

# [MASTER COPY TOWN HALL SLIDE DECK]

## ***Attribution request:***

*This deck was created by a dedicated group of VNP volunteers over many months. It is our sincere hope that it will be useful & widely shared in our collective effort to bring fair maps to Michigan. We only ask that you please attribute original content to Voters Not Politicians. Thank you!*



It's time

**YOU**

**DRAW THE**

**LINE!**

**Volunteer  
Voters Not Politicians**

**VOTERS**  
NOT POLITICIANS





# WHAT IS VOTERS NOT POLITICIANS?

We are  
**CITIZENS**  
Strengthening Our  
**DEMOCRACY**



# WHAT IS VOTERS NOT POLITICIANS?

VNP is a grassroots movement working to **restore political power to all Michigan citizens.**

**VNP welcomes all volunteers and is not affiliated with any political party or partisan agenda.**

We are  
CITIZENS  
Strengthening Our  
DEMOCRACY









# Together, 6,000 of us helped pass Proposal #2 to end gerrymandering in Michigan







**Together, 6,000 of us  
helped pass Proposal #2  
to end gerrymandering  
in Michigan**

**But we still have work to do!**





# Today, let's talk about:

- Why does **redistricting** matter?
- What will the **Redistricting Commission** do?
- What defines a **Community** and what are its needs?
- How can a Community **make its voice heard** in government?



The background of the slide is a stylized map. It features a dense network of white lines on a dark grey background, representing streets and city blocks. In the bottom right corner, there is a solid teal-colored area that represents a body of water. A large, white rectangular box is centered on the slide, containing the text.

# **Why does Redistricting matter?**



The background of the slide is a stylized map with a grid of streets in white and black. A large white rectangular box is centered on the map, containing the text. In the bottom right corner, there is a solid teal-colored area that also appears to be part of the map's design.

# **Why does Redistricting matter?**

***(What is a district?)***

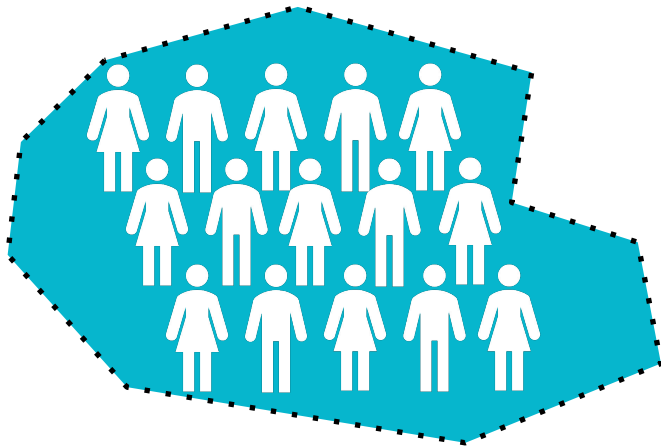




A **DISTRICT** is a clearly defined geographic area:

Voters living within a district boundary elect public officials to represent them as a group.

Many voters in each  
district vote...

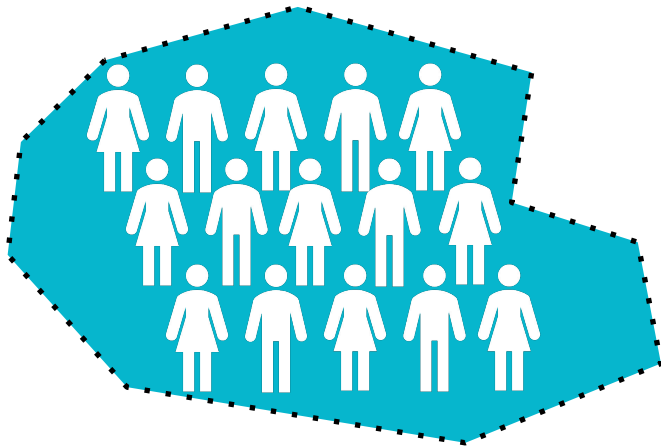




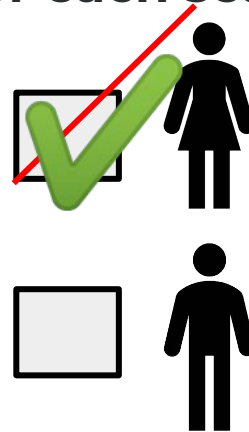
A **DISTRICT** is a clearly defined geographic area:

Each legislative body has one district for every seat.  
The districts must have the same number of people.

Many voters in each  
district vote...



To elect one  
representative  
for each seat...

