

Public Comment for October 25, 2021 IRC Meeting:

I think that the committee has done a thoughtful and diligent job of developing maps that take into consideration the parameters that they discussed. Having reviewed the maps the public has access to, that is, without the overlay information, I believe that the best three are P, H and C. Each seems to cover most of the required and recommended criteria in different ways. I think P does the best job of keeping communities of interest together while balancing other important criteria like equal population, compactness and geographic and transportation boundaries. I speak as a private citizen and not as a voice for the LWVLC. Thank you for your consideration of my remarks.

Paula Grisafi
Submitted on Friday, October 22nd

Public Comment for October 28th

Judy,

Personally and professionally I would like to express support for Map Q. I respect that this map had more committee involvement. I am a Camp Creek resident. Rainbow Water District serves north and west Springfield, and we contract to support smaller water systems in Marcola and along Upper Camp Creek. I believe that District 2 in the Map Q version would best align our customers with common representation.

Thank you for the invitation to provide comment.

Jamie Porter

Superintendent

Rainbow Water District

1550 N 42nd Street, Springfield, OR 97477

PO Box 8, Springfield, OR 97477

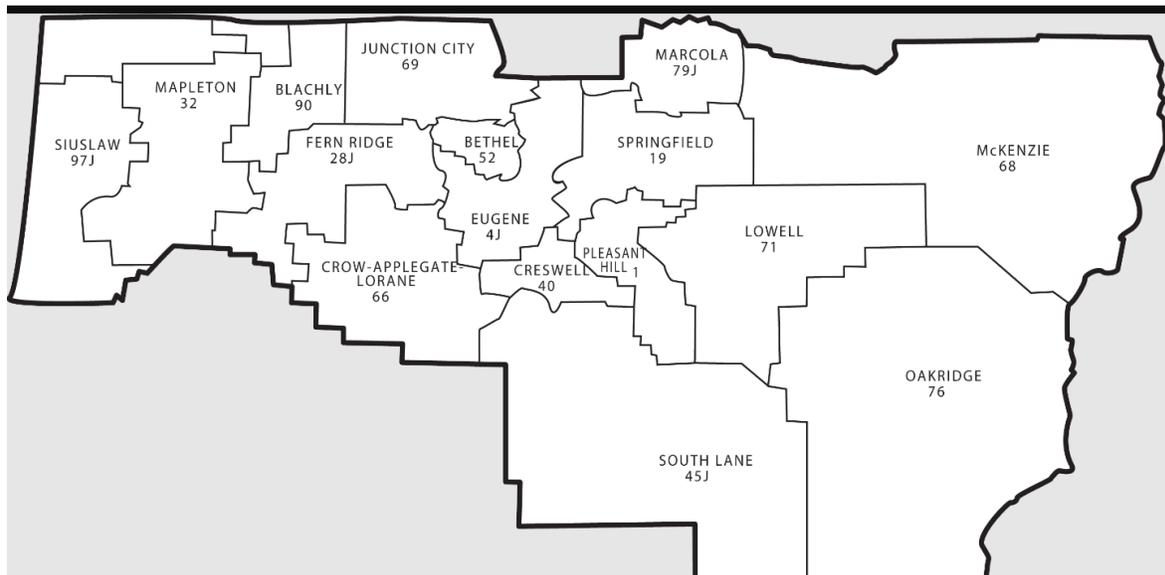
Office 541-746-1676

RWDonline.net

I don't have a clue what you/county/commision are doing by redrawing the boundries but messing with people and sturing the pot.

One needs a crash course in a corn maze to figure these maps out. Why does something always have to be divisive... Set the boundries by geographic lines and major roads period.

Maybe this is the one to follow?



Best Wishes

Marvin

Hello,

Of the current maps submitted I vote for Map C , appears to be most equally representative of the county.

