

Subject: Public Comment: Foothills Area of San Gabriel Valley

Date: Saturday, May 7, 2011 6:07 PM

From: Joyce Kristensson [REDACTED]

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Conversation: Public Comment: Foothills Area of San Gabriel Valley

From: Joyce Kristensson [REDACTED]

Subject: Foothills Area of San Gabriel Valley

Message Body:

Dear Citizen's Redistricting Commission Members,

I am a long-time resident of the San Gabriel Valley. I currently live in Duarte, although I have previously lived in San Marino, San Gabriel and Arcadia. I have been a professional Realtor for over 30 years. I am very active in Realtor issues and community organizations. I served as President of the Pasadena-Foothills Association of Realtors in 2004 and President of Women's Council of Realtors (San Gabriel Valley Chapter) in 2005 and also this year am President again. I also serve on, among others, the Local Governmental Affairs Committee at Pasadena-Foothills Association, as a member of Political Affairs Fund at California Association of Realtors (CAR), a member of Legislative Committed at CAR and as a CAR arbitrator. I have represented homeowners and home purchasers throughout the Foothills my entire career. I feel I am very knowledgeable of many of the communities that make up the San Gabriel Valley. From my three decade career, I can confidently confirm that the !

San Gabriel Valley falls into three distinct areas of common interest areas.

1. Pasadena is the largest city and falls in natural and comfortable alliance with Glendale and Burbank. All three citites are of similar size and share much in common. They are all full service cities with their own police, fire, public works, parks departments and utilities. It makes clear sense for the Commission to keep Pasadena, Glendale and Burbank together for the purpose of State Senate and Congressional Districting.

2. The Foothill communities from Claremont to La Canada also share much in common. These communities are relatively the same size and citizens routinely move and work within the Foothill corridor. It is very common for relatives from one community to live or work in another Foothill city. My own son-in-law, is an Arcadia Firefighter and resides in Monrovia and I live in Duarte. The communities along the Foothills share an interest in air and water quality and hillside and forest preservation. As a Realtor, I am uniquely qualified to make the latter statement as it is an issue that comes up almost daily in my work. Many of these communities share a common alliance with Los Angeles County and there is a significant amount of land that is unincorporated Los Angeles County that is unincorporated LA County property along the Foothills. The commission would be commended for keeping Claremont, La Verne, San Dimas, Glendora, Covina, Irwindale, Azuza, Duarte, Bradbury, Monro!

via, Arcadia, Sierra Madre, Altadena, Pasadena and La Canada together as it considers Assembly, Senate and Congressional districts.

3. Finally, the flatland cities of the San Gabriel Valley are clearly communities of interest. Again, the same holds true for the flatland cities as mentioned above for the Foothills. Families commonly move comfortably in, out and through this region which is quite different from the Foothills area. The communities along the 60 freeway are similar as are the citites along the 10 freeway. As this is the most densely populated part of the San Gabriel Valley, I'm sure it has many districts that will be drawn to accommodate its population. My goal is to help the Commission realize the East to West nature of these areas.

I chose to write the Commission as I have heard discussions that some want to carve up the San Gabriel Valley in North to Sough districts rather than East to West districts.

As someone who has spent my entire career selling homes the the region, this would be a drastic mistake. The communities along the Foothills are similar and should stay together. And the communities in the flatlands deserve to be grouped together, too.

The commission has clear geographic indicators, racial and ethnic and community orientation which dictates communities of interest in the San Gabriel Valley: The San Gabriel Mountains to the North and the three Interstate Freeways that run East to West are the most notable. In addition, the Gold Line Light Rail is also a clear East to West indicator of communities of interest.

Our own Associations of Realtors in the Valley are also drawn East to West and it works wonderfully.

I respectfully ask you to consider the above as you endeavor to draw the most fair and balanced districts.

Respectfully,

Joyce Kristensson
REALTOR, CRS, GRI, SRES
2004 President, Pasadena-Foothills Association
2005 and 2011 President, Women's Council of Realtors, San Gabriel Valley Chapter

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