

Public Comments: M - O

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Comments received between 5 p.m. on October 20 and 5 p.m. on October
27, 2021

Distributed electronically October 27, 2021

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Paulette Macintyre
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 11:45:50 AM

From: Paulette Macintyre pjmacintyre@msn.com
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

Please consider Congressional Proposal 11. In my opinion it is a more fair and balanced option. Thank you for considering input. Paulette Macintyre

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

From: [Sandy Mack](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support Redistricting Map 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:19:31 PM

Hello, my name is Sandy Mack and I moved to MT in 1978. I am writing in support of Redistricting Map #11. Native American's support this option. Native voters are empowered under this plan, as there is a competitive district with a reservation, meaning that every candidate has to rely on Native votes to win the district. Non-competitive districts don't elevate voices and ensure accountability in the same way.

Thank you for your consideration and please support Map #11.

Sandy Mack
406-544-4592

Sent from Sandy Mack's iPad

From: [Melissa MacKenzie](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map 11 please
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 1:56:47 PM

Hello, I urge you to select Map 11 because it appears to be the most equitable. Isn't that what we all would like?
Thank you for taking citizen input!
Melissa MacKenzie

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Beth Madden](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on final redistricting maps CP 10 and 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 11:07:39 AM

To the Redistricting Commission,

I appreciate the chance to comment on the two final congressional district maps.

I clearly see CP 11 as the best map for defining our two Montana districts - it is the only map that does not excessively favor one party in both of the districts. With CP 11 we will have one district that falls within the competitive range. CP 11 closely follows the former (1980s) congressional districts, shifting only two counties to reach population equality. CP11 is also supported as the map of choice by Western Native Voice (and other indigenous groups) as the only map that will give Native American voters a voice at the polls.

I ask that the Commission reject CP 10 based on the fact that there are no competitive districts in it. With CP 10, one party is favored heavily in *both* districts, weakening the voices of individual voters, and likely even affecting voter turnout. In addition, CP10 unfortunately splits the towns of Big Sky and Gallatin Gateway in half, violating the criteria to minimize unnecessary divisions of towns. Also, CP 10 would break with precedent by separating Helena and Butte, diluting union strength and separating an important community of interest.

Please allow Montana to have one competitive district, to keep the spirit and health of our politics vibrant. Please choose CP 11.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Madden
408 Overbrook Drive
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [David Madsen](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Congressional District
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:38:40 PM

As a resident of Montana, I strongly oppose the adoption of Proposed Map 11-CP 11. The map makes no common sense to exclude most of Flathead County from the western district. Flathead has a much more common interest with the western counties than the counties of eastern Montana. There is no good reason to adopt Map 11 except for obvious political gerrymandering. Map 10, while not perfect, provides for better representation of all Montana citizens.

David Madsen
31288 N Finley Point RD
Polson, MT 59860

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Geri Malberg
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 11:46:39 AM

From: Geri Malberg ontheriverrv@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:

I believe Map 10 is the correct way to make the districts. It is logical and common sense. The west side of Montana has strong tourism, light industry and timber as opposed to the eastern side with small towns and more farming and ranching culture. This keeps the areas contiguous and more equal in population, which gives the congressman a unified area to represent. Also, it will give the CSKT and Blackfeet tribes better 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: [Jinnifer Jeresek](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Select Map No. 11 to Unite Similar Communities
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:39:18 AM

Dear Redistricting Commission,

Thank you for your time and efforts in selecting a second U.S. Congressional district in Montana.

Please reject Map No. 10, as it divides similar communities, whether they be farming communities in the Golden Triangle and Highline, commuter communities to Helena, ski communities in western Montana, union communities of Butte and Helena, and even goes so far as to divide one of our largest cities into two: it cuts Bozeman into two districts separate by just a few blocks and excludes Gallatin Gateway (a commuter community to Bozeman) as well as the neighboring Big Sky which is a key recreational draw for Bozeman. Map No. 10 appears to create a district that divides similar communities, not offer them similar representation. Please reject Map No. 10. Instead, please select Map No. 11, as it best keeps similar communities together so that their elected representative will best represent their interests. Also, this follows Montana's historical precedent and achieves the commission's goal of being competitive.

Thank you,
Jinnifer Mariman
427 6th Ave. E.
Kalispell, MT 59901

From: [shira_marin](#)
To: [Shira Marin](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] A VOTE FOR MAP #11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:46:47 PM

Dear Commissioner,

My name is Shira Marin. I have been a resident of Whitefish, MT since 2019.

I am writing to you to support the adoption of Map #11 because it is non-partisan/favors no political party and creates a competitive district.

I thank you for your time, your service on behalf of our welfare, and for consideration of my comments.

With kind regards,

Shira Marin

*Shira Marin, PhD, LMFT CGP
Certified Group Practitioner
Inner Life Coaching & Psychotherapy for Individuals, Couples & Groups
Past President, No. California Group Psychotherapy Society
Contributing Editor, Journal of the International Association for Group Psychotherapy
Individual & Group Consultation
International video & audio consultation
+1 415-488-5557
CALic: 15972*

*"You must give birth to your images. They are the future waiting to be born. Fear not the strangeness you feel. The future must enter you long before it happens. Just wait for the birth, for the hour of the new clarity."
- Rainer Maria Rilke*

[Soul Circles Coming Early September](#) [[shiramarinphd.com](#)]
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From: [Carol Marino](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 8:29:41 AM

I have been a Montana citizen since my birth in Great Falls in 1950. I presently reside in Missoula.

I am writing to support Map 11, which will keep all of Gallatin County together and place Whitefish in the western district.

I believe Map 11 better meets the discretionary criteria of competitiveness, communities of interest being intact, and doesn't favor one political party over another.

Please select Map 11 in your deliberations.

Thank you for taking this responsibility seriously and putting in the time to find the best solution for our state!

Sent from my iPad

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Joel Michael Marshik
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:12:53 AM

From: Joel Michael Marshik pdmjmm1500@gmail.com
Residence: Helena, Montana

Message:
I support #10.

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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: PHYLLIS Marshik
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:05:49 AM

From: PHYLLIS Marshik pdmjmm1500@gmail.com
Residence: Helena, Mt 59602

Message:

I AM IN FAVOR FOR NO 10. THE VOTING AREAS ARE MORE CONSISE AND EASIER FOR ESPECIALLY RURAL PEOPLE TO VOTE. THE NEW NUMBERS WILL CHANGE VOTING PLACES OF MANY PEOPLE.

i COMMEND THOSE WHO HAVE WORKED ON THE DIVISIONS. THANKS.

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

From: [Phyllis Marshik](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Voting for Proposal
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 8:41:27 AM

Cast my vote for Proposal No. 10. It is more balanced to administer the boundaries than the other choice. I am looking at road, mtn access etc.

