

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: D. Carleton <daphnecarleton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 8:27 PM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Redistricting in this manner is Racial Steering in order to influence voting patterns - this should be illegal

<http://www.minnpost.com/two-cities/2012/02/minneapolis-redistricting-group-working-create-minority-ward>

I find the entire premise of redrawing the neighborhood lines in order to influence voting patterns completely offensive and truly it should be illegal. To imply that for minorities to have a fair shake in the city the current ward I am in will have to be re-drawn. It paints the white people in this community as racists. If white voters do not vote for minorities than why do we have a black president who was heavily supported by white women? I think this entire idea should be put away and an apology issued to the neighborhoods that would have been effected by this. Racial steering is illegal in real estate why is it legal for the city to redraw lines in order to racially steer voting patterns. Seriously think about what you are saying & doing.

You are practicing a form of racial steering.

I hope that you reconsider.

Daphne Carleton

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Dave Hawley <davehawley64@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 9:45 PM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Racial Gerrymandering

Dear Members of the Redistricting Commission,

I have recently done quite a bit of reading on the racial gerrymandering that the members of your commission are taking part in. Here's a lovely quote from some local press; "Citizens charged with re-drawing Minneapolis ward and park district boundaries seemed to agree Wednesday that they want to create a ward on the near south side that would have a coalition of racial minorities that could elect one of its own to the City Council."

How do you all respond to this? You do understand that this is racial gerrymandering right?! Do you all understand that doing this in the real estate business would get you thrown in jail?

Here's a lovely quote from Miss Rubenstein: " We want to create an opportunity for minority voters," said commission member Andrea Rubenstein. "There have been enormous demographic changes in Minneapolis in the last 10 years." Miss Rubenstein, minority voters have the same opportunity that everyone else has.....It's called election day. Your job is not to create opportunities for anyone, the opportunities already exist, it is up to the individuals or groups to take hold of those opportunities.

I want all of you to know that many, many citizens in my ward have expressed grave concern over the direction you are heading with this.

I would like a response, an explanation and what you all plan on doing to rectify the flagrant racial gerrymandering that you are all taking part in.

Sincerely,
A Disgusted Minneapolis Citizen
Dave Hawley

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Jon Marquet <jonmarquet@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 10:02 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Comments on Ward Redistricting

Hello,

I likely will not be able to attend the public meetings and, as a resident of the East Harriet neighborhood, I wanted to give you my comments on the proposed Ward redistricting. As I understand it, the most recent proposal will split East Harriet between Ward 8 (36th St to the north; 46th St to the South; Lyndale Ave S to the east and Dupont/Kings Hwy to the west) and Ward 13 (42nd St to the north; 46th St to the south; Dupont/Kings Hwy to the east and Lake Harriet Pkwy to the west).

I am wholly against this proposal. It essentially selects the most affluent portion of our neighborhood and puts it in a different Ward from the rest of East Harriet. Further, Dupont and Lake Harriet Parkway, and the small, affluent streets in between, would join Linden Hills and Lynnhurst, *i.e.*, other, very affluent neighborhoods. The rest of East Harriet would be combined with far less advantaged neighborhoods to the north and east. (Indeed, even the ECCO neighborhood, another affluent neighborhood, has been carved out of Ward 8.)

I think socioeconomic diversity in the Wards is a real positive. This proposal undercuts the socioeconomic diversity in East Harriet's representation and carves up East Harriet based solely on socioeconomic grounds. It's a bad plan and it should not be implemented.

I consider this to be a very important issue and am truly disturbed by this proposal. Combined with the recent "community school" reconfiguring I think this spells near term disaster for East Harriet. I also can't help but wonder if by being put into a different Ward the affluent portions of East Harriet that this proposal excises will somehow receive a different "community school" designation than the rest of us.

