



MOORPARK

Moorpark, California 93021

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 27, 2011

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

RE: Draft Congressional District Map-Ventura County

Dear Commissioners:

The City of Moorpark would like to go on record in opposition to any Congressional Redistricting Plan that would divide Ventura County. The First Draft Map indicates a plan to include the Cities of Moorpark and Simi Valley in a District that includes Santa Clarita, the Antelope Valley and parts of the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles County. This plan is not in the best interests of either City or Ventura County.

Eastern Ventura County is separated from Los Angeles County by geographic barriers and also by our sense of community. The County of Ventura and the individual cities of Ventura County have a commonality of interest far more than with Santa Clarita, the Antelope Valley and the San Fernando Valley, and this should be respected when considering Congressional as well as State Assembly and Senatorial Districts.

On behalf of the City Council and the Citizens of Moorpark, I am asking that you keep all of Ventura County together in the same Congressional District and Moorpark and Simi Valley with other cities in Ventura County for the State Assembly and Senatorial Districts.

Respectfully,

Janice S. Parvin
Mayor

c: Honorable City Council
Steve Kueny, City Manager

Subject: Fw: Redistricting

From: "Avery Willis" <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 7:51 PM

To: <[REDACTED]>

It is very clear why politicians redistrict. They do it for political power, not for the benefit of the people in the district. The interests of the people in Ventura County are not tied to the interests of people in Los Angeles County. In fact, many of us moved to Ventura County to get away from L.A. county. We wanted better schools, safer neighborhoods, cleaner cities, and parks. Both Simi Valley and Moorpark are very much like Thousand Oaks and Newberry Park with excellent schools and good family living. The water, transportation, and economic development of these cities are all tied to Ventura County, which are very different than the major concerns of people living in Los Angeles County. The bottom line is, let Simi Valley and Moorpark vote with their county.

Avery Willis

[REDACTED]

Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

[REDACTED]

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Farmers Insurance

June 27, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Via E-mail, [REDACTED]
Via facsimile, [REDACTED]

Re: Simi Valley, Ventura County- District Boundaries

Dear Commissioners:

The Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce commends the Redistricting Commission for the effort that it has put forth to draw new Assembly, Senate and Congressional district boundaries for the state of California that honor the communities of interest within the state. Most particularly, the Chamber would like to applaud the Commission's efforts to keep counties and cities whole within districts. The Chamber offers the following comments to help the Commission fine tune its first draft maps to further honor communities of interest, and city and county boundaries.

1. ASSEMBLY & SENATE DISTRICTS

The Chamber of Commerce appreciates the Commission's efforts to capture much of east Ventura County in a single Assembly District. However, a close analysis of the new East Ventura District discloses that the first draft map carves out approximately 2,000 residents of the Simi Valley Wood Ranch master-planned community, situated near Bard Reservoir at the west end of Simi, and places them in the Thousand Oaks-Santa Monica Mountains District. Many of Simi Valley's civic leaders, including our mayor, city counsel member, city manager, planning commissioner and leaders of various non-profit organizations reside in the Wood Ranch community.

Although Wood Ranch is comprised of four active, well-run homeowner associations, it is a single integrated master-planned community. The first draft map proposed Assembly Districts divides two of the four Wood Ranch Homeowner Associations between the East Ventura and the Thousand Oaks-Santa Monica Mountain Assembly Districts. Homeowner Associations are among the

most basic identifiable communities of interest. The Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the next draft Assembly District map keep the Wood Ranch Homeowner Associations intact and place the entire Wood Ranch community within the East Ventura Assembly District so that Wood Ranch remains whole and the entire city of Simi Valley is located in a single Assembly District.

2. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Like the Assembly District, the East Ventura Congressional District splits the city of Simi Valley into two Congressional Districts by placing part of Wood Ranch in the East Ventura District and the balance of Wood Ranch and Simi Valley in the Antelope Valley District. The Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce again respectfully urges that the Wood Ranch community remain intact within the Congressional voting district that houses the city of Simi Valley.

