:07 PM

From: Jeanne-Marie Souvigny jsouvigny@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston, MT

Message:

I am in favor of Congressional proposal 13, which includes Park County in the western district and encompasses two Indian reservations. As a resident of Park County, I feel strongly that the interests of Park County are best represented through a similarity of interests – economic, lifestyle, geographic, trade, tourism, etc. – with other counties and communities proposed for inclusion in the western district. The alternative of including us in the eastern district means we would never be represented in Congress; our unique needs and concerns would be overshadowed and virtually ignored by the candidates and the elected representative for eastern Montana, likely engendering remarkable disenfranchisement by Park County residents with the political process. We deserve representation by someone who will listen to and understand our concerns. Please do not put Park County in the eastern district.

--

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

From: [Beckie Squires](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] redistricting
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:17:12 PM

Members of the commission,

I urge the commission to support Plan 13. It meets all 3 of the commission's requirements for new districting. It is contiguous, compact and most importantly, it is competitive.

Competitive districts are necessary so that neither party gains a significant advantage. When no party has a distinct advantage they must answer to each other for their actions providing balanced representation.

Competitive districts also require more general election voter contact and listening to voters in order for a candidate to win. If we are to truly create and maintain a government of the people, by the people and for the people, this is a vital level of accountability I hope the commission will keep foremost in their minds when casting a final vote for the new congressional district.

The last thing we want is for a candidate to be able to win a general election simply by placing one letter of the alphabet behind their name on the ballot versus another. When 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 them.

Thank you all for your time and effort to create Montana's new congressional district.

Rebecca Squires

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Judy Staigmiller
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:03:37 AM

From: Judy Staigmiller judyannst@gmail.com
Residence: BOZEMAN

Message:

I am going to express some thoughts that I have submitted earlier but in a more direct fashion. The political pendulum always swings back and forth. History has shown us that time and time again.

If the Republican majority forces a map that is more favorable to Republicans than to Democrats, Democrats will get even at some point in the future. It may be in ten years or in a few more decades down the road, but it will happen. If it does not affect us, it will affect future generations. Play fair NOW!!! Come up with a division that treats both major parties equally.

--

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

From: [Laurie Stalling](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:21:53 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Laurie Stalling from Missoula, MT. I have lived in Missoula for 16 years.

I favor map 11

Map 11 makes it competitive by not favoring one political party. This is what our country stands for.

Thanks for your time and commitment.

Regards,
Laurie Stalling
419 Hastings Ave
Missoula, MT 59801

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kathie Stanislaw
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:51:14 AM

From: Kathie Stanislaw Kathmead4@aol.com
Residence: Florence

Message:
Vote for cp12. I support cp12!!

I have lived in Montana for almost 30 years! Love Montana!!!

You represent us .the American citizens of Montana. Thank you for voting for cp12.

Sincerely,
Kathie

--

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

From: [Melissa Steinhauer](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 11:12:36 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello, my name is Melissa Steinhauer, I have lived in Bozeman for over 25 years. This is home to my 3 almost adult children and I am hoping for them to be able to stay here and feel safe in their voting voices.

I support map 11!!!! Please consider this map, as it won't favor just one political party. Montana is changing fast, please help my voice be heard by respecting my voting ability!

I support Map 11 for it's equality for all. Please don't allow for one political party to be dominant, I would like my vote / voice to be heard.

Thank you so much for your consideration

Regards,
Melissa Steinhauer
114 E Dickerson St
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: MDAC
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patti Steinmuller
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:32:58 AM

From: Patti Steinmuller psteinmul@msn.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

Map 12: I oppose Map 12. In positioning the two fastest growing counties, Flathead and Gallatin, intact, on the western district, this map unduly favors the Republican party in both districts as referenced by the winners in both proposed districts in the last eight-ten state elections. Map 12 separates the common interests, daily communication, transportation, and economic endeavors of Gallatin County from those of Park County. Map 12 separates communities of interest of Butte from Jefferson County and Helena from those with common interests including union workers in Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge. Although only one county, Pondera, is split, the west part of this agricultural county, is separated from other counties in the Golden Triangle, thus diluting the rural, agricultural voice. Overall, rural voters throughout the state will have little influence in either district than map 11 since the largest cities make up most of the population in both districts of map 12.

Map 11: I favor Map 11 since it adheres to all mandatory criteria and meets the additional goal of a district that does not unduly favor a political party. This map places in Gallatin County and Park County in the same district which share travel, transportation, economic, and communication interests. Maintaining Bozeman and Missoula in the same district is logical in terms of their shared interest and commonalities of their university populations and innovative research and business sectors. The shared interests of Butte and Helena would be well represented together in the western district. Although map 11 splits Flathead County into eastern and western districts, no cities are split. The community of Whitefish shares common interests of tourism and recreation with other tourism-influenced economies communities in the western district. Map 11 keeps Pondera County in the eastern district along with the other agricultural counties of the Golden Triangle intact and elevates the rural and agricultural interests of the eastern part of the state. Tribal influence is recognized in both eastern and western districts. Overall, map 11 is the better choice regarding mandatory criteria and the additional goals.

Map 13: Although Map 13 meets some of the criteria well, it fails due to its split of Gallatin County, including a line drawn through the northern part of Bozeman. It does not recognize county lines in Gallatin County, city limits in Bozeman, or communities of interest in Gallatin County. These separations are counter to the mandatory consideration of functional compactness in terms of travel and transportation, communication, and geography. Belgrade and Bozeman have economic, communication, travel and other interests in common. Having lived in Gallatin Gateway and now in Bozeman, I know that multiple daily interactions occur throughout these areas. The population increases occurring throughout the county will only increase these interactions and dilute their voice if assigned to different districts. I favor Map 11 over this map.