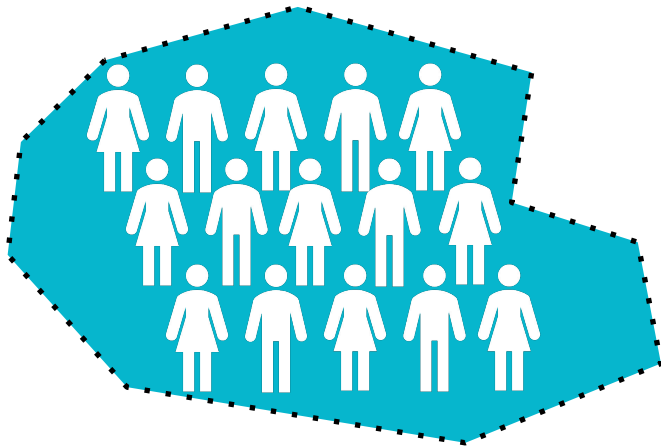




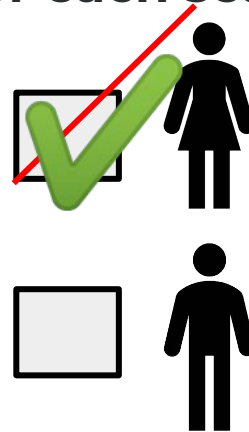
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Each legislative body has one district for every seat.  
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Many voters in each  
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To elect one  
representative  
for each seat...



Elected representatives  
make up the  
legislature

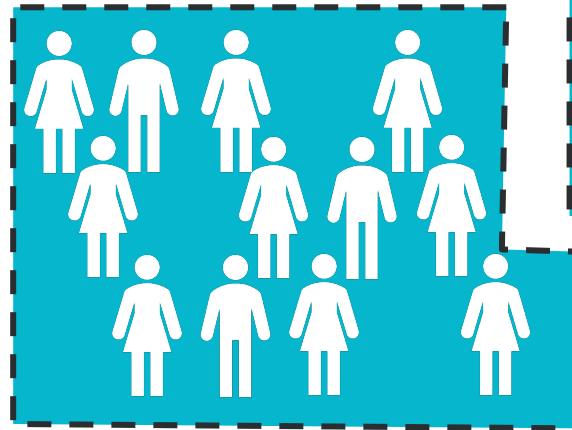




**Over time, people move around a state across district lines, some people die, and babies are born — so numbers change.**

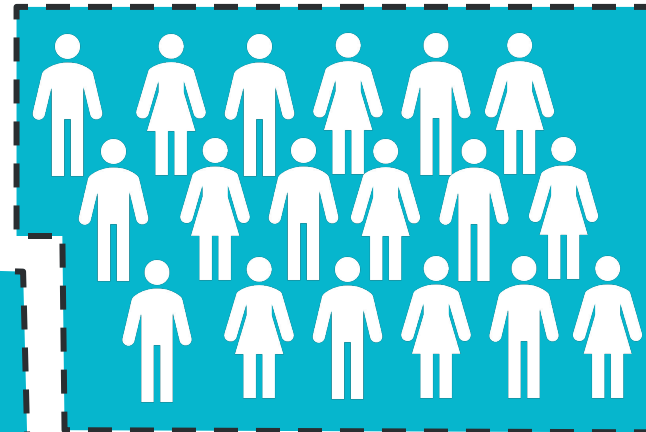
**12**

**people**



**18**

**people**

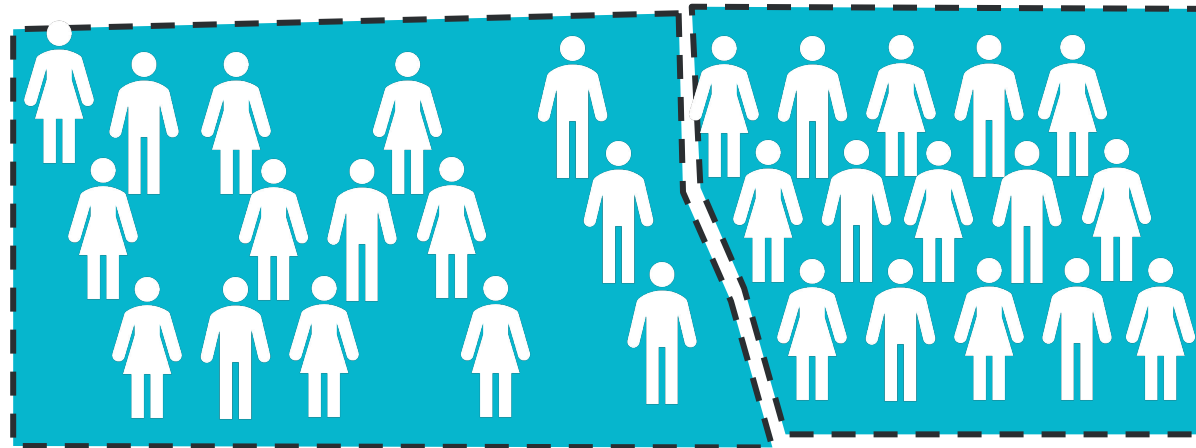




So every 10 years, we **REDISTRICT** so districts have an equal number of people again

