



YAVAPAI COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION NO. 2079

A SINGLE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT FOR YAVAPAI COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) is currently conducting its decennial redistricting of federal and state legislative districts; and,

WHEREAS, the IRC states that its mission includes creating districts of nearly equal population; recognizing and respecting communities of common interests, and districts that recognize and respect geographical features, the boundaries of cities, towns, and counties; and,

WHEREAS, Yavapai County has existed as a separate and distinct community of common interest since its founding in 1864 as one of the original four counties of Arizona Territory; and,

WHEREAS, Yavapai County's history, geography and politics are tightly bound together by the common economic and geographic feature that is the upper Verde River watershed, which, since the founding of Yavapai County, has been the source of the county's water that fueled the county's ranching, mining, and tourism; and

WHEREAS, on October 28, 2021, the IRC issued the latest legislative district draft map (LD Draft Map 10.0), which correctly recognized Yavapai County as a distinct community of common interest by placing all Yavapai County within proposed legislative district 5; and,

WHEREAS, the Verde River watershed, including the headwaters of the river located with the Active Management Area in Western Yavapai County, must be protected and preserved if Yavapai County is to survive and thrive; and,

WHEREAS, it is imperative that Yavapai County's legislative representation represent the entirety of the Verde River watershed to preserve and protect this vital resource; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Sedona, home to Oak Creek, is a crucial part of the Verde River watershed; and,

WHEREAS, a large majority of the population of the City of Sedona lives in Yavapai County, and the city is located close to and has a strong common community connection with the other Yavapai County communities located nearby – Cottonwood, Jerome, Clarkdale, and Camp Verde; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Sedona is far from and geographically separated from the population centers of Coconino County; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Sedona is unquestionably part of Yavapai County's common community interest in terms of water, economics, and geography; and,

WHEREAS, LD Draft Map 10.0 divides the City of Sedona between two legislative districts and should be modified to place the entire City of Sedona within proposed legislative district 5.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors hereby declares its support for the proposed LD Map 10.0 insofar that all Yavapai County is encompassed within proposed legislative district 5; and,

FURTHER, the Board of Supervisors urges that the IRC consider no modification to the legislative district 5 map that changes the inclusion of the whole of Yavapai County within a single legislative district; and,

FURTHER, the Board of Supervisors urges the IRC to modify LD Draft Map 10.0 to incorporate all the City of Sedona within legislative district 5 as a proper recognition of City of Sedona's strong water, economic, and geographic connection with the rest of Yavapai County.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Chairman of the Board, on behalf of the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors, sets his hand and causes the seal of the County of Yavapai, Arizona, to be affixed on the 1st day of December 2021.

Approved and Adopted by the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors this 1st day of December 2021.


Craig L. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:


Kim Kapin, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Martin Brennan
Deputy County Attorney