From: [Aaron Martin](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] District map
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 9:27:03 PM

Please vote for map 11. It is more fair in my opinion. Thank you

From: [Mavis Simone Mason](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 5:44:46 PM

NO on Map 11 please

Sent from my iPad

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: SUSAN G Mason
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 8:59:56 AM

From: SUSAN G Mason susanmmm54@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

Dear Commissioners, I prefer Map 11.. I think it is more fair to both parties and doesn't break up Gallatin county which would be confusing to the voters there. My whole family likes map 11 better—3 adult voters and my 2 grandkids.

Thanks Susan Mason

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

From: elza6us@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting map
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 3:33:45 PM

Happy Sunday!!

I am a registered voter in Fergus county and I am in support of Map 11.

Liz Massey
Lewistown MT

From: [ray masters](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 5:59:35 PM

I am in favor of district eleven for new zones in Montana.

Ray Masters

Red Lodge

From: [Ron Matelich](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map 11
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 3:29:55 PM

Please note my support for Map 11 in the redistricting of MT's new congressional district. This map creates more a more competitive races, void of Republican gerrymandering. Thanks.

Ron Matelich
188 Wintergreen Lane
Bozeman

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Buzz Mattelin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] House district maps
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:11:42 PM

I've made trips to DC to lobby the Montana delegation almost every year since the early 90's. Montana benefits by having a delegation that includes both parties, such a delegation can move Montana issues forward regardless of which party controls the majority or administration.

Please select the map that results in the most competitive races. Montana wins

--

Buzz Mattelin



From: [Laurie Matteli](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Make it count
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 7:27:27 AM

My request to you is to make the redistricting competitive. My vote should count, as should yours. Equally. Why would you take part in a card game with a stacked deck? This is bigger than any one person or party. Do the right thing.

Laurie Mattelin

Sent from my iPad

From: [Doug Mavor](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment in favor of Proposal 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:47:37 AM

I feel proposal 11 is the best solution for representation and to equally represent both parties in present and future elections. Proposal 10 seems ridiculous as it puts Helena with eastern Montana...and Helena is nothing like eastern Montana.

Respectfully,
Doug Mavor
7007 Bristol Lane
Bozeman, Mt 59715

Sent from my iPad

From: [Sunny Mavor](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support number 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:03:27 AM

After reviewing redistricting maps number 10 and 11 I support number 11.

Thank you for your time on this committee,

Susan Mavor
7007 Bristol Ln.
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Carol Ann Maxwell
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 4:52:11 PM

From: Carol Ann Maxwell bigsky85.cm@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula MT

Message:

It is important for the districts to be as fair as possible, so map 11 could be slightly altered to make them more competitive for the two major parties in Montana.

--

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: Bruce Maxwell
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:03:32 PM

From: Bruce Maxwell brcmxwl@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Do not split Gallatou County! Makes more sense to split Flathead County.

--

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: Mitchell E Maycox
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 6:01:12 PM

From: Mitchell E Maycox mjmaycox@midrivers.com
Residence: Lewistown Montana

Message:

I'm in favor of the Proposal 10-CP 10 map. The rationale for dividing the State as illustrated on the Proposal 10 CP10 map makes sense and I fully support it.

--

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

From: [Steve McArthur](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support cp#11
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 9:34:19 PM

This is the only map that is truly a competitive option for all Montanans ! Please do the right thing for our state.
Thank you, Steve McArthur

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Keith McCafferty & Gail Schontzler](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Say no to Map 10, yes to Map 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 5:56:50 PM

Dear Commissioners, Please adopt Map 11 for Montana's new congressional districts. It would keep Gallatin County together, instead of carving it up like a Thanksgiving turkey.

Map 11 would create one competitive congressional district; it would not unduly favor one party, the Republican Party; and from what I can tell, it would take only small chunks out of Flathead County. If you can avoid cutting up any counties, that would be ideal.

Map 11 would give Montanans like me who care about the environment a chance of electing people to represent us, instead of coal, oil and gas interests, in Congress.

Thanks for listening,

Keith McCafferty, 1115 S. Grand Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Diana McCallum
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 4:42:11 PM

From: Diana McCallum diana_mccallum@hotmail.com
Residence: Great Falls

Message:

Hello, my name is Diana McCallum.

I have lived in Great Falls all my life.

I don't believe Map 10 fairly represents our voters in the state as well as Map 11.

I support Map 11 as the most fair in representing all voters in the state by not dividing towns, counties, and reservations. Map 11 helps keep our towns, counties and reservations more intact by population and represents the voters in a more fair manner.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration in this important matter.

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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: Joseph E. McCarthy
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 6:34:47 PM

From: Joseph E. McCarthy joe_mccarthy@bresnan.net
Residence: Butte, MT

Message:

Please approve Proposal 10. This district is competitive and doesn't favor either the Republican Party or the Democratic Party. This plan doesn't split any towns. This plan fairly places Helena in the Western District of the State of Montana.

--

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

From: Randy_wendymc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Wendy McCarty](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]MT Redistricting Map
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 6:00:37 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Based on reviewing the last 2 map option I feel that CP11 is the fairest option in population division and does not divide up so many towns/counties. This is a decision that will affect Montanans for years at a time when many voters feel their voices are not being heard.

Thank you.

Wendy McCarty

Sincerely,
Wendy McCarty
514 Greenway Ave Bozeman, MT 59718-1823
Randy_wendymc@yahoo.com

From: [dayna mcclure](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Support CP-11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:26:12 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded

>

> Please support CP-11 redistributing to ensure competitive congressional districts in Montana. CP-11 keeps vital communities intact and prevents disconnect in critical economic areas. It is vital to our great state that we make it a fair equitable place to live.

> Thank you,

> Dayna B McClure

> Polson, MT

>

> Sent from my iPhone

From: [dayna mcclure](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support CO-11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:10:09 PM

Please support CP-11 redistributing to ensure competitive congressional districts in Montana. CO-12 keeps vital communities intact and prevents disconnect in critical economic areas. It is vital to our great state that we make it a fair equitable place to live.

Thank you,
Dayna B McClure
Polson, MT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [McCracken, Carol](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: Redistricting Maps
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 6:09:30 AM

I have reviewed the information and debates regarding the two proposed district maps. I believe the Congressional Proposal 10 is most representative of a fair balance of population and voters. I am against political parties picking and choosing boundaries based on how their party will benefit. I encourage the commission to adopt Congressional Proposal 10. Thank you.

Carol McCracken
3828 Swallow Ln
Billings, MT
406-860-1472

From: [Linda McCulloch](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Cc: [Linda McCulloch](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional DistrictProposal
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:56:03 PM

Districting Commission - I support Congressional District Proposal 11, and oppose Proposal 10.

***Linda McCulloch
835 Wyoming Street, Suite 305
Missoula MT 59801

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Karen McDonald
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:36:19 PM

From: Karen McDonald mschilly2020@gmail.com
Residence: Columbus

Message:

I would like you to vote for CP #1. The reasons I think this is the best map is because it follows the laws and statutes set out by our state. It is not gerrymandered to favor any political party. It has a split between fast growing counties, native populations, and universities.

