

Public Testimony for Consideration to the Washington State Redistricting Commission

From Marvin Rosete – Renton, WA 98059, October 14, 2011
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Proposal

Request to keep Precinct 11-3223 inside the 11th Legislative District instead of the 41st Legislative District

Narrative

11-3223 is currently part of the 11th Legislative District. This neighborhood borders on well known Renton Landmarks to include Sunset Boulevard (i.e. State Route 900 – moving east to west heading to Issaquah) and Duvall Road (Moving north and south – heading to Newcastle).

This part of Renton is colloquially known as the ‘Renton Highlands’ and is a highly dense populated area of Northeast Renton. On a non-political map, State Route 900 can be seen as a natural dividing line. However, to most residents it is Sunset Boulevard, a major thoroughfare that conjoins a significant community of interest that is the Renton Highlands.

11-3223 is the very top of the Highlands and has several business landmarks to include Albertsons, the Highlands Starbucks, the Highlands Bank of America (the ONLY bank in a 3 mile radius), the Washington State Department of Licensing Office (Renton Highlands Branch) and the well known King and Bunny’s Appliances (also owned by civic leader and current Renton City Councilmember, King Parker). This neighborhood is also inhabited by families whose students attend local Hazen High School and part of the Renton School District.

Several neighbors of 11-3223 are served by King County Metro Route 105 (Renton Highlands to Downtown Renton) and Route 240 (Renton Highlands, Newcastle, Bellevue).

Reasons for NOT going to the 41st District.

- 1) 11-3223 is part of a distinct community of interest with its neighboring precincts. A political division of this nature would divide this neighborhood’s unique character as well as representation in a combined Renton Highlands community.
- 2) This neighborhood is one unit working in synergy with the neighborhood landmarks to include local businesses and local city landmarks.
- 3) Neighbors distinctly identify themselves as Renton residents similar to those residents living south of State Route 900 (i.e. Sunset Blvd).
- 4) 11-3223 has a political affinity with those living to the immediate south of Sunset Boulevard and interests with their neighbors now living in the Renton Landing; a new high-density development and shopping area just built in the last 10 years in the city of Renton - located down the hill near south Lake Washington – neighboring Coulon Park and the Renton Boeing 737 plant.
- 5) A relationship with 41st District representatives is NOT immediately felt in 11-3223. 41st District relationships can be viewed as having a political affinity with Newcastle and Bellevue.
- 6) This neighborhood is the core that defines the northeastern part of the Renton Highlands that should continue to be represented by the 11th District as it has significant affinity to the rest of the Renton

neighborhoods in the 11th District that includes Renton Technical College, the King County Courthouse (Renton Highland Branch), and the King County Emergency Response Headquarters.

Request

As proposed in photographs in Exhibit 3 of this testimony, Please keep 11-3223 and the proposed neighborhood in the 11th District as this part of the neighborhood to keep this community of interest together. The request would make the new northern board of the 11th District extend to 17th Avenue instead of Sunset Blvd. However, extending the boarder further north past 17th Avenue would be preferred as well.

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Exhibit 1 Current Map
11-3223 now in the 11th District

