

# Public Comments: I - Z

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission  
Comments received between 5 pm on November 7 and 5 pm on November

8

Distributed electronically November 8, 2021

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patrica Irish  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:36:40 PM

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From: Patrica Irish arpaacirish@gmail.com  
Residence: Roundup mt

Message:  
Please stay with CP 12 !

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Charles McBrier Jarecki  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:50:29 PM

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From: Charles McBrier Jarecki skywagon49@outlook.com

Residence: Polson, Montana

Message:

I have been a Montana voter since 1962. I believe redistricting map CP 12 is the fairest off all maps submitted. Please adopt CP 12.

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Henrietta M. Jarecki  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:33:09 PM

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From: Henrietta M. Jarecki pennymt@outlook.com  
Residence: Polson, Montana

Message:

I support your decision to choose map CP12 as the fairest choice to create a new Congressional District in Montana because:

- 1) It acknowledges how Montana's geography creates two distinctly economic areas: eastern Montana is agricultural, and western Montana is based on tourism and timber.
- 2) It keeps two Indian reservations in the West.
- 3) Overall, it is simply the fairest.

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David A. Johnson  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:16:00 PM

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From: David A. Johnson [swansong@montanasky.us](mailto:swansong@montanasky.us)  
Residence: Bigfork MT

Message:

I urge you to adopt map CP-12; it is the fairest, and legal under our constitution. Stop looking for ways to gerrymander the map and put this process to bed.

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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: Kathryn L Johnson  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 3:35:09 PM

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From: Kathryn L Johnson kljohnson\_22@yahoo.com  
Residence: Polson, MT

Message:

I support the Chair's decision to go with map CP12 because:

- The Blackfoot and CSKT reservations must stay together in the west. Map C12 is indeed "competitive" and demonstrably so. That goal, regardless of its appropriateness, is met.
- The communities in CP12 are significant enough they must stay together.
- Map C12 is competitive and fair to both parties.
- Everyone may want to be in the west, but can't; clearly Flathead County is in the west! It should not be broken off and made an eastern county.
- Pondera County is split but their commissioners reported that is not a problem, so the argument that this is an undue burden on them is not valid.
- CP12 is the fairest map based on the volume of comments received.
- This choice prevents Montana from being considered a gerrymandering state.
- I was under the impression Map CP12 was the final selection, based on the 10 pm news report from KPAX, Missoula Station, last Thursday, November 4th!

Sincerely,

Kathryn L. Johnson  
31549 Meadow Rd.  
Polson, MT 59860

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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: Russell and Rebecca Kingman  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:08:15 PM

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From: Russell and Rebecca Kingman [rschaer626@gmail.com](mailto:rschaer626@gmail.com)  
Residence: Whitefish, MT

Message:

Dear Commissioners. to make this succinct I support Map CP12 because:

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District. (no connection between flathead and the east as far as economy and tourism etc.
- 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 and that to me seems to make very good sense for them.
- it ALSO keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- it only splits 1 county.

the county that is split, maybe the local people need to have their voices heard as to how to split those specific farming communities and perhaps make some minor adjustments there. All in all it is a fair compromise in order to follow state statutes. We ask that you continue on with this map to keep MT split in a way that is the most fair.  
Thank you for all your work. No easy task.

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

**From:** [eric knutson](#)  
**To:** [Dan Stusek](#); [Districting](#); [Jeff Essmann](#); [Joe Lamson](#); [Kendra Miller](#); [Maylinn Smith](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:49:56 PM

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Thank you for selecting CP-12



**From:** [Jane Kollmeyer](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:24:29 PM

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Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Jane Kollmeyer, I live at 2440 LeGrande Cannon Blvd, Helena, MT. My husband and I have lived in Montana for 30 years. We have lived in Helena for 18 years.

I support Map #11. It is a competitive district and does not favor one political party over another. Lewis and Clark county should not be pushed into the Eastern District, as Map #10 proposes. For democracy to flourish we need to have competitive districts, so all voices have an opportunity to be heard. Competitiveness is vital for the State of Montana to be a vibrant, lively and growing state.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important and complex matter.

Regards,  
Jane Kollmeyer  
2440 LeGrande Cannon Blvd  
Helena, MT 59601

**From:** [Georgia C](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] cP12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 4:58:24 PM

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Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because:

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Russell O Larson

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Russell Larson  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 4:56:31 PM

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From: Russell Larson russlarsonmusic@centurytel.net  
Residence: Kalispell MT

Message:  
Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because:

it keeps Flathead County in the Western District.  
It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.  
It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.  
It only splits 1 county  
Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,  
Russ Larson

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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: Jeffrey C. Lasch  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 11:55:16 AM

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From: Jeffrey C. Lasch [laschmt@bresnan.net](mailto:laschmt@bresnan.net)  
Residence: Great Falls, Mt. 59404

Message:

I support CP 12 because It fairly divides the District 1 & 2. Only one county is divided. The commission voted for it.

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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: Bill Little  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:28:22 AM

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From: Bill Little [bill@whimgroup.com](mailto:bill@whimgroup.com)  
Residence: Great Falls

Message:  
CP-12 looks to be pretty fair. Other proposal's did not.

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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: Morgan Marks  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:51:02 AM

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From: Morgan Marks [gemaymarks@gmail.com](mailto:gemaymarks@gmail.com)  
Residence: Great Falls, Montana

Message:  
Greetings,

I do not believe that Map 12 does not best meet the criteria the Commission unanimously adopted at the start of the redistricting process. The criteria in place were and remain as follows:

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

I think you need to revisit the criteria and seriously look at the map chosen, and make strides to correct the map to meet the original criteria. Thank you.

