

Testimony for Re-apportionment of East Boulder County (Longmont)

I live 3 miles outside the city limits north of Longmont. We moved here because my new job brought me here in 1992. The area is composed mostly of farmland and home sites of 1 -35 acre land parcels. I am a native Coloradan and actually have deep roots in Longmont. My Father and Mother were married in Longmont in 1926. So I care a great deal about Colorado and in particular about Longmont. My concerns are about education, jobs and water for this area.

Today I am going to talk about both the House District and Senate District. First, I will address the State House District.

Currently my State House District (HD13) consists of people north of Highway 66, but mostly includes areas of southwest Boulder (the college area) , and the mountain towns of Lyons, Ward, Jamestown, Allenspark, Idaho Springs, Georgetown, Silver Plume and way up to the East side of the Eisenhower Tunnel. There are three counties in this State House District!

It makes no sense to me that we are coupled with these areas. We in this area have nothing in common with the college, or with the mountain towns. We are a bedroom and farming community – not one that attracts tourists.

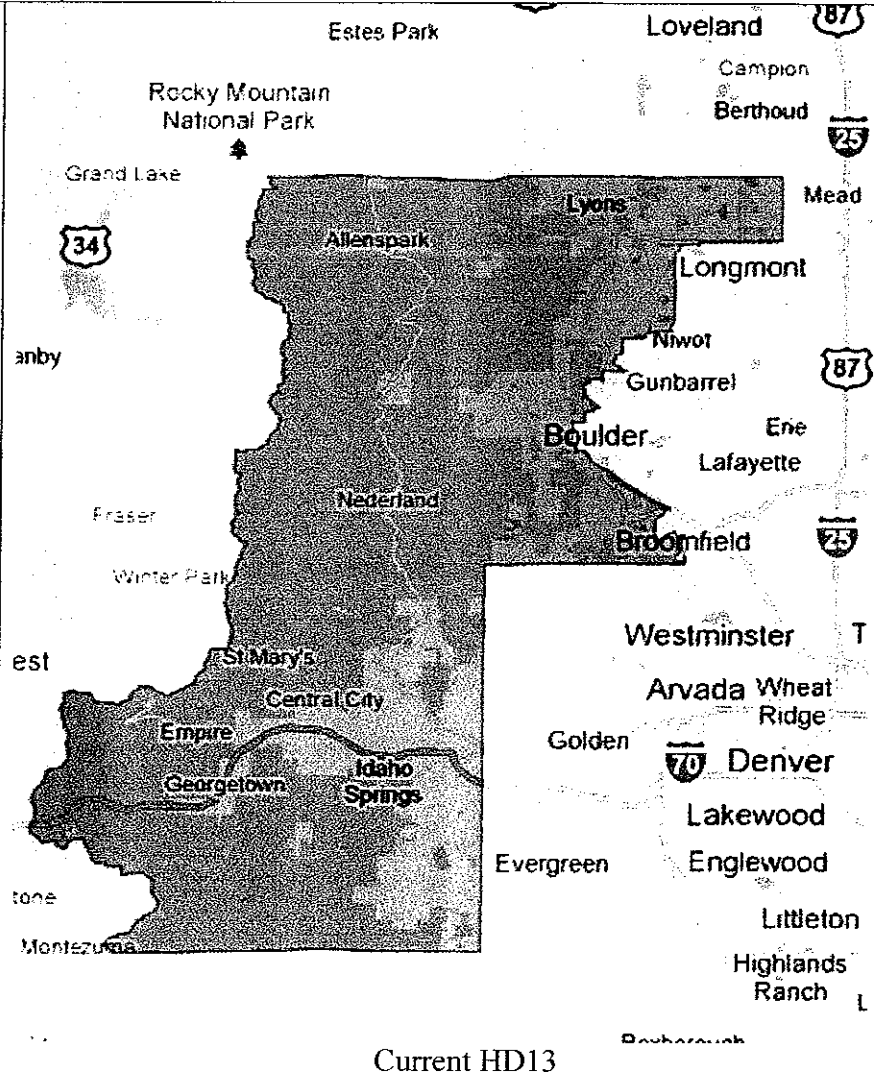
