

Subject: Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce Reaction to June 2 and June 7 Previsualization Maps

From: Nicholas Adcock <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 9 Jun 2011 11:42:08 -0700

To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

CC: Cindy Roth <[REDACTED]>

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission,

On behalf of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and its approximately 1,400 members, I am writing to express our Chamber's reaction to the June 2 and June 7 previsualization maps released by the Commission. For your reference, I have attached the letter and proposed maps that the Chamber submitted to the Commission on May 27, 2011.

First and foremost, thank you for your tireless dedication and hard work in addressing the complex task of redrawing and improving the political representation for the concerned voters of California. We understand that not all concerned parties will be entirely pleased with the final location of the lines; however, we appreciate your honest and transparent efforts to seek compromise and create political districts that best reflect the communities they would represent.

In regards to the June 2 and June 7 maps, our primary concern is the split of the City of Riverside into two separate Assembly districts. Such a split diminishes the opportunity of a resident of the City of Riverside representing this community in the Assembly. With a population of just over 300,000 and the natural center for administration, professional services, commerce, transportation, and development in Riverside County, the City of Riverside and its residents constitute a significant portion of the concerned electorate and would not be able to effectively represent their interests as smaller portions of different Assembly Districts. While some would argue that such interests could more effectively be represented by two Assembly members working in collaboration, we have found from our current delegation of five Assembly members representing various parts of the greater Riverside area that encouraging such collaboration requires an undue amount of effort on the part of the citizens, businesses, and service providers within this region.

Moreover, the split of the City of Riverside into two separate Assembly districts creates a distinction where none exists. While the 27 neighborhoods and commercial areas within the City of Riverside each have their own character, they form a single cohesive community whose interests are largely unified and any differences are best represented as a spectrum of focused interests rather than separate and distinguishable blocks. As such, to draw a political boundary that splits the community in two halves draws an arbitrary distinction without consideration for the Riverside neighbors and businesses that live and do business together in such close proximity.

Because we have a great deal of respect and concern for the interests of the neighboring cities around Riverside, it is our view that as the hub for activity in inland Southern California, the City of Riverside serves as an effective focal point for the priorities of western Riverside County. As such, creating an Assembly district that fully encompasses the boundaries of the City of Riverside with additional spaces in either Corona/Norco or Moreno Valley respects this focal point and encourages collaboration between neighboring communities.

In relation to Riverside County as a whole, we respect and appreciate the Commission's efforts to maintain whole Assembly and Senate districts within the county as much as possible. Although we cannot speak for the communities affected by the change in Assembly pairings to create new Senate districts, we appreciate the Commission's efforts to respect county boundaries. As we stated in the attached letter and in personal testimony at the May 5, 2011 Commission hearing in Norco, districts that cross county lines do a disservice to the residents of Riverside County by making the false assumption that their interests are more closely aligned with Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties rather than the dynamic and growing region of inland Southern California.

In regards to the Congressional districts, since there appears to be no significant difference between the June 2 and June 7 iterations of the maps, our Chamber and its members respect the Commission's efforts to maintain these districts within the boundaries of Riverside County.

As I stated above, the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and its approximately 1,400 businesses representing more than 95,000 employees appreciates the Commission's efforts to listen to the concerns and priorities of the voters of California and wishes to express its appreciation for the opportunity to submit our input for your consideration. We look forward to seeing the first official draft of maps tomorrow.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Nicholas Adcock

Governmental Affairs Manager

Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce

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GRCC May 2011 Redistricting Letter.pdf



GREATER RIVERSIDE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

The Chamber...building a stronger local economy

May 27, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Proposed Assembly and Senate Districts for the City of Riverside and Western Riverside County

Dear Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, I urge the Commission to consider ensuring the new districts affecting the City of Riverside stay within the County of Riverside jurisdictional boundaries.

With just over 300,000 residents and sized at approximately 80 square miles, the City of Riverside is the economic engine and official seat of the County. The city boundaries encompass the transportation corridors created by the SR-91 (Riverside), SR-60 and I-215, as well as Burlington Northern Santa Fe and UPSP rail lines. The Santa Ana River runs alongside the city's northern edges with March Air Reserve Base and Joint Powers Authority wrapping the southeastern borders.

