

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, September 18, 2021 8:54:00 AM
Attachments: [0 NW Harris County COI Senate testimony final.pdf](#)

Date: 2021-09-18
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

I would like to begin my testimony by stating that the most important thing for this Committee to do is to respect federal and state law, including the Voting Rights Act. None of the testimony herein should be used by the legislature to justify diminishing the ability of any minority group to elect the candidate of their choice, or to artificially distort maps for racial or partisan purposes or to favor incumbents.

North Harris County Population Growth (Fig. 1, please refer to attached pdf for figures)

The 2020 census data show that the population of Texas grew by 15.9% since the 2010 decennial census. However, suburban areas in north Harris county saw growth exceeding 40%. According to the 2020 census data, the population of Texas House District 150, my current district, is 239,896, which is a tremendous, 43.3% increase over the 2010 ideal population for Texas House districts and a 23.5% surplus over the 2020 ideal population. This district, as well as Texas Senate District 7 and Congressional District 2, will need to be redrawn. When redrawing these districts, I urge the Committee to consider 1) keeping the neighborhood communities along Cypress Creek together, and 2) allowing time for the public to review and comment on the new maps before bringing them to a floor vote.

Cypress Creek Corridor (Fig. 2)

Following multiple occasions when Cypress Creek overflowed its banks, residents in the flooded neighborhoods along Cypresswood Drive pulled together as a community, neighbor helping neighbor, knocking out drywall in water-damaged homes, removing downed trees, cleaning up debris and even breaking bread together to use up food that would otherwise spoil due to the lengthy power outages in the area. Beyond working together in times of crisis, we also share many community resources including, Cypresswood Bike Trails, the Cypresswood Cultural District, as well as several schools and parks (for specific points of interest search 77379 at <https://districtr.org/COI/48785>). This community needs clear representation to voice shared concerns regarding suburban planning and development, flood mitigation strategies and electrical network resiliency, and should be kept together.

Northwest Hospital COI (Fig 2, refer to key)

I believe it is a general practice to nest Texas House maps into Texas Senate maps. Texas Senate District 7 includes an area bounded by Cypress Station and FM 1960 (Fig. 3, blue circle); however, Texas House District 150 does not. Why? Many residents living in this area work in nearby hospitals. This small area should have been included in Texas House District 150, so the residents, who work in the hospitals, can voice concerns on issues that impact their place of work.

Congressional District 2 – Suburban COI

Historically, Congressional District 2 covered suburban and rural areas (Fig. 4). When this district was redrawn in 2010, it included urban areas within the city of Houston. Although suburban and urban areas may share some concerns, suburban residents face many issues quite different from their urban neighbors. When redrawing this Congressional district, urban areas should be excluded to preserve the integrity of the suburban community.

Public Review and Comment on New Maps

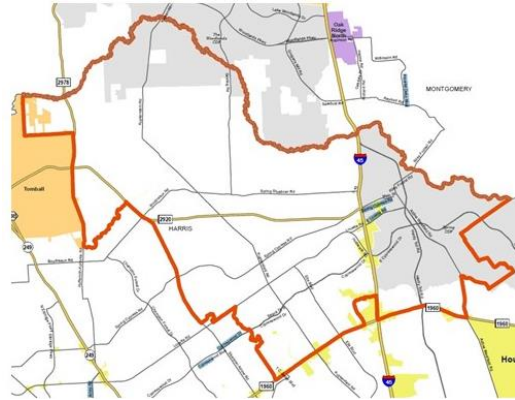
Since we are at the start of a new redistricting cycle, I hope that the Committee will make the new maps available to the public, allow adequate time for their review, and consider public comment regarding how they impact our communities. Redistricting is a complicated endeavor, and I do not envy the Committee's job. All I can capably speak about is the community in which I live, since I know it best. I sincerely appreciate the Committee's indulgence in allowing me to provide input on the small part of Texas that I call home, and I hope you will consider keeping my community together when drawing the new maps.



