

TESTIMONY OF EDWARD APARIS
At Public Hearing Held By
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
For The State of California
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

20

— 05.14.11H

My name is Edward Aparis. I have lived in East National City for 16 years. I have been living in East Chula Vista for the past 9 years.

I have been active in the Filipino American community volunteering with Kalusugan Community Services, Council of Philippine American Organizations, and Operation Samahan in National City

I have also worked at the MAAC Project (Maximizing Access to Advance our Communities) which is a social service organization focusing on low and moderate income Latino and African American families. Through MAAC I have had contact with various Latino and African American individuals and organizations over the years.

I ask that the Commission draw districts that respect the interests of AAPI, Latino and African American communities in San Diego County. These populations, particularly in the southern portion of the County, have similar social service needs.

First, I ask the Commission to respect the Voting Rights Act interests of Latinos in the western portion of San Diego. I understand that the drawing of this Voting Rights district would require the splitting of National City, Chula Vista, and Paradise Hills.

Second, I ask that in splitting National City, Chula Vista and Paradise Hills, the Commission preserve as much of the AAPI population in National City, Chula Vista and Paradise Hills as possible and keep them with Bonita and Bay Terrace. This area is home to significant numbers of AAPIs, including many Filipinos, as well as Latinos and some African Americans.

The community in National City, Chula Vista, Paradise Hills, Bonita and Bay Terrace tends to be low to moderate income, has high rates of limited English proficiency, and many of its members are immigrants or children of immigrants.

This community needs a strong voice at the state and federal levels to advocate for its underserved needs and should be kept together so that they have that strong voice.

Since the areas I mentioned do not make up an entire district, I suggest that areas such as Valencia Park, Encanto, Skyline and La Presa be added to the same district.

We should not be included in the foothill areas of East County because they do not share similar social and economic interests of South County. Thank you.

TESTIMONY OF CHARLES W. KIM, JR.
At Public Hearing Held By
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
For The State of California
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

#21

05.14.11 I

Good afternoon. My name is Charles Wesley Kim, Jr. I have lived in San Diego since 1985 and presently live in Carmel Valley. I am an attorney and formerly had my law practice in the Convoy area in Kearny Mesa.

I am active in civics at the City, County and State level, including through various Asian bar associations, the Asian Business Association, and the San Diego Police Chief's API Advisory Board.

Through my service in the American Asian Pacific Islander community, I am familiar with the community-of-interest consisting of Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sorrento Valley, Carmel Valley, Rancho Bernardo, and parts of Kearny Mesa.

AAPIs make up a significant portion of this community of interest, and like other members of this community, have shared needs and interests. The attached map shows AAPI population within the geographical areas of this community of interest.

Kearny Mesa includes the Convoy area, bounded by Highway 52 to the north, I-805 to the west and Highway 163 to the east. The area has a large concentration of Korean-owned businesses, including a Korean newspaper, TV station, supermarket, restaurants and family-owned businesses. The area also has many other Asian restaurants and family-owned businesses, including 99 Ranch, an Asian market, Mitsuwa Market, a Japanese supermarket, and Marukai San Diego, a Japanese specialty store. These restaurants and businesses are patronized by residents of Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sorrento Valley, Carmel Valley and Kearny Mesa.

Similarly, the Mira Mesa area draws AAPIs from the surrounding areas to shop at Seafood City, a Filipino and Asian supermarket, Indian Food and Grocery store, and Vinh Hung Supermarket, a Vietnamese grocery store.

This area cannot comprise an entire Assembly district, so the Commission should combine it with Scripps Ranch, University City, and Poway. These areas are socio-economically similar and have a strong AAPI presence.

In contrast, the communities of Fairbanks Ranch, Del Mar and Rancho Santa Fe should be in a separate district. Their demographics differ significantly from the communities of Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos and Sorrento Valley.

From a policy perspective and in practical terms, the residents of Mira Mesa, Kearny Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sorrento Valley, Carmel Valley, and Rancho Bernardo will receive much more responsive representation if they did not have to compete with their wealthier neighbors to the northwest for their representative's attention.

Thank you again for hearing our concerns. I am confident that the Commission will preserve the integrity of this north county AAPI community-of-interest.

TESTIMONY OF PATRICIA GUEVARRA
At Public Hearing Held By
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
For The State of California
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

H 22

- 05.14.11J

My name is Patricia Guevarra. I have lived in Rancho Penasquitos for 12 years. I am a Program Associate for a national non-profit organization. I also volunteer my time on behalf of several local Asian Pacific Islander (API) community organizations.

There is a community of interest located in North County including Rancho Penasquitos, Mira Mesa, Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Valley, Poway, and the new development near Camino del Sur. These communities have a significant population of APIs centered on family, culture, education, and upward mobility.