As one of the largest counties in the state in terms of landmass stretching from Orange County to the Arizona border, the County of Riverside is the site of the fastest growing population across the state of California. With 2.2 million people and growing, the county is a center for expansion and its continued development is critically dependent upon the coordinated efforts of local agencies and service providers to work with state and federal legislators to meet the needs of this community.

Because of its size and stature within Riverside County, the City of Riverside is often representative of the entire county at state and national levels, and it is for the following pragmatic purposes that I request your support of this request.

- **Aligned Transportation Efforts:** Riverside County has coordinated efforts in place via RCTC (Riverside County Transportation Commission) and WRCOG (Western Riverside Council of Governments) to address countywide transportation planning, funding and pursuit of funding for road and highway improvements that are vital to improve the quality of life of county residents and reduce traffic congestion in our region. Conversely, San Bernardino County, our neighbor to the north, maintains its own unique associated governments/ transportation districts often representing priorities based on their different set of needs.
- **Consistency with School Districts:** The City of Riverside shares one of its school districts, Alvorad Unified, with Riverside County and the City of Corona.
- **Shared Community College:** The City of Riverside is home to the main operations of the Riverside Community College District and its main campus at Riverside City College (RCC). RCC has grown to be one of California's leading community colleges and is a landmark in downtown Riverside and has been part of the community since 1916. During this time, the district has grown with the surrounding neighborhoods and the cities it serves. Today, RCC has campuses in three cities – Riverside, Moreno Valley, and Norco.
- **Market Conditions:** As the driver for economic activity within the region, the City of Riverside and Western Riverside County at large depend upon coordinated representation with the state and federal government in order to effectively meet the needs of its residents. The need for organized leverage on issues of goods movement and infrastructure along transportation corridors aligns the City of Riverside with the Cities of Corona and Norco.

- **Federal/State Matching Fund Requirements:** Infrastructure, housing, workforce and transportation projects that receive state and federal funding often require a local contribution, sponsor or match. To require a cross-county collaboration would make these types of projects difficult, if not impossible, to administer.
- **Shared Identity:** Outside of the region, Riverside County and the City of Riverside are often used interchangeably. It is in the best interest of our county and the jurisdictions aligned closely with us – Corona, Norco and the March JPA – to maintain a unified identity.

Please consider the attached maps in your deliberations because they reflect our sincere efforts to align communities of interest into districts that will effectively and collaboratively represent the interests of the businesses, residents, and communities in our region. For the above reasons, I urge your consideration to ensure that the City and County of Riverside's district boundaries are drawn within the County of Riverside.

