

Reg 3 - Orange

RECEIVED

MAY 12 2011

Per CS

May 11, 2011

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

Subject: City of La Habra and Redistricting

I'm writing to you today as a concerned 28 year resident, and current councilmember of the City of La Habra. It was brought to my attention that at your May 5th commission hearing in Norco, the commission's staff was directed to include La Habra in a seat with the Los Angeles County cities of La Habra Heights, Norwalk, Downey, Santa Fe Springs, and Pico Rivera.

The City of La Habra has no ties with these cities. I know these lines are just for discussion purposes, but I was shocked to see you take our city and connect it with a district totally dominated by Los Angeles County. This potentially could place the City of La Habra at a distinct disadvantage with respect to representation at the State level on issues affecting the residents of La Habra.

There is little reason for a representative, who will clearly be based in Los Angeles County, to take the time to learn our Orange County issues, deal with our county supervisor, talk to our school board members, or deal with our water issues.

The City of La Habra shares many services and programs with various entities in northern Orange County, making it a better fit within a district that incorporates these entities. Specifically, the City partners with other North Orange County cities in the North Orange County Economic Development partnership and the North Orange County City Managers group. Residents in the City attend schools in the North Orange County Community College District, and the Fullerton Joint Unified School District. Moreover, the City of La Habra collaborates with and participates in initiatives and discussions with the County of Orange, the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission, the Municipal Water District of Orange County and the Orange County Transportation Authority. In all of these infrastructure and water issues, La Habra's technical and funding resources come from Orange County agencies, and not Los Angeles County.

La Habra is first and foremost an Orange County city and we want to be in a district with our Orange County neighbors. In my opinion, and I believe the opinion of the La Habra residents I represent, that it would be preferred, to be in a district with Fullerton, Brea, and other north Orange County Cities. If we have to be put with several Los Angeles County Cities, it would at least be better to tie it with the 57 corridor, which at least gives us something in common.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Tom Beamish