Best,
Jonathan Marquet
4109 Bryant Avenue South
MPLS, MN 55409

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Clegg, Barry F. <Barry.Clegg@gpmlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2012 11:48 AM
To: 'bridgetmmurphy@yahoo.com'
Cc: Redistricting2012
Subject: Redistricting Question

Your redistricting question was forwarded to me, as Chair of the Charter Commission.

First, please understand that this map is just a draft and is subject to change after we conduct public hearings (dates, times and locations on our website).

That being said, the proposed line runs up the middle of Chicago, so if you are on the west side of the street, you would be in the 8th ward. If you live on the east side of the street you would be in ward 11.

Barry Clegg
Chair, Minneapolis Charter Commission

Barry Clegg
Attorney



Gray Plant Mooty
500 IDS Center
80 South Eighth Street
Minneapolis, MN USA 55402

Phone: 612.632.3220
Fax: 612.632.4220

Barry.Clegg@gpmlaw.com

[Click Here For My Bio](#)

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From: Bridget Murphy [<mailto:bridgetmmurphy@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2012 10:48 AM
To: Schwartz, Judy A.
Subject: Redistricting question

I live in ward 8; however, based on the draft maps, I will be on the ward boundary. I am not sure if that means I have shifted to ward 11. Can you please confirm which ward I will be in based on the proposed redistricting map?

Thank you,

Bridget Murphy
4241 Chicago Avenue



ELLIOT PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD

February 16, 2012

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

Dear Members:

Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. (EPNI) requests that Elliot Park Neighborhood remain fully within the boundaries of Ward 7 as a final result of the current Minneapolis Ward Redistricting process. Dividing the neighborhood into more than one ward would compromise Elliot Park neighborhood's long-standing identification with communities of shared interest among the central communities in the Minneapolis downtown urban core.

Elliot Park Neighborhood boundaries are defined by:

The I-35W/I-94 Freeway on the South

The I-35 Freeway on the East

Sixth Street South, westerly to Chicago Avenue; and Fifth Street South, westerly to Fifth Avenue South on the North

Fifth Avenue South, southerly to the I-35W/I-94 Freeway on the West

The freeway boundaries to the south and east especially demarcate Elliot Park's downtown core affiliation, as does the western boundary at Fifth Avenue, which delineates the border between Elliot Park and the central business district. This historic geographic definition of the neighborhood has resulted in Elliot Park developing common agendas with other downtown core neighborhoods (DowntownWest, Downtown East, North Loop, Loring Park) since at least the formation of the Central Communities alliance nearly two decades ago. These common agendas and shared interests have only increased



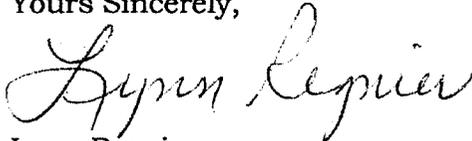
719 10th Street South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-335-5846
www.elliottpark.org

with the sizable growth of residential population among all of these central community neighborhoods during the last decade.

The latest draft of ward boundaries proposes shifting several Elliot Park Neighborhood blocks north of Seventh Street South into Ward 3. EPNI believes this would be an unproductive and rather arbitrary adjustment. It would in fact divide the prominent and monolithic Hennepin County Medical Center campus into two different ward jurisdictions. We would recommend that the border between Ward 3 and Ward 7 be drawn along Fifth and Sixth Streets South, the existing northern boundaries of Elliot Park Neighborhood.

Elliot Park Neighborhood is one of the most demographically diverse in the city. Its mix of incomes and of housing opportunities, as well as its future economic development is closely tied to the fortunes of the downtown core. EPNI asks that the Redistricting Group respect the geographic, historic and demographic integrity of the neighborhood and allow Elliot Park to remain wholly within the boundaries of Ward 7.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn Regnier".