Thank you,

Chris Schoessler

Dear Redistricting Committee,

Thank you for your thorough and thoughtful presentation of various options for our future county commissioners positions. As a rural resident of Eugene, my county commissioner is an important representative in this complicated world.

Please send Map C as your recommendation for approval. **Map C is the most fair, balanced and least disruptive to our democracy.**

Map Q: unusual reaches outside of communities of interest. Jutting fingers of one district divides another district. Combines areas with no commonality.

Map R: substantial changes without need or benefit. Divides areas of common and social interests.

Map J: substantial cuts across geographic boundaries and natural dividing features. It may violate home charter rule, chapter 3, section 10 (3)(C)(ii)(v)

Thank you for your serious consideration of my opinion.

Cindy Land
Eugene OR

Good Morning, Judy.

First off, I would like to express my concern that this whole process was not more widely talked about. I just heard about this process on the radio this morning, so I figured I better take a look. I'm glad I did.

I would like to express great opposition to Map Q. As a former resident of the Lowell/Dexter area and a current resident in rural Lane County near Creswell, that map frightens me. We would be under the thumb of Eugene and those of us who think differently than Eugene residents, (the reason we don't live there, to be honest) would be over ridden on everything. Please do not choose this option.

I would like to express my support for Map R. If we must choose one, that one at least leaves the majority of the rural areas to be represented by their own county representatives. I, and many of my neighbors and friends, are fed up with being ruled by Eugene. Let us have our voice and choose Map R, if you must change boundaries.

Thank you for your time,
Heather Woodhurst
Creswell, Oregon

I do deliveries all throughout Eugene Springfield. It's very obvious the political leanings of certain areas by the large quantity of different political signs in different areas. The current proposed map is most definitely gerrymandered without question. District 5 is a perfect example. You have all the rural areas with conservative political signs being the majority being tied in with the Eugene south hills that are heavily populated and is littered with liberal political signs without a conservative sign to be found. Plus the south hills have a population density high enough to override the proper political representation of rural lane county. Other districts do similar but not to the exact extent of district 5. There are ways to extend the population numbers of districts without fingering them into high population areas of Eugene's university area and south hills. Those two areas need to be their own two districts without being used to overcome the fair representation of rural lane county. I'm an advocate for fair and proper representation of the people. When they are represented fairly and justly the people are happier, representation better serves their needs and political divisions are less argumentative when people feel they have proper representation speaking their voice. I hope this is considered and a proposed gerrymandered map is corrected fairly before it is approved. Thanks for your time and hopefully consideration, Aaron Canizales resident of district 2

Don't care at all for map Q.
I live in the Mohawk Valley and map Q
splits up the Valley. I would be in one district
while my neighbors on the other side of Marcola Road
would be in a different district.
And some people in the Valley would be in the same district as Springfield,
which has little in common with us.
There is no reason to chop up the Valley.
We are a unit and need united representation--not fractured .
The other maps seem to understand this and are fine with me.

Frank Greenspan

The current redistricting sham being conducted by the "Democrats" in this state is nothing more than complete political corruption at every level.

Lane County officials should be revolting against this gerrymandering.

The fact that you are not demonstrates your implication and therefore guilt of these crimes.

Jerry

Commissioners,

The task of representing our community should always be an inclusive one. That can, in some ways, be made difficult when going through the redistricting process. As our community changes, however, it is also an opportunity to review how we are representing our constituents.

Eugene is city of neighborhoods, each with their own character, interests, and advocacy needs. For decades, each of them has assembled volunteers to drill down on their area, to study the complexity each has and to ensure that neighbors have a place to come together and advocate for the betterment of them all. This is not to say neighborhoods do not have common interests and advocacy, because they do, but there are inherent aspects of each area that need focus to better serve our citizens.

As you review the maps being considered for your own redistricting, it is important to keep this in mind. Maps C and R divide Bethel and River Road and thus will dilute each's advocacy. Parents in the same school district but live on opposite sides of the same street will have a divided representation at the county.

