

# Public Comments: E-K

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission  
Comments received between midnight on November 3, 2021, and 5 pm on  
November 7

Distributed electronically November 7, 2021

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Pat Earnest  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 4:00:19 PM

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From: Pat Earnest [inhisarms@montana.com](mailto:inhisarms@montana.com)  
Residence: Stevensville, MT

Message:

Thank you for all of the hours of meetings to finalize the map for our new district in Montana. I appreciate the way you listened to common sense in your choice.

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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: Elaine Eidum  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:58:07 AM

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From: Elaine Eidum [eeidum@yahoo.com](mailto:eeidum@yahoo.com)  
Residence: Helena, MT 59601

Message:

I tried to add a comment to map 12 that I disagree/disapprove of it. When finalizing, it said to follow the link sent to me to validate. The link took me to the map but couldn't find anyplace to validate. Emailing because I want my opinion to be heard. I ask that you approve map 11 to allow a more competitive voting process.

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

**From:** [Weiss, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [eeidum@yahoo.com](mailto:eeidum@yahoo.com)  
**Cc:** [Kolman, Joe](#); [Spencer, Nadine](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elaine Eidum  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 8:12:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [eidum.JPG](#)  
[eidum2.JPG](#)

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Hello Ms. Eidum,

By clicking the link, you verified your comment. It is now posted on the map. Your written comments were also received. Both will be provided to the commissioners.

Sincerely,

Rachel Weiss  
Legislative Research Analyst  
406-444-5367

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**From:** MDAC <[contact@mtredistricting.gov](mailto:contact@mtredistricting.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:58 AM  
**To:** Districting <[districting@mt.gov](mailto:districting@mt.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elaine Eidum

From: Elaine Eidum [eeidum@yahoo.com](mailto:eeidum@yahoo.com)  
Residence: Helena, MT 59601

Message:

I tried to add a comment to map 12 that I disagree/disapprove of it. When finalizing, it said to follow the link sent to me to validate. The link took me to the map but couldn't find anyplace to validate. Emailing because I want my opinion to be heard. I ask that you approve map 11 to allow a more competitive voting process.

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

**From:** [Terry Ellett](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] District distribution  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:09:23 PM

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Dear Commission Members, Please, please listen to the overwhelming number of Montanans who favor CP11. If the majority of the people of the state of Montana prefer CP 11, why would you approve CP 12? Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Terry Ellett

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

**From:** [Eli Elliott](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov);  
[Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov); [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Plan 13  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 10:04:47 AM

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Dear Members of the Montana Redistricting Commission --

Thank you for your time and work.

Please support Plan 13 and oppose Plan 12.

Plan 13 best meets your requirements that each district be not only contiguous and compact but also competitive.

Plan 12 is designed not to be competitive.

Sincerely,

Dr. Susan M. (Elli) Elliott  
Red Lodge, MT 59068

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Leyla Eraybar  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 7:57:27 PM

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From: Leyla Eraybar [leyla.eraybar@gmail.com](mailto:leyla.eraybar@gmail.com)  
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

Map 12 does not best meet the criteria the Commission unanimously adopted at the start of the redistricting process. The criteria are as follows:

Dear Commissioners,

Please reconsider your approval of map number 12. This map is inconsistent with the criteria the Commission unanimously adopted at the start of the redistricting process. The criteria are as follows:

- should not be drawn to unduly favor a political party.
- The commission shall attempt to minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible.
- (Maps should) consider keeping communities of interest intact.
- (Maps should) consider ensuring the competitiveness of districts.

This map does not meet the above stated criteria. Please reconsider, your approval.

Thank you!

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

**From:** [Weiss, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:18:20 PM

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

From: Janet Erickson <janeterickson@bresnan.net>  
Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:15 PM  
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing

Please support map #11 for voter redistributing. It is an honest, fair split of Montana that insures equal voting rights for all Montanans.

Thank you.

Janet Erickson



**From:** [SUSAN.ERICKSON85@everyactioncustom.com](mailto:SUSAN.ERICKSON85@everyactioncustom.com) on behalf of [Susan Erickson](#)  
**To:** [joe.lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:joe.lamson@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [spam]Please Reject CP10 and CP12  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:43:15 PM

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Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear Commissioners,

Please keep your word and follow the criteria that was decided on for choosing the redistricting map. I request that you reject CP10 and CP12. Both maps are totally unacceptable.

CP12 creates two incredibly uncompetitive congressional districts and separates Helena and Jefferson County from Butte despite these communities sharing cultural, economic, and historical identities.

CP12 is a clear attempt to “split the union vote” in order to split the workers who have banded together for better working conditions, wages, and benefits.

Please follow the goals and criteria that you adopted in July.

Thank you for considering my input.  
Susan Erickson  
Polson, MT

Sincerely,  
Susan Erickson  
313 Montana Lndg Polson, MT 59860-8954  
[SUSAN.ERICKSON85@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SUSAN.ERICKSON85@GMAIL.COM)

From: [dallas@dj-erickson.com](mailto:dallas@dj-erickson.com) <[dallas@dj-erickson.com](mailto:dallas@dj-erickson.com)>

Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 7:17 PM

To: Districting <[districting@mt.gov](mailto:districting@mt.gov)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting

We support the Republican Districting map. It should be chosen no matter what comments you receive since traditionally the Party that has the majority in the Senate and House make that decision. It is the fairest as well.

Thank you,

Dallas and Jenny Erickson

4479 Store Lane

Stevensville MT 59870

(406)240-5277

(406)777-5862

[dallas@dj-erickson.com](mailto:dallas@dj-erickson.com) <<mailto:dallas@dj-erickson.com>>

[jenny@dj-erickson.com](mailto:jenny@dj-erickson.com)

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kendra Espinoza  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:25:57 PM

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From: Kendra Espinoza lukinukken@gmail.com  
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:

I am in favor of map 12. It follows all the guidelines set forth for redistricting, it does not favor one party or another, is equally populated between districts and each district is contiguous. I urge you to approve Map 12 for Montana.

Sincerely,  
Kendra Espinoza

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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: Ren Evanoff  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 4:37:51 PM

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From: Ren Evanoff [twocurlygal@yahoo.com](mailto:twocurlygal@yahoo.com)  
Residence: Livingston, MT

Message:

The map 12 is not acceptable. Maps should not be drawn to unduly favor a political party. The commission should attempt to minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible. The map that is chosen should consider keeping communities of interest intact. The maps should consider ensuring the competitiveness of districts. The map 11 is a much fairer map and does not favor one political party. Why has Montana lost its independent logic and started catering to dark money interests from out of state. This is a huge decision and should fairly represent all Montana residents.

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

**From:** [elenaevans@everyactioncustom.com](mailto:elenaevans@everyactioncustom.com) on behalf of [Elena Evans](#)  
**To:** [joe.lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:joe.lamson@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [spam]CP10 and CP12 do not reflect Montana Values  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:15:33 PM

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Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear Commission,

I thought the goal was to reflect the diverse set of Montana interests and values, yet CP10 and CP12 do the opposite of that as inherently similar communities are divided. Please set the stage to be on the right side of history and oppose these maps.

Sincerely,  
Elena Evans  
6606 Jocko Canyon Rd Arlee, MT 59821-9731  
[elenaevans@gmail.com](mailto:elenaevans@gmail.com)

**From:** [Connie Farnham](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 2:04:38 PM

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Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Connie Farnham and I have lived for over 14 years in Seeley Lake.

I support District Map 11. It offers the fairest representation of the voter pool, which is what our Democracy is all about.

Montana rightly prides itself on its independence. It has a history of being a Purple state, not Red or Blue. When we saw corruption happening in our elections, we voted to pass campaign finance laws. We chose a nonpartisan committee to handle our districting process. We need to continue to proudly stand with this tradition. It is the Montana thing to do!

Thank you for your service and taking the time to listen to my comments.

Regards,  
Connie Farnham  
968 Bitterroot Dr  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sue Faulk  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:49:17 AM

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From: Sue Faulk [suefaulk58@gmail.com](mailto:suefaulk58@gmail.com)  
Residence: Helena MT

Message:

Please don't split Lewis & Clark County into two districts. I feel that if split it would result in a watering down of my voice as an Independent. Putting Helena in the Western District give me the best option for representation.

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

**From:** [John Feckanin](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] cp11  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:07:28 PM

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Cp 11 should be adopted-Park County should be in the Western district! The people have spoken-listen to them.

