

Dear Oregon Redistricting Committee,

September 10, 2021

For the record, my name is Timothy Ingalsbee. I am an instructor at the University of Oregon, and I also run a national nonprofit based in Eugene called Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics, and Ecology.

I've lived in Eugene since 1980, and I'm a resident in South Eugene in a neighborhood known affectionately by my neighbors as "Amazon Flats" that runs along the east and west sides of Amazon Park. This neighborhood is very different from the "South Hills." When people think of South Eugene, they often overlook the Flats and think about the Hills, but we are our own unique neighborhood community.

Along the western edge of our neighborhood is College Hill where the University of Oregon was originally located 150 years ago, but the university has been long gone from that location. There is no more college there, just a big hill that forms a major obstruction for us who like to bike or ride the bus. It makes a natural boundary for us.

I love my community and neighborhood and raised my kids here because:

We are close to the UO campus. I can ride my bike to the UO on great bike paths through the park, or can take a city bus from the end of my street straight to school.

Almost all of the people I encounter on this bike path or on the bus are traveling to or from the University, which is why my neighborhood has the feeling of a campus neighborhood.

We are very close to the Amazon park. My kids grew up playing in the park and swimming in the community pool. We've taken three generations of family dogs to the dog park in Amazon Park. That is a place we often meet and visit with our neighbors who live on both sides of the park.

Our neighborhood is comprised of modest single-family homes. Most residents are working class folks or retirees. Because the South Flats has lower rents than many of the houses closer to campus, many students and younger families have become our neighbors over the years.

In fact, on my street there are several houses full of student renters, and several retirees are also UO alumni. We share a close neighborhood connection with the UO campus as well as Amazon park.

The neighborhoods on top of College Hill, in the South Hills, and in the Friendly St. neighborhood are, in general, much older folks who are much, much more affluent, and these places have a fundamentally different character than our neighborhood.

We share much more of the same character and population traits as our neighbors on the east side of Amazon Park all the way north to the University.

My neighbors share a common interest in issues like affordable housing, public education, alternative transportation, and climate change.

The Park and campus are at the center of our neighborhood community and our community of common interest, and should not become the margins of our district. Those of us on the west side of Amazon Park should definitely not be removed or excluded either from the park or campus district and our common community of common interest.

I support Congressional Map "A" with no revisions.

I support State House Map "C" but feel strongly that we should be connected to the UO campus.

I request that the committee do everything in its power to create a map that preserves our community of common interest in the redistricting process.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Timothy Ingalsbee, Ph.D.

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currently in Senate District 4, House District 8, and U.S. Congressional District 4

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