Moreover, the River Road and Bethel neighborhoods are about to experience very different challenges. With Eugene's approved 27-year UGB plan being primarily extended in West Eugene, the intersection of new development, existing businesses and residents and historical industrial activity will need to be balanced fairly and thoroughly. The River Road area will have its own expansion, but as most of its area has already waged those battles, their future conversations will likely center on implantation of HB2001 as it's only path for growth. Each needs representation that can devote the time required to master their different and competing interests.

I would encourage, recommend and ask you to pass Map J. It ensures both neighborhoods are represented wholly, that Bethel School District's children and parents have a common county commissioner and that, as their commissioner, you are better informed and have a deeper connection to the different and rapid change in trends that will be coming to both areas in the next decade.

Respectfully,

-Daniel Patrick Isaacson

River Road Board Member

Hello Mrs. Williams and Committee Members,

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and all of the deliberations that have gone into this redistricting process. This is a tougher project than anyone on the outside might think and I appreciate your diligent work.

I live just Southeast of the Churchill neighborhood, in West Eugene. I believe the Churchill community should be kept together and not split into separate districts. I am glad to see that these last four maps reflect this desire, though Map J comes a bit close to splitting it. There are several defining features shared by this area that I see are considered already, especially the fact that we have several major transit lines that can serve as natural boundaries. West 11th Ave, Chambers St, Royal Ave, and Roosevelt Blvd are all serving this purpose in the maps and I applaud you for it.

Thank you, again, for putting so much time and energy into this process. I appreciate you.

-Ryan Moore

Eugene Resident

Here's my public comment for the County Redistricting Commission:

I grew up in Eugene, and have lived here most of my life. I'm gay and mixed race, and I recently moved back to Eugene with my Black boyfriend. In my day job, I run a canvassing program under contract with the Oregon Health Authority where we go out to folks in Bethel every day to talk to and help increase Covid awareness and vaccination rates among Communities of Color. Before that, I had been living in Sacramento for a few years — the most diverse city in the US — and I told my boyfriend when we moved up here together: "Don't worry, you'll love it... Eugene's not racist (or homophobic)." Well, imagine my great surprise to learn that a bunch of white people and a reactionary cop on our County Redistricting Commission are proposing maps that would split our home, Bethel (an area that has been historically marginalized and red-lined because of extremely racist government policies), into three different County Commissioner Districts.

Y'all really couldn't gerrymander any harder if you tried. Whoever drew maps C and R is trying to take away my voice, and the voices of the poor, and the voices of Communities of Color. Let me tell you that we see you, we see what you're trying to do here, and Bethel won't tolerate it any more. You're deliberately cracking Communities of Color into balkanized little bites to make sure that "those people" don't have a strong enough voice in our Commissioner Districts to matter.

Maps C and R are complete garbage. I'll make sure all my friends and contacts know exactly who votes for them. Please don't do the same kind of malarkey to my neighborhood that racists have always done. Do better. Do much better.

Cheers,

Andrew Scot Becker

4467 Fergus Ave

Eugene, OR 97402

Good Afternoon, Independent Redistricting Committee,

Thank you for your work on the proposals for county commission districts in Lane County. I wanted to offer on the following comments about proposed maps:

- Map R: Please do not forward this map. Along the Gateway District, it breaks up the city of Springfield between two county commission districts. Gateway and International is the biggest employment area in the city of Springfield. It is were our UGB expansion was in the last decade. This area should be treated as one continuous area. I also note the public analysis identifies. It would be more appropriate to ensure that Gateway and International Way North to the river are included in D2.
- Map C: A solid map. I support forwarding this map. I recognize that D2 needs higher population, and the N. Eugene area is a good match with Springfield because of the transportation connects at Beltine/Gamefarm/I5. etc.

Thank you Judy Williams for forwarding this to the committee for me.