--

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: Anna McGahan
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 11:48:44 AM

From: Anna McGahan hillymcgahan@gmail.com

Residence: Missoula Montana

Message:

Please use Map 11 when redistricting because it is the most fair and benefits the people of Montana.

--

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: Vanessa McGuire
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:49:32 AM

From: Vanessa McGuire vmcguire1@gmail.com
Residence: Big Sky, MT

Message:

We are strongly in favor of Map 11, which keeps the communities of the Gallatin Valley intact. Big Sky, being not incorporated as a town, is subject to an outsize number of governance decisions made at the county level; it is therefore imperative that the same district encompass both Big Sky and Bozeman. Big Sky residents' daily lives are impacted by Bozeman decision making; Big Sky residents do their shopping and obtain their services from Bozeman businesses; a majority of Big Sky workers drive from Bozeman and all over the Gallatin Valley. In short, these communities are intimately and inextricably linked, and Map 11 is the only one that reflects this connection. Thank you.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David McKay
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 7:46:48 AM

From: David McKay d.mckay4@hotmail.com
Residence: Clancy, MT

Message:

Congressional Proposal 11 should be the congressional map selected for the state. Competitive districts result in better leaders who are more beholden to their constituents.

--

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

From: [Syd](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comment for CP 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:27:05 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Chair Smith:

I am urging you to choose Map 11 which seems to be the least partisan approach. I also believe that following the historical precedent of the 1980s Congressional district with the exception of adding two counties to equalize the population is another factor in Map 11's favor. Thank you for your work on this challenging project and your consideration of this comment.

Syd McKenna

Sydney E. McKenna



syd@msslawmt.com

815 East Front, Ste. 4A • P.O. Box 7009 • Missoula, MT 59807-7009

Tel. 406.327.0800 • Fax 406.327.8706

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From: [Lisa McKeon](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Map 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:27:18 PM

Dear Montana Redistricting Commission,

I am a resident of Columbia Falls in Flathead County, MT. Though map 11 divides Flathead County, I feel this map creates a competitive district and keeps eastern farming communities consolidated. Please cast your vote for Map 11.

Your job is difficult, but very important to all of us Montanans. Thank you for your public service during this exciting time of change.

Respectfully,
Lisa McKeon

From: [McKinny3](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Proposal 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:46:07 PM

I am writing to express my preference for Congressional Proposal 11 and ask that you please support this.

Thank you for your work, and your consideration.

L.M. MCKINNY
mckinny3@aol.com

Sent from my iPad

From: [Sherry McLauchlan](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 5:09:21 PM

Last week I expressed my opinion that I do not support any map that splits a county - and then two new maps were proposed which not only BOTH split a county but one also splits a city. As a long time believer in INDEPENDENT redistricting commissions, I can see no reason other than crass partisan politics on both sides to split a fundamental and unchanging unit of government recognizable to anyone who lives there. Population equality is not so demanding that it can't tolerate enough small variation to allow counties to remain whole.

I hope the commission will make adjustments to correct this shameful situation.

Sherry McLauchlan

From: btmcmorr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia McMorris](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Redistribution Map
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:20:12 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.I urge you to support map CP 11 and reject CP 10 because I believe that political competitiveness is important but also at the same time not favoring one political party. I also feel strongly that CP 10 should be rejected because towns should not be split. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Patricia McMorris
5320 Frontier Dr Billings, MT 59101-8917
btmcmorr@msn.com

From: [Debra McNeill](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Maps #10 and #11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 10:02:13 PM

Dear Chairwoman Smith, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Lamson, Commissioner Stusek and Commissioner Essman,

I thank you for the opportunity to comment on the latest versions of the redistricting maps and for your time on this commission.

Of the two new maps, I strongly support CP #11 over CP #10 for the following reasons –

1. There has always been a strong economic connection between Livingston and Bozeman with workers flowing between the two communities, as well as commerce. Map #11 respects this connection while Map #10 does not.
2. Map #11 keeps Butte and Helena in the same district as it should because these towns have strong union representation and therefore common interests. However, Map #10 attempts to dilute the union voice by separating Butte from Helena in different districts.
3. Tribal communities benefit from Map #11 because District #1, which is the only competitive district, has Tribal representation. Therefore, candidates for District #1 will have to depend on Native American votes in order to win and this enhances the power of their voice in the democratic process. A district where the representative is chosen at the primary level (District #2) results in poor representation for any groups that aren't members of the dominant party. This brings me to my next point.
4. Map #10 overwhelmingly favors the Republican party for both districts. Therefore, only Republican voices will be heard. A fair map would include a competitive district where the candidates would have to consider the needs of every party and community in order to win. With Map #10, the representatives for both districts would be chosen at the primary level and these representatives would have little inclination to consider the needs of non-party members or diverse voices.
5. Map #10 not only breaks up Gallatin County, it splits up the small towns of Big Sky and Gallatin Gateway. There is an obvious gerrymandered hack at the Democrats in Gallatin County.

The CP #11 map does a better job in keeping communities together, mitigates gerrymandering and provides the fairer outcomes and opportunities for diverse voices to be heard.

With my regards,

Debra McNeill
2512 Valhalla Court
Bozeman, MT 59715



From: [Jeff McNeish](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Comments
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 7:20:25 AM

Redistricting Commission,

I'm writing you again to once again advocate for a redistricting plan that includes a competitive district.

Of the two recent proposals, only Proposal 11 contains a district that does not unduly favor one political party.

I strongly urge you to support this proposal.

Best regards,

Jeff McNeish
Laurel, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kyle Meakins
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 12:07:12 PM

From: Kyle Meakins kmeaks1@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston, Montana

Message:

Greetings,

In my opinion, map 11 would best suit the interests of Montana moving forward. I think it is important to maintain competitiveness in a state that has always been bipartisan. We need opportunities for diverse representation in our state, instead of allowing one radical faction of our population to drive us backwards. It is also important to keep communities like Livingston and Gardiner in the same district as Bozeman, as many people commute from one to the other and spend considerable amount of time in both places. Please vote on map 11 for a fair and competitive Montana.

--

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: Tiffany Medrano
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 11:11:22 PM

From: Tiffany Medrano tiffanyapril_87@yahoo.com
Residence: Saint Ignatius, Montana

Message:
Please go with CP-10.

--

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: Emma Meeker
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 6:22:41 PM

From: Emma Meeker emmameeker@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

Hello my name is Emma, I live in Bozeman. I have a young son in school, and I lived here when I was little. I am also a student at MSU. I am writing to express my support for congressional map number 11. I can not possibly understand why it would serve anyone to dissect Gallatin county. Please keep it whole.

I support map 11. Map 11 best keeps our area and our interests intact.

Map 10 by dissecting the county will unnecessarily divide our town and the people in it, as well as resources. It does not make any sense.

Thank you for your consideration

--

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: David Merkel
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 4:59:14 AM

From: David Merkel dave@davemerkel.com
Residence: Billings, Montana

Message:

Short and sweet input: Congressional Proposal 11 looks to be the more overall fair map.