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TX House 150	
Ideal pop ₂₀₁₀	167,367
Ideal pop ₂₀₂₀	194,303
Current map	239,896
% over 2010	+43.34
% over 2020	+23.46

Figure 1. Population growth in Texas House 150

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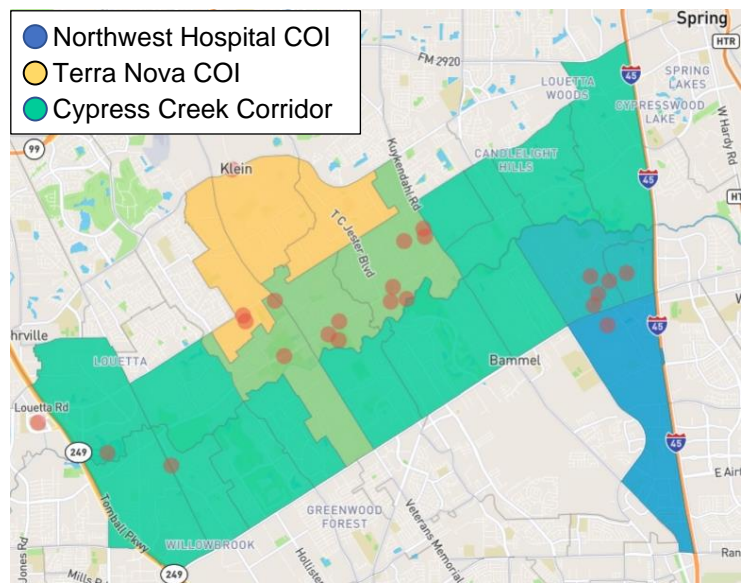


Figure 2. Cypress Creek Corridor Communities of Interest

many community resources including, Cypresswood Bike Trails, the Cypresswood Cultural District, as well as

several schools and parks (for specific points of interest search 77379 at <https://districtr.org/COI/48785>). This community needs clear representation to voice shared concerns regarding suburban planning and development, flood mitigation strategies and electrical network resiliency, and should be kept together.

Northwest Hospital COI (Fig 2, refer to key)

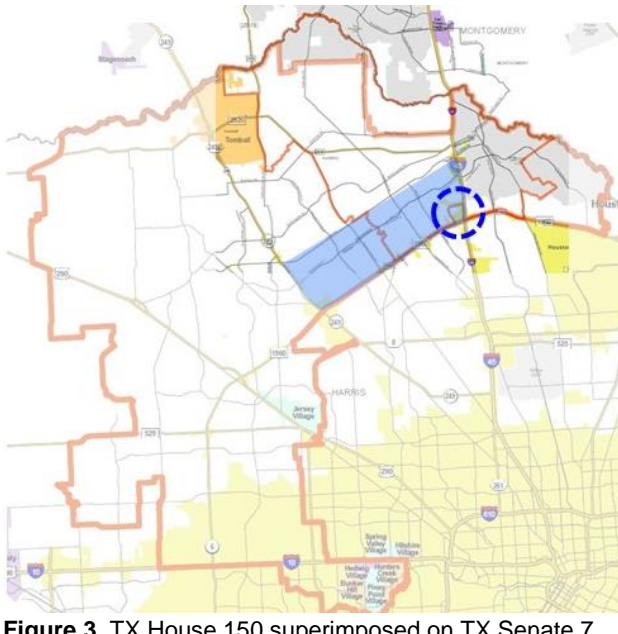


Figure 3. TX House 150 superimposed on TX Senate 7

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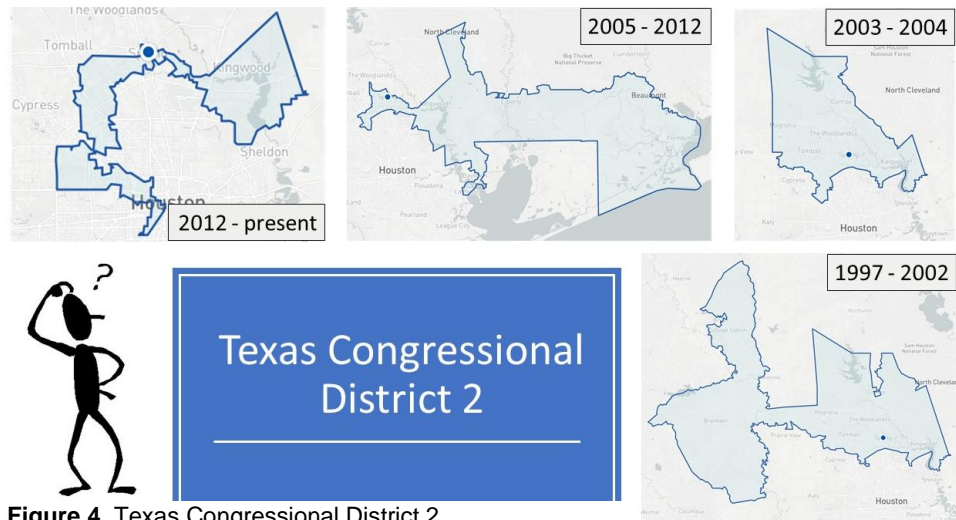


Figure 4. Texas Congressional District 2

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