



BRYN MAWR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
452 Newton Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55405
www.bmna.org

Redistricting Group
c/o City Clerk's Office; Attn: Peggy Menshek
Room 304, City Hall
350 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55415

February 10, 2012

Dear Members:

The Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association (BMNA) requests that the Minneapolis Charter Commission's Redistricting Group respect the boundaries of the Bryn Mawr neighborhood and re-affirm its inclusion in Ward 7. Keeping this long-established and successful neighborhood intact will help the Redistricting Group to fulfill local, state and federal redistricting requirements, including keeping established neighborhoods together and maintaining cohesiveness of communities of interest.

Bryn Mawr is located at the western edge of the City of Minneapolis and sits astride I-394. The neighborhood's boundaries are:

On the west	Minneapolis City limits
On the south	Cedar Shore Drive
On the east	Lyndale Avenue
On the north	East along Glenwood Avenue from the City of Golden Valley border to the Canadian Pacific Line. South along the Canadian Pacific line until the railroad intersects Bassett's Creek. East down the center of Bassett's Creek, until the creek enters the underground tunnel. Then on a straight line east to Lyndale Avenue

When Bryn Mawr was formed as a neighborhood at the turn of the last century, it was a unified neighborhood. Since then, the neighborhood has been divided by the building of Highway 12 and its upgrade to I-394. Many neighborhood homes and residents were lost to the expansion of the I-394 corridor. When Bryn Mawr Meadows was upgraded to a Regional Park, the neighborhood lost still more homes and residents. And lastly, when the neighborhood's northern boundary was realigned in 2000, the neighborhood lost a large section of land. These neighborhood sacrifices were made for the greater good – a more efficient highway into the City from the west; a large regional park in the middle of the City, one that has become the center of multi-cultural sports activities. Despite these changes and diverse housing and population, Bryn Mawr has remained a unified neighborhood.

Neighborhoods rely on consistency and stability to maintain their integrity. To date, Bryn Mawr has embodied these qualities.

Over the years and since the creation of the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association in 1976, the neighborhood has been vigilant in informing government entities that the neighborhood is a unified neighborhood and that the neighborhood has historically been oriented to and grouped with communities of interest to the south. Traditionally, government entities have honored this neighborhood identity, as well as the solidarity of Bryn Mawr's seven areas.

Bryn Mawr is part of a larger community of interest and has been within the following Minneapolis southern political districts for many years and through many cycles of redistricting:

- City of Minneapolis City Council Ward 7, ranging from Uptown to Downtown
- State House of Representatives District 60A, ranging from Uptown to Downtown
- State Senate District 60, ranging from Lake Harriet to the Downtown Area
- Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board District 4 which includes, among many more neighborhoods, Bryn Mawr, Kenwood, East Isles, East Calhoun and Cedar, Isles, Dean neighborhoods – all south neighborhoods, and neighborhoods which are tied together with a long-established system of parks and trails.
 - The Kenwood Recreational Center is Bryn Mawr's designated Park Board Center.
 - Bryn Mawr children participate on sports teams in south Minneapolis Parks and Rec teams

Bryn Mawr has insisted on its established boundaries and south orientation when addressing recent Minneapolis Public Schools Changing Schools Options. Over many, many decades, Bryn Mawr's children have excelled academically, musically and athletically in predominantly Zone 3 schools (south and southwest public schools). In the years since the last redistricting in 2000, the Bryn Mawr neighborhood has resisted efforts by the Minneapolis Public Schools to change the long-standing and successful attendance patterns.

We strongly urge the Redistricting Group to affirm Bryn Mawr's current neighborhood boundaries, its inclusion in Ward 7, and its orientation to similar communities of interest to its south. We hope the Redistricting Group will recognize the efforts made by the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association to keep the neighborhood united, stable and desirable.

Thank You,

Marlin Possehl

Marlin Possehl, President
Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association
president@bmna.org
612-377-5662

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Emilie Quast <e-quas@umn.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 11:39 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: downtown redistricting

Downtown is the heart of the city as it is home of city government, it is the financial heart of the city and, sited on the river, it is a primary focus of riverside redevelopment. For that reason, representation of downtown should be divided among as many wards as possible.

Every sector of the city has a stake in downtown. For that area to be represented by only one or two representatives slights the residents of every other ward.

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Emilie Quast
1819 Talmage Ave SE
Minneapolis MN 55414
e-quas@tc.umn.edu

February 14, 2012

TO: Minneapolis Redistricting Group
FROM: Vic Thorstenson
RE: Revisions to previously submitted ward map

Thank you again for the opportunity to participate in this process. Since the posting of the map I submitted to you on February 8, I have received a number of suggestions from individuals who have contacted me.

Their suggestions have helped me make revisions that substantially improve on the map I sent earlier. This new map is both more compact and creates an additional majority-minority district.