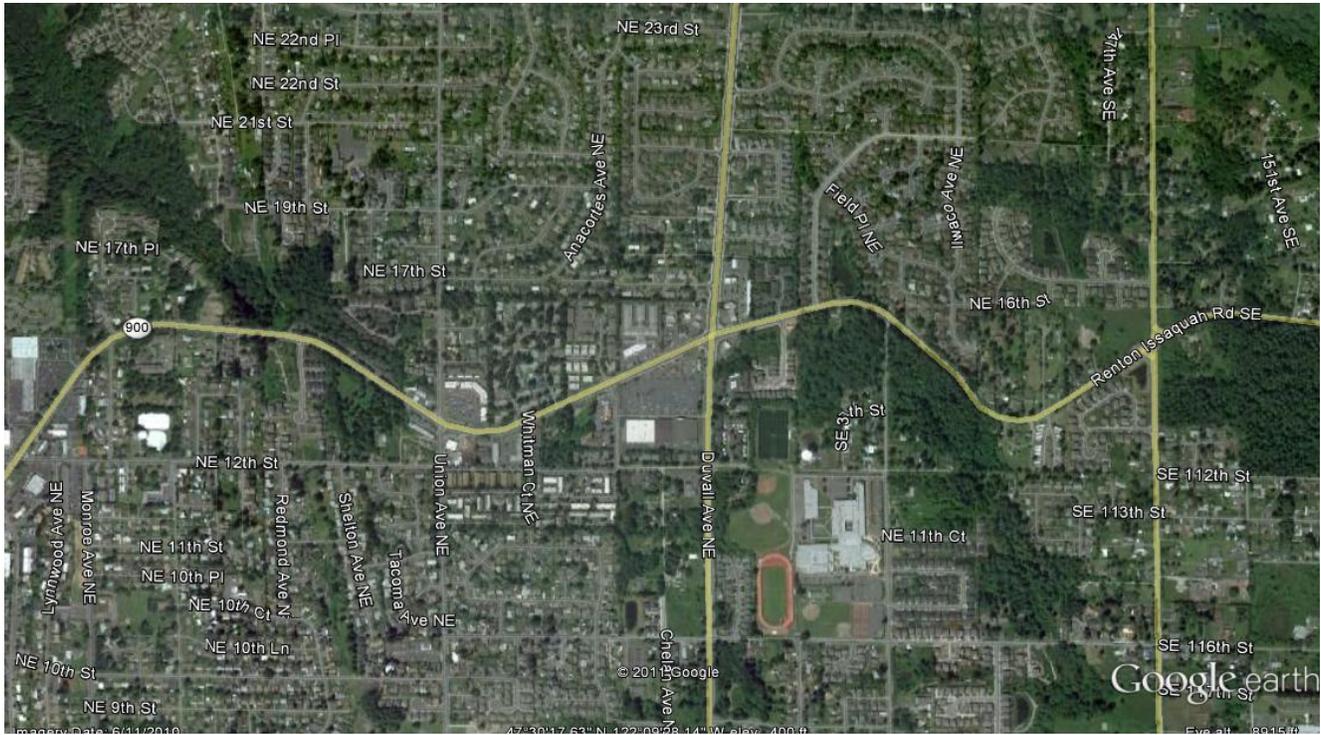


Exhibit 2 – Map Proposal of Ceis and Foster

All neighborhoods north of Sunset Boulevard (i.e. State Route 900) will be part of a future 41st boundary



Exhibit 3 – New Proposed line to 11-3223 in the 11th District

Instead of Sunset Boulevard (i.e. State Route 900) Line now moved to 17th Avenue to include homes just bordering east of NE 17th Place and as far east bordering Field Place NE

