

From: Candace Jones <Candace.jso@psps@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 5, 2023 5:18 PM
To: Hazel Wedemeyer <hwedemeyer@archuletacounty.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commissioners' Districts - 2023 Redistricting

Dear Ms. Archuleta,

I write to comment on the proposed Commissioners' District map. The brief write-up on the County website does not include a report or other narrative explaining the proposed changes or identifying alternatives considered. Is such a report forthcoming?

Also, the website post refers to a change in the law about the population prong of the map requirements. The material does not address the first requirement for commissioners' districts, namely that the districts are to be "compact." I've pasted below an excerpt from the Colorado Revised Statutes (accessed from the link on the county website) highlighting the relevant text in boldface type.

30-10-306. Commissioners' districts - vacancies - definitions. (1) **Each county must be divided into three compact districts by the board of county commissioners.** Each district must be as nearly equal in population as possible based on the redistricting population data prepared by staff of the legislative council and office of legislative legal services, or any successor offices, in accordance with section 2-2-902. In no event shall there be more than five percent deviation between the most populous and the least populous district in each county, at the time such district boundaries are adopted.

The shape of District 3, which wraps around Town and spans the entire length of the county for a narrow strip bordering New Mexico, does not appear on its face to be "compact." How, then, does District 3 and the resulting map satisfy both map-drawing requirements of state law?

I can see that the changes between the current map and the proposed map are modest. Given the current configuration of the commissioners' districts, the question about satisfying the "compact" requirement has either been asked and answered previously or overlooked when the current map was approved. Either way, the County should not approve the proposed Commissioners' District map unless the districts are both compact and balanced by population. If it is the County's position that District 3 is, indeed, "compact," the County should provide support for that determination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Candace Jones

PO Box 3112

Pagosa Springs

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Mary Helminski

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2023 10:16 AM
To: Mary Helminski; PIO
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Online Form Submittal: 2023 Proposed Redistricting Map - Public Comment Form

2023 Proposed Redistricting Map - Public Comment Form

First Name	Candace
Last Name	Jones
Address1	PO Box 3112
Address2	Field not completed.
City	Pagosa Springs
State	CO
Zip	81147
Public Comment	<p>The brief write-up on the County website does not include a report or other narrative explaining the proposed changes, describing the process to arrive at them, or identifying alternatives considered. What information written information has been prepared for the Commissioners to explain the proposed map and why has that information not been posted on the Redistricting website to inform public comment?</p> <p>Also, the website post refers to a change in the law about the population prong of the map requirements in state law. The material does not address the first requirement for commissioners' districts, namely that the districts are to be "compact." I've pasted below an excerpt from the Colorado Revised Statutes (accessed from the link on the county website) highlighting the relevant text using ALL CAPS.</p> <p>30-10-306. Commissioners' districts - vacancies - definitions. (1) EACH COUNTY MUST BE DIVIDED INTO THREE COMPACT DISTRICTS BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. Each district must be as nearly equal in population as possible based on the redistricting population data prepared by staff of the legislative council and office of legislative legal services, or any successor offices, in</p>

accordance with section 2-2-902. In no event shall there be more than five percent deviation between the most populous and the least populous district in each county, at the time such district boundaries are adopted.

The shape of District 3, which wraps around Town and spans the entire length of the county for a narrow strip bordering New Mexico, does not appear on its face to be "compact." How, then, does District 3 and the resulting map satisfy both map-drawing requirements of state law - compact with population balance?

I can see that the changes between the current map and the proposed map are modest. Given the current configuration of the commissioners' districts, the question about satisfying the "compact" requirement has either been asked and answered previously or overlooked when the current map was approved. Either way, the Commissioners should not approve the proposed Commissioners' District map unless the districts are both compact and balanced by population. If it is the County's position that District 3 is, indeed, "compact," the County should provide support for that determination.

