**From:** jahp2691@yahoo.com
**To:** Redistricting2012
**Subject:** Cmsr Peltola remarks on Mon Mar 5 discussion
**Date:** Tuesday, March 06, 2012 12:06:47 AM
**Attachments:** peltola_me2-share_map&stats.pdf

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For the information of all my fellow Redistricting Group members, and for the record:

At the Monday Mar 5 Operations Committee meeting, I made the case for what I called the "Maximize Gains and Share Diversity Map" ("me2-share" on drawminneapolis.org), attached as a pdf.

Of the maps presented by members of our group, I believe it did the best overall job of maximizing wards with approx >50% voting age minorities – including one with >30% Hispanic, minimizing the reconfiguration of the existing ward layout, while also addressing the range of public comment we've heard. Enabling this was the idea of dividing the official Whittier neighborhood into 4 quadrants (NW--7th ward, SW--10th, NE--6th, SE--8th). This was the most controversial part. I think it'd be a tradeoff worth making, though, and actually advantageous for the neighborhood.

I also advocated for us to ensure that the Royalston SW-LRT station area remains in the SE corner of the 5th ward (in addition to the official Harrison neighborhood being entirely in the 5th). The 5$^{th}$ ward council member sits on the corridor management committee, and the neighboring communities have made a huge investment in the station area planning to date.

I joined in the group consensus to proceed to tomorrow's Ops Cmte meeting using Chair Clegg's latest revised map as the template on which to make further adjustments. I'm concerned about the shape of the 10$^{th}$ ward in that plan, as it is quite long with a narrow "throat" in the middle. The 8$^{th}$ ward is also problematic since it extends so far east from Lake Harriet. We've received testimony and emails that the East Harriet neighborhood is opposed to such a dramatic switch from being associated with the southwest corner of the city. I also have concerns about the 2$^{nd}$ ward extending so far from north to south on both sides of the river.

Regards to everyone involved in this process,

Jeff

Jeffrey Peltola, Charter Commissioner