

Johnson, Krista

From: Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 8:58 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

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Live Form

Topic Pinellas County Redistricting
BCC Agenda Date 11-9-2021
Your Stand on the Issue Undecided

Comments

Dear Commissioners, I served on the Pinellas Redistricting Board (RB) and I recommend you make available to the public the shapefiles of the alternative Pinellas Voting District Boundaries you are considering to ensure full transparency. I read the redistricting report approved by the RB Chair that was sent to us RB members the day before your meeting today where you will consider the four alternatives. I would ask that you make available to the public the shapefiles containing the census blocks included in the boundary of the four alternatives in the RB final report. These boundaries could then be overlaid on roads and neighborhoods to ensure no mistakes were made, and the full faith & spirit of the RB's recommendations would be available for any voting citizen to evaluate in a GIS, Google Earth, or any free web-based mapping app. As a citizen servant, I have no way of ensuring what you're looking at as a printed map today actually matches digitally with the 4 alternatives our board provided for your consideration. I also request that you make the shapefile boundaries of all Pinellas Voting district changes that you are considering to be included in your future Redistricting Meeting Agenda packets and made available to the public before you vote on them, since you are not bound by the County Charter to adopt any of the RB's recommendations. This is simply a request for transparency so that students of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), laymen, and GIS experts alike are reassured that our County actively welcomes citizen involvement. Thank you very much. Sincerely, Dr. Karen Owen

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