

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

Verbal Testimony Summaries

Fairbanks Public Hearing 10/18/2021

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ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: **Randy Ruedrich**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **AFFER**

Mr. Ruedrich noted the importance of representation in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. AFFER has revised their map to reflect a northside district that is very different from District 10 in the original proposal. They built a district that goes from the old Nenana Road offramp on the Parks Highway all the way around to the eastside of the borough in Pleasant Valley. It is south of the Alaska Railroad, south of Goldstream Creek, and goes out along major roads on the eastside to encompass 18,400 people who live the closest to Fairbanks. They tried to build a district that does not have an east or west, but has a blend, and releases about 4,000 people who are on the northside of the borough running from the far east to the far west that are more socio-economically like the people living in District 5, the rural Doyon district.

Additionally, by freeing the people who have separate representation, the Fairbanks North Star Borough would now have 61% of senate seat C rather than having 52% in this full representation case, which is a point he wants to ensure is not overlooked today.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: **Nick Jackson**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **Ahtna**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Mr. Jackson spoke in favor of the Doyon map that is inclusive of all villages. Currently, Cantwell is not in the district and Mr. Jackson would like to be sure Cantwell is included in the district as there are familial and recreational ties to Cantwell.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary date: October 19, 2021

Name: **CB Bettisworth**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Mr. Bettisworth recommended that the map drawing technology allow users to erase from already drawn districts to help with balancing populations as the technology does not currently allow that. Mr. Bettisworth expressed the importance that the board maintain "one person, one vote", socio-economic and cultural similarity, using road, fire, and water, and school districts and naturally occurring geographic boundaries to draw lines.

The current borough boundaries are mostly geographically defined. Back in 1964, they were defined with respect to socio-economic interests and took the Chena, Chatanika, and Salcha River drainages to be used as the primary boundary along with the Tanana River. In 1987, when Mr. Bettisworth served on the Local Boundary Commission, they expanded the Fairbanks North Star Borough mostly to the north to go up around Northern Livengood and east out to Central. Doing so encompasses socio-economically integrated communities that have mining in common. Much has changed since 1964 and the last time the census was completed: 1) The discovery of oil has made a huge impact on the state and the Fairbanks North Star Borough. 2) The settlement of Alaska Native land claims that have changed the patterns of land ownership in the state. In Fairbanks, it has changed much with the growth of Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) and Doyon, making it a larger community that includes interior communities that use Fairbanks as a hub. 3) The University of Alaska has become an "economic engine" along with TCC and Doyon. 4) Tourism has changed how residents see the communities.

In conclusion, Mr. Bettisworth asked the board to not use the borough boundaries as their guide to redistricting. Not only one district needs to be added to the outside borough boundary component. Mr. Bettisworth would instead move east off Steese Highway (toward the mining district) which reflects what was done in 1987 when the borough boundaries were made by the Local Boundary Commission.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Sent: 10/18/2021

Good afternoon, my name is Makenzie Demmert and I am grateful for this democratic process of giving testimony on matters that directly impact my life and livelihood.

I've lived in Fairbanks now for the past 8 years, much longer than I anticipated when I left Ketchikan almost a decade ago. I had planned to get my degree at UAF and high tail it out of here, but like many before me I fell victim to the rugged charms of Interior Alaska. I've also raised my brother here, (who is now 17 and works at McDonalds), and he now refuses to leave Fairbanks because he has met his closest friends at West Valley High School. Indeed, we have spent much of our time in West Fairbanks, I worked at the airport for several years, I went to school at UAF, and lived off Farmers loop, in dry cabins and apartments and spent many summers driving the beautiful and diverse highways of Alaska.

This summer alone I made the drive from Fairbanks to Tok at least 20 times. It's gotten to the point now where I know exactly where the next rest stop is, when the next slow stretches are to settle in behind that RV and the next passing lanes to whip past them. On the way back home to West Fairbanks, when I get to Salcha, I know I've got about an hour until I'm home, depending on traffic and road conditions.

Yet now, in the worlds created under Board proposal v. 3 as well as the AFFER and Senate minority proposals, I'm at risk of having my interests bundled in with Salchas', a distinct community, an hour away from where I live, with several unique socioeconomic districts in between us and them. In fact, on one of my trips to Tok this summer, I had my father with me and from the time we left to the time we got to Harding Lake, he needed to use a rest stop.