Map 10: This map does not appear to comply with the mandatory criteria for compactness since Gallatin County is split between the two districts in several locations, including Bozeman, Gallatin Gateway, and Big Sky. These separations are counter to the mandatory consideration of functional compactness in terms of travel and transportation, communication, and geography. Having lived in Gallatin Gateway and now in Bozeman, I know that multiple daily interactions occur throughout these areas. The population increases occurring in the county will only broaden these interactions and an irregular line dividing the two districts would be extremely confusing to voters. Although Gallatin County and Park County share travel, transportation, and communication interests, map 10 separates the core business areas of Bozeman and Livingston into two different districts. Also, this map separates Pondera County from the other agricultural interest of the Golden Triangle which limits the voice common to these constituents.

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<[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://mtredistricting.gov_!!GaaboA!_uKPkDPjf_ELRJtr3JvKiTIOA545ddMeztOBWoLIFN8MFVuc4K4jjPpAj-oIBMHjRg\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://mtredistricting.gov_!!GaaboA!_uKPkDPjf_ELRJtr3JvKiTIOA545ddMeztOBWoLIFN8MFVuc4K4jjPpAj-oIBMHjRg$)>)

From: Jsteitz@Montanasky.net
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:55:54 PM

Chair Smith and Commissioners,
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

Thank you for your consideration.

John Steitz
54 Badger Lane
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-270-4768
JSteitz@Montanasky.net



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[\[home.mcafee.com\]](http://home.mcafee.com)

From: [Bruce Stell](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map 12
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 12:46:01 PM

I thing Map 12 is currently the way too go!! Look what has happened to Washington State with their Districting only 4 counties rule the whole state!!! Lets not see that happen here in Montana!!! Bruce Stell, Missoula

From: [Timothy Stevens](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for CP11
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 8:08:22 AM

Folks- I support the map CP 11. I feel it is the fairest one offered and best represents the people of Montana. Thanks for your consideration,

Tim Stevens
315 N 3rd St Livingston

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mike Stevenson
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:42:12 AM

From: Mike Stevenson mikestevenson331@gmail.com
Residence: Miles City

Message:

Honorable Commissioners,

My name is Mike Stevenson, I grew up in Western Montana, but spent my working years in Eastern Montana and now have recently moved back to Western Montana (Helena).

I am writing today to support map 11 because it does the best job of meeting redistricting priorities of not splitting communities/counties, being somewhat competitive and more than anything, having lived in both parts of the State, leaves Bozeman and Helena intact as part of the Western District. Having grown up in Missoula and spent 45 years in Eastern Montana, I understand and appreciate the cultural differences of both sides of the state. Helena and Bozeman are definitely NOT Eastern Montana in their views and habits, and if you asked residents of these communities, they would never say they were from Eastern Montana. Map 10 is a not very disguised hack of multiple counties and communities to ensure one party rule and should be rejected as a gerrymander.

Thank you for the time and effort you as commissioners have spent on this important task, we appreciate your service and encourage a thoughtful and equitable solution.

--

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

From: [Cathy Stewart](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support map #11 or #13
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 12:40:18 PM

Please choose one if these 2 to make sure all voices are really heard. Thank you.

Cathy Stewart
1215 Powell st
Missoula, MT. 59802

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android \[go.onelink.me\]](#)

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kristin Stockham-Baller
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:25:32 PM

From: Kristin Stockham-Baller stockk@spu.edu
Residence: Kalispell, 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

--

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

From: johnstofko@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John Stofko](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 10:29:10 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mr John Stofko
431 N 10th St Allentown, PA 18102-5512
johnstofko@yahoo.com

From: [Peter Strand](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] district mapping
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 1:19:56 PM

I want to voice my support for MAP CP #11, which maintains Gallatin County in one district. Please do not divide this county.

Peter

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Stricker
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:54:38 AM

From: John Stricker johnwstricker@hotmail.com
Residence: Billings, 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: [Jan Strout](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MT Redistricting process comments - Jan Strout
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 5:50:28 PM

My name is Jan Strout, pronouns are she/hers, and I live in Bozeman. I am a recently retired adjunct professor of 1st year Students - teaching critical thinking and communication skills at MSU-Bozeman - and also I am President of the non-partisan Montana Chapter of the National Organization for Women.

I support Map 11 as the best of the remaining options that meets the criteria mentioned earlier. Map 11 is the best option for Montana voters and the representation we deserve. And if necessary, Map 13 as a lesser compromise.

Given the lack of inclusive representation of diverse women since Jeannette Rankin in the US House, and no Indigenous Representation at all, this Map 11 and if necessary Map 13 may offer the most hope to increase the diverse voices and perspectives that Montana needs in Congress. And in the State House.

It will keep the integrity of Gallatin County larger cities as well as towns, sovereignty of American Indian Reservations as well as incorporate most ecosystems and economic priorities. Most importantly keep the communities of interest intact. This way the voters can elect those who can be strong representatives for these interests.

I do not support Map 10 or 12 any other that splits major cities and counties nor any Map that would favor one Political Party or vice versa. I want communities of interest - such as Colleges and Universities - and smaller political borders such as Cities to be intact. Map 10 is not acceptable for these reasons.

Thank you for your hard work on this important process of our Democracy as well as your consideration.

Jan Strout
pronouns: she/ella
2322 W. Beall Street #3
Bozeman, Montana
206.251.0880

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: Submission from Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:04:10 AM

From: leg-noreply@mt.gov <leg-noreply@mt.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:43 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: Submission from Redistricting

Submit Information to the Redistricting Commission

Date: 1st November 2021 22:43

Your Full Name:

Mary Sturgeon

Email Address:

mpiano.ms@gmail.com

Subject Line:

Redistricting

Your Comment:

I appreciate all your hard work on this issue. Please choose Map CP12. In my opinion it is the most reasonable choice. Thank you.

Upload Information:

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

From: [Mike Liberty](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - I Support CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:08:33 AM

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Sutter

PO Box 925

Kila, MT 59920

406-407-0509

mikesutter007@gmail.com

From: [Dave Swaim](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:23:27 PM

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because it appears to comply most closely with Montana legal requirements. Many of the maps proposed up to this point clearly do not.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dave Swaim

196 Weimar Way

Evergreen, MT 59901

951-970-7223

isnomore@protonmail.ch

From: [Sue Swan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 4:02:50 PM

I favor Map #2

From: kathrynrswanson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathryn Swanson](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 2:44:36 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Swanson
32 Campus Dr Missoula, MT 59812-0003
kathrynrswanson@gmail.com

From: [David Tande](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 6:33:26 AM

Please consider my support for Proposal 11 and not for Proposal 10.