Thank you for allowing public input.

--

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

From: [Chris Merriman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commission: in support of Map #11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:58:04 AM

I want to thank you for your tireless work in listening to the voters in Montana to find a a division of our state that is fair and equitable. I support map 11 because it does not favour one party over the other . I live in Flathead county in the city of Whitefish. I strongly urge you to select a map that equable divides our county.

Thank you foe your consideration of the importance of selecting map 11.

Sincerely,

Chris Merriman

Whitefish Montana

Resident for 3 years in Whitefish and over 20 years in Missoula County.

From: [Jack Meyer](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 7:04:06 PM

Dear Commissioners,

I support CP #11, which is the only proposed map that doesn't favor one political party over another. In the entire history of Montana, our leaders have never been allowed to pick their voters. That should not be allowed to start now.

I am a Missoula resident for 44 years, a voter since 1972, an election worker in many Montana elections during my 44 years of residency, and a dedicated believer that everyone should vote and that elections and districts that determine representation should ALWAYS be fair and honest.

Shelly Meyer, Missoula

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

From: kristymichael725@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristy Michael](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]CP11 is the best option
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:41:17 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Thank you for considering my input. I have looked at the maps carefully and believe that CP11 most closely aligns with the way that most Montana citizens I know view an equitable division. For me, it is important that Gallatin County not be split and that Helena remain undivided. The majority of people that I have spoken with feel that counties should remain intact because there are often work commuters within counties. CP 11 seems the best option.

Sincerely,
Kristy Michael
712 S 10th Ave Bozeman, MT 59715-4356
kristymichael725@gmail.com

From: [Bruce Mickelsen](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New congressional maps
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 4:56:53 PM

It's obvious, and expected, that both parties want to favor their own when drawing the new map boundaries.

Personally, I consider myself a moderate, but more left than right as of late- mainly because the Republicans have shifted so far to the right that they consider me a liberal socialist so and so. In light of that- I feel the moderates and left leaning people of this state have been overshadowed and under-represented.

I'll make no effort to propose the map be "fair" to all- because that can't happen. I feel it's imperative to give some political power back to the center and left- so I support the Democrat's map. Of course, it would ensure a Republican will represent the Eastern District for some time to come. However, it would give the West a fighting chance to gain a voice in Congress, a voice that has not had a ghost of a chance since Pat Williams left office in 1997.

Isn't our government supposed to provide checks and balances? If one party is completely dominating- where are the checks? There is certainly no balance in Montana now, so I implore you to choose the Democrat's map.

Thanks & best regards,

Bruce Mickelsen
Bozeman
406-585-2755

From: [Marlene Mickey](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP#11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 11:32:48 AM

Hello!

Please choose CP # 11 as the redistricting map. This map meets all of the criteria that was layed out for fair elections.

Marlene Mickey

1019 FLOWERREE ST
Helena, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Anne Millbrooke
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 12:30:58 PM

From: Anne Millbrooke anne27m@yahoo.com
Residence: Bozeman MT

Message:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment again on redistricting. Stuck with the commission's final two options, I support #11 and strongly oppose #10. I see common sense, thorough study, and a drive for fairness in the assessment below. I agree with the points and the conclusion that of the remaining proposals/maps, #11 is by far the best choice.

Proposal 11: Support Map #11

- This plan closely follows the historical precedent of the 1980s Congressional districts, moving only two counties to reach perfect population equality.
- Areas that heavily rely on ski tourism to support the local economy are kept in one district, forcing a Congressperson to pay attention to the needs of areas that use the winter outdoor recreation to drive economic growth.
- As has always been the case when Montana had two congressional districts, the deep economic connection between Livingston and Bozeman is respected under Proposal 11, ensuring district lines don't divide the flows of workers, innovation, and dollars between the two communities.
- This map keeps Jefferson and Broadwater counties together with Helena, making sure that most commuters are kept in the same district as their workplace.
- This map keeps the union towns of Helena and Butte together, as every redistricting plan in Montana has previously done.
- This map keeps all of the Rocky Mountain Front, Golden Triangle, and Hi Line intact, where agriculture remains such a vital part of the local economy. Rural interests are an important part of Montana's diversity and heritage that should be kept together for a stronger voice in Congress.
- Native voters are empowered under this plan, as there is a competitive district with a reservation, meaning that every candidate has to rely on Native votes to win the district. Non-competitive districts don't elevate voices and ensure accountability in the same way.

Proposal 10: Oppose Map #10

- This plan breaks with the Historical precedent in Montana by separating the towns of Helena and Butte, diluting union strength and breaking apart a community of interest that's existed for over a century.
- This plan creates two Republican districts, which unduly favors one party. With two congressional districts now instead of one, a fair map includes one competitive district that either party can win.
- This plan dilutes the power of Montana farmers and ranchers by breaking up the Golden Triangle and critical grain and cattle producing regions in Montana. This is cracking the farm and ranch vote pure and simple.
- This plan separates commuters that live in Jefferson county from the place where so many of them work in Helena. This is clearly breaking apart a community of interest.
- This plan splits the towns of Big Sky and Gallatin Gateway even though there is no clear reason to do so since Gallatin county could have been split in such a way to keep them

together. This is a partisan cut of Gallatin County designed to crack apart Democratic votes and splitting two small towns for no reason violates your criteria on minimizing the unnecessary division of towns.

- This plan separates Park and Gallatin County from one another, cutting apart an area with vital economic connections and shared interests. Plan 11 better acknowledges this community of interest.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Anne Millbrooke
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 10:12:44 PM

From: Anne Millbrooke anne27m@yahoo.com
Residence: Bozeman MT

Message:

Thank for accepting public opinion. I hope you give due consideration to fairness and communities in your further considerations.

I strongly oppose Proposal and Map 10, splitting Gallatin County and separating communities within the county (Gallatin Gateway and Big Sky) and separating the socially, economically, geographically linked Livingston and Bozeman.

I support Proposal and Map 11, which keeps mountain resorts in the same district (Big Sky, Whitefish, West Yellowstone) and which keeps the socially, economically, and geographically linked Park and Gallatin Counties in the same district.

Sincerely,
Anne Millbrooke

--

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

From: [Billie Miller](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional district maps
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 9:16:56 PM

As a citizen of Montana, I would like to offer my opinion on the proposed maps.:

I support map #11 for the following reasons:

1. It maintains local economic connections such as between Livingston and Bozeman, and Helena, Jefferson County and Broadwater County, and other areas in the state.
2. It maintains the integrity of agricultural areas (e.g. Rocky Mountain Front, the Hi Line).
3. It provides some recognition of Native voters by keeping a reservation in a competitive district.
4. It does not create 2 districts that favor one party or another; it keeps a level playing field for political parties. I hope that the Commission can see its way to supporting the diversity of two parties rather than providing an unfair advantage to any single party.

Democracy can be messy but it should never be unfair.