So under Broad Proposal v3, which I understand is being seriously considered, I would be voting with the same interests as people who are "necessary-to-stop rest stop distance" from where I live, that I have to drive through several other districts to reach. Tell me, how are these interests compatible or contiguous? Quite simply, they're not. Practically and democratically speaking they are two dis-contiguous, separate worlds. As an example, we in West Fairbanks have been just *counting down the days* for the year-long University Street construction project to be OVER FINALLY!

This construction has impacted my daily life severely. My shopping and commute habits have totally transformed from this one main artery being shut down. Now, I'd love to hear how the people in Salcha are coping with this construction, (let alone if they've even heard of it).

The point is, our localized interests are incongruous and for this reason and for reasons having to do with ideal population incongruity via overdrawn maps, my democratic representation is unequal and underrepresented by Board Proposal v3 and the AFFER and Senate minority proposals.

This unequal representation has economic impacts as well. I recently submitted my application for a real estate license in Alaska. This means that I have completed the training, I

have passed the test, and I have been signed to a brokerage. It also means I've invested a good deal of time and money into this career.

And now you're telling me that the area I know best, the area I'd be conducting my business in, is in danger of having a black mark of unequal representation? So now, I must disclose to potential home buyers that a house they are considering does not come with a full bundle of rights, that their right of representation is now hindered by the overdrawn, dis-contiguous district that their dream home is in, that their voting interests will now be bundled with people they have almost no common localized day- to-day concerns/contact with? Would you choose to purchase a home where you were systematically guaranteed unequal representation in the democratic process? Because I surely would not. I would not consciously choose to purchase a property in a district that had less than equal representation rights as a given. By overdrawing boundaries and bundling two practically and physically dis-contiguous socioeconomic regions, this is what our rights, and the people of Eielson, Salcha and everyone else we have been grouped with would suffer.

We are here today because of and for democracy, we are here for our rights. Board Proposal v.3, and the AFFER and Senate Minority proposals unduly hinder affected citizens rights to equal representation which in turn, as a real estate agent selling properties in this Greater Fairbanks region, results in damages to my livelihood.

Follow-up answer to John's question at the end of my spoken testimony:

When making the determination on "who to cut out" focus on socio-economic similarity. For example, it makes more sense to group rural areas with similarly rural areas rather than grouping urban and rural interests together. And to echo other comments, perhaps cutting more evenly from each of the districts could be a compromise.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: Elizabeth Dobbins

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Ms. Dobbins lives North of Farmers Loop and after the last redistricting cycle, her area switched between districts for what seemed like every 6 months while court cases were in progress; Ms. Dobbins would like to avoid this.

Ms. Dobbins spoke against Board Map v.3 as she believes that keeping the borough as an entity is more important than giving everyone a fair vote.

Ms. Dobbins spoke in favor of the Doyon Coalition map as they went from the exterior inwards into Fairbanks and does well with keeping the neighborhoods together. She acknowledges that she may be biased due to her house being in the middle of the Doyon district and is unlikely to swap back and forth.

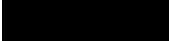
Ms. Dobbins spoke against having Valdez and Cordova grouped with the interior and noted she would disqualify any map that groups coastal areas with the interior.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: **Michelle Goodwin**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Ms. Goodwin lives in the westside of Fairbanks and originally lived in Eielson Air Force Base. Being of mixed race, she doesn't believe she fits in anywhere and has an appreciation for all sides. She has a degree in Sociology Research Methods and worked in workforce planning management. One of the things they aimed for was fairness and efficiency and one day her manager asked her "What is the shift that we need to hire for to meet the customer need?" She answered, "Do you want the actual need or do you want to know what people would work?" The manager answered that they wanted to know the need. Ms. Goodwin answered, "We need people to work Monday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 to 12, go home, and come back from 3 to 6." The reality is, when we talk about the people which is what it comes down to, we start with the high level (the census blocks) while working within the parameters given to us while taking into account the human component. This is not just about numbers. Ms. Goodwin noted that in her experience, because she worked with humans and accommodating them for what they are, efficiency was not as perfect.

Ms. Goodwin spoke in favor of the Doyon Coalition map as it puts communities together for representation. If the core map can be modified in Cantwell, Eielson Air Force Base, and Salcha, to put them back into the districts they need to be a part of, contiguousness would be achieved, and the human factor would be recognized in the voting process. It is important to remember that people are involved and are not just numbers.

