

Molly Casey

From: "Eugene Lee" <[REDACTED]>
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: "Deanna Kitamura" <[REDACTED]> "Daniel Ichinose" <[REDACTED]> "Joanna Lee" <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, July 09, 2011 2:48 PM
Attach: Ltr to CRC re 2nd map release July 9 2011.pdf
Subject: Comments Re: Commission's Plans for Release of Second Draft Map

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission,

Please find attached and pasted below a letter outlining our thoughts on the Commission's consideration of its plans for releasing a second draft map.

Best regards,
Eugene Lee

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July 9, 2011

*Via electronic mail*

California Citizens Redistricting Commission

[REDACTED]

Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Commission's Plans for Release of Second Draft Map

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission:

We understand that the Commission is considering delaying the release of its second draft map, currently scheduled for July 14. We understand that the Commission is also considering the option of not releasing a second draft map at all, while continuing to provide visualizations for members of the public to comment on. I write to provide our thoughts on the decision of whether to release a second draft map.

As a preliminary matter, we recognize the incredible time pressure that the Commission is facing as a result of several factors, including the Commission's unique position in implementing a brand new process, the 14-day comment period which the Voter-First Act requires for any map release, and Proposition 20 moving up the map adoption deadline from September 15 to August 15. We also recognize and commend the steadfast dedication and commitment you have demonstrated in the face of this pressure.

First, we believe that the goal of obtaining public feedback on potential district configurations is best served by the release of maps that provide the public with a greater level of detail than what is contained in the PDF visualizations provided on a semi-daily basis.

We greatly appreciate the Commission's provision of these visualizations, and the work that goes into the preparation of such visualizations on the part of your line-drawing firm. These visualizations allow members of the public to better follow the Commission's discussion when they watch the live-stream of the Commission's meeting, since the live-stream itself does not provide a sufficiently clear picture of the projector screen in the Commission's meeting room for the public to follow along. The visualizations may also allow members of the public to provide general thoughts to the Commission on potential district configurations.

However, the visualizations do not provide sufficient detail for members of the public to arrive at a full and detailed assessment of how potential districts affect their communities. In many instances, the visualizations allow members of the public to make only rough guesses about which district their city, neighborhood or community of interest is located in, and whether their areas are kept whole in such districts.

We believe that for the Commission to receive the kind of public feedback it needs to fully inform its work, it should release maps that provide a greater level of detail than what is contained in the PDF visualizations, since the visualizations have only the limited purpose of allowing the public to better follow the Commission's live-streamed discussions and to provide general feedback on potential districts.

Second, we believe that the release of more detailed maps should be done in the form of an official second draft map, if at all possible given your time constraints and given the need to "get things right." The release of an official second draft map is likely to serve as a catalyst in generating the kind of public participation that we understand the Commission is seeking, which is feedback from the fullest possible range of Californians.

If the Commission proceeds with the release of an official second draft map, one practical time-saving suggestion that may be worth exploring is to provide maps of each district in JPEG format, rather than in PDF format. Another time-saving suggestion that may be worth exploring is to contract with third parties to produce such maps. The production of maps is ministerial in nature and does not involve any manipulation of district lines.

Additionally, we wanted to call attention to section 8253(a)(7) of the Government Code, which provides that, "... The hearing process shall include hearing to receive public input before the commission draws any maps and hearings following the drawing and display of any commission maps..." We believe that if the Commission proceeds with the release of an official second draft map, it should hold at least one or two hearings to take public comment on the second draft map.

Third, if the Commission decides against the release of an official second draft map because of the time constraints it faces, we ask that the Commission continue to provide visualizations on a rolling basis – and also to (i) provide block equivalency files to accompany the visualizations and (ii) ask third-party websites to make those files accessible to the public. This would help address our first point above, which is that the Commission should provide the public with maps which provide a greater level of detail than what is contained in the visualizations.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Eugene Lee

Voting Rights Project Director  
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July 9, 2011

*Via electronic mail*

California Citizens Redistricting Commission

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Sacramento, CA 95814

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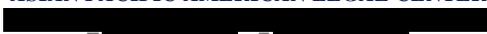
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Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,



Eugene Lee  
Voting Rights Project Director

**Molly Casey**

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**From:** "Paul Mitchell" <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** "Wilcox, Rob" <[REDACTED]> "Daniel Claypool" <[REDACTED]> "Christina Shupe" <[REDACTED]> "Kirk Miller" <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** "Office, Communications" <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 09, 2011 9:15 PM  
**Attach:** CRC Assistance Offer.pdf  
**Subject:** CRC Assistance PDFing Maps

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Please see my attached letter regarding our conference call today and the CRC discussion regarding assistance from third parties.

Thank you and please feel free to contact me at any time.

Paul

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

Sent via email

Dear Commissioners and Staff,

Today the commission discussed my offer for assistance with producing public maps. I would like to clarify my offer.

- If the commission vendor, Q2, provides equivalency files of a set of plans in lieu of a full second draft, I would be happy to receive those equivalency files the evening before the board discussion and have the PDFs of each district to you for posting on the commission site by 9am.
- These maps would include the data the commission is using, including population, ethnicity, 18+ population, 18+ ethnicity, and the CVAP figures from from the Statewide Database.
- The maps produced would be commission property and hosted on the state site. There would be no need to link to my website.
- These maps would exclude any partisan or incumbent/candidate information, have no commentary and be simply printouts of the files provided by the commission without edit.

Another vendor, such as the Advancement Project or Rose Institute are better prepared to convert the equivalency files to online interactive map systems, but I believe I have the staff and resources to assist the commission with this particular task.

My site already has each of the commission maps, recreations of the visualizations, all the public maps from MALDEF and CAPAFR, and even early maps from Columbia University and the bi-partisan Cook Political Report. Throughout the process people on both sides of the political aisle have been using my site for easy to read, informative, comprehensive maps.

Please feel free to contact me anytime regarding this offer or any other issues.

Sincerely,

Paul Mitchell

