

# Media Release

Democratic Party of Sandoval County

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## **Sandoval Democrats reject Republican Plans for Commission Districts**

The Democratic Party of Sandoval County condemns the gerrymandered redistricting of the Sandoval County Commission as proposed by the Republican led Sandoval County Commission. Three redistricting maps, publicly released earlier today by the Republican-dominated County Commission, violate fairness to County residents and split communities in the county.

“The maps, prepared by a Republican company led by a Republican operative, if adopted, would stifle citizens’ voices. These maps represent a plan to entrench safe seats for Republicans and cement minority rule,” said Alexandria Piland, chair of the Democratic Party of Sandoval County.

“We must protect fairness, keep communities together, and assure that all county residents have an equal voice in selecting county commissioners. Clearly, none of the three proposed maps achieve these objectives. These maps are the product of the radical right, who seek to suppress voters who are not of their party,” Piland added.

The maps are a blatant, partisan attempt to create a majority of Republican districts, even though Democrats constitute a majority of registered Sandoval County voters.

Egregious examples of gerrymandering include placing the community of Bernalillo in more than one district. Placitas also was split. Such splits are proposed for no other reason than to dilute the voting power of these areas.

Also, The Village of Corrales would be lumped into non-contiguous geographic areas. Further, Sandoval's Native American communities in every plan are segregated into one district, preventing them from having an influence on more than one Commissioner. Even more, these maps would pack all of Sandoval County's unincorporated areas, the areas that depend the most on the Commission, into one district only, limiting their influence to just one Commission seat.

“Basic fairness dictates that communities of interest and diversity of districts must be protected in any redistricting process,” Piland said.

There is no place in Sandoval County for this type of destructive partisan action.

The Republican dominated County Commission must reject these maps and begin the process again. They must allow Sandoval County residents equitable representation in their own governance.

***The Sandoval County Commission’s agenda [is online here.](#) The maps for proposed redistricting [are here.](#)***



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