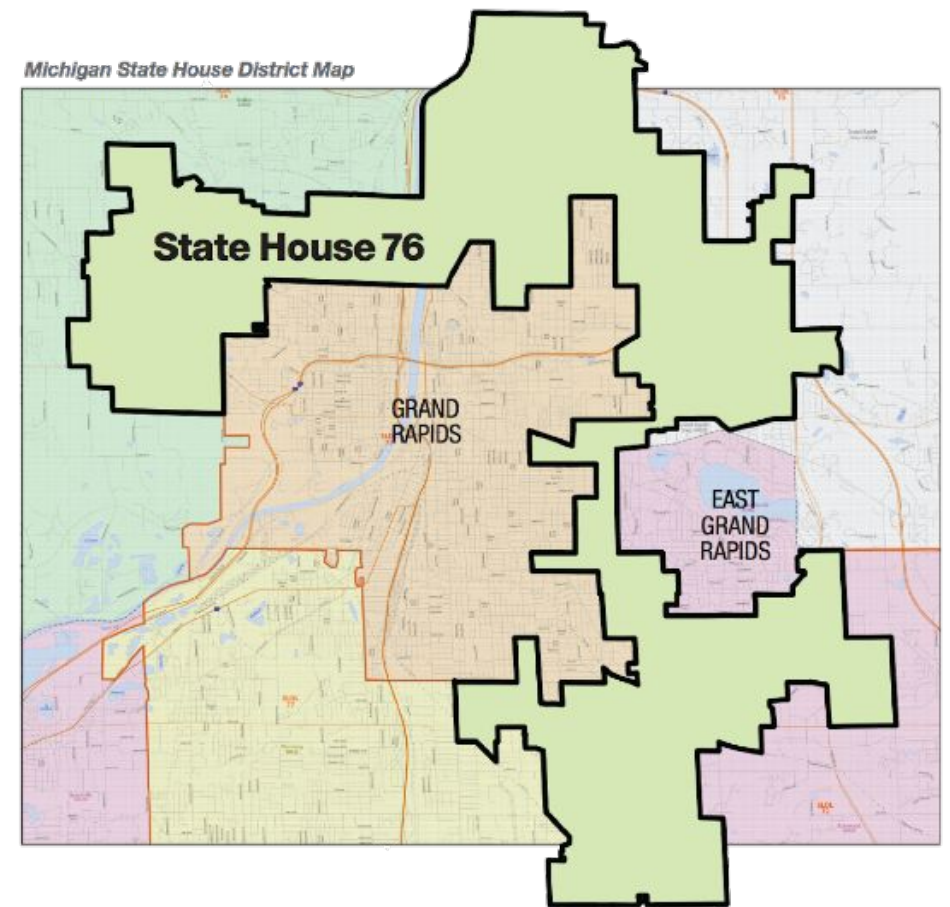
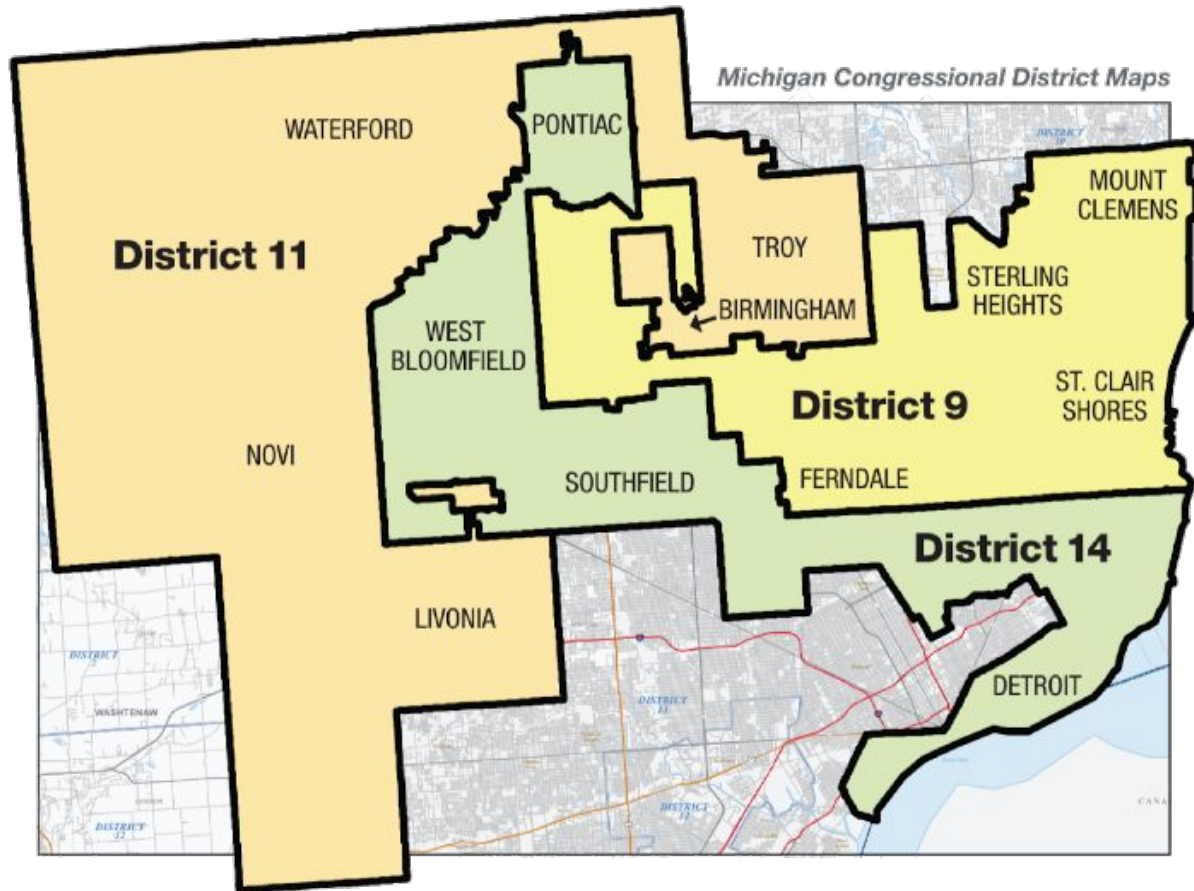
**15**  
people

