

I'm David Pratt, a resident of Davis, which is in Yolo County, which is in the southern Sacramento Valley.

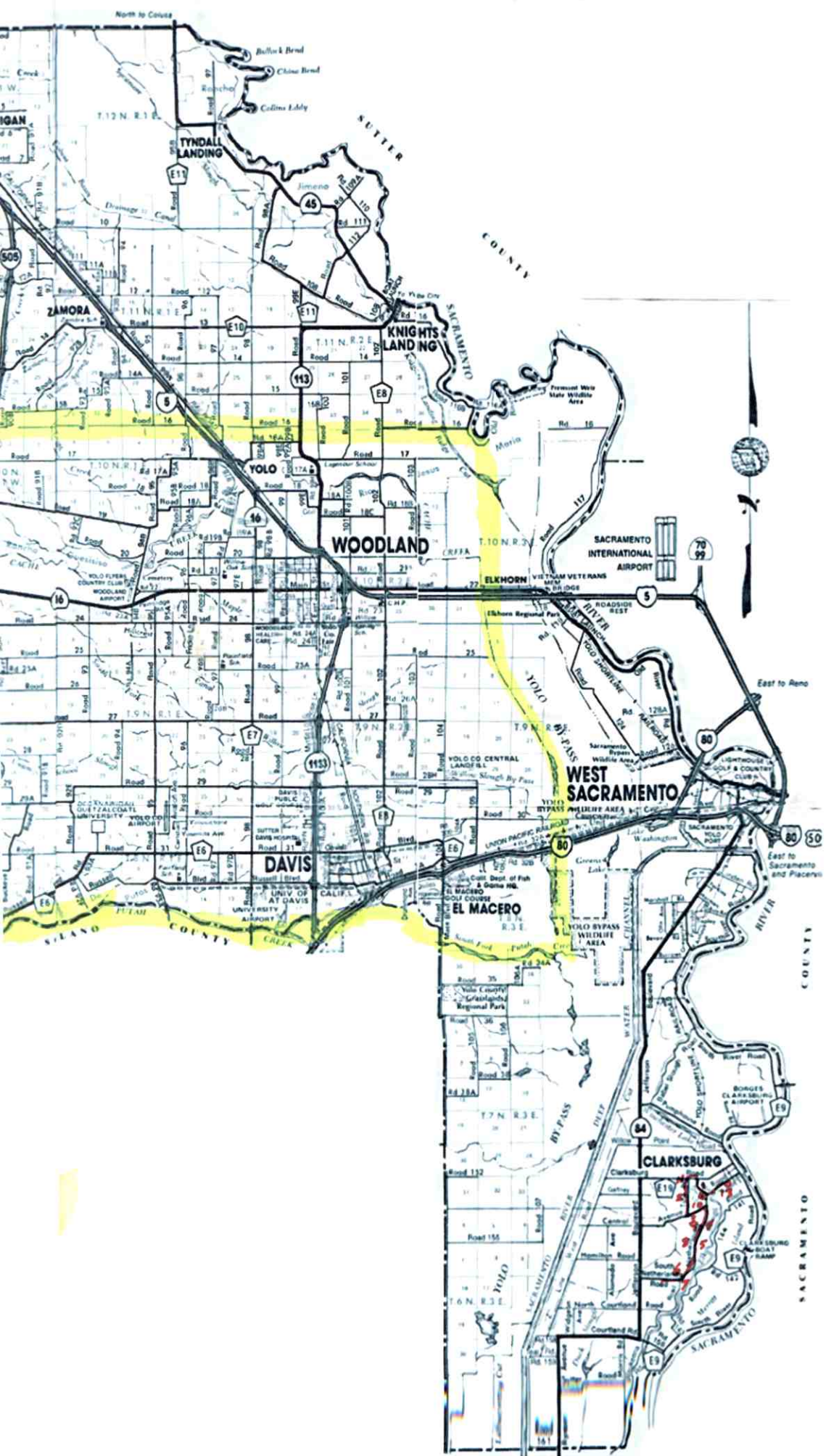
I believe that Davis and the adjacent cities of Woodland and Winters and some of the adjacent lands in Yolo County represent a strong *economic* community of interest that should not be divided by district lines. The residents of this area have in common:

- (1) the same major employer, the University of California at Davis;
- (2) the same agriculture, dominated by the field crops tomatoes and alfalfa and by almond and walnut orchards;
- (3) the Yolo County government, centered in Woodland;
- (4) a well-managed local water community, based on 2 small rivers, Putah Creek and Cache Creek. These streams flow parallel and 10 to 15 miles apart, eastward from the Coast Range across the flat land of Yolo County toward the Sacramento River. Davis, Woodland, Winters, and the surrounding agricultural fields lie between the 2 streams and depend on them for their water. Part of the water from the streams is diverted into canals for irrigation and part regenerates the ground water on which the local wells depend. A public irrigation district, located within the boundaries of the community of interest, manages the water in cooperation with the Water Resources Association of Yolo County.

