



REGION 8:
CONTRA
COSTA

RECEIVED JUN 29 REC'D

via email/

June 27, 2011

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

Re: Redistricting of the 7th Congressional District

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce - representing major 400 businesses, we are very concerned by the first draft of the New Congressional Districts Line Maps, and support the City of Richmond Council Resolution (passed on June 21, 2011) to request that the California Citizen's Redistricting Commission keep the City of Richmond in the Contra Costa County Congressional District 7.

Of concern by many of the residents and small businesses are opportunities for input were not well publicized within the City. Another issue is that those who did wish to attend public meetings could not because they were held in San Francisco and not in Richmond or Contra Costa County. We recommend that the future meetings be held in the City of Richmond as many of the meetings required commuting to areas outside the means of many Richmond residents. This is a reasonable request given that the proposal will substantially impact the City by splitting it.

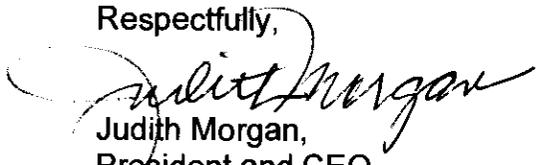
Given the first draft of redistricting maps for Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate and Board of Equalization districts, the new maps move the majority of the City of Richmond from the current District 7 - away from inland Contra Costa County, and, suggest alignment with East Bay communities of Berkeley, Oakland, Emeryville and Alameda. We foresee several issues with this action:

- Our most important issue, is the proposed Congressional redistricting would split the City of Richmond down the middle with the west half going to what is now Congressperson Barbara Lee's 9th District and the eastern half being moved to what is now Congressman John Garamendi's 10th District. Neither of these district representatives has worked with the City of Richmond and are not intimately aware of the unique issues facing our City.

- Berkeley, Oakland, Emeryville and Alameda are all currently in Alameda County with only Richmond in Contra Costa County. Richmond would then be split between the competing goals of two separate Counties.
- Unique to the City of Richmond is the Rosie the Riveter National Parks Center. The “park” is not located in one area of Richmond but covers key historical sites throughout the City. Dividing the City in half will impact representation of these valuable historical resources between two separate districts.
- The Commission should also be aware of the impact on health services should the City be split. Doctor’s Hospital provides health services to Richmond residents not enrolled in Kaiser Hospital HMO, many of which are uninsured. As a result other hospitals in the county and current district help defray Doctor’s Hospital operating costs. Should the City be split, this could be an issue since the assisting hospitals would fall under Congressman Miller’s area not Congressperson’s Lee or Garamendi. Should Doctor’s Hospital falter, many of our uninsured residents may not have local emergency care and the burden would fall under Kaiser Hospital in Richmond. In addition, currently Richmond is part of the Contra Costa County Health Department, and if split it would be split between that and the Alameda County Health Services. This would create time and funding roadblocks in trying to address health services issues for the City.
- Redistricting would also impact our schools. Richmond currently falls within the West Contra Costa School District. Splitting Richmond would also split the representation and it only makes sense that Richmond and the School district be represented by the same legislative or Congressional district.
- The redistricting does not engage the economic impact that this will have on the City of Richmond in regards to competition for state and federal funding and other projects, e.g. Lawrence Berkeley National Labs expansion project for which Richmond is in direct competition with the Cities of Berkeley, Oakland, Emeryville and Alameda.
- Regarding the “Community of Interest”, the City of Richmond has an industrial and port base which is more in alignment with that of Crockett, Benicia and Martinez than the larger container port of Oakland.
- The redistricting guidelines call for the Commission to respect County and City

Again to enforce the fact that we are - in support of the City of Richmond’s Resolution and on behalf of our all of Chamber membership – we request that you keep the City of Richmond in the Contra Costa County Congressional District 7.

Respectfully,


 Judith Morgan,
 President and CEO
 Richmond Chamber of Commerce

Richmond CA 94805



RECEIVED JUN 29 REC'D

CITY OF SAN RAMON

SAN RAMON, CALIFORNIA 94583

June 27, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, suite 154A
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

Dear Commissioners:

I will remind the Citizens Redistricting Commission that the citizens of California overwhelmingly sent a message that they wish to be represented in Washington and Sacramento. Underlying their vote is the desire to end districts designed for party political stability. **Draw districts that make sense!** Initially recognizing Oakland/East Bay hills as a natural dividing line was a correct first step. The next step is to recognize a commonality of Lamorinda, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Clayton, Antioch, Oakley, Brentwood, Byron/Discovery Bay, and the Tri-Valley.