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

**From:** [DonnaLee](#)  
**To:** [maylinn.smith@mt.gov](mailto:maylinn.smith@mt.gov); [Districting](#); [Kendra Miller](#); [joe.lamson@mt.gov](mailto:joe.lamson@mt.gov); [Ken Eggert](#); [dan.stusek@mt.gov](mailto:dan.stusek@mt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Final plea on redistricting  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 11:34:29 PM

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I write this with the same heavy heart and sense of futility that I have when I write to our Governor, our current Congressman, and one of our Senators. Unfortunately, I don't know enough about the process to offer any new "tweaks". I am already on record with my preferences for Map 13 or Map 11.

What I do know is that NONE of the 13 maps even "Leaned Democratic" – in which I include anyone who is not Republican. In the first nine maps, there was at least one, maybe more, that were actually considered "Competitive" by the accepted metric. I believe Map 11 only "leaned Republican" and, I believe, Map 12 was considered Republican or, if it "leaned Republican" is was by a greater margin than Map 11. I assume that is why the Democrats decided to stick with Map 11.

When I saw Map 13, I had a glimmer of hope. I doubted that the final map would separate Flathead County, even though it was split in such a way as to divide out Whitefish, which is a distinct community with a different culture even though it does share medical and commercial ties with the rest of the county. And, it would ensure that candidates from both districts would need to pay attention to the residents of Flathead County.

I was really disappointed that more attention and discussion was not given to Map 13. It was, as I have said previously, a Good Faith effort at consensus. Map 12 was NOT, because it did not move the needle any closer to NOT UNDULY FAVORING ONE POLITICAL PARTY. The Democrats put forth Map 13 even though it leaned more heavily toward Republicans than the others. It also kept Flathead County whole and included both the Blackfeet and Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribal lands in tact and together. The difference between Map 13 and Map 12 is that it put the Tribes in a relatively Competitive District as requested by all the Tribes. Splitting Pondera County so as to include Valier with the southern part of the Blackfeet Reservation results in neither community being served. Valier and Heart Butte have NOTHING in common. I know. I served as a pastor on the Blackfeet Reservation for six years.

And, I believe the same can be said of Gallatin County being divided as of Flathead County. Being population centers, even though split, candidates from both Districts would need to listen to the concerns of the whole area. The one thing I think everyone agrees on is that NO map is going to be perfect. But, Maps 11 and 13 at least gave some hope to those of us who are in the minority.

What happened to the concept of Consensus, of not unduly favoring one political party? Why wasn't Map 13 given full consideration? The visual contours of both Maps 12 and 13 are very similar.

I realize that "politics" is not supposed to be a consideration, but in reality it's all about politics. I wouldn't be nearly so concerned if we still lived in the political climate of just a few years ago when, as I understand it, two Democrats would have won in the now-proposed Western District – one in 2016 and one in 2018. However, one of those candidates also ran in 2020 and would NOT have

won, belying the hope that the “right candidate” could now win.

Life-long residents of Lincoln County are moving away because of the toxic, hateful political atmosphere that now prevails. Non-Republicans, especially Democrats, are afraid to express their political views for fear of retribution, even physical violence. That is especially true of small business owners. And, people are moving in because we have a reputation of being “red”. I met a woman recently who told me she and her dad had moved here from Pennsylvania “to get away from the liberals.”

I love Montana! I used to think we were independent thinkers; that a person’s handshake was as good as their word; that we cared about each other; that we were open-minded and hospitable. Now, I am becoming one of those who are ready to abandon ship. This is NOT the Montana in which I grew up. I feel helpless and hopeless. The Montana Values that made Montana such a special place to live are no longer.

Sincerely,  
Donna Martin  
294 Dawson Street  
Libby, MT 59923  
406-291-1187



**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Judith Maxson  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 8:45:12 PM

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From: Judith Maxson jamone222@hotmail.com  
Residence: Bozeman Montana

Message:

Map 12 does not meet the agreed upon criteria. Only map 11 meets all of the agreed upon criteria.

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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: Nancy Mehaffie  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 3:32:48 PM

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From: Nancy Mehaffie [hunn.mehaffie@gmail.com](mailto:hunn.mehaffie@gmail.com)  
Residence: Thompson Falls

Message:

The last Map is a reasonable adjustment to issues that have come up. There is no reason to go back and discuss and change the boundaries from what they are on this last map. Please stay the course.

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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: Nancy Mehaffie  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 6:10:24 AM

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From: Nancy Mehaffie [hunn.mehaffie@gmail.com](mailto:hunn.mehaffie@gmail.com)  
Residence: Thompson Falls

Message:

The change to Pondera County makes sense to include the most complete voting district. County Voting district boundaries may change at some point with county population revisions. For now, the modification makes sense.

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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: Pam Meissner  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:57:06 AM

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From: Pam Meissner pmeissner7@yahoo.com  
Residence: Billings MT

Message:

Map 12 scores 6.5 on the cook PVI system. This map breaks the promise that was mutually agreed upon to not draw maps that are partial to a political party. Vote against map 12.

