

Subject: Proposed Redistricting Map - New House district 24A

To: Chair Mary Murphy, Vice Chair Ginny Klevorn and Committee

I am writing concerning the maps that were released for the new district 24A. I am a long time resident, run my small business in the community, and have been an active supporter of our schools and local community.

I would ask that you reconsider the inclusion of Rogers in this district and the exclusion of Minnetrista. Note that Minnetrista is a suburban community with intrinsic links to the Westonka community. As a matter of fact, Mound Westonka High School is in Minnetrista. New growth in Minnetrista is focused on the south eastern portion of the district linked to Westonka schools and the Lake Minnetonka community. The challenges and culture of the Minnetrista community are similar and like to surrounding communities to the north and east. It is not similar to the more rural communities to the west and south. Minnetrista is a blend of neighborhoods that don't distinguish between adjoining cities and larger section of land with homeowners and farms. This has similarities to 24A cities such as Medina, Orono, Independence, Corcoran, and, in its neighborhoods, Mound.

Rogers is a more industrial and commercial community bridging Interstate 94 and most of the population is in the norther portion. It has more linkage/similarity to St. Michael, Albertville and Otsego than any of the 24A communities to its sound. Note that Corcoran, the most immediate community sound of Rogers has its population growth in the south eastern portion of Corcoran linked to Wayzata schools to the west and south. Rogers is linked to Rogers schools and its surrounding communities. The issues faced by the Rogers community are distinctly different than those across the other communities in 24A that are linked to the communities to their south and east. The population of Rogers will also be a very significant percentage of 24A, thus outweighing the interests of the other cities that have dissimilar issues.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider separation of Minnetrista and the inclusion of Rogers in your House redistricting maps.

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