

From: [donna_jorgensen](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Native community
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 3:44:37 PM

Please pay attention to those in the Native community who are making their wishes known to you.

It is with great apprehension that you will NOT listen that made me realize that I must write my disapproval of consolidating the Somali community within the NATIVE boundaries.

There have been many instances of unrest in the Native community since the Somali population moved into the neighborhood. Much of that unrest comes from the DISRESPECT of the males toward the females. The native community HONORS females while the Somalian males show disrespect to THEIR own culture--their mothers and their daughters. IT IS DISTASTEFUL; IT IS DISAPPOINTING to see that the MALES have not made a change in their opinions of / or treatment of females. TOLERANCE is the best that one can hope to see in the MPLS neighborhoods.....I can still visualize the older Native FEMALE in a wheelchair that was ABUSED by Somali MALE teenagers within the community the Natives have long held as their 'home' within the MPLS area.

Do not attempt to whitewash the lack of 'print' about what takes place in the area. There are problems that won't be resolved by further pushing a culture that has been pushed far enough. Take heed of the need to further disintegrate the Somali culture into the white suburban communities. It is there that they may better 'serve' themselves.

From: [Sheldon Mains](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Ignoring comments from the Seward Neighborhood:
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 4:10:36 PM
Importance: High

I want to make sure the commission receives these two comments:

First, a comment I sent your staff.

From: Sheldon Mains [mailto:smains@visi.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 12:44 PM
To: Carl, Casey J.
Subject: Re: Redrafted Ward Map(s) - FINAL VERSION?
Importance: High

THESE ARE MY PERSONAL COMMENTS, not the comments of the Seward Neighborhood Group. Please also forward this to the redistricting group/committee.

I want to take issue with the comment in your email about the current map and about the new map:

The email states: "...you'll notice some of the major/minor changes that have been made (macro perspective) based on comments from last week's public hearings. ..."

the map may be based on some of the comments from last week's public hearings but it also ignores the written and in-person (by myself) comments from the Seward Neighborhood Group. We clearly stated we appreciated the previous map because:

It kept Seward Neighborhood in one ward and that we wanted to stay in one ward, as we are now.

and

It kept Seward Neighborhood with the other University of Minnesota communities as we are now.

The correct wording of your email should have been:should be:

"you'll notice some of the major/minor changes that have been made (macro perspective) based on PAYING ATTENTION TO SOME comments from last week's public hearings AND TOTALLY IGNORING OTHER COMMENTS."

Sheldon Mains

Second, a little analysis:

It appears that all of the comments the Redistricting Group has received in favor of splitting Seward between Wards 2 and 6 come from people who live outside of Seward, while all of the comments the Group has received from inside Seward favor keeping the neighborhood in one

Ward.

From: [Matt Perry](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Time Line / New Maps
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 4:16:00 PM

Dear Redistricting Committee Members,

Thank you for your work. As a member of a city-wide commission, the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission, I can appreciate the responsibility and the time line crunch you are working with.

Council Member Cam Gordon posted to the Minneapolis Issues Forum that "The City clerk reports that the Charter Commissions Operations Committee is hoping to get concurrence on this draft possibly with **small tweaks as the final map at the conclusion of their committee meeting tonight**. If not, a follow-up meeting to finalize the wards will be held later this week. The goal is to finalize the wards and to publish them in final form prior to the final two public hearings (required under the City Charter), which have been set for March 20 and 21."

I would request that additional time for input be considered so that neighborhoods and neighborhood groups can speak to the changes found in the latest iteration of maps which were just made available today.

I know that the East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association (EHFNA) will be taking this matter up tonight which, if Council Member Gordon is correct, would make their input later this week, too late. I think that would be unfortunate. I know that neighborhoods and community members to the east of the East Harriet Neighborhood, in what is the current Ward 8, also are closely studying the changes and will want to weigh in. As volunteers with responsibilities during the day, we cannot possibly respond in a responsible way when the maps were just made available today.