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

**From:** [Hill Mescall](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map # 12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:31:11 PM

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Thank you for all your efforts of putting districting maps out there for all to see, think about and comment on. It has been a difficult job for you due to everyone has an opinion that they think is right. My personal opinion is # 12 works for all of Montana residents and the Native American Territories who also need a greater voice in Montana.

Hope the right decision is made and we can move MT forward with honesty and fairness.

Sincerely,  
Hill Mescall  
Bozeman MT

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Hill Mescall  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:27:28 PM

---

From: Hill Mescall mescall.hillary04@gmail.com  
Residence: Bozeman MT

Message:

Map # 12 I'd the most fair to Native Americans and all Montana residents. It doesn't break up counties and gives more of a voice in their areas.

--

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

**From:** [Jeri Miller](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING MAP - KEEP MAP CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 4:16:07 PM  
**Importance:** High

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**Subject:** Congressional Redistricting Map – Keep Map CP-12

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because:

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

Thank you for your time, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeri E. Miller  
475 Cayuse Ln. Unit B  
Kalispell MT, 59901  
406-212-1354  
[glacierair66@hotmail.com](mailto:glacierair66@hotmail.com)

**From:** [Thomas Millett](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - I Support CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:13:17 PM

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Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because:

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

Thank you for your consideration.

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



**From:** [Kenda Minter](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 8:42:13 PM

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Please consider making voting a fair fight. By choosing map #12 you have shown that you don't believe in Republicans. Trying to skew things to favor the Republicans only proves that you have no faith in your messaging or your political prowess. Neither do I.

**From:** [Chase Montague](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:35:16 AM

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Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Chase Montague, I've lived in Bozeman for 20 years.

I support map 11

It doesn't unfairly support one political party!

Thank you so much for considering

Regards,  
Chase Montague  
2181 Dennison Ln  
Bozeman, MT 59715

**From:** [Matt James](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New Congressional district  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 6:53:21 AM

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Please don't turn Montana over to the people living in the cities the way our country has been turned over to the people living on the coasts. Do not marginalize the people of rural Montana the way the people of middle-America have been relegated to second class citizens by the residents of places like chicago, mimmeapolis, new york, los angeles, seattle or portland. We matter. It's just that we don't get fairly represented.

Matthew Monti  
Raymond, Montana

**From:** [Ming Lovejoy](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov); [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map – Keep Map CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:08:03 PM

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Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 for the following reasons:

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

Thank you for your your attention and consideration.

Ming L. Munzing

213 Tronstad Rd.,

Kalispell, MT

[lovejoy@montanasky.net](mailto:lovejoy@montanasky.net)

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Robert Kerrick Murray  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 8:03:32 AM

---

From: Robert Kerrick Murray [mtmurrays@earthlink.net](mailto:mtmurrays@earthlink.net)  
Residence: Helena

Message:

I'm writing to object to the proposed redistricting map CP 12. I live in Helena and would prefer being in the Western district. With CP 12, as proposed, I believe my vote would be squandered if cast in an Eastern Montana district. Thank you for your consideration of my concern.

--

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sandra S Murray  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 7:51:16 AM

---

From: Sandra S Murray [mtmurrays@earthlink.net](mailto:mtmurrays@earthlink.net)  
Residence: Helena

Message:

Lewis and Clark Co. belongs in the Western district. I live in Helena and will not feel represented in the Eastern district. If Glacier, Pondera, and half of Flathead counties were returned to the Eastern district, the population would be equalized and the competitiveness better balanced.

--

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: Judy Nakagawa  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:28:00 PM

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From: Judy Nakagawa pvarp\_50@yahoo.com  
Residence: Helena Montana

Message:

I am in full support of CP 12. Thank you so much for all of your hard work on this very important issue.

Judy Nakagawa

--

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

**From:** [K. Newton](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map CP12  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:06:14 PM

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Montanans STILL want to avoid gerrymandering. Please confirm map CP12 for the new districts.

And shame on progressives for avoiding constitutional stipulations, and making their own rules (+/-3% instead of 1%). We do NOT appreciate lying and cheating for one party attempting to get ahead.

Thank you for this common sense approach, selecting map CP12.

Katrina Newton  
Libby MT



**From:** [Lauralee O'Neil](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep CP 12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:22:15 PM

---

CP 12 is the very best compromise and reasonably balances the East and the West. It keeps our Flathead in the West and unbroken, and only splits one small county. I fully support CP 12.

Thanks too for your many hours of hard work.

Lauralee O'Neil  
2867 Foothill RD  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 407-5639  
[lauralee22@protonmail.com](mailto:lauralee22@protonmail.com)

Sent with [ProtonMail \[protonmail.com\]](#) Secure Email.

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Shaun Pandina  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:39:53 PM

---

From: Shaun Pandina [shaun@getstampin.com](mailto:shaun@getstampin.com)  
Residence: Kalispell, MT 59901

Message:  
Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because:

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

--

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

**From:** [Lyle Phillips](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Cc:** [Lyle Phillips](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE FAVOR CP 12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:18:06 AM

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Was pleased that the Districting and Apportionment Commission Chair accepted the Congressional Proposal (CP12).

I continue to support CP 12 as the more fair redistrict map and keeps conservative (all except liberal Whitefish) Flathead in the Western District.

Lyle Phillips  
41 2<sup>nd</sup> St W  
Whitefish, MT 59937

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Debo Powers  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:12:59 AM

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From: Debo Powers debopowers@gmail.com  
Residence: Polebridge, MT 59928

Message:

I am very disappointed in Map 12. It means that neither district will be competitive because it favors one political party. This violates the criteria set by the commission and completely defeats the purpose of having a nonpartisan commission.