Submit Proposed Plans

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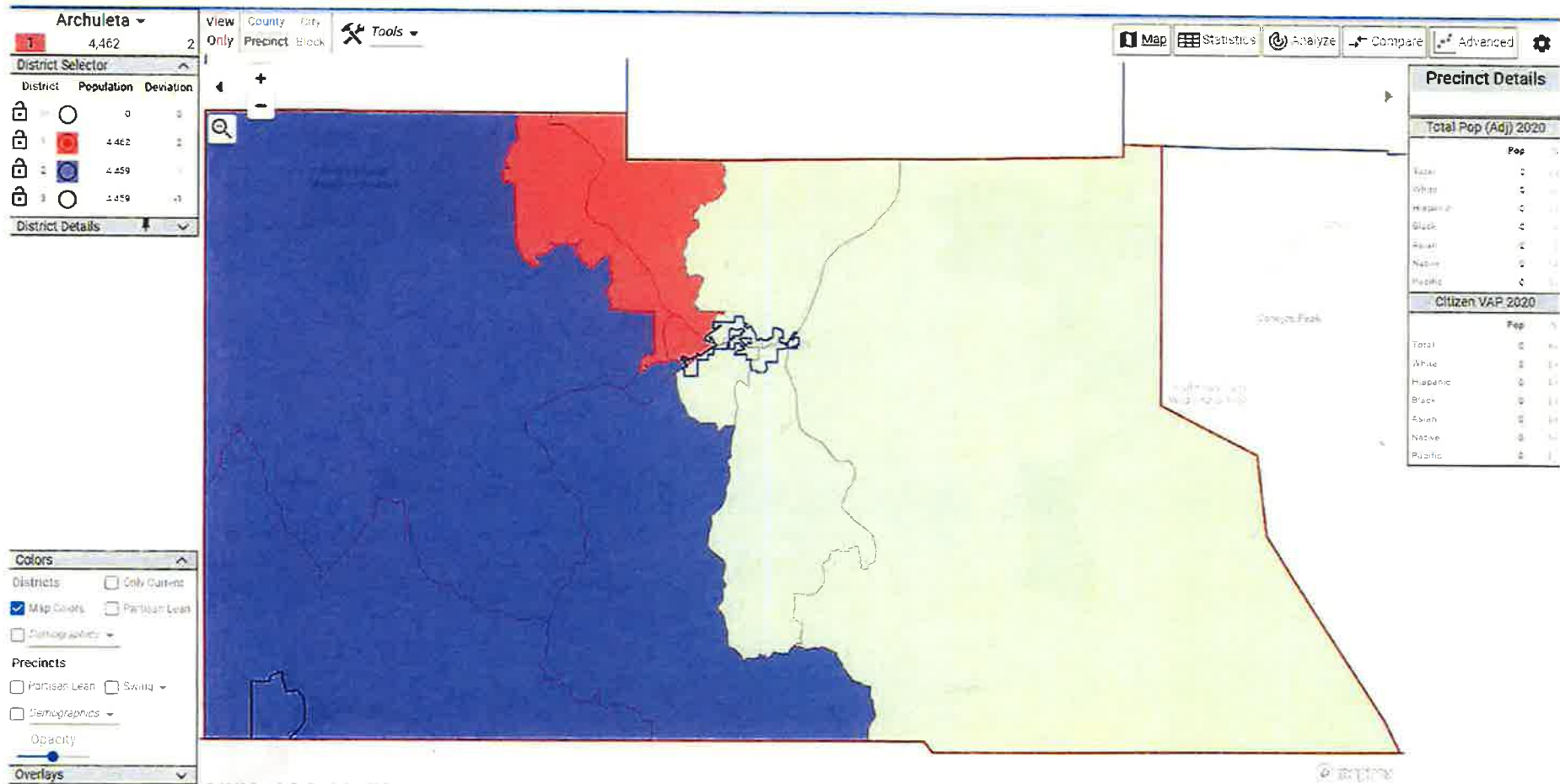
Mary Helminski

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 10:18 PM
To: Mary Helminski; PIO
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Online Form Submittal: 2023 Proposed Redistricting Map - Public Comment Form

2023 Proposed Redistricting Map - Public Comment Form

First Name	Candace
Last Name	Jones
Address1	
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Pagosa Springs
State	CO
Zip	81147
Public Comment	<p>I previously submitted a comment noting that Commissioner Districts are required by law to be "compact." I found an online application for drawing district maps. I was able to use that tool to draw an example of districts that are both evenly balanced by population and compact. I've attached a static image of my map, the current map, and the County-proposed map. You can access a dynamic version of the new map here. https://davesredistricting.org/join/cd7ef629-3c67-4441-be4e-d4154092abf7</p> <p>This is not necessarily the only map configuration that produces compact districts. It is an illustration that compact districts are possible. Compact districts should not have the configuration of District 3, which wraps around the county with a tail that extends the entire length of its southern border. It is possible to draw more compact districts that are also balanced by population, and doing so will satisfy both elements of the district boundary requirements.</p>
Submit Proposed Plans	Proposed map - compact districts.pdf

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ARCHULETA COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS PROPOSED BY CANDACE JONES

6/28/23