Thank you again for your work and consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Matt Perry
East Harriet Farmstead
mattp@pobox.com
612.839.3320

From: [Maia Homstad](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: do not split Seward
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 4:34:02 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support in favor of keeping the Seward neighborhood in a single Ward. The physical (bordered on the east by the river, the west by Cedar, the north by I-94, and the south by Lake) and cultural boundaries have been clearly set for our neighborhood for generations, and there is no valid reason for separating it into two separate Wards. To do so would be a misrepresentation of a unified community.

Sincerely,
Maia Homstad
Seward Neighborhood Resident

From: [Jenny Larson](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: splitting Seward into two wards
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 4:52:15 PM

Hello,

I am writing to oppose the splitting of Seward neighborhood between Wards 2 and 6. It makes no sense to me to split a neighborhood representation in half. Splitting city council representation between two Wards will erode the fabric and focus of our neighborhood. Isn't the City about keeping the identity and cohesiveness of neighborhoods strong? Also, it seems this isn't a wise allocation of resources, as it introduces redundancy and might allow issues to fall through the cracks.

Please reconsider this decision.

Jennifer Larson
2425 30th Ave. S.
Minneapolis

--

Jennifer Larson
Communications Design
www.jenniferlarson.net
Photo blog: jenniferlarson.wordpress.com
[612.234.2420](tel:612.234.2420)

Fresh design that tells your story.

From: [J.Haltli](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Proposed Redistricting--Support Redistricting proposal as originally drafted
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 5:50:55 PM

As a resident of the Harrison neighborhood that lives within the area south of Glenwood Avenue proposed to be realigned to the 7th ward, I would like to voice my support for realigning this area from the 5th to 7th ward based on the following:

The geographic area comprising the 5th ward as outlined in the revised 3/7/12 version is illogically based on natural boundaries with little relevance.

The original proposal was based on more sound cutover points (Glenwood) that more accurately reflect the fabric of the neighborhood. In other words, the revision made on 3/7 solves nothing, as the areas shifted contain very few actual residents.

I feel that realignment would dramatically improve our representation in city and other government processes based on more similarity in day to day issues and priorities of the residents.

Our day to day experience is more closely reflected in the areas to the south than to the north. Our priorities are more closely aligned with Bryn Mawr residents than they are the neighborhoods to the north, and the issues we experience day to day are more similar to the seventh ward than they are the majority of the fifth ward.

I support realigning this section to the 7th ward, and believe we who live in this area would benefit from the change.

From: pmcclain653@gmail.com
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Please. It is important to keep the Harrison Neighborhood whole. Thank You Pam McClain Harrison Resident
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 6:03:35 PM

From: [Carl, Casey J.](#)
To: [Menshek, Peggy Y](#)
Subject: FW: Redrafted Ward Maps - March 6
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 7:32:51 PM

FYI---forwarding, as requested.

CASEY JOE CARL | Office of the City Clerk | CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS – *City of Lakes*
City Council & Clerk Department | 350 South 5th Street – Room 304 | Minneapolis, MN 55415-1382
612.673.3765 | casey.carl@minneapolismn.gov | [Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail](#)

From: Ben Walen [mailto:benwalen@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 4:05 PM
To: Carl, Casey J.
Cc: Gordon, Cam A.; Garwood, Robin D.; Sheldon Mains; Michael Trdan; Diann Anders; Maryam Zafar; Ken Webb
Subject: Redrafted Ward Maps - March 6

Please forward my following personal comments to the redistricting group/committee:

I am a resident of the Seward neighborhood, on 21st Ave S. I am disappointed to see the major changes made to the proposed ward lines in and around the Seward neighborhood. I am opposed to the dividing of the Seward neighborhood into two separate wards. The western part of the neighborhood, which would be split into Ward 6, has more in common with the university and river neighborhoods that fall into current and proposed Ward 2. Further, both of the new wards 2 and 6 have contorted boundaries compared with nearly every other proposed city ward. Under the new map's boundaries, the council member for Ward 2 will be representing people both north and south of a Ward 6 peninsula that juts out into Seward.