More generally, the Chamber requests that the Commission maintain the historic communities of interest that it grouped in the East Ventura Assembly District and include Simi Valley in the East Ventura Congressional District that houses its sister Ventura County cities of Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, and Newbury Park. These communities share deep and varied social and economic interests that range from the Ventura County Council of local governments to the county judicial system, transportation system, social services and trash disposal. The extensively coordinated, cooperative participation of Ventura County cities and businesses demonstrate that these cities form a community of interest that should be respected in the drawing of district maps.

The Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce appreciates the opportunity to present its concerns pertaining to the first draft maps to the Commission and hopes that the Commission will consider its comments when making amendments to the district maps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leigh Nixon". The signature is written in black ink and is contained within a thin black rectangular border.

Leigh Nixon
President & CEO
Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce

Subject: Maps that splits the cities of Oxnard and Ventura

From: Johnny Garcia Vasquez <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 2:36 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing today as a long time resident of Oxnard and as a past Student Government President of Oxnard College to strongly urge you to reconsider your east Ventura assembly map and your west Ventura assembly map that splits the cities of Oxnard and Ventura. I suggest a district composed of keeping Oxnard whole in one assembly district. While also ensuring that Oxnard and Ventura colleges are in the same assembly district as they share similar challenges and draw from the same student population.

Splitting them into two legislative districts will diverge student advocacy efforts and will only amount to the ongoing marginalization of these students, their families, and their communities.

Furthermore, a united district would give the local assembly representative a stronger voice on behalf of students since Ventura and Oxnard colleges will be in one district and not split in separate assembly districts. Therefore, there will be more accountability from students that will translate to more accountability from their families and their communities.

Thank you for your time and I urge you to keep Oxnard whole in one assembly district, while also ensuring that Oxnard and Ventura colleges are in the same assembly district.

--

Best Regards,

Johnny Garcia Vasquez

State Legislative Liaison

Office of External Affairs VP Assoc. Students of the UC (ASUC)

University of California, Berkeley

[B.A Ethnic Studies with Minor in Public Policy 2013]

*Member of the Board of Directors, University of California Student Association

Mobile: [\(805\)](#) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*Titles for identification purposes only.

Subject: Letter to the Redistricting Commission

From: "Dean Kunicki" <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 5:02 PM

To: <[REDACTED]>

Commissioners,

My name is Dean Kunicki, and I am a longtime resident of Simi Valley. I am also a member of the Ventura County Board of Education representing Simi Valley and Moorpark. I spoke to you in Oxnard and want to follow up on my comments;

Please keep Simi Valley whole. Do not split Wood Ranch. You have already split other communities in the district, consider splitting them further and keeping us whole since they are already split.

In our Congressional seat, keep us with Ventura County. Ventura should be connected to Santa Barbara. This is consistent with your assembly lines, and also with testimony you have received as far back as the San Luis Obispo hearing. Keep that coastal city with other coastal cities and keep our inland valley with the other inland valleys in our County.

Finally, and most importantly, please nest our assembly district with a Senate district in Santa Clarita. Thousand Oaks has more in common with other inland areas than coastal areas. Keep our inland suburban communities together.

Thank you.

Dean Kunicki

[REDACTED]

Simi Valley, CA 93065

[REDACTED] Mobile

Subject: FW: Redistricting-removing Simi Valley/Moorpark from Ventura County representation

From: Jill Myers <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 5:01 PM

To: <[REDACTED]>

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting-removing Simi Valley/Moorpark from Ventura County representation

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:26:41 -0700

What happens when we are lumped in with an area encompassing the Santa Clarita Valley, extending to Victorville? Why does Simi Valley & Moorpark have to be separated from the rest of Ventura County when it has been working well for so long? Our cities are serviced by many of the county agencies such as the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging, the Ventura County Transportation Commission, the Economic Collaborative of Ventura County. We have residents that serve on county boards. We are serviced well by Elton Gallegly and have more in common with Ventura County than with any part of Los Angeles County. A large portion of Simi Valley & Moorpark residents moved here to be removed from L.A. We are not part of L.A., never have been and should not be considered as such by your commission.