San Ramon, Danville, Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore have worked together cooperatively since before their incorporations. They pay more than their fair share of taxes and deserve to be recognized with representation at the state and federal level. Examples of this working relationship include:

The cities in the Tri-valley meet at least quarterly and share many programs like a shared lobbyist in Washington and funding for the Tri-valley Convention and Visitors Bureau. We have a shared affordable housing solution and a shared development fee for regional transportation improvements with a required unanimous vote to change project funding.

In the 1970's, Dublin and San Ramon actually had a ballot measure to become one city. If the Tri-valley were one city today we would have the 3rd highest allotment for low income affordable housing assessment in the entire nine counties of the bay area from ABAG.

Four of the cities have proven that they each can generate over \$300,000,000 in taxable sales in a quarter. San Ramon currently is the highest total property tax evaluation of any city in Contra Costa.

Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore border the second busiest freeway in the nation. The strategic expenditure plan for the Tri-valley transportation committee shows support from

Danville, San Ramon, and the Contra Costa board of supervisors to tax themselves primarily to benefit their fellow members from Alameda County.

I have served on a transportation subcommittee with the Tri-valley as well as Lamorinda and we have always found common ground and understood each other's wants and needs. Dublin and San Ramon still serve on a fire board of directors together. We act as one.

It is important to note that the cities I listed regardless of county as well as unincorporated areas will have a total population of nearly 700,000 residents in the city limits and close to 800,000 when you include the outlying areas and unincorporated cities. I currently serve on 4 regional/County committees as a representative from Contra Costa County and I personally can point to at least one elected official in each of these cities I named that is aware of the desires of each of the other cities in the area encompassing the district I am proposing. We have served together. We don't always agree but we do know the issues and concerns and we have proven that we are responsible to our region. We find solutions and commit to action plans which have considered the needs of each other. We tax ourselves to accomplish these solutions.

Initially the work of this commission seemed to be headed in the right direction. Lately there have arisen some grave concerns that can only be attributed to party politics. The Tri-valley is not San Jose and can't be represented from Santa Clara County or Fremont. Yet only San Jose and San Francisco will be asked to produce more affordable low cost housing. The funding for infrastructure required to meet the needs of these residents is rarely forthcoming. Who will bring this message to Sacramento and Washington when you break up the Tri-valley to make someone's area work that is not paying to be part of the solution? This is not about county lines or assembly majority. The lines do not need to change that much in Alameda if you include Dublin and Pleasanton in district 15. The congressional district will fit nicely into the area I described. The representative who is elected will have to reach across party lines and show that they are representing our region. Isn't that what this commission seeks?

Sincerely,



Dave Hudson
San Ramon City Council
Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Association of Bay Area Governments

REGION 8-CONTRA COSTA

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 302

POLITICAL

ACTION

COMMITTEE



Martinez, California 94553-4239

June 27, 2011

RECEIVED JUN 29 REC'D

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

Dear Members:

I am writing on behalf of the members of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 302, constituents of the draft senate district EALAM. As you begin the process of numbering the Senate districts, we ask that you assign an odd number to our district.

The majority of our district is now in SD 7 and we are due to elect our senator in 2012. If you choose to make our Senate district an even-numbered district there will be no election for state senator until 2014. Our understanding is that our current senator would then have to step down in 2012, leaving us with no elected representation in the State Senate for two years. This is unacceptable to our members and the communities in which we reside.

If we are deprived of a senator for two years we will have no voice in the State Senate on issues critical to our members' quality of life. Nor are we likely to receive our fair share of state resources and funds if we do not have an elected representative fighting for our interests. We strongly request that you retain our senate district as an odd-numbered district so that residents of Contra Costa County are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Yarbrough *D. Roos Sr.*

Michael W. Yarbrough
Business Manager
Financial Secretary

Dennis Roos Sr.
PAC Chairman

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Emily Brockman <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 18:15:08 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Emily Brockman <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting

Message Body:

As a Richmond resident I would like to object to the notion of splitting Richmond between two representatives. We are a city struggling to improve and a sense of community is vital to that effort. Splitting us in half between two representatives will undermine our efforts and is clearly of NO BENEFIT to us. Please do not make this change.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Re: CD Redistricting Proposal for Tri-Valley Cities and Other Popular Desires

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 21:06:41 +0000 (UTC)

To: [REDACTED]

CC: J Nibert <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commissioners:

The pdf document from my June 28 email contained my proposal for shifting equal amounts of population among several SF Bay Area CDs in order to achieve several popular outcomes.

I have attached a revised document that has no effect on the population numbers. This revision simply clarifies the textual description of places for the "STANI" CD (two text cells were reversed).

Again, the population numbers in the chart are unchanged.

Thank you.