Thank you,
Billie Ann Miller
1012 Peosta
Helena, Mt 59601
4064222907

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Leon Russell Miller
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 11:58:35 AM

From: Leon Russell Miller leemill92@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula Montana

Message:

Hello, I think that it should be acknowledged that while Montana is still a republican leaning state, if given the option between having one somewhat competitive house district and having two uncompetitive house districts I would hope we would strive for competition. It enfranchises tens of thousands of voters to have an actual impact on the politicians from their state. Honest competition also brings forward the best candidates from both parties. Robust elections are what the best of America has been built on.

--

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

From: [Thomas Millett](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - No on CP-10 and CP-11, Yes on CP-1
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 11:04:10 PM

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

The two newly proposed maps (CP-10 and CP-11) are terrible maps as they are based on trying to carve out specific party districts and do not comply with Montana statutes and constitutional requirements.

Please throw out these two new maps and select map CP-1 as it's the best map that adheres to the law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Thomas Millett

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

From: [ashea mills](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support Map #11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 12:57:41 AM

Thank you all for your service.

I support Map #11 because it splits populations evenly, it is competitive, it does not support one party over the other, and because it keeps Park and Gallatin Counties together. We are enmeshed in many ways--I live in Park County, but the majority of my healthcare and shopping is in Gallatin County. We share families, friends, economy, recreation, landscapes, values and more. Please do not split us.

Thank you for your time,

Ashea Mills
Gardiner, MT
406-223-5967

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Cathy B Mitchell
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:25:16 PM

From: Cathy B Mitchell longlakenmf@msn.com
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:

Map 10 – I like this map because it keeps Flathead County in the Western District. This is important because:

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

It keeps the communities of interest in the West that are predominantly forest production and tourism together

It keeps communities of interests centered on tourism and service industries together which are all shared between Glacier National Park, Kalispell, Whitefish, and Columbia Falls

It keeps the growing ski tourism economy united within the Flathead Valley (Whitefish and Lakeside)

It keeps the shared medical communities of Logan Health Medical Center (Kalispell and Whitefish) together, which provides medical services for the entire NW Region, including the Blackfeet Reservation

It ties together the main watershed regions of the Western Divide counties in Montana for tourism, power generation and mussel invasive species defense, which includes long scientific research and culturally connected major bodies of water

Map 10 also complies with Montana law and the Constitution. Both districts are compact, contiguous and nearly equal population. Both districts include a Canada Interface, but this map keeps communities of interest together better than Map CP-11

Map 11 – I dislike this map because:

*For the first time ever in Montana history, this map splits a county West of the Continental Divide (Flathead) and puts it in an Eastern District

*Flathead County has zero political, economic or cultural ties with the vast number of counties in the Eastern District

*Even though both districts include the Canada Interface, Map CP-11 separates the Canada Interface which brings Canadian tourists to Flathead and Blackfeet tourism spots

*It fails to keep communities of interest intact, such as forestry and tourism

*It creates a District with communities that share no interests between Western Montana and Eastern Montana

*It isolates one tribal community from all other tribal communities

*It is a partisan attempt to split the Flathead along political lines

*It is not compact when a candidate for the Eastern District would have to travel vast distances to campaign in the Eastern District

--

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: Douglas Mitchell
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:18:30 AM

From: Douglas Mitchell dmitchell@alumni.stanford.edu
Residence: Helena, Montana

Message:

Dear Commission Members:

First, thank you for your service. I know yours is difficult work and I, and many, appreciate the hours and care you have put into creating a meaningful and equitable solution to the challenge of making sure every Montanan is well represented in the United States House of Representatives.

While both maps have significant merit, I would encourage adoption of Map 11. By keeping Lewis and Clark and Gallatin Counties intact, Map 11 provides, in my view, two districts with different key issues. These distinctions, again in my view, provide for the better opportunity for representation of those issues in the United States House of Representative. For example, the urban growth issues significant to Lewis and Clark, Gallatin, Missoula, and parts of Flathead Counties are significantly less important in Roosevelt, Carter, Fergus, and Wibaux Counties. Similarly, the critical issues related to the farm and ranch economy are significantly important in rural areas of Eastern Montana than they are in the urban portions of Western Montana. Dividing the state along these interest lines, irrespective of partisan leaning, seems to me to be the best way to ensure appropriate representation of both important populations.

Thank you again for your service and for the opportunity to present my views on this important matter.

With gratitude for your service,

Douglas Mitchell
506 South Oakes
Helena, Montana 59601

--

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

October 24, 2021

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission

P O Box 201706

Helena, MT 59620-1706

I submit the following comments.

I have lived in Glacier County for 55 years and am very familiar with north western Montana. I chose Map CP 10 because of the logic of following natural boundaries with the exception of Gallatin County, both districts have large Canadian boundaries, and puts at least two of the seven Indian Reservations in the same district.

I reject Map CP11 because of the carve out of Flathead County, a very large distance from Eastern Montana. I have a residence in Billings and see no logic for regarding Kalispell and Billings to be in the same district. They are two very large But different cities.

Thank you for your time.

Elaine J. Mitchell

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patrick Mitchell
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 7:33:50 AM

From: Patrick Mitchell patrickmitchell1998@gmail.com

Residence: Bozeman, Montana

Message:

Map CP10 looks to be the best option. I live in Gallatin County and I think splitting our County is better than moving all of Kalispell to a different district.

--

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

From: [Jay Mitman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:13:43 AM

Thank you for your hard work to develop a fair and appropriate mapping system for our new Congressional District.

I favor Map 11 in part because the current political situation favors the Republican Party and I feel that we need an opportunity for a two party system so each party can have representation to hold the other party accountable for their actions.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Jay Mitman, Florence, MT

From: [Vickie Mitman](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 8:01:32 AM

I support map 11
Thanks for all of your hard work!
Vickie

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Laurie Mitzalis
Date: Thursday, October 21, 2021 8:33:54 PM

From: Laurie Mitzalis lauriemitzalis@gmail.com
Residence: Florence MT

Message:
Support for maps 2,6,8
Against maps 1,3,5,7

--

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

From: [Stephen Moats](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] district
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:59:47 AM

I am in complete favor of District Map 11.

From: [Doug Modrow](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] #11
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 2:39:46 PM

Please vote for 11 as the preferred
Doug Modrow

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brenda Moen](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support CP 11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 2:44:47 PM

I am writing to urge you to support CP 11. This map aligns more closely to the Congressional districts from the 1980's and follows the guidelines established and agreed upon by the committee. I believe that areas which rely on skiing tourism dollars need to be together in one district to ensure that our new Congressman gives attention to areas of our state where outdoor recreation is a major driver of economic development. Thank you, Brenda Moen
Whitefish, MT

From: [MIKE](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:25:21 PM

After reviewing the districting maps, we are in favor of Map 11.