Thanks, Sean

Mayor Sean VanGordon
City of Springfield
225 N. 5th St.
Springfield, Oregon 97477
Office: 541.726.3700
Mobile: 541.221.8006

It seems to me that the maps are being bought by 2 commissioners to their benefit and that is clearly is a conflict of interest and should never be allowed

and should be done only for the best interest of the voters not the politicians.

Herb Newell
herbnewelljr@netscape.net
541-658-5416

Ms Williams,

I am a Springfield resident and strongly prefer the maps that keep Springfield in a separate district from parts of North Eugene. I prefer maps J or Q.

Sincerely,

Irene Henjum
1211 M St, Springfield, OR
541-799-6810



October 28th, 2021

Lane County Independent Redistricting Committee (IRC)
c/o Judy Williams Strategy and Integration Manager
Lane County Administration
125 E. 8th Avenue Eugene, OR 97401

Dear Judy Williams and Independent Redistricting Committee Members,

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide comment on the redistricting process. On the 18th of October, I testified regarding priorities our organizations are looking at to support. A summary of comments are as follows:

- Small population change doesn't warrant major boundary changes.
- Keep the Eugene metropolitan districts enclosed within Eugene because you can.
- School District Board boundaries, while a nice thought, School Districts, and County Government have different functions.
- To increase the Springfield District boundary, include areas that are like Springfield, not portions of Eugene.

At the time there were limited proposals that met the criteria list above. Due to the Independent Redistricting Committee having more time to amend and submit new map proposals, we did not state which map we supported. With four maps remaining, I wanted to make sure that the IRC knew which map proposal we preferred. Map Proposal C, while not perfect, compared to other maps, follows our priorities the most. Therefore, our preference is map C.

As I mentioned in my last testimony our members have paid close attention to the explosive state-level redistricting process. There were challenges throughout the entire process and an active suit has been filed against the congressional district plan. Since my last testimony, there are two legal challenges to the legislative maps. We recognize this is a challenging process, and we deeply appreciate the committee taking time to consider factors and follow proper criteria and process.

Thank you again for your work and dedication to Lane County. This is a big undertaking.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tiffany Monroe".

Tiffany Monroe

On Behalf of Lane County Farm Bureau & Lane Families for Farms and Forests.

Honorable Commissioners and Ms Williams

I want to express my appreciation for the hard work and dedication shown by the members of the Independent Redistricting Committee. This is one of the best and most transparent and representative processes that I've seen in my 30+ years in Lane County. The guidance of the Commissioners and the efforts of the Committee have shown great results.

As a Springfield resident, and a member of the Springfield Planning Commission, I wish to express my personal recommendation that map "J" or "Q" be chosen. Both respect Springfield and our urban growth boundary as a community of common interest and include the Glenwood area in our Commissioners district. I appreciate the savings in election costs that map "Q" will bring, and again applaud the inclusion of Glenwood and Seavey Loop area in the Springfield District under map "J". These areas of Springfield are expected to have great amounts of redevelopment in the future, and their inclusion in the District 2 boundary will insure that their interests are included in many of the decisions that will be made for the area by the Springfield Economic Development Agency and the Springfield Planning and Development Department.

Please select Map "J" or "Q" to insure the representation of Springfield is correct for the changes that we anticipate in the future.

Michael Koivula

Ward 2 Springfield

This letter represents my personal opinions. The Springfield Planning Commission has not discussed redistricting and has no official position on map selection.

Hello,

My name is Nick Royal, and I live in Bethel. My neighborhood used to be Red Lined as a way for racists to keep black people like me out of their neighborhoods. Unfortunately, it looks like some people might be trying to do a similar thing today: trying to push an historically marginalized community of interest into three different County Commissioner districts so that we won't have a bigger voice at the table when we vote for County Commission candidates. (Specifically, I'm talking about Map C and Map R.) One of the number one rules for redistricting is to NOT do that, so it really made me think, "why would anybody be trying to do exactly that?"

