

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, September 25, 2021 10:58:20 AM

Date: 2021-09-25
First Name: Julie
Last Name: Rogers
Title: N/A
Organization: Self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Corpus Christi
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

This is Julie Rogers from Corpus Christi, Texas, representing myself for comment on the proposed map for Nueces County. The current Texas Senate District map keeps Nueces County whole and in Senate District 20. The proposed map dices Nueces County up into Senate District 20 and 27, which is not good for us. Nueces County is an urban and rural county, but we are one whole community connected by water, roads, government, healthcare, business, recreation, tourism, and families. All roads and water lead to the seaport of Corpus Christi, which is the largest city in the Coastal Bend, but they come through Nueces County and its small towns. The small towns and the big city are one interdependent region.

The first proposed map breaks up Nueces County and Corpus Christi and these roads, sometimes using them as the boundary of separation like heavily used Highway 358 also known as South Padre Island Drive and the major thoroughfare Staples Street. Other roads are disrupted by the proposed fissure – Everhart, Weber, Airline, Holly, Flour Bluff, Laguna Shores and Park Road 22. Other roads that are primary connecting routes for growing communities like New London are also removed from Senate District 20 – County Roads 43, 26, 24, 73, 697 and 69 and Farm to Market roads 892, 1694 and 665. As proposed, segments of these roads would be in Senate District 20 and some in 27 but serviced by the Nueces County Road Department and the City of Corpus Christi. Roads and neighborhoods should be kept whole throughout Nueces County, so they are equally maintained and funded.

Nothing connects us together more in Nueces County than our bays, estuaries, rivers, and creeks that lead to the Gulf of Mexico. They are interdependent on each other, just like the people throughout Nueces County are interdependent on each other. The first proposed Senate District map puts Oso Creek and Petronilla Creek in Senate District 27 and Oso Bay in Senate District 20. Oso Creek is the central drainageway for Nueces County. The Nueces Estuary receives freshwater inflow from Oso Creek via Oso Bay which contributes to Corpus Christi Bay. Nature does not separate this water nor should we.

Nueces County Government has departments and programs for flood control, drainage, coastal restoration and resilience, coastal beaches, inland and coastal parks, roads and bridges, public works and public health, which serve one county. The proposed Senate District maps need to compliment the way our area lives and is organized and keep us whole in one Senate District.

The quality of our drinking water is also a county-wide concern. The League of Women Voters Corpus Christi submitted 44 zip codes in Nueces County to the Texas Department of Health services epidemiologist to analyze for elevated blood lead levels in children from 2012-2017. Twenty-seven codes returned with numbers for children with elevated blood lead levels, The twelve highest zip codes, the total number of lead poisoned children were:

- 78415 with 50-53 children
- 78380 with 30-33 children
- 78408 with 28-34 children
- 78405 with 25-34 children
- 78410 with 24-33 children
- 78412 with 20-29 children
- 78404 with 18-27 children
- 78418 with 15-27 children
- 78414 with 12-24 children
- 78401 with 10-25 children
- 78413 with 6-24 children
- 78407 with 5-20 children

These zip codes need to be kept in the same district to address the issue of lead poisoning properly and systematically. Here are notes on the locations of the zip codes:

- 78415: Near Del Mar College
- 78380: Robstown
- 78408: Saxet Heights/Oak Park
- 78405: Near up/downtown south of Agnes/West of S. Staples
- 78410: Calallen/Tuloso
- 78412: Southside Bayfront Ocean Drive west to below SPID beyond Moore Plaza to Oso Area
- 78404: Six Points/Del Mar/Spohn Area
- 78418: Flour Bluff/Mustang/Padre Island, would put some of Flour Bluff and all of Mustang/Padre Island in SD 27. Mustang/Padre Island should be in the same district with all of Nueces County.
- 78414: Abuts the west side of Oso Creek running south below Holly Rd, would be in SD 20 and SD27 with first proposed map
- 78401: Downtown/North Beach
- 78413: Densely populated from Holly Road at Weber, south beyond Yorktown Blvd and part of S. Oso Parkway to far S. Staples near entry to King Estates, would put parts in SD 20 and SD27 with first proposed map
- 78407: Greenwood at S. Port Ave

There is really no reason to dice up Nueces County but many reasons to make us whole. Our challenges are county-wide, and we need county-wide policies and funding to overcome them. Our assets are county-wide, and we need county-wide oversight and protection to preserve and strengthen them. Please make Nueces County whole with one Senate District map.

