From:	Yahoo
To:	Redistricting2012
Cc:	Matt Perry and Karen Heintz
Subject:	The March 6th proposed redistricting maps.
Date:	Wednesday, March 07, 2012 3:03:04 PM

Redistricting Group,

As a resident of East Harriet / Farmstead- currently ward 10 & 13 I have been following the process. I have contributed via e-mail, personal appearance at the listening session at Webber & via frequent phone calls with commission members neighbors and our neighborhood association. We strongly believe that East Harriet be included in a single ward. Also, that we be included with our natural interest groups and with our existing indentified communal groups and organizations- as is essentially stipulated in the guidelines used to govern the process. While the map from March 6th does include East Harriet in a single ward, (8), it removes us from our existing neighborhood groups and associations. The newly drawn ward being significantly wider than it is tall in contravention of guideline 2 also significantly ignores the last two guidelines:

In addition, the Charter Commission has established the following principles to guide redistricting:

(1) Keep communities of interest (a group that shares common interests such as ethnic heritage or specific economic concerns) in one Minneapolis City ward or Park and Recreation district where possible.

(2) Change current boundaries as little as possible

East Harriet has FAR more in common with CARAG, ECCO, West Calhoun, Linden Hills, Fulton, Armatage, Kenny, but mostly Lynhurst. In fact, many of our neighbors don't even realize Lynnhurst and East Harriet are two different neighborhoods- the bonds are so close. Ward 13 is the natural fit for East Harriet.

In addition, there was a significant presence at the Webber meeting from residents and organizations based in East Phillips, Elliott Park, Seward and the Riverside areas where there is a significant East African population. They all urged those neighborhoods to be included in a single ward so as to not 'crack' their political influence. The March 6th proposal seemingly ignores their concerns as well. I have seen several solutions, including one presented at the Webber meeting that accomplished all this and met all the other guidelines as stipulated. The March 6th proposal is a step in A direction, unfortunately it is the wrong direction.

Please reconsider the current draft plan and put East Harriet, all of it, back where it belongs- in Ward 13.

Thank you very much,

Jeremy Fink

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