John Feckanin  
Livingston,MT



**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Chloe Fessler  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 12:12:19 AM

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From: Chloe Fessler [ChloeFessler@aol.com](mailto:ChloeFessler@aol.com)  
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

The new map, CP12 truly is a mess. It separates too many communities of interests and it does not create a competitive district. It clearly is gerrymandered to produce a second guaranteed Republican Congressional district in Montana.

I once had great faith that Montana would have at least one competitive district because the Commission unanimously adopted criteria that "No plan may be drawn to unduly favor a political party." Yet that is EXACTLY what Map CP12 has done. As things stand right now in our state, our sole Congressional rep has no reason to ever listen to any voice that disagrees with him, and he does not listen. Map CP12 has been drawn to now unduly favor one political party in two districts, which guarantees we'll now have two representatives who can safely ignore constituent voices they don't want to hear. Map CP12 insures a significant number of Montanans will continue to not have representative government. The nonpartisan Cook Report gives Map CP12's District One a Partisan Voter Index score that is outside the competitive range. Map CP12 should be rejected for this reason alone.

In addition, Map CP12 puts Helena in the Eastern District when it clearly belongs in the Western District. Helena has common interests with, and is tied economically to Silver Bow, Deer Lodge and Missoula counties. CP12 also foolishly separates Butte from Jefferson County and separates Park County from Gallatin County, in both cases, dividing communities with essential economic ties and common interests. Furthermore, Park County is not like the counties in the Eastern District in any way given it's growing recreation-based economy and ties to other recreation-based communities in the Western District. Lewis and Clark, Silver Bow and Jefferson Counties must be in the same District, as must be Gallatin and Park Counties. These communities all have common interests that can best be served by the same Representative rather than Representatives from two different Districts. Separating these communities of vital common interests is reason enough to reject Map CP12.

Finding the perfect map may be impossible, but Map CP11 was far superior to Map CP12. Ideally, we would not have to divide counties. But if we do need to divide counties to balance the population of each District, then county splits must respect communities of interest. Large counties such as Flathead County have distinct communities of interest within them that can be split more logically than a smaller county. Map CP11 took that into consideration where as Map CP12 does not.

I urge you to reject Map CP12. It separates too many communities of interests and creates a new district that has no chance of being complete. Map CP11 was just barely competitive and it likely would also favor the Republican Party; but at least it had the possibility of being competitive. CP12 clearly, and I believe, intentionally, does not. I urge you to review the Commission's goals and criteria and to act in a responsible and nonpartisan manner. Please reject Map CP12.

Thank you for your service and thank you for considering my comments.

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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: Kerry Finley  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:24:55 PM

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From: Kerry Finley [thinktank@interbel.net](mailto:thinktank@interbel.net)  
Residence: Eureka, MT

Message:

Please adopt CP12. It is a good compromise for all sides in my opinion. I have watched the last two public hearings, and several work meetings. It seems that competitive is the priority for most. This final map seems the best attempt at trying to achieve that goal by including Missoula, Bozeman, Butte, Whitefish, 2 State College/University communities, and 2 tribal communities in this Western District. I fully expect that the tremendous amount of people moving to all areas in Montana will change traditional voting patterns that are being used for and against this. I see it in my small town of Eureka in Lincoln County on local issues, so let's move on and adopt CP12, and fight it out all over again in 10 years. Many thanks to all of you and your staff. Sincerely, Kerry Finley 406-889-3673

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

**From:** [denise fisher](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map 12  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 5:05:25 PM

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Once again, we are close with choosing a map for redistricting but map 12 is not it. Please, take a little more time and find a competitive map so that everyone who is running has the ability to win. It should not be slanted to one side or the other. The tribes don't appear to favor this map either.

Gallatin county and Park county have too many similar issues and need to be kept together.

I feel like my vote will never matter in this state. Perhaps it's time for me to move. I don't want to though but want to live in a state that believes in elections and willing to listen to both sides as that makes us all better for it.

Denise Fisher  
Livingston, MT

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*Denise*

**From:** [ann follett](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 3, 2021 5:06:46 PM

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Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is ann follett and I have lived my whole life in Whitefish. all 93years, and voted every year since I was old enough to.

I support map 11 because it doesn't favor one political party.

it makes a competitive district

thanks for your time for taking your time for considering our thoughts

Regards,  
ann follett  
2488 E Lakeshore Dr  
Whitefish, MT 59937

**From:** [Rob Foote](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional districts  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:15:00 AM

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Congressional proposal 11 is the only map that could possibly provide a fair election. It provides a way to not split counties unfairly and still provide a way for all of the state to be represented.

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Connie J Forbes  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 4:27:18 PM

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From: Connie J Forbes [mt9forbes@centurylink.net](mailto:mt9forbes@centurylink.net)  
Residence: Helena MT

Message:

I don't think population should be the best criteria. One district (the east) seems to be almost the entire state! Don't split counties. Think about type of business. Helena is NOT agriculture like eastern Montana. It is more important to split on number of miles to represent and types of Montanans living in those miles than it is on getting exactly the same population. I will not be represented at all if grouped with farmers!

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

**From:** [Lynne Foss](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments on districting decision  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:09:47 PM

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I hope that you will reconsider the commission's decision to push forward Map #12. I am concerned that this map does not take into consideration that during public comment, Montanans overwhelmingly voiced their disapproval of it. When I analyze Map 12, it appears to be give Republicans a huge electoral advantage instead of balancing the advantage which would encourage all candidates to make an extra effort to listen to differing opinions. I am advocating outlining districts in such a way to create an atmosphere of engagement in order to be elected. In addition, I am also very concerned that Map 12 does not allow a strong enough voice for the tribal areas in Montana.

Thank you for the hard work on the redistricting process and I hope you will consider changes to Map 12 in order to re energize the policy debate in our state.

Lynne Foss  
Bozeman



**From:** [Susan Foster](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposal 12 - Support with Pondera County Undivided  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 11:39:53 AM

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Dear Redistricting Commission:

I support Proposal 12. However, it seems so unnecessary to divide Pondera County. The population is so small; surely including the county in one or the other district would not substantially impact the population equity of the two districts. The small population difference does not justify the difficulty to the Pondera County election office in managing a split county.

My suggestion is that you flip a coin to decide which district contains Pondera County. That will take all the politics out of the issue and quickly resolve it. If you choose not to be that random, I would suggest Pondera County go the eastern district as the western district population is probably increasing more rapidly.

Thank you for consideration of my comments.

Susan K. Foster  
3640 Whitefish Stage  
Kalispell MT 59901

406.249.5765

**From:** [Weiss, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Updated guide to Fair Maps  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 10:39:17 AM

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**From:** Coach Jim Fox <coachjimfox@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 5, 2021 10:26 AM  
**To:** Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Updated guide to Fair Maps

Thank you for your public service and your interest in redistricting. I thought you might be interested in the updated "Guide to Fair Maps," written for citizens, commissioners and legislators. This Guide covers issues such as: Why Fair Maps are so important to preserve our representative democracy; A straightforward test for gerrymandering; and A procedure to eradicate gerrymandering while achieving other desired redistricting criteria.  
<https://preprints.apsanet.org/engage/apsa/article-details/614c754539ef6a9cf8274171> [[preprints.apsanet.org](https://preprints.apsanet.org)] (more than 1950 views and 1600 downloads on the American Political Science Assoc. Preprints Page.)

Jim Fox

**From:** [Ty Gardner](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting feedback  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 11:18:06 AM

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I recently learned that in the effort to create a redistricting plan for Montana's 2 House districts, the proposed map leans heavily in favor of Republicans. It is frustrating to hear that a supposed bipartisan and fair decision is going to create a map that will prevent a democrat from ever getting elected regardless of how many votes due to gerrymandered districts. To also hear that the commission ignored the concerns of Montana's native tribes was disappointing. Montana, as I am sure you know, is about 40-45% Democratic.

Please review your map decision and work to make the districts competitive and fair allowing informed and independent voters to choose their candidates instead of having the district line choose it for them.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to create this map and listen to public comments. I trust that you will find that most Montanans would support a fair and balanced district map, not one that ignores the votes of nearly half the state.