Please go back to Map 11. Even though this map splits Flathead County where I live, I realize that it is more important to have one competitive district in our state. Even though I would be residing in the district that would not be competitive, I could hope for representation from the other district. Map 12 gives me no hope of being represented.

--

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: Jan W Pratt  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:55:00 PM

---

From: Jan W Pratt [janwpratt@gmail.com](mailto:janwpratt@gmail.com)  
Residence: Miles City, Montana

Message:

Please choose Map #12. I feel that it is as fair as possible while upholding our state constitution. Than you.

--

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

**From:** [valerie.radtke](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CP 12 Map  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 4:19:06 PM

---

Please use CP 12 map for Montana. It best represents our citizens. We are a state with the continental divide and this map is the best one to represent people on both sides and keep our Native American Tribes united.

Thank you

Valerie Radtke

--

Best regards,

Valerie Radtke

315 Coverdell Rd.  
Bigfork MT 59911

406-212-8949 Cell  
[emrmorgans@gmail.com](mailto:emrmorgans@gmail.com)  
[www.emrmorgans.com](http://www.emrmorgans.com) [[emrmorgans.com](http://emrmorgans.com)]

**From:** [Elaine](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov); [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Keep Map CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 3:07:07 PM

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Chair Smith and Commissioners,

As I previously told you, I support Map CP12 because:

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

I really think these are important things to protect.

**Thank you for your consideration.**

Elaine Remez

330 Buffalo Trl.  
406-890-9210  
[ElaineRemez@pm.me](mailto:ElaineRemez@pm.me)

Sent with [ProtonMail \[protonmail.com\]](#) Secure Email.

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Stuart Reynolds  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:57:13 PM

---

From: Stuart Reynolds [stuinmt@mintouch.net](mailto:stuinmt@mintouch.net)  
Residence: Havre, MT

Message:  
Done deal. Close the book.

--

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



**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Janet L Rogers  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 3:26:24 PM

---

From: Janet L Rogers [typistjan@netzero.net](mailto:typistjan@netzero.net)  
Residence: Ronan MT

Message:  
I vote for map CP 12

--

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: Rob Romsa  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 3:09:17 PM

---

From: Rob Romsa [rob\\_romsa@yahoo.com](mailto:rob_romsa@yahoo.com)  
Residence: Billings, MT

Message:

I commend the members of this commission for selecting map CP-12 which is the fairest of the maps that had been submitted. I urge you to stand by your decision and not bend to political pressure tomorrow. I would love to attend but cannot due to a new site installation that was scheduled, so my customer has priority.

I Thank You all for your hard work and doing what is right and staying with CP-12.

--

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: Deniece Rout  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 4:22:17 PM

---

From: Deniece Rout [dhrou@yahoo.com](mailto:dhrou@yahoo.com)  
Residence: Bigfork, Montana 59911

Message:

I am asking that we keep map C12

CP12 keeps the two Tribes together and the Flathead County including WhiteFish whole and in the NW. This map is best for the people of Montana.

--

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

**From:** [kiki.rydell](mailto:kiki.rydell)  
**To:** [Districting](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov);  
[Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] please create a more competitive map  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 11:51:29 AM

---

Dear Redistricting Commission: This is the only opportunity we will have for a very long time to draw congressional districts that encourage all Montanans to participate in the governing of our state. Please, please do the right thing: do what you can to create a map with at least one competitive district. Map 12 does not do this: it outlines two districts that favor the same party.

Competition is essential for giving Montanans a sense that their vote matters, that they should inform themselves about the issues facing their state and weigh in by supporting a candidate that is attentive to their needs. Competitive districts mean that candidates need to moderate their extreme views by appealing to people from both sides of the aisle because listening to the voice of just one side won't give them a majority of votes. Without competitive districts, more and more Montanans will turn away from politics and no longer make any effort to solve the problems facing their state. They will withdraw into a world of fantasy and entertainment because they know their representative does not need to listen to their perspective or care what they might have to say because their votes do not matter. The representative has his/her election all sewed up...it's a done deal before it's even begun.

We urge you to tinker with map 12 to make it more competitive like map 11.

Respectfully yours,  
Carol and Robert Rydell  
Bozeman

**From:** [Mark Savinski](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Redistricting Maps Comments  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:10:09 AM

---

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my comments. Mark Savinski

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

---

**From:** [Mark Savinski](#)  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 6, 2021 9:24 AM  
**To:** [districting@mt.gov](mailto:districting@mt.gov)  
**Subject:** Redistricting Maps Comments

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

Please consider this email as voicing strong support for proposed redistricting maps #11 and/or #13. These proposed maps are the most fair and competitive of the four choices being currently considered. These maps keep with the Redistricting Commissions goals of not unduly favoring one political party over the other and establishing Congressional Districts that are competitive. Maps #10 and #12 DO NOT meet the aforementioned goals. Both maps #10 and #12 are biased and unfair, with Map #12 being the most egregious. My reasons for strongly opposing map #12 are as follows:

