Date: 2021-09-28
First Name: Susan
Last Name: Tsujimoto
Title: N/A
Organization: self
Address: 
City: Spring
State: TX
Zipcode: 
Phone: 

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:
Honorable members of the Senate Redistricting Committee, my name is Susan Tsujimoto, and I have lived in the Cypress Creek area in Spring, Texas for over 18 years. I am submitting testimony, per your invitation to comment on amendments to the Texas Senate District plan PLS2101.

Please refer to the attached pdf, which contains comments and accompanying figures pertaining to PLS2118, an amendment to PLS2101 that includes changes to Senate Districts 4, 7 and 18.
Honorable members of the Senate Redistricting Committee, my name is Susan Tsujimoto, and I have lived in the Cypress Creek area (Fig 1) in Spring, Texas for over 18 years. I am writing to comment on PLS2118, an amendment to PLS2101, that includes changes to Senate Districts 4, 7 and 18, which positively affect a unique Community of Interest along Cypress Creek.

PLS2118 (Fig 2) by extends the eastern boundary along FM1960 in such a way that the neighborhoods along Cypress Creek are kept together. This is important because, when Cypress Creek floods, the flood water affects neighborhoods on both sides of the creek. The residents along this creek not only pull together as a community in times of crisis but also, we share many community resources (for specific points of interest, search 77379 at https://districtr.org/COI/48785).

PLS2118 compensates for the increase in the population in SD7 from the eastward expansion of SD7 along FM1960 by dropping the boundary between SD4 and SD7 to the Harris/Montgomery county line. Since SD4 and SD7 are primarily populated by residents of Montgomery and Harris counties, respectively, this adjustment preserves the integrity of both districts. In addition, PLS2118 pushes the western boundary between SD4 and SD18 to the Montgomery/Grimes county line. Although this adjustment ensures all residents of Montgomery County are within SD4, it creates an imbalance in the population such that the deviation from ideal population is greater than +/- 3% in all districts. To remedy this imbalance, I would like to propose the following compromise plan (Fig 3):

1. The boundaries of SD18 remain as set forth in PLS2101 since it is very close to ideal population.
2. The northern boundary of SD7 follows Harris/Montgomery county line as set forth in PLS2118.
3. The eastern boundary of SD7 extends southward along I-45 to FM 1960 and then westward along FM 1960.

This amended plan (Fig 4) not only keeps some of the positives of PLS2118, but also maintains a tighter balance between the populations of all three districts (Table). More importantly, it keeps the neighborhoods along Cypress Creek together.
Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to provide input on my community along Cypress Creek.