Sincerely,

--

*Ty Gardner*

**From:** [Sheila Garvin](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map 12 inequity  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:55:00 PM

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Most Montanans want their voices heard and votes to count. Map 12 cuts out a large percent of them because it divides the state into 2 republican sections. Please take the time to revise Map 12 or reconsider Map 11 which is more equitable.

Thank you,  
Sheila Garvin

From: George W Gerard [geowgerard@hotmail.com](mailto:geowgerard@hotmail.com)  
Residence: Libby, Montana

Message:

I support the Redistricting Map CP-12.

From: Linda K Gerard [gerard.lindak@gmail.com](mailto:gerard.lindak@gmail.com)  
Residence: Libby, Montana

Message:  
I am in support of CP-12.

**From:** [Gerbatsch, Kirsten](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment - Districting  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:06:06 PM

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Hello,

Please accept my public comment for CP 11. I urge the Commission to advance CP 11.

Map 11 is the only map that fulfills all of the Commission's agreed-upon criteria. It creates a competitive Western district, avoiding unduly favoring a single party. It splits only a single county and does so without splitting towns or communities. It keeps federal reservations whole, and keeps both Gallatin and Lewis and Clark counties in the Western District, in alignment with their cultural and economic interests.

Please move a map forward that ensures that Park and Gallatin County are kept together, and create at least one competitive district. CP 12 cuts off Park County from Gallatin County. As a Montana resident who calls Livingston home, I know that Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin regional economy - whether we like it or not, and our interests will be ignored in District 2.

CP 12 splits a small rural county, ensuring that its voters will be ignored by both elected Congresspeople. County splits should respect communities of interest and large counties have distinct communities of interest within them that can be split more logically and ensure real representation for communities divided within a county. I would urge the Commission to select CP 11 because it Gallatin and Park Counties are increasingly interdependent on each other. Park County and Livingston specifically is a bedroom community of Bozeman. Park County residents travel to Gallatin County regularly for commercial and economic needs and businesses often serve both counties. Additionally, these two counties share a broad swath of interconnected ecosystems and recreation/natural resource tourism. Public lands such as Yellowstone National Park, the Absaroka-Bear-Tooth Wilderness, the Crazyes, Bridgers, etc. encompassed in the Custer-Gallatin National Forest bring in sizeable revenue and should be managed and considered together in one district.

These maps should be competitive, yes. What is more important is that the maps provide two districts where the elected representatives must be and will be most responsive to their constituents.

Please advance CP 11.

Kirsten Gerbatsch  
308 S. 8th St.  
Livingston, MT

59047

**Kirsten Gerbatsch** she / hers | 406-926-9099  
ALEXANDER BLEWETT III SCHOOL OF LAW  
**UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA**  
Juris Doctor Candidate | Class of 2022



**From:** [Weiss, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] District Maps comment and support  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 10:36:14 AM  
**Attachments:** [Lexercise certification Image.png](#)

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**From:** Laura B Gerlach <lbsargent@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 5, 2021 7:45 AM  
**To:** Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] District Maps comment and support

I am supporting CD #11,

This is a tough call, and I understand the disputes on both sides. I do not agree with the splitting of counties, however I also do not agree with putting Lewis and Clark County in the eastern district.

Counties with close connections need to stay together such as separating Silver Bow from Jefferson County - people commute from Jefferson County into Butte every single day. It sounds as though CD #12 intentionally cracks the union vote to separate workers who have banded together for more equitable workplace standards. Separating Helena union workers from their brothers and sisters in Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge isn't just bad policy. It's immoral. this map also separates Park County off from Gallatin. Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin regional economy.,

Urban representation and Rural Representation- CD #12 ensures that rural voices can never carry the day in any Congressional district. Our largest urban areas are equally split between the two districts, meaning that rural Montanans can never elect a Congress person of their choice.

Please consider these important points in your decision.

Laura B Gerlach



MEd  
Lexercise Teletherapist Partner  
[laura@hopenreading.com](mailto:laura@hopenreading.com)  
781-244-0541

**From:** [Ann German](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I oppose CP 12 and support CP 13 or CP 11  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 12:58:03 PM

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Dear Commissioners,

My name is Ann German and I am writing to register my opposition to the proposal for redistricting as shown on the map designated as CP 12. I am a fourth generation Montanan raised in Butte but living and practicing law in Libby since 1976.

I registered to testify on zoom today but was unable to wait due to schedule conflicts. I encourage you to adopt either CP 13 or CP 11. Either of these better meets the unanimously adopted goals of your Commission to create competitive districts comprised of communities of similar interests. I agree with and recommend for your guidance the comments of Nancy Leifer of the League of Women Voters which endorsed CP 13.

Thank you your attention to this comment and for your efforts in this very important task to afford ALL of us in Montana a voice in our future.

Sincerely yours,  
Ann German, P.O. Box 1530, Libby, MT 59923. (406) 293-4191

**From:** [Ron Gerson](#)  
**To:** [maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov); [jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov); [joe.lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:joe.lamson@mtleg.gov); [dan.stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:dan.stusek@mtleg.gov); [kendra.miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:kendra.miller@mtleg.gov); [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] AGAINST MAP 12  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 4:25:42 PM

---

## MAP 12 IS A BAD PLAN FOR MONTANA:

- This tentative final plan does not meet the goals the Commission set for itself.
- Republicans are favored heavily in both districts, which all but ensures a 2 Republican congressional delegation for the next decade. The plan is drawn to unduly favor a political party, and this Commission is going back on the promise it made when it passed its criteria.
- All tribes who spoke up on this critical issue, spoke with one voice. They wanted as many reservations as possible in a competitive district, and now their words are being twisted and used as a justification for a plan that puts every reservation in the state in a district where their Representative can ignore their voices. This is yet another example of Montana's government ignoring tribal voices.
- The public record is clear. Proposal 11 had the most public support, yet this Commission is passing a plan with little to no public record behind it. That's wrong for this state.
- This plan separates Butte from Helena and Jefferson County, which has the effect of kneecapping the voices of organized labor in this state. This plan makes it harder than ever for the voices of working families to be heard.
- The greater Gallatin economy is severed under this plan. Townsend and Livingston belong with Gallatin County in a Congressional district. Our state's future will be increasingly driven by growth in the greater Gallatin economy. Intentionally chopping it up is the wrong decision for Montana.

This Commission should reconsider this tentative plan and adopt a map that meets all of the adopted Commission criteria and goals.

Paul Ronald Gerson  
Kalispell  
516 662-3184

**From:** [Steven Gilbert](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:44:15 AM

---

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello,  
I'm Steve Gilbert. I've lived in Helena for 45 years.

I support Map 11 because it doesn't favor one political party.

I support Map 11 because it doesn't favor one political party but creates competition.

Thank you for your hard work and investment of time on behalf of Montanans.

Regards,  
Steven Gilbert  
604 2nd St  
Helena, MT 59601

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Glen  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:50:03 AM

---

From: John Glen johnjglen@charter.net  
Residence: Billings Mt

Message:  
Use the original map that was prior to 1980.

--

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

**From:** [Brian Globerman](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Oppose CP12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:33:47 PM

---

I was disappointed to read about the Commission's approval of CP12, particularly given the fact that the majority of public testimony opposed it. I believe it is noncompetitive (giving Republicans a distinct electoral advantage), and inconsistent with the expressed view of the tribes it purports to represent.

My opposition to CP12 can be summarized by the following bullet points:

- The Commission asked the public to weigh in on CP 12, and Montanans overwhelmingly disapproved of it
- The Commission ignored the voices of Tribes in moving an uncompetitive map forward
- CP 12 gives Republicans a massive electoral advantage and all but ensures that no Democrat has a chance to hold either seat for the next decade.

I am asking the Commission to please find a compromise on Tuesday to make CP 12 more competitive so everyone has a voice in our democracy.

Respectfully,  
Brian Globerman  
Bozeman, MT

**From:** [George Goble](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Districting  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:43:39 PM

---

Good afternoon,

It appears CP11 and CP13 are the most fair.

Gary George Goble  
1330 Vine Street  
Missoula, Montana 59802

**From:** [Jessie Golding](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MT redistricting support proposal 11  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:48:26 AM

---

Hello,

I am writing to express my strong support for Map 11 in the Montana redistricting process. As a Missoula resident, it is essential to me that we have fair elections and fair processes to conduct those elections. The redistricting must not give any one party an unfair advantage and Map 12 does that, whereas map 11 does not. Please do the right thing and ensure that Montana has a fair system.

