

Dear Members of the redistricting committees,

My name is Ashley Thirstrup (she/her/her's) and I live in **Multnomah County, District 3**. I am an APANO member.

I live in the Roseway Neighborhood and have lived in NE Portland for the past sixteen years. First off, thank you for the hard work of this committee, especially those of you who have worked to produce thoughtful, nuanced, and fair maps. I know there are a lot of complexities to drawing new district lines.

There are a few things I would suggest to make sure final maps for Congressional District 3 are reflective of our community. **We must prioritize keeping together BIPOC communities and historically marginalized communities who have been intentionally shut out from the political process for too long.** Our vibrant and diverse communities, like the Jade District, must be kept together. **The Jade District is important to my family** because we want to make sure that our Asian and immigrant community stays together. We are an immigrant Asian/Middle Eastern family with two children. We need to make sure that we are represented among our community, as our new lines are drawn.

In particular, I want to share some of the detailed ways that these maps should reflect the reality and needs of my community. 82nd Ave and NE Sandy are the most important transportation routes in my area. I can get to work via NE 82nd Ave. I will also note the importance of the Jade District industry in my area. In Congressional Map C, the district boundary of HD 46 and 48 directly cut the Jade District in half, directly separating our vibrant community of immigrants, Black, Indigenous, people of color.

Separating the Jade district into two state house districts directly dilutes immigrant, refugee, Black, Indigenous, Asian, Pacific Islander, and other people of color voting power and continues Oregon's history of intentionally excluding us from the process.

Once again, thanks so much for your service and your work on this important issue. These maps are a great start. Please keep in mind what I have shared about my community when finalizing maps.

Thank you,
Ashley Thirstrup and Ouriel Avraham