Thank you,

David Tande

417 Woodford St, Missoula MT

From: [Kenneth Taylor](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Map
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 12:30:02 PM

When district maps favor one party, are not competitive, they violate the basic principle of our Republic. Representation is not the privilege of one party. Fair representation, competitive districts, is the basis of our Republic.

Anything else is gerrymandering.

I urge the adoption of districts that are competitive, even if marginally so. I would object to any map that assures the primacy of one party over the other for the next decade.

Kenneth C. Taylor
Helena, Montana

From: [Zack Terakedis](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:34:08 PM

Please adopt MAP CP 11

Thank you.

Zack Terakedis
302 Clark Ave.
Billings MT 59101

From: [Judy Territo](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Strongly approve Map CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:07:13 AM

I strongly approve of Map CP-12. It keeps Flathead County intact and doesn't put part of the county as eastern Montana. It also keeps Lewis & Clark and Gallatin Counties whole.

Overall this map makes the most sense plus follows Montana law which is extremely important. Please choose this map over any of the others.

--

Judy Territo
(406)212-0098
PO Box 644
Columbia Falls, MT 59912
judyterrito@gmail.com

From: [Mary Thane](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of Map #13
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 8:58:03 AM

I want to let you know that I feel Map #13 is the one that would best divide Montana into two congressional districts.

Thank you for your time and commitment for all Montanans. It seems you have all done your due diligence.

Sincerely,
Mary Thane

From: [Kolman, Joe](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting website not working, so comments are included here so you get them by 5:00pm
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:11:16 PM

From: Annie <anniethomas@itstriangle.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:09 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Cc: Kolman, Joe <jkolman@mt.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting website not working, so comments are included here so you get them by 5:00pm

I have to leave and can not wait any longer. I have been trying a few times.

It's not my computer. I can get on other sites.

Can you please get my comments posted? It's urgent and I'm concerned that they won't reach the commission in time.

Thank you so much.

Annie

On Nov 2, 2021, at 3:55 PM, Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov> wrote:

Hello Ms. Thomas,
Were you trying to make comments on the interactive maps or through the [comment form \[mtredistricting.gov\]](#) on the Commission website? I wanted to confirm your comments to this districting@mt.gov email came through. And thank you for any information you can provide about what method you were trying that didn't work.
Sincerely,

Rachel Weiss
Legislative Research Analyst
406-444-5367

From: Annie <anniethomas@itstriangle.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:54 PM
To: Districting <districting@mt.gov>
Cc: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov;

Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting website not working, so comments are included here so you get them by 5:00pm

Good day.

The website is taking forever to process comments. I've been waiting about 15 minutes for my comments to go through.

So I am including them here because I want them heard and read.

MAP 12- NO

Map 12 is so wrong. Map 11 was the best of the last choices. Map 12 is not competitive at all. Wasn't that a goal of the commission? It separates Butte from Jefferson County; intentionally separating union workers from each other. Why would they be separated?

It slices Park County from Gallatin County; two counties and many residents who share common interests and employment.

County splits should respect communities of interest.

This map also puts Lewis and Clark county in the eastern district which makes no sense at all. This county has very little in common with the eastern district.

Map 11 is still the best choice and fairest and competitive; giving all Montanans a voice. Please consider Map 11, not 12.

MAP 13- YES

This is certainly not ideal, but better than 12. What was wrong with 11 in the last round?

I don't like to split Bozeman and the suburbs, but this map fits the criteria better.

MAP 11- YES

Map 11 fits all the criteria and goals that you, the commission, set out to achieve.

It's competitive, keeps common communities together. It is fair to ALL Montanans and gives us all a voice.

Please consider 11.

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mariah Thomas
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:15:04 PM

From: Mariah Thomas mariaht917@gmail.com

Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

I'm submitting commentary against CP 112. This map takes away Montana's commitment to ensuring elections that are free of party politics, by the lines specifically being drawn to favor GOP candidates.

--

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: Sean Thom
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:31:42 PM

From: Sean Thom seanmthom@gmail.com

Residence: Billings, MT

Message:

Geography, not politics, should determine congressional districts. As such, I can see no reason, apart from political bent, to put Kalispell and Billings in the same district. Making one district less competitive to make the other more competitive does not benefit Montana voters as a whole – so that should not be a reason to override cleaner, geographically divided maps.

--

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

From: [Willie Thornley](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:13:27 PM

Just a quick comment stating that I support CP12. Thank you.

Willie Thornley
516 5th St SW
Great Falls, MT 59404

4068361210

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ron Tibbetts
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:21:55 AM

From: Ron Tibbetts tibbs@wildblue.net
Residence: Terry Montana

Message:

We think map 10 (the original map) is the map to be used in the redistricting. This map follows the guidelines of the State Constitution and the guidelines of the State legislature. This should NOT be a political issue.

--

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

From: [robert tomich](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] map
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:09:51 AM

I'm going to get to the point. I choose map 11

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sara Toubman
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 1:49:00 AM

From: Sara Toubman cedronjones@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:
My name is Sara Toubman and I live in Helena.

I support map 11 because it meets the criteria. It keeps districts competitive.

I don't support map 10.

Thanks for the chance to comment.

--

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

From: [Eric Troth](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment, Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission, Please Remember the Guiding Principles
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 6:37:55 PM

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Commission,

Thank you for your considerable efforts in drawing the new boundary for the Montana Congressional districts.

I wonder what a truly wise, independent, impartial observer would see and suggest for this process.

It is a matter of sound judgement to periodically pause from the rush towards deadlines, to step back, to zoom out, to tune out the noise.

Unfortunately, it is all too easy to miss the bigger picture and get lost in details. Often clever, yet disingenuous, arguments are brought forward to distract and confuse. Bases are rallied. One could easily lose direction in the fog of partisan battle.

