

Thao Duc Tu

President of Vietnamese Community Of Oregon
PO BOX 55416
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To: Co-Chairs Taylor, and Salinas,
Vice-Chairs, Knopp, and Boshart-Davis, and members of the redistricting committees,

For the record, my name is Thao Duc Tu, my pronouns are he and him, and I live in Multnomah County, District 3. I am an APANO member.

I live in the Jade neighborhood in the city of Portland. I have lived here for the past 30 years since I left South Vietnam for the United States in September 1991.

First off, I 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 home to many Asian markets, restaurants, law offices, real estate agents and daily living service businesses. It is nice to have Portland Community College's South East Campus where thousands of Asian Americans and Asian international students pursue a variety of college degrees.

I will also note the importance of the Jade District industry in my area. I like how the SE 82 Avenue is placed in relation to my district .

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.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Once again, thank you so much for your service and your work on this important issue.

I am patiently looking forward to receiving your response.

Respectfully yours,

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