Thank you,  
Jessie



**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Matthew Goudreau  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 9:11:24 AM

---

From: Matthew Goudreau [goodygguy@gmail.com](mailto:goodygguy@gmail.com)  
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

I would like to voice my strong support for Map 11 in Montana's redistricting effort. This map allows the best chance for competitive representation for all Montanans while keeping communities intact. Thank you for your sincere efforts and your consideration.

--

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: Paul Graham  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:08:13 PM

---

From: Paul Graham estimator79@hotmail.com  
Residence: Winston, MT

Message:

As this process hopefully moves forward and winds down, please keep on thought in mind- respect the boundaries of the counties. The idea of splitting the population count down the middle is a red herring and it reminds one of two divorce attorneys splitting up the silverware. Just get the population count as close as possible while preserving the boundaries of the contiguous counties in each of the two new districts.

--

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

**From:** [Kari Green](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 8:39:30 AM

---

## Proposal 12

I am in support of Proposal 12 for the redistricting. I think it gives us in the east a more equal representation. Please do not put all of the reservations in our district. They should be spread out as they are Geographically. Right now my representation on the state level is awful. We have 3 reservations and no other towns so only an Indian can get elected. That is not fair and I think the other Proposal does the same thing again. We are all Montanans and one group should not be given advantages. Good people is what we need to represent us. I don't care who you are , just that you are there to try and make things better for everyone.

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Margaret Green  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 10:02:26 AM

---

From: Margaret Green margaretgteen2000@yahoo.com  
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:  
I support voting district #11.

--

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David L Greep  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:36:14 AM

---

From: David L Greep PDaveGreep@gmail.com  
Residence: East Helena, MT

Message:

Would like it known that I support redistributing maps 11 & 13, and disapprove of map 12. There are many folks in MT and all need to be represented fairly. Map 12 would not do that. Maps 11 or 13 would do so better.

Thank you. DG

--

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: Jeff Griffin  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 10:50:58 AM

---

From: Jeff Griffin [jeffreygriffin@live.com](mailto:jeffreygriffin@live.com)  
Residence: Great Falls, MT 59404

Message:

Montana redistricting sure looked like voting in Russia. Everyone had the right to opinion and a vote but 3 people decided our right to vote while throwing out majority opinion. Clearly that was a partisan antidemocratic process. It was clear when the majority vote was for map 11 when Maylinn Smith decided our right to vote by putting off voting in favor of looking at map 12 while trying to encourage more republicans to respond in that direction. That was partisan. Furthermore, the same Trumpian emotional mudslinging went on by republicans in this process to encourage emotional republican anger rather than rational support for what was appropriate and fair. Emotional reasoning doesn't belong in our voting rights process. Map 11, as near as I can tell was the democratic majority opinion that should have been and still deserves the right choice if you support democracy. This process was suppose to represent our right to vote not others right to decide our vote

--

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: Kathryn Griffing  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 12:29:13 PM

---

From: Kathryn Griffing [kgkgriffing2@gmail.com](mailto:kgkgriffing2@gmail.com)  
Residence: Missoula

Message:

I am definitely in favor of Map #13 and somewhat less for Map #11.

--

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: Mike Hagman  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 1:42:53 PM

---

From: Mike Hagman mhagman39@hotmail.com  
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:  
I am in favor of map 12.

--

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



**From:** [harry haines](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map 10  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 2:47:20 PM

---

Please adopt Map 10. redistricting should not, to the extent possible, divide counties.

**From:** [lynne.hakkila@gmail.com](mailto:lynne.hakkila@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CP 12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:11:50 PM

---

For the following reasons below this is unacceptable in my state!

Lynne Hakkila  
Kalispell MT

Below are some of the reasons why CP 12 is a bad plan for Montana:

- The Commission's tentative final plan does not meet the goals the Commission set for itself.
- Republicans are favored heavily in both districts, all but ensuring a 2 Republican congressional delegation for the next decade. The plan is drawn to unduly favor a political party, and this Commission is going back on the promise it made when it passed its criteria.
- All tribes who spoke up on this critical issue, spoke with one voice. They wanted as many reservations as possible in a competitive district, and now their words are being twisted and used as a justification for a plan that puts every reservation in the state in a district where their Representative can ignore their voices. This is yet another example of Montana's government ignoring tribal voices.
- The public record is clear. Proposal 11 had the most public support, yet this Commission is passing a plan with little to no public record behind it. That's wrong for this state.
- This plan separates Butte from Helena and Jefferson County, which has the effect of kneecapping the voices of organized labor in this state. This plan makes it harder than ever for the voices of working families to be heard.
- The greater Gallatin economy is severed under this plan. Townsend and Livingston belong with Gallatin County in a Congressional district. Our state's future will be increasingly driven by growth in the greater Gallatin economy. Intentionally chopping it up is the wrong decision for Montana.
- This Commission should reconsider this tentative plan and adopt a map that meets all of the adopted Commission criteria and goals.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Audrey Hall](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No on CP12  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 2:47:52 PM

---

Hello,

I am writing to object to moving the districting map of CP12 forward?

How can you ignore the overwhelming support of CP11, from both sides of the aisle and our state tribes? CP is the most competitive and fair map.

I am disappointed that the commission is being so blatantly favoring of one party over another.

I know I am not the only one that is shocked and disappointed at this favoritism.

I urge you to reconsider.

Warmest regards,  
Audrey

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Charles A. Hall](#)  
**To:** [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov); [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov);  
[Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov)  
**Cc:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] unhappy with CP 12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:02:49 PM

---

I found the CP 12 plan for redistricting extremely disconcerting and do not support its adoption. It virtually insures Republican control where clearly nearly (or occasionally more than) half of the State tends to vote Democratic some or much of the time. CP 12 disenfranchises those of us who are not knee jerk Republicans. Do not validate it. Our nation suffers mightily from Gerrymandering (often much worse than this). The National House of Representatives is nearly half Republican which Democrats were nearly 60 percent of the votes. Let us not continue this misrepresentation here in Montana.

Charles Hall  
Polson

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kathleen Hamill  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 4:27:50 AM

---

From: Kathleen Hamill [Kathleenhamill1@gmail.com](mailto:Kathleenhamill1@gmail.com)  
Residence: Helena

Message:

What is going on?? How can maps be added after the given date?  
Where is your integrity....nonpartisan??I think NOT! Support map #11 the only fair and impartial option. Thank you!

--

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

**From:** [Jim Hamilton](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Oppose map 12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:17:19 PM

---

I believe this map was the worst among the remaining choices. It is not competitive by Cook's ratings so choosing it leaves Montana without a district that can represent the "other" 45-50%.

Additionally communities/ counties of common interest have been separated- Park from Gallatin, Jefferson from Silver Bow.

Revise this map to something more balanced, even if that should require loosening the too strict population goals.

Jim Hamilton  
Rep HD 61  
Bozeman

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Martin and Mary Hamilton  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 9:59:41 AM

---

From: Martin and Mary Hamilton hamovich@yahoo.com  
Residence: Bozeman MT

Message:

We urge the Commission to choose CP 11 and reject CP 12. The Commission's mandatory criterion of "functional compactness" and its goal of "keeping communities of interest intact" are satisfied by CP 11, not so by CP 12.

Gallatin and Park counties should not be separated. They are socially, economically, and historically intertwined. The CP 11 map keeps the populations most influenced by Yellowstone National Park in the same district, but not so with CP 12.

CP 11 clearly is the better choice for Montana.

--

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jane Lee Hamman  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 1:50:41 AM

---

From: Jane Lee Hamman [janeleehamman@aol.com](mailto:janeleehamman@aol.com)  
Residence: Clancy

Message:

After reviewing again the current maps under consideration, I am writing to support Map CP 12. County boundaries are very important because they contain the local level of government most representative and reflective of We the People. As I wrote earlier during your deliberations, my primary consideration was preserving opportunities for local elected county officials and county residents to interact with and petition one primary Representative for constituent services, enable by keeping as many counties intact as possible.

Map CP 12 keeps Flathead County in the Western District where it best fits the surrounding milieu and keeps it whole. CP 12 also keeps Lewis and Clark and Gallatin Counties whole. It only splits one county.

Therefore, I respectfully request your support for Map CP12.