We need clear minds, and good hearts. We need to return to True North principles.

The "Criteria and Goals for Congressional Districts" on the [official website](#) help to provide such needed touchstones.

Please hold them firmly in mind as something much more than just a set of bullet points. They are grounded, common sense principles providing essential direction.

The above document, adopted by the Commission in July 2021, includes both Mandatory Criteria and Goals. Both sets of principles are important.

The Mandatory Criteria of equal populations, the protection of minority voting rights, compactness, and contiguousness are necessary, but they are certainly not sufficient. Unfortunately, but predictably, there are efforts to divert attention towards or away from certain Goals based on underlying partisan preferences and the desire to surreptitiously gain advantage.

We must remember to include the wisdom embedded in all of them.

In addition to the Mandatory Criteria, the new map also needs to address each of the Goals, ones that most citizens would agree are worthy: That districts are not to be drawn to unduly favor a political party. They minimize the division of cities, towns, counties, and federal reservations. They keep communities of interest intact. They consider competitiveness.

Of those several necessary Goals, I would like to underscore the value of competitiveness.

Gerrymandering for political advantage has certainly been around for a very long time.

Its ills are well known.

Non-competitive districts are known to promote primary selection for more extreme voices. Politicians pick their voters, rather than voters picking their politicians. Many people are disenfranchised, the impact of their votes diluted.

Non-competitive districts severely disincentivize elected politicians from listening to the other side in the formulation of policies that affect all of their constituents.

Non-competitive districts contribute to deepening the polarization that is tearing our states and our great nation apart.

Competitiveness is indeed an essential value that must be preserved.

If the Commission were to ultimately choose a map that met the other Criteria and Goals, but did not also include true competitiveness, I'm afraid to say that its efforts would fall far short of what Montanans deserve.

Please hold the big picture in mind and consider wisely.

Thank you for receiving my comments.

Eric Troth
Dillon, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ellen Trygstad
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:17:45 AM

From: Ellen Trygstad eltjupiter@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, Montana

Message:

The cities of Belgrade, Bozeman and Livingston are increasingly integrated economically ,and both Park and Gallatin counties and the cities are working collaboratively to address many problems, including transportation. The future of transportation will have multi-city and county integration. Federal funds are central to such planning, as well as other urban issues to be solved in a rapidly growing region. This region should be represented by one Representative and not divided because of its size and complexity and rapid growth issues.

It appears plan 11 addresses this best.

--

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: Rep. Brad Tschida
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:17:46 AM

From: Rep. Brad Tschida brad@tschida.org
Residence: 10825 Mullan Rd., Missoula MT 59808

Message:
11/2/21

Members of the MT Districting and Apportionment Commission:

I appreciate all the work done so far by the Commission and encourage you to finish strong and finish with a map that is legal in all aspects.

The following are my comments about the remaining 2 maps:

Map CP12:

- It keeps all of Flathead County in the Western District (unlike CP-11, which puts most of Flathead in the east).
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District.
- It only splits one county, unlike CP13.
- CP12 is a map that follows all the mandatory legal criteria.

I strongly urge the Commission to align in full, 100% unanimity behind CP-12. While it is not the best map that has been considered by the MDAC, it is head and shoulders above CP-13.

Respectfully,

Rep. Brad Tschida

--

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: Patricia tucker
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:53:20 AM

From: Patricia tucker fedupcrone@gmail.com
Residence: Hamilton, MT

Message:

The redistricting map that includes Bozeman within the "western" district and includes Kalispell in the "eastern" district seems most likely to fairly to lead to the election of House members that accurately reflect the diversity of political opinion in our state's population.

--

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

From: [AFSCME Timm Twardoski](#)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Cc: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to CP 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:22:18 AM

Commissioners

I am a resident of Helena and a union leader. I am writing today to voice my formal opposition to proposals 10 and 12.

Both CP 10 and CP 12 divide Helena from our brothers and sisters in Butte, Deer Lodge and Anaconda. The commission has stated a goal to keep “communities of interest” intact. Those who voluntarily join a union to collectively improve their working conditions are a strong community of interest. Other proposals before this commission, and past adopted maps, have honored this connection, and I ask that this commission uphold that historic precedent.

It is also concerning that these proposals do not offer voters a truly competitive district. In fact, both proposals offer two congressional districts that heavily favor the Republican party. In the interest of democratic representation, we cannot advance a map that silences the voices of so many Montanans and predetermines our electoral outcomes.

Thank you for your time.

Timm Twardoski, Executive Director
AFSCME Council 9
36 S Last Chance Gulch
Helena MT 59601
406-442-1192
www.mtafscme.com [mtafscme.com]

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jane Urbaska
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 3:28:02 PM

From: Jane Urbaska jlurbaska@gmail.com
Residence: Billings, MT

Message:

I support the Commission Democrats selections. Preferably to keep Gallatin and Lewis and Clark counties in the West and move Flathead county to the East.....not as much due to geography as to allowing Montana to have a voice from both political parties in Washington. That's a more balanced representation, especially given the major cities and populations in the East and West districts. Thank you to everyone who's working so hard to help us come together!

--

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: Martha & Marshall Urion
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:57:31 PM

From: Martha & Marshall Urion mnmurion@gmail.com
Residence: Billings. Mt

Message:
Please district Map12

--

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

From: [Anne Vandehey](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 6:04:02 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am Anne Vandehey and I've lived in Wolf Creek for 30 years.

I support map 11 because it looks fair to both parties.

Please support map 11 as it doesn't favor either party. This is important to fair elections.

Thanks much for considering my comments and for your public service.

Regards,
Anne Vandehey
1185 Craig Frontage Rd
Wolf Creek, MT 59648

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Kalispell boundary issues
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:47:04 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve VDH <vandenheuvels@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 9:31 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kalispell boundary issues

I live in Kalispell, I prefer to stay on the West side of the boundary Lines.