We will be such a small part of the Los Angeles County district serving Santa Clarita and others that we will have virtually no representation. Is it true that the current Congressmna, Buck McKeon has stated that he does not want to represent Simi Valley & Moorpark. How will our voice be heard? Not that I believe Ventura County should be touched by your group at all, but if someone has to be tied to Santa Clarita, why not have that be the towns of Piru, Fillmore & Santa Paula that are off the 126 highway and at least have that in common with Santa Clarita. Simi Valley & Moorpark do not even have that connection with Santa Clarita. I have lived in Simi Valley since 1960, going to elementary, junior high, high school & college in the county. It has been a wonderful place to live; to raise children; partially because of our affiliation with Ventura County for government representation. Please do not remove us from the rest of the county.

Jill Myers

[REDACTED] cell
[REDACTED] fax

Subject: Redistricting Commission's Erroneous Plan

From: Bob Guhl <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 2:02 PM

To: [REDACTED]

As a 25 year resident of Moorpark, and a registered and active voter, I am appalled at the thought of becoming lumped into a district which includes a portion of Los Angeles County that has no logical, governmental or infrastructure relationship to Moorpark and Simi Valley.

Our representational needs will not be well served by this blatant attempt at gerrymandering. Our community goals and aspirations are not remotely congruent across the proposed redistricting plan; which, it seems to me, would make it nearly impossible for our representative to be effective in serving anyone's interest under the proposed plan.

We are tied into Ventura County by many threads, such as a common physical infrastructure, common governmental bodies and well-integrated agricultural communities. We, therefore, deserve to be represented as an integrated and coherent district.

Robert Guhl

[REDACTED]

Moorpark, CA 93021

[REDACTED]



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF VENTURA

SIMI VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 93065

SUPERVISOR PETER C. FOY
FOURTH DISTRICT

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June 27, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 651-5711
VotersFirstAct@crc.ca.gov

RE: Adjustment to Los Angeles and East Board of Equalization Districts

Dear Commissioners,

I have the pleasure of representing my neighbors in Ventura County on the Board of Supervisors. As you are aware, we are a diverse county with a rural, suburban and agricultural lifestyle.

With that in mind, I ask that you consider an adjustment to your Board of Equalization maps. For at least the past twenty years, Ventura County has been joined in a rural, suburban and agricultural community of interest with the Central Valley for the Board of Equalization. This has worked well for our residents and businesses owners with business before the Board of Equalization because the nature of the district means the staff and elected member is well versed in the issues facing this type of community.

Los Angeles, as a highly urbanized community, is far different. We do not feel it makes sense to link us into an urban community with a vastly different economy. The proposed East District for the Board of Equalization includes other Southern California communities with similar lifestyles and economies such as the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys.

Under the first draft of maps, the bulk of the City of Los Angeles and the rural/suburban County of Ventura are linked together in the "Los Angeles" BOE District. The links between Ventura County and the "East" District include shared watershed, common industries including agriculture and common rural and suburban lifestyles. This shared way of life is a strong link creating a community of interest.

Agriculture is still California's number one industry. It truly is our primary "community of interest." Ventura County has a rich tradition of agriculture throughout our county.



Recycled Paper

Industry is certainly the most important factor and community of interest when considering a taxing authority such as the Board of Equalization.

Moving Ventura into the East District makes sense. To balance the districts population, we would need only make the Los Angeles District truly the Los Angeles District by moving all of the City of Los Angeles into it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Foyle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

PETER FOY
Supervisor, County of Ventura

Attachment: Map of Proposed Change

Subject: redistricting the 24th and 25th

From: Mary Bibb <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 9:50 PM

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commissioners:

As I look at the new maps that were released on June 10th, I am puzzled. I don't understand why you would break up the Ventura County. Simi Valley and Moorpark were taken out of Ventura County (24th district) and put with Santa Clarita (25th district) and Malibu and Agoura (LA County) were put into the 24th district. Where is the logic in this?

Your criteria states that lines should be contiguous. This is not what was followed for the new 25th district. There is not a direct road from Simi to Santa Clarita as a matter of fact there is a mountain range that separates us. The only direct route from Ventura County to Santa Clarita is the 126 corridor which is the Fillmore - Santa Paula area. But I believe that Ventura County should be kept whole as we have the same interests...to not let what happen to Los Angeles happen to Ventura County. We want to keep our semi rural areas and our hillsides free from buildings.