1. Map #12 creates a district where Republicans have won over 75% of statewide elections over the last 8 years in one district and 100% of elections over the last 8 years in the other district. That is simply UNFAIR and NOT COMPETITIVE! Intentionally drawing both districts to heavily favor the Republican Party plainly violates the Commission's goal of not unduly favoring one political party over the other.
2. Republicans won every single statewide election in both of these districts on Map #12. There were 8 statewide races in 2020 and Republicans won all of them in both districts. This is clearly not meeting even a basic definition of competitiveness that the Commission adopted as a goal.
3. Map #12 separates Butte from Jefferson County. People commute from Jefferson County into Butte every single day, and it makes no sense at all to separate the two communities.
4. Map #12 also slices off Park County from Gallatin County. Livingston is a vital part of the greater Gallatin County regional economy, and their interests will be greatly diminished or ignored in this proposed version of District 2.
5. Map #12 splits a small rural county, ensuring that its voters will be pretty much ignored by both Congresspersons. County splits should respect communities of like interest and larger counties have distinct communities of interest within them that can be split more logically (if at all), so that real representation can be ensured for the communities divided within a county.
6. This plan intentionally splits the union vote in District 2 in Montana to separate workers who have joined together for more equitable workplace standards. Separating Helena union workers from their brothers and sisters in Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge is again

BLATANTLY UNFAIR and is simply BAD POLICY.

7. Map # 12 ensures that rural voices can never carry the day in either of the two Congressional Districts. Montana's largest urban areas are split between the two districts, meaning that rural Montanans can never elect a Congress person of their choice.

Thank you in advance for taking my comments into consideration. Again, I strongly support either maps #s 11 and 13 and strongly oppose maps #s 10 and 12. The overall objective and goal should be fairness and competitiveness, since the revised Congressional District maps will be in effect for the next 10 years!

Sincerely,

Mark T. Savinski  
25 Sundowner Road, Sheridan, MT 59749  
Phone: 406-843-5389.

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mike Schauf  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:03:33 PM

---

From: Mike Schauf [mschauf@att.net](mailto:mschauf@att.net)  
Residence: Missoula

Message:

I wish to commend Chair Maylinn Smith for her compromise solution to the redistricting process. map 12 is the best compromise for both parties and not a gerrymandered map solution that was offered by the Democrats. it keeps Flathead County in the Western District as it should and it includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district. Additionally, it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole. A very fair compromise.

--

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Melisa Schelvan  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 11:54:49 AM

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From: Melisa Schelvan [mbschelvan@gmail.com](mailto:mbschelvan@gmail.com)

Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

I very much appreciate the time and consideration that was spent examining the various maps. The choice of CP12 is a good fit for Montana; I look forward to hearing that it was fully adopted. Thank you for doing your job well!

--

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**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Anne D Schumacher  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:00:22 PM

---

From: Anne D Schumacher [annebenschumacher@yahoo.com](mailto:annebenschumacher@yahoo.com)  
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

Dear Commission Members:

I urge you to reject CP 12 and adopt either CP 11 or CP 13 because they are far better at meeting the Mandatory Criteria and Goals than CP 12. CP 12 unduly favors the Republican party, creating two noncompetitive districts that will silence minority voices in Montana.

Thank you for your service to Montana.

Sincerely,

Anne D. Schumacher

--

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: R.Jane Senter  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:24:08 PM

---

From: R.Jane Senter [meditate@centurytel.net](mailto:meditate@centurytel.net)  
Residence: Big Fork, Montana

Message:

Once again my family & I do not support map 12. In our view it unfairly favors Republican candidates, it unnecessary divides counties & reservations, it does not uphold the principle of competitiveness of districts which is a bedrock of a functioning democracy. We see map 11 being the best to represent the vast & varied interests of Montana We implore you to reconsider. Thank you for your ongoing efforts for our state.

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David Shafman  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 4:18:24 PM

---

From: David Shafman [dbs223r@gmail.com](mailto:dbs223r@gmail.com)

Residence: Columbia Falls

Message:

I think you should approve Map CP-12. It appears to be fairly divided.

--

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Linda J Shannon  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 5:22:13 PM

---

From: Linda J Shannon Groovycowgirl@Hotmail.com  
Residence: Whitefish, MT

Message:

I sincerely solicit your support for final approval of CP12. This map only splits one county (Pondera) who did not object, two Native American tribes will be included in the Western District, the two districts are within 1 citizen of being equally balanced populations and, finally, I truly believe this map best represents the interests of all Montanans.

Thank you.

Linda J Shannon

--

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: Tracy Alan Sharp  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:24:44 PM

---

From: Tracy Alan Sharp [theknowbetters@gmail.com](mailto:theknowbetters@gmail.com)  
Residence: Polson, Montana

Message:

Madam Chairman and Members of the Commission,

The decision to select CP 12 was a sound judgment. While I would have preferred CP 1, I understand the need to compromise to get this done and keep it out of litigation. As I have said before in my written and public testimony, having this issue decided by the judiciary would mean you as a commission had failed. It would be an embarrassment to the State of Montana and a stain that would never wash out.

However, the reasoning for CP 12 that Madam Chairman stated at the end of the 4 November hearing was sensible and accurate. It avoids a silly gerrymandered map that would have made Montana a laughing stock .

Madam Chairman, Map C12 is indeed competitive and demonstrably so. That goal, regardless of its appropriateness, is met. This effort is not about the disenfranchised and achieving a political carve-out for those who claim they can't win elections. Montana has had 16 years of Democratic governors, with the last one being term-limited out of office. Democrats have and can win the governorship without some form of Democrat equal opportunity slicing-and-dicing achieved through the Districting and Apportionment Commission. The Democrats have held Senator's Tester seat as well—even without special treatment. Elections are about messaging, ideas, and policy, and it is incorrect to suggest the Democrats can't win without an artificial boost, and it is unjust and unfair to winners to trim off their proven ability to obtain office just because their opposition can't carry the day on their own.