I moved here 6 years ago and voted Republican, to keep Montana as a Republican state. The Idea of moving Kalispell to the Eastside of the Boundary political lines is unheard of and does not have my vote.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Fred Van Valkenburg](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting and Apportionment Commission - Maps CP 10, 11, 12, 13 & One More
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 3:27:51 PM

To the Members of the Districting and Apportionment Commission:

I am writing to comment on proposed Maps CP 10, 11, 12 & 13 and one more which I previously proposed which doesn't seem to have been considered by you.

CP 10: This map should be rejected because it splits Gallatin County in an egregious fashion, throws all of Lewis and Clark and Park Counties to the Eastern district thereby severely damaging their mutual communities of interest with Gallatin and other counties (e.g., Silver Bow and Missoula) to the west, unnecessarily keeps Flathead County whole and in doing so, creates two uncompetitive districts in the state;

CP 11: This map is acceptable but could be improved. Its only significant failing is that it does not include any of the Blackfeet Reservation thereby limiting District 1 to only one Native American community and putting the six remaining reservations and nine tribes all in District 2. Importantly, this map creates a very competitive district (No. 1) and only splits one county, Flathead, and in doing so makes the split in a very logical fashion by putting Whitefish in the west.

CP 12: This map should also be rejected because it splits Gallatin County in an egregious fashion, throws all of Lewis and Clark and Park Counties to the Eastern district thereby severely damaging their mutual communities of interest with Gallatin and other counties (e.g., Silver Bow and Missoula) to the west, unnecessarily keeps Flathead County whole and in doing so, creates two uncompetitive districts in the state;

CP 13: This map is marginally acceptable. Its only strong point is that it does include the Blackfeet Reservation thereby increasing District 1's Native American community to two reservations and creating an important community of interest with the CSKT Reservation. While this map creates a competitive district (No. 1), it splits three counties, Gallatin, Lewis and Clark and Pondera, and in doing so makes those splits unacceptable to a great number of people living in those counties.

My proposal: <https://davesredistricting.org/maps#viewmap::51cf4b03-3dd0-419f-91d5-602e4e3acbb5> [[davesredistricting.org](#)]

This map has only one split county, Flathead. It has a population disparity of .2%. It puts both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in one district, No. 1. It keeps the entirety of Gallatin, Lewis and Clark and Park Counties in the west, District 1, thereby responding appropriately to public testimony opposing either the splitting of such counties or the movement of those counties to the Eastern district. With respect to the split of Flathead County, it is very similar to the split proposed in CP 11. Finally, and most importantly, this map creates a competitive district in the west and, at the same time responding to the comments of the Chairwoman of the CSKT, it includes two reservation communities in a competitive district.

Thank you for your consideration. Good luck in your deliberations

Fred Van Valkenburg
Missoula, Montana

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

From: svelaski@aol.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] congressional maps
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 10:20:05 AM

It's disappointing that Ms Smith was unable to make up her mind regarding establishing congressional districts. Why did she allow new maps to be proposed by either party. Let original maps 11 or 12 continue on as possible districting maps. To Helenans, Lewis and Clark county identifies politically, ideologically and economically to the West and should remain in the West congressional district. To do otherwise effectively disenfranchises the enter city of Helena and the majority of Lewis and Clark residents. Helena is Montana's capital city, for crying out loud. Bottom line--keep Helena in the West. Keep map 11 as a legitimate congressional map under consideration. Thank you. Steve Velaski and Gayle Grana, Helena Mt.

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jack Venrick
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:42:23 PM

From: Jack Venrick jacksranch@freedomforallseasons.org
Residence: Rollins, Mt

Message:

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.

20561 Wilds Horse Ranch Road

Rollins, MT 59931

406-844-2071

--

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

From: [David & Carolyn Villa](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MT - E and W
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:57:29 AM

Thank you for allowing ordinary citizens to give their opinion on the conflicting opinions on finally having a second Representative in Congress, again. This political party fussing and stewing is ridiculous. It is apparent that Rosendale can not begin to comprehend the needs of both sides of our state....and neither could any who didn't live and abide in each section. Mt. covers a large area.

The East is Coal and farming and ranching. Those are the primary drivers. They also have an assortment of Indian Reservations. Those counties, with like or similar industry and needs, should be together in one section for easier understanding by whoever is put in Congress to comprehend and Hopefully finally represent. It is hard to explain the disconnect at times. Example. "COOL" was Country of Origin Label.....and two of our Congress members both from out of state, both never having been on a cattle ranch or farm for more than a short visit decided to push "Product of America". Well, that won't work! If Beef are brought from Mexico or Canada or Argentina or wherever, fattened, slaughtered and packaged in America, it is thus possible they could be deemed a "Product of America". The "Cool" program would have eliminated the fraud that would be perpetuated in the strangled hold the Beef Industry has suffered under by other nations who own too much of our beef, pork and chicken industry. We must have someone push hard to have Beef from Montana be processed and packaged in Montana. But First we have to have people who actually understand the issues in our state...and that must surely mean being born and raised here. It is impossible to try to tell a couple of our Congress Members anything...they have their political party dogma and they don't care. Once it is done, they can just spin it and we live with the consequences.

The cattlemen & women deserve representation of what is most important to them as do the farmers and their major problems with climate change. This is just a sampling of the needs.

Right now the cattlemen and farmers only have One Senator who knows anything about their lives and the needs they have. It helps, he is from Mt. and is a farmer himself. This is an example of the different attitudes of different people. We truly need to have some representation for both sides of the state.

On the Western side of our state, the primary drivers are tourism, forestry, universities, orchards and Outdoor year round sports and some mining. AGAIN. We need to have all inclusive counties with like minded industry and activities joined together. Then maybe they will have the representation they need.

Do Not Divide Counties. That is ludicrous.

The Plains and the Mountains are too diverse from each other to be lumped into a group where they do not belong. We want representation. We prefer for those who know our needs fully, to not allow those counties to be divided

Do not put Bozeman in the East. Do not make Lewis and Clark be in the East. That would mean they were never going to expect representation by the Republicans which is exactly what happens. This arguing about political party totals is stupid. Let's allow the division of our state by topography if nothing else.

If no one can behave and make a decision that works for mountains and plains...then revert to the map we had before, we lost the much needed second seat in the House of Representatives.