The new proposed map disregards both the written and in-person comments of representatives of the Seward Neighborhood Group (please note that I currently serve as the Co-President of the board of SNG) and neighborhood residents. In February, SNG passed the following resolution:

"The Seward Neighborhood Group supports a redistricting plan that keeps Seward in one ward, in the same ward as other university communities, and in a ward that includes both banks of the Mississippi River. In addition, SNG requests that the possibility of smoothing out the bumps on the industrial western edge of Seward in the plan released by the Redistricting Group be given consideration."

Please take these comments into consideration as you refine the map boundaries.

Sincerely,

Ben Walen
2211 21st Avenue S.
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-964-5772

From: [Barry](#)
To: "[Sarah Dietrich](#)"
Cc: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: RE: Redistricting
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 8:30:40 PM

Ms. Dietrich: The redistricting process is mandated by the Charter. Planning has been going on in open meetings for more than a year. Residents were invited to participate as members of the Advisory Group (in early 2011). Public hearings have been held. Replays of them are being shown on MTN and are available online. Neighborhoods have been notified, by email and snail mail. More public hearings will be held (see the website at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/redistricting2012/index.htm>). If you want to participate or have a comment, you can testify at a public hearing or submit a comment electronically to Redistricting2012@minneapolismn.gov . But you have to act fast. State law requires that the process be completed by April 3.

Barry Clegg

-----Original Message-----

From: Sarah Dietrich [<mailto:sarah@sarahdietrich.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 4:38 PM
To: barry@bfclegg.com
Subject: Redistricting

Hi Barry-

Gary Schiff called me this afternoon stating that ward 9 is going to be redrawn. I'm not sure I understand the implications. But that's just it. The residents of Ward 9 should be made aware of changes & be allowed to weigh in on them. The means by which you are going about this is very suspect. I am adamantly against it!!

Sarah Dietrich
Ward 9 resident
LCC Board VP
3038 30th Ave S

Sent from my iPhone=

From: bobhulteen@aol.com
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: the new maps
Date: Thursday, March 08, 2012 9:20:39 AM

Greetings!

I understand that it is still possible to comment on the proposed redistricted ward maps. I'd like to do so, but first want to thank everyone involved in what must be a challenge of the highest magnitude. I recognize it is not easy, and trust that all was done with good intent.

My immediate response to having Seward split into two wards is disappointment. Now, I live in the small section of Seward that has been redistricted out of the old SD62 and into the new SD60 (which is basically the old SD59). I would have preferred to remain in the old 62, as my most significant political relationships are there, but I understand that one cannot always stay with one's allies.

Now, I feel like historic relationships are also being split on city council. Some folks are still in Ward 2; many others are shifted to Ward 6.

Had only one of these shifts taken place, I probably wouldn't respond. But, since both have, and since this redistricting map came out second, I am responding to your request for comment.

Please keep some integrity to the Seward neighborhood.

I believe that there is good in building new relationships, and I think the new maps will do that to some degree. To the extent that these relationships will mean a more multicultural/multiethnic set of political relationships, I am appreciative.

Looking at the two redistricting efforts, however, I am concerned that this politically active neighborhood is being split up. I would hate to think that the fact that it could be retribution against the one neighborhood that elected a member to the City Council from a party other than the DFL. While it does keep Councilman Gordon in Ward 2, it does significantly shift his base outside of that ward. (I do want to say here that I didn't support Cam Gordon in his first election, but did in his re-election.)

There may indeed be good in the new shift, but I am not convinced. If this move is to be made, please help the residents understand the benefits of dividing a neighborhood that had been unified in its political districts -- both legislative and city -- and splitting it up. I doubt that this is the best interests of the city, but would be open to the discussion.

