

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Gayle Paul <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 22:20:33 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Gayle Paul <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 1st Draft Maps

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners:

The 1st draft map shows many compromises and alot of work. However, when it comes to Ventura County, we need to be one. Ventura County has been cut up in bits for years. Our population must divide up its money, time and lobbying amongst several politicians just to get our voices heard. Ventura County is Not Santa Barbara!! Ventura County is Not Los Angeles!! Please relook at this map and give Ventura County its one voice. we have been diced and sliced for way too long. Our resources are diverse and many. Our representation needs to reflect that with our ONE VOICE for Ventura County.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: David Beaumont <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 11 Jun 2011 12:37:35 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: David Beaumont <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Details of your draft maps

Message Body:

Thank you for providing the draft maps of your proposed Congressional Districts. I would like to suggest that you overlay another layer of information onto your maps. It is very difficult for me to determine specific locations which I need to know in order to properly evaluate your proposed districts. Even your detailed map of my area of concern is not sufficient. This is a common problem with GIS and shape file based maps. While the persons drawing the lines on the maps may know what they intend to be communicating, that intention is not revealed to the viewers due to the lack of detail and specific on the ground references to the real world in which those viewers live. While it appears that you provided the ability to access the actual shape files which your maps are based on, this information is of no use to the common citizen with limited technological and financial resources. GIS mapping programs are complicated and are extremely expensive. The free viewer programs avail!

able on the Internet are still complicated, and do not allow for appropriate data manipulation in order to answer questions which arise concerning the specific detailed information needed by citizens to properly evaluate the information you provided. In a number of cases, I have no way to determine locations which will allow me to properly evaluate your proposal. As a voting citizen, and a very active participant in our political process, I need more detailed information.

As a solution to this problem I respectfully request that you overlay the boundaries, and identification information of each new district, onto Google Earth. This allows myself, and any viewer with a home computer and Internet access, the ability to review your proposals in detail and evaluate them in a specific manner rather than in generalities. Thank you.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: East Ventura Congressional District Map

From: "Ernest V. Siracusa, Jr." <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 16:17:27 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

We have reviewed the first draft of the East Ventura Congressional District map and as residents of the City of Thousand Oaks find your map of this district TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

For as long as we can remember, the residents of Thousand Oaks have been part of the 24th Congressional District represented by Elton Gallegly, a Republican. We believe that he has been an excellent representative in Congress and has reflected the majority views of his constituents in the district and in the City of Thousand Oaks. Thousand Oaks is a city that strongly favors Republican candidates, as does the neighboring cities of Simi Valley and Moorpark in Ventura County.

The Commission's congressional district map for the Ventura County area, which groups Thousand Oaks with the rest of the county and splits off the strongly Republican oriented cities of Moorpark and Simi Valley, is a formula for political disenfranchisement for the majority of citizens of Thousand Oaks. This results from your combining the city of Thousand Oaks with the City of Oxnard (the largest city in the county and one that votes overwhelmingly for Democratic candidates) along with the cities of Port Hueneme, Fillmore, Santa Paula and Ojai which also vote overwhelmingly Democratic plus the city of Ventura which leans Democratic, not to mention all the majority Democratic voters that reside in Malibu and the Pacific Palisades.

In effect, the Commission is GUARANTEEING that no Republican candidates will ever be elected to such a district and that the residents of Oxnard, by sheer weight of population and political orientation, will dictate the outcome of future elections in this district.

Thus, for the majority of residents of Thousand Oaks, you are creating a political nightmare, quite literally, a DISTRICT FROM HELL. We are greatly disturbed by the fact that this commission in drawing such boundaries is forcing together in a lopsided manner communities with vastly different viewpoints and values with regard to basic public policies of all kinds (e.g. healthcare, immigration, the economy, Capitalism vs Socialism, personal freedom vs the "nanny" state, taxation, spending, size of government, public largess, marriage, unions) and, don't forget little issues like, the direction of this country and the role and nature of the U.S. Constitution.

We demand that the boundaries for your so-called "East Ventura" district be redrawn to INCLUDE THE CITIES OF MOORPARK AND SIMI VALLEY in recognition that these cities are an integral part of the Ventura County community and experience. To have cut them off and grouped them with a district consisting mostly of Santa Clarita and Antelope Valley in Los Angeles County is in itself ridiculous.