It would be very easy to correct this problem. Take out LA County cities and put back in Simi Valley and Moorpark and if you need more numbers take out northern Ventura County and put with Santa Barbara...this makes the most sense.

I had so hoped that this commission would look at California and all the problems we have here and do what is best for

this great state but I was sadly disappointed when reviewing the state maps. You still have an opportunity to do right by this state and bring it back to the "Golden State". I hope you will reconsider your decision on how the 24th and 25th district are currently drawn and keep Ventura County whole.

Thank you for your reconsideration and your time.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Bansbach
Simi Valley Resident
Ventura County

Subject: Ventura mayor comment on EVENT congressional district

From: "Fulton, Bill" <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 3:25 AM

To: [REDACTED]

CC: Rick Cole <[REDACTED]> [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Dear Redistricting Commissioners:

Thank you for all your hard work. I am writing to ask you to consider making a minor change in the EVENT congressional district to include the entire City of Ventura in that district.

We in Ventura are very grateful for your efforts to include our entire city in one district for both legislative and congressional races. You have succeeded in meeting this goal in both our Assembly and Senate districts. However, the draft maps divide one of our oldest and proudest neighborhoods -- the Westside neighborhood along Ventura Avenue -- between the EVENT and SLOSB districts.

I recognize that keeping communities of interest together, as called for in the law that created this process, is enormously difficult, and I commend you for all of your efforts in attempting to achieve this goal. I also recognize that any potential change in boundaries has a domino effect that you will have to consider. However, unifying this particular neighborhood in one district is very important because of its unique character, history, and geography.

The Westside neighborhood is a close-knit neighborhood that is geographically distinct, bound by Ventura Hillside to the East and the Ventura River to the West. It dates back to the 1920s, when it was the center of an oil boom. Today, it is the focus of a great deal of city effort at revitalization. We are currently creating a community plan for this neighborhood and it has recently been the recipient of important Community Development Block Grant funds and other federal funding efforts to aid in this revitalization. For example, it is the only neighborhood in Ventura County that has a true neighborhood library to which most patrons walk, and this library is kept operational in part by the use of City of Ventura CDBG funds.

The draft map for the congressional districts divides this neighborhood in half, as the dividing line between EVENT and SLOSB. In most parts of the neighborhood, the dividing line goes straight down the middle of Ventura Avenue, a major commercial street that unifies this neighborhood. The entire rest of the City of Ventura is in the EVENT congressional district. Surely this does not represent keeping a community of interest together. It is very important to our entire city that this neighborhood be kept together in a single congressional district.

In order to balance out the EVENT district, you might consider possible shifts of communities in eastern Ventura County to other districts. For example, such a re-balancing would allow you to consider reuniting the Wood Ranch community in Simi Valley in one district, as requested by my counterpart, Mayor Huber in Simi Valley. North Ranch is currently split between EVENT and the Antelope Valley-Santa Clarita district. A rebalancing could unite the Ventura Westside neighborhood into EVENT and reunite Wood Ranch into the AVSC district. There may be other possible rebalancing actions involving communities in Los Angeles County that are currently in the EVENT district.

Thank you again for all your hard work. Yours is not an easy task and we are all grateful.

Bill Fulton

Mayor

City of Ventura, California



Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: michael berger <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 6:20 AM

To: [REDACTED]

From: michael berger <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Ventura County

Message Body:

Please Keep East Ventura County Whole

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Redistricting

From: william edwards <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 2:58 PM

To: lett [REDACTED]

CC: [REDACTED]

July 27, 2011

To the Editor:

Simi Valley and Moorpark have, and should always be a part of the Ventura County, and in no way become a part of the Los Angeles County. Many citizens in Simi Valley and Moorpark do not want to be represented in a district where Los Angeles County will gain most of the interest over above the interest of our communities.

Read the California Constitution, that explains it very well. It is very important that the "redistricting commission" listen to the citizens of Simi Valley and Moorpark. And please remember that Ventura County is our home, not Los Angeles County.