It is clear that the communities of interest in CP12 are significant enough they must stay together. As the Chairman stated, everyone may want to be in the west, but everyone can't. However, Flathead County is in the west, and that is obvious. Flathead County cannot be broken off and suddenly made an eastern county anymore than Lake County can. That idea was patently silly from the start.

The Chairman was also correct in assessing that the Blackfoot and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe (CSKT) reservations must stay together in the west. If the CSKT were to stay by itself in the west, the vote of its approximately 7,200 tribal members would easily be drowned out by the surrounding counties. The tribes are a group that do receive some special treatment by law. Isolating the CSKT was never a sound approach.

The Chairman pointed out that Pondera is split but that their Commissioners reported the split poses no difficulty to them. The argument that this is an undue burden and that splitting the richer and larger Flathead County imposes less hardship was quickly and soundly rendered null and void.

The Chairman also noted that there have been "volumes of comments" received and that she

took them into consideration in making her decision to support CP12. Indeed, it is the best compromise map possible, which is why so many comments were passed to the commission stating so.

I support CP12 and I support keeping this issue in the hands of the Commission and the state's elected representatives. I believe you have arrived at a just decision that will keep this issue out of the courts, and I sincerely thank you for your effort to do so. I also thank you for your fair-mindedness in coming to this conclusion.

Tracy Sharp

Polson, Montana

--

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

**From:** [Shaun P](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Thank you for choosing Map CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:40:40 PM

---

Chair Smith, Thank you for keeping CP-12

I support Map CP12 because:

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

Thank you for your consideration.

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Donna Shull  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 9:01:14 PM

---

From: Donna Shull donnashull@hotmail.com  
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

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

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

I strongly encourage you NOT to approve Map 12 in the redistricting process.

Thank you. Donna Shull

--

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



**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sandra L Smith  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:19:55 PM

---

From: Sandra L Smith [sandytorah@aol.com](mailto:sandytorah@aol.com)  
Residence: Kalispell

Message:

Dear Chairperson Smith, Thank you so much for all that you're doing. Please “stay the course” with map CP-12.

Montana is a beautiful State and God has blessed it mightily. We are so thankful for you and others that want to do what is righteous in God's sight and what is beneficial for Montana and her people.

Thank you for your time.

--

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

**From:** [Elaine Snyder](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 7:51:17 PM

---

I OPPOSE Map 12. It in NO WAY MEETS the goals and criteria of this Commission, tribal interests, labor interests, public land resource interests, or the economic & human interests of Montana. It just panders to Republicans who are currently in the majority.

The Map I like BEST is #11. It brings forward more represented voices for a second district. Map 11 also got THE MOST PUBLIC SUPPORT. Why was it nixed? Can it revised just a little for the second district? How was Public Support considered in this final map process? Thank you for listening. Elaine Snyder, Kalispell, Mt.

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Courtenay Sprunger  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:56:57 PM

---

From: Courtenay Sprunger [courtenay@bigskypublicrelations.com](mailto:courtenay@bigskypublicrelations.com)  
Residence: Kalispell, Montana

Message:

First, a thank you to every member of the Commission for your tireless work on behalf of our state in this redistricting effort. I am grateful for your service and integrity as you work through the process.

I strongly support the Commission's selected CP-12 in its present form and encourage the Commission to finalize the map as it stands. The importance of maintaining Flathead County together and in the Western District cannot be overstated. As a business leader and fifth-generation resident of the Flathead, I can testify to the necessity of our entire county working together to successfully manage our area's most prominent industry, tourism. Additionally, our primary sectors of industry in addition to tourism, include manufacturing and healthcare making Flathead County closely aligned with other communities in the Western District.

Map 12 ensures Flathead County, which is already in an isolated geographic region, is maintained within a district where our Representative can realistically spend time. This means our representative will be equipped to consider our community's needs and advocate as needed versus other options that placed half of Flathead County in the East.

I believe the CP-12 creates a practical solution for our community of interest and others as it only splits one county and that county is one that is far more central in the state.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I ask that the Commission please adopt CP-12 with minimal or no changes.

Respectfully,  
Courtenay Sprunger

--

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

**From:** [Michael Starmer](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map – Keep Map CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:23:56 PM

---

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because:

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Starmer  
8721B Ranch Club Rd.  
Missoula, MT 59808-5415  
(406) 544-1412  
[flyfishin\\_dude@yahoo.com](mailto:flyfishin_dude@yahoo.com)

*[Ephesians 4:32](#) And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you.*

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:flyfishin_dude@yahoo.com) for Windows 10

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gary Stephens  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:43:48 PM

---

From: Gary Stephens [garywhitefish@gmail.com](mailto:garywhitefish@gmail.com)  
Residence: Whitefish MT 59937

Message:

I support the approval of map CP12.

--

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: Eliot A Strommen  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 9:31:54 AM

---

From: Eliot A Strommen [eliotrealestate@nemont.net](mailto:eliotrealestate@nemont.net)  
Residence: Vandalia, Montana

Message:

Sorry this communication is late. Just want to thank you for your efforts and hard work regarding your decision. Standing strong against what has to have been unrelenting political pressure is commendable. I believe, as you do, that your decision was the correct one.