Ms. Goodwin would like to see a combination of Board Map v.4 and the Doyon Coalition map as they address the communities and neighborhoods in the more urbanized areas and also recognizes the lands of the people of Alaska, the people who were here, and with whose blessing we are allowed to stay.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: David Guttenberg

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

For 16 years, I have represented 3 different districts in the legislature. The first district, for 10 years, went from west Fairbanks, Goldstream, all the way down to Cantwell, so it included the entire Denali borough. The next redistricting, District 38 was thrown out by the courts. Like it was described earlier, I came out of West Fairbanks, most of the Yukon down to the coast; from Kotlik down to Hooper Bay - the courts threw that out - that was a challenge to represent that district. To fly to Anchorage, to fly to Bethel, and then to try and visit all those communities that included McGrath as well.

All the borough is on Doyon/TCC land. I represented Cantwell which was part of Ahtna. I spent so much time down there that they said I could just hang out at Fred Meyers West and meet them when they come to town, but it was great representing the diverse part of that population.

I think we need to go back to part of the original Alaska Constitution mandates and that is "one person, one vote" - I think that is significant part of all of this. I think that the dilution of giving Fairbanks only 5 districts is de minimis and I think it doesn't work.

I know your challenge, I'm not going to micromanage any single district, but Ms. Demmert did a very good job in illustrating Board Map v.3 and a couple of the others which has West Fairbanks with East Fairbanks and she did good in describing a district where it wasn't far enough to drive across to without getting gas or going to the bathroom. But there are also socio-economic examples to take: there's different high schools in entirely different areas that people shop from, get their mail from and they don't overlap and there's one school in between them. Her example about how much people care about the University bridge in Salcha was a good example, so dividing Fairbanks that way doesn't make any sense to me.

There was a time when Fairbanks elected its legislators by at-large. I sit on the borough assembly and I will represent the entire borough even though we had different seats. The top 5 or 6 go-getters went to the legislators regardless of party. We'd break the borough boundaries often. You can shred a community outside of the borough by having larger representation inside of the borough. The Supreme Court does not like that because it would diminish representation in various parts of the borough, but in this case it would strengthen and diversify. Clearly, if you look back and saw who was elected in Fairbanks in those districts, it was a diverse group of people and part of that was because everybody had to represent everybody where various political parties were representatives. That diversifies representation and would strengthen a coalition where every legislator represented the same group of people in Fairbanks.

I would talk about that and make sure that the east-west divide does represent a socio-economic impact. The socio-economic integration and differences between east and west sides of Fairbanks is significant and whenever you go out to a community meeting, you can see that. The high schools, where people shop, where they integrate, where they socialize is pretty divided. I urge you to consider those things when going back to "one person, one vote" and expanding the base in Fairbanks instead of talking about shrinking it.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: **Doug Isaacson**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Mr. Isaacson has been a Fairbanks resident for over 40 years, currently works for the Alaska Native village of Minto, runs an ANCSA village corps subsidiary and two of the village charter corporations. He has also served most of this millennium for North Pole.

Mr. Isaacson stated that Eielson, part of Badger, and North Pole should be kept together for the following reason(s): If you drew a circle 10 miles around North Pole City Center, you would be touching Latterfield on one side and Eielson AFB on the other. With a buildup of the F-35's, the population shift is going more toward Eielson. To address the issues that were caused by Flint Hills Refinery (their spill) and Eielson AFB PFAS issue, North Pole was essentially tasked with supplying water to much of the Badger side closest within 3 miles of North Pole all the way out to Moose Creek recently.

Homogenously, for the city of North Pole and those who rely upon city services, we are within this parameter. The only 3 maps that address this are the Senate Minority Caucus map's District 5-C (extends too far south), AFFER map's District 9-E (unites them well, but deviation is off by 119 people), and the Doyon Coalition map that has a deviation within 14 and most reflects the socio-economic homogeneity of the North Pole service area and keeps communities together.

The extent of Eielson needing to be inside of the North Pole area is very important as the North Pole mayor serves as an honorary commander. The ANCSA village corporation also serves as the co-commander for the logistics readiness squadron, thus they are integrated.

Gary Newman Redistricting Board Testimony 10/18/21

Updated and provided as written testimony 10/24/21

My name is Gary Newman, a 50 year resident of Fairbanks, living on Chena Hot Springs Road. I've engaged for 3 decades on redistricting efforts and have spent considerable time this year as well. Since 1990, my area has been bounced around, paired with northern Fairbanks, North Pole, and the current District 6 that includes Ft. Yukon and Tok.

Technology this time around has been great to have and the Redistricting Board's website and meetings have been very open.

I understand the challenges of mapping with the handful of constitutional requirements that to some degree are often in competition. An analogy might be a balloon that, when squeezed in one direction, pops out in another. Others have suggested a Rubix Cube, a complex version which I have provided to the Board.



