

Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission
November 1, 2021 Meeting Public Comment

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 8:46 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Ladamcik
Subject: redistricting

Please keep Midland and Gladwin together especially for the dams repair and reducing flooding in the future. It just makes common sense. I do not want Midland to be with Saginaw and Flint, they have their own issues separate from Midland.

Larry Adamcik

Homer township Midland

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 6:15 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Rick Swindlehurst
Subject: Isabella, Clare, Gladwin, Midland & Gratiot Should Remain Together

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a resident of Isabella County. Isabella should be included in a district with Clare, Gladwin, Midland and Gratiot Counties. We have many shared community interests. We are rural, have shared industry and educational connections. However, the one I want to focus on is our watershed. Our Chippewa River flows east, and connects with the Pine River that travels through Gratiot. The Tobacco River out of Gladwin connects with the Tittabawassee River and ALL of these river waters converge at the Tridge in downtown Midland. Any major rain event puts all our counties on alert, our emergency management teams already work hand in hand. We advocate for federal flood mitigation dollars as a united watershed and our voices will be stronger if we are in a shared Congressional district. I would urge you in any Congressional map to make sure that the whole counties of Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella and Midland Counties remain together.

Sincerely,

Richard Swindlehurst

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 6:09 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Lisa Swindlehurst
Subject: Keep Mid Michigan Counties Together

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a resident of Isabella County. Isabella should be included in a district with Clare, Gladwin, Midland and Gratiot Counties. We have many shared community interests. We are rural, have shared industry and educational connections. However, the one I want to focus on is our watershed. Our Chippewa River flows east, and connects with the Pine River that travels through Gratiot. The Tobacco River out of Gladwin connects with the Tittabawassee River and ALL of these river waters converge at the Tridge in downtown Midland. Any major rain event puts all our counties on alert, our emergency management teams already work hand in hand. We advocate for federal flood mitigation dollars as a united watershed and our voices will be stronger if we are in a shared Congressional district. I would urge you in any Congressional map to make sure that the whole counties of Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella and Midland Counties remain together.

Sincerely,

Lisa Swindlehurst

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 4:13 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Robin Stressman
Subject: Fwd: KEEP MID MICHIGAN COUNTIES TOGETHER

Robin Stressman
Broker / Owner
Praedium Realty Robin Stressman & Associates
[REDACTED]
www.mtpleasant.net

==== Forwarded message =====
From: Robin Stressman [REDACTED]
Cc: "REDISTRICTING"<REDISTRICTING@MIGHIGAN.GOV>
Date: Sun, 31 Oct 2021 16:12:10 -0400
Subject: KEEP MID MICHIGAN COUNTIES TOGETHER
==== Forwarded message =====

I am a resident of Isabella County. Isabella should be included in a district with Gratiot, Midland, Gladwin and Clare. We have many community interests. We are rural, have share industry and educational connections. Think of our WATERSHED! Our Chippewa River flows East and connects with the Pine River that travels through Gratiot. The Tobacco River out of Gladwin connects with t he Tittabawassee River and ALL of these river waters meet at t he TRIDGE in downtown Midland. Any major rain event puts all our counties on alert, our emergency management teams alert. Our emergency management teams already work together. We advocate for Federal Flood Mitigation dollars as a united Watershed and our voices will be stronger if we are in a shared Congressional District. I urge you in any Congressional Map to make sure that the whole counties of Gratiot, Midland, Gladwin, Clare and Isabella remain together.

Sincerely,

Robin Stressman

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 3:58 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Dave
Subject: Stop the Gerrymander !!

Midland County, where I live, has traditionally aligned with like-minded counties such as Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, and Clare all together. A proposal to cut Midland County in half and align it with more industrial counties such as Saginaw, Bay, and the city of Flint takes like-minded features away.

STOP THE GERRYMANDER!!