Rancho Penasquitos is a quiet, well-established suburban community that was developed in the 1960s and 1970s. It attracts young API families with kids to live because the local schools are part of the Poway Unified School District, one of the highest scoring districts in San Diego County. Young API families are also migrating to areas such as Carmel Valley with its new town center and family oriented activities. Cultural values of API families are so strong that no matter what part of San Diego one may move to APIs always return to the communities where they were raised.

Young adults from all over North County go to Mira Mesa's recent development of Marketplace where there's a theater, several commercialized businesses, and late night coffee shops. It has become a central location for social gatherings for North County residents.

Most young APIs of my generation are college educated and working in our community. We are interested in improving our own socio-economic status but are also interested in improving the way of life for all APIs. We recognize that our voices can be heard if we stay together and speak out about fairness and equality for all. We vote and believe that we can make a difference in the future if we can elect representatives who are responsive to our communities' needs.

I ask the Commission to draw a district that keeps Rancho Penasquitos, Mira Mesa, Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Valley, and Poway together. By combining our APIA neighborhoods, we will have a stronger voice to have fair representation over the next ten years.

TESTIMONY OF KIM-THOA HOANG
At Public Hearing Held By
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
For The State of California
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

W 83

- 05.4.11K

My name is Kim-Thoa Hoang. I have resided for thirty years in San Diego County. I have been a long time advocate in the Asian Pacific Islander community, active in community outreach and student educational programs, through professional affiliations as well as personal volunteer commitment. As a staunch advocate for voter participation and community building, I have been active on the San Diego County Registrar of Voter's Language Assistance Advisory Board and frequently serve as mistress of ceremonies for festivals and community events in the Vietnamese community in San Diego.

I speak today about two areas in San Diego. The first area is Linda Vista, which is west of the 163 highway and a bit north of the 8 highway. This is an older, lower-income community with a sizable population of Southeast Asians, including Vietnamese and Hmong. The attached map shows the Vietnamese population in Linda Vista.

The residents of Linda Vista have several common interests. It is an older, established residential area of lower-income residents. Former military housing has been converted into low income apartments for residents. There is accessible public transportation. Public schools are within walking distance from many of the surrounding apartments and homes. There is a Vietnamese shopping center featuring Vietnamese-owned businesses and retail stores including a large Vietnamese supermarket.

Although Linda Vista is not geographically adjacent to other areas with concentrated AAPI populations and probably cannot be connected to those areas in a district, I ask that the Commission keep Linda Vista intact and not divided.

The second area is an area consisting of parts of City Heights, El Cerrito, Redwood Village (formerly Darnall) and Oak Park. This area is east of the Freeway 15 along El Cajon Boulevard to the north and areas to the north east of Freeway 805 where it intersects Freeway 94.