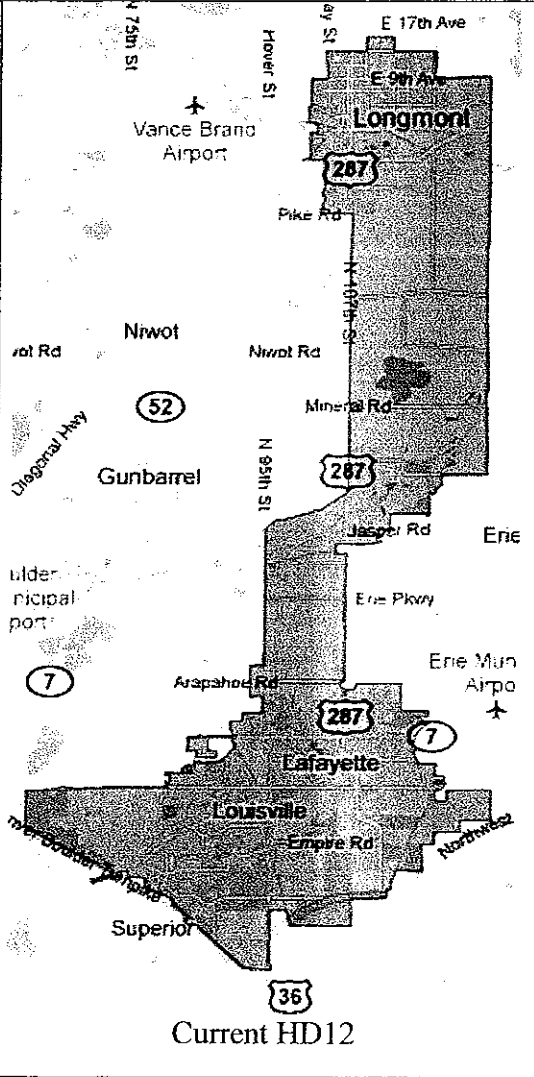
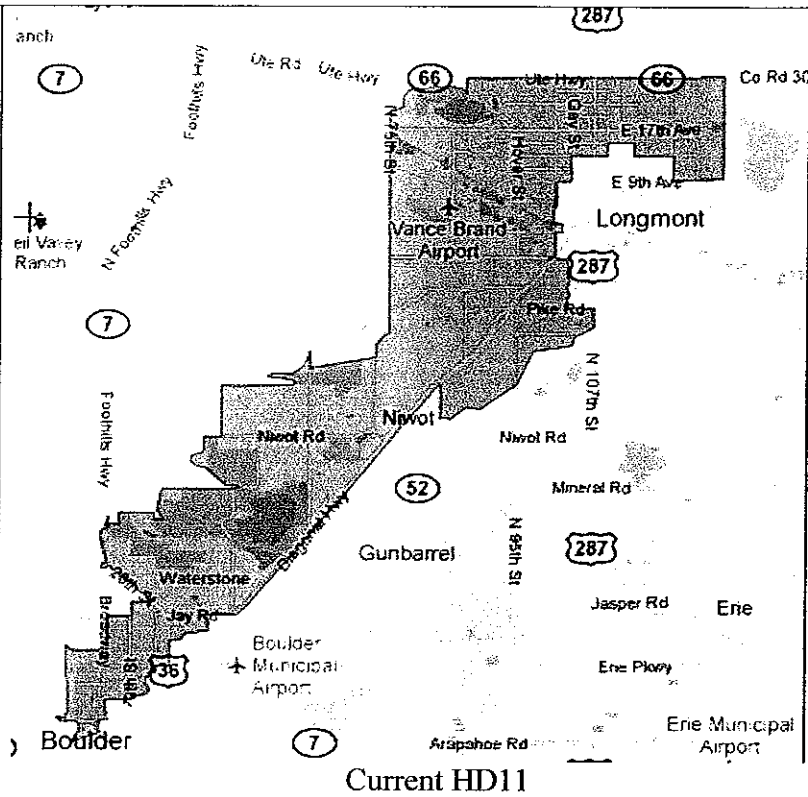
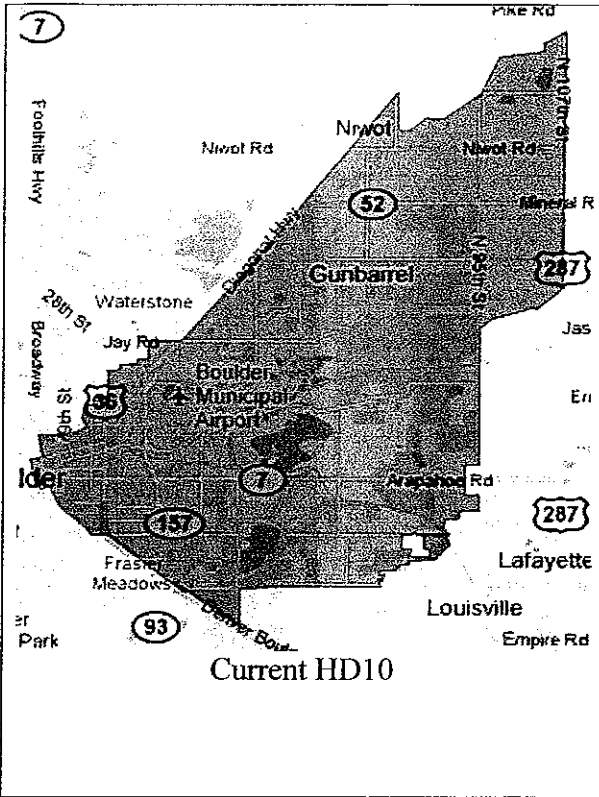
Our family has more of a bond with the City of Longmont. We shop there, we have friends there, and we worship there; thus we live in an area of common interest with the city of Longmont. It makes sense to me that our district should be bound with the city of Longmont. It would be nice if Longmont could have its own district similar to pre 2002 reapportionment. But because of the population of the city of Longmont proper (87,270) it would appear that Longmont should have two house districts.