--

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



**From:** [Megan Harbaugh](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Appeal to make CP 12 more competitive  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 2:49:07 PM

---

Commissioners,

I don't pretend to think that your job is easy, and I appreciate the work you have all done over the last several weeks to create two congressional districts for Montana.

But the process by which the commission moved forward CP 12 is a disgrace. You very explicitly asked the public to weigh in on this uncompetitive, partisan proposal, and the public overwhelmingly told you it was not the right fit for our state.

You have created one party rule in Montana for the next decade, and silenced the voices of half of our residents, including Native Americans, in moving that map forward.

Please take the time you have allotted on Tuesday to find a way to make CP 12 more competitive. You owe it to the thousands of Montanans who trusted that this process would be fair.

Megan

**From:** [Marisa Hardy](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 6:46:31 PM

---

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Marisa Hardy and I've lived in Helena for 23 years.

I choose Map 11.

It does a better job of reflecting the growth of western Montana.

Thanks,

Regards,  
Marisa Hardy  
1009 Highland St  
Helena, MT 59601

**From:** [Weiss, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting: Public Input  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:51:04 PM

---

**From:** Heidi Harting-Rex <hhartingrex@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:49 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting: Public Input

Hello Ms. Weiss,

Thanks for hearing public input. This is to state clearly that I support the #11 map.

Best to you,  
Heidi Harting-Rex

**From:** [Shannon Heath](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 3, 2021 8:03:16 AM

---

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Shannon Heath  
Helena, MT  
I've lived in Helena since 1985.

I support map 11

I support map 11, because it doesn't favor one political party over another.

Thank you for your work on this important effort and for seriously considering my preference.

Regards,  
Shannon Heath  
705 State St  
Helena, MT 59601

**From:** [Kimya Mai](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Maps 10 and 12  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:15:40 PM

---

Hello,

I write to oppose gerrymandering and to support better mapping of maps 10 and 12, which are unacceptable as is.

I am a resident in Missoula County

Mai Hedayat-Zadeh  
May 15 1990

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David Hedeman  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:00:22 PM

---

From: David Hedeman [hedemandf@netscape.net](mailto:hedemandf@netscape.net)  
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:

Thank you to the commission for your work. I am in agreement with Chairwoman Smith that CP 12 is the best compromise for the people of the state of Montana. I do not have any further suggestions for changes as it seems the districts are evenly divided into equal populations. Please finalize and solidify CP 12 as the congressional map for Montana for the next decade. Thank you.

--

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

**From:** [pat h](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Legislative Districting Map  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 3:29:30 PM

---

Dear Chair Smith and commissioners,

I thank you for your marathon of participation in this redistricting process. I was just reaching out one final time with my support for most recent map 12 as approved on Thursday, November 4 redistricting committee meeting. This map is a fair process to keep the Flathead in the west where we have the similar business concerns and similar Community needs. This appears to be a positive map to include the tribes representation . I thank you again for your work and please continue to move forward with the map 12 as agreed upon in recent committee meeting of November 4.

Thank you,  
Pat Heil

511 Crestview Rd.  
Kalispell, MT. 59901 patisontoday@gmail.com

**From:** [Kadie Heinle](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 12:30:12 AM

---

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hi there,

My name is Kadie Heinle. I'm currently a resident in Bozeman, MT where I've lived for the last two years.

I am writing to support that map 11 is chosen for the congressional districts as it doesn't favor one political party and provides for a more competitive congressional race than the alternative does.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration in reading these public comments!

Regards,  
Kadie Heinle  
3605 Pipestone St  
Bozeman, MT 59718



**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rosemary Hickey  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 2:05:32 PM

---

From: Rosemary Hickey roeh89@gmail.com  
Residence: Polson, Mt

Message:

Greetings Commissioner's,

First I thank you for your service to our state.

I understand a fundamental underpinning of any districting map is fairness to all citizens.

Unfortunately,

half of your committee chose a map that is not fair to all of Montanans. The fact the commission could not agree on a third member to seat speaks to the polarization of our current political climate which benefits no one. Compromise is fundamental to a functioning democracy. The map chosen does not compromise. In your heart of hearts , do you have the best interests of all Montanans and a deep sense of fairness in your decision?

I understand you chose compactness over fairness. The map that the other half of your commission chose was contiguous. It addressed your directive to preserve communities with shared interests. Preserving communities of shared interests underpins the most important aspect of a map, fairness.

Looking at the two final maps, I think the “ compactness” position does not hold water. How do you allow an arbitrary notion ( compactness) to override fairness? How do you explain this to your children or grandchildren?

Don't we all strive to be fair ?

Again, thank you for your service.

Best regards,

Rosemary Hickey

36704 Fulkerson Ln

Polson, Mt

Roeh89@gmail.com

--

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

**From:** [Diana Hicks](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The selection of CP12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 8:53:13 AM

---

So glad to see CP 12 was selected, it gives continuity to the Western Mountain region of Montana. It does appear to be the most equitable. Hope you will come to the same conclusion and adopt it.

Sincerely,  
Diana Hicks,  
Libby MT

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kathleen Hicks  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 5:16:36 AM

---

From: Kathleen Hicks kbhinmt@gmail.com  
Residence: Billings, Montana

Message:

Map 11 keeping Lewis and Clark County in the western district is the fairest and most reasonable selection.

--

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

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your latest apportionment map choice.

In my opinion, your current choice, Map 12, is not fair to Montanans because it continues to pit our parties against each other unfairly in a partisan way, rather than creating a competitive non-partisan environment. As I am sure you are noticing, both of the districts in the map lean heavily Republican. Our state is 40-45% Democratic, and this map doesn't reflect that breakdown. Map 12 gives the GOP a serious electoral advantage and makes it so a Democrat will probably not hold either seat for at least 10 years; 45% of Montanans shouldn't be ignored by the redistricting commission.

**By modifying Map 12 to assure that the individual candidate is evaluated more on their qualities and values, rather than party affiliation, you would be helping Montanans choose the best option for the future of our wonderful state and its good people.**

Thanks for all you are doing to hear so many voices and consider how fairness and cooperation can prevail.

Kind regards,

Sue Higgins  
Bozeman  
(406) 209-3613  
[susanhhiggins2gmail.com](mailto:susanhhiggins2gmail.com) [[susanhhiggins2gmail.com](mailto:susanhhiggins2gmail.com)]

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Heather Higgs  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:59:33 PM

---

From: Heather Higgs [heatherhiggs@hotmail.com](mailto:heatherhiggs@hotmail.com)  
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Map 10 allows for the greatest opportunity to increase the American Indian voice and is not drawn to favor a political party. Montanans deserve and demand a balanced approach since our freedom and liberties entirely depends on free and fair elections.

--

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

**From:** [Dave Hill](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request you revise Map #12 to make a competitive district  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:07:44 PM

---

I am extremely disappointed to see that Map #12 was moved forward by the commission. This map is absolutely not competitive in either district, a goal established by the commission.

Montana has a strong Democratic contingency of 40-45% and a map that would allow a Democrat to win one district should have been the top priority. Even with that percentage, the district would likely always go to a Republican.

It appears you ignored the wishes of the Montana Tribes who testified that the most important factor for them was creating a competitive map.

I believe Montana deserves better. I think this decision should be looked at again with possible revisions to Map #12 so it is more competitive. As a Park County resident I think that we should be in the same district as Gallatin County because of our close economic connection.

It's not too late to revise the district maps and make Montana a fully represented state.

Thank You,  
Dave Hill  
Livingston, MT 59047  
406-222-3263

**From:** [samhines629@everyactioncustom.com](mailto:samhines629@everyactioncustom.com) on behalf of [Sam Hines](#)  
**To:** [joe.lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:joe.lamson@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [spam]Please Reject CP10 and CP12  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:51:02 PM

---

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I urge you to consider all of the goals and criteria you have adopted. I hope you choose a map that keeps one of the districts competitive. I fear that if you choose a map like CP10 or CP12, politics in Montana will become increasingly polarized.

Sincerely,  
Sam Hines  
434 N 1st St W Missoula, MT 59802-2926  
[samhines629@gmail.com](mailto:samhines629@gmail.com)

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Steven Scott Hines  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 8:54:00 AM

---

From: Steven Scott Hines [hineshouse78@gmail.com](mailto:hineshouse78@gmail.com)  
Residence: Kalispell MT

Message:

Sir/Ma'am, I remain concerned with what appears to be an effort to balance party politics over the constitutional guidance of compact, approximately equal representation. Previous maps when MT had two representatives made sense yet so what is so different now that following one of those will not work. I feel that keeping counties intact makes more sense than dividing. +/- 500 between sides (0.1%) is really not all that significant to the representation between sides. Besides, within any year the change in population will make a +/- 1 difference mute. Thanks for this opportunity to comment.

