

Supervisor Totheroh and the Redistricting Commission,

Here are some thoughts regarding the county mandate to redistrict according to 2020 census data:

- 1) If the aspirational goal is to provide 1 person/1 vote with parity across Inyo's 5 districts for equal representation, then plans that have the lowest deviation should be prioritized
- 2) Since some folks in a micro-community will feel inevitably feel displaced with redistricting, the argument of "Bishop-centric" or "Independence-centric" plans is a moot point. It all depends on what part of the county you happen to live in. Neither argument should outweigh the other. By default, higher population density areas will have more representation than lower densities.
- 3) The definition of a "community of interest" is a subjective one to a great extent, with each micro-community vying for priority based on their own perceptions and definitions. Who they identify with from other parts of the county, similar lifestyles/interests/economies, environmental and conservation priorities, and many other concerns may link some micro-communities together or distinguish some from one another. How to weigh each of these factors will be a subjective decision at the Commission level.
- 4) A District which appears to stretch and reach vast distances with thin geographic footprints may smack of gerrymandering at first glance. Be careful!
- 5) A supervisor must be reasonably able to physically travel to meet with his/her constituency in order to represent a vast but geographically contiguous District. The constituents also must feel adequately represented, no matter the size or reach of the District.

Thanks for your time,
Stacey Brown
District 1