I'm not necessarily trying to impugn any of your motives, but let's be real here: now that you see it, you can't unsee it. Don't vote for those maps, please. Show us that things really are changing for the better.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Vaughn Royal

4467 Fergus Avenue

Eugene, Oregon 97402

This seems to be done fairly and not politically. I know politics are involved but do the right things.

Dear committee members,

Thank you for your hard work on this once in a decade process. This afternoon I was reviewing the maps that would be considered tonight and noticed that some of the maps (specifically map C) splits my apartment and neighborhood from North Eugene and would place us in Springfield. I believe that the issues that impact this neighborhood are not shared by our neighboring city of Springfield, and are best represented if it remains in the North Eugene/ Eugene districts. Map R I also believe also splits my neighborhood (it's hard to tell based on the quality of the maps) and it would place us in the West Lane County area which is a rural district and would not share the same common interests as we do now in the North Eugene district. I am reaching out in support of maps J and Q. Thank you again for your work and for considering this testimony.

Sierra Dameron

2980 Kipling Way Eugene OR

I'm writing today as an active and involved member of the Bethel community. My thoughts here are entirely on my own behalf, and do not represent the position of any organization, but for context I serve as co-chair of the Active Bethel Community neighborhood association and have served on both the Budget Committee and the Long Range Planning Committee for the Bethel School District. So my interest in the needs of the Bethel community runs deep.

I am concerned about ensuring that my neighbors are fairly represented over the next ten years. Bethel is a vibrant and distinct segment of the Lane County community and we have our own unique interests and needs. I believe it is important that our collective voices are heard and that we have the opportunity to elect County Commissioners who understand our perspective.

For that reason, I am concerned that Map C and Map R under your consideration split our community of interest into multiple districts, diluting our voices. I urge you to consider maps that maintain the integrity of our neighborhood, for example Maps J and Q.

Thank you for taking the time to read my feedback and for your work drawing fair and equitable districts for our county.

- Tai Pruce-Zimmerman

Dear Independent Committee on Redistricting,

I was so pleased to learn in the last few months that Lane County adopts the model the state of Oregon should and has an independent Redistricting committee.

I applied for it with the hopes that my experience and love of all Lane County would be selected.

Weeks after I applied I was informed I had made it as an alternate, however I learned a couple days later that an honest mistake had been made and I had not been chosen.

However, I am now aware two committee members are not only married but also have worked on two of the sitting county commissioners campaigns. This is clearly a conflict of interest and any maps they drew have their personal financial interests at heart.

I would encourage you to choose Map C. This map has the least changes to the current districts but still accommodating and adjusting for population changes. It also keeps all of Springfield together, Eugene within their city limits and rural areas together.

Thank you,

Marie Bowers

Coburg, Oregon

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Marie Bowers
Bashaw Land & Seed
541-914-0613

The current redistricting sham being conducted by the "Democrats" in this state is nothing more than complete political corruption at every level.

Lane County officials should be revolting against this gerrymandering.

The fact that you are not demonstrates your implication and therefore guilt of these crimes.

Jerry

Public Comment from Zoom Chat Box – October 28th IRC Meeting:

18:23:46 From Suzanne O'Shea : Bethel is also the largest and most diverse neighborhood in Eugene. Our diversity would be better addressed in an urban district.

18:26:41 From Suzanne O'Shea : Map J is the only map that has all of Bethel in one district, D4

18:53:12 From Suzanne O'Shea : That's true, I just heard about this yesterday. Someone from Lane County Government sent us an email.

19:08:31 From Suzanne O'Shea : I like keeping the school district together also!

19:21:42 From Suzanne O'Shea : this map splits the Bethel school district and Active Bethel Community, much as it is presently.

19:31:27 From Suzanne O'Shea : parts of the Bethel School District go south to W 11th, Fairfield School and Danebo School districts

19:42:57 From Suzanne O'Shea : This map puts the Bethel school district in 3 districts and the Neighborhood in mostly 2, a little bit in D5. The Neighborhood is from Clear Lake Road to the railroad tracks south of Roosevelt and Hwy 99vto Greenhill Road.