Dave Romenesko

Midland MI

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 3:08 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Erinzimmer
Subject: Keep Mid Michigan Counties Together

Dear Redistricting Commissioners:

My name is Erin Zimmer and I am a resident of Isabella County. Isabella should be included in a district with Clare, Gladwin, Midland and Gratiot Counties. We have many shared community interests. We are rural, have shared industry and educational connections. However, the one I want to focus on is our watershed. Our Chippewa River flows east, and connects with the Pine River that travels through Gratiot. The Tobacco River out of Gladwin connects with the Tittabawassee River and ALL of these river waters converge at the Tridge in downtown Midland. Any major rain event puts all our counties on alert, our emergency management teams already work hand in hand. We advocate for federal flood mitigation dollars as a united watershed and our voices will be stronger if we are in a shared Congressional district. I would urge you in any Congressional map to make sure that the whole counties of Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella and Midland Counties remain together.

Erin Zimmer
Mt. Pleasant

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 2:25 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Chris Moultrup
Subject: Map to consider

Good Afternoon,

I have tried reposting this map multiple times in the MICRC Portal to be certain that it gets in front of the commission before their deliberation tomorrow. I know the portal is flooded with comments so I thought I would email to ensure delivery.

This map is a tweaked version of your Maple Congressional map, which provided a great baseline. This map, Maple Syrup, gets you in compliance with the constitutional rules including; One person one vote, VRA compliant, communities of interest, and good partisan fairness while honoring the rest of the constitutional priorities. While the efficiency gap might be higher than some commenters would like, it does allow for the state as a whole to be competitive where the majority of seats could flip from Republican to Democrat or vice versa depending on the electorate.

MAP LINK: <https://davesredistricting.org/maps#viewmap::ace54f46-25cc-45fc-9705-f1a1b455dac9>

I wish you the best in your deliberations and hope that this map can be useful as it solves many of the issues while keeping Communities of Interest intact.

Thank you,

Chris

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 11:58 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Chris and Cheryl Hough
Subject: Stop the Gerrymandering!

Stop the Gerrymandering!
Keep the City of Midland and county of Midland intact, whole; and
Keep the counties of Midland, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, and Clare together.

Gladwin + Midland = Dam Repair and Flood Reduction
Stop the Gerrymandering! Keep Midland intact!
Stop the Gerrymandering! Keep Midland and Gladwin together!
Thank you!
Dr and Mrs. John Christopher Hough
[REDACTED]
Midland, Mi 48640
Sent from my iPad

Date of Submission: Sunday, October 31, 2021 6:41 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Dan Kozakiewicz
Subject: public comments to redistricting

Do not separate Midland from Midland County. Mitigating the damage from the flood and providing protection from future related disasters is a common bond between Midland County and Gladwin County our neighbor to the north. The current and future actions needed to rebuild and protect are better served by one district. Please do not separate Midland from Midland County.

Thank you,

Daniel Kozakiewicz



Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 6:37 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Jhcrissman
Subject: MICRC email

What is the email address for the MICRC?

Sent from my iPhone

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 6:32 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Caleb Hortop
Subject: Concern regarding unprofessional commissioner allegation and comment

Good evening,

As a private citizen of Midland County, I have attended two of the Michigan Redistricting Commission's public hearings. The first in Midland in May and the second more recently in Gaylord.

I have expressed concerns I have myself and that I hear from my family and friends shared by City of Midland and Midland county townships. I think it is imperative that Midland County remain intact and that the City of Midland is not fractured from the county in congressional, state senate, or state house lines. I've expressed various reasons for this in written and verbal comments.

I am reaching out to the commission in this message to ask that Commissioner Dustin Witjes publicly apologize for falsely claiming that Bill Schuette, who does not currently hold elected office, brought

staffers to the public hearings. Witjes false comments being at the 1 hour and 43 minute mark during the 10/28/2021 meeting. Perhaps Commissioner Witjes is unaware that Bill Schuette works and lives in the City of Midland and does not hold elected office?

Upon further review, the friends and professional relationships of hearing attendees and the speculation thereof does not have bearing on the commission's decision to dismiss or validate citizen comments.

Bill Schuette has every right as a private citizen to express his concerns and opinions, and he shared nothing political in his remarks to the commission. The commission has no grounds to dismiss his comments or those who Witjes alleges are his "staffers."