--

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: Linda Holtom  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 3:07:04 PM

---

From: Linda Holtom [holtom@mac.com](mailto:holtom@mac.com)  
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

There were two maps in play in the first week of November and suddenly there are four maps in play! But to no Progressive's surprise one of the right-wing maps is preferred. I understand that public comments are being used to make the decision. That's not a very good standard for making a decision that impacts every Montanan and his/her access to fair representation. Unlike elections where every voter gets one vote, one individual can provide any number of "public comments." Such data is not a valid representation of citizens' wants or needs. Map 11 provides a competitive Western District. It splits only one county and does not split any towns or cities. It keeps native American reservations whole. Both Gallatin County and Lewis & Clark County remain whole. Map 12 gerrymanders enough to make sure that Democratic vote is diluted. If the Commission wants to know what is really important, it is that the Districting Commission create a Western district that is truly competitive, as provided most effectively by Map 11.

--

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

**From:** [violetolivia@everyactioncustom.com](mailto:violetolivia@everyactioncustom.com) on behalf of [Violet Hopkins](#)  
**To:** [joe.lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:joe.lamson@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [spam]Please Reject CP10 and CP12  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:27:12 PM

---

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am incredibly disappointed to see that partisan interests are moving the goal posts on the redistricting map process. Please keep your word and stick to the criteria the commission agreed upon months ago, otherwise this "last minute compromise" just looks like the commission is bowing to partisan pressure and putting special interests ahead of a fair and competitive map. Who doesn't want a fair and competitive map?

Sincerely,  
Violet Hopkins  
548 Colorado Ave Missoula, MT 59802-5501  
[violetolivia@gmail.com](mailto:violetolivia@gmail.com)

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kim Hover  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 12:35:27 PM

---

From: Kim Hover [khover@aol.com](mailto:khover@aol.com)  
Residence: Stevensville, Montana

Message:

Map 12 does NOT fit all the requirements that have been placed on this issue. Map 1 meets them all. How can you vote for one that doesn't meet the requirements when you have one that does? Makes absolutely no sense, except that you have made this political and showing everyone which way the board leans.

--

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: leroy hoversland  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:06:46 PM

---

From: leroy hoversland [dvm@ronan.net](mailto:dvm@ronan.net)  
Residence: ronan montana

Message:

i would favor map # 10 which would seperate missoula and bozeman

--

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

**From:** [Robert D Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CP 12 comment  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:13:27 PM

---

Dear Districting Commission:

I am a longtime resident of Park County, Montana. I am very disappointed in the recent Commission decision to advance CP 12. It does not follow the Commission's mandate to create a COMPETITIVE district. It favors one party (Republicans) over the other. The Tribes oppose CP 12. A majority of Montanans who commented on CP 12 opposed it.

CP 12 puts Park County in the eastern district. Park County's economic and cultural interests align with Gallatin County and the western part of the state. CP 12 should be modified to place Park County in the western district where it belongs.

Please vote on Tuesday to adopt a compromise district map that places Park County in the western district. Please make CP 12 competitive.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Robert Hughes  
Livingston, Montana

**From:** [Sarah Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment on CP-12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:25:59 PM

---

Dear Commissioners

I am a citizen of Montana and long time resident of Park County. I have been following the redistricting process and providing public comment by email, in person and with pin maps. You say you are listening yet so many of us have not been heard.

You committed to a fair and competitive map, yet voted to move forward with a map that creates two districts, both unduly favoring the Republican Party. In doing so, you have ignored the wishes of the tribes as well as the wishes of all the Montanans who overwhelmingly disapprove of this map. By separating Park and Gallatin counties and placing Park in the eastern district, you are severing communities of interest while effectively disenfranchising a majority of Park County voters.

I urge you to make keep your promises to the citizens of Montana by making CP-12 more competitive, and to include Park County in the western district. We all deserve a voice in our democracy.

Sincerely

Sarah G. Hughes  
East of Livingston

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Pamela W. Hunthausen  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:13:08 AM

---

From: Pamela W. Hunthausen [pamela.hunthausen@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.hunthausen@gmail.com)  
Residence: Helena, Montana

Message:  
Honorable Commission Members:

As a resident of Helena, retired State of Montana employee, I strongly urge you to ADOPT REDISTRICTING MAP 11 as our official congressional map. Keeping Lewis & Clark County in the west and not splitting Jefferson and Broadway Counties is only logical. Please REJECT MAP 12 as it makes absolutely no sense for Montana. Again, please ADOPT MAP 11.

Thank you for reading my comments and thank you for your important work on this Commission.

--

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

**From:** [Charlene Iannucci](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No on CP12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:08:35 PM

---

My name is Charlene Iannucci and I am urging the commission to NOT go with CP12 for redistricting. I hope that the commission listens to the public record and follows the guidelines for redistricting.

I believe that Helena should be in the Western district with Butte and Bozeman.

Thank you,  
Charlene Iannucci



**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Emmy Ibison  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 7:40:18 AM

---

From: Emmy Ibison [emmyndave@gmail.com](mailto:emmyndave@gmail.com)  
Residence: Florence, MT

Message:

Map 12 does not best meet the criteria the Commission unanimously adopted at the start of the redistricting process. The criteria are as follows:

- \*Maps should not be drawn to unduly favor a political party.
- \*The commission shall attempt to minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible.
- \*(Maps should) consider keeping communities of interest intact.
- \*(Maps should) consider ensuring the competitiveness of districts.

Map 11 better meets the criteria the Commission adopted, please reconsider and DO NOT adopt map 12.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

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: John Ilgenfritz  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 5:42:15 PM

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From: John Ilgenfritz [jgilgenfritz@msn.com](mailto:jgilgenfritz@msn.com)  
Residence: helena, Mt

Message:

It seems like every day is a different map. It almost feels at time like a doctor asking his patients what he should do.

You Commissioners spend countless hours reviewing/proposing maps and at times I think the multitude of maps being proposed is just to confuse us. Now I hear that map 13, which I may have supported earlier, would divide Lewis & Clark County. I am opposed to dividing Lewis and Clark county based on what little I know.

My goodness come up with districts which have equal or almost equal populations and have competitive races so the candidates have to actually tell us where they stand and how they will achieve their objectives.

Your decision impacts all of us for the next 10 years, put state before party. We need competent candidates running against each other to bring out competitive, informative races.

--

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: Denise Isaacson  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 4:50:35 PM

---

From: Denise Isaacson isaacsonda17@gmail.com

Residence: Libby

Message:

To Whom It May Concern, I live in Libby, MT and strongly support the redistricting map #CP 12. I feel that this map is the most fair to both political parties. Please, do not stack this state for one side or the other.

Thank you,  
Denise Isaacson

--

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: John Isaacson  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 4:52:25 PM

---

From: John Isaacson [isajohh44@gmail.com](mailto:isajohh44@gmail.com)

Residence: LIBBY

Message:

Redistricting Commission, I strongly support the redistricting map CP 12.

Thank you, John Isaacson

--

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: Sally Janover  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:58:30 PM

---

From: Sally Janover [sally@aduzi.net](mailto:sally@aduzi.net)  
Residence: Bigfork Montana

Message:  
Map 13

--

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

**From:** [Carrie Jazwiecki](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Against Redistricting Map 12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 11:24:52 AM

---

I do not support the new Map 12. It does not fairly represent the current and future voters of Montana.  
Carol Jazwiecki  
311 South G Street  
Livingston, MT 59047

**From:** [Robert Jeffrey](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments on Redistricting Maps 10, 11, 12 & 13  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:20:36 PM

---

Here are my comments on the latest four maps (10, 11, 12 and 13) proposed by the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission. I arrived at my conclusions based on my experiences as a 40+ year resident of Montana, and having worked for most of that time period as a state employee that traveled to all 56 Montana counties. IMO, the best way to approach the division of these two congressional districts is to follow the Continental Divide (CD) as much as possible and where more population is needed, then the map should be favored by pushing the 'Toe of the Montana Boot' further to the east.