19:44:58 From Suzanne O'Shea : The Bethel School District goes from W 11th to Irving School off River Road.

20:03:04 From Suzanne O'Shea : Thank you for map J. It follows the exact boundaries of the Bethel School District, and includes all of the Active Bethel Community Neighborhood, in D4.

20:25:40 From Suzanne O'Shea : Thank you for all your hard work and dedication!

Written Public Comment for November 1st

Ms. Williams,

It has come to my attention via an Oregon Catalyst article that there is a conflict of interest concerning redistricting.

"It turns out one of the members of the Committee who has been producing multiple maps for the committee was also the political consultant for two Commissioners up for re-election, Joe Berney and Heather Buch. He was paid a combined \$106,526.57 by the two sitting commissioners and is drawing new boundaries for those same commissioners. Map Q and J he was a co-author."

This is unacceptable. I strongly encourage you to remove this individual from this process and to investigate both Joe Berney and Heather Buch for what appears to be quid pro quo. It is this type of behavior that voters are upset about. This is the reason why concerned citizens wanted a committee of its peers to have input into this process.

Your name and email address was included in this article as a contact person.

It is not too late to put a hold on redistricting and investigate these three people.

Dawn Royer

Hi Judy,

I think option Q is by far the best redistricting map.

Thank you,

Bruce Berg

Master-Craftsman Photographer

Bruce Berg Photography
work landline phone: 541-726-6119
cell: 541-222-0979
448 D Street, Springfield OR 97477
BruceBerg.com

Dear Redistricting Committee Members:

It has been very interesting to watch you create possible maps for commission districts for the next 10 years. I wish it had been possible to do some of the work in person, rather than virtually on Zoom, and I remain concerned that people will only be able to see maps on computer screens. I continue to hope that larger scale printed versions will be displayed someplace safely in the next few weeks.

As a member of the League of Women Voters, I know the League would like to comment on the process and perhaps make suggestions. I know also we are not going to be able to decide on those things by this meeting. I expect that any comments will be made at the public hearing at the end of the month, or submitted close to that date, and will come from the League President, Charlcie Kaylor.

Thank you for the time and patience and respect you have shown in this process and kudos to committee chair Munro for patience and attention to detail.

Linda Lynch
2681 Garfield
Eugene

Written Public Comment for November 4th

I missed the public comments, unfortunately... but i wanted to express my support for keeping the river road communities intact. Historically redlined districts shouldn't be split up on the whims of a corrupt county commissioner attempting to insert his fingers into the process because he doesn't like representing people of color. QS and R all hold some merit. Map C is a travesty and cannot be allowed by anyone of good conscience.

Thank you.

And please pass my thanks to those currently serving on the INDEPENDENT redistricting committee.

--

Sean Shivers (he/his)

Police Commission - [Commission Members](#)

This is my personal email address and nothing I say here should be taken to represent, in whole or in part, any group of which I am a member.

Hello, Ms Williams

If there is still adequate time to weigh in on the map design, I strongly advocate for inclusion of the Seavey Loop area within the Springfield district.

As this area is within the Springfield Urban Growth Boundary, and as there have been multiple land use policy and decisions that have and likely will occur in this area, and possible annexations, it is imperative that the residents of this area are represented by the Springfield Commissioner, Joe Berney, who also represents the County on the Springfield Economic Development Agency. Decisions within this area require representation.

I am a member of the Springfield Planning Commission, so am aware of the controversial proposed land use changes in this area.

I agree with Mr Grier and Mr Cronin regarding the inadvisability of this change.

Thank you

Mike Koivula
Springfield

Note: these are my personal opinions, the Springfield Planning Commission has not discussed redistricting and has no published opinion on the proposed maps.