I hope to see an apology soon and am optimistic that the commissioners will respect and honor the wishes of Midland County residents. Those of us in the ENTIRE county have been through enough in recent years.

Sincerely,

Caleb Hortop

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 6:04 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Diane Bristol
Subject: Midland+Gladwin=Dam Repair and Flood Reduction

Some Commissioners have suggested it would be better to have multiple representatives and multiple districts for the Tittabawassee watershed issues by separating the City of Midland from the rest of the County. Commissioner Witjes went so far as to say that different and multiple representatives may have prevented the 2020 flood and that we shouldn't draw district lines around a flood event that happens once in a thousand years! It's obvious that decisions for our district are being made by people who have no clue about Midland and the area surrounding Midland County.

There have been hundreds of millions of dollars worth of property damage to people, homes and businesses with the floods of 1986, 1996, 2017 and 2020. To say that these flood events happen once in a thousand years is a heartless and reckless comment that minimizes the hardship of families and businesses and homes that have been lost over the years in the City and County of Midland. What an irresponsible and callus comment! What planet does he live on? He must have missed the mounds of destroyed property and beds and furniture and precious memories lost in these floods at the end of driveways and along curb sides in the floods of 1986, 1996, 2017 and 2020. I'm guessing he was not here to help with the clean-up. I didn't see him when we were cleaning up at my daughter's after 9 feet of water surged into her home! He wasn't there to rebuild downtown Sanford, the Midland Center for the Arts or the Grace Dow Library. He wasn't there to see the houses that had to be condemned in the City and County of Midland!

When you fracture our county, it weakens our voice and diminishes our chances for dam repair and flood reduction - and that hurts people. I support Lange Congressional map #243, Lange State Senate map #247 and Oak State House map.

Diane M Bristol
City of Midland, MI
Sent from my iPad

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 5:41 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Roxann Lynn
Subject: Midland+Gladwin=Dam Repair and Flood Reduction

Midland and Flint have competing interests for government services and funding. Flint has its water crisis while the City of Midland is competing for the same resources with our own watershed issues. Each city needs legislative voices that can focus on the primary issue in their district; our needs are different. Keep the City of Midland with its county and in a district with Gladwin county.

Support commissioner Lange's Congressional and State Senate maps. Please move forward the Oak State Map.
Roxann Lynn
Midland MI

Sent from my iPhone

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 5:05 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Quehl5
Subject: True Gerrymandering in maps and false allegations of gerrymandering seen in democrat comments

I mean no disrespect, but I have seen a continuous mantra coming from the democrats that I feel needs to be addressed as they are trying to change the mandate.

When any maps do not split up Midland from Midland County, and/or when Midland is not joined together with Bay City, Saginaw, and Flint,... we see comments

- This map is a perfect example of gerrymandering
- This map has a disproportionate amount of demographics of democrats and republicans
- It disregards partisan fairness
- The city of Midland has more in common in regards to community of interest with Bay City and Saginaw, and Flint than Midland County

These comments are a direct attempt to make new mandates, however,.

I am asking that you not be convinced to change the mandates, but comply with them.

- Districts shall reflect consideration of county, city, and township boundaries; THUS separating Midland from Midland County is a direct violation of this mandate.
- Districts are to be of equal population to comply with voting rights act; so it is based on the total votes, not partisan concerns or equality.

- Districts shall be geographically contiguous; THUS separating the city of Midland from Midland County is non-compliant with this mandate.
 - Districts shall reflect the states diverse population and communities of interest, and are NOT to include relationships with political parties; THUS, no 50/50 mandate. If they want something different, they need to take it up at the elections, not subvert this mandate.
 - Honestly the maps that followed this mandate have been removed, including the map that commissioner Lange presented.
 - I support these maps
Congressional – Lange Congressional Plan (#243)
State Senate – Lange State Senate Plan (#247)
State House – Oak At least this is better than the “robot arm map” from Midland to Bay City and cutting out Midland County
Dennis Quehl, Midland MI
-

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 4:48 PM

Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: Quehl5

Subject: Public Hearing Comments made at Flint Commissioners meeting

These are my comments that I made at the public commissioners meeting in Flint MI

Good Afternoon

My name is Dennis Quehl. Thank you for the opportunity to speak here today.