At this moment, however, I would need to speak against the redistricting effort for my politically active neighborhood.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,
Bob Hulteen
2604 East 22nd Street
Minneapolis

From: [treid](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Re: Harrison redistricting
Date: Thursday, March 08, 2012 9:22:00 AM

I am a long time resident, community volunteer & activist whom live in Harrison Neighborhood. I am sadden to hear of the redistricting that would effect Harrison. "I oppose!". I want to leave Harrison whole. I have lived in Harrison for 17 years and own property for 7 years. Changing Wards with dilute the diversity power the neighborhood has, and make a negative impact upon the goals Harrison is striving for. Is this a way for Ward 7 to increase population? or place on the map, Bryn Mawr south Minneapolis? Harrison and Bryn Mawr on the map is Near "North", Minneapolis.

Concern Resident,
Resident,Investor South of Glenwood Ave.

From: [Denise King](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Please support
Date: Thursday, March 08, 2012 9:27:13 AM

Please the support that redistricting map that keeps franklin ave and ventura
village attached...
thankl you
Denise King

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply
Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

From: [Maryam Marne Zafar](mailto:Maryam_Marne_Zafar)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Cc: mpls-seward@forums.e-democracy.org
Subject: [Seward] Redrafted Ward Map(s) - FINAL VERSION?
Date: Thursday, March 08, 2012 9:47:07 AM

My response to this splitting of Seward - an unbelievably bad solution!

I moved here from New York City over 15 years ago, and moved to the Seward neighborhood 14 years ago. As a 'hood that encompasses much that is wonderful and good - progressive, innovative, friendly, big-hearted, and welcoming to all - this was the only neighborhood that met my desires in the Twin Cities.

The bonus point - Cam Gordon, our Green Party Council Member!! His leadership, thoughtfulness, ethics and overall, his "great intentions" to making Seward one of the best neighborhoods I have ever lived in (and I have lived in Paris and Milan as well as being a Native New Yorker in all ways).

It appears that the Redistricting Council is more concerned with the comments of "outsiders" (those who do not live in Seward) than the actual Ward 2 residents. Opportunity Wards? Sounds like short-sighted code for "spreading it around," and appears to play into the racial distributions of the neighborhoods. This blunt approach at "diversity" only will create (I feel) deeper hard feelings and suspicions; furthermore it is simplistic to feel that this redistricting will solve the problems that are occurring in other wards.

It smacks of political maneuvering and frankly, it is those of us who are redistricted that will feel the pain.

As a multi-culti person (mostly native, some african-american, some austrian-french jewish), I feel that, once more, shifts happen due to what politicians want vs. what neighborhoods need. A stable, cohesive neighborhood - one that encompasses many ethnicities, creeds and all - should not be put torn apart due to the politics of the day.

By the way, I am on the SNG Board of Directors (I am the Secretary) and one of the primary reasons that I "serve" is because I love our community dearly.

With regards,
M Marne Zafar

Sent from iCloud

From: [Holle Brian](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Cc: [Fifthdistrictsteeringcommittee Greenparty](#)
Subject: Green Party on Minneapolis redistricting
Date: Thursday, March 08, 2012 4:20:33 PM

To the members of the Redistricting Group:

I would like to thank you on behalf of the 5th Congressional District Green Party and citizens of Minneapolis for your work on this committee. We understand that you are still seeking input on proposed new Ward and Park District boundaries in Minneapolis.

We strongly urge the Redistricting Group to be sensitive to political diversity within the city by not placing non-DFL incumbents in wards with other incumbents, as was done in the last redistricting process (Dean Zimmerman, GP with Robert Lilligren, DFL; and Natalie Johnson Lee, GP with Don Samuels, DFL.) With the adoption of ranked choice voting, Minneapolis has opened the door to more diverse, grassroots representation, and the Redistricting Group should not be sending a message to non-DFL incumbents that they will be targeted in the redistricting process.