Jeff Nibert
Pleasanton, CA

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: "J Nibert" <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2011 4:57:52 PM

Subject: CD Redistricting Proposal for Tri-Valley Cities and Other Popular Desires

Dear Commissioners:

I was Speaker 73 at the June 27 meeting in San Francisco. The Commission chair requested that I email my proposal, which I designed to achieve several popular desires for San Francisco Bay Area CDs, based on the Draft 1 maps

In particular, I request that you keep all of the Tri-Valley cities of Contra Costa and Alameda Counties whole within one congressional district. My proposal explains how to achieve this. It is contained in the attached chart as a pdf file.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeff Nibert
Pleasanton, CA

CD Redistricting for Tri-Valley Cities and Other Popular Desires Rev 1.pdf

CD Designation (Draft 1)	Places Moving into this CD	Leaving from	Population Shift (needs balance adjustment at block level)	COMMENTS (!) = achieves popular desires in public testimony
COCO	Antioch, Brentwood	SNJOA	153,853	(!) Reunites two cities with their own county's CD
FRNWU	Alamo, Danville, Blackhawk, San Ramon *	COCO	150,031	(!) Keeps Tri-Valley cities whole with Pleasanton and Livermore
SANJO	Half of Fremont (22 tracts - pop. 106,980) not already in SANJO, Most of Union City (44,535) **	FRNWU	151,515	(!) Keeps Fremont whole. Unites 92% of Tri-Cities population
SNACL	Southern end of SANJO	SANJO	107,798	Movement only within city of San Jose
STANI	Eastern San Jose foothills ***	SANJO	41,528	Movement consists of rural, low density and outlying communities that match the characteristics of the STANI CD
	Southeastern Santa Clara County, including tract 5135 ****	SNACL	107,798	
			149,326	
SNJOA	Tracy, Manteca	STANI	150,018	(!) Reunites two cities with their own county's CD

Source: <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/popmap/>

Footnotes:

* Includes 28 census tracts, beginning with (and including) these tracts: 3342 (block group 2), 3452.03, 3452.04, 3461.01, 3511.01, and 3511.03, and then all remaining tracts to the south and south east of these. Excludes Tract 3553.06 (Mt. Diablo).

** Excludes the six tracts located west of the railroad tracks that are west of and parallel to Hwy I-880. (4403.04, 4403.05, 4403.06, 4403.31, 4403.32, 4415.01)

*** Includes census tracts 5033.12, 5033.13, 5033.23, 5033.24, 5033.25, 5033.26, 5033.29, 5033.30, 5033.31

**** Includes all tracts east of (but not including) tract 5122

I was Speaker 73 at the June 27 meeting in San Francisco. The Commission chair requested that I email my proposal, which I designed to achieve several popular desires for SF Bay Area CDs. It is contained on this page. Thank you for your consideration.

Jeff Nibert
Pleasanton, CA

Rev. 1: Corrected the STANI CD places description (the two cells were reversed). No effect on population numbers.

Subject: Redistricting Tri-Valley Contra Costa & Alameda Counties

From: Wayne Price <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 16:44:06 -0700 (PDT)

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

Commissioners:

Do not carve the citizens of California state into election districts for maximum personal and partisan advantage of incumbents or future incumbents. Do not split neighborhoods or dilute opponents by drowning them in districts overwhelmingly of the opposite group. We like to think that voters should choose their politicians. In a biased redistricting process, politicians, and those partisans that act for politicians, *choose* their voters.

Well-designed redistricting systems can help ensure that elected public servants *actually serve* their public. Moreover, they can inspire public confidence in both a process and an outcome recognized as fair.

For many decades California governance has been dominated by the Democrat Party, and California is a mess in desperate economic and cultural condition, far, far worse than the great majority of the rest of the United States. Another decade of domination by democrats truly means economic bankruptcy for the state government, collapse of pension funds, inclusive of CALPERS and STRS, and deeper helpless miasma.

Historically, in many past redistrictings, the process has been skewed toward protecting Democrat incumbents for the following 10 years. If you sincerely want to help California, stop disadvantaging the Republicans and give even-handed treatment to Tea Party patriots.

- Keep the economically- and culturally-similar cities of the Tri-Valley together for congressional districting.
- Do not put the city of San Ramon in the same congressional district with Fremont, Newark, Union City and Hayward.
- Do not put the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore into a Congressional District with San Jose.

Wayne Price
Citizen, Contra Costa County

Subject: Redistricting

From: linda caruso <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 10:33:10 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Commission: I hope that some common sense is used when setting the redistricting limit for San Ramon and for the Livermore Valley. It seems ridiculous for San Ramon to be connected to Fremont, and Livermore to San Jose. Shouldn't common sense prevail which would make the elected officials from each district truly represent that district into contiguous areas. Linda Caruso