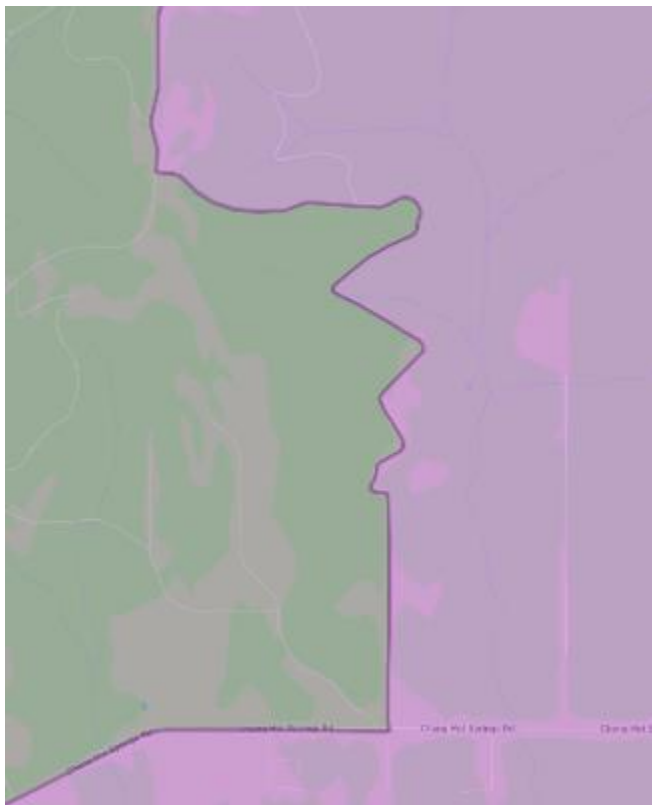
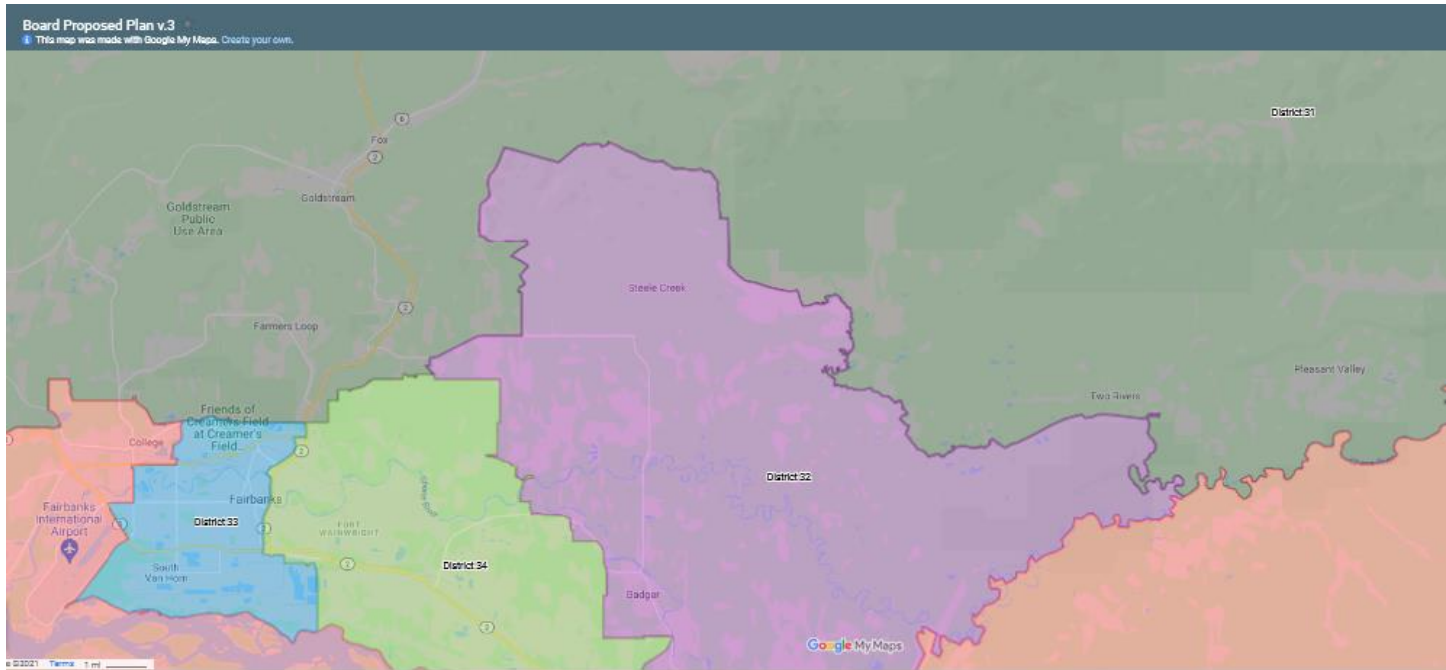
Of all of the maps under consideration, two maps seem to be the most functional from the standpoint of respect for compactness, contiguousness, socio-economic integration, cultural integration, municipal boundaries as much as possible, and lack of constitutional questionability, with just a few districts with deviations that are higher than optimal. With much of Alaska sparsely populated, that will always be a challenge.

