

Lori Olberg

From: Mannie Lionni <lml@05401.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2013 12:06 PM
To: Lori Olberg
Subject: Fwd: RE-DISTRICTING

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mannie Lionni** <lml@05401.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 11, 2013 at 12:01 PM
Subject: RE-DISTRICTING
To: kevinwbvt@gmail.com, janeknodell@burlingtontelecom.net, maxwell.k.tracy@gmail.com, vbrennan@burlingtonvt.gov, Rachel Siegel <rsiegel@burlingtonvt.gov>, Bryan Aubin <baubin@burlingtonvt.gov>, Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtontelecom.net>, chip.mason.btv@gmail.com, NormBlaisVT@gmail.com, paulfin@sover.net, tayres@burlingtonvt.gov, "Decelles, Paul" <pdecellesw7@aol.com>
Cc: olberg@burlingtonvt.gov

Dear City Councilors :

Please read and enter this e-mail into the official record of the Redistricting public feedback.

Two issues have been at the center of the re-districting discussions :

1. The number of City Councilors
2. The number of Wards

The number of City Councilors has nothing to do with re-districting. It is a political issue and should be dealt with separately, in another setting. However, it is linked to the issue of representation in so far as any reduction of the number of City Councilors, or their substitution with at-large Councilors, is a reduction of representation.

As to the number of Wards, it's an issue of justice and equity. Most of the discussion has been academic and irrelevant ; in fact, on the ground, there already *is* an 8th Ward. It has approximately the same number of residents as all the other Wards, and it meets the redistricting criteria, perhaps more fully than any of the other Wards.

Therefore the issue at this point is whether you want to give legal recognition to this de-facto Ward. Equity and justice, and the re-districting law, all say that you should do so without further delay ; all the redistricting process needs in order to come to a good conclusion is for the City Council to give legal recognition to the 8th Ward and make the small adjustments necessary to retain the other Wards at close to their present numbers and boundaries.

Louis Mannie Lionni

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