**15**  
people





# So, why do districts look like **THIS** ?







When we take **PARTISANSHIP**  
out of the redistricting process,  
we can use redistricting for its  
*intended* purpose:





When we take **PARTISANSHIP**  
out of the redistricting process,  
we can use redistricting for its  
*intended* purpose:

Keep communities intact so groups of  
people who share interests can elect public  
officials to represent them in government.





After all...

“ ***All political  
power is inherent  
in the people...*** ”

- Article 1 Section 1 Michigan Constitution





# Fairer redistricting will make government work better for a Community

**Fair districts return power to Communities:**

- **Better representation** in Congress and in the State Legislature
- **Elected officials who care** about the Community's needs
- **Better government programs and services**





# Why Should Communities Be Involved in the Redistricting Process?

**Fair districts return power to Communities:**

- **Better representation** in Congress and in the State Legislature
- **Elected officials who care** about Communities' needs
- **Better government programs and services**

**Your tax dollars will work better!**






# What Issues Might Make Communities Want To Be Involved in the Redistricting Process?

*There are many policy issues that face each community, such as air and water quality, funding for schools, mass transportation, and quality of roads.*

*These are all issues that are resolved in Lansing or in Washington D.C.*





*“We need our representatives in Lansing to hear us when we say that Pontiac does not want the Michigan Department of Transportation to install bike lanes that limit car traffic.”*



**Kermit Williams**  
Executive Director  
Oakland Forward





Asian & Pacific Islander American Vote  
Michigan



**Rebeka Islam**  
Executive Director  
APIA Vote-Michigan

*“We need Lansing to hear us when we say we want voting information to be translated into the languages used by large numbers of Michigan citizens of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage.”*



The background of the slide is a stylized map with a black and white grid pattern representing streets. A large white rectangular box is centered on the map, containing the text. In the bottom right corner, there is a solid teal-colored area that also appears to be part of the map's design.

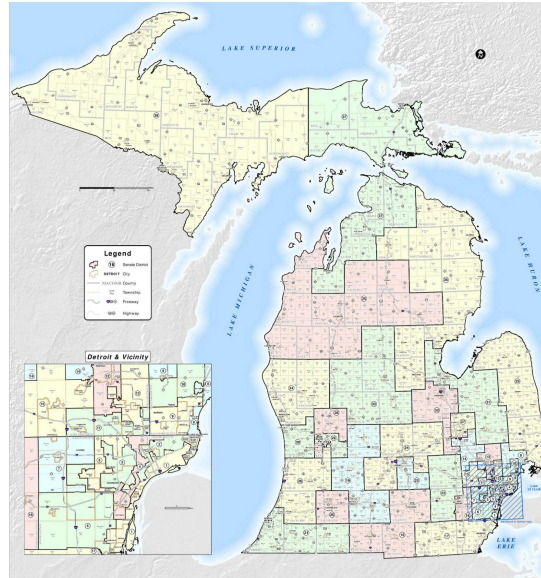
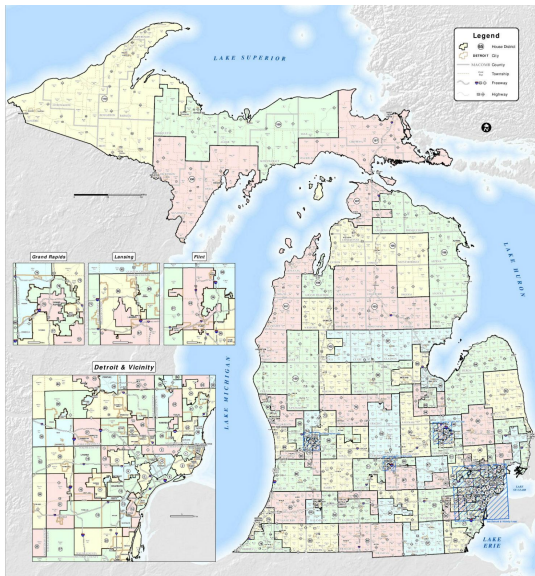
**What will the  
Redistricting Commission  
*actually do?***