I am a lifelong resident of Midland.

I was reminded of the meaning of the Lady of Justice symbol. The blindfold represents objectivity and impartiality, that justice should be meted out without fear or favor, regardless of money, wealth, or power. You must make your decisions based on the mandates in this same manner.

When there is any inappropriate intent even among yourselves you will need to have the courage to call it out and make each other accountable.

Please look at the Oak State Map, and commissioners Lange’s State Senate and Congressional plans when fixing maps in our area. These maps are representative of our area.

I would also like to thank commissioners Ortin and Clark for acknowledging the Tittabawassee community’s watershed in their map proposals and for keeping Midland with Gladwin also.

I would also like to push back on the argument that these funny shaped districts are not gerrymandering, when in actuality that was the basis for this commission to exist in the first place.

Unfortunately, the map that separates the city of Midland from Midland County, then goes east to Bay City is a perfect example of what Elbridge Gerry said in 1812. Wrongful intent.

I would like to commend each of you for volunteering for public service. This is not an easy task. This project WILL require each of you to view all these public comments, continuous pressures from various organizations, as well as views and ideas from your fellow commissioners, and make hard decisions. I honestly believe that the only way this can be done is to go back to the original intent of the constitution as written and the specific mandate as you have been requested to do. Many will try to bend the “intent” as we have frequently seen in today’s world as people try to manipulate the truth to make a new truth and mantra that fits their need.

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 4:46 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Quehl5
Subject: Public Hearing in Gaylord

This was my comments made at the public hearing in Gaylord

My name is Dennis Quehl and I am a resident of Midland County. I have been following the redistricting process closely and listening to the other public hearings. It seems one party continues to be pushing the AFL-CIO maps as being "fair maps." Well I am here to say, if you believe the AFL-CIO is nonpartisan, I have some lakefront property to sell you in Sanford, MI. Just look at the organization's political giving. This a liberal group pushing a liberal agenda. I also saw the Detroit hearing and coincidentally Commissioner Sztela's comments this week saying you are now open to wholesale changes to the current maps. I would encourage you to listen to us, the people who truly represent our communities of interest. Please look at the Oak State House Map, and Commissioner Lange's State Senate and Congressional plans when fixing the maps for our area. These maps are representative of our community. I mean no disrespect, but I have seen a continuous mantra coming from the democrats that I feel needs to be addressed as they are trying to change the mandate.

When any maps do not split up Midland from Midland County, and/or when Midland is not joined together with Bay City, Saginaw, and Flint,... we see comments

- This map is a perfect example of gerrymandering
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These comments are a direct attempt to make new mandates, however,.

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- Districts shall be geographically contiguous; THUS separating the city of Midland from Midland County is non-compliant with this mandate.
- Districts shall reflect the states diverse population and communities of interest, and are NOT to include relationships with political parties; THUS, no 50/50 mandate. If they want something different, they need to take it up at the elections, not subvert this mandate.
- Honestly the maps that followed this mandate have been removed, including the map that commissioner Lange presented.

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 2:41 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Gaye Terwillegar
Subject: Midland County talking points Gaylord MICRC

Respectfully,

Gaye Terwillegar, MPH

Sent from Mail for Windows

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 2:09 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Quehl5
Subject: Bill Schuette is still on duty as a resident of midland

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Subject: Bill Schuette is Still on Duty As a Resident of Midland

When this constitutional amendment passed in 2018, it was made clear that anyone who was active in the political process would not be allowed to sit on the Independent Redistricting Commission. Even our children and grandchildren were banned from participating! But we were told that we would have an opportunity to make our voices heard during the process. So why do some Commissioners decide to politicize public comments when our former Attorney General, Bill Schuette, who happens to be a citizen of Midland and one of the local leaders of our dam and flood recovery effort, gets criticized for making his voice heard in this process? The same Commissioners failed to mention that it's the Midland Democratic Chair and her 9 Democrat Committee members who, along with the AFL-CIO are lobbying for the City of Midland to be part of the 'tri-cities' and Flint in one congressional district. No one else in Midland thinks that's a great idea. Just ask the City and County leadership and the County Drain Commissioner (they have all made their voices heard). I support Lange's Congressional map #243, Lange State Senate map #247 and Oak State House map.