Please feel free to contact me or other 5CDGP Steering Committee members if you have any questions. Thank you again for your contributions to democracy!

Holle Brian, 5th Congressional District Steering Committee member
Minneapolis, MN
612-822-6593
holleb@aol.com

From: genemartinez@comcast.net
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Comment on 12th Ward Redistricting Proposed Map
Date: Thursday, March 08, 2012 5:07:16 PM

As a resident of the 12th Ward, I would like to oppose putting the so-called "Bossen" area into the 11th Ward which cuts it off from it's natural community of interest. This is the area that has E 54th Street on the north, 34th Avenue South on the east, Highway 62 on the south and Cedar Avenue on the west.

Up until 2002 this area WAS part of the 12th Ward. The Bossen area also would provide additional racial and socioeconomic diversity to the 12th Ward.

I think it is very unfair to the residents of Bossen to cut them off from their natural community of interest and place them in a remote eastern fringe of the 11th Ward. Please return Bossen to the 12th Ward.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Gene Martinez
5042 41st Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55417
Sent from my BlackBerry® by Boost Mobile

From: [Kelly O'Brien](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Wards 8 & 9
Date: Thursday, March 08, 2012 9:50:48 PM

Hello,

I greatly appreciate the commission's efforts to keep neighborhoods intact in the new wards. So I have to say that the bit of Lyndale neighborhood added to Ward 9 and the little bit of CARAG added to Ward 8 are ridiculous. Can you make that go away?

Thank you.
Kelly O'Brien
210 W 43rd St
Mpls 55409

From: lgoldish@aol.com
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Fwd: [Snomail] Ward Boundary Suggestion For Sheridan Neighborhood
Date: Thursday, March 08, 2012 11:32:47 PM

Dear Redistricting Committee:

I live in Sheridan Neighborhood and live here because it is the arts district. It is unique and offers and provides much to the metro area. Please put and keep all of Northeast in one ward so it can be served well and continue to serve the TC well. Please do not include any of it with Downtown Minneapolis, which has a very separate and different set of needs and interests!

Sincerely!
La Goldish
1606 3rd St NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413
612-205-8116

From: [Carol Greenwood](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: KEEP LYNDALDE WHOLE!
Date: Friday, March 09, 2012 8:01:28 AM

We do not want to split off into a different ward than the rest of our neighborhood. This was tried once before and it did not give us adequate representation. Why would you change the natural boundary of 35W?

Thank you.

Carol

CAROL GREENWOOD

Realtor

Equity Realty Inc.

3232 1st Ave. S.

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Cell: 612-747-2610

Ofc: 612-823-1230

From: [Barry Clegg](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Fw: KEEP LYNDALE WHOLE!
Date: Friday, March 09, 2012 8:35:56 AM

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Carol Greenwood <carolgworld@yahoo.com>
To: "barry@bfclegg.com" <barry@bfclegg.com>
Sent: Friday, March 9, 2012 8:11 AM
Subject: KEEP LYNDALE WHOLE!

We do not want to split off into a different ward than the rest of our neighborhood. This was tried once before and it did not give us adequate representation. Why would you change the natural boundary of 35W?

KEEP LYNDALE WHOLE!!!!

Thank you.

Carol & Kelly Greenwood

CAROL GREENWOOD

Realtor

Equity Realty Inc.

3232 1st Ave. S.

