

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Becky Timm <becky@ppna.org>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 10:38 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Cc: Glidden, Elizabeth A.; Schiff, Gary
Subject: Comments from the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association
Attachments: PPNA Redistricting Response - 3-19-2012.pdf; 3-15 Redistricting Map.pdf; We All Win Map.pdf

2012 Redistricting Group -

Please find attached the comments from the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association.

Thank you for your consideration,

Becky Timm
Executive Director
Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association
821 E 35th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55407
(612) 722-4817
www.ppna.org

PPNA's Community Event Calendar - <http://ppna.org/upcoming-events>



March 19, 2012

Minneapolis Charter Commission - Redistricting Group
c/o City Clerk's Office
City of Minneapolis
350 South 5th Street, Room 304
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Chair Barry Clegg and Redistricting Group Members:

On March 10, 2012, the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA) convened a meeting of its Governance Committee to discuss the proposed redistricting changes and the effect on Powderhorn Park neighborhood's Communities of Interest. On behalf of the PPNA Board of Directors and its Governance Committee, I am submitting the organization's formal comments on the redistricting process:

1. PPNA endorses the Ward 9 boundary lines as reflected in the "We All Win" map (dated March 2012 – submitted by Mariano Espinoza). A copy of this map may be found at: <http://localdistrictbuilder.drawminnesota.org/districtmapping/plan/567/view/>

PPNA believes the "We All Win" map is consistent with the Minnesota State Legislature's self-imposed Redistricting Guidelines as governed by Article IV of the Minnesota Constitution.¹ We also believe it expresses the redistricting priorities established by the legislature.

The Midtown and East Phillips neighborhoods, which are vital to the economic and social cohesion of Ward 9, create a Community of Interest, which is federally recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) as the *Minneapolis Empowerment Zone*.² As a result, the PPNA wants to maintain these two neighborhoods as part of Ward 9.

PPNA proposes amending the map approved by the Redistricting Group on March 15, 2012, to include the Midtown Phillips neighborhood in its entirety.

¹http://drawthelinemidwest.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/04/07_MNHowLinesDrawn.pdf

²http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/planning/plans/ez_index



2. PPNA is concerned about a proposed change to the size and location of precincts. The Governance Committee heard testimony from community members who help with Get Out the Vote efforts and provide transportation on election days. By enlarging the size of precincts, some voters who do not have access to personal transportation will be unfairly affected. This change will negatively impact some residents who may be low-income, disabled or senior citizens. Therefore, PPNA believes that precincts should remain the same size to ensure voters, regardless of transportation availability, can easily access their polling places.

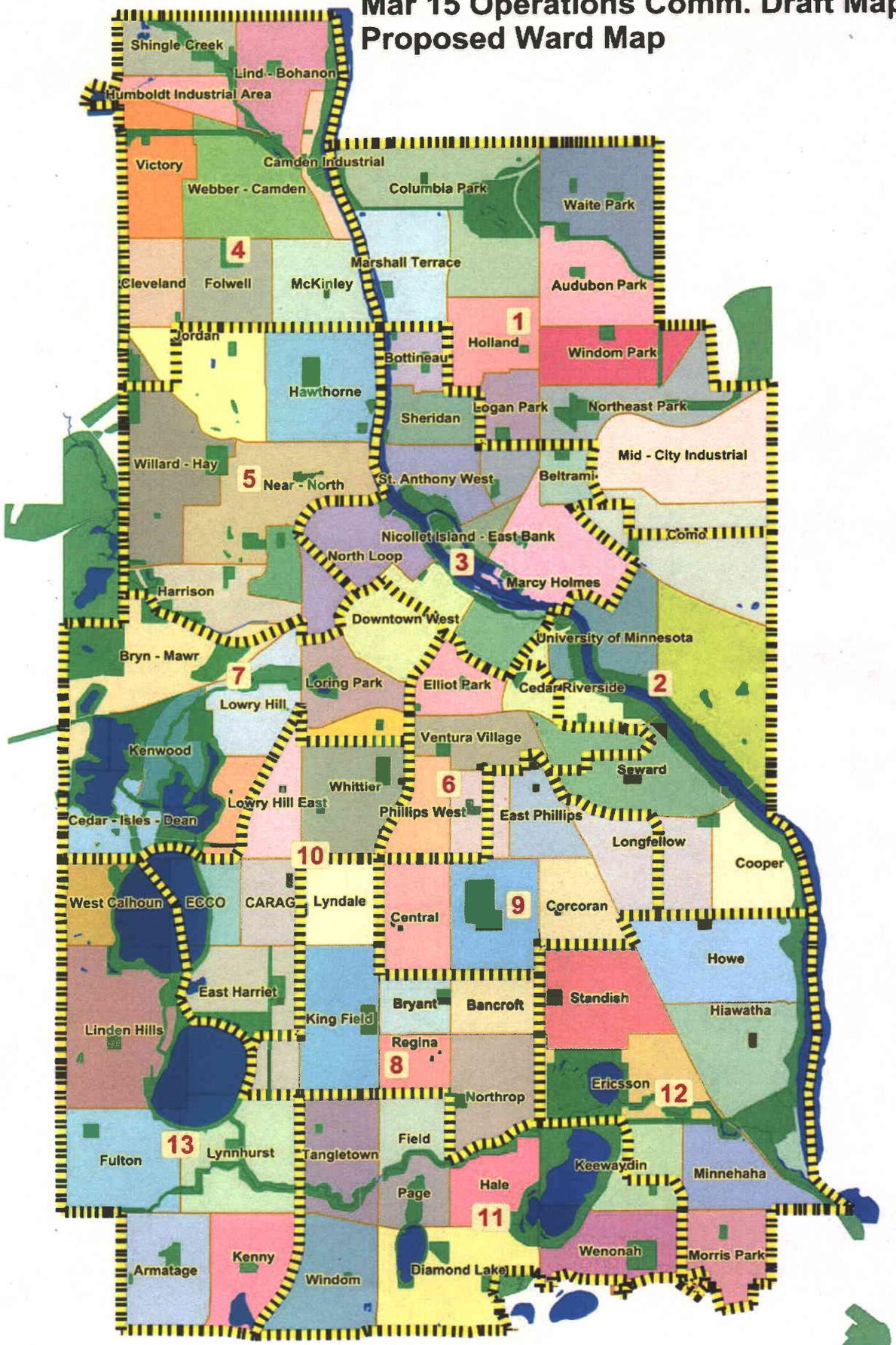
Thank you for your consideration.