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 2:03 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Judith Hammerle
Subject: Objection to proposed district 8

District 8 Congressional map is illogical and undemocratic. There are only two things that group has in common: a border with Ohio and the certainty that no Republican can be defeated. Please reject that map and stop that gerrymandering. Please!!
Judith Roes Hammerle
Adrian, Michigan

Sent from my iPhone

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 11:10 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Ckleikhim.mi

Subject: Midland Deserves Better Than A Game of Red Dot/Green Dot

To: All MICRC Commissioners

Subject: Midland Deserves Better Than A Game of Red Dot / Green Dot

The Midland Democrat Chair has asked you to consider the percentage of map portal comments in favor of the 'tri-cities' argument for Midland; she actually refers to the watershed argument as a 'Republican talking point' (this is a community issue impacting tens of thousands of people, not a talking point). It was also interesting that Commissioner Szetela requested a copy of the Democrat Chair's data analysis to assist in her decision-making.

Please remember that well over 65% of the community voices at the May public hearing were in favor of keeping Midland whole (I assumed you had someone tracking the comments that night, too); as well as the many people who have abandoned putting comments in the map portal just to have them deleted or not moved forward as your map options have constantly changed (Voters Allege Redistricting Commission is Hiding, Deleting Public Comments – FAIRmaps (fairmapsmichigan.org)).

If you are going to consider percentages of comments – you need to consider every single email and web portal comment, every public comment made at every single meeting since the beginning of this process; as well as the letters that have been mailed directly from county, city and community leaders from Gladwin and Midland. You should also consider the quality of the arguments being presented.

This commission has repeatedly stated that the public is welcome to input in a variety of ways; the map portal approach was abandoned by most of the people following this process long ago (except for the Midland Democrats – you can check their Facebook page for their tri-cities talking points).

I ask the Commission to include ALL modes of communication and not a secret spreadsheet sent from the Midland Democrat Chair to Commissioner Szetela. Please do not reduce this important decision to a game of red dot / green dot.

Cathy Leikhim

Midland, MI

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 8:58 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: James Gallant
Subject: MICRC_Public Comment,_10-29-2021

MICRC & Secretary Benson,

Please do your due diligence and formally request a written report and recommendation from your Attorneys and Michigan's Attorney General concerning the attached FOIA requested documents that will verify (or not) if the certified "2018 Constitutional Amendment language" was effectively transmitted from the MI Secretary of State, Joyce Benson, to the "Director of Management and Budget" as it appears to be required under MCL 168.486.

Thank you, James Gallant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 8:30 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Scott Govitz
Subject: public hearing comments

Thank you for hearing my comments.

Scott

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 7:59 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Diane Shields
Subject: Comments from MidMichigan Health – Midland, MI

My name is Diane Shields and I am a system vice president for MidMichigan Health. MidMichigan is a non-profit health system headquartered in Midland providing care to the 23-county region it serves. We have Medical Centers in Alpena, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Midland, Mt. Pleasant and West Branch. MidMichigan has more than 8,800 employees, volunteers and health care providers work together to create healthy communities through solutions designed to meet the ever-changing needs of the 938,000 residents in the health system's service area.

We serve many rural communities and we value the support we have received over time from our legislators that understand the very challenging issues we face that can be specific to rural communities to include physician recruitment, broadband issues, and care close to home for our patients. A unified representation in Lansing for our communities gives us a stronger voice to advocate for our area needs.

Midland is our largest campus and it is critical to us to keep Midland County whole and connected to our other rural communities, such as Gladwin. None of the current maps keep Midland County whole therefore none of the existing maps address our community of interest, which is critical to our success in working collaboratively in our communities.