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Cell: 612-747-2610

Ofc: 612-823-1230

From: [Matt Perry](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Matt Perry - Redistricting 2012 Public Statement
Date: Friday, March 09, 2012 8:43:13 AM
Attachments: [Matt Perry - Redistricting 2012 Public Statement \(030912\).pdf](#)

Dear Redistricting Committee Members,

Please find attached my public statement on City of Minneapolis 2012 Ward redistricting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Perry

--

Matt Perry
East Harriet Farmstead
mattp@pobox.com
612.839.3320

Public Statement

My name is Matt Perry and I am an East Harriet resident and an active member of the community in and around where I live. I am the president of the Nicollet-East Harriet Business Association (NEHBA), past president of the East-Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association, current mayoral appointee to the Neighborhood Community Engagement Commission (NCEC), member of the City's Capital Long Range Improvement Committee, and chair of the Minneapolis Zoning Board of Adjustment. I have participated in numerous Community Advisory Committees including most recently the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's Six District Dog Park committee and the Lake Harriet Bandshell Concession committee. I have a great passion for neighborhoods and community engagement and I know the communities in South and Southwest Minneapolis extremely well.

I first want to commend the Redistricting Committee in your efforts. This redistricting process has been more transparent than in the past. I applaud your sincere efforts to hold true to the goals of the Voting Rights Act to ensure racial and language minorities have a fair opportunity to elect representatives of their choice. As a volunteer on a number of City boards, I know how hard you have worked and I want to say 'thank you'!

Today I write to you to urge you to reconsider the placement of the East Harriet neighborhood in the proposed Ward 8. The East Harriet neighborhood belongs in Ward 13 because that configuration holds true to the following standards of having compact and contiguous wards, reduces the changes of the current boundaries in Southwest Minneapolis, and ensures the integrity of communities of interest in Ward 8 and 13.

Compact and contiguous wards: One of the redistricting standards that could be more closely adhered to under the current proposed boundaries for Ward 13 is the aim to create ward boundaries which allow for more "circular" wards that are never more than twice as long as they are wide. By keeping East Harriet in Ward 13 and moving West Calhoun into Ward 7 or 10 this could be achieved to a greater scale in all of these wards.

Reduce current boundary changes: Since the expansion of the Southwest portion of the City limits, East Harriet has mostly been a part of Wards 11 or 13 in Southwest Minneapolis. The proposed change to Ward 8 drastically changes the ward representation for East Harriet. While the number assigned to the ward may not have significant value, the ward boundaries that have enveloped the communities are significant. History shows that East Harriet is socially tied to the rest of Southwest Minneapolis.

Communities of Interest: The proposed Ward 8 configuration splits up a number of communities of interest. The map of March 6, 2012 shows the proposed Ward 8 with East Harriet and neighborhoods to the east, on both sides of Interstate 35W.

The southern part of the East Harriet is currently in Ward 13; the northern part is in Ward 10. Even so East Harriet has come to identify itself as fully part of Ward 13 in building partnerships and creating community. East Harriet has strong relationships with the current Ward 13 neighborhoods and has similar interests based on their location in Southwest Minneapolis and proximity to Lake Harriet. These relationships are evident in many joint events and activities around Lake Harriet and demonstrated by other aspects of City governance. The borders of other government entities treat Southwest Minneapolis as a community, such as police precincts and the NCEC election districts.

I have personally been a part of many of these shared experiences and programs that make the neighborhoods of Southwest Minneapolis, including East Harriet, a distinct community of interest. The following list is just a sample of my personal experiences of shared interest among the current Ward 13 neighborhoods:

- In 2009, neighborhood representatives from across the city met to establish election districts for the new Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC). Kingfield was originally placed in NCEC District 2, which included Ward 13 neighborhoods plus Tangletown and Windom. Kingfield representatives successfully lobbied to have Kingfield removed from NCEC District 2 and placed in the same election district as CARAG, Lyndale and other neighborhoods north of them because they had “more in common” with their priorities and issues than those in NCEC District 2.
- Since 2005, the seven neighborhood organization leaders in the current Ward 13, including East Harriet, have met regularly to share best practices, pool resources and identify City issues they would like to have their Council Member address at City Hall.
- Linden Hills and East Harriet have been partners with the MPRB on a multi-year effort to develop a Roberts Bird Sanctuary Long-Range Management Plan.
- East Harriet continues to benchmark its home improvement and business design guidelines against other neighborhoods west and south of it such as in Kenny, Linden Hills and Fulton because of the similarity in property values, design, historic provenance, etc.
- KiteFest, in its 11th year, is jointly sponsored with the MPRB, East Harriet and Linden Hills. This signature winter event brings folks out from neighborhoods around the lake each January.