# Role of Redistricting Commission

**Draw and approve election district maps...**

- a. State House of Representatives (110)**
- b. State Senate (38)**
- c. MI's Representatives in U.S. Congress (14)**





A stylized, high-contrast map graphic in black and white, showing a grid of streets and a river, positioned vertically along the left edge of the slide.

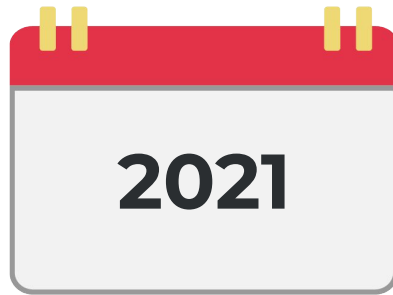
# The Redistricting Commission will

**Gather input from Communities by...**

- a. Receiving public comments** via mail, in-person, email
- b. Hosting town halls to hear testimony from Michigan citizens**



# Timeline for the Redistricting Commission



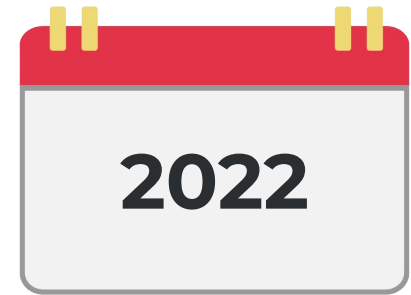
## Public Hearings:

At least 10 **before** maps are drafted

At least 5 more **after** maps are drafted



New maps must be approved by **November 1, 2021**



New maps will be used in the **2022 Elections!**





 <p>Anthony Eid</p>	 <p>Sue Hammersmith</p>	 <p>Rhonda Lange</p>	 <p>Dustin Witjes</p>
 <p>Doug Clark</p>	 <p>Janice Vallette</p>	 <p>MC Rothhorn</p>	 <p>Juanita Curry</p>
 <p>Sally Marsh (MDOS)</p>	 <p>Cynthia Orton</p>	 <p>Steve Lett</p>	 <p>Brittni Kellom</p>
 <p>Toi Bogan (ASL)</p>	 <p>Erin Wagner</p>	 <p>Rebecca Szetela</p>	 <p>Richard Weiss</p>

>> Steve: Through March.



# REQUIRED CRITERIA for drawing maps

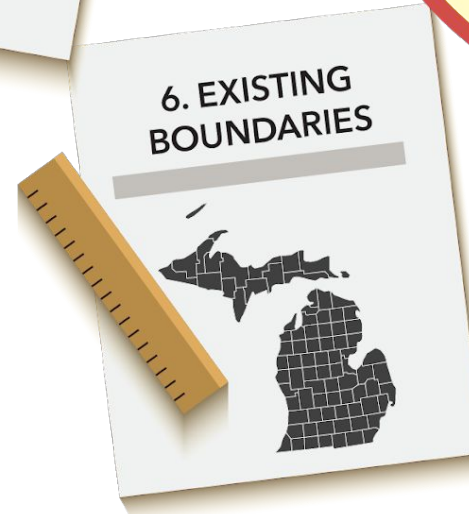
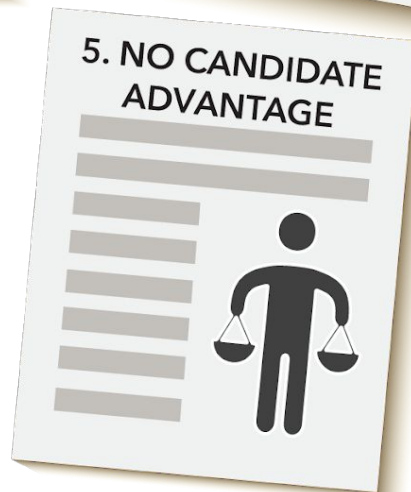
*(in ranked order)*





# REQUIRED CRITERIA for drawing maps

*(in ranked order)*





# What is a COMMUNITY OF INTEREST?

According to the Michigan Constitution,  
Communities of Interest,

## **ARE DEFINED** by:

- ✓ economic
- ✓ cultural
- ✓ historical
- ✓ other shared interests

## **ARE NOT DEFINED** by:

- ✗ Political party affiliation
- ✗ Loyalty to a candidate or elected official





# Shared economic interests:

Where do you  
and your  
neighbors...