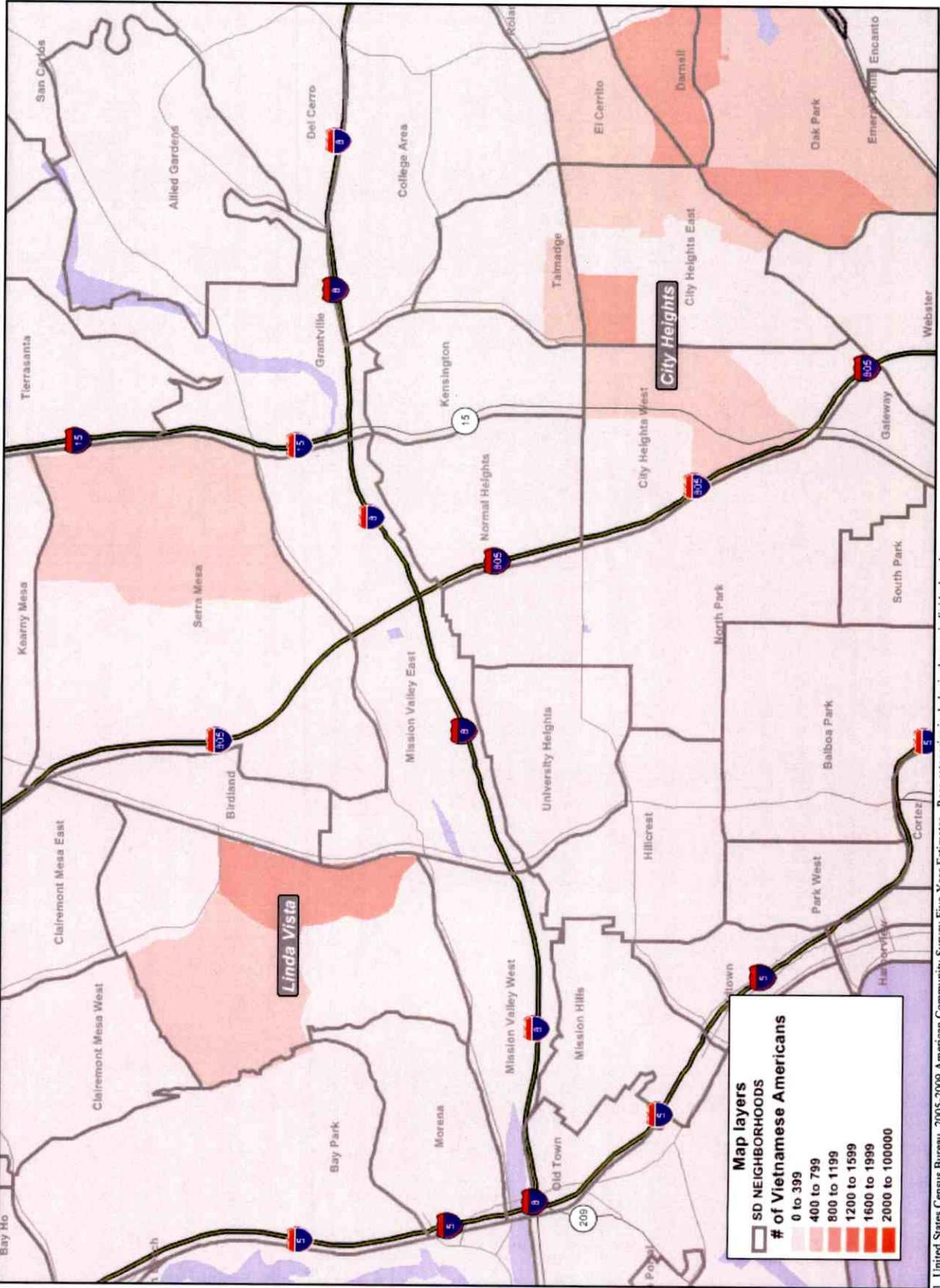
Some community members have engaged in attempts to have the area along El Cajon Boulevard between Highland Avenue and Euclid Avenue designated as Little Saigon.

This area is racially diverse and is home to a large population of new immigrants, including Southeast Asians. The attached map shows the Vietnamese population in City Heights, El Cerrito, Redwood Village/Darnall and Oak Park.

The residents in this area have access to numerous Vietnamese owned businesses. They primarily speak Vietnamese as their first language and understand very little English. They shop at Vietnamese grocery and retail stores, patronize health, dental, and other professional businesses, and attend churches and temples in the area where Vietnamese is spoken.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Kim-Thoa Hoang
Public Input Hearing: May 14, 2011 in San Diego, CA*

Number of Vietnamese Americans, City of San Diego, 2005-2009¹



¹ United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Race categories include single race individuals only.



#26

- 05.14.11 L

May 14, 2011

Redistricting Commissioners of California

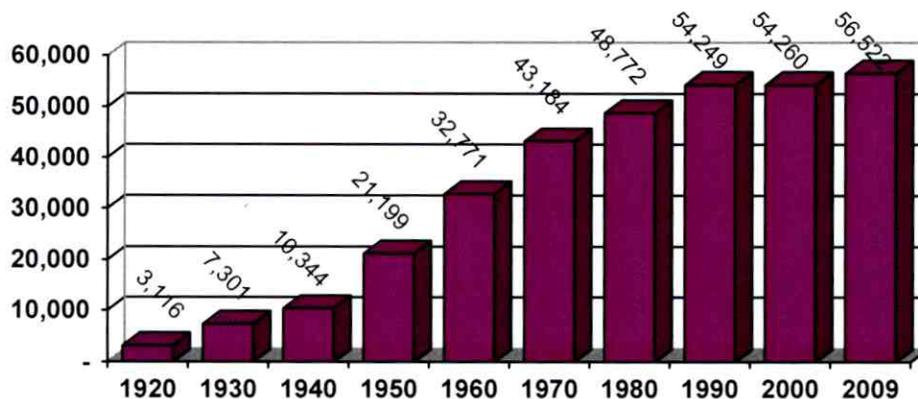
Dear Commissioners:

My name is Alejandra Sotelo-Solis and I am a resident and the Vice Mayor of the City of National City. I respectfully request that as you draw the new boundaries, it is very important that you leave National City in the 79th Assembly District as well as the 40th Senatorial district- as the lines currently stand. We are a South Bay community in San Diego and share a common culture with our neighbors- Chula Vista and City of San Diego.