Also, the Malibu and Pacific Palisades area should be ELIMINATED and placed with an adjacent Los Angeles County district, since the residents of these localities are much more oriented politically and geographically to Los Angeles than Ventura County and have little connection to our local issues, just as residents of Ventura County have little interest or connection to

their issues. Such changes would, at least, provide a better political balance for the district, but would still not be the ideal district from our perspective which is the one we are presently in and ARE NOT PLEASED to have to give up.

Finally, the name you have chosen for this district "East Ventura", is a total misnomer. In fact, at least two-thirds of the land area within the district boundaries is in WEST Ventura County both geographically and as residents view it. For your edification, the EAST County includes ONLY the cities of Thousand Oaks, Moorpark and Simi Valley. Every place else is viewed as West County, defined as being west of the Conejo Grade and including the cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore in the Santa Clara River valley. Thus, in the current configuration, you need to change the name of this district to WEST VENTURA!

Ernest V. Siracusa, Jr. and Carolyn A. Siracusa
Thousand Oaks, California.

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Nell McCombs <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 11 Jun 2011 18:34:52 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Nell McCombs <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting maps

Message Body:

I live in the city of Ventura, Ventura County. This morning I the Ventura County Star ran the proposed maps. I am quite happy with them. Good job! Nell McCombs

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: David Beaumont <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 11 Jun 2011 11:45:27 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: David Beaumont <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Your File Formats

Message Body:

While understanding that the file format of .jpg can be used for suggested changes to maps and is a very commonly available format on the typical home consumer computer, the ability to write and save documents in ".pdf" format is not. The ability to view ".pdf" documents can be attained by free programs available from reliable sources on the Internet. However, those free programs do not allow one to write a document and save it in the ".pdf" format. Programs which allow such activities in ".pdf" format are expensive and beyond the reach of many of the citizens of this State.

I am unable to submit supplemental attachments inside your system due to this restriction which you have placed on the common citizen. Do I have to be financially well off to participate in this process? In my case, and in my understanding of this situation, the majority of home style computers include software where your average citizen can compile a written response in formats such as ".wps" or various versions of ".doc". The ability to process these formats adds no real complexity to your end of this comment process. By limiting peoples written comments to ".pdf", you are excluding myself, and a large portion of the populations ability to respond to this process. Please correct this situation.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Gerald & Priscilla Ervin <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 11 Jun 2011 19:22:18 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Gerald & Priscilla Ervin <[REDACTED]>

Subject: New District Lines

Message Body:

I am a native and my wife has lived here since she was 2. We have both lived a goodly part of lives in either Los Angeles or Los Angeles county territory. We moved to Simi Valley to get out of the Los Angeles influence. By putting Simi in the Santa Clarita district you are not only putting us back into Los Angeles but in the past the congressional member from that district has basically ignored Simi needs. My wife and I want Simi to be included in the East Ventura District.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Michael Penilla <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 11 Jun 2011 18:36:27 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Michael Penilla <[REDACTED]>

Subject: New state senate/assembly districts

Message Body:

My address is: 1036 Fernhill Ave, Newbury Park 91320. I have studied both maps and I cannot determine if I am now in the Santa Barbara/Ventura District (East Ventura District or in the Santa Clarita Valley District (Thousand Oaks-Santa Monica District).

Please advise. You have split Thousand Oaks and it makes this an important question to us who live in Newbury Park.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: New districting: Ventura County

From: Russell Burgos <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 11 Jun 2011 09:01:44 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

I want to commend the Commission on the excellence of its proposed districting plan for Ventura County and the creation of the East Ventura County district.

In addition to eliminating the transparently gerrymandered boundaries of the current 24th Congressional district, the redrawn district lines promise more equitable representation for minority voters and recognize the common economic and political interests of this portion of the county.

I have to admit that I was skeptical and, in fact, voted against the Propositions that led to the Commission, but I'm perfectly happy to acknowledge that I was wrong. The Commission has done an excellent job.

Russell Burgos
Thousand Oaks, CA

Subject: Moorpark - Simi Valley

From: Debra Tash <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 11 Jun 2011 23:08:16 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Please keep east Ventura County, Moorpark and Simi Valley together with the rest of Ventura County. You will be destroying our community's representation and tilting in favor of one party. I cannot stress enough how this will be a disservice to our community. Please reconsider your map.

--

Debra Tash, Vice President, GT Water Products, Inc.
[REDACTED]

Debra Tash, Author
[REDACTED]

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Mary Donohue Musser <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 20:46:13 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Mary Donohue Musser <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Comment

Message Body:

Great Job!

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission