

To Whom it May Concern,

It was come to my attention that the city of Albany is looking to adjust ward districts next month. I live in Irving St, which, along with half of Elm, is the very beginning of the 7th ward. The seventh ward primarily encompasses that Delaware avenue neighborhood, which is an area with houses with lawns and driveways. It's not the dense, urban rowhouse environment that Irving St. shares with our neighbors in Ward 6. It was always seemed silly to me that we are ward 7, and ward 6, but I only have begun to see the effects more through Covid, when it felt like we didn't have the communication and responsiveness that our neighbors over in Ward 6 have. The truth is, we're much more a part of the Ward 6/Center Square community than we are part of Ward 7. We're a few small streets, separated from the rest of our ward by Lincoln Park. Our needs and interests much better align with Ward 6, and we'd like you to consider shifting the boundary to include Elm and Irving (and likely Park and Myrtle too) in Ward 6. Right now, it feels like we really just don't have representation. We're not neighbors with the people in Ward 7, they're a far walk. Our neighbors are ward 6 folks.

I hope you will consider moving Elm and Irving to be a part of the Ward that we share a neighborhood with.

Jenna P.