National City is located 5 miles south of downtown San Diego, on San Diego Bay in southern San Diego County, and 10 miles north of Baja California, Mexico. The City is bordered by San Diego to the north and east, Chula Vista to the south, the unincorporated areas of Lincoln Acres and Bonita to the south and southeast, and San Diego Bay to the west.

We host several annual events that are celebrated by our region, including our "bike across the bay" event which passes through National City, 4th of July Celebration at Kimball Park, and our San Diego Mana Health Fair at Kimball Park. These events cater to our residents, business owners and provide important services to the neediest in our community.

The City is over one hundred years old and has a population of over 57,000. However, most of it was built between 1940 and 1970. This is reflected by its population growth and the age of its housing.



Office of the City Council – Alejandra Sotelo-Solis

National City, CA 91950-4301



Our community demographics include that:

	2010		2000	
	#	%	#	%
Hispanic	36,546	63%	32,053	59.1%
White	5,620	10%	7,653	14.1%
Asian & Pacific Islander	11,314	20%	10,551	19.4%
Black	2,615	5%	2,823	5.2%
Two or More Races	1,425	2%	1,180	2.2%
Total	57,799	100%	54,260	100%

Race and Ethnicity
(Census, 1980-2000 and SANDAG,
2010 Estimate)

National City is nearly entirely developed with a mix of residential neighborhoods and industrial and commercial uses. Port facilities and adjacent industrial developments located at the City's bayfront are important to the region's economy. The "Mile of Cars" provides a specialized, regional use with easy access from Interstate 5 and the South Bay Freeway (Route 54). At the other end of the City is Plaza Bonita, the largest retail center in the South Bay. This regional mall is frequented by many Chula Vista and San Diego shoppers alike.

Three major employers are Paradise Valley Hospital, National School District and Naval Station San Diego. Although we have several big employers, 19.5 % of our population has an income level below the poverty level, 65% have no college education and 35% did not complete high school.

There is a benefit to National City having one legislative representative at each level (79th Assembly District & 40th Senatorial District) which includes Chula Vista and City of San Diego. As south Bay communities, we often work together on various issues, and our perspectives are often very similar and tied to each other. With as many common concerns as our cities have, it would be of great benefit to keep National City grouped together with the City of Chula Vista and the south bay communities of San Diego in those districts.

Thank you very much for your attention and consideration. Please feel free to contact me should you have any concerns at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Alejandra Sotelo-Solis
Vice Mayor
City of National City

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#27

- 05.14.11 M

Daniel Kikuo Ichinose, Demographic Research Project
Asian Pacific American Legal Center

*Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Public Input Hearing: May 14, 2011 in San Diego, CA*

My name is Dan Ichinose and I direct the Demographic Research Project and Census Information Center at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. I am here to present data supporting the testimony of stakeholders you've heard from this afternoon about two communities of interest in San Diego County.

Over one-third of Asian Americans and one-fifth of Pacific Islanders who live in San Diego County live in either the northern part of the city of San Diego around the neighborhood of Mira Mesa or in the southern part of the county near National City and Chula Vista. Table San Diego 1 shows the size and concentration of Asian American and Pacific Islander population in 11 cities and neighborhoods in these two areas.

*Table San Diego 1: Asian American, Pacific Islander Population
in San Diego County Cities / Neighborhoods, 2010¹*

Region	City / Neighborhood	2010 Population			
		Asian American		Pacific Islander	
		#	%	#	%
North	San Diego / Carmel Valley	12,468	28%	162	0%
	San Diego / Kearny Mesa	674	26%	60	2%
	San Diego / Mira Mesa	35,624	51%	994	1%
	San Diego / Rancho Bernardo	7,830	19%	261	1%
	San Diego / Rancho Penasquitos	18,691	33%	439	1%
	San Diego / Sorrento Valley	1,001	34%	9	0%
South	Bonita	1,510	12%	140	1%
	Chula Vista	41,840	17%	2,746	1%
	National City	11,771	20%	777	1%
	San Diego / Bay Terrace	16,029	51%	586	2%
	San Diego / Paradise Hills	4,289	26%	433	3%
SAN DIEGO COUNTY		407,984	13%	30,626	1%

¹ United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

In the northern part of the city of San Diego, one community of interest includes the neighborhoods of Carmel Valley, Sorrento Valley, Mira Mesa, Kearny Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, and Rancho Bernardo. In the southern part of San Diego County, another community of interest includes National City, Paradise Hills, Bay Terrace, Bonita, and Chula Vista.

In each of these two areas, cities and neighborhoods have much in common. Table San Diego 2 shows the per capita income, percent of population that is foreign-born, and percent of population that is limited-English proficient in each city or neighborhood.