



3/13/2022

Matt Freeman
Chair - Charter Review Committee
Saint Paul Charter Commission

RE: Redistricting of Ward 1-Written Public Comment

Dear Mr. Freeman, and Charter Review Committee Members:

We are writing on the behalf of Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation (ASANDC) located at 360 University, Suite, #103, St. Paul, MN. We have been serving the Rondo neighborhood for over 40 years, and we continue to hear from our community that an actionable agenda to advance community priorities and outcomes, with a focus on economic opportunity and security needs to be a priority for the city of St. Paul.

After reviewing maps and attending the public hearing, Friday, March 11, 2022, we are concerned as many who testified that all Maps moves more of Ward 5 community into Ward 1, which does not advance the economic security for the community members in Ward 1.

We support Commissioner Debbie Montgomery's, who represents Ward 1 recommendations to include 1) Allianz Field 2) Ramsey Hill 3) allow shifting of Wards 5-6 and 4) allow shifting of Wards 3-4. We believe these recommendations will increase Wards 1 economic growth.

Also, during the hearing, Friday, March 11, 2022, the deadline for written public comment was not discussed or voted on. We do not know if this was an oversight, but it is our understanding a deadline to submit written comments need to be recommended and passed during the public hearing. Voting on a deadline after the hearing was adjourned does not meet rules of an open public process. We recommend that the Charter Review Commission follow due process at the next public hearing, which means extending the opportunity for written comments.

Sincerely,

Deborah Mitchell, PhD
Executive Director