Some of the community of interest needs including fixing of the dams to include additional recovery and flood prevention measures for at least the next decade. We would respectfully ask that consideration is given for Commissioner Lange's map for both the Congressional and the State Senate. We would like to thank Commissioner Lange for drawing a map reflective of our area and keeping the Tittabawassee watershed united and keeping Gladwin and Midland counties together and whole. In addition we support the State House Oak Map. Thank you to Commissioner Clark and Orton for keeping Midland and Gladwin Counties together too.

Diane Shields

System Vice President

Marketing/Legislative Relations

MidMichigan Health

(989) 839-3518 (Midland Office)

(989) 356-7352 (Alpena Office)

Date of Submission: Friday, October 29, 2021 2:23 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Amanda N. Oster
Subject: You must do better

I want to thank Commissioner Lange and support her Congressional Map, and State Senate maps. I also want to add my voice to support the Oak State House map. These maps best reflect our communities here in Mid and Northern Michigan. They correct the injustice that has been done by the Commission when they blatantly cut the City of Midland out of all the proposed collaborative Congressional Maps as well as the fact that no State Senate collaborative maps keep Midland with Gladwin County together. Our area deserves to have its voice heard in Lansing and Washington, D.C. We demand you do better.
Amanda Oster
Sent from my iPhone

Date of Submission: Thursday, October 28, 2021 7:24 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Elizabeth Scott
Subject: Keep Midland Whole

The City of Midland should not be sectioned out of the rural district -- to do so would harm the rural counties that need to be connected to Midland. We must keep Midland whole!

I support maps #243, 247, and the Oak Map which acknowledges the FEMA-designated Tittabawassee Watershed.

We, the people of Midland, need to keep aligned to rural counties with like interests such as flood declaration and flood management.

This cannot be overstated.

We live in a watershed region. We saw this from the flooding in Midland in 2017 from the waters coming from Isabella and Gladwin and then the catastrophic flood in 2020 from Gladwin where over 2,300 residential homes were either affected or completely destroyed! According to CNN, 10,000 people were evacuated.

And the entire town of Sanford was lost.

It cannot be any clearer that we need to work together to ensure the resident's flood declaration and flood management are kept in place.

Again, I support the

Congressional – Lange Congressional Plan (#243)

State Senate – Lange State Senate Plan (#247)

State House – Oak map

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Scott

Date of Submission: Thursday, October 28, 2021 4:04 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Laura Norcutt
Subject: Redistricting Public Hearing statement

Redistricting Public Hearing statement

October 26th – Flint

The Dort Center,



Flint, MI 48503

Afternoon Session: 1:00PM -3:30PM

- Good Afternoon. I am Laura Norcutt of Sanford, MI. I am a retired Federal fish & wildlife biologist and currently work with conservation agencies and organizations that deal with Natural resource management in Midland, Gladwin, Clare, and Isabella counties.
- I would like to recommend Congressional Map – Commissioner Lange’s Plan (#243), State Senate Map – Commissioner Lange’s Plan (#247), and State House Map – the Oak Plan.
- These maps keep Midland County whole and group us with the counties to the North and West in the Tittabawassee and Chippewa rivers watersheds.
- When managing natural resource issues, it is very important for the Counties in the same watershed to work together. Midland, Gladwin, Clare, and Isabella counties all share the Tittabawassee and Chippewa rivers watersheds and we work closely together on projects and share funding.
- As you know, Midland County’s most notable Natural resource issue is the recent reoccurring flooding. Right now we are rebuilding from the 2020 flood

- Currently, our organizations work with officials in these counties using these watershed plans to apply for grants to rebuild. Splitting Midland County would make work with these other county governing bodies to the North and West more difficult.
- Please Keep Midland County together and joined with the Tittabawassee and Chippewa watersheds. Thanks for your hard work on this.