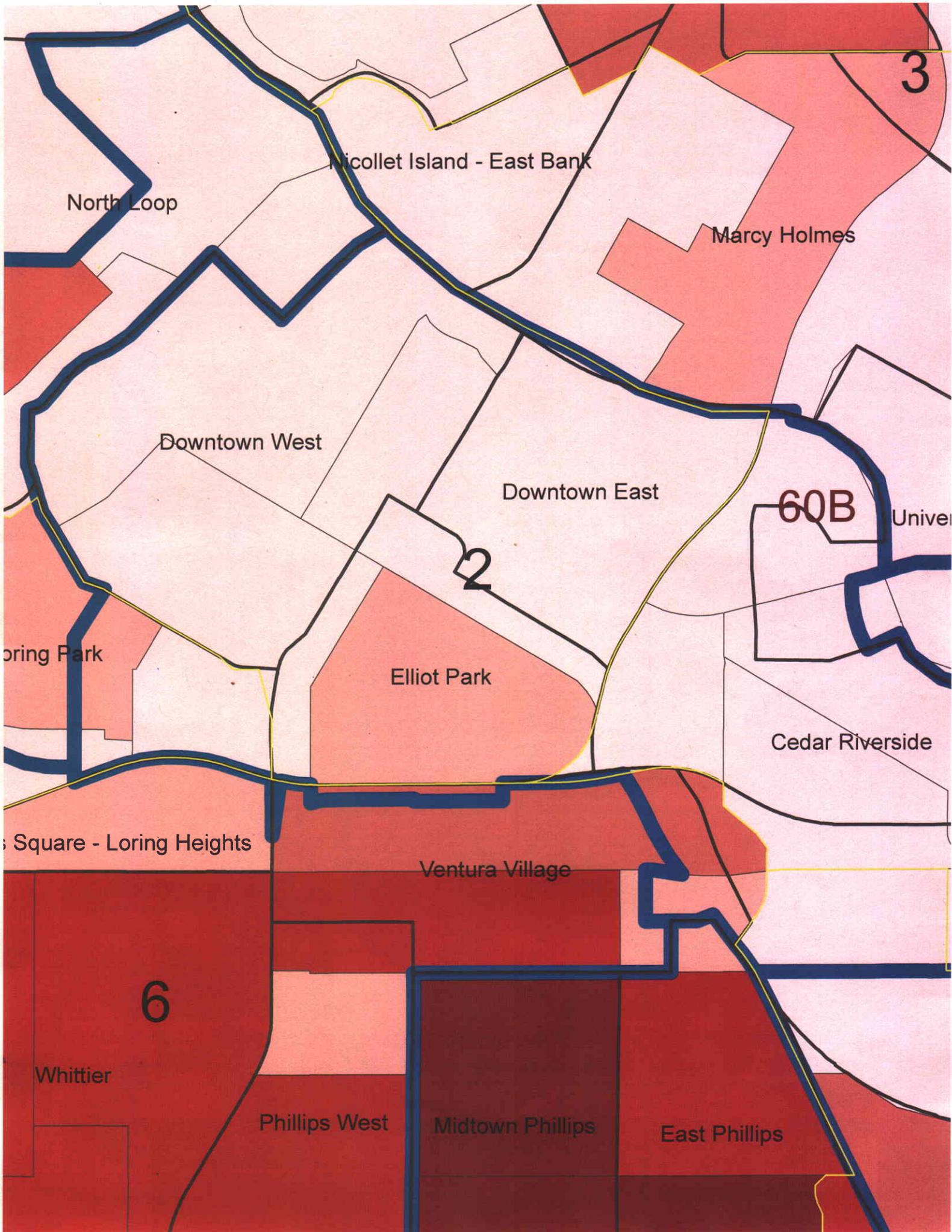
Sincerely,

Becky Timm
Executive Director

Cc: Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden
Councilmember Gary Schiff

Mar 15 Operations Comm. Draft Map Proposed Ward Map





3

North Loop

Nicollet Island - East Bank

Marcy Holmes

Downtown West

Downtown East

60B

Univer

2

Spring Park

Elliot Park

Cedar Riverside

University Square - Loring Heights

Ventura Village

6

Whittier

Phillips West

Midtown Phillips

East Phillips

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Kelly Duzan <notapeppygirl@usiwireless.com>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 11:32 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Ward 10 Lyndale

Please do not change the Eastern boundary of ward 10. Separating those 2 blocks (Stevens Avenue and First Avenue) from Lyndale is isolating and ridiculous. The freeway is the natural boundary and it is very dividing (physically and mentally). Stevens and First identify with the west side of 35W and always will. Sending them to the east will be detrimental to their cohesiveness and community.

-Kelly Duzan
3515 Nicollet Avenue

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Aaron Rubenstein <aaronrmpis@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 11:33 AM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: Ward 10 boundaries

Dear Redistricting Group members,

I would like to comment on the proposed Ward 10 boundaries. I see that the March 15 Operations Committee working version of the map shows the CARAG neighborhood (bordered by Hennepin and Lyndale avenues and Lake and 36th streets) entirely within Ward 10. I am strongly in support of this outcome. The previous map, proposed for this week's public hearings, divided CARAG in two along Bryant Avenue.

I think it's very important to keep CARAG within one ward for efficiency and effectiveness. Our current council member, Meg Tuthill, comes to almost every monthly neighborhood meeting to both solicit input on issues and concerns and to inform us of important city issues. I believe our representation would be significantly less effective if our neighborhood were served by two council members.