Lynn Regnier

Executive Director

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Barry Clegg <barry@bfclegg.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:27 PM
To: John Ferman
Cc: Redistricting2012
Subject: Re: [Mpls] Update on Redistricting in Minneapolis

Jack - The Wards are required to be contiguous. We could not create a non-contiguous Ward. We are supposed to make them compact as well, but obviously compactness is on a scale (the only truly perfectly compact ward would be a circle) and is also balanced against other Charter requirements. The only Charter requirement that touches on what is compact is the requirement that no ward may be more than twice as long as it is wide. A Court interpreted this in the 2002 litigation to mean that you measure from the farthest west to farthest east point in a ward and compare to the north south distance determined in the same way.

Barry

From: John Ferman <johnferman@iphouse.com>
To: Barry Clegg <barry@bfclegg.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:17 PM
Subject: Re: [Mpls] Update on Redistricting in Minneapolis

To what extent does compactness and contiguousness play in the drawing of ward boundaries? I note that some wards have re-entrant angles, not demanded by topography.

Sent from my iPad
John Ferman
Email in header

On Feb 21, 2012, at 9:12 AM, "Barry Clegg" <barry@bfclegg.com> wrote:

- > The draft maps for Ward and Park District lines for consideration at the public hearings on February 29 and March 1(locations and times on the Redistricting web page) have been posted at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/redistricting2012/WCMS1Q-068980> .
- >
- > They include citywide maps (including a citywide map that compares existing wards to proposed new wards), ward maps and a statistical summary of demographic information. There is also an interactive citywide map that you can zoom in and out to see street level detail.
- >
- > You can submit your comments and suggestions at the public hearings or by email to Redistricting2012 at minneapolismn dot gov .
- >
- > I also wanted to make a clarification. The map that several posters have commented on that puts Council Members Gordon and Schiff in the same ward is one map submitted by one citizen group. It is not the draft map proposed for comment by the Redistricting Group. We have received quite a few maps submitted by citizen groups, professional and amateur demographers and citizens. We encourage you to submit your own proposals and suggestions. I haven't done the analysis with respect to Council Member residences, but I'm sure some of the proposed maps we have received DO move lots of Council Members out of their existing Wards and some probably DON'T.
- >
- > I don't believe the draft map of the Redistricting Group moves any Council Members outside of their

wards. Our goal is not to protect incumbents. We will move lines as necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Charter, other applicable law and the principles adopted by the Charter Commission, and ultimately that might mean we have two Council Members residing in the same ward. But if we are to move elected officials into different Wards or Districts, we want to be thoughtful about it and insure we are following the law and our own principles. We don't want to do so accidentally and certainly not for political reasons.

- >
- > Barry Clegg
- > Nicollet Island
- > Chair, Minneapolis Charter Commission
- > Barry Clegg
- > Nicollet Island, Minneapolis
- > About Barry Clegg: <http://forums.e-democracy.org/p/barryclegg>
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- >
- > BIG NEWS: New \$625,000 grant supports inclusive online outreach: <http://e-democracy.org/inclusion>
- > Tell your St. Paul and Minneapolis friends to visit: <http://beneighbors.org>
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- > If you think a member is in violation, contact the forum manager at
- > mpls-fm@e-democracy.org before continuing it on the list.
- >
- > 2. Don't feed the troll! Ignore obvious flame-bait.

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Barry <barry@bfclegg.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:14 PM
To: 'Jay Clark'
Cc: Redistricting2012
Subject: RE: [Mpls] Update on Redistricting in Minneapolis

Thanks Jay. On the North Loop issue, our first working draft was as you suggest. But the input we got from the 5th Ward folks was that they didn't want to be a "Poverty Ward" and wanted some of the business and relative wealth in the North Loop. I expect we'll hear to the contrary from the North Loop folks, so we'll see how it turns out.

Barry

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

From: Jay Clark [<mailto:clark037@umn.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 10:38 AM
To: Barry Clegg
Cc: mpls@forums.e-democracy.org
Subject: Re: [Mpls] Update on Redistricting in Minneapolis

This looks like a remarkably fair and well-thought out map, although it is hard to grasp every twist and turn with one glance.