- Map #11 - totally unacceptable. There is no rational way to include any part of Flathead County in the new Eastern Congressional District! It makes no more sense to include Flathead then it would to place Missoula County in the Eastern Congressional District.
- Map #13 - unacceptable. Don't divide Lewis & Clark and Gallatin, two of the fastest growing counties in Montana! They are both east of the CD and would normally fall into the Eastern Congressional District if the population of this state was distributed more evenly like it was in the 1970s. We should keep Lewis & Clark and Gallatin Counties whole and place them totally in one district or another.
- Map #10 - unacceptable. Again don't divide Gallatin County, one of the fastest growing counties in Montana into two pieces that are split between the Western and Eastern Congressional Districts! As one of the largest and fastest growing counties in Montana, Gallatin should either be totally in the West or totally in the East. IMO, Gallatin belongs in the Western Congressional District since it has more in common economically, geographically and politically with the other counties in southwestern Montana.
- Map #12 - ACCEPTABLE. Not perfect but as good as it will get in this process. It's still splitting one county, Pondera, but it's a small one and it will affect the least amount of voters. It also includes two Indian Reservation in the Western Congressional District which provides some semblance of balance of Native American voters between the new Eastern and Western Congressional Districts. More importantly, three of the fastest growing counties in Montana – Flathead, Lewis & Clark, and Gallatin remain undivided and totally in one district or another.

For the reasons mentioned above, I support Congressional Proposal #12. It's not perfect but it's the best compromise for the majority of Montana voters for the next 10 years.

Respectively submitted,

Robert K. Jeffrey

2111 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Helena, MT 59601



**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: EA Andy Johnson  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:04:16 AM

---

From: EA Andy Johnson eandyj007@gmail.com

Residence: Butte

Message:

Stop the politics! Keep it simple! Draw the split via the west boundary of HILL, CHOTEAU, CASCADE MEAGHER, AND GALLATIN. Check the populations using the 2020 census. IT WORKS !!

EAJ

--

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: Meghan Johnston  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 3:51:34 AM

---

From: Meghan Johnston [mjohnst2@gmail.com](mailto:mjohnst2@gmail.com)  
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

As a 3rd generation Montanan, I have always taken pride in my fellow Montanans independent thinking and prioritization of common sense over political party. I am very concerned that the current district map prioritizes one political party over another. That is the antithesis of the goals of any of my friends that I grew up with, regardless of party. Please do not choose Map 12 and choose Map 11. We need to end the partisan politics and start putting Montanans first.

Thank you, Meghan Johnston

--

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: Gil Jordan  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:28:59 AM

---

From: Gil Jordan ontherun@aboutmontana.net  
Residence: Coram

Message:

Map 12 does not best meet the criteria the Commission unanimously adopted at the start of the redistricting process. Since it appears you have lost track, the criteria are as follows:

Maps should not be drawn to unduly favor a political party.

The commission shall attempt to minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible.

(Maps should) consider keeping communities of interest intact.

(Maps should) consider ensuring the competitiveness of districts.

Map 11 far better meets the criteria. Please reconsider. Thank you.

--

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

**From:** [Catherine K](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: CP12 map  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:58:08 PM

---

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission,

I support map CP12 as the final tentative map for Montana's two congressional districts because it keeps Flathead County in the WEstern District, keeps Lewis and Clark County and Gallatin County whole, splitting only one county in the state.

Thank you,  
Catherine Kahle

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Deborah Kasper  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 1:00:39 PM

---

From: Deborah Kasper [dgkasper@gmail.com](mailto:dgkasper@gmail.com)  
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

The two Republican-leaning districts and don't meet a discretionary criterion that calls for "competitive" districts, whenever possible.

Is it that the goal for each district to be equally competitive? It is very disappointing, to say the least, that the 2 parties don't seem to want what is best for the whole population of Montana. Why would they not want that?

It is best when elected representatives represent the entire state. Please let's work together. Let's take the high road and set an example for the rest of the country. Be leaders.

--

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

**From:** [mdkeaveny@charter.net](mailto:mdkeaveny@charter.net)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Aera districting.  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 12:52:11 PM

---

Thank everyone who added their expertise, time, and dedication to our State and Country. God will surely reward you. Val Keaveny Sr

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android \[aka.ms\]](#)

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Emma Kerr-Carpenter  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 2:50:56 PM

---

From: Emma Kerr-Carpenter [emmakc@mtleg.gov](mailto:emmakc@mtleg.gov)  
Residence: Billings

Message:

Thank you Commissioners for your service with this politically fraught decision.

My biggest concern is that by putting Helena into the East district, I am concerned that Cascade county and Yellowstone County will not have the full ear of their representative.

As a Representative from Yellowstone County, it is very important to me that Cascade County and Yellowstone County have their unique community issues properly represented on the federal level.

Yellowstone County is an economic hub for a tri-state which gives it a unique set of issues not shared by other communities in MT. Cascade County is home to the Malmstrom Air Force Base and needs to be in a district that allows it to be properly advocated for in DC. Putting another larger city in this district will end up forcing our representative to split their attention in a way that won't be good for Yellowstone County and Cascade county.

Please do not dilute my community's and Cascade County's voice by putting them in the same district as Helena.

--

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

**From:** [Nancy Kessler](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please say NO to CP12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:39:22 AM

---

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to request that you reject CP12 as the new Congressional Districting map for Montana, and instead implement CP11, for the following reasons:

- The Commission asked the public to weigh in on CP 12, and Montanans overwhelmingly disapproved of it.
- The Commission ignored the voices of Tribes in moving an uncompetitive map forward.
- CP 12 gives Republicans a massive electoral advantage and all but ensures that no Democrat has a chance to hold either seat for the next decade.

Additionally:

- CP 12 creates districts that are NOT competitive. Intentionally drawing both districts to heavily favor the Republican party violates this Commission's goal of not unduly favoring a political party and does not meet any basic definition of competitiveness that this Commission unanimously adopted as a goal.
- CP 12 slices Park County off from Gallatin. Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin regional economy, as well as of its culture, and its residents' interests will be ignored in District 2.
- CP 12 separates Butte from Jefferson County. People commute from Jefferson County into Butte every single day, and it makes no sense at all to separate the two communities.
- CP 12 intentionally cracks the union vote to separate workers who have banded together for more equitable workplace standards. Separating Helena union workers from their brothers and sisters in Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge isn't just bad policy. It's immoral.
- CP 12 splits a small rural county, ensuring that its voters will be ignored by both Congresspeople. County splits should respect communities of interest.
- CP 12 ensures that rural voices can never carry the day in any Congressional district. Our largest urban areas are equally split between the two districts, meaning that rural Montanans can never elect a Congressional representation of their choice.

Please find a compromise on Tuesday to make CP 12 more competitive so everyone has a voice in our democracy.

Thank you for your consideration.



Nancy Kessler  
Livingston, MT

**From:** [kristeen keup](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CP 12 unfair as written; please reconsider.  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 8:14:48 PM

---

CP12 is especially egregious because it claims to be a “last minute compromise”, which it is not.

CP12 creates two uncompetitive congressional districts, which does not honor your guidelines: competitive, compact and contiguous.

CP12 separates Helena and Jefferson County from Butte despite these communities sharing cultural, economic, and historical identities, which does not honor your guidelines: competitive, compact and contiguous.

CP12, according to testimony, is an unabashed attempt to “split the union vote”, which does not honor fairness.

Peace. Understanding. Light.  
Kristeen M. Keup

**From:** [douglas kikkert](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 12:16:06 AM

---

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello, I am a lifelong Montana citizen, age 74, and I reside in Philipsburg, Montana. My name is Doug Kikkert.

I support district boundaries described in map 11.

Because of the alleged bias of Republican districting, this choice will show that there is no favoritism by partisan factions.

Thank you

Regards,  
douglas kikkert  
101 7th St  
Philipsburg, MT 59858

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Donald B Kinsey  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 2:31:11 PM

---

From: Donald B Kinsey [mtkinsey@itstriangle.com](mailto:mtkinsey@itstriangle.com)  
Residence: Big Timber. MT

Message:

I am in favor of adopting the Districting CP12, which has been tentatively adopted by the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission.

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: Kathy Kinzfogl  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 5:38:27 PM

---

From: Kathy Kinzfogl [birdfrog@blackfoot.net](mailto:birdfrog@blackfoot.net)  
Residence: Bigfork Montana

Message:

May 12 does not meet this criteria..... “Maps should not be drawn to unduly favor a political party.