Work?

Shop?



What  
transportation  
do you use?

Roads?

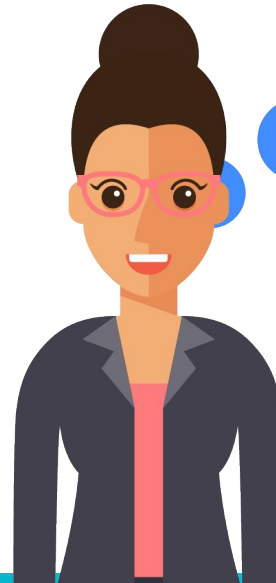
Environment?





# Shared cultural and historical interests:

What fosters a  
sense of  
**connection**  
in your  
Community?



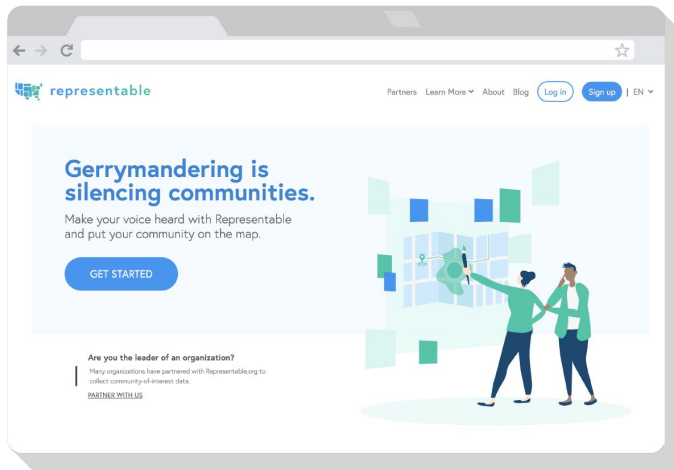


The background of the image is a stylized, high-contrast map. It features a dense network of white lines representing streets and roads on a dark grey or black background. The map is partially obscured by a large, white rectangular area in the center, which contains a teal-colored text box. The text box has a stepped, blocky appearance. The text inside the box is white and reads "Make Communities' voices heard!".

**Make  
Communities'  
voices heard!**



# How to map a Community



**Online:** *Representable.org* is a user-friendly website that lets Communities describe and draw their boundaries on a map.



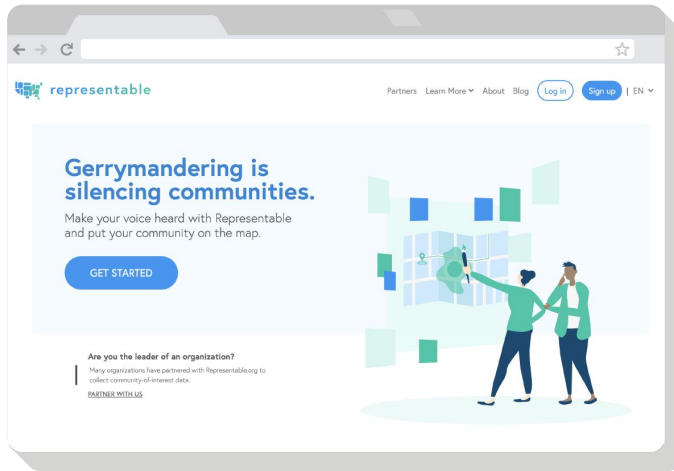


# How does the public get access to and learn to use the *Representable* mapping software?

Videos explaining how to draw Community maps are on YouTube at *Representable.org*