In both the Board Version 4 and AFFR maps, I particularly appreciate the treatment of the Fairbanks North Star Borough districts with its east-west orientation over the north-south orientation of other maps. Other maps also break up subdivisions and neighborhoods, include sections of Chena Hot Springs Road with North Pole. The obvious boundary in the latter case is to use not a road, but the Chena River to delineate the separate of North Pole from Chena Hot Springs area. Version 4 and the AFFR maps mostly do this, though do include western Badger Road to reduce the deviation. North Pole is its own distinct community and should be afforded its own district, similarly with Chena Hot Springs Road to the neighborhoods to the north and west. I'd think the Doyon Coalition folks would like Version 4 better than the AFFR map, but for the greater Fairbanks area, but there are pluses for both Version 4 and AFFR.

The Doyon Coalition shows a lack of concern for how it breaks up neighborhoods in Fairbanks, while Board version 4 seems to meet their main objectives without that disruption. I think the maps of Board Version 3 and AFFR, are totally unacceptable for various reasons, the former as it disenfranchises Fairbanks from required representation from high deviations and the latter constitutionally which the Board recognized in testimony, but still surprisingly allowed to be accepted. The Senate Minority Caucus map, with its north-south orientation and neighborhood breakup of east rural Fairbanks into dissimilar districts is also flawed.

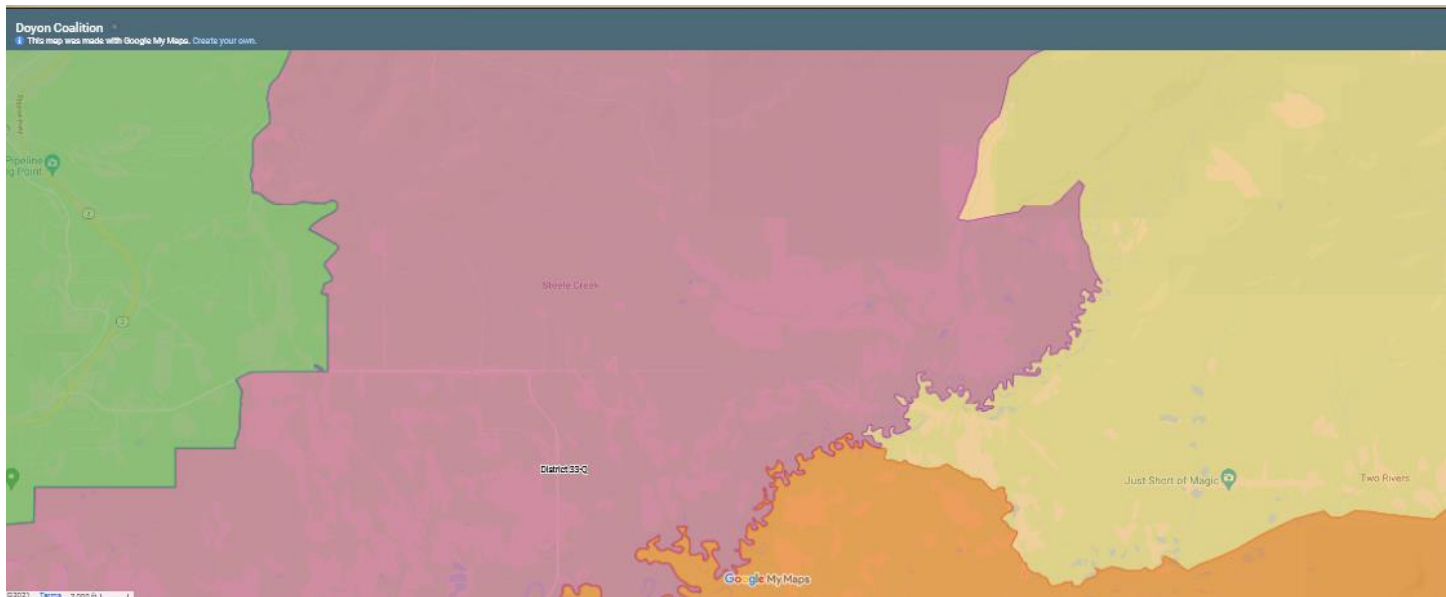
AFFER doesn't afford Fairbanks the 5.2 House seat representation it requires, besides the other constitutional questions the Board noted in their presentation.