Laura Norcutt

Sanford, MI

Date of Submission: Thursday, October 28, 2021 3:12 PM

Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: Jescott 1

Subject: Gaylord Afternoon Public Comments regarding Midland

Michigan Redistricting Independent Commission,

Below are my public comments I shared at the Gaylord afternoon public hearing. Thank you for your time and effort on this project.

My name is Jane Scott and I am a 32 year resident of the city of Midland. The lines between the city and county of Midland are blurred as we act as one community. The county fairgrounds are in the city and city residents often frequent Sanford Lake (before the flood) and my family and many others have used the surrounding county community centers for basketball practice. I have lived through many flood events in my time in Midland but never anything like the night of Tuesday May 19, 2020. That night several families evacuated to my home and we all waited to see where the water from the failed dams would go. Wixom, Secord, Smallwood and Sanford lakes all were flowing toward the city of Midland during a 100 year rain event. The devastation was overwhelming. My home was spared but countless homes and businesses in the city and county of Midland were washed away or damaged. Although we were in the middle of a pandemic, the community support to volunteer throughout the watershed was a beautiful sight to see. I volunteered in Sanford and stood side by side with other watershed neighbors trying to salvage what we could. The watershed does not care what political lines you draw, it will go where it wants. We need a united Midland and Gladwin county to work on this huge process to make us whole again. Grouping us with Bay City, Saginaw and Flint will complicate these efforts and are unfair to the residents of the watershed. Please do the right thing and keep Midland county whole and with our watershed neighbors.

I support Lange Congressional map #243, Lange State Senate map #247 and Oak State House map.

Thank you.

Additional Comments: Some have suggested two representatives for the watershed. I think this is a terrible mistake. This is a huge effort and dividing the representation of the watershed will lead to more delays, complications and conflicts. There are already so many complicating factors that we need one

focused representative to mediate between all parties to get this done right and maintain for generations to come.

October 25, 2021

Gaylord, MI MICRC event

Good Afternoon Commissioners,

I speak to you today as an individual member of the Midland County Board of Commissioners (BOC). In addition to our essential services and pandemic protocols, our BOC mission has expanded to include recovery from the dam failures in May 2020.

In Lansing, our current Leadership has been able to advocate for more than \$200 million in funds to help rebuild the four dams along the Tittabawassee River, as well as resources for flood mitigation. In Washington DC, as a unified county, the Midland community has benefited from a federal disaster declaration and more than \$100 in direct disaster assistance.

Unfortunately, your efforts threaten to undermine how far we have come as a community. The city of Midland has been sliced and diced and separated completely from the rest of the county in most all your illustrations.

I advocate for the following: State House, State Senate and US Congressional maps that keep Midland County intact with the City of Midland, as well as keep Midland County with Gladwin County. Please reject any map that removes the city of Midland from the rest of the county.

Thank you for your time today.

Gaye Terwillegar

Thank you for hearing my comments regarding redistricting and the way that Midland has been carved out of the remainder of the proposed new districting that will have a major impact on my community of Beaverton and Gladwin County as a whole.

Gladwin County has long been tied to Midland County at the congressional, and statewide level and for decades we have worked together with our neighbors on economic, social and environmental issues that tie our communities together. As a previous City Manager and Mayor and current DDA Chair in the City of Beaverton, I believe the proposed map and implications will have a devastating effect on the work that myself and so many others have worked on over time.

Major negative implications could result from gerrymandering Midland County on our efforts surrounding our watershed. I live on the very river that was impacted by the recent flooding that affected my community and Midland. Most recently I worked on grants to help shore up the Beaverton Dam and surrounding watershed issues in an attempt to repair the

immediate damages and salvage a significant part of our economy.

This and other regional work has never lead me to Flint or Saginaw for help and partnership, but back to Midland and our true partners with whom we've worked over the decades. None during that time may have been as critical or remains as critical to my community as the loss of income and tax base due to flooding.

Our goal is simple, rebuild and recover with an eye toward conservation and the environment. We need to continue that effort with the same partners who were there from the beginning and are equally impacted. I urge you not to gerrymander Midland leaving our community directly to the north negatively impacted by the results.