I would also prefer, for the same reasons, to see all four neighborhoods surrounding Uptown to be within the same ward. The proposed March 15 map shows three Uptown neighborhoods in Ward 10 and the fourth, East Isles, in Ward 7.

Thanks very much for your consideration.

Aaron Rubenstein
3249 Emerson Av. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Ben Walen <benwalen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 3:18 PM
To: Redistricting2012
Cc: Tariku Belay
Subject: Fw: Resdistricting Letter
Attachments: Tariku 3-19-12 letter.docx

I am forwarding the attached letter to the redistricting group on behalf of Tariku Belay, a resident of the Seward neighborhood and Seward Tower West.

Sincerely,
Ben Walen
2211 21st Ave S, Mpls, 55404

March 19, 2012

To: Redistricting Committee
CC: Seward Neighborhood Group

From: Tariku Belay
2515 S. 9th Street, Apt. #1015
Minneapolis, MN 55406

Re: Splitting of Seward Into Two Wards – Public Hearings 3/20/12 and 3/21/12

I have lived in the Seward neighborhood for over twenty years. I am originally from Ethiopia, and have a strong connection within my community. As a board member for the West Tower of the Seward Neighborhood, I serve as a representative of my East African community. In many discussions I have had in recent weeks with other East Africans, it is very clear to me that the vast majority of the East Africans who live in the Seward community do not want to see Seward split up again into two separate wards. Seward Neighborhood has a large East African community. We, as a whole, strongly oppose the splitting up of the neighborhood into two groups; We strongly believe that the neighborhood should remain intact. The Redistricting Committee has not reached out to our East African community to hear our voice or our opinions before taking this drastic measure to split Seward into two new wards. Additionally, such a split would separate families who live between the two towers, East and West.

