



MEMORANDUM

Date: February 11, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner 
Acting County Administrator

Re: **Precinct Adjustments Due to Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission Voter Precinct Splits**

At the February 1, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board requested that the precinct adjustments and additions agenda item be sent to the Elections Integrity Committee (EIC) for review and consideration prior to the Board taking action. This item has been scheduled for the February 15, 2022 Board meeting under agenda item 14.

As you know, the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) approved new congressional and legislative districts that resulted in county precincts being split. By law, precinct lines cannot cross Supervisorial or Justice of the Peace lines. As a result, small 'islands' of land have been created that cannot be combined with other precincts. Per A.R.S. 16-411, precinct lines should not be split by jurisdictional lines. Attached is a map showing an example where the IRC's congressional line (shown in green) cuts through precinct 274, creating a remnant piece surrounded by a Supervisorial district line that cannot be crossed. Elections staff looked to see where existing precinct lines could simply be adjusted to follow the IRC approved lines, but created new precincts where the IRC precinct splits could not be mitigated based on the rules above. This resulted in 70 precinct lines able to be adjusted and 29 new precincts created, including precinct 255 as shown on the map.

At the February 8, 2022 EIC meeting, Elections staff explained to the Commission the work behind adjusting precinct lines and the creation of new precincts in response to the IRC's actions. Several EIC members were under the incorrect impression that staff were reducing the number of precincts. Once clarification was provided that in fact, the number of precincts were actually increasing and the lines for others were being adjusted to meet the statute, there were no additional questions or concerns expressed. The EIC did not feel a vote was required.

Similar to the Board's approval of precinct changes in 2012 due to the IRC's actions then, the current approval of these precinct adjustments and additions will allow the Elections and Recorder's Offices to start planning for the upcoming election. Additionally, since precincts serve as the building blocks in redistricting efforts, approval of these new precinct adjustments

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The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **Precinct Adjustments Due to Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission Voter
Precinct Splits**
February 11, 2022
Page 2

will also allow the Redistricting Advisory Committee to continue to move forward with their planning.

I continue to recommend the Board approve the proposed precinct line adjustments and additions.

JKL

Attachment

- c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
- Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator and Chief Medical Officer
Health & Community Services
- Mary Martinson, Interim Director, Pima County Elections
- Nicole Fyffe, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator
- Diana Durazo, Special Projects Manager, County Administration