One suggestion: have ward five give up the western part of North Loop, and take in as much of the southern part of Harrison as possible.

Southern Harrison has a lot more in common with the rest of the north side than it does with Tony Bryn Mawr and Kenwood.

Just in case this change cannot be made, I have arranged that on the day these maps go into effect, every family in southern Harrison will be given a Volvo, Audi, or Toyota Prius, so they can go in traditional style to their ward caucus night.

And Sandra Hilary must be turning in her grave. The greasy spoon waitress turned mother superior of the 3rd ward is watching her former realm recede completely across the river.

Jay Clark

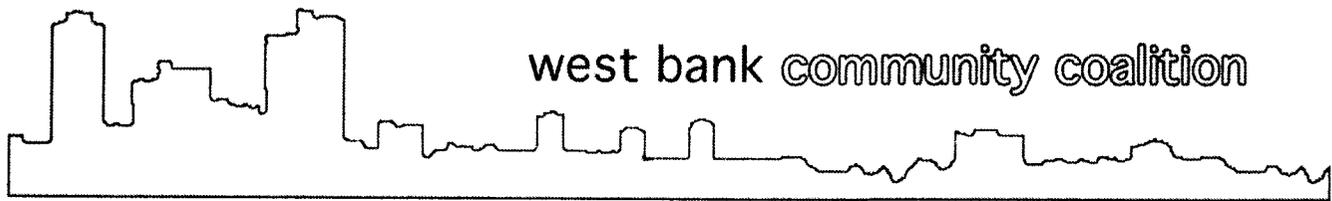
Barry Clegg wrote:

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February 16, 2012

Mr. Barry Clegg, Chair
Minneapolis Charter Commission
350 South 5th Street, Room 317
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Re: Redistricting

Dear Mr. Clegg:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the West Bank Community Coalition (WBCC) Board of Directors. The WBCC is the City of Minneapolis recognized citizen participation organization for the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood.

The WBCC Board is aware of the ongoing redistricting process, and as a community rich with diversity we are particularly aware of the debate surrounding minority representation on the Minneapolis City Council. As such, at our February 15, 2012, monthly meeting the board voted unanimously in support of the following resolution:

Resolved, the WBCC supports the objective of creating ward boundaries that reflect the results of the 2010 census, and which create adequate opportunities for minority representation.

We appreciate the work of the Charter Commission and Redistricting Committee and wish you well as you continue this important work.

Sincerely,

Osman Ahmed
President, West Bank Community Coalition



Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Emcdo81617 <emcdo81617@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 9:59 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Changing the Lines

Hello,

My name is Evette McCarthy and I am a business owner in Bryant Neighborhood & Powderhorn Neighborhood. I also live in the Bancroft Neighborhood. I have worked in these three neighborhoods for over 10 years making strides and causing positive change to come to our communities including the establishment of new businesses.

I am the current chair of the 38th & Chicago Business association which has been instrumental in revitalizing the four nodes with new commercial businesses and we have made great strides in connecting to promote positive changes and move forward with growth in each node. This is a curtail time for us and moving the lines at this time would disrupt the progress that has taken place. We want the opportunity to continue with the plans we have set in place for growth and development. If the players change at this juncture it will disturb the moment and slow the progress.

I am asking as a business owner and an active member in all these communities to reconsider the changing of the district lines. We need to be more responsible to the individuals that have lived here for years instead of making drastic changes for those individuals that just came to the areas in the past two years especially since they have been localized to one specific area. The other neighborhoods should not be overlooked because they have remained constant.

Thank you for you time, there will be more to come and the process continues.

Sincerely,

Evette L. McCarthy
38th Chicago Business Association
Bancroft Neighborhood Association
Bryant Neighborhood Organization
McDonald Sunshine Place Child Care Center
Sunshine Tree Child Development Center
(612) 822-7801
e-mail: emcdo81617@aol.com

Evette McCarthy
emcdo81617@aol.com

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Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Steven Gallagher <steven.gallagher3@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 1:25 PM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Stevens Square Community Organization

Importance: High

To Whom it May Concern:

The Stevens Square Loring Heights Community Organization's board of directors have reviewed the proposed changes to the City of Minneapolis' City Council Wards. The recommendation of SSCO is to not split our neighborhood along First avenue, but rather extend the boundary to enclose our neighborhood into one City Council Ward.

