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Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 8:56 AM

To: Sugerman, Irving B. <[ibsugerman@brouse.com](mailto:ibsugerman@brouse.com)>

Subject: Summit County Redistricting

Good day Mr. Sugerman,

As I am unable to attend tonight's redistricting meeting, from my office I am compelled to offer my opinion.

District 7 currently encompasses New Franklin, Norton, and my city Barberton. It is imperative that in the process these communities are kept within the same representation in Summit County.

The needs, issues, and region are connected by many points. Barberton and Norton are intertwined with an array of services not limited to water and sewer. There's building departments and a possibility of a joint fire district in the future. New Franklin is instrumental with the two as we in the region deal with the Wolf Creek Watershed. Splitting the three would create unnecessary burden in communication to the resolve of flood mitigation.

If District 7 is to be redrawn, the sliver of Akron (Kenmore) should be removed and Copley be added. By following the lines of the Wolf Creek Needs Assessment done by the county (available on their website) a district that enables a single representative to the whole would be beneficial and less cumbersome on local leadership to coordinate any efforts on this crucial project. Moreover, the joint dispatch agreement includes Copley, adding another layer to benefit the region with a collaborative approach deems truly a single district as key to balancing what is already in play as well as future projects.

I urge the commission and yourself to consider the region, the similarities, and the overlaying combined efforts in your research into redistricting. New Franklin, Norton, Barberton, and Copley are more in tune with each other than splitting them between districts.

Thank you for your services,  
Thomas Bebe Heitic  
Council At-Large, Barberton