# How to map a Community



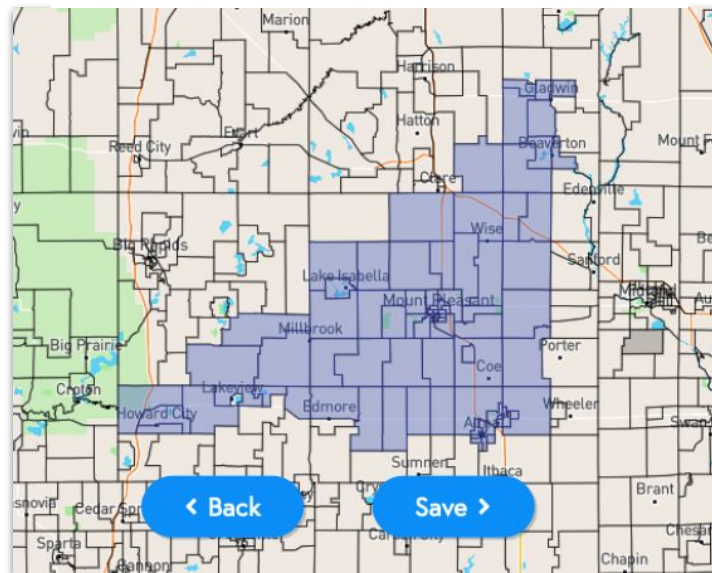
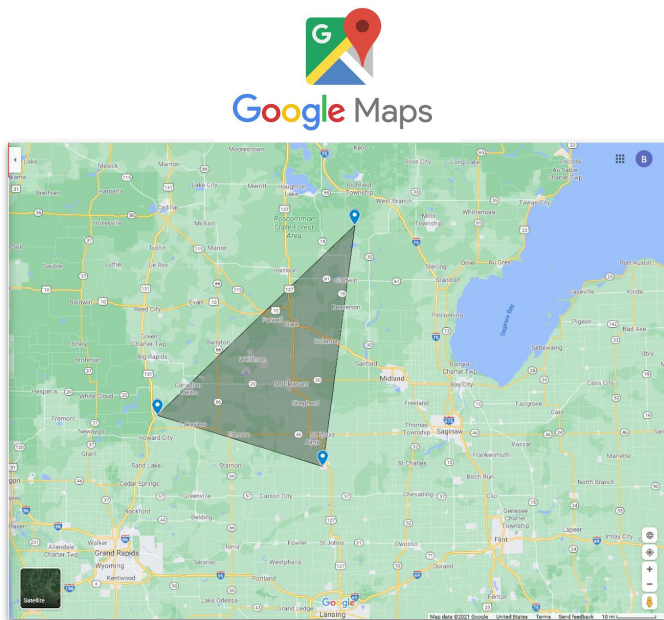
**Online:** *Representable.org* is a user-friendly website that lets Communities describe and draw their boundaries on a map.



**On Paper:** A sheet of paper and a pen or pencil are really all you need to think about the extent of a Community.

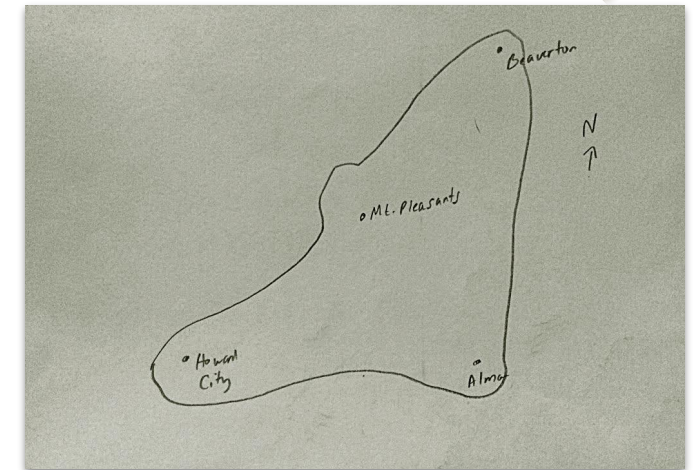


# Examples of possible Community maps



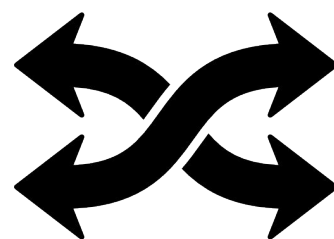
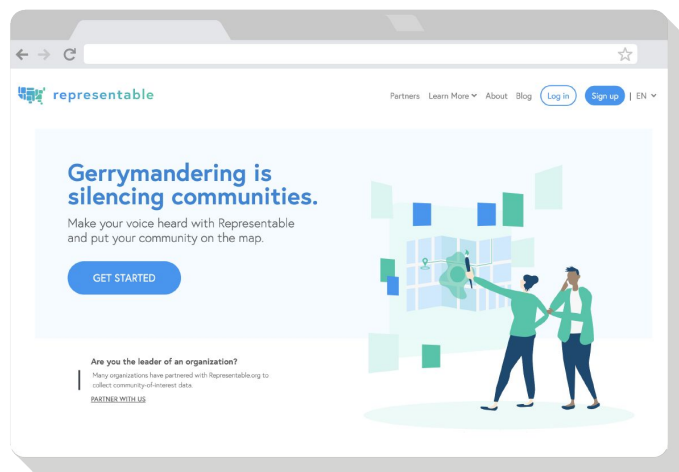
(Website: [www.representable.org](http://www.representable.org))

**Paper & Pencil**





# How to map a Community



**A MIX**



**Online:** *Representable.org* is a user-friendly website that lets Communities describe and draw their boundaries on a map.