Thank You

--

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

**From:** [Wendy Susott](#)  
**To:** [Joe Lamson](#)  
**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:09:10 AM

---

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Wendy Susott. I was born and raised in Montana, have lived in Missoula or in the Flathead Lake area, all my life.

I support Map 11 because it is the only choice that doesn't favor one political party. Gerrymandering is cheating to win elections. It is despicable.

Explained in prior section but to repeat...map 11 doesn't unduly favor one political party.

I appreciate the commission's efforts. Thank you for reviewing and considering my comments.

Regards,  
Wendy Susott  
845 Wyoming St  
Missoula, MT 59801

**From:** [Dave Swaim](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov);  
[Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map; Please Select Map CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:13:34 PM

---

Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP-12 because I've been observing the various maps and my primary interest is insuring that the final selection complies with Montana law, which is absolutely necessary. Map CP-12 appears to comply with the letter and the spirit of the law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,  
Dave Swaim  
196 Weimar Way  
406-890-2484  
[isnomore@protonmail.ch](mailto:isnomore@protonmail.ch)



**From:** [Paula Swaim](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov);  
[Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please Select Redistricting Map CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:16:41 PM

---

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

After careful consideration of the various maps I support Map CP-12 and ask you to do the same.

Thank you for your time.

Paula Swaim  
196 Weimar Way  
406-890-2484  
[pauswa1966@yahoo.com](mailto:pauswa1966@yahoo.com)

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Willie Thornley  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 5:24:02 AM

---

From: Willie Thornley [tgvl12233@yahoo.com](mailto:tgvl12233@yahoo.com)  
Residence: Great Falls, MT

Message:

Your decision to support CP 12 is great. Thank you for the time you've taken to peruse this important matter.

--

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

**From:** [Ellen Trygstad](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Setting a standard of fair competition  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:42:23 AM

---

To the Districting Commission of Montana:

We know the task of developing a map dividing Montana into two districts is extremely challenging. With cities, counties and tribal lands to consider, the success of fair distribution throughout the state for the next ten years depends on the commitment of the Commission to weighing as equally as possible, many factors, critically that Democrats and Republicans are almost in equal numbers throughout the state, but in different concentrations. Further, we have many Independent voters who cross party lines.

Montana has, since 1972, built a reputation for itself as a state with high standards and fair dealings. The election map #11 presents a map that has the best fair and equal competition, and this is important for our reputation and for our integrity in voting.

Please reconsider the choice of maps and select #11. It has gained a great deal of public support including from Tribal communities.

We count on non-partisan commissions in our government to achieve the highest standards of fairness and representation, regardless of party, party pressure, or other aspects of politics. This is central to Democracy, and critical for demonstrating to our young generations coming forward that here in Montana, fairness and respect in voting is our commitment.

Thank you for the hundreds of hours devoted to this process you all have given. Please reconsider your present choice and instead, approve Map #11. This will set an example of the highest standards we have here in this state for competition and fairness in voting.

Sincerely,  
E. Trygstad  
Montana

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Brad Tschida  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:41:10 PM

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From: Brad Tschida [brad@tschida.org](mailto:brad@tschida.org)  
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

Despite its flaws and shortcomings, Matt CP Dash 12 is the best of the remaining for mats that the commission assist in his final round of examination.

Please be sure two keep the map as closely connected with its current form as possible.

If there is any tweak to be made, I would suggest that keeping all of Pondera County intact would be a reasonable move. The western 1/3 of the state is going to grow more rapidly than The Eastern 2/3, so leaving the west with a small population deficit would not be a bad modification.

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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: frank vetere  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:50:16 PM

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From: frank vetere [veterefrank@yahoo.com](mailto:veterefrank@yahoo.com)  
Residence: great falls mt.

Message:

I think CP12 was a good choice. It meets all the standards and is fair to all in Montana.

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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: Susan Votapka  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 7:42:03 PM

---

From: Susan Votapka [suevotapka@gmail.com](mailto:suevotapka@gmail.com)  
Residence: Kalispell, MT 59901

Message:

Dear Commissioners: First, thank you to Chairwoman Smith for being principled on the decision to adopt the redistricting map CP 12. I would appeal to all the commissioners to maintain this decision in the future vote to retain the CP 12 map.

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan Votapka  
40 Leah Ann Lane  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
760-272-6952

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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: John Voth  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:23:23 AM

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From: John Voth [jvoth@centurylink.net](mailto:jvoth@centurylink.net)  
Residence: MT

Message:

Choose CP12 as the final map. This map closely conforms to criteria set forth in Montana law for redistricting. It divides one county with minimal impact, places the Flathead and Blackfoot Reservations and Flathead County wholly in the West. In addition, it does not disrupt the social and economic web of Flathead County that includes Kalispell, Whitefish, and Columbia Falls.

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

**From:** [Weiss, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Map 12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:56:03 AM

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

From: Sara Walsh <[swalsh@3rivers.net](mailto:swalsh@3rivers.net)>  
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 10:54 AM  
To: [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Districting <districting@mt.gov>](mailto:Districting@mt.gov)  
Cc: [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov)  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map 12

Heather Cox Richardson, a political historian, recently reported the following analysis on the impact of gerrymandering:

"According to voting expert Ari Berman, in Ohio, where former president Trump got 53% of the vote in 2020, the new maps would give Republicans 86% of seats. In North Carolina, where Trump won 49.9% of the vote, Republicans would take 71–78% of seats, which translates to a 10–4 advantage if the voters split the vote evenly. In Wisconsin, where Trump won 49% of the vote, the new maps give Republicans 75% of the seats. In Texas, where Trump got 52% of the vote, Republicans would take 65% of the seats."