Stevens Square-Loring Heights is one of the most densely populated neighborhood in the City, yet we are also one of the smallest. With this being said we propose that the boundary along First Avenue cease at West Franklin. Then make the boundary along Franklin Avenue to Lyndale Avenue.

This would in essence carve out the Stevens Square – Loring Heights neighborhood keeping it “whole” and consistently represented. This action would also keep Stevens Square – Loring Heights in the Ward in which we have the most in common (median age, housing stock, median income and dynamics) with neighborhoods surrounding our area.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Steven Gallagher
Executive Director
Stevens Square Community Organization

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Michele M <michele123m@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 2:57 PM
To: Redistricting2012
Cc: Lilligren, Robert W.
Subject: I oppose redistricting the Mpls. City Council wards.

I strongly oppose redistricting the City Council wards. It would split my neighborhood (Stevens Square Community Organization) in half & we would no longer have 1 city council who would represent our entire neighborhood.

We have a strong neighborhood, with many homeowners, renters & business people committed to keeping the neighborhood safe. The SSCO Safety Committee works monthly with law enforcement, probation officers, city prosecuting team etc to deal with crime related issues in the neighborhood. Our city Councilperson, Robert Lillegren, has been a very active member of the Safety Committee. Robert attends monthly and fills us in with City Council issues/decisions that may impact our neighborhood. He listens to neighborhood concerns, and brings those issues back to his office to work on, and represents us at the City Council meetings. We would loose a valuable part of our neighborhood connection with city hall if our area was split in 1/2 & we lost having a city council member who actively represented our neighborhood & connected the neighborhood with city hall.

Michele McGaughey

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Menshek, Peggy Y

From: MBMWatson@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 10:39 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Ward 6 - Cedar Riverside

I have studied the proposed Ward 6 map and am confused. I live in the northeast corner of Ventura Village, where Hwy 55 leaves I94 to head south. The Cedar-Riverside area you are proposing to add to Ward 6, even though it looks close on the map, is not what I would consider contiguous with my area. In order for me to reach that area I have to either take Franklin east to Cedar, then north on Cedar under the freeway; or I have to go north on 11th past the Metrodome to Washington, then east on Washington, then south on Cedar. I can actually walk to Macy's downtown faster than to the Cedar-Riverside area. Please reconsider adding that section of Cedar-Riverside to Ward 2 or Ward 3.

Thank you,

Mary Watson
18xx 13th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55404

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Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Nancy Powell <npowell@paramountre.com>
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 10:27 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Redistricting

I have lived on 43rd and Colfax for 40 of my 51 years. My home and my community are all within a few blocks of Lake Harriet, I rarely travel east of Lyndale and I object very strongly to the new boundaries. Why would you exclude these 24 blocks from the community it belongs and attach it to a ward where we have no roots. It makes absolutely no sense. My children have participated in all of their rec sports as well as attended child care at the Lynnhurst Community Center and these new boundaries serve no purpose but to isolate us from the community where we engage our daily lives.

A simply glance at the boundaries and it is obvious that the main artery Lyndale Avenue is a natural divider, to connect us to the neighborhoods across makes no sense and it results in an unnecessary hardship for voters which I believe will result in less community involvement. Why is the East Harriet community dissected into three wards anyway, neighborhoods should be kept together. I find the new boundaries confusing, I pay higher property taxes because my street is adjacent to Kings Highway and I did not qualify for MAC noise reduction awards because I am on the west side of Lyndale. These are just two examples of how my location does not fit in with the proposed ward 8 boundaries.

Our issues west of Lyndale are very different and I strongly oppose the proposed boundaries.

