

Subject: Redistricting Yorba Linda

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From: Jan Horton [REDACTED]

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Conversation: Redistricting Yorba Linda

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

Dear Commissioners:

As you probably have heard, Orange County is far more diverse than most people think. Heavily Latino cities such as Santa Ana and the part of Anaheim west of Highway 55 belong in the same districts. Coastal communities from Seal Beach to Newport Beach share common environmental concerns.

Yet, districts as large as a Congressional or state senate seats may well require you to make some decisions that are not obvious or easy.

As a former representative from an inland Orange County City, I'd like to note that my community has more in common with the East San Gabriel communities of Diamond Bar, Walnut and Rowland Heights than it does Orange County cities like Mission Viejo or Rancho Santa Margarita. In fact, Yorba Linda and Brea share undeveloped land deemed a "wildlife corridor", which is partly comprised of Chino Hills State Park and a continuing swath of undeveloped rolling hills that bridges the three counties of Orange, San Bernardino, and Los Angeles where they come together, continuing east of the 57 freeway to La Habra Heights (LA County) and La Habra (Orange County). It is not just the wildlands they have in common, but wildfires, too, such as the "freeway fire" in 2009 that burned Chino Hills State park, much of the above-mentioned undeveloped land and hundreds of structures between Chino Hills, Yorba Linda and Brea.

North Orange County, the East San Gabriel Valley and even Chino Hills have similar working class incomes and similar housing needs. We all commute on Highway 57 and many of us have our children attend Cal-State Fullerton. I know that breaking county lines is not ideal but neither are Senate Districts which include both Fullerton and Laguna Niguel (current SD 33) or Yorba Linda and Arcadia (current SD 29) or Yorba Linda and Santa Margarita. Sometimes communities of interest and sensible transportation corridors are more than a county line.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jan Horton

Former City Councilwoman

City of Yorba Linda