

**Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission**  
**November 2, 2021 Meeting Public Comment**

---

**Date of Submission:** Monday, November 1, 2021 3:37 PM  
**Method of Submission:** Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>  
**Name:** Jennifer Austin  
**Subject:** Midland/Tri-Cities Spreadsheet

I realize I left off some info for you.

In the doc the first sheet contains all the comments. The second sheet contains the list of commenters in alphabetical order and their location.

The analyzed data is on the last comment on the first sheet, but here it is for easy reference. This is as of 10-31-21:

Data to this point:

Total comments: 1025

Total positive Tri-Cities mentions = 791/1025 - 77.17%

Total positive Tri-Cities + Flint positive mentions = 323

Total number of different commenters = 357

Total number of commenters with positive Tri-Cities mentions = 235/357 - 65.82%

Total number of commenters from Midland = 222

Total number of commenters from Midland in favor of Tri-Cities = 132/222 - 59.46%

Jennifer Austin

On 11/01/2021 1:10 PM Jennifer Austin [REDACTED] > wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

I have included the link below to the Google Sheet I have been working on to tabulate all comments pertaining to Midland and the Tri-Cities for legislative groups. Please forgive my many, many typos. The amount of time I have spent logging all this data is staggering and I wasn't willing to invest any more time away from my family and job to correct spelling mistakes and typos.

A few notes about my methodology.

- I included all comments up to date in written portal as of 10-31-21.

- I included all comments on maps up to date as of 10-24-21. I had those prepared for the Gaylord hearing. It was too difficult to go back through and add the map comments to this spreadsheet that might have occurred between 10-25-21 and today, because they don't have ID numbers and it was difficult and too time consuming to make sure I didn't duplicate.

- I included almost every entry that specifically pertained to Midland and the Tri-Cities. There was an occasional entry that I left off because it said something like "why is my southern MI city in a district that stretches all the way to Midland" which didn't really speak to whether Midland should be in a Tri-Cities district.

- There were occasional entries that asked for partisan fairness for Midland, but didn't specify how to do that and I left them in the spreadsheet. They were often from commenters who had asked for Tri-Cities groupings before, but because they didn't specify that I didn't include those comments in favor of Tri-Cities groupings. That brought the percentage down minimally, but I wanted to be fair to the process and not make assumptions about people's comments.
- Quite a few people submitted their comments twice in a row. I assume they thought it hadn't gone through. I probably should have deleted multiple comments like that but I left them because it was too much work to go back and figure out which ones they were. Most of those were in favor of Midland with Gladwin, so that also brought the Tri-Cities percentage down a small bit.

I have no intention of continuing to work on this spreadsheet. It has taken up far too much of my time. It started out as a way just for myself to see how the debate was progressing. Now, the written portal is turning nasty and I really don't want to work on this anymore. I appreciate all the work the commission is doing and I know you will continue to read all the comments in the portal and take it all into consideration. I ask that you continue to prioritize partisan fairness and make fair maps for all of Michigan.

Google Sheet Link: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1e8HW2eOq0hSJobCW84cGd9CF7rsq-hRrS72pmg\\_3sms/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1e8HW2eOq0hSJobCW84cGd9CF7rsq-hRrS72pmg_3sms/edit?usp=sharing)

Jennifer Austin

JA

Jennifer Austin

15 hours ago

Dear Commissioners,

I have included the link below to the Google Sheet I have been working on to tabulate all comments pertaining to Midland and the Tri-Cities for legislative groups. Please forgive my many, many typos. The amount of time I have spent logging all this data is staggering and I wasn't willing to invest any more time away from my family and job to correct spelling mistakes and typos.

A few notes about my methodology.

- I included all comments up to date in written portal as of 10-31-21.
- I included all comments on maps up to date as of 10-24-21. I had those prepared for the Gaylord hearing. It was too difficult to go back through and add the map comments to this spreadsheet that might have occurred between 10-25-21 and today, because they don't have ID numbers and it was difficult and too time consuming to make sure I didn't duplicate.
- I included almost every entry that specifically pertained to Midland and the Tri-Cities. There was an occasional entry that I left off because it said something like "why is my southern MI city in a district that stretches all the way to Midland" which didn't really speak to whether Midland should be in a Tri-Cities district.
- There were occasional entries that asked for partisan fairness for Midland, but didn't specify how to do that and I left them in the spreadsheet. They were often from commenters who had asked for Tri-Cities groupings before, but because they didn't specify that I didn't include those comments in favor of Tri-Cities groupings. That brought the percentage down minimally, but I wanted to be fair to the process and not make assumptions about people's comments.
- Quite a few people submitted their comments twice in a row. I assume they thought it hadn't gone through. I probably should have deleted multiple comments like that but I left them because it was too

much work to go back and figure out which ones they were. Most of those were in favor of Midland with Gladwin, so that also brought the Tri-Cities percentage down a small bit.