Sincerely, Mike and Julie Mondloch

From: [Jenny Montgomery](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Favor of Congressional Proposal 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 5:34:41 PM

Dear Districting and Apportionment Commission,

Please register my support in favor of Congressional Proposal 11, which I believe is a fairer representation of our state.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jennifer Montgomery
402 Eddy Ave, Missoula, Mt 59801

From: [Paul Montgomery](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Legislative Map
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 8:05:26 AM

Greetings,

I'm in favor of the map that includes both Missoula and Gallatin counties (the map supported by the Democratic members of the map commission). Montana needs more representation by those who value science, facts, reality and humanity. Montana's lone Democratic Senator is surrounded by entirely too many legislators who put their ridiculous faith and cult adherence before their oath of office. This map will lessen the dramatic skew toward regressive representation that our great state and surrounding states have suffered.

Respectfully,
Paul Montgomery, P.E., President
Anderson-Montgomery Consulting Engineers, Inc.
1064 N. Warren St.
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 459-8463 Cell

From: [Marianne Moon](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 5:18:57 PM

It is our opinion that proposal 11 is by far the most fair and equitable way to redistribute our districts for a new representative. Thank you.

Marianne Moon Tronstad
Tim Tronstad
1525 Winchester Court
Missoula,MT 59804

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Chadwick Moore
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:27:22 PM

From: Chadwick Moore chadair@mac.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

Hello, my wife was born in Missoula and I went to graduate school in Bozeman. We currently live in Missoula.

We support Map 11 as the fairest and simplest of the choices. Map 11 avoids splitting Bozeman

Map 10 splits Bozeman, which seems like an attempt to shape election outcome by breaking up communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to coment.

--

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

From: [Tess Moore](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] REdistricting
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 7:44:17 AM

Hello,

I'm not sure if I'm within the comment period on the redistricting maps, but please make our new divisions equal population and do not split communities or counties! We already have two high schools in Bozeman, we do not need a representative cross town division! County wise splitting will be an expensive mess.

Of the proposed maps, I favor (in this order), 4, 2, 6.

Thank you so much for your time.

Theresa F Moore
1309 Hillside Lane
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Barbara & Scott Morgan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:09:23 PM

I support Map 11. While some may want to predict how Montana will vote in the future, I don't second guess and think the districts should be carefully considered. I support Map 11, keeping the Indian tribes together and keeping the party balance more equal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara Morgan
1610 Charlott
Missoula, Montana 59801

From: [Barbara & Scott Morgan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] redistricting
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:10:27 PM

I support Map 11, keeping the Indian tribes together and keeping the party balance more equal.

K Scott Morgan
1610 Charlott
Missoula, Montana 59801

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: mike morgan
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:16:37 PM

From: mike morgan lulunmike@midrivers.com
Residence: roundup

Message:
i'm in support of the CP10 map...thanks..Mike

--

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

From: [Melanie Moroney](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support Map 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:17:57 AM

Please do not split my district. I support Map 11!

Thank you.

Melanie Moroney

From: [Patty Morris](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 2:53:18 PM

I support map CP#11.
Thank you for valuing public input.
Patty Morris
Plains

From: [roy](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Proposal 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:18:26 AM

Thank you for the opportunity to express me opinion that the Congressional Proposal 11 should be the chosen option.

Congressional Proposal 11 is the most balanced option in terms of population and geography.

Congressional Proposal 11 should be the one chosen.

Thank you,

Roy Morris

Roy Morris
2901 Quincy
Butte, MT
406-491-4255
roy@montana.com

From: [Stephanie Morton](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map CP 11 Support
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:44:41 AM

Hello Commission Members,

I am writing today to offer my support for Map CP#11. Of the two final choices, only CP 11 has a fair split that will create competitive races over the next decade. This competition is needed to ensure that all Montanans have their voices, interests and beliefs represented.

I thank you for your work on this matter.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Morton
Three Forks, MT

From: [Bob](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Maps CP-10 and CP-11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 1:52:02 PM

Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,

The two newly proposed maps (CP-10 and CP-11) are maps that are based on trying to carve out specific party districts and do not comply with Montana statutes and constitutional requirements. This is called “Gerrymandering” and is about as sorry as a political undermining can be. Stop the nonsense and keep your integrity. Please throw out these two new maps and select the map known as CP-1 as it’s the best map, it adheres to Montana law, and represents the wishes of the Great State of Montana’s population.

Thank you for your consideration and responsible actions.

Regards,

Bob Moss

21945 Fenby Lane

Swan Lake, Montana 59911

rhm458@centurytel.net

406-552-3564

From: joelmowrey6@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:42:27 PM

Just a brief email to let you know that I support MAP #11 for redistricting. I believe that #11 is the most competitive of the two maps and, as a resident of Livingston, I believe that Park and Gallatin counties should remain together as they share many common values and interests that span economic, social, environmental, educational, and artistic endeavors.

Thank you for your time,

Joel Mowrey
2304 Constellation Dr
Livingston, MT 59047

From: [John Mues](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] My Districting Vote/Preference
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:21:30 AM

Dear Districting and Apportionment Commission,

Thank you for your diligent and important work.

I'd like to express my support for Proposal 10, and my opposition to Proposal 11.

As a lifelong MT Democrat - and former 2020 US Senate candidate - my proposal preference may seem out of sync with my politics.

Here are a few of the reasons I support Proposal 10 instead of Proposal 11:

- Improves "Eastern" District competitiveness for Democrats
- Empowers Native vote and incentivizes both parties to further consider tribal opinion (I grew up, in part, in Indian Country in MT and then post-military taught high school math in Indian Country in MT, so care about such issues)
- Motivates MT Democratic Party to improve: meaning substantive outreach to rural MT, and candidates less in Hollywood's likeness
- Does not demoralize and disenfranchise Billings and other "Eastern" Democratic voters, needed to win state-wide races, including the 2024 U.S. Senate race

Should we get Proposal 11 - which would be at best a Pyrrhic victory for Democrats - Montanans will get more of what we're getting in the current "western" congressional Democratic primary race, which includes a Democratic candidate just-relocated from Los Angeles, CA who had not lived in Montana in more than 3 decades - that is, had never filed a MT tax return, owned a MT home or property, or contributed to MT in any way - before first running for federal office in MT in 2020. Should Proposal 11 prevail, carpetbagging by Democratic candidates who know next to nothing about Montana will reach epidemic levels. (Comparisons to Republicans in this regard have been false equivalences, at best.) Proposal 11 is (still) more California's 54th congressional district than Montana's long-awaited 2nd. And, I believe Democrats, with hard work and innovation and improved rural outreach and Indian Country engagement, can win congressional "western" (and, in time, "eastern") districts based on Proposal 10.

Sincerely,

John Mues
PO Box 123
Loma, MT 59460
(406)-621-0508

From: [General Info](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] District Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:11:00 PM

Dear Montana Redistricting Committee,

Thank you for the time you have spent on this endeavor. I would like to voice my support for Map #11. It seems like the best, fairest map. Map #10 clearly shows favoritism to one party and that is not what any of us want here in Montana.

Thanks again for working on this!