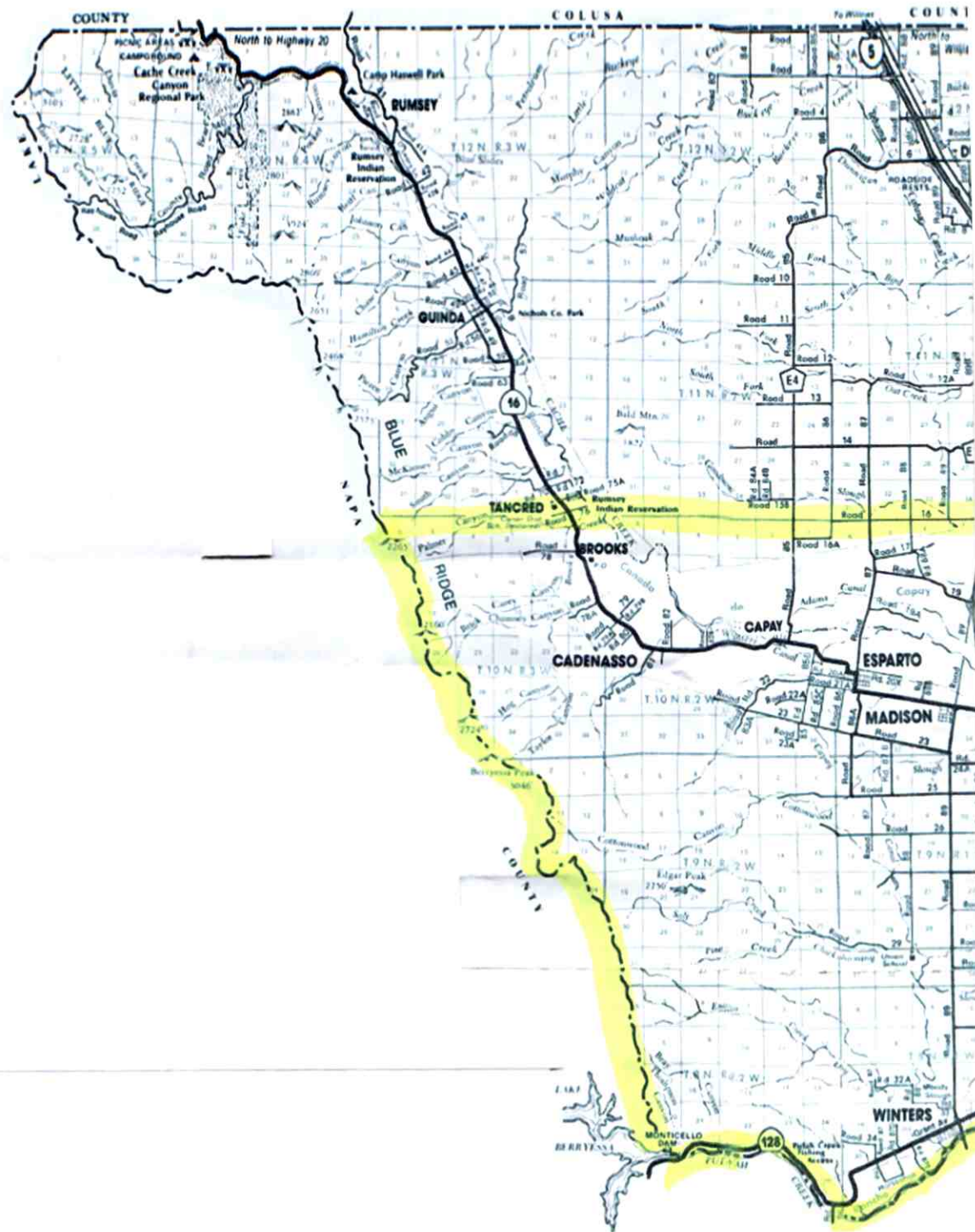
The boundaries of this community of interest can be described as the Yolo/Napa County line on the west, Putah Creek, on the south, the Yolo Bypass on the east, and the line of Yolo County Road 16 on the north. These are marked on the map that I'm submitting with my written comments. According to data from redrawca.org, the 2010 population within this area was approximately 140,000 and the major ethnic/racial groups were Hispanic=30%, White=51%, and Asian=12%. Since the total population included in the area is too small to be a voting district for the Assembly, or the State Senate, or Congress, one reasonable way to keep the area intact would be to keep all of Yolo County intact when the district lines are redrawn.

Currently, the community of interest that I've described is cut up by district lines. While Davis, Woodland, and Winters are within 20 miles of each other, in a region of low population density, among them they are currently represented by three different members of the California Assembly, two different California State Senators, and three different members of the U.S. House of Representatives. Based on my observations of the water community in Yolo County, multiple representatives each with a minimal stake in the area appear to be relatively ineffective, and sometimes even counterproductive, in pushing legislation benefiting the area and in applying pressure to the executive branches of the state and federal governments to pay attention to the needs of the area. Not only does the present districting cut up the Davis/Woodland/Winters area in what seems to me to be an unreasonable way, but it has put Davis, out in the middle of the Central Valley, into the same congressional district as Crescent City, which is 250 miles away on the California coast next to the Oregon border, in a tsunami zone.

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“Community of Interest” map for the Davis/Woodland/Winters area of Yolo County, to go with David Pratt testimony at Redding, April 9, 2011