- Lynnhurst and East Harriet worked together to address the needs of residents during the Lyndale Avenue Road construction project. This included the design and distribution of "Slow Down" yard signs and active maintenance of a website with current construction information over a two year period. The Lyndale and Kingfield neighborhoods chose to not participate in this activity because of different priorities.
- The Linden Hills, Lynnhurst, Fulton and East Harriet neighborhoods represented neighborhoods on a MPRB Community Advisory Committee to look at the expansion of food offerings at the Lake Harriet Bandshell, which eventually led to the selection of Bread & Pickle.
- East Harriet borrowed heavily from the Fulton Neighborhood Design Guidelines for Residential Redevelopment in developing its own because of the similarity in goals and issues involving housing stock.

Grouping East Harriet with neighborhoods east of I35W will result in a loss of political influence for both East Harriet and the group of neighborhoods to the east of I35W. The Councilmember of proposed Ward 8 will have to balance the priorities and concerns of Bryant, Regina, Bancroft, Field, and Northrup with a very different set of priorities and concerns than those next to or in close proximity to Lake Harriet. This is not a judgment on any of these neighborhoods. But there is a reality in the spectrum of socio-economic conditions from east to west in the proposed Ward 8 that results in very different specific political, social, and economic interests. There will be great tension for a Councilmember to represent the range of interests in the proposed Ward 8.

I also believe that the proposed Ward 8 boundaries dilute minority voting power by dividing neighborhoods east of I35W that have greater concentrations of African American and Hispanic residents than neighborhoods to the west of I35W. This division artificially reduces these groups' opportunity to influence elections at the municipal level.

These comments are not a reflection on the current elected officials with whom I have had great personal success in working with on a range of issues affecting neighborhoods, businesses and other community issues.

I applaud the efforts of this committee and respect the process you are following to draw equitable, reasonable and rational ward boundaries. I write today as a resident who believes that the interests of neighborhoods in the proposed Ward 8 would be best represented if they could be grouped with neighborhoods with similar priorities.

Recommendation: I suggest adjusting the map so that East Harriet falls into Ward 13.

From: [lori_Erickson](#)
To: [Redistricting2012](#)
Subject: Please do not combine the Arts District with Downtown
Date: Friday, March 09, 2012 11:06:41 AM

Dear Redistricting Committee:

I have been living in the arts district for nearly 10 years, and I am one of the many artists residing and working in the Sheridan neighborhood. The Arts District has been growing for a while now and is really beginning to flourish. Many new businesses are coming in and creating lots of great energy. Adding downtown to the mix will stifle a lot of that new creative energy. The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District is bounded by Broadway and 26th Avenue as well as the River and Central Avenue. This district was officially designated by the City of Minneapolis in 2003, as recognition of the significant impact the arts was having on the area. **The proposed City-Wide Ward Map splits the Arts District between two wards**, with the majority in Ward One and a much smaller portion, Bottineau and Sheridan, in Ward Three. Though the arts district is currently divided, the existing ward boundaries were established before the Arts District was created. With each passing year, the community of artists grows. As a community of interest, **it is logical for the entire Arts District to be in one ward**. Broadway is the natural border, defining the NE Arts District community. Please make adjustments to the proposed map. It makes no sense to combine the Arts District in with downtown, Sheridan and the Arts District are not a part of the downtown community at all, and the two are VERY different, with VERY different concerns. I don't see how one council person could possibly represent both areas in one district. The Downtown concerns will out weigh the Arts District, and our burgeoning community will suffer.

Thank you,

Lori Erickson
Artist and Arts District resident