M. Murphy

Kalispell, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sandra S Murray
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:35:15 AM

From: Sandra S Murray mtmurrays@earthlink.net
Residence: Helena

Message:

I prefer Map 11 for 2020 redistricting. Although I don't like splitting counties, both proposed maps split at least one county and Map 10 in addition splits the city of Big Sky.

I believe Map 11 will provide the best balance for Montana voters in upcoming elections without unduly favoring any party.

--

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

From: [Karen Myers](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] A comment on the redistricting maps
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:49:57 AM

My name is Karen Myers. I have lived on my property outside of Helmville since 1982. Since coming to Montana in 1968 I have lived east and west of the divide and know much of this country.

I care about Montana for the present and for the future generations. A healthy democracy needs to freely exchange ideas so it will grow into the changeable future. To do this Montana should have at least one competitive district so that all have a chance to be represented.

I urge you to chose MAP CP #11 while not perfect it will help to have a fair representation of the state.

Thank you
Karen S Myers

From: [Joe Nangle](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map # 11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 5:26:36 PM

October 25, 2021

To Whom it may concern,

I support map # 11 as it supports the only fair balance for the people of Montana. The other Map in question is unfortunately unfair seeming to be gerrymandered for the purpose of special interests. Separating Helena out from the district, along with dividing the economically connected Gallatin and Park counties, would unfairly diffuse the voting solidarity of tourism and business concerns of western Montanans.

As our redistricting representatives, I strongly believe you should vote for Map #11,

Sincerely,
Joseph Nangle
Livingston MT Resident

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ronald James Nason
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:33:50 PM

From: Ronald James Nason r_snason@hotmail.com
Residence: Clancy, Montana

Message:

Having looked at the two maps, it seems very odd to me that a representative would have to cross through the other district as well as to cross the continental divide to reach the populated area of Kalispell and White Fish as well as many other small communities west of West Glacier. For this reason I support Map 10.

--

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

From: [David Nelson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mt redistricting opinion
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 1:05:26 PM

I believe it would be very important to keep Gallatin Co. in the western district as it is proposed in the Democratic version, #11, of the redistricting map.

As Commissioner Essmann has observed: "the state as a whole is trending in one direction" and expects that to continue. I suspect he is correct, however, in the interests of our democracy the Democrats deserve, at least, the possibility of representation of our large and diverse state in Congress.

respectfully,
David Nelson

From: dgnevin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Donald Nevin](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 7:10:16 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.I wanted to voice my support for congressional map CP#11. It appears to be the most balanced and competitive. without unduly favoring one political party over another. I believe it will provide moderate Montanans such as myself, a better opportunity to support those issues and policies that will help provide balance to the state's critical needs now and in the future. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Donald Nevin
2506 Valley View Dr Missoula, MT 59803-2525
dgnevin@msn.com

From: dgnevin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gail Nevin](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please choose a map that creates AT LEAST one competitive district
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 1:53:18 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for your work to create fair districts in Montana. I have lived in western Montana for over 40 years and can remember when

we, the people of MT, had more balanced and fair representation in Washington, DC! There were times when people of both major political parties had a representative who would listen to their concerns!

I would sincerely ask that you choose a map that helps restore balance and at least provides the possibility of fair representation.

Ideally, that map would also have a minimum of split counties and/or towns. I like the fact that the #11 map is somewhat similar to the previous, 1980s, map of the 2 districts.

Therefore, I hope you will choose the #11 map for the above reasons! And thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Gail Nevin

2506 Valley View Dr

Missoula, MT

59803

Sincerely,

Gail Nevin

2506 Valley View Dr Missoula, MT 59803-2525

dgnevin@msn.com

From: [Marisa Neyenhuis](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; Districting; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support CP 11
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 12:05:54 PM

Hello,

I'm writing today to ask the commission to please choose CP 11. It is the only choice between the two new maps that comes even close to being a fair representation for all Montanans.

Thank you,
Marisa Neyenhuis

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Donna Lee Nichols
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 2:35:57 PM

From: Donna Lee Nichols nichols5150@msn.com
Residence: Kalispell MT

Message:

As a resident of the Flathead, I am totally opposed to splitting up the Flathead Valley in your redistricting plan.

--

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

From: [Laura Nicholson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] districting montana - vote for #11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:46:55 AM

I think that the districts should be competitive and more even in population. Thus I think that you should use Congressional Proposal # 11.

Laura Nicholson, MD
Billings, MT 59101

From: [Judy Nielsen](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map #11
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 10:47:36 PM

Montana voting districts must be competitive. Plain and simple. Map CP #11, please.
Judy Nielsen

From: [Chris Nielson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:09:32 PM

Dear Chairwoman Smith,

As a resident of Montana, Helena, I'm writing to urge you to accept redistricting Map 11 as the better and more fair separation of the state into two Congressional districts.

It represents a more balanced division of different areas' political leanings and would create a competitive district that would allow some Democrats to win sometimes as compared to a district that would strongly favor Republican candidates....which the eastern part of the state already does.

With so many new arrivals in Montana bringing their conservative views and preferences with them, it is essential for those of us who are more progressive to have a district where we have at least a fighting chance.

Thank you,

Christine

Christine Nielson
46 S Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59601
406.465.1719 C

From: [David Nimick](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Congressional district maps
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:40:22 PM

Dear Commission Chair Smith,

The redistricting committee recently narrowed its focus to two possible redistricting maps. From my point of view, only one of the two maps would allow for any possibility (but obviously not a guarantee) of having a full range of the diverse interests of our State represented in Congress. Having a map in which both districts tilt strongly towards one political party seems contrary to Montana's tradition of being a purple state.

Sincerely,
David Nimick
1802 Dry Gulch Drive
Helena, MT 59601

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Scot Ninnemann
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 10:08:16 AM

From: Scot Ninnemann scotninnemann@gmail.com
Residence: Billings, Montana

Message:

Dear Commission, the difference between the two remaining maps comes down to Helena and Flathead County. Let's be fair to the Montanans in these places and put them in districts that represent their values. Flathead County's values are mostly like Eastern Montana's. Helena's values are more like Western Montana's. It wouldn't be right to put them in districts that don't represent who they are and what they believe. Thanks for your time and consideration, and for being role models in rising above party politics and putting the needs of Montanans first.

--

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

From: [noonansfour](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 8:48:11 AM

I want to weigh in on redistricting. I am in favor of the map including both Gallatin and Missoula counties (the map supported by the Democratic members) So important!

Thank you
Theresa Noonan

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Abbott Norris](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed congressional districts
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:06:38 AM

I think the districting proposed by the democrats is the fairest redistributing proposal. Please count my opinion.
Thank you.

Abbott

From: [Tauni O Brian](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of map 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 5:09:01 PM

Hello fellow Montanans,

I am a born and raised in Montanan and so is my husband. I was raised in Roundup, Montana, I went to college at Montana Tech the School of Mines in Butte and I currently have a resident in Bigfork Montana where we are retired from the Oil and Gas Industry.

I have reviewed the two maps submitted #10 and #11 and I am in support of #11.

