

Region 5-Central/Ventura

MAY 10 2011

Per AS

City of Thousand Oaks

MAYOR ANDREW P. FOX

May 6, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K St., Ste. 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via Fax: (916) 322-0904

RE: REGION 5 DISTRICT MAPS

Honorable Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of the City of Thousand Oaks, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with testimony for your consideration. During your April 30, 2011 input hearing in the City of San Fernando, Legislative Affairs Manager Mina M. Layba provided oral testimony on behalf of the interests of Thousand Oaks.

To reiterate these interests:

- **The City of Thousand Oaks should remain part of Ventura County and should not be integrated into Los Angeles County.** *The City of Thousand Oaks is master planned community which incorporated over 46 years ago.*
 - The City of Thousand Oaks differs from the San Fernando Valley in distance and density. The San Fernando Valley is considered the suburb of the City of Los Angeles. Thousand Oaks is approximately 20 miles away from the San Fernando Valley, and is surrounded by a ring of "open space" which contains 75 miles of trails for hiking, biking, or walking.
 - The cities in Conejo Valley (Westlake Village, Agoura Hills, Hidden Hills, and Calabasas) may be in proximity to the City but are all serviced entirely by the County of Los Angeles.
 - It was mentioned at the hearing the City of Thousand Oaks is part of numerous chamber of commerce organizations. This is not correct. The City of Thousand Oaks is a member of only one chamber of commerce, the "Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce". The Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce is accredited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and consists of three cities: the City of Thousand Oaks, the City of Westlake Village and recently the City of Agoura Hills. Although these cities and businesses may work together, they still favor and identify with their individual counties.

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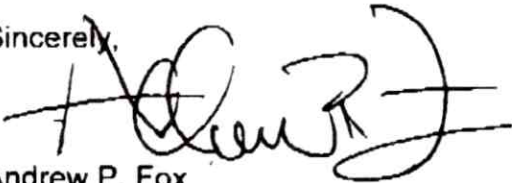
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The City realizes that the Commission may be faced with having to split regions to meet required metrics and criteria for drawing district maps.

- **Ventura County should be maintained as a whole district.**
 - As one of the ten cities of Ventura County, we share the same common interests, economic and social levels, human/social service providers and programs. Five of the ten cities contract with the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, and six out of the ten cities are serviced by Ventura County Fire District. In addition, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has designated the region as Urban Area Security Initiative – or UASI – an area which is susceptible to terrorist attack, which they fund to assist in regional prevention efforts.
- **If Ventura County were to be split, we encourage the region to be divided between West County (cities of Ventura, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Ojai, Santa Paula and Fillmore) and East County (cities of Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Moorpark, and Camarillo).**
 - The West County is known for its tourist appeal of agricultural and coastal areas connected by Highway 126. West County houses the Naval Base Ventura County has several installations including the Air National Guard Base.
 - The East County is considered a bedroom/commuter area featuring biotech, science, and technology industries. The East County is connected by State Route 23, which connects the east-west U.S. 118 freeway on the north in Simi Valley, and the U.S. 101 freeway on the south in Thousand Oaks.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the City of Thousand Oaks in drawing these vital district maps. We realize the daunting task you have ahead of you these five short months. We are grateful for dedication in serving the citizens of the State of California.

Sincerely,



Andrew P. Fox
Mayor

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