

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

April 6, 2011

Re: Griffith Park Community of Interest

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I am a member of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, but I am writing on my own to urge you to keep together Griffith Park and the communities that touch it in the legislative districts you draw. Currently, this one park, and the very similar neighborhoods that abut it, are represented by three state Assemblymembers, two state Senators, and four U.S. Congressmembers.

It is important to keep Griffith Park and the surrounding neighborhoods in one state legislative district because Griffith Park for the following reasons:

- This urban wilderness, continually seeks state grant money and other appropriations, for which funding originates at the state level.
- Strong entertainment-industry presence in the area makes many area residents, and the local economy, dependent on the fortunes of the Entertainment Industry, which is largely regulated by the state.
- It is furthermore preferable that the Park and surrounding neighborhoods are drawn into one Assembly district (not just one Senate District), as generally, Assembly members, with their more manageable district sizes, are often more approachable and closer to the people they represent.
- Griffith Park is the largest municipal park with “urban wilderness” in the United States.
- The communities that touch Griffith Park share many things in common, making them, together, a community of interest. All feature similar socio-economic qualities, similar employment patterns, trail access, park egress and park access, distinct traffic patterns, equestrian trails, equestrian-zoned properties, foothill elevation, urban watershed pathways, increased municipal fauna presence, similar crime patterns, and a similar history and outlook.

For these reasons and others, the communities surrounding Griffith Park should be kept in the same legislative district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gale Jaffe
Region 4 Representative
Silver Lake Neighborhood Council