For all of the above reasons I have stated, I am not in favor of splitting Seward into two separate wards. I strongly believe that dividing the Seward neighborhood into two wards would cause a lot of disharmony between the East/West. It has taken many years to mend some of the rifts caused by the division of Seward in the late 1960's and 1970's. Additionally, as a Seward Neighborhood board member and a resident of one of the Seward Towers, I know first-hand how difficult it is to build community and to encourage different cultures to develop an appreciation of one another.

I enjoy living in the Seward neighborhood and I want our community to remain vibrant and cohesive. I believe that we must keep Seward as a single ward in order to continue the important efforts at community building that we've all worked so hard to achieve.

Sincerely,

Tariku Belay
Resident and Seward Neighborhood Board Member

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Barry <barry@bfclegg.com>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 8:44 PM
To: Redistricting2012
Subject: FW: Lyndale resident concerned about splitting of our neighborhood

From: Scott Persons [mailto:scott.persons@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 8:17 PM
To: barry@bfclegg.com
Subject: Lyndale resident concerned about splitting of our neighborhood

Dear Barry,

Thanks again for speaking with me last week and thank you for your service on the redistricting commission. I know it has been a long and time consuming process. I am writing to ask that you reconsider the current split of Lyndale neighborhood. I live on the east side of the neighborhood that is currently part of the 9th ward. Our little 12 square blocks is the ONLY part of that ward on the west side of 35W. Please understand that 35W is just like a lake, river or other geographic marker that truly separates us from the rest of the ward - we have little to no common interest with those on the east side and due to our incredibly small relative numbers the commission is basically marginalizing us for the next 10 years. What you also may not know about this small swatch of territory is that between Tubman women's shelter and Teen Challenge (both very transient populations) they account for almost half of our population.

I ask that you move to have Lyndale remain as one contiguous neighborhood. Geographically, we are one of the smallest neighborhoods and our density is due to highly transient populations in public housing at Horn Towers and institutions such as Harriet Tubman and Teen Challenge. Diluting our common interest only harms our more vulnerable populations and creates a situation where our council member will pay less attention to our needs than other, larger neighborhoods.

I would also like to point out that we have already been divided this way in the old 8th Ward from 1993 - 2005, we rarely saw our council member and although our constituent service improved after 2002, we were always an afterthought.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter, I will be attending the public hearing tomorrow night along with many of our neighbors to have our voices heard. Please accommodate us this week so we can continue to be heard in the future.

--

Scott Persons
Lyndale Resident
3239 Nicollet Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Mobile: 612-965-5203
scott.persons@gmail.com

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Heinle, DJ <DJHeinle@cmarch.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:03 AM
To: Menshek, Peggy Y
Cc: Clegg, Barry F. (Barry.Clegg@gpmlaw.com)
Subject: FW: Lyndale resident concerned about splitting of our neighborhood

Peggy,

I am forwarding a direct email I received regarding redistricting for the records.

Thanks,

DJ Heinle, AIA
Director



architecture • planning • interior design

219 North 2nd Street, Suite 301
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1454
d 612.547.1334
c 612.387.6531
p 612.338.6677
f 612.338.2995
www.cmarch.com



From: Scott Persons [<mailto:scott.persons@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 8:52 PM
To: Heinle, DJ
Subject: Lyndale resident concerned about splitting of our neighborhood

Dear DJ;

My name is Scott Persons and I live at 3239 Nicollet. Thank you for your service on the redistricting commission. I know it has been a long and time consuming process. I am writing to ask that you reconsider the current split of Lyndale neighborhood. I live on the east side of the neighborhood that is currently part of the 9th ward. Our little 12 square blocks is the ONLY part of that ward on the west side of 35W. Please understand that 35W is just like a lake, river or other geographic marker that truly separates us from the rest of the ward - we have little to no common interest with those on the east side and due to our incredibly small relative numbers the commission is basically marginalizing us for the next 10 years. What you also may not know about this small swatch of territory is that between Tubman women's shelter and Teen Challenge (both very transient populations) they account for almost half of our population.

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our more vulnerable populations and creates a situation where our council member will pay less attention to our needs than other, larger neighborhoods.

I would also like to point out that we have already been divided this way in the old 8th Ward from 1993 - 2005, we rarely saw our council member and although our constituent service improved after 2002, we were always an afterthought.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter, I will be attending the public hearing tomorrow night along with many of our neighbors to have our voices heard. Please accommodate us this week so we can continue to be heard in the future.

Sincerely,

Scott Persons

--

Scott Persons

Lyndale Resident

3239 Nicollet Ave S

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Mobile: [612-965-5203](tel:612-965-5203)

scott.persons@gmail.com