

[REDACTED]

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**Subject: Public Comment: SFV**  
**Date: Friday, May 13, 2011 6:09 PM**  
**From: Traci Bank [REDACTED]**  
**To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>**  
**Conversation: Public Comment: SFV**

From: Traci Bank [REDACTED]  
Subject: SFV

Message Body:

Dear Citizen's Redistricting Commission,

Thank you so much for your service and for providing this opportunity for folks to talk about their communities. I hope that when your job is done that California's districts will truly represent the people as they actually are, and not how some politicians may find it convenient for them to be. To this, growing up in my father's home in the East San Fernando Valley neighborhood of Studio City, I can say a few things about the way the people of the Valley conceive of themselves.

First off, the Valley is the Valley and as much as possible, it should be considered its own group, worthy of its own representatives. It should not be carved up in order to provide the extra bits of population desired by areas outside of the Valley. Now, to know where the Valley begins is simple, you simply walk across the top of the Santa Monica Mountains and pour out water on the ground as you go. If it runs down south towards Hollywood or Beverly Hills or Westwood or Silver Lake, it is not the water of the Valley. But, if the water is lucky enough to run down the north side of the Mountains towards Calabasas or Encino or my father's beautiful home in Studio City, then that water is blessed to live in the San Fernando Valley and it should be grouped with all the other water of the Valley in its representative districts. (For mapping purposes, the crest of the Santa Monica Mountains is essentially Mullholland Drive.) Now, I'm sure that everything that takes place on th!

the other side of the Santa Monica Mountains is good and well for those folks, but it has little to do with the lives of Valley residents. Please don't group Valley residents with those on the other side of the hills. They simply are not us.

Second, I'm told that there are about 1.8 million Valley residents in total and that is clearly too many for just one congressional district. To this, everyone in the Valley knows that there is an East Valley and a West Valley and that the dividing line between the two is the 405 freeway. As far as I know, every Valley organization that I can think of, organizes itself according to this divide. The Neighborhood Councils, the Public Library, the Police Department