Bill Edwards

[REDACTED]

Simi Valley, California 93065

[REDACTED]

Subject: Supporting Coalition of Suburban Communities for Fair Representation.

From: "Bill Little" <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 9:57 PM

To: "CRC" <[REDACTED]>

I Support The Coalition of Suburban Communities for Fair Representation!

Commissioners:

I am writing with recommendations on the first draft Assembly and Senate maps.

The Assembly seats are done correctly, keeping our community of east Ventura County together. Camarillo, Moorpark, Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks are included in this district. Should you change anything in east Ventura County, please include the entire city of Thousand Oaks in the district, and consider removing the city of Oxnard so it can be kept whole in a coastal district.

The State Senate seat should be changed. By doing that, you can keep like communities together, in line with community of interest testimony you have received.

Instead of placing Santa Clarita with Malibu, you should put Santa Clarita's Assembly seat with East Ventura County.

Keeping Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark and Simi Valley connected to Santa Clarita in a Senate seat will keep inland valleys together and better represented. Historically, for over 30 years, these areas have been connected in a Senate seat.

Connecting east Ventura County areas to the coast divides both the inland and coastal populations. Please keep our inland suburban valleys connected by placing Santa Clarita with East Ventura County.

Thank You.

James William Little

[REDACTED]
Camarillo

County: Ventura

Subject: Redistricting

From: Lisa Figgins <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 1:41 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you tonight about the maps you have created for Ventura County. I have been a Camarillo resident for the last 10 years but have lived in Simi Valley and Ventura as well. I believe I have a good perspective on what it is like to live throughout Ventura County.

There are some noticeable differences between the eastern half of Ventura County – the communities of Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley and Moorpark – and western Ventura County – the communities of Ventura, Oxnard, Ojai, and Santa Paula and Fillmore.

When I lived in Ventura, most of my friends and neighbors worked and played in Santa Barbara. They drove up to Santa Barbara everyday for work or on the weekends for recreation. Furthermore, the coastal communities of Ventura, Oxnard and Santa Barbara have similar environmental, land use and transportation issues. I believe these west Ventura County communities should certainly be linked with the coastal communities in Santa Barbara County.

Conversely, having grown up in Simi Valley and now raising my family in Camarillo, I certainly believe there is a shared interest in keeping the east Ventura County communities of Simi Valley, Moorpark, Camarillo and Thousand Oaks together in our legislative districts. We are all bedroom, suburban, more inland communities that share similar environmental, land use, recreation and transportation issues.

While I would like to thank you for keeping Camarillo with your draft East Ventura County Assembly district, I do believe that district should include all of Thousand Oaks and not the coastal community of Oxnard.

Additionally, I think the Senate map for my area does not take in all of the surrounding communities of interest that have a more inland, suburban story to tell. Our inland communities of Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley and Moorpark should not be placed in a district with the far different coastal communities going up into Santa Barbara.

Camarillo has virtually nothing in common with Santa Barbara.

Instead, you should put the "East Ventura County" Assembly district with the "Santa Clarita" Assembly district to make a cohesive, suburban, and inland Senate district.

Lastly, for the same reasons mentioned above, I hope you will consider removing Malibu from the Ventura County Congressional district and including Simi Valley and Moorpark.

Again, thank you for your valuable time throughout this process.

Sincerely,

Lisa Figgins

Camarillo

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: KARI GREEN <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 7:19 PM

To: [REDACTED]

From: KARI GREEN <[REDACTED]>

Subject: TO RESIDENT

Message Body:

Having lived in Thousand Oaks for a majority of my life, I don't quite understand why it was split in two. I wrote a letter to this commission awhile back in hopes that my city would be added to a few of the other surrounding cities that we have so much in common with. I strongly urge this commission to keep Thousand Oaks together and remove it entirely from any coastal cities. Though it is close to the coast it has no comparison to a city on the coast. Please group the Conejo Valley area of the Ventura County with Simi Valley and Moorpark for an assembly and exclude Oxnard. Also, please make our senate

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Suzanne Paroski <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 7:29 AM