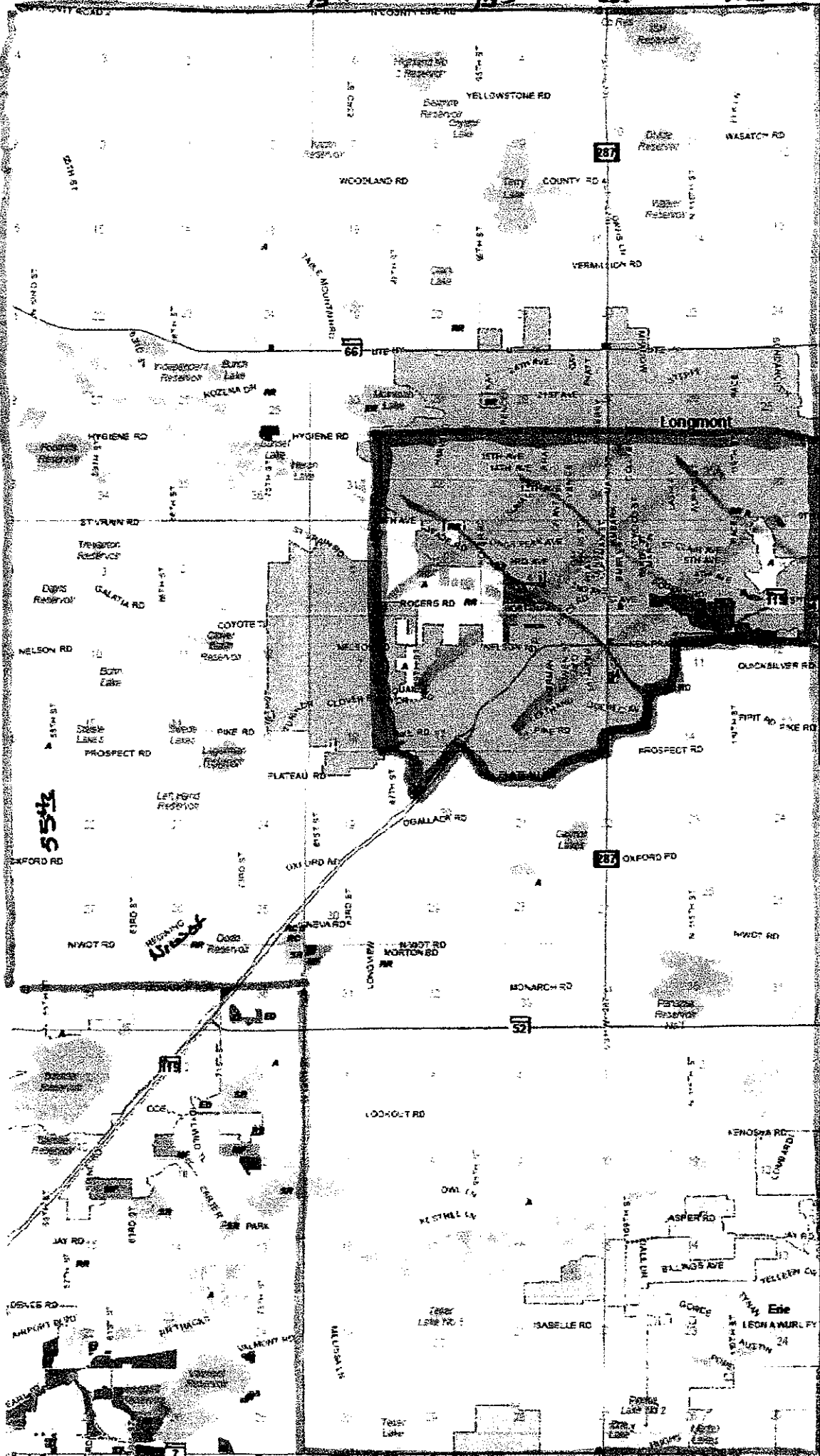
One other important thing I might add - I have never heard from my house representative, never even a mailer or notice of Town Hall meetings to find out what may be of interest to us. Whereas, those that represent part of the Longmont area did hold town hall meetings to tell them what was going on and what they did in the last legislative session. My choice in the last election was of two candidates: the Democrat living in Boulder, and the Republican living in Idaho Springs. I wonder what kind of representation I would have gotten if he were elected?