I also had the opportunity to review the February 15 draft map. While it is an improvement over the earlier draft, the table below shows that it creates fewer minority friendly districts, splits more neighborhoods, is less compact and has a higher population deviation than the map I am submitting today.

The most obvious shortcoming of the February 15 draft is its treatment of minority - particularly Somali - populations who reside in Elliot Park, Cedar Riverside and Phillips. The draft map splits them among three wards, (3rd, 2nd & 6th.) effectively crushing their voting strength. The map I'm submitting does a better job, (6th Ward.)

**Comparison of Thorstenson Plan 3
and the February 15 Draft Ward Map**

Criteria	February 15 Draft	Thorstenson Plan 3
Majority-Minority Wards (Total Population)	3	5
Majority-Minority Wards (18+ Population)	2	3
Compactness: Total border perimeter (lower is better)	138.2 miles	128.15 miles
Compactness: Roeck (mean score, higher is best)	0.46	0.53
Compactness: Schwartzberg (mean score, closest to "1" is better)	1.42	1.34
Compactness: Polsby-Popper (mean score, higher is better)	0.48	0.56
Length-to-width ratio (mean score, lower is better)	.67	.64
Population deviation, highest to lowest (lower is better)	8.12%	3.36%
Population deviation, mean	2.36%	.93%
Population deviation, max deviation from 0	-4.51%	1.71%
Split neighborhoods	19	14

VTPlan3

District	Population	Deviation	% Deviation	Hispanic C	% Hispanic	NH_Wht	% NH_Wht	NH_DOJ_I
01	29899	470	1.6%	3408	11.4%	20375	68.1%	3965
02	28943	-486	-1.7%	795	2.7%	21448	74.1%	2226
03	29932	503	1.7%	1825	6.1%	20666	69.0%	4097
04	29293	-136	-0.5%	2143	7.3%	12364	42.2%	10410
05	29248	-181	-0.6%	2496	8.5%	4739	16.2%	16274
06	29744	315	1.1%	5610	18.9%	8245	27.7%	12386
07	29177	-252	-0.9%	1016	3.5%	24745	84.8%	1454
08	29319	-110	-0.4%	5069	17.3%	14651	50.0%	7385
09	29688	259	0.9%	3689	12.4%	20736	69.8%	2977
10	29133	-296	-1.0%	1334	4.6%	24761	85.0%	1572
11	29654	225	0.8%	8905	30.0%	11918	40.2%	6540
12	29224	-205	-0.7%	1474	5.0%	23192	79.4%	3064
13	29324	-105	-0.4%	2309	7.9%	22810	77.8%	2500