Board V.3 grabs a central portion of Chena Hot Springs Road and Gilmore Trail and puts it in with North Pole. It also splits the Tungsten Subdivision in half. Shown below:

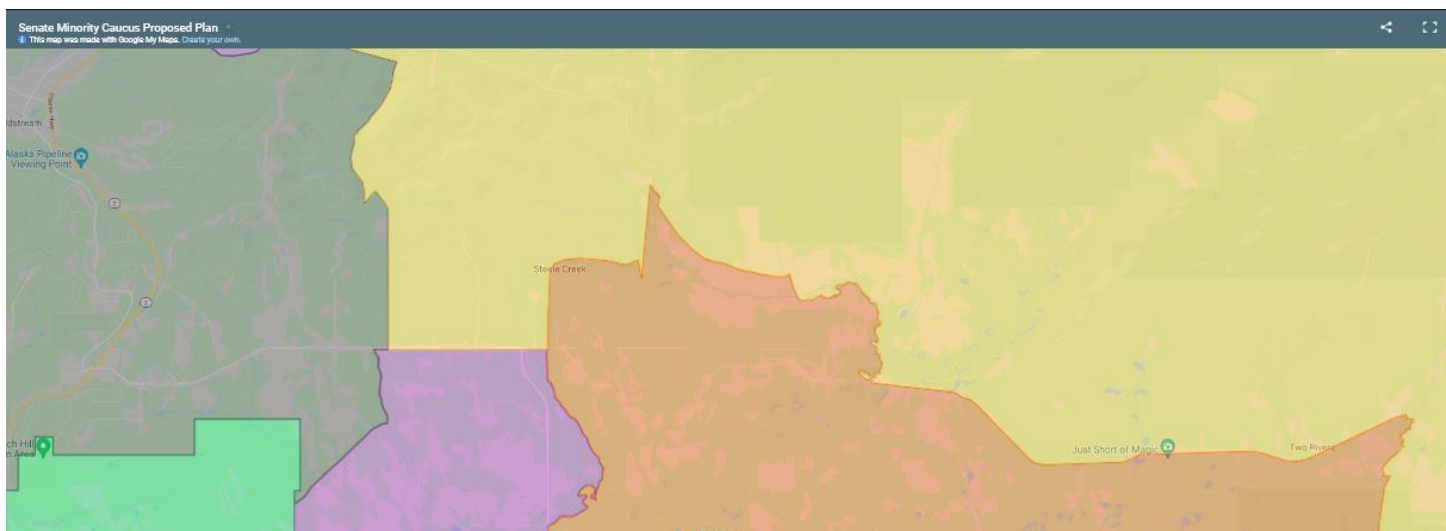


The Doyon Coalition map also puts the middle of Chena Hot Springs Road into a different district with North Pole/Badger Road and the eastern 1/3 into a 3rd district, as well as similarly

splitting the Tungsten Subdivision in half between two districts. With this map, Chena Hot Springs Road would be in 3 different districts, the eastern 1/3 is contained within the Interior Athabascan proposed District 36 as shown below.



The **Senate Minority Caucus** map actually has Chena Hot Springs Road in 4 districts, far from desired respect for socio-economic integration



Regarding any map versions including Board V. 4, I do not offer any input on how maps treat other areas outside of Interior Alaska as I don't know the neighborhoods, except that Board Version 4 does separate Eagle River from Wasilla, about which the Board has heard in previous testimony. I know other areas will weigh in for the Board's consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my perspective and for the amount of work the Board and staff have put in on this important task.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: **Brent Nichols**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Public Comment: **Mr. Nichols spoke in favor of the AFFR map as it keeps Fairbanks districts within the borough boundaries and keeps communities of interest together. It also represents communities the best.**

Redistricting Board Testimony

Thank you Chairman Binkley and other members of the committee for this opportunity to testify today.

My name is Grant Rebne. Sii'clu 'Yedetene Na 'kayax ts'insya'. I am from the Native Village of Cantwell.

I am a tribal member (and **Tribal Village Council member**) of the **Native Village of Cantwell**, as well as a shareholder (and **Board member**) of the **Ahtna Corporation**.

