

Office of the Mayor
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May 25, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission Members

Re: City of Riverside

Commission Members:

As Mayor of the City of Riverside, I urge the Commission to consider ensuring the new districts affecting the City of Riverside stay within the County of Riverside jurisdictional boundaries.

With just over 300,000 residents and sized at approximately 80 square miles, Riverside is the economic engine and official seat of the County. Our city boundaries encompass the 91 (Riverside), 215 and 60 freeways, as well as BNSF and UPSP rail lines. The Santa Ana River runs alongside the city's northern edges with March Air Reserve Base and Joint Powers Authority wrapping our southeastern borders.

Because of our size and stature within Riverside County, the City of Riverside is often representative of the entire county at state and national levels, and it is for the following pragmatic purposes that we request your support of this request.

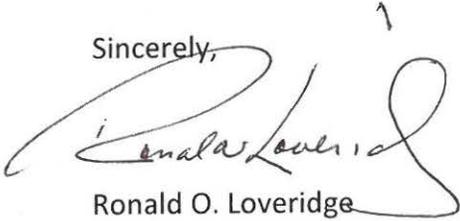
- **Aligned Transportation Efforts:** Riverside County has coordinated efforts in place via RCTC (Riverside County Transportation Commission) and WRCOG (Western Riverside Council of Governments) to address countywide transportation planning, funding and pursuit of funding for road and highway improvements that are vital to improve the quality of life of county residents and reduce traffic congestion in our region. Conversely, San Bernardino County, our neighbor to the north, maintains its own unique associated governments/ transportation districts often representing priorities based on their different set of needs.
- **Consistency with School Districts:** The City of Riverside shares one of its school districts, Alvord Unified, with Riverside County and the City of Corona. School Districts do not cross county borders, nor should the congressional districts that will be representing them.
- **Shared Community College:** The City of Riverside is home to Riverside City College's (RCC) main campus. RCC has grown to be one of California's leading community colleges and is a landmark in downtown Riverside and has been part of the community since 1916. During

this time, the district has grown with the surrounding neighborhoods and the cities it serves. Today, RCC has campuses in three cities – Riverside, Moreno Valley, and Norco.

- **Market Conditions:** Riverside's economy is more closely aligned with the Cities of Corona and Norco as the influx of business and commuters has largely been derived from Orange County to the west and northern San Diego County from the south.
- **Federal/State Matching Fund Requirements:** Infrastructure, housing, workforce and transportation projects that receive state and federal funding often require a local contribution, sponsor or match. To require a cross-county collaboration would make these types of projects difficult, if not impossible, to administer.
- **Shared Identity:** Outside of the region, Riverside County and the City of Riverside are often used interchangeably. It is in the best interest of our county and the jurisdictions aligned closely with us – Corona, Norco and the March JPA – to maintain a unified identity.

For the above reasons, I urge your consideration to ensure that the City of Riverside's district boundaries are drawn within the County of Riverside.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald O. Loveridge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end. There is a small handwritten mark above the signature.

Ronald O. Loveridge
Mayor