

# What unites your Community of Interest?

## Definition of Community of Interest

In the redistricting process, Idaho requires the consideration of communities of interest (COIs). Though currently undefined under state law, a community of interest is typically a population that shares cultural, historical, or economic interests. Communities do not necessarily share the same political viewpoints or support for certain candidates or political parties. Add your community to contribute your voice to the redistricting process.

## Community Activities and Services

ex. My community is made of the people who go to Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church. The Church provides child care and charity services for the less fortunate in our community.

**Use these questions to think more about how you would describe your community...**

- Where do people in your community gather or socialize?
- How and where does your community access services (healthcare, transportation, educational services, etc.)?

**Examples of activities and services:** Shopping areas, schools and universities, libraries, parks, lakes, rivers, places of worship, healthcare services, public transport, local nonprofit organizations, etc.

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## Cultural of Historic Interests

ex. My community is made up of ranchers who have lived in this area for generations and have lived and worked off of the land.

**Use these questions to think more about how you would describe your community...**

- What are the cultural bonds in your community?
- If your community has a shared history, what is it?

**Examples of cultural or historical interests:** Religious groups, ethnic groups, languages, age groups, historic districts, etc.

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## Economic or Quality of Life Interests

ex. My community is located near a farm. Agriculture is the main industry. We experience shrinking water supplies and feel the impacts of a growing state differently than others.

**Use these questions to think more about how you would describe your community...**

- Where are residents employed?
- If there are concerns in your community, what are they?

**Examples of economic or quality of life interests:** Ranching industry, manufacturing center, declining water supply, encroachment of housing on working landscapes, etc.

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## Community Needs and Concerns

ex. Another common concern of ours is the lack of representation of our communities' issues. We ask that you keep (specific area) in a single district.

**Use these questions to think more about how you would describe your community...**

- What should politicians and/or map drawers know about your community?
- What are the needs of your community?
- Is there anything else you want to tell us about your community?

**Examples of activities and services:** Keep community in the same district or separate into multiple districts, shared policy concerns, need for a social service, relationship to other nearby communities, issues with current district lines.

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