I am testifying today in support of the Doyon Coalition Map.

As I said I am from the **Native Village of Cantwell**, before that we were are Windy Creek (to the Northeast of Cantwell), many of my Grandma's siblings were born in Cantwell, my Grandma was born at Valdez Creek, and my great-grandpa Chitina. **My Great-grandpa, Dan Nicolai, the son of Chief Nicolai**, would hunt South of Chitina all the way through Cantwell and North of Windy Creek. Our family ties are with the entirety of the Ahtna Villages.

Originally, in 1971 ANCSA designated Cantwell to the Doyon Region of Villages. This would have separated us from the other Ahtna Villages, Ahtna Koht'aene, our people. Our socioeconomic, cultural, and traditional ties were and still are with the communities that make up our traditional lands. We fought then to have our community included with our families, our people and our cultural and traditional ties - and we are now asking you to consider the same.

The Coalition map is the only map that keeps our region united. None of the other proposed maps achieve this goal. **And that exclusion is NOT for population deviation - its for convenience.**

The population of Cantwell only makes up .1% of the quotient of 18,335 for each district. The allocation of Cantwell to either district isn't enough to disrupt either district's deviation. **Putting them in a different district disconnects them from us and us from (them/our people).**

Our family ties are with the entirety of the Ahtna Villages. I have with me a family tree that is 50' wide that spans 7 generations of just my relatives of Ahtna people. We have family ties all throughout our villages. Ahtna Koht'aene ts'ilaen we are the Ahtna people.

We would strongly ask that the Board support the adoption of the Doyon Coalition Map.

Tsin'aen ce'e - Thank you very much.


GRANT REBNE

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: **Stuart Relay**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Public Comment: **Mr. Relay spoke in support of any map that groups Valdez with the interior as it has been districted in with the Mat-Su region historically. This makes more sense as they are more economically connected through the pipeline corridor and other economic activities along this corridor.**

Mr. Relay added that he understands the concerns that have been expressed on Board Map v.3 which would achieve the above mentioned. Mr. Relay urged the board to put Valdez with the interior district and not with that Mat-Su Borough.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summarized: 10/19/2021

Name: **Lance Roberts**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Mr. Roberts spoke in favor of Board Map v. 4 due to the way the districts are laid out and the Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER) map due to the way the city is laid out by keeping one district encompassing the city while expanding another to meet prior court decisions. Both plans have tight constraints as it with regard to population deviation.

Mr. Roberts suggested modifying Board map v.4 proposed District 31 to have a line going down College Road to University, cutting out some suburbs north of College Road and the University, then come up University to Geist Road to meet the city itself and exclude the Geist neighborhood, and include Fred Meyer, just like the AFFER plan does. Then District 31 could expand eastward into District 32, then District 32 would also have to expand some way. One of the districts must have more population due to the population of the city not being enough for two districts. District 32 could include Lakeview Terrace or South Van Horn which are not within the city, but are both contiguous to the city. Eielson should also be grouped with North Pole and this could also be achieved adopting this line drawing to have only 2 city districts, not 3. Mr. Roberts encouraged the board to have the same city line in Board Map V. 4 as the AFFER map.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18/2021 Verbal Testimony

Transcription date: October 19, 2021

Name: **Rick Solie**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Mr. Solie has been a Fairbanks resident for over 50 years and now lives in District 33 in the City of Fairbanks. Mr. Solie spoke in support of Board Map v.3 and the Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER) map for the following reasons:

1) Board Map v.3 contains the city borough in one district, but this comes at an expense to the westside and the eastside being grouped together. There is a difference in opinion between the westside and the eastside of Fairbanks. Everyone in the borough do however care about roads being plowed, schools being safe, dumpsters, parks, etc. There is a socio-economic integration in the borough regardless if the westside and Salcha are grouped together.

2) Both maps keep the City of Fairbanks with two house districts and one senate district. There is no reason to break up the City of Fairbanks as it is large enough to accommodate the districts.

Mr. Solie acknowledged the overpopulation in Board Map v.3. The reapportionment of the population can be achieved by both maps, though, and they both carve out a little from the borough edges but does not throw any large group to the side of the island.

All maps make an Athabascan district, which is an important neighborhood to the City of Fairbanks. Additionally, Doyon and Tanana Chiefs Conference travel to Fairbanks for services.

Mr. Solie mentioned that the Doyon map makes an odd "leapfrogging" in its senate pairings with Districts 35 and 36; this is not logical. The Alaskans for Fair Redistricting (AFFR) map seems to move the whole population and breaks the city from Fairbanks and moves into University West, which is in a college service area. It would move that area into the City of Fairbanks which is unnecessary. Board Map v.3 and the AFFR plan do not make sense because of this.