#11 makes the most sense to me as far as the close connection between Bozeman and Livingston as well as the history of Helena and Butte. My college years in Butte gave me a huge respect for the local people and their mining history and unions. Butte deserves all the respect it can muster as an anchor of history in our state. The Rocky Mtn Front is vital to our state.

I grew up rural Eastern MT. I have not been to the Highline. I do support the power of our farmers and ranchers. I have many friends that run cattle in Eastern Mt and understand their hardships.

My family believes that map #11 would best fairly represent our state.

Thank you for your consideration of listening to real Montanans.

Tauni OBrian
Bigfork, MT

Sent from my iPad

From: [Max Oelschlaeger](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public opinion
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:15:20 AM

October 27, 2021

Dear Maylinn Smith, Chairwoman, Redistricting Commission

Your decision -- as reported in "The Missoulian" -- to seek public comment on the redistricting maps drawn up, respectively, by the two opposing parties is high-minded, to say the least. And, I might add, courageous: given the divisiveness and rancor that dominates Montana, as well as the nation, you will no doubt undergo personal attack. And your decision will be derided by political hyper-partisans who believe they've lost the redistricting contest.

My perspective is that of a lifetime moderate/centrist. I'm comfortable with the notion that I'm an Eisenhower Republican. Unfortunately, due to a number of factors, including the overwhelming influence of social media, and a disproportionate influence of primary voters with an agenda, our politics is dominated by the wings of the Right and the Left. The social reality is that the majority of Montanans and Americans are not political extremists/hyper-partisans.

An old political story is that there are two things no one should ever see: how sausage and political decisions are made. In the case of redistricting, America has a long and unfortunate history of gerrymandering. Unfortunately, as you know better than I, there is no perfect way to design political districts. That said, when counties and even cities are carved up to favor one party over another, the hoary ghost of Elbridge Gerry rises from the grave, and "Cracking and Packing" -- the two horsemen of maneuvering intended to disenfranchise the political opposition -- ride unrestrained.

I trust that you are the one who ensures that Cracking and Packing remain in the stable.

Good luck!
Max Oelschlaeger
Missoula, MT

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 3:28:43 PM

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

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

Same logic:

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

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

Thanks

From: [John Oetinger](#)
To: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
Cc: [Spencer, Nadine](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 12:32:02 PM

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

Same logic:

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

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

Thanks

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

Hell Mr. Oetinger,

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

Sincerely,

Rachel

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

Hi Rachel,

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

The logic is:

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

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

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

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

Thanks

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

Hello Mr. Oetinger,

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

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

I hope this information helps.

Sincerely,

Rachel Weiss
Legislative Research Analyst
Montana Legislative Services Division

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

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

From: John Oetinger
Residence: Missoula MT

Message:

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

It is very difficult to tell which city is in which district, so adding at least the major cities, to

the maps, would be helpful, especially Great Falls and Bozeman.

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

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Betty Offerdal
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:51:55 PM

From: Betty Offerdal bettyo@protonmail.com
Residence: Conrad Montana

Message:

It is my opinion that the C 10 proposal is the most equitable for all Montanans. Dividing Flathead county as proposed by C11 would put a huge burden on the administration of the county. It would divide the locals and cause unnecessary inconvenience and irreparable disputes.

--

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: Greg D Oliver
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:39:55 PM

From: Greg D Oliver gregory.d.oliver@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:
Please select Map 11.

--

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

From: [Shirley Oliver](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New district
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 2:45:44 PM

Commission chair: Please vote for Commission Proposal 11.
Shirley Oliver
Missoula

Sent from my iPad

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ronald Olsen
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:12:32 AM

From: Ronald Olsen ronolsen2145@gmail.com

Residence: Whitefish, MT

Message:

Hello, Montanans deserve fair representation in Congress, Map 11 doesn't do this and is unethical. Not that ethics are considered to be of importance in politics anymore, but they should be! It's time.

Respectfully,
Ronald Olsen

--

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

From: [Amy Olson](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yes - CP Map #11
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 8:58:01 PM

Dear Sirs and Ma'am's,

As a constituent of our current delegates, I do not feel my values are adequately represented nor considered. A competitive districting map gives me hope that a leader will give more ear and consideration for my concerns.

A split fair population split is a given; however, the added necessity of considering partisan split is paramount in today polarized political environment.

Please minimize the primary election echo chambers by creating districts that move politicians towards the middle.

Please choose THE more competitive map: #11.

Thank you,
Amy Olson
33 Castner St
Belt, MT 59412

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: James Olson
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 3:58:32 AM

From: James Olson JO1965@hotmail.com
Residence: Broadus Montana, Park Ave 59317

Message:

The Democratic map that Includes Kalispell as part of an Eastern Mt district is just farcical. Just one of many examples why: I live in Broadus – Kalispell is about 100 miles closer to Seattle than here.

--

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: Katherine J. Orr
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:03:10 AM

From: Katherine J. Orr kjahnsorr@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:
I support 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: Mary Lou Osman
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 10:30:26 AM

From: Mary Lou Osman osmanmarylou@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, Mt.

Message:

AS A BOZEMAN RESIDENT, I DO NOT WANT TO BE PUSHED TO VOTE WITH THE EASTERN RURAL PART OF THE STATE. IT'S OBVIOUS THAT 2 UNIVERSITY TOWNS WILL HAVE NO REPRESENTATION IF WE ARE PULLED APART FROM MISSOULA. LET THE RURAL COUNTIES VOTE TOGETHER AND LET THE UNIVERSITY TOWNS VOTE FOR WHAT MATTERS TO THEM. THAT WAY WE CAN ALL HAVE REPRESENTATION. THAT'S THE POINT OF DEMOCRACY.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Larry Ostby
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 7:31:24 AM

From: Larry Ostby shotguncreek@juno.com

Residence: Froid, Montana

Message:

In looking at the two proposals I would think that Congressional Proposal 11 would be the best plan.

Proposal 11 looks to divide the state into two congressional districts in a fair manner now and also to be able to stand the test of time in the future.

--

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

From: [Nancy Ostlie](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] District lines
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 10:23:03 PM

I strongly object to splitting Gallatin County in the proposed new district. I support CP 11,

MAP CP #11

This map is:

- population equal
- splits Flathead County
- is within the [competitive range \[fairmapsmt.com\]](https://fairmapsmt.com)(Cook PVI: R+5)

Sincerely,

Nancy Ostlie
Bozeman MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Hayes Otoupalik
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:33:56 PM

From: Hayes Otoupalik hayesotoupalik@aol.com
Residence: Missoula. Montana

Message:

I would like to see that the CP-10 map is used,
and that Flathead county remains in the Western Distrit.
Thank you, Kindly, Hayes Otoupalik 406-549-4817

--

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[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [garrett.ouldhouse](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Final Proposal choice
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:49:11 PM

Sirs: My choice for Congressional Districting is proposal # 11.
I believe it will produce a "level playing field" for both parties in the Western District.
Thanks for working through this hard decision.