So, as per the requirements of the Colorado Constitution: 1) cities and counties are not to be divided except to balance the population within each district; 2) the area within a district must be contiguous and as compact as possible; and communities of interest, such as economic, ethnic, or geographic areas, which are to be preserved whenever possible. In consideration of these criteria, it would make sense that the area north of Highway 66 should be apportioned to at least part of Longmont, not any city 15 to 100 miles away with any interest in common.

To the credit of Governor Hickenlooper, he would like to see not only communities of interest, but also have competitive districts; which makes a lot of sense in terms of fairness. Presently the two main Longmont House districts are gerrymandered into a 40% Democrat, 40% Independent and 20% Republican division.

I ask you keep these in mind for the city of Longmont and its suburbs for making your maps for districts.





**Longmont
Area
Proposed
House District
(Option 1)**

Hwy 66

17th Ave

9th Ave

Hwy 119

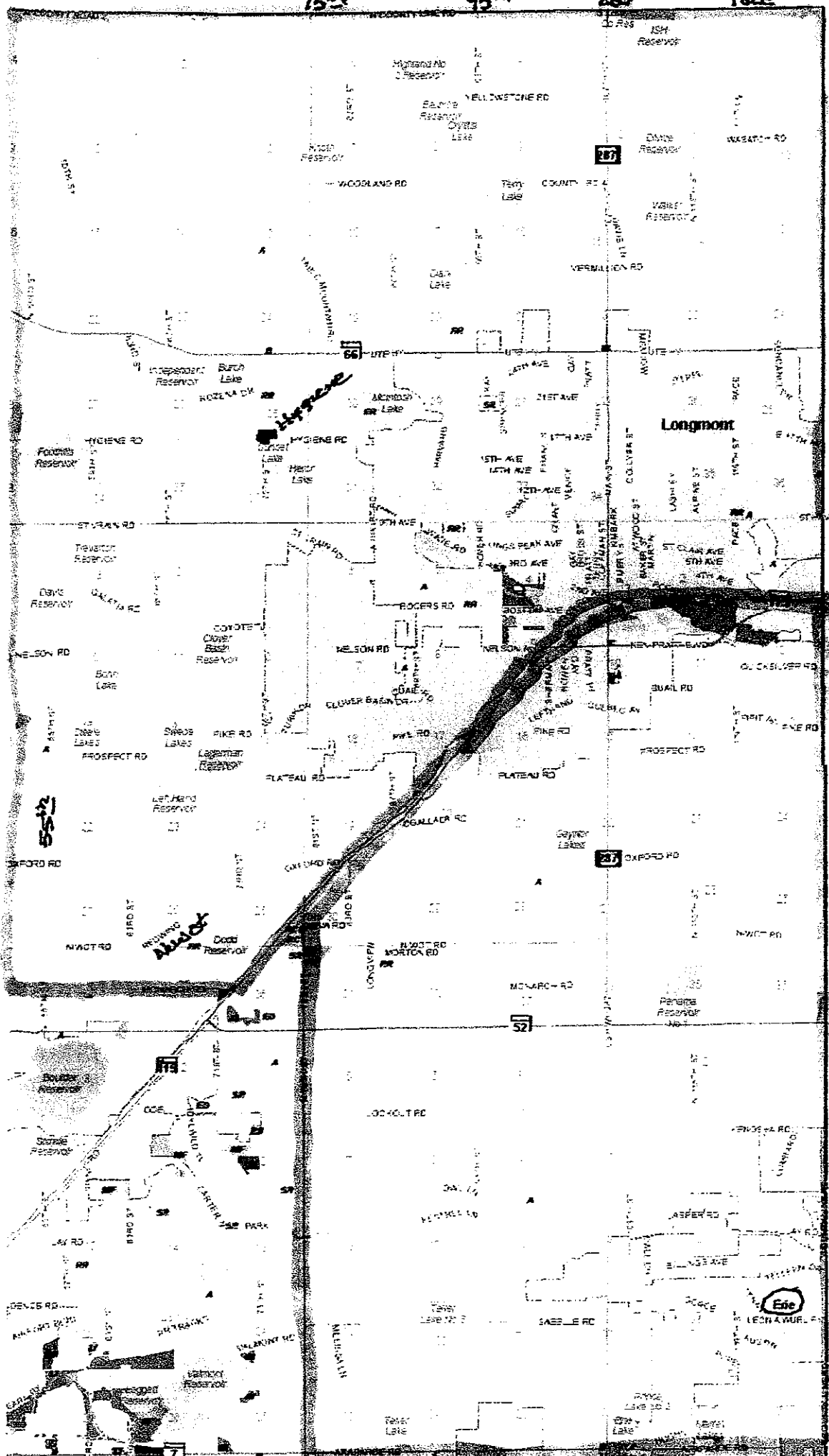
Niwot Rd

Hwy 52

Arapahoe

75th 95th 120th Pole

City Lines



**Longmont Area
Proposed
House District
(Option 2)**

Hwy 66

17th Ave

9th Ave

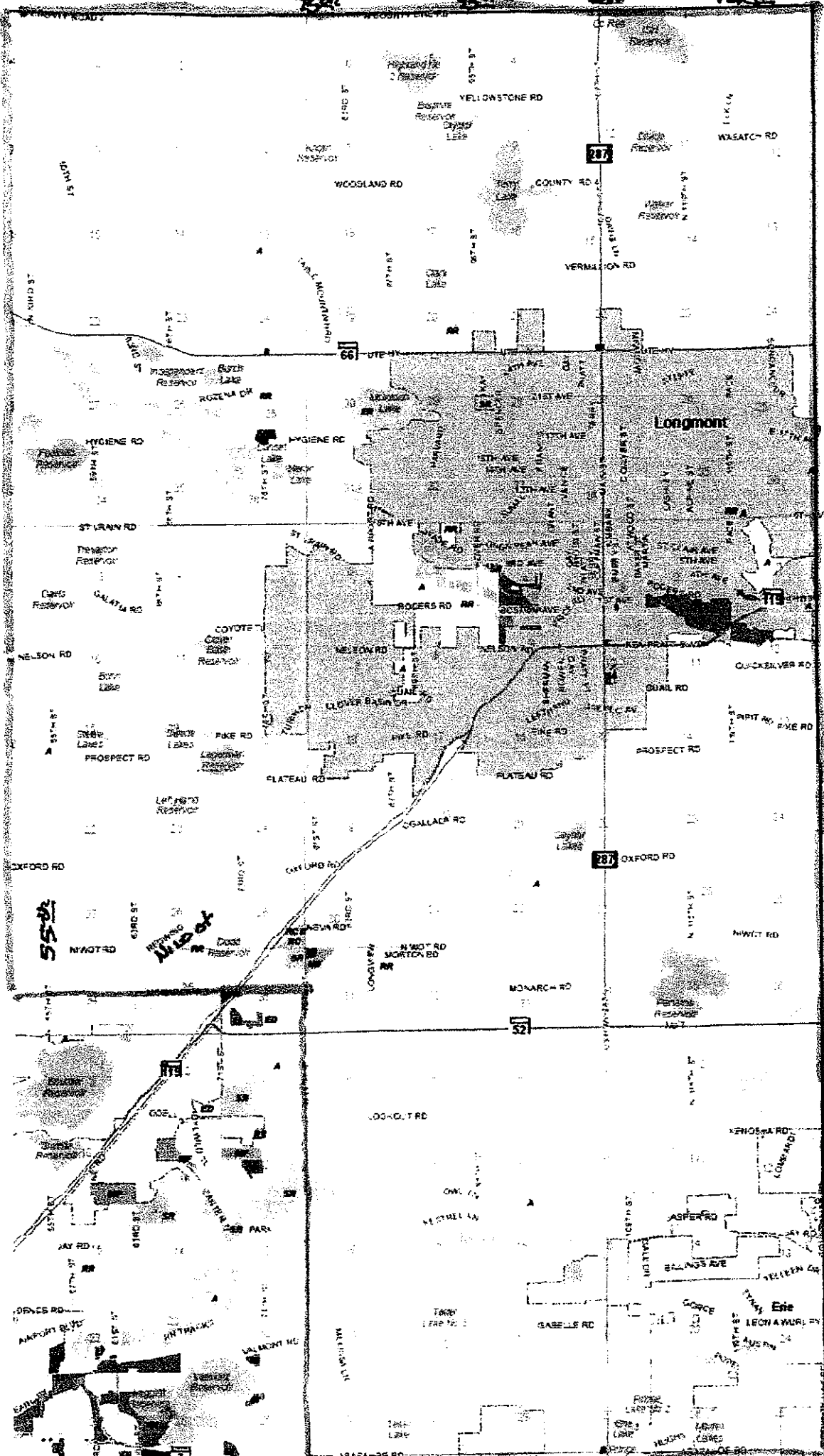
Hwy 119

Niwot Rd

Hwy 52

Arapahoe Rd

City Lines



Longmont Area Proposed Senate District

Hwy 66

17th Ave

9th Ave

Hwy 119

Niwot Rd

Hwy 52

Arapahoe