This is, on its face, patently unfair and undemocratic.

A similar analysis for Montana shows a similarly unfair & unbalance result under Map 12. Montana has recently trended Republican with state-wide races in 2020 running at 52-57% Republican. But Map 12 would favor Republicans with a 75% chance of taking the currently proposed Western District, & a 100% chance in the Eastern District.

This is, on its face, patently unfair and undemocratic. It does not follow the Commission's own rules on how redistricting should be accomplished, and as currently drawn, does not allow a reasonable opportunity for a truly competitive district in a state in which Republicans most recently lead by only a few percentage points, & in which Democrats have regularly won state-wide races in the recent past.

It completely disenfranchises Native Americans, and unnecessarily & irrationally severs other communities of interest. I split my time between Augusta & Kalispell, & can tell you that, as much as I would love to have my vote counted in the Western District, Augusta & Lincoln identify much more with the Eastern District than with Helena/Butte, which should be kept together in the Western District. The same can be said for Gallatin County.

Finally, adopting Map 12 rather than Map 11 (which had overwhelming support) would simply invite litigation and further divide our State.

Thank you for considering my comments & for undertaking this difficult task. Above all, I know neither Republicans or Democrats want to leave the other side feeling completely shut out of the democratic process, & that's what Map 12 would do.

Sincerely,



Sara Walsh

Sara Walsh

swalsh@3rivers.net <<mailto:swalsh@3rivers.net>>

406-562-3832 (Augusta)

406-755-3661 (Kalispell)

406-799-5202 (Cell)

**From:** [Betty J. Ward](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] For the Redistricting, I support CP-12  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 9:31:51 AM

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Betty J. Ward  
102 W. Balsam Street Apt. 4  
Libby, Montana  
59923

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Diane Watson  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 7:41:02 PM

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From: Diane Watson [ddwsk4vr@gmail.com](mailto:ddwsk4vr@gmail.com)

Residence: Trego

Message:

I support Map CP12 because:

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

--

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

**From:** [jwdisciple](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] PLEASE go with Map CP12!!!  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:06:24 PM

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Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,

Please continue on with CP12 as:

it keeps Flathead County in the Western District.

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

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

It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration!

Jim Weber  
227 Rhodes Draw  
Kalispell, MT 59901

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mary Suzanne Weber  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:45:45 PM

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From: Mary Suzanne Weber [jwdisciple@msn.com](mailto:jwdisciple@msn.com)  
Residence: Kalispell, Montana

Message:

THANK YOU --- for going with CP-12 ..... for redistricting. Praying you will be supported all the way to the finish line, and WE THANK YOU --- for being fair! YES – ON MAP CP-12. THANK YOU< THANK YOU!!! Suzanne Weber

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

**From:** [Roxane Weikel](#)  
**To:** [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov); [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov); [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support proposal 11 please  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 9:10:00 AM

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CP 12 does not meet the goals the Commission set out for itself. Because this design has no true competitive district, this unfairly likely allows 2 Republican districts for the next decade.

Townsend and Livingston should be with Gallatin county due to their specific needs for economic growth.

Organized labor needs a voice, so Helena, Butte and Jefferson County should be together.

It's my understanding each MT tribe wants to be represented by being in a competitive district to the degree possible to give as many as possible a true voice.

Thank you for your hard work. Please adopt a map that meets all of the Commission's stated criteria.

Roxane Weikel  
207 Takima Dr  
Missoula, MT 59803

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Wendy Williams  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:16:13 PM

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From: Wendy Williams [tawewilliams@mt.net](mailto:tawewilliams@mt.net)  
Residence: Helena, MY

Message:  
I support CP12 map. Thank you.

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

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Deborah Wilson  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 2:59:08 PM

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From: Deborah Wilson [dmwilson@acwei.com](mailto:dmwilson@acwei.com)  
Residence: Kila Montana

Message:

I rise to support map CP12 because it keeps Flathead County in the western district and intact. It splits only one county and the commissioners from that county are OK with the split. It keep Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole. The tribes have more of a voice because CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations are in the Western District.

Please do not split the Flathead!

Thank you for your consideration.

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



**From:** [Randy Wilson](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] new congressional district in MT, CP12 Map  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 7:31:19 AM

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Montana Districting Committee,

Thank you to the Districting Committee and your efforts to determine the new congressional district for Montana. My interest continues in the proposed CP12 map. If tweaks or adjustments are needed, I ask they be done without caving to threatening public pressure.

Randy Wilson  
847 Saint Andrews Drive  
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

**From:** [MDAC](#)  
**To:** [Districting](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Juliann Wolf  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 11:43:10 AM

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From: Juliann Wolf [juliemwolf52@gmail.com](mailto:juliemwolf52@gmail.com)  
Residence: Great Falls MT

Message:

I strongly urge you to adopt CP12 that best meets the criteria. Thank-you.

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

**From:** [Brad Young](#)  
**To:** [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#); [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#); [Districting](#)  
**Cc:** [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] district  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 6:31:49 AM

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Dear Commission Members,

This commission needs to stand by the goals you initially set. You have disregarded Tribal voices, again! Proposal 11 had the most public support, was just and fair. Sincerely, Sandy Young