

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Vollmar-Heywood, Paula C <PVOLLM1@Fairview.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2012 2:37 PM
To: Menshek, Peggy Y
Cc: Garwood, Robin D.
Subject: RE: [CedarRiv] Redistricting - should the West Bank be in one ward or two?

Dear Peggy Menshek,

I just emailed this (Please see my statement below) to Robin Garwood and the other groups included in the original email. Robin suggested to email opinions to you. I am 'on it'. Please do not allow this ad hoc committee to strand Riverside Park!

We are so small, and have always been a part of the West Bank (& WE ARE ON THE WEST BANK). the Seward nbhd has not recognized us - as far as standing up for our nbhds needs. If we are cut out of the West Bank organization process, then we are basically abandoned as far as political processes, as we do not fit into Longfellow, Corcoran, Prospect Park or downtown East.

I'll keep it short. Read more of my statement below.

Thanks,
Paula Vollmar-Heywood
Riverside Park homeowner
H: 612-338-3705

Thanks Robin for this info,
With all due respect to the groups involved in the "Citizens for Fair Redistricting Committee", I feel that we should stay unified as the West Bank! I do not believe we should be split up into E and W West Bank. If anything, why not divide using the river as division line, into 2a and 2b, or some other tactic on that order.

This seems unwise, and is upsetting to me, a resident of the Riverside Park nbhd. for approx. 25 years and a worker & business owner in Cedar-Riverside for 18 of those years. I would not like to see my nbhd. abandoned just because Cedar West people want to join Phillips nbhd. for political reasons.

I am presently employed in the Phillips nbhd., and yes, it's a great and diverse neighborhood, but ALL of the West Bank is great and diverse as well. In fact, we have an extremely proud history of political action. Perhaps this hasn't been well publicized.

If the East African population desires elimination of the portion of district 2 that is University of MN controlled (and thus not as diverse as the West Bank), then why not just say and do exactly that. Divide district 2 using the river as dividing line!

Paula Vollmar-Heywood
Riverside Park home-owner

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

From: mpls-cr@forums.e-democracy.org [mailto:mpls-cr@forums.e-democracy.org] On Behalf Of Robin Garwood

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2012 1:09 PM

To: mpls-cr@forums.e-democracy.org

Subject: [CedarRiv] Redistricting - should the West Bank be in one ward or two?

As you may be aware, Minneapolis is in the process of redistricting based on the 2010 census. This process could have an impact on the ward boundaries for the West Bank, and I wanted folks to have a chance to weigh in.

The Redistricting Group has put out a draft plan that keeps the West Bank in a Ward 2 that is substantially similar to the current Ward 2. You can find that plan here:
<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-085505.pdf>.

Another group, the "Citizens for Fair Redistricting Committee" has proposed a map that would divide the West Bank into two wards. You can see it here:
<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-085762.pdf>.
The purpose of this map is to create a Somali opportunity ward.

Under this plan, the portion of the neighborhood on the south/west side of Riverside Avenue become part of a new Ward 2, which would also include the northwest portion of Seward, most of greater Phillips and a portion of Elliot Park. The other side of the West Bank, including Riverside Park and Seven Corners, would end up in a new Ward 9 with pieces of Longfellow, Corcoran, Prospect Park and Downtown East.

It's important to note that while the West Bank Community Coalition and Cedar Riverside NRP are listed as "key supporters" of this plan, neither group has taken a formal position on this proposal. The "Citizens for Fair Redistricting Committee" has indicated that their inclusion on the list is an error.

If you have an opinion on either of these maps, there are a number of ways for you to make your voice heard. The Charter Commission's Redistricting Group has organized two public hearings:

February 29, from 5-7pm at the Webber Community Center, 4400 Dupont Ave N

and

March 1, from 5-7pm at Hosmer Library, 347 E 36th St.

You can also email comments to the Charter Commission's clerk, Peggy Menshek, here:
peggy.menshek@minneapolismn.gov.

Robin Garwood

Policy Aide to Council Member Cam Gordon Cooper resident Robin Garwood Cooper, Minneapolis About Robin Garwood: <http://forums.e-democracy.org/p/robingarwood>

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