To: [REDACTED]

From: Suzanne Paroski <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Santa Paula

Message Body:

I noticed that Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru are lumped in with Santa Barbara for the state senate and assembly districts. These are agricultural, blue collar areas while Santa Barbara is made up of the wealthy and professionals. We do not have much in common with Santa Barbara. I am surprised that, given that Dr. Aguirre is on the commission, you would put us in such a district. We belong with other districts with our shared background and values so that our voice can be heard. Please reconsider your placement of these three communities.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission



City Of Camarillo

• Camarillo, CA 93011-0248

Office of the City Manager
[REDACTED]

June 27, 2011

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

Honorable Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

RE: Region 5 District Maps

On behalf of the City of Camarillo, thank you for accepting and considering Camarillo's public input to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission (CCRC) first round of draft district maps on May 26, 2011. Upon CCRC's continued consideration of the first draft district maps, I'd also like to reaffirm the City's following priorities as unanimously approved by the City Council:

Priority 1

With respect to one of CCRC's criteria, maintaining political subdivision boundaries, the City of Camarillo desires to be kept whole.

Priority 2

Ventura County to remain a whole district and not separated into different districts. In terms of governmental services, environmental custodians, infrastructure, economic development, housing, transportation, land use, charitable services, and service organizations, Ventura County traditionally functions as a regional unit. Camarillo considers Ventura County an entity comprised of the county and ten cities which serve the best interest of their residents.

Priority 3

If the CCRC decides to split Ventura County, we respectfully encourage the CCRC to divide the region between West County (cities of Fillmore, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, and Ventura) and East County (cities of Camarillo, Moorpark, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks).

We greatly appreciate your commitment to ensuring a fair and transparent redistricting process here in California.

Sincerely,


Bruce Feng
City Manager

cc: Camarillo City Council

Subject: Redistricting - Simi Valley & Moorpark

From: Stephanie Ferguson <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 4:56 PM

To: [REDACTED]

We fought a war because of taxation without representation. This is the basic issue we are discussing with the redistricting of Simi Valley and Moorpark. These cities are part of the Ventura County community, and will not have their interests represented if they are included in the Los Angeles district. We have already seen evidence of this. Brad Sherman reserved all his transportation money for bicycle lanes and handicapped hiking trails, and another district's congressman had to fight for the widening of the 23 and 101, even though it wasn't in his district at the time.

Congressman Buck McKeon who represents Santa Clarita, when he announced his intention to seek reelection on Thursday, made it clear in his press release that he doesn't want to represent Simi Valley and Moorpark. So where will the representation of these communities come from?

Most people who moved to Simi Valley and Moorpark did so to remove themselves from Los Angeles County. To tie them back to Los Angeles in a district that will have Los Angeles County's interests at heart and not Simi Valley and Moorpark's violates point 4 of the criteria mandated by the California Constitution that the lines respect counties, cities, communities of interest, and neighborhoods.

People deserve to be represented by those who have their interests at heart. The redistricting plans need to be revised so that everyone has their interests represented.

Stephanie Ferguson

[REDACTED]
Newbury Park, CA 91320

[REDACTED]

Subject: Eastvent Congressional District

From: "Greg" [REDACTED]

Date: 6/27/2011 3:28 PM

To: <[REDACTED]>

To the Redistricting Commission;

I find it surprising and disappointing that at the last moment, Simi Valley and Moorpark are separated from the bulk of Ventura County for the Congressional District. The concept of moving Thousand Oaks into the Eastvent Congressional District was a nice gesture, but adding part of Los Angeles County unnecessarily violated the County lines criteria and is inconsistent with the goals of the Commission. Moreover, contiguous is not simply lines on a map. It should follow traffic routes. There is no direct access from Simi Valley to the Santa Clarita area. The freeway route is through two other districts! This clearly approach violates the idea of compact districts.

Despite some of the testimony given, Simi Valley is as much an integral part of Ventura County as Oxnard and they share much in common. Like Simi Valley, Oxnard gets its water from the Calleguas Municipal Water District, and both city's council members sit on such boards and agencies as the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County; the Ventura Council of Governments, the Ventura County Transportation Commission, and the Economic Development Collaborative of Ventura County.