The commission shall attempt to minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible.

(Maps should) consider keeping communities of interest intact.

(Maps should) consider ensuring the competitiveness of districts”

--

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

**From:** [Joe Kipphut](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional districts maps for Montana  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 4:32:39 PM

---

I oppose maps that favor one political party over another.  
Joe Kipphut  
420 Woodoford Ave.  
Missoula,MT 59801

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Lynn Kirtley  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 1:08:54 PM

---

From: Lynn Kirtley [lynn.kirtley03@gmail.com](mailto:lynn.kirtley03@gmail.com)  
Residence: Bozeman MT

Message:

I still prefer map cp-11 because it keeps more communities of interest intact than map cp-12 (see Lewis and Clark and Park counties). Geographically, Flathead county belongs in the western district, but ideologically it belongs in the eastern district.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lynn Kirtley

--

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 G Klenn  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:05:41 AM

---

From: William G Klenn [wgklenn@gmail.com](mailto:wgklenn@gmail.com)  
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:  
Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission: November 4, 2021

I'm writing again to weigh in on the latest redistricting maps. This time my comments will be even more brief than the last time.

I believe very strongly that there should be a balance between the two major political parties and that neither party or their philosophies should monopolize control of any of the government branches. That said, Congressional Proposal (CP) 13 creates an Eastern district which votes heavily Republican and a Western district which is split somewhat evenly between Republican and Democratic voters. In keeping with the political persuasion of most of its voters, the Eastern district would likely elect a Republican representative most of the time, whereas the Western district would be more competitive between the parties and elect a representative according to which way the political winds blow during any given election year. I believe CPs 10, 11, and 12 are not in the best interests of our voters or our country.

In my opinion CP 13 would most fairly represent the voters of our state and be in the best interest of each of us as Montanans and as Americans.

I urge you to adopt CP 13.

Thank you for the time and efforts.

Sincerely,

Bill Klenn  
408 Overbrook Drive  
Bozeman, 59715

--

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: Catherine Elizabeth Knight  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 8:53:28 AM

---

From: Catherine Elizabeth Knight [katiebethknight@gmail.com](mailto:katiebethknight@gmail.com)  
Residence: Helena

Message:

I oppose CP 12. It is not a competitive map and therefore does not accomplish what the commission unanimously agreed to do.

It cracks the union vote by separating Helena from Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge.

It creates both districts that were dominated by Republicans in the last 8 years.

It separates Butte from Jefferson County, when many people in Jefferson County commute to Butte to work.

It splits a small rural county, insuring that voters will be ignored by by Congresspeople.

I support map CP 13, and CP 11 as a second choice.

--

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

**From:** [eric knutson](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd:  
**Date:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 11:04:44 AM

---

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

From: **eric knutson** <[ericknutson007@gmail.com](mailto:ericknutson007@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, Nov 2, 2021 at 9:23 AM  
Subject: Fwd:  
To:

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

From: **eric knutson** <[ericknutson007@gmail.com](mailto:ericknutson007@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 1, 2021 at 5:48 PM  
Subject: Fwd:  
To:

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

From: **eric knutson** <[ericknutson007@gmail.com](mailto:ericknutson007@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 1, 2021 at 4:24 PM  
Subject:  
To: Eric Knutson <[ericknutson007@gmail.com](mailto:ericknutson007@gmail.com)>

<https://montanadailygazette.com/2021/11/01/an-urgent-message-from-montana-gops-debbie-churchill-re-redstrictring/> [[montanadailygazette.com](#)]

**From:** [queencitypsych@gmail.com](mailto:queencitypsych@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposal 11  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:05:11 AM

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## **I am in favor of Proposal 11 which meets most of the commissions goals, to wit;**

### **Montana Congressional Commission's criteria & goals**

The Commission unanimously adopted criterion & goals for Congressional maps on July 9, 2021:

#### **Mandatory Criteria for Congressional Districts**

- Districts must be as equal in population as is practicable (Article 1, Section 2, U.S. Constitution).
- Protection of minority voting rights are guaranteed in Article II, Section 4 of the Montana Constitution and through compliance with the Voting Rights Act. 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.” (42 U.S.C. 1973). Race cannot be the predominant factor to which redistricting criteria are subordinated. (Shaw v. Reno, 509 U.S. [630 1993](#)).
- Each district shall consist of compact territory. (Article 5, Section 14 of the Montana Constitution). The Commission shall consider the district’s functional compactness in terms of travel and transportation, communication, and geography.
- Each district shall be contiguous, meaning that a district must be in one piece. (Article 5, Section 14 of the Montana Constitution). Areas that meet only at points of adjoining corners shall not be considered contiguous. Areas separated by natural geographical or artificial barriers that prevent transportation by vehicle on a maintained road shall be avoided when not in conflict with the commission's adopted criteria and goals.

#### **Goals for Congressional Districts**

- No plan may be drawn to unduly favor a political party.
- The commission shall attempt to minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible. **[CP 11 splits only 1 county (Flathead); CP 13 splits 3 counties, including Gallatin]**
- Keeping communities of interest intact. The Commission may consider keeping communities of interest intact. Communities of interest can be based on Indian reservations, urban interests, suburban interests, rural interests, tribal interests, neighborhoods, trade areas, geographic

location, demographics, communication and transportation networks, social, cultural, historic, and economic interests and connections, or occupations and lifestyles **[CP 11 includes Helena (Lewis & Clark county); CP 13 does not]**

- The commission may consider the competitiveness of districts when drawing plans. A competitive district is one where no party is favored, meaning candidates have to appeal to a broad swath of voters, leading to more responsive leaders and healthier democracy. Competitiveness can be measured by Cook PVI scores, an industry standard. There is bipartisan agreement that any newly drawn district between D+5 and R+5 is highly competitive. Both CP 11 and CP 13 have Cook PVI scores inside of the range of competitiveness.

CP 11 --> R+4.75

CP 13 --> R+4.59

Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth Kohlstaedt, PhD  
Queen City Psychological Services  
Helena MT

**From:** [Jon Kramer](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:10:56 AM

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Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear members of the Commission,  
My name is Jon Steven Kramer. I am a retired professor of philosophy. My wife and I currently live in Missoula, though for the previous six years we lived and worked in Dillon, MT.

I support map 11 because it seems to me to be the more equally balanced of the two. However, I understand a third map is now being circulated that also appears to be well-balanced, as well as including both the Blackfeet and Flathead reservations in one district, thus giving the tribes a stronger voice in Montana politics. This would be a major step forward for our state and the aim to fairly represent all citizens.

What is needed is a fair and competitive district, not another example of the egregious gerrymandering that we are seeing in other states.

Thank you for the time and effort you have given to this vital issue.

Regards,  
Jon Kramer  
3760 Brandon Way  
Missoula, MT 59803

**From:** [Weiss, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Walter C. Kroemer  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:51:19 AM

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

From: MDAC <[contact@mtredistricting.gov](mailto:contact@mtredistricting.gov)>  
Sent: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:37 PM  
To: Districting <[districting@mt.gov](mailto:districting@mt.gov)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Walter C. Kroemer

From: Walter C. Kroemer [kroemer@montanasky.net](mailto:kroemer@montanasky.net)  
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:

From what I understand, the current proposals are CP11, CP12 and CP13. Of those three I dislike CP11 which puts most of Flathead County in the eastern district.

Although CP12 and 13 are somewhat similar, I would favor CP12 which only splits two counties, Toole and Pondera. CP 13 splits Toole, Pondera, Lewis and Clark (Helena area) and Gallatin counties and then adds Park County to the western district.

If it is possible to split only one county, that would be my preference, but it appears that the split of those two counties may be based upon the Blackfoot reservation boundaries which has a reasonable basis for splitting those two counties.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])  
<[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://mtredistricting.gov;!!GaaboA!6-KLJDykAVWYyUBvxtkM\\_mc5dhHmZOMWjmFqX9L-7WmKgK\\_Tc0OTHyE-UdOI3j-h1JA\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://mtredistricting.gov;!!GaaboA!6-KLJDykAVWYyUBvxtkM_mc5dhHmZOMWjmFqX9L-7WmKgK_Tc0OTHyE-UdOI3j-h1JA$)> )