Thank you for agreeing to help educate residents about Michigan’s new redistricting process spearheaded by the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC).

OVERVIEW
In 2018, voters approved a change to the way maps are drawn to determine voting districts. This decision takes the process out of the hands of elected officials/political parties, and now residents get to decide where voting boundaries are drawn.

Between May and June 2021, a series of public hearings will take place where residents can give their ideas either in person or online about who should be represented. Residents can also help design which areas of the map will best represent them.

For this process to be as inclusive and fair as possible, we need as many individuals as possible to participate!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

❖ Follow the MICRC pages on social media and like and share their posts. 
  https://www.facebook.com/RedistrictingMI/ 
  https://twitter.com/RedistrictingMI 
  https://www.instagram.com/redistrictingmi/

❖ Share information about the MICRC and public hearings on your website and social media pages (Suggested posts and hashtags are listed below.)

❖ Send an email to your entire email list explaining the process and asking others to participate with you (Draft email language is included in this kit.)

❖ Allow commissioners from the MICRC to speak at your next community meeting to explain the process. (Use this link to request a speaker: 
  https://bit.ly/3h0tywB.)

❖ Take part in an upcoming public hearing and/or offer your input online (Use this link for online comments. https://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC)
❖ Ask your family, friends, neighbors, and members to take part in the upcoming public hearings and/or make comments online. ([https://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](https://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC))

❖ Find/refer other groups to join our grassroots campaign! (Refer other groups using this link. [https://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](https://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC))

**TALKING POINTS**

- Redistricting means deciding which **areas** and which **groups** will be represented by the people we elect to office.

- Drawing political maps happens every ten years—right after the population count (Census).

- For the first time in Michigan, the PUBLIC decides community boundaries. It used to be decided by politicians, and that wasn’t fair.

- By allowing citizens to have a say, we make sure no one has an unfair advantage.

- Residents literally get to draw our maps AND have a voice, about which areas should be represented.

- Have your say by sharing your comments at a public hearing or going online at [www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](https://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC)

- Having citizens decide is only fair. It makes the process more open and transparent.

- A group with shared cultural, economic, historic, or other common characteristics can be considered a ‘Community of Interest,’ (COI) and should weigh in on the process.
SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS AND HASHTAGS

It’s no longer politicians and political parties deciding who represents; it’s us! Take time to have your say. #DrawFairMaps https://bit.ly/33gjw2u

Residents literally get to draw maps AND have a voice about which areas should be represented. #YouDrawTheLine https://bit.ly/33gjw2u

Redistricting used to be decided by politicians, and that wasn’t fair. For the first time in Michigan, the PUBLIC decides. #YouDrawTheLine https://bit.ly/33gjw2u

Drawing political maps happens every ten years—right after a population count (Census). #DrawFairMaps https://bit.ly/33gjw2u


Hashtags
#DrawFairMaps
#YouDrawTheLine
#ShowUpSpeakUp

SUGGESTED EMAIL LANGUAGE

Subject Line: It’s time to draw the line

Dear [Friend],

This year in Michigan, we have an opportunity to do something that previously was only done by political parties and elected officials: In identifying a Community of Interest, we get to draw the maps that decide which areas and which groups will be represented in our voting process.

It’s called redistricting, and it’s a process that takes place once every ten years (after the population count for the U.S. Census). This is important for our community because by allowing residents to have a say, we make sure no one has an unfair advantage.

Will you please help us with drawing the maps by speaking at one of the upcoming public hearings or providing a comment online at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC?
As a Community of Interest (COI), we literally get to draw a map and say who should have a voice, and which areas should be represented. So, it’s really important to **show up** and **speak up**. It means we have a better chance of getting the issues that matter most to us addressed when someone takes office.

The next hearing for our area will take place on _________________ . Remember, you can make comments online at [www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC).

Now that the process is more open and transparent, we need you to be involved. [**Can I count on you to help #DrawFairMaps?**](http://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC)

Thank you.

Sincerely,
[Community Leader]

**P.S.**