I understand that Ventura county is too large for one congressional district. It would appear that Simi Valley and Moorpark were chosen at the last minute to be moved, and plopped into a district only connected through impassable mountains. That is not the idea of compact areas of interest. When the 160,000 Simi Valley and Moorpark residents were removed from the Ventura County district, the commissioners then had to put Los Angeles County residents back in to make up the difference. They reached to pick up the cities of Westlake Village, Agoura Hills and Malibu. The residents of Malibu have made it clear they do not believe their interests will be served as part of a Ventura County district. The net effect of the current lines is to violate the interests of about 210,000 people. Your solution made lots of people unhappy.

So how to fix it? First option is to go back to the last staff proposal. At least that respected our road system. Or, to compensate for Simi Valley and Moorpark being put back into the Ventura district, move the LA County parts of the current proposal to the West San Fernando Valley and the north of the San Fernando Valley up to Santa Clarita. If you need more Ventura County to be moved to Santa Clarita, take the 126 corridor. At least they have a direct road access.

If Ventura County must be split, it should be split on its traditional East/West lines. A good solution is to add the eastern Ventura county (Conejo Valley, Simi Valley and Moorpark) to part of the west San Fernando Valley district. This is somewhat similar to the VICA submitted map, but with all of eastern Ventura county in the district and thus less of the San Fernando Valley. It keeps Calabasas with its sister cities on the 101. Desoto or Tampa looks like a good line. Move the North San Fernando Valley above the 118 up to Santa Clarita. Combine the rest into the East San Fernando. Then fill in the Ventura District with parts N. LA county from around the 126/5 interchange.

Greg Stratton

Former Simi Valley Councilman and Mayor (1979-1998)

[REDACTED]

Simi Valley CA, 93065

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Johnny Garcia Vasquez <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/27/2011 2:36 PM

To: [REDACTED]

From: Johnny Garcia Vasquez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Maps that splits the cities of Oxnard and Ventura

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing today as a long time resident of Oxnard and as a past Student Government President of Oxnard College to strongly urge you to reconsider your east Ventura assembly map and your west Ventura assembly map that splits the cities of Oxnard and Ventura. I suggest a district composed of keeping Oxnard whole in one assembly district. While also ensuring that Oxnard and Ventura colleges are in the same assembly district as they share similar challenges and draw from the same student population.

Splitting them into two legislative districts will diverge student advocacy efforts and will only amount to the ongoing marginalization of these students, their families, and their communities.

Furthermore, a united district would give the local assembly representative a stronger voice on behalf of students since Ventura and Oxnard colleges will be in one district and not split in separate assembly districts. Therefore, there will be more accountability from students that will translate to more accountability from their families and their communities.

Thank you for your time and I urge you to keep Oxnard whole in one assembly district, while also ensuring that Oxnard and Ventura colleges are in the same assembly district.

--

Best Regards,

Johnny Garcia Vasquez

State Legislative Liaison

Office of External Affairs VP Assoc. Students of the UC (ASUC) University of California, Berkeley

[B.A Ethnic Studies with Minor in Public Policy 2013]

*Member of the Board of Directors, University of California Student Association

Mobile: (805) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Maps that splits the cities of Oxnard and Ventura

From: Johnny Garcia Vasquez <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/22/2011 4:40 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing today as a long time resident of Oxnard and as a past Student Government President of Oxnard College to strongly urge you to reconsider your east Ventura assembly map and your west Ventura assembly map that splits the cities of Oxnard and Ventura. I suggest a district composed of keeping Oxnard whole in one assembly district. While also ensuring that Oxnard and Ventura colleges are in the same assembly district as they share similar challenges and draw from the same student population.

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Best Regards,

Johnny Garcia Vasquez

State Legislative Liaison

Office of External Affairs VP Assoc. Students of the UC (ASUC)

University of California, Berkeley

[B.A Ethnic Studies with Minor in Public Policy 2013]

*Member of the Board of Directors, University of California Student Association

Mobile: (805) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*Titles for identification purposes only.

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