

Some thoughts on testimony about Communities of Interest

The Commission should restrict submissions and discussion about Communities of Interest to the following five elements. This information is the minimum necessary to both define that community and to inform the Commission of elements they may consider in accommodating each request.

Each submission should include the following: (see next page for detail)

- A **unique label** to be used in referring to this Community throughout the discussion.
- A **description, drawing or image** of the geographical area of concern.
- A **statement why** this is a Community of Interest and why it should receive special consideration while forming district boundaries.
- The **density** of the community's population within those boundaries.
- **Author/Submitter Identification** for who originated and submitted the proposal.

The Label may be:

- determined by the submitter as long as it is unique among all prior submissions.
- applied by the Commission such as "North 001", "South 025", "San Jose 5", "2011-001".

The Description must contain:

- the precise boundaries in standard geographical terms.
- or be clearly marked on a map of any type (Google Earth, AAA, Yahoo maps, etc.) so that the boundaries can be converted to a standard geographical description.
- NOTE: Any submitted materials must be marked or stored with the label for that submission.

The Statement of Why is:

- a description of the specific common interests of a subset of the persons residing within the boundaries above.
- a justification for elevation of this communities' interests above that of others also resident within the same boundaries.
- NOTE: Any submitted materials must be marked or stored with the label for that submission.

The Density must be stated as:

- a percentage of the total population of that area.
- Examples: (>50%, about 20%)
- NOTE: Any assertion of 100% or close thereto should be challenged or ignored.

The Author Identification must include:

- names of all persons making significant contributions to the decisions for the proposal.
- names and statement of focus for all groups supporting the proposal.
- to include: Names, titles, addresses, phone numbers and eMail addresses of each group and person as appropriate.
- This information may be accepted "in camera", but must be provided.