This mini war version of the disorder in our nation and it does not have to happen! It is a waste of time. Is like arguing Democratic Socialism OR Autocracy and Fascism. Stop arguing and get this done fairly for the Benefit of the people.....not the warring political parties.

Thanks.

From: tinavisscher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tina Visscher](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map! it represents the best way for marginalized communities to have a voice.
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 11:45:28 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Tina Visscher
12321 Kelly Canyon Rd Bozeman, MT 59715-9697
tinavisscher@gmail.com

From: [John Voth](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Favor of Map CP 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 2:13:20 PM

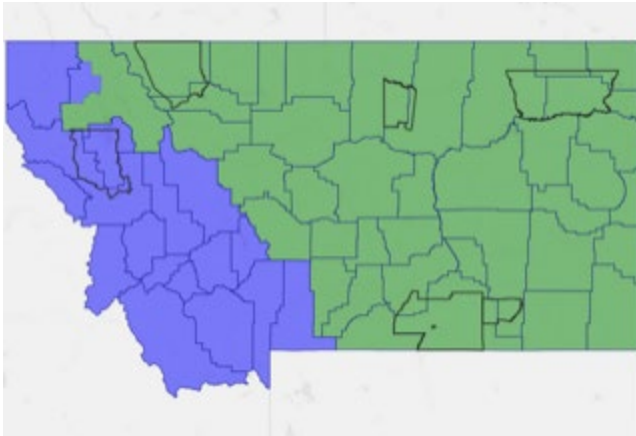
I favor Map 12 because it closely aligns with the law, MCA 5-1-115, minimizes the splitting of political subdivisions, and places Flathead County entirely within the Western District.

John J. Voth
1197 Montford Rd.
Kalispell, MT59901

From: [Katie Wallace](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support map CP #11
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:42:23 PM
Attachments: [b631c4_5da7a98889464c10a0f292687ff9e806~mv2.png](#)

Hello commissioners,

As a constituent in Flathead County, I want to voice my support for redistricting map #11. This map is population equal, splits my home county and is within the competitive range.



Please pass this as the new congressional map for Montana.

Thank you,
Katie

From: [Lee Wallace](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] map 13
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 1:28:05 AM

I support map 13.

Map 13 looks straightforward to the eye and is evenly divided by population and keeps the primary interests of each half intact. The rural and farming interests of the Eastern district are going to be represented in this map without a doubt. I like that both the Flathead and Blackfoot Reservations are together and Both Glacier and Yellowstone NP are together. This map follows the historical precedent of the 1980's congressional map keeping intact as many historical communities of interest as possible.

Leslie Wallace

Ronan, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jessie Walthers
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:43:35 PM

From: Jessie Walthers jessie.walthers@gmail.com
Residence: Bigfork, MT

Message:

Dear Presiding Officer Maylinn Smith, Commissioners Essmann, Lamson, Stusek and Miller:

I am writing today regarding the redistricting maps. I'm not sure I like any of them 100%. To the greatest extent possible I think they should follow reasonable geographic boundaries. I really can't see how any reasonable person could put Flathead County in Eastern Montana. Likewise, Bozeman is further East than most other larger population centers in the state. It makes sense it should be in an eastern district. Please use common sense. No one trusts convoluted shaped districts for political purposes. If you can't find reasonable consensus, I'd suggest you extend the process and not pick a bad option.

Thank you.

-Jessie Walthers, Bigfork, MT

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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: Adam Ward
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:12:47 PM

From: Adam Ward ward.adam@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

Hello,

I think competitive districts are imperative. Without robust democratic debate, fierce partisan actions face little to no threat of consequence from elections. Nationally, it is easy to see that reps least likely to cooperate across the aisle come from the "safest" districts.

Thank you,
Adam Ward

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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: Julie Ward
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:04:46 PM

From: Julie Ward julesmarieward@gmail.com
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:
I vehemently oppose the Cp-12 map!

--

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

From: [jwdisciple](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please adopt Map CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:51:52 AM

Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,
Please 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!

Jim Weber
227 Rhodes Draw
Kalispell, MT 59901

From: [jwdisciple](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yes on Map CP-12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:02:38 AM

Dear Sirs:

YES, Map CP-12 is a new map - that represents the tribes, the voters, the counties - the way it should. It allows you to do your job - and hear all the voters that showed up on Saturday - and have a REAL INVESTMENT in this wonderful state - that should be allowed to STAY voting the way it has lately. It keeps our counties whole - mostly, and we up here in Flathead county - - - are really watching - to see that you listen to your constituents. Please hear our pleas, and pass this new map. THANK YOU and bless you, Suzanne Weber

Sent with [ProtonMail \[protonmail.com\]](#) Secure Email.

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mary Suzanne Weber
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:56:08 AM

From: Mary Suzanne Weber jwdisciple@msn.com
Residence: Kalispell, MONTANA

Message:

NOW you have it Map CP-12. It is what many have worked hard on – to benefit ALL the counties and tribes and voters in MT — all those who showed up on Saturday to give testimony. PLEASE HEAR AND RESPOND – with a map that allows the real voice of MT – to stay where it should. THANK YOU. Suzanne

--

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: Howard Weinberg
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 2:45:01 PM

From: Howard Weinberg hjw.c2tk@gmail.com
Residence: Gardiner, mt

Message:
I support 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: [Gary Weiner](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 3:04:29 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Gary Weiner, lived in Bozeman since 2002. I want my vote to count. Please dont split Gallatin County in a way that makes it less competitice.

11

Map 11 doesnt favor one political party over the other, and doesnt split up Gallatin county.

Thank you for your efforts

Regards,
Gary Weiner
4030 Sourdough Rd
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jean Weiskotten
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:23:31 AM

From: Jean Weiskotten jean8675309@gmail.com
Residence: Whitefish

Message:

I prefer the map CP 11 because it reflects the unique characteristics of the resort town I live in and creates a more competitive opportunity to reflect my community's values, problems and interests. I feel that there would be more of a possibility of meeting with a DC Representative and more potential in having federal assistance in things like over-visitation/sustainability, housing crisis, environmental stewardship and diversity challenges.