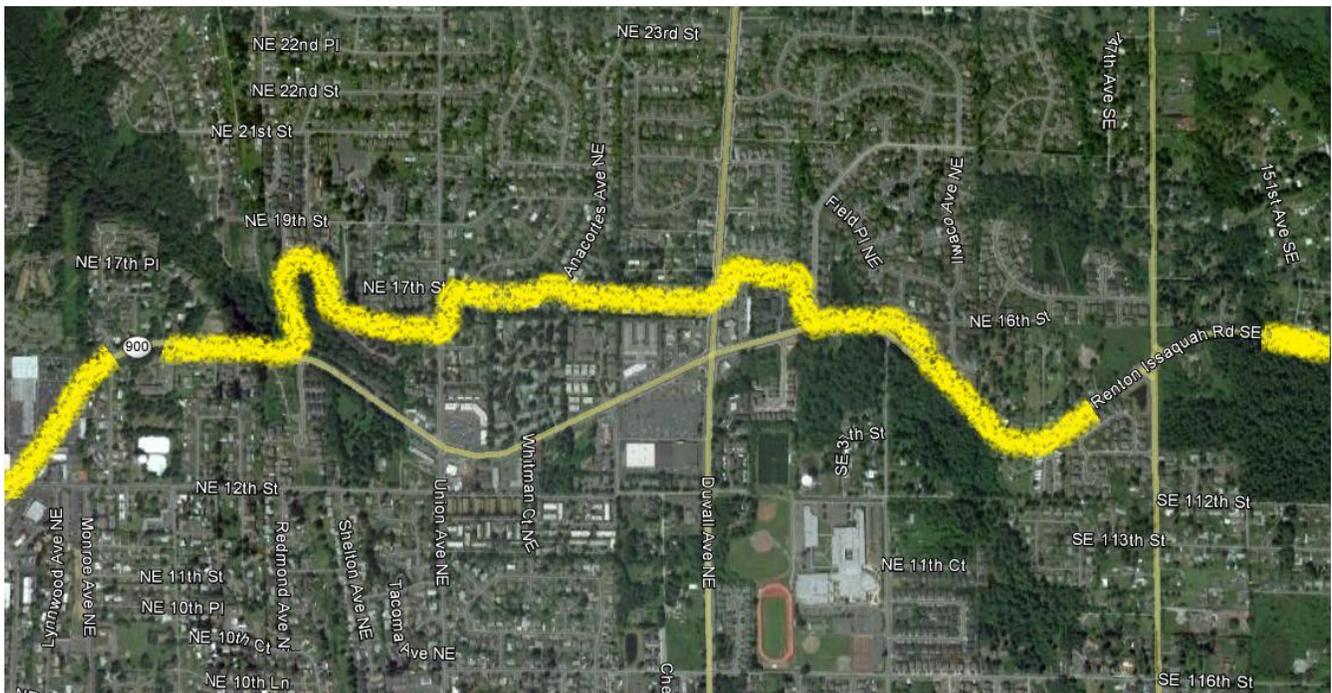
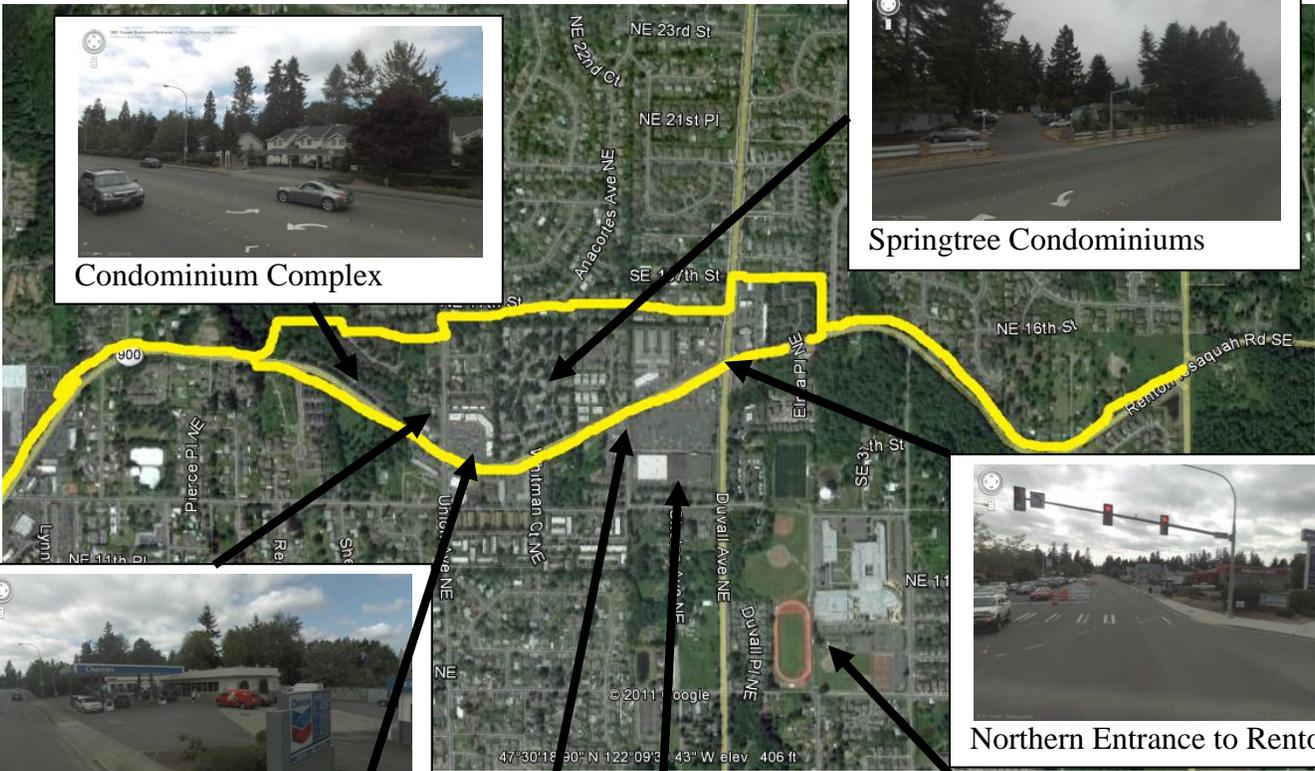


Exhibit 4 - Landmarks in 11-3223



Condominium Complex



Springtree Condominiums



Northern Entrance to Renton



**Local Chevron Station
Sunset and Union Street**



**Anacortes Avenue close to
local McDonalds**



**Location of the local
WA Dept of Licensing**



**Local strip mall with Albertson's,
Ace Hardware and BIG Lots!**



Hazen High School