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Arleta Neighborhood Council Community of Interest Statement April 30, 2011



Vision Statement of Arleta
“A Community that is Involved, Clean, Safe, Family oriented, Well
Educated, Green, and Diverse.”

Overview of Arleta

- The Community of Arleta is located in The City of Los Angeles and is the Northeast San Fernando Valley.
- Arleta was part of the community of Pacoima until the early 60's, when a new US Post Office was built and was named the Arleta Post office.
- Its current estimated population is 32,632 and has a size of 3.10 square miles.

Community Assets

- Its trees lined streets, which makes it attractive to the filming of movies and commercials.
- Arleta High School also serves as strong asset for the neighborhood it serves.
- Branford Recreation Center.

Community Profile

- Arleta is served by LAPD Mission Police Station, and LAFD Station 7.
- The Community of Arleta is located in Los Angeles County, and is north of downtown Los Angeles. Arleta is surrounded by the communities of Pacoima, Mission Hills, Panorama City, North Hills, and Sun Valley.
- According to the City of Los Angeles Building Department the total population in 2008 was estimated at 32,622 with 10,034 people per square miles.
- According to Census 2000 the ethnicity breakdown is: Latino 71.7%, White 13.2%, Asian 11%, Black 2.2%
- The median age of the population is 29 years, the 19-34 years comprise the biggest category.
- The average income is \$65,649, and the average number of people per household is 4.

Arleta Community of Interest Statement

- Arleta should be kept together since it shares a common vision for, “A Community that is Involved, Clean, Safe, Family oriented, Well Educated, Green, and Diverse.”
- In order to achieve the ANC’s goal of achieving its vision the Community of Arleta should be kept together and represented by one district throughout each level of government, local, State, and Federal.
- Residents of Arleta send their kids to the same High Schools including, Arleta High School, and Poly High School.
- Arleta shares a common history with Pacoima and should be kept in the same State Assembly, Senate, and Congressional district. Although, at the local level, Arleta should be kept in Council District Six.

Arleta Community of Interest Statement-continued

- Arleta shares commonalities to the communities of Panorama City, Mission Hills, Pacoima, and North Hills.
- It does not share similarities with Sun Valley and North Hollywood, since those neighborhoods have more industrial areas and are more densely populated.
- Arleta has a small Japanese Community that holds yearly events at the Japanese Community Center and separating it into a separate district would adversely affect its ability to receive constituent services from two different government districts.

Arleta Community of Interest Statement-continued

- Branford Recreation Center also serves as focal point of where residents come together at various events that the park and Neighborhood Council organizes.
- Residents in Arleta also shop at two locations in the neighborhood along Van Nuys Blvd/Woodman and Woodman and Nordhoff.
- The whole community is served by one LAPD Station, and LAFD Station 7.
- Above all, the process and the creation of the City of Los Angeles System of Neighborhood Council has clearly identified the boundaries of Arleta and has provided a venue of where residents can be civically involved.

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Denny Zane

Santa Monica, CA 90404

April 29, 2011

Members of the Re-Districting Commission:

Thank you for your service to our communities. The process you are engaged, determining the district boundaries for voter representation in multiple elected bodies, is a serious one, one of the most serious. It is, simply put, about perfecting, those some may say preserving, our democracy. Ultimately, there are few higher responsibilities in public service.

Thank you for your service.

I offer you my observations about communities of interest. It seems to me that the dominant interests which unites my community in Santa Monica with other parts of the region can be divided into three key areas:

1. Special geographical features of common concern, such as:
 - Santa Monica Bay and the coastal area
 - Santa Monica Mountains
 2. Transportation Corridors and Assets, such as:
 - East-west corridors intersecting the 405
 3. Social/Demographic interests in common, such as:
 - Communities with heavy renter populations, especially those with local rent control ordinances
-
1. Our common interest with coastal communities in the health and ecology of Santa Monica Bay, the beach and coastal areas is obvious. As important is the common concern we have for the recreational opportunities and watershed role of Santa Monica Mountains. Indeed, the fact that our community and these mountains bear a common name is reflective of their importance and roles in our lives. These two features when taken together suggest that the historic joining of the Santa Monica and Malibu communities into common representative districts with some of the Los Virgenes communities, as is now the case in our Assembly, Senate and Supervisorial districts was an appropriate one. However, it does seem difficult to understand why Ventura County communities as far north as Oxnard would be linked with Santa Monica in common districts.
 2. Santa Monica also shares a common planning interest with communities along the east-west Santa Monica Fwy/Rte 10 transportation corridor, obviously, and along the east-west 101 corridor as well. We are united in interest by our common concern for the functioning of the 405 freeway corridor. When the 405 blocks up on over the Sepulveda Pass, traffic, even life-

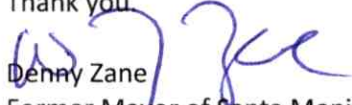
itself, comes to a frustrating halt along both the 10 and the 101. In Santa Monica we know that as goes the 101 & the 405, so goes the 10. Indeed, not just the east-west freeways become clogged but so do the arterials in the communities around them. That is why Santa Monica and Westside voters saw a common agenda laid out in Measure R in November, 2008. That measure offered funding for expanded east-west fixed guideway transit systems along the 101 in the Orange Line of the San Fernando Valley and on the Westside for both the completion of Exposition Light Rail and the Westside subway. However, the functioning of these systems were linked by the provision of funds for a system to link them over the Sepulveda Pass. In the future we will know as goes the Orange Line, the Sepulveda Pass line, Expo, and the subway to the sea, so goes our communities.

3. The Westside communities are heavily renter communities, nearly all of whom have fought for and gained rent control protections because they are part of a common rental markets with similar pressures. This community of interest extends from Santa Monica on the west at least as far as West Hollywood on the east. Preserving the ability of these communities to work toward their common interest is an essential objective of just representation.

In sum, these three factors taken together suggests that the current district boundaries for legislative or supervisorial districts within which to place Santa Monica were reasonable and responsible and reflected the multiple common interests we have with other communities in our districts. The commission should not make dramatic changes to our district boundaries.

An exception can be argued for the Ventura County portions of our legislative districts which would seem to have much more in common with their Ventura County neighbors to the north. Perhaps, exception can also be argued for the most northern portion of our State Senate District when it reaches communities as far north as Chatsworth.

Thank you


Denny Zane
Former Mayor of Santa Monica
Executive Director, Move LA



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