I thank the chair for all of your work to make sure this process is fair to all Montanans.

--

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: Christine West
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:10:49 AM

From: Christine West hau4038@gmail.com
Residence: HAUGAN MONTANA

Message:
i VOTE FOR MAP 11

--

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

From: [HB Whidden](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP12 map
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:28:55 AM

Please use CP12 map. It keeps my county in the western district, and keeps most counties whole with out splitting them.

Thank you
Harry Whidden
654 corporate drive
Kalispell, mt
59901
406.871.5509

Sent from my iPad

From: [Gordon Whirry](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to CP 12 and support for CP 13
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:00:45 AM

Commissioners,

I would like to reiterate my opposition to CP 12 and voice my support for CP 13.

Problems with CP 12:

- It creates 2 non-competitive districts and virtually assures Republican dominance. An equitable plan must not unduly favor one party.
- It is a blatant attempt to divide union strongholds in the west, separating Butte from Jefferson County and placing Helena in the east.
- Gallatin County is separated from Park County.
- These measures divide communities of interest and violate historical norms.

Advantages of CP 13:

- Western communities of interest are kept intact.
- The western district has some chance of being competitive and does not unduly favor one party.
- The map is compact and logical.
- Historical linkages are maintained.
- Helena is not separated from its historical roots.

Gordon Whirry
1912 4th Ave N, Great Falls, Mt 59401
(406) 761-7031

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Christine E. Whiteside
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:26:20 PM

From: Christine E. Whiteside christinewhiteside1947@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston, MT 59047

Message:

I am writing to express my strong objection to the gerrymandered proposal for two US Congressional Districts currently being considered. Montanans deserve the opportunity to have fairly apportioned districts and fairly competitive electoral races. To give but one example from my own local area, CP 12 slices Park County off from Gallatin County. Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin regional economy, and their interests will be ignored in the current proposal. Please move a map forward that ensures that Park and Gallatin County are kept together, and create at least one competitive district.

--

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

From: [Rick Whitman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep Livingston and Bozeman in the same district
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:16:06 PM

Commissioners,

As a Livingston resident I believe our city's issues and interests dovetail closely with those of Bozeman.

Therefore, I prefer congressional redistricting as mapped in maps CP-11 or CP-13, both which include Livingston and Bozeman in the same district. Even though CP-13 splits Gallatin county, I believe it is very important to keep the two cities in the same district.

Thank you for doing this difficult work.

Rick Whitman
Livingston MT

From: [Kali Wicks](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:34:32 PM

Dear Commission Members -

I am writing today to voice my support for congressional district maps 13 and 11, and to voice strong opposition for map 12.

Proposal 13 is a great compromise and is the best proposal on the table. The map does not split Flathead County, and adds two reservations into a competitive district (which tribes have asked for). It also keeps Helena with other historical Western Montana cities and towns with like-community interests. As a Helena resident, this is very important to me. Our community should not be included in any eastern districts, as our commonalities are much more aligned with those on the western side of the state.

Proposal 11 also creates a competitive district for Montana, although the map splits one county (Flathead) but does not split towns.

I am strongly opposed to Proposal 12. This plan is not competitive and intentionally draws both districts to heavily favor the Republican party. It violates the commission's goals of not unduly favoring any political party.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kali Wicks
Helena, MT

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: congressional district maps
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 2:05:35 PM

From: morb wicks <morbwicks48@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:50 PM
To: district@mt.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] congressional district maps

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing today to voice my support for Congressional District maps 13 and 11, and to voice strong opposition for map 12.

As a county commissioner for Liberty County I feel that Proposal 13 is a great compromise and is the best proposal on the table. The map does not split Flathead County, and adds two reservations into a competitive district (which tribes have asked for). It also keeps Helena with other historical Western Montana cities and towns with like-community interests.

Proposal 11 also creates a competitive district for Montana, although the map splits one county (Flathead) but does not split towns.

I am strongly opposed to Proposal 12. This plan is not competitive and intentionally draws both districts to heavily favor one political party. It violates the commission's goals of not unduly favoring any political party.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Maureen "Morb" Wicks
Liberty County Commissioner
5238 Broadhurst Road
Ledger, MT 59456

From: [charles wideman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] comments on maps 11 and 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:03:43 PM

To me, it seems that the desire to keep counties intact is driven by the concept of preserving historic cultural and heritage patterns. The placement of 3 counties in the eastern district vs the splitting of one county that is already culturally split seems to violate this desire. Jefferson, Broadwater, Lewis and Clark counties have economies, history and cultures more identifiable to western Montana than to the eastern portion of the state. Map 11 seems to be superior to map 12 on these points. The splitting of a county with small population might look ok unless you live in a county with small population. I'm sure the committee members know the pride and loyalty of rural county citizens.

The placement of an equal, or as close as possible to equal, number of Native American Reservations in each district seems to be superior in map 12 than map 11. But if I heard the testimony correctly in the last committee meeting, the tribes prefer map 11, so perhaps they know more about how many Reservations should be in each district. Therefore the choice of maps is such that the people directly affected is different than the stated goal of the committee.

Both maps are drawn on the requirement of equal distribution of people as much as possible. Neither of them have been drawn so that the growth patterns of the state are allowed. But I see no requirement that the date certain for population equality be the date when the maps are submitted for consideration. I think that the commission should be allowed to provide a final map that will be applicable for most of the decade it is used. During the discussions of the maps by all committee members, they are all aware of the complexity that the population growth inequality brings to their deliberations.

And finally, the use of a broad brush use of color to display the maps make map 12 more desirable than 11. But the details make the choice much more complex than adoption by computer graphics.

Charles J. Wideman
107 Whitetail Road
Whitehall, Montana

From: [charles wideman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on proposed redistricting maps.
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 3:00:01 PM

Map number 11 keeps the historic and cultural relationships intact for Montana's mining heritage. Broadwater, Jefferson, Lewis and Clark counties usually participate in western Montana activities. Park and Gallatin Counties are also so closely related that their common interests suggest they should be included in the same district.