Respectfully,



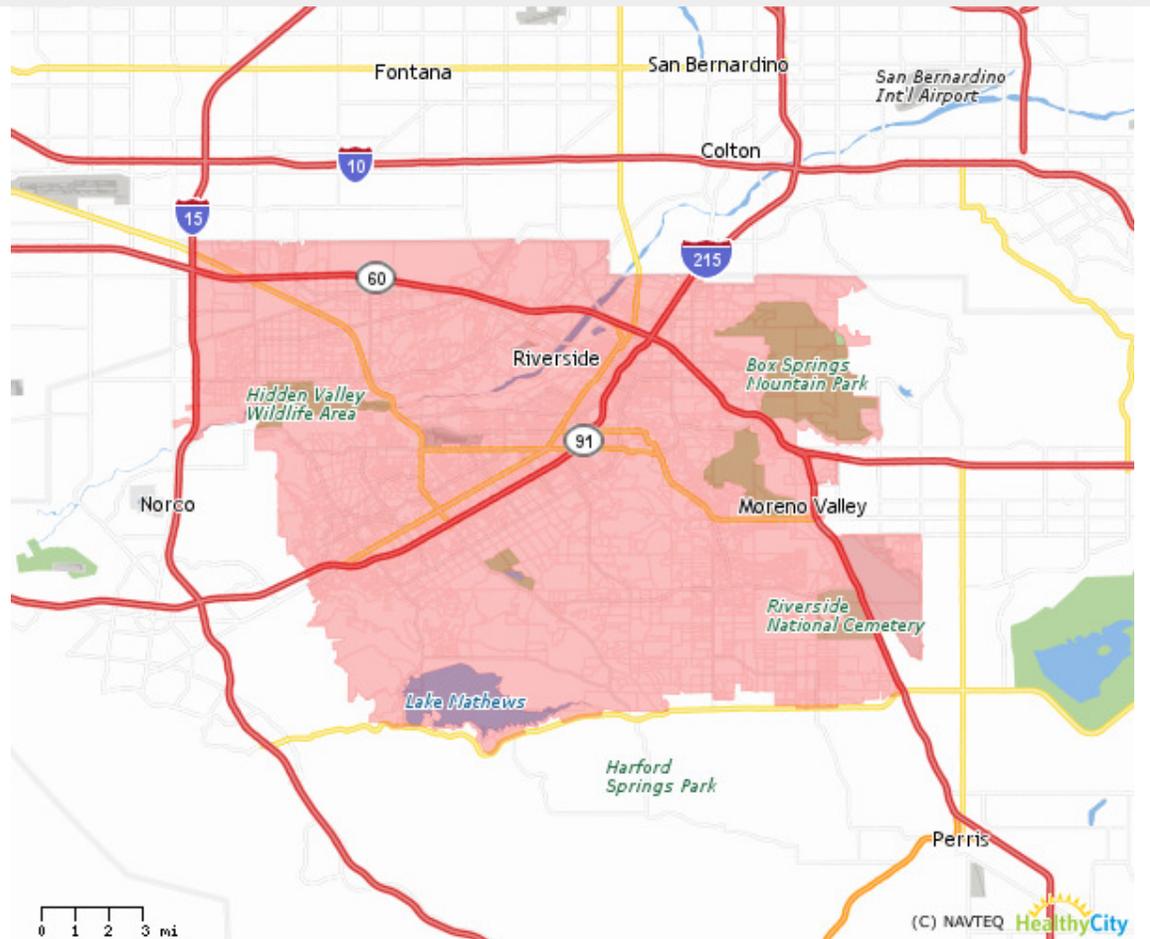
Cindy Roth
President/CEO

CR/na

Assembly Map - RIV, JV, MARB, LMAT

Submitted by the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce

The City of Riverside and surrounding communities – this community includes the cities of Riverside and newly-incorporated Jurupa Valley, March Air Reserve Base, and the communities near Lake Mathews. It is bordered to the North by San Bernardino County, to the West by the cities of Corona and Norco, to the East by the City of Moreno Valley, and to the South by Cajalco Road. The community primarily follows the transportation corridors created by the intersections of the SR-91, SR-60, and I-215.



