

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 11:05 AM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Attachments: State Congressional District Map.pdf

Date: 2021-02-12
First Name: Jesus
Last Name: Valdez
Title: N/A
Organization: Self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: El Paso
State: Texas
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:
Jesus Valdez

[REDACTED]
El Paso, TX
[REDACTED]

No Organization

My name is Jesus Valdez, I'm from El Paso and I'm representing myself.

It goes without saying that I, like many others, urge the Redistricting Commission to be transparent in its process, that they provide access to maps before they are finalized, and that such maps create more compact areas that protect communities of interest.

My testimony today is with regard to the Texas State Representative Districts for the El Paso area. There are currently five districts, numbered 75 through 79. Their current maps illustrate the common forms of gerrymandering of cracking and packing.

El Paso is unique in that it has natural and man-made barriers that clearly delineate distinct communities of interest. Mexico, New Mexico, the Franklin Mountains and Interstate 10 demark these communities.

I have drawn, using DRA redistricting software, more cohesive maps that protect communities of interest and reverses current gerrymandering. The districts are equal-populated at around 180K people per. They respect county and precinct areas. With the population of El Paso being 80% plus Hispanic, these maps comply with the Voters Rights Act.

It must be noted that the Far East community of interest would have to be expanded to incorporate additional counties of Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis, Presidio, Brewster, Reeves, Pecos and Terrell. These counties share many of the traits of Far East El Paso, in that they are rural areas.

Given that this is verbal commentary, I cannot present the map itself. It is available upon request.

Thank you very much.





State Congressional District Map

El Paso Area

Created by Jesus Valdez
6/1/2020

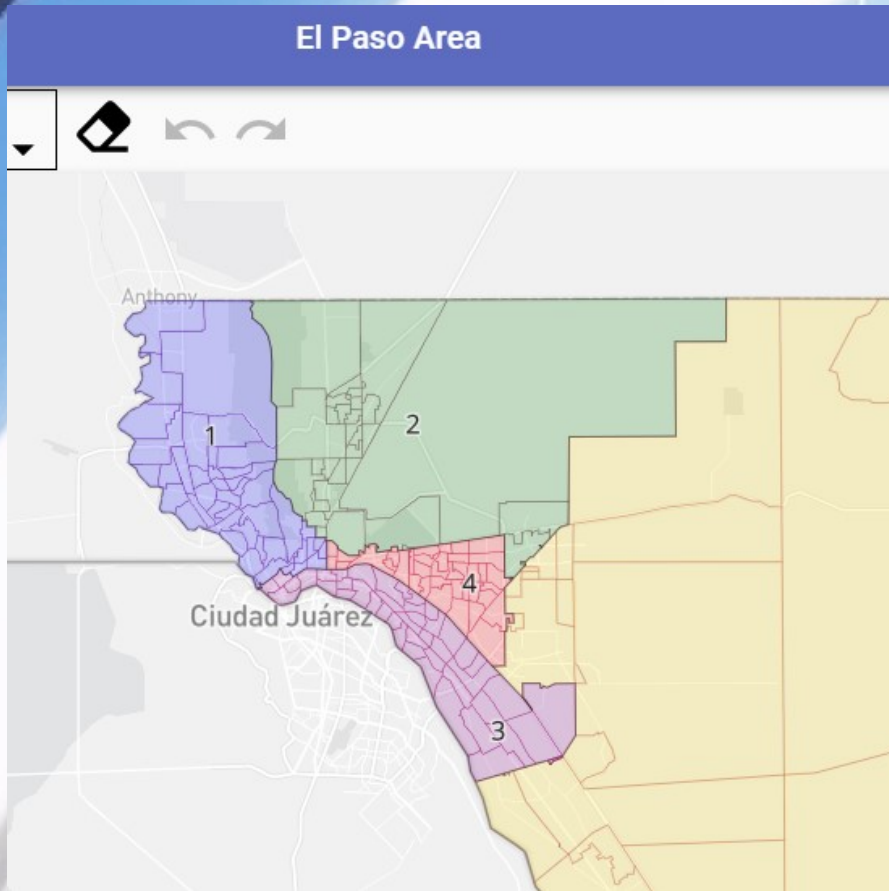
Assumptions / Objectives

- Five Current Congressional Districts
- Each District with 179,800 Target Population
 - Based on 2018 Estimated Populations
- Communities of Interest Respected
- Compact Districts
- Precinct and County Lines Respected
- Fracking corrected

Communities of Interest

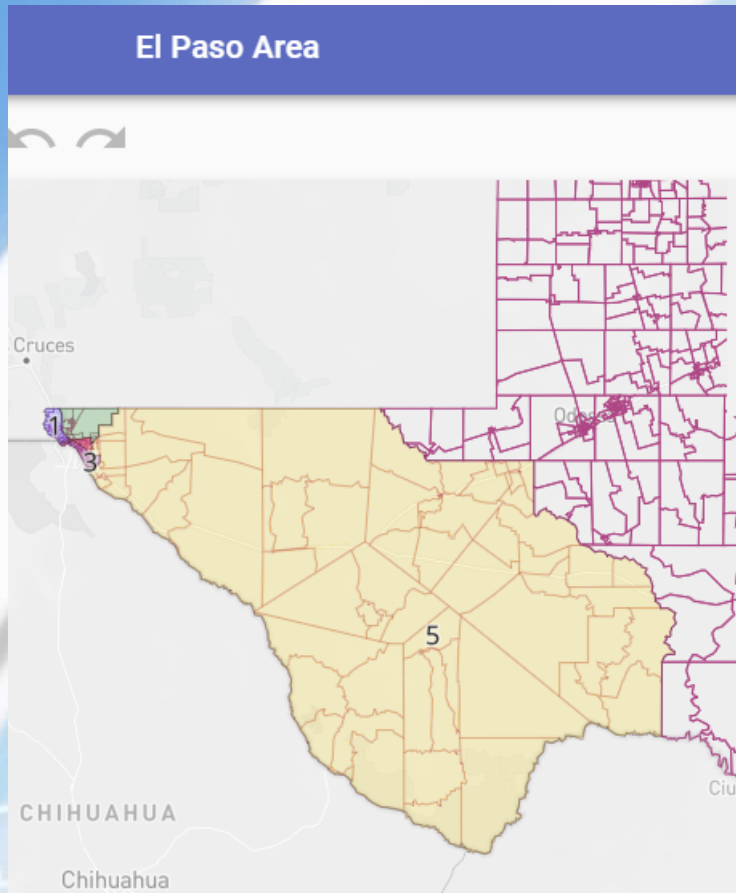
- Natural and man-made borders
 - New Mexico, Mexico, Franklin Mountains, Interstate 10
- Mirror Historical Growth of El Paso
- District Definitions
 - [D1] West (Pop. 179,749)
 - [D2] North East (Pop. 179,773)
 - [D3] South Central (Pop. 181,456)
 - [D4] North Central (Pop. 182,005)
 - [D5] Far East (Pop. 182,917)

First Four Districts



1. West Side District (179,749)
2. North East District (179,773)
3. South Central District (181,456)
4. North Central District (182,005)

Fifth District



Far East District (182,917)

- Portions of El Paso County
- Hudspeth
- Culbertson
- Jeff Davis
- Presidio
- Brewster
- Reeves
- Pecos
- Terrell

District Statistics

DRA 2020 El Paso Area										
DISTRICT STATISTICS					COMPACTNESS					
Population			Shapes		Partisan Lean			Demographics		
ID	Total	+/-			Dem	Rep	White	Minority	Hispanic	Black
Un	26,979,170				44.62%	55.38%	50.77%	49.23%	32.07%	12.30%
01	179,749	-81.31%			66.09%	33.91%	24.27%	75.73%	71.04%	2.40%
02	179,773	-81.30%			67.11%	32.89%	24.41%	75.59%	64.53%	8.68%
03	181,456	-81.13%			85.58%	14.42%	3.48%	96.52%	95.08%	1.05%
04	182,005	-81.07%			72.11%	27.89%	14.72%	85.28%	81.00%	3.08%
05	182,917	-80.98%			60.99%	39.01%	20.56%	79.44%	76.24%	2.39%

District Compactness



DRA 2020

El Paso Area

DISTRICT STATISTICS

COMPACTNESS

- Compactness ranges from 0 (least compact) to 100 (most compact).
- Average compactness is 55.
- Least compact district is District 3 with a value of 36.
- The compactness metrics use 2010 VTD shapes.

District	Compactness
1	68
2	69
3	36
4	44
5	56