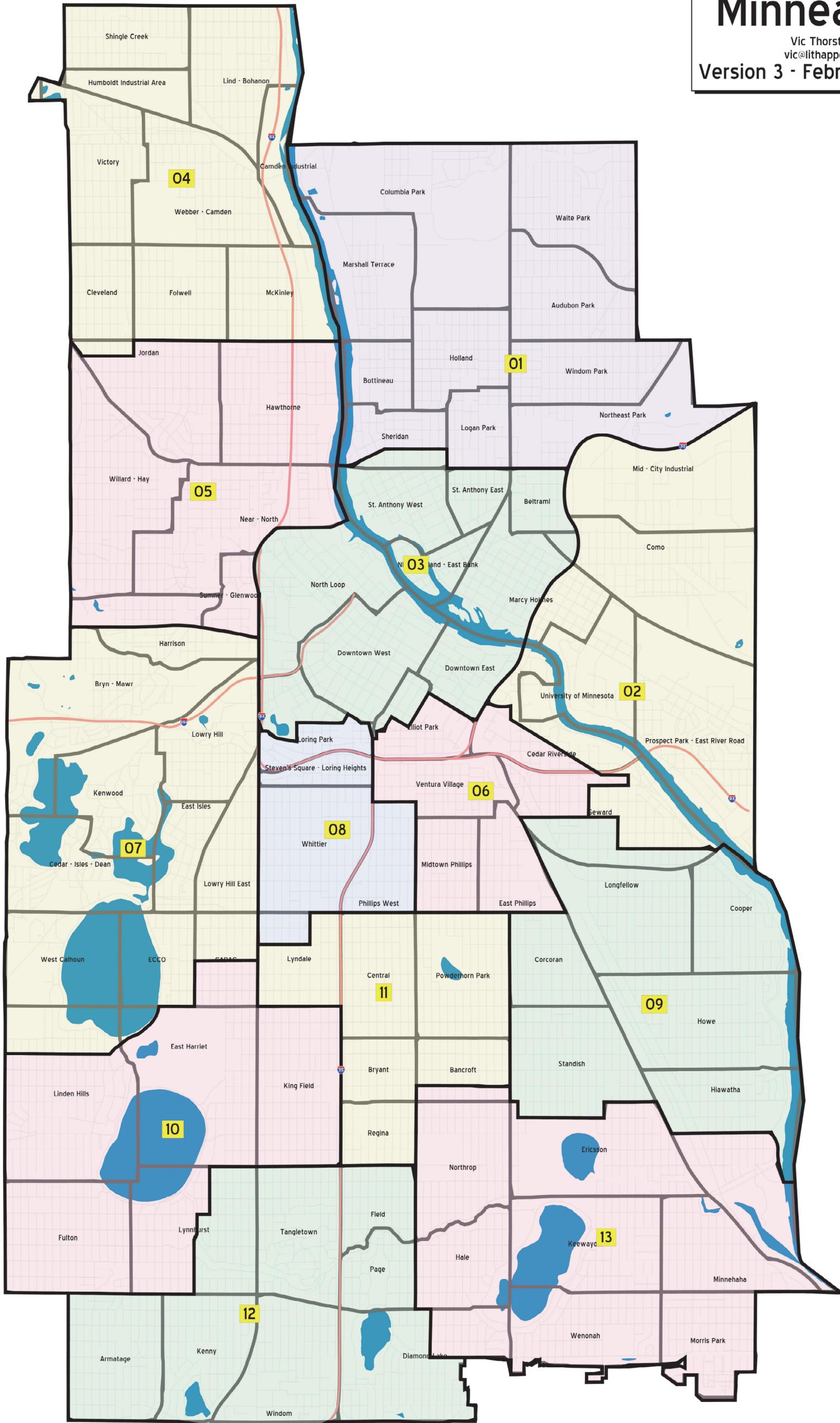
VTPlan3

% NH_DO	NH_DOJ_I	% NH_DO	NH_DOJ_I	% NH_DO	H18+_Pop	% H18+_P	NH18+_WI	% NH18+_
13.3%	728	2.4%	1082	3.6%	2260	9.5%	17681	74.4%
7.7%	312	1.1%	3904	13.5%	682	2.5%	20677	76.4%
13.7%	508	1.7%	2580	8.6%	1407	5.1%	19915	72.4%
35.5%	617	2.1%	3191	10.9%	1289	6.2%	10665	51.6%
55.6%	511	1.7%	4416	15.1%	1411	7.5%	4185	22.4%
41.6%	1795	6.0%	1184	4.0%	3609	15.9%	7841	34.6%
5.0%	252	0.9%	1487	5.1%	807	3.1%	22311	86.6%
25.2%	672	2.3%	1167	4.0%	3568	14.3%	14130	56.5%
10.0%	1027	3.5%	938	3.2%	2254	9.5%	17892	75.5%
5.4%	211	0.7%	1020	3.5%	876	3.8%	20271	87.7%
22.1%	769	2.6%	1044	3.5%	5613	25.7%	10456	48.0%
10.5%	274	0.9%	979	3.3%	852	3.8%	18583	83.1%
8.5%	581	2.0%	872	3.0%	1392	6.0%	19107	82.3%

VTPlan3

| NH18+_DC % |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2267 | 9.5% | 532 | 2.2% | 813 | 3.4% | 18 | 0.1% |
| 1561 | 5.8% | 243 | 0.9% | 3671 | 13.6% | 24 | 0.1% |
| 3242 | 11.8% | 406 | 1.5% | 2342 | 8.5% | 16 | 0.1% |
| 6211 | 30.0% | 420 | 2.0% | 1824 | 8.8% | 9 | 0.0% |
| 9939 | 53.2% | 367 | 2.0% | 2374 | 12.7% | 7 | 0.0% |
| 8666 | 38.2% | 1202 | 5.3% | 1037 | 4.6% | 27 | 0.1% |
| 1105 | 4.3% | 220 | 0.9% | 1171 | 4.5% | 24 | 0.1% |
| 5473 | 21.9% | 540 | 2.2% | 1036 | 4.1% | 12 | 0.0% |
| 1943 | 8.2% | 767 | 3.2% | 675 | 2.8% | 16 | 0.1% |
| 1037 | 4.5% | 169 | 0.7% | 629 | 2.7% | 17 | 0.1% |
| 4201 | 19.3% | 492 | 2.3% | 761 | 3.5% | 14 | 0.1% |
| 2000 | 8.9% | 186 | 0.8% | 623 | 2.8% | 21 | 0.1% |
| 1575 | 6.8% | 404 | 1.7% | 618 | 2.7% | 9 | 0.0% |

% NH18+_	NH18+_DC	% NH18+_DOJ_OthMR
0.2%	133	0.6%
0.4%	97	0.4%
0.2%	125	0.5%
0.3%	200	1.0%
0.2%	372	2.0%
0.2%	241	1.1%
0.1%	98	0.4%
0.3%	196	0.8%
0.2%	123	0.5%
0.2%	60	0.3%
0.2%	208	1.0%
0.1%	74	0.3%
0.2%	79	0.3%