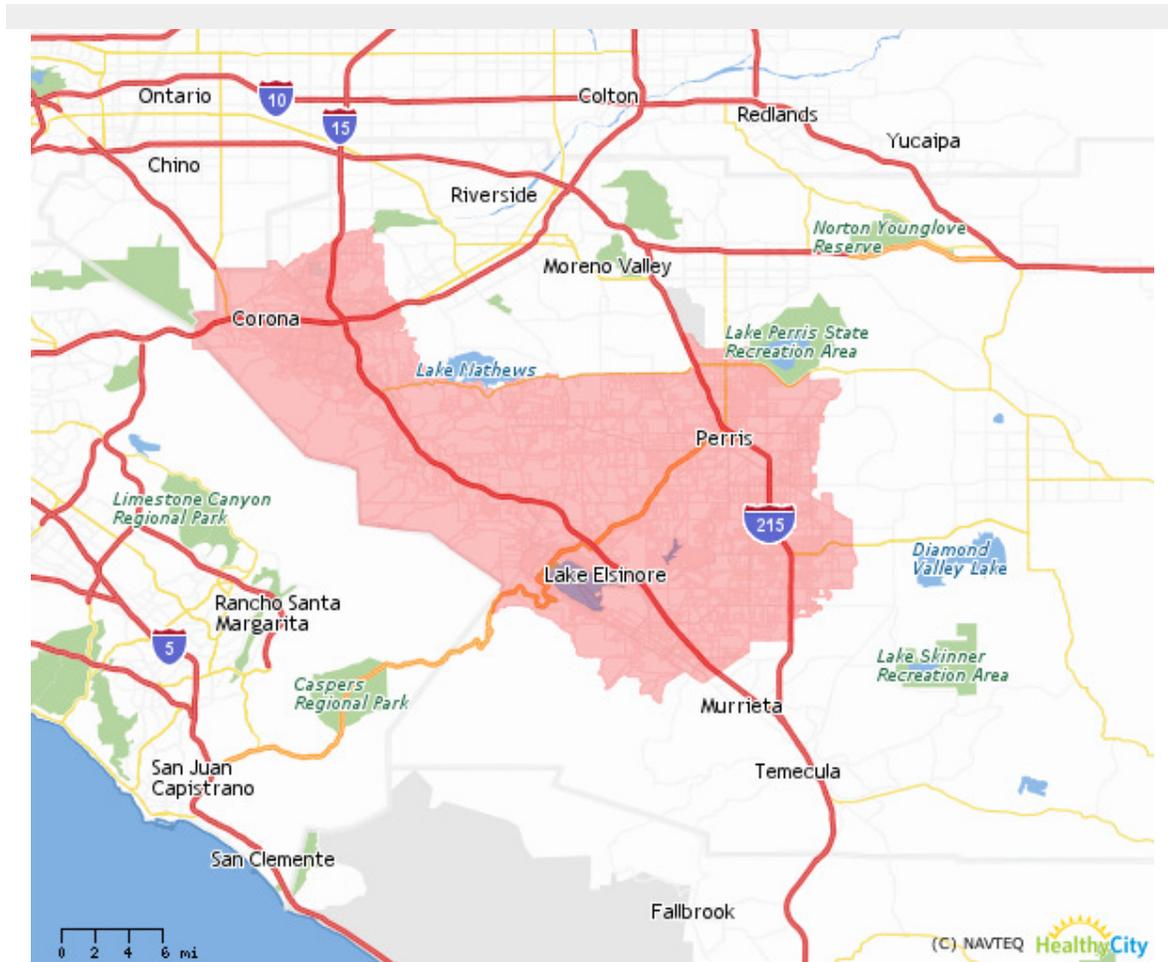
According to the 2010 Decennial Census, the proposed district contains the following statistics:

Total Population: 446,918
Citizen Voting Age Population: 239,844
Hispanic or Latino: 231,469 (51.79%)
White Alone: 148,547 (33.24%)
Black or African American Alone: 26,204 (5.86%)
Asian: 29,157 (6.52%)
Some Other Race: 2,573 (0.58%)
Two or More Races: 8,968 (2.01%)

Assembly Map - COR, NOR, PER, LELS

Submitted by the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce

The Cities of Corona, Norco, Lake Elsinore, and Perris – this community includes the cities of Corona, Norco, Lake Elsinore, and Perris. It is bordered to the North by the City of Riverside and Cajalco Road. To the East, this community is bordered by the rural space between the communities associated with the cities of Perris and Lake Elsinore and the communities associated with Hemet and San Jacinto. To the South, this community is bordered by the City of Murrieta. To the West, this community is bordered by Orange County. The community primarily follows the transportation corridors created by the I-15 and I-215.