Also, under Board Map v.4, taking Eielson and moving it into the Tanana and Richardson district does not make sense as the distance is too great.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summarized: 10/19/2021

Name: **Will Stapp**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Public Comment: **Mr. Stapp spoke in favor of Board Map v.3 and the Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER) map for the following reasons:**

Board Map v.3 keeps the borough together, socio-economically integrated, compact, and doesn't ask the question about who will be kicked out of the community.

The population deviation also overpopulates and underrepresents Fairbanks. Due to the nature in the change in population and the deviation required to do that, which parts of the borough will be removed? If you are to break the boundaries to remove the population to fulfill the requirements for other districts, you could take population from the eastside or the westside of the borough. It is also important to keep Eielson and North Pole together, and to keep the westside of the city together as many Striker Brigade soldiers live in that area and keeps the city together within its current boundaries.

Mr. Stapp noted that the AFFER map takes populations out of the borough from across the whole borough. As such, Mr. Stapp is in favor of this map.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: **PJ Simon**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **Chief Chairman, Tanana Chiefs Conference**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Public Comment: **Mr. Simon mentioned that Tanana Chiefs Conference has villages from house Districts 40, 39, and 37. For example, house District T-40 has residents who are "super voters" and like to participate in the electoral process resulting in their voter turnout being significantly higher than other regions. Yet, these communities are not large enough to influence any issues in Juneau. This is also true for the other districts mentioned which is why it is critical to have a unified interior as reflected in Doyon's map and the Board Maps that have the villages together as well.**

Mr. Simon noted that although TCC supports rural Alaska, house districts, and the coastal communities, his people live on the river and must be represented on the river separate from the coast. A unified interior district would give them a voice, enhance their visibility, and give them a chance to have a unified impact in Juneau to have tribal voices heard.

TCC is based out of Fairbanks with 1,000 employees who are not asked about their affiliation or religion. They grew with Fairbanks regardless of political will. In supporting the Doyon Coalition map, this would benefit all of the interior. With current payroll and projects, TCC will have contributed over \$130M to the Fairbanks economy this year and next year with additional projects in place. TCC has also donated vaccines to Fairbanks residents to contribute to the global pandemic and has also delivered 800-900 inoculations to Eielson Air Force Base.

State lobbying efforts would allow TCC to advocate for education and raise GPA's and have a voice for protecting renewable resources. They also support the Ahtna region and respects their wishes to put Cantwell into the Doyon Coalition. Overall, TCC tries hard to contribute and would like their voices heard and supports the Doyon Coalition.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 25, 2021

Name: **Lake Williams**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Mr. Williams spoke in opposition of the AFFR map and Board Map v.3 which underrepresents Fairbanks and overrepresents Anchorage. Mr. Williams spoke in favor of Board Map v.4 and the AFFR map.

Mr. Williams grew up in Chena Hot Springs and now lives off of Farmers' Loop which was grouped with North Pole in the last redistricting cycle. Mr. Williams has never felt like he belonged in this senate district, and he believes North Pole is large enough to have its own district.

Fairbanks values one person, one vote and they do not mind breaking Fairbanks Borough up especially Moose Creek and Eielson AFB. Mr. Williams also spoke in favor of the district being oriented east to west, rather than north to south.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Fairbanks 10/18 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 19, 2021

Name: **Maximillian Wiren**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED] —

Public Comment: **Mr. Wiren is a small business owner that works out in Chicken, a small mining community, in the summer and lives in Fairbanks in the winter. As a kid, he grew up living around various places in Fairbanks and is now looking for a home in Fairbanks as this is the place he is most familiar with, where his friends live, and where he recreates.**

Board Map v.3 and the Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER) map would split the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) and put residents in the same district as Eilson Air Force Base and Salcha. It would also split Fairbanks north to south instead of east to west; this does not make sense as there is a reason why there is an East Fred Meyer and a West Fred Meyer. The main highways also go east to west, not north to south.

Mr. Wiren stated that Board Map v.3's proposed District 35 is not contiguous, not compact, not socio-economically integrated, is overpopulated, and has unequal and inaccurate representation. Mr. Wiren spoke in opposition of this map and the AFFER map.

Communities such as Tok, Chicken, Nenana, and possibly Salcha that are outside of the city would have to make a day's worth of a trip to Fairbanks in order to purchase supplies. Mr. Wiren suggested putting Salcha into a rural district.