Phyllis Kahn
State Representative

District 59B
Hennepin County



Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES: STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE - DFL LEAD
VETERANS SERVICES DIVISION
WAYS AND MEANS

February 13, 2012

Mr. Barry Clegg, Chair
Minneapolis Charter Commission
Via email

RE: Citizens for Fair Redistricting Committee

Dear Chair Clegg:

We received a copy of correspondence from the Committee for Fair Redistricting. As we understand it, the Committee for Fair Redistricting is proposing new ward boundaries that would more accurately reflect the changing demographics of the City of Minneapolis. Specifically, the Committee proposes to create a ward in the Cedar/Riverside, Phillips, Elliot Park and West Seward neighborhood that would have a ward with a plurality of African American citizens.

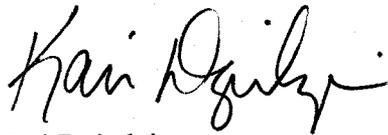
This new proposed ward is compact, contiguous, and contains a strong community of interest that would create a minority opportunity ward in the heart of the City. We share these goals. The Somali and East African Community have demonstrated significant and impressive political strength in the last several years. Their citizenship is becoming fully actively engaged in political election cycles. We believe now is the time that this community have an opportunity to have a seat at the elected officials table in our community.

Using Interstate Freeways which destroyed communities in our City decades ago as a reason to keep the Somali and East African community and other minority communities divided is the height of irony. We believe the Charter Commission needs to look closely at current city demographics and not be bound by disastrous urban planning decisions of the 1950's. Current ward lines which now clearly disperse minority groups to the advantage of other parts of the city should be discarded.

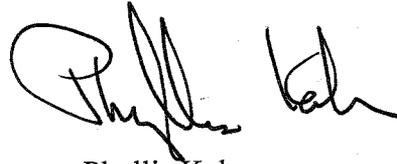


For many, it is the American dream. Part of the American dream is full inclusion in the political process of our democracy. We urge you and your fellow members of the Charter and Redistricting Committees to all do that is in your power to grant the request they have made.

Very truly yours,



Kari Dziedzic
State Senator



Phyllis Kahn
State Representative

cc: Charter Commission Members
Redistricting Committee Members
Committee for Fair Redistricting

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Menshek, Peggy Y

From: nathanlind@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 10:03 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: don't divide neighborhoods

Please do not divide neighborhoods such as Standish-Ericsson into multiple legislative wards. Splitting neighborhoods creates inefficiencies and makes bringing about positive change more difficult.

Nathan Lind
3939 Standish Ave
Minneapolis, MN
55407

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: KTIG <ktig@adpc.us>
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 10:25 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Please do not split Standish-Ericsson neighborhood into 3 wards

The proposed Feb 15th redistricting map concerns me and I do not understand the justification for splitting the Standish and Ericsson neighborhood among three separate wards (9, 11, and 12). Please provide your rationale for this change!

Standish-Ericsson is a cohesive, tight-knit community and we are very well served by our current council members Schiff and Colvin Roy. The proposed change will make it more difficult to remain connected and I question if we will get the appropriate amount of representation from city council with this change. Some might say this gives us more representation and how could that be a bad thing? I question however: Are the needs and concerns of those in the proposed Ward 11 the same amongst the residents in current wards 9 and 12? Will our ability to connect with our city council and have our voices adequately heard be diluted if our neighborhoods are further separated? As it stands today, Standish-Ericsson is already split into two wards.

Please accept this as my opposition to the Feb 15th proposal of moving the southern portion of Standish and western portions of Ericsson into Ward 11. Please keep Standish-Ericsson together!

Thank you,
Kelly K Neisen
Standish-Ericsson Resident

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Steve Basile <steve@xebrawerx.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 10:58 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Minneapolis redistricting

I live in the Standish Ericsson neighborhood (commonly called SENA). Specifically my home is in Standish.

I got a look at the redistricting maps last night and am really troubled by these new boundaries. We are possibly the most active neighborhood group in the entire city. No exaggeration. Yet the new maps slice and dice us into multiple wards.

I look at other neighborhoods and see that boundaries are generally respected. SENA, on the other hand, is carved up willy nilly.

If it's your intent to anger or disenfranchise one of the city's most important neighborhood groups then you're on the right track. On the other hand, if you want to keep us together, same as we live, support and advocate, then please unify SENA in a ward boundary.

We are engaged in both airport noise and issues with excessive traffic on Cedar Ave. That should give you a strong hint which other neighborhoods we should be grouped with.

Steve Basile
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4140 22nd Ave South