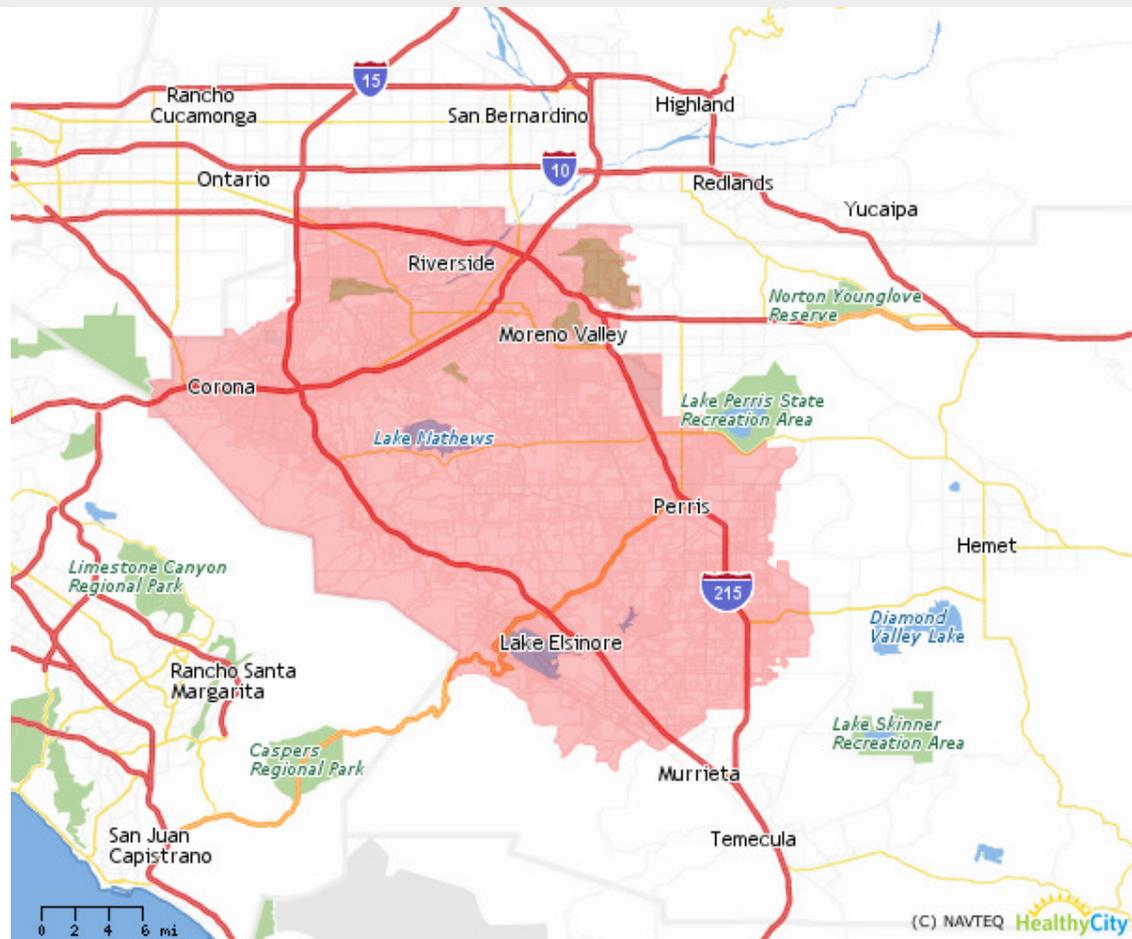
According to the 2010 Decennial Census, the proposed district contains the following statistics:

- Total Population:** 508,483
- Citizen Voting Age Population:** 266,779
- Hispanic or Latino:** 232,911 (45.81%)
- White Alone:** 200,806 (39.49%)
- Black or African American Alone:** 29,305 (5.76%)
- Asian:** 31,150 (6.13%)
- Some Other Race:** 2,674 (0.53%)
- Two or More Races:** 11,637 (2.29%)

Senate Map - RIV, JV, COR, NOR, PER, LELS

Submitted by the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce

Northwest Riverside County – this community includes the cities of Riverside, newly-incorporated Jurupa Valley, Corona, Norco, Perris, and Lake Elsinore. It is bordered on the North and West by the Riverside County borders with San Bernardino and Orange counties. The area is bordered on the East by the City of Moreno Valley and the space between the communities associated with the City of Perris and those communities associated with the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto. The area narrows to the South and is primarily bordered by the City of Murrieta. The community follows primary transportation corridors of the SR-91, SR-60, I-15, and I-215.



According to the 2010 Decennial Census, the proposed district contains the following statistics:

Total Population: 955,640

Citizen Voting Age Population: 506,790

Hispanic or Latino: 464,521 (48.61%)

White Alone: 349,574 (36.58%)

Black or African American Alone: 55,435 (5.80%)

Asian: 60,260 (6.31%)

Some Other Race: 5,245 (0.55%)

Two or More Races: 20,605 (2.16%)

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Eduardo Hernandez <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 8 Jun 2011 20:01:43 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Eduardo Hernandez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting for Riverside

Message Body:

I live in the newly incorporated city of Jurupa Valley. I believe the preliminary congressional district map for Jurupa Valley, Riverside, and Moreno Valley is a good one. All of these cities have, more or less, the same issues of growing population, increased diversity, and high unemployment. Therefore, the commission did a good job in identifying the issues for the area.

Thank You,

Eduardo Hernandez

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission