

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:33 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-03-04
First Name: Laurel
Last Name: Hays
Title: Dr.
Organization: Indivisible TX Lege
Address: [REDACTED].
City: Houston
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

I live in Houston Heights. This community is within “the loop” and thus part of the city of Houston. It is basically a rectangle, with the 610 to the West and North, the 45 to the East, the 10 and the Buffalo Bayou to the South. It is composed of many historic homes with historic restrictions, intended to maintain the feel. It is pedestrian friendly with a rails to trail down the center, where sculptures and mature trees beautify the walkway. There are a couple of commercial streets within the Heights that contain small and local restaurants and stores. To our West is Shepherd and Durham Drive, which has more commercial entities, like grocery stores, gas stations, etc. Our neighborhood includes parks and bike trails along the bayous, which connect to the city center, University of Houston and Memorial Park. Our adjacent neighbors enjoy the many amenities and the small town feel of the Heights and have similar interests and issues as the Heights, such as Timbergrove, Garden Oaks, Near Northside, Rice Village, Kirby and Montrose. People in this community enjoy easy access to the city. However, we need better public transportation and expanded safe bike trails. We are significantly impacted by Houston’s tendency to flood due to rampant development upriver, as well as inadequate infrastructure. These communities do not have much in common with the far north suburbs or the ship channel.

Therefore, my Senate district (15) is not honoring our community of interest, so we are not given effective and fair representation.

[REDACTED]