**On Paper:** A sheet of paper and a pen or pencil are really all you need to think about the extent of a Community.





# What Can You Do Next?

- **Meet with your Community** members and agree on the **issues** that cause your Community the most concern.
- Discuss the **location of your Community**, using the *Representable.org* website or other mapping tool.
- **Submit** your Community description and map to the Commission.
- Plan to **attend one of the public hearings** the Commission will hold so you can describe your Community in person.





**The Redistricting Commission MUST  
consider Community boundaries, so...**

**MAKE YOUR VOICE KNOWN**

**to help keep Communities intact.**

**Communities are stronger together.**



# The Commission is waiting for...



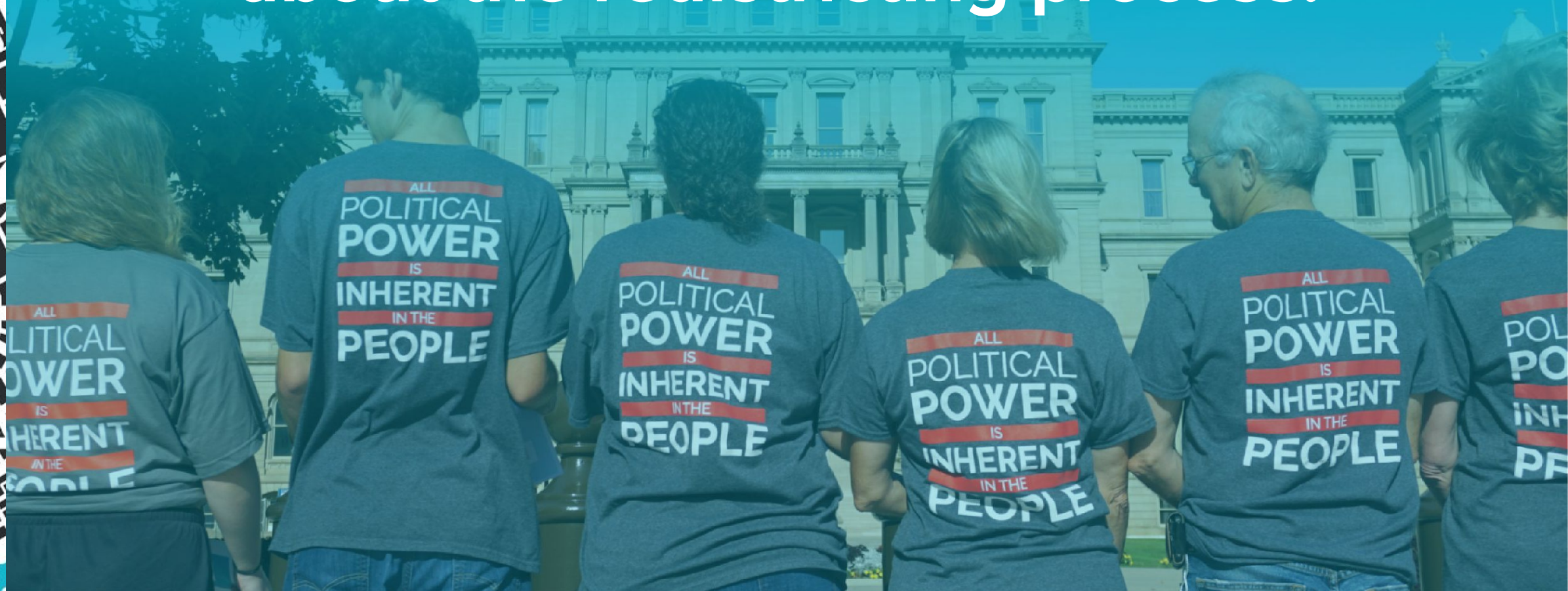


# The Commission is waiting for YOU!





**THANK YOU** for taking time to hear  
about the redistricting process!





The background of the slide is a stylized map with white lines on a dark grey background, representing a city grid and water bodies. A solid teal rectangle is positioned in the center of the slide, containing the text "Extra Slides".

# Extra Slides



A stylized background graphic of a city map with white lines on a dark grey background. The map shows a grid of streets and some irregular shapes representing parks or water bodies. A solid teal rectangle is positioned at the bottom right of the map.

# Break Out Session

**Possible prompts:**

- **You each belong to many Communities. Think about the ones that would especially benefit from engagement in the redistricting process.**
- **Discuss your Community and its needs.**  
**(5-minute session)**



## A map of the United States where states are colored to represent political affiliations. Red states include Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Texas. Blue states include Alaska, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Florida. Green states include Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. Purple states include Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah. Orange states include Texas and Florida.

## 1 Nonpartisan Legislative Staff | Light Purple