

Dear [name],

On behalf of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission, thank you for providing written public comment via the Commission's Public Comment Portal. The Commission appreciates and values your input and would like to request additional information regarding the Community of Interest described in your public comment.

About half of the written comments submitted so far correspond to "Communities of Interest," describing a neighborhood or region of the state that has shared interests and needs.

If your submission was of this kind, the Commission kindly requests that you draw and submit a **map** of your Community of Interest using the Commission's Public Comment Portal, in addition to the **written** public comment we have already received.

Mapping your Community of Interest will allow the Commission to view the specific, detailed geographical area that corresponds to your comments. The map you draw will be helpful to the Commission when they begin to draw electoral district lines, allowing them to better take community boundaries and descriptions into account at the same time.

If you choose not to submit a map of your Community of Interest, the Commission will still consider your COI when drawing district lines; however, it may not be included in the spatial data layers that will be viewed during the line-drawing process.

To draw and submit a map of your Community of Interest, you can navigate back to the Public Comment Portal or jump straight to the [How to Draw a Map](#) section of the page. Mapping resources and video tutorials are also available in this section. The COI mapping button looks like this:



Map a Community of Interest
(opens in Districtr)

If you would like additional assistance or instruction on drawing and submitting a Community of Interest, the Commission encourages you to attend an upcoming Public Mapping Workshop (via Zoom). These workshops, run by the Districtr mapping software team in partnership with the MICRC, will provide hands-on instruction on how to use the Commission's mapping tool and Public Comment Portal. There are trainings available on Wednesdays ([sign up here](#)) and smaller "study halls" on Thursdays and Fridays ([sign up here](#)) throughout July.

The Commission sincerely thanks you for your written public comment submission and for your engagement in this historic process. Happy mapping!

Best wishes,

The Michigan Department of State