Nancy Powell
4313 Colfax Ave South
Minneapolis, MN 55409

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Menshek, Peggy Y

From: fhill510@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 11:28 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Cc: becky@ppna.org; doughilltech@comcast.net; maryjo.leier@gmail.com
Subject: redistricting and Ward 8/9

As a member of the PPNA Housing and Land Use/Economic Development Committee, I believe that it would be beneficial to put the eastern 8th Ward boundary along Elliot rather than Chicago Avenue. This would leave both sides of Chicago Avenue in CM Glidden's Ward.

Through her leadership and hard work on our behalf, CM Glidden has given us valuable support on revitalizing the Chicago Avenue Corridor and the intersection at 38th St. She knows the issues well, and understands our concerns about preserving the health of this main, city artery. Her advocacy is critical to efforts as we move forward with this plan and we do not want to lose our momentum.

Thank you. Florence Hill

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Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Jan Sandberg <jfsandberg@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 11:51 AM
To: 'Anita Tabb'
Cc: Redistricting2012
Subject: RE: Verifying the Proposed Park District Lines

I was told that the best way to view the boundaries is from the interactive map at <http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=482bc38c75a24427ad081d7a4d87f89e&extent=-93.4319,44.9322,-93.091,45.0534>

then click on the icon for "Contents of This Map" -- you may have to cursor over the second rectangle from the left, just below the icon for details.

Deselect the option for "Draft February 15" -- this selects the proposed wards. Then select "Draft Park Lines." Select "Current Park" to see the contrast. You probably want to keep "Neighborhoods" selected.

I will forward the comment to Peggy to be included as a public comment.

Jan Sandberg
1201 Yale Place #1805
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612-339-2273

From: Anita Tabb [mailto:Anita@Robtabb.com]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 10:56 AM
To: 'Jan Sandberg'
Cc: 'Marlin Possehl'; 'Anita Tabb'
Subject: Verifying the Proposed Park District Lines

Jan,

There seems to be some question in Bryn Mawr about the where the park district line is being drawn on the western side of the district along Bassett Creek. I received the following from the neighborhood:

"We noted a minor change in our Park District boundary where the separation on the north end was changed from a line following Bassett Creek to one which (we think) follows a rail line. The creek line is what divides Bryn Mawr and Harrison neighborhoods. And it's the basis for longstanding joint work in planning for the Bassett Creek Valley development. We are hopeful you would support a restoration of the boundary to its original position at the creek. It is a small sliver of property but one which Bryn Mawr residents use regularly. We would greatly appreciate retention of this small area in District 4 so that the MPRB district border coincides with the neighborhood boundary."

In my reading of what I think is the correct map, the border does follow the creek and Park District IV would include the entirety of Bryn Mawr. However, I know that some of the maps are difficult to decipher. Is there a way that the neighborhood could view a larger map and verify the exact boundaries? I would also like to verify the information

because I have learned in my short time in office that it is much more effective to represent an entire neighborhood rather than certain areas within a neighborhood. So my very strong preference would be to include the whole neighborhood!

and if I should be speaking to someone else, please let me know. But you've been wonderful at reaching out to keep me in the loop on this!

.....
nita

nita Tabb

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

District IV Commissioner

12-230-6443 (Park Board) extension 4

12-377-6926 (home)

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Menshek, Peggy Y

From: betsy reller <betsyreller@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 1:29 PM
To: Redistricting2012

Dear Redistricting Committee:

I live in the Bottineau neighborhood. The proposed City-Wide Ward Map puts the Bottineau neighborhood in a different ward the majority of the NE neighborhoods. Bottineau is shown in a ward that is predominately Downtown and University. I understand one principal of the Redistricting Committee is to keep communities of interest together. Bottineau is part of the NE community. I do not identify with the Downtown or University communities. I believe I would be better served if I was in the same Ward as all the other NE neighborhoods.

Thank you
Betsy Johnson