



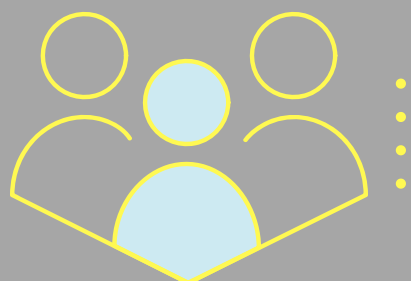
COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST (COI)

WHAT ARE THEY? WHY DO THEY MATTER?
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

WHAT IS A COI?

WE SUGGEST A COMMUNITY OF INTEREST IS:

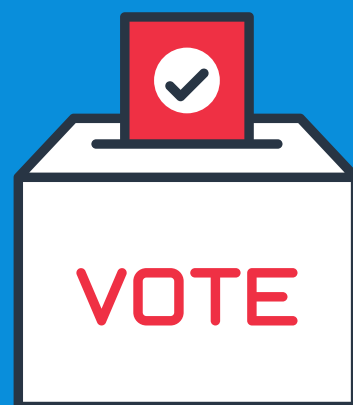
a group of people in a contiguous geographic area who share common bonds (such as economic, historical, cultural or other bonds) that are linked to public policy issues that may be affected by legislation. For example, COIs can consist of religious, ethnic, or immigrant communities, people in tourism areas, media markets, outdoor recreation or natural resource areas, and so on.



WHY SHOULD THEY MATTER TO ME?

BETTER REPRESENTATION AS LAWS ARE WRITTEN

COIs are one the highest priorities the new Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission must consider when drawing new political districts for Congress and the Michigan House and Senate. By keeping your COI intact in a single district, rather than split among several districts, your COI may have more political influence and better representation in the legislature and in Congress as laws are written that impact your COI.



AM I PART OF A COI?

YOU MAY BE PART OF MULTIPLE COIs

Think about groups that you belong to. They might include a church, school community, historical association, nature area stewards' group, neighborhood association, ethnic center, regional trade group or labor union, or any number of other groups of people who share common bonds of various kinds. You may be a member of more than one COI that might get involved in helping define Michigan's new political districts.



HOW CAN I ADVOCATE FOR MY COI?

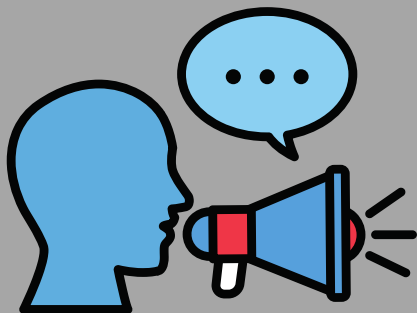
CONNECT WITH NEIGHBORS & SHOW UP!

Reaching out to others in your COI, however it is defined, is vital for this process. Let them know what a COI is and why it matters. Encourage them to become involved with your community at the Commission's public hearings, or to submit information to the Commission online.



WHERE DO I SHOW UP?

VOICE YOUR CONCERNS



The Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission will host a minimum of 10 public hearings around Michigan before drawing its first maps. These hearings will most likely be held online due to COVID-19. Find out more information about the hearings at <http://redistrictingmichigan.org> or submit your COI's information to the Commission through that website, when it is ready to receive submissions.

<http://closup.umich.edu/>

Report on COIs:
closup.umich.edu/redistricting

Contact: closup@umich.edu

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