

From: **Eric Olson** [REDACTED]
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Subject: redistricting - Sierra Madre and San Gabriel Valley
To: "votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov" <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>
Cc: Eric Olson [REDACTED]

I attended your April 29 meeting in San Gabriel but was number 127 and unable to stay that long. I would like to make the following points:

1. I live in Sierra Madre, the west end of the 59th AD and poster child of gerrymandering ignoring all principles of proper districting. This district takes slices off numerous communities as it wends along the foothills, eventually crossing the San Bernardino mountains and ending in Hesperia. Neither Sierra Madre nor Hesperia nor most of the communities with whom we are joined has much community of interest with one another.
2. My thought would be that a district incorporating Sierra Madre's community of interest would focus its northern boundary along the foothills of the Angeles and San Bernardino National Forests and the I-210 transportation corridor. I would like to see it wholly within the San Gabriel Valley, which, itself, has a substantial community of interest and should remain within the fewest possible number of districts.
3. I could envision a district starting at the west end at the westerly boundaries of Pasadena and Altadena and ending at the easterly boundary of Claremont, and dropping south as necessary, including communities such as Covina, and West Covina. I also heard proposals suggesting a district ending at or near the easterly boundary of Pasadena. If that were the commission's thought, we should still retain the rest of the district along the foothills/I 210 corridor, though it would obviously have to dip farther south. If that were the case I would personally prefer to be in the easterly of the districts, but either would be a great improvement over what we have now.
4. At the hearing one or more of the commissioners asked about Altadena which apparently looked like an orphan on some maps. I cannot envision a responsible plan for Altadena that does not take account of its ties to Pasadena (the Pasadena Unified School District includes not only Pasadena, but Altadena and Sierra Madre).

5. Sierra Madre's community of interest in the remainder of the foothill communities of the San Gabriel Valley includes the fact that we abut (and deal with) the National Forests in relationships that include both the recreational aspects, but also the physical dangers of fires and slides. Water is a major element tying these communities together.

6. Similarly you should recognize the substantial community of interest to be found in the San Gabriel Valley, and keep it politically together. For further information I refer you to the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership www.valleyconnect.com <<http://www.valleyconnect.com/>> .

Eric Olson
Sierra Madre