For me, the changing demographics of Flathead County make it difficult to judge the effects of map 11 in the future.

Also, I am not qualified to judge the effects of either map 11 or map 10 on the participation of Native Americans in the political future of the state, and I would defer any comments and trust the input of the consensus of the tribes.

Charles J. Wideman
107 Whitetail Road
Whitehall, Montana

cjwidemans@gmail.com
406 498 7369

From: [Thula Wiesel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP 13
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 4:03:33 PM

I am asking you to please support CP 13

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Dean Williamson
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:34:02 PM

From: Dean Williamson dwilliamsonmt@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston, MT

Message:

I am writing to encourage the adoption of CP 11 as the new district map for Montana. I am less convinced by arguments that "Democrats deserve a chance to win" than I am resistant to the notion of splitting Gallatin County. And, as someone who has lived in both Gallatin County, where I was raised, and now Park County, I think there are more similarities than there are differences. I lived in rural Gallatin County, so some may disagree that Bozeman looks now anything like Livingston or Gardiner, let alone the rest of Gallatin County, but the rural areas of each seem to me of a piece. There is certainly enough shared time in each county that the same representation would seem wise.

--

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: Alan Wilson
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:06:10 PM

From: Alan Wilson acwilson@acwei.com
Residence: Kila

Message:
I support map 12, say NO to map 11 and 13.

--

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

From: [Deborah Wilson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map CP 12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:19:14 AM
Importance: High

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support map CP 12 because it keeps Flathead County intact and in the western district. It splits only one county. The tribes will have a stronger voice in the new western district because the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations are in the new western district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Deborah M. Wilson
P O Box 399
Kila, Montana 59920

440 813 2122

dmwilson@acwei.com

From: [Randy Wilson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] new congressional district in MT, CP12 Map
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:51:18 AM

Montana Districting Committee,

I've been following the new district mapping discussions and would like to express my interest in the proposed CP12 map. Please do not be swayed by politics to the extent of artificially moving Kalispell out of the western district.

Thank you,
Randy Wilson
847 Saint Andrews Drive
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

From: [Sheena Wilson](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylenn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:13:58 PM

Montana Reapportionment Commission members:

Thank you for your long hours of hard work on this vital job.

I write in strong opposition to the new CP 12 proposal.

This proposal creates a second non-competitive congressional seat. I believe it is vital to establish one competitive seat to ensure Montana voters remain engaged in the election process no matter if they are Republicans, Democrats or none of the above. To create two districts that are noncompetitive is to unfairly lock out moderate and liberal Montanans from even the potential for representation in the U. S. Congress.

I worked for years for a member of the U.S. Congress when we had two seats. It was helpful to have one member from each political party for many reasons. It offered ALL Montanans access to a "friendly" Representative both on major issues of the day and on the often deeply personal issues one might have with a federal agency.

Further, as a resident of Lewis and Clark County, I object to the seemingly arbitrary decision to switch Lewis and Clark to the Eastern District.

Please support CP 11 or 13.

Thank you.

Sheena Wilson
2313 Alpine Drive
Helena, MT 59601

From: abwinne@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Annabelle Winne](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!
Date: Friday, October 29, 2021 1:05:05 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map because it creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Annabelle Winne
1945 Raymond Ave Missoula, MT 59802-3513
abwinne@hotmail.com

From: [Twila Wolfe](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional District Map
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 2:19:05 PM

Reasons have been given so I won't reiterate, but I wish to say that I want to see the state divided by Map 10 or 12. I prefer 10 but 12 would be acceptable.

Twila Wolfe
Missoula

From: [j.w](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Modified CP12 (C67) Map with 0% deviation
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:21:25 AM

Hello Presiding Officer and Commissioners,

Modified CP12 or C67 Link: <https://app.districtbuilder.org/projects/68eaaa09-cd5f-4fc9-a633-5b0d0a676aec> [\[app.districtbuilder.org\]](#)

This modified CP12 or C67 map allows Conrad, Valier, and Dupuyer to be in the Eastern district. The northern portion of Lewis and Clark County is placed in the Western district to have both representatives address the needs of the county, including Helena. This map has two counties broken up instead of one, but only has a one person or 0% deviation.

Thank you,

John Wright
Westby, MT

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

From: [j w](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Third Compromise Map
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 8:57:50 PM

Hello Presiding Officer and Commissioners,

Here is my MT New Day III Map Link: <https://app.districtbuilder.org/projects/719f6f37-26b4-4610-86f7-6311a92aebd8> [app.districtbuilder.org]

This third map (MT New Day III) as an attempt to make the Bozeman portion larger allowing for Bridger Canyon to be in the Western district with Bozeman. Pondera County, including Conrad and Valier, is in the East district with the exception of the Blackfeet Reservation and the far western portion of the county allowing for more compactness. This map still has Flathead County placed in the Western district. The RVI is only +5 R for the Western district. The population difference is perfect in the Eastern district and a +1 person in the Western district for a 0% deviation.

Thank you,
John Wright
Westby, MT

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: linda young
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:20:52 PM

From: linda young wildmile@hotmail.com
Residence: whitefish mt

Message:

To the Commission and Madame Chair Thank you for taking time to hear feedback on this important issue.

I prefer the map CP 11 because it reflects the unique characteristics of the resort town that I live in and creates a more competitive opportunity to reflect my community's values, problems and interests. I would feel that there was more of a possibility of meeting with my DC Representative and more potential in having federal assistance in things like over-visitation/sustainability, housing crisis, environmental stewardship and diversity challenges.

Most sincerely,

Linda Young

--

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

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: Submission from Redistricting
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:23:57 AM

From: leg-noreply@mt.gov <leg-noreply@mt.gov>
Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 9:13 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: Submission from Redistricting

Submit Information to the Redistricting Commission

Date: 31st October 2021 21:12

Your Full Name:

Chris D Zier

Email Address:

sfbelarko@gmail.com

Subject Line:

Montana U S congressional redistricting.

Your Comment:

I am in favor of map cp 10. putting Kallispel in Eastern District seems like Gerrymandering.

Upload Information:

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