I have no intention of continuing to work on this spreadsheet. It has taken up far too much of my time. It started out as a way just for myself to see how the debate was progressing. Now, the written portal is turning nasty and I really don't want to work on this anymore. I appreciate all the work the commission is doing and I know you will continue to read all the comments in the portal and take it all into consideration. I ask that you continue to prioritize partisan fairness and make fair maps for all of Michigan.

Google Sheet Link: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1e8HW2eOq0hSJobCW84cGd9CF7rsq-hRrS72pmg\\_3sms/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1e8HW2eOq0hSJobCW84cGd9CF7rsq-hRrS72pmg_3sms/edit?usp=sharing)

Jennifer Austin

---

**Date of Submission:** Monday, November 1, 2021 12:50 PM

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

**Name:** Rebecca Hoffman

**Subject:** A outhern boundary of Heritage Hill is Wealthy Street, not Fulton Street

My name is Rebecca Smith-Hoffman. I have lived in the Heritage Hill Historic District for over forty years. I am asking that Heritage Hill remain a single State Senate district, I am disturbed by the incorrect testimony given today stating that the southern boundary of Heritage Hill was Fulton Street - placing the southern boundary of the Senate district at Fulton Street would cut the district in half. A map of the district is available here: <https://www.heritagehillweb.org/area-map/> Placing the border of the Senate district 24 south to Wealthy Street will include 90% of Heritage Hill in the same district and maintain the cohesion of the neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rebecca Smith-Hoffman

Past Perfect, Inc.

[REDACTED]

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

[REDACTED]

[pastperfectinc.com](http://pastperfectinc.com)

---

**Date of Submission:** Monday, November 1, 2021 10:21 AM

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

**Name:** kpfenninge

**Subject:** gerrymandering

Stop the gerrymandering! Keep Midland united. We don't want changes!!

Kay Pfenninger

Midland, MI. 48642

---

**Date of Submission:** Monday, November 1, 2021 10:04 AM  
**Method of Submission:** Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>  
**Name:** Quehl5  
**Subject:** Mary Quehl comments not showing up

Could you please look into my comments not showing up on the following map portal with the megaphone.  
MICRC Public Comment Portal ([michigan-mapping.org](http://michigan-mapping.org)).

My husband Dennis Quehl and I have only one email address [REDACTED], however we have different computers. He put his comments in earlier this morning and I was told by one of the commission representatives that she would look into why my previous comments did not go into the portal. As well she recommended that we wait at least 15 minutes between our submissions. I did that today. My husband did get an email for confirmation, but I did not. It is important that my separate comments get in as a private citizen. Please get back with me and confirm that my comments go into the portal.  
Thanks you,  
Mary Quehl

See my submission below for today under Mary Quehl. Could you please get back with me to confirm that these were able to be put in the portal.

The cities of Midland and Flint have completely different needs from the Government and therefore should not be in the same congressional district. To argue that the dam repair and flood reduction efforts should not be the basis for a legislative district shows a fundamental lack of understanding of how the Government works. Just ask any Drain Commissioner in the area. Dam repair and flood reduction are Midland's primary issues for the next ten years. When you fracture our county and separate us from other watershed counties like Gladwin who have a similar issue, it weakens our voice and diminishes our chances for dam repair and flood reduction - and that hurts people. Please consider Commissioner Lange's congressional map; or take a look at the new 'Maple Syrup' map that recently appeared in your Web Portal. It's your collaborative Maple map with a few tweaks to address this issue and to make it VRA compliant.

I was unable to attend the commissioners public meeting in Flint last week, however my husband explained to me how the meeting went as well as the "perfect example" that was right in front of the commissioner's eyes. Please read closely as the next thing he told me was quite revealing of what the intent and mindset of the democrats are.

When he first entered the Dort Federal building, he was met by a man that had boxes of posters that people could hold up declaring that they wanted fair maps. He spoke with the man and he explained that he was with the AFL-CIO and was handing out signs for people to hold up at the meeting. My

husband Dennis asked him what the AFL-CIO's intent was, and he explained that it was to pressure the commissioners here in Flint for fair maps. My husband asked him what political party the AFL-CIO was supporting and/or pushing to take place. The man told him that the AFL-CIO was bipartisan. Then Dennis asked the man that he knew that the AFL-CIO gives a lot of money to political parties, and asked him if he knew what the percentages were, for example was the money split 50/50 for each party. He then stated that they supported both political parties. My husband then brought up information on giving of various organizations to political parties which showed that historically the AFL-CIO gives 85-90% of their money to the democrats. The man then stated that yes, they were bipartisan. Dennis then told him that most people would look at bipartisan as being more of a 50/50 when giving money, to which he said, "yes it is bipartisan, they give money to both parties".

There is a mantra out there that we both see on these sites from democrats that their goal seems to be to want to separate Midland from Midland County and place them with large metro populations only to dilute our vote.

Your mandate is to not separate cities and their surrounding counties, as well as to keep communities of interest together. Please do not listen to the voices that state that we have the same COI as Flint and/or even Saginaw. They are strong union towns, and have diverse differences in the immediate needs that their communities have in comparison to Midland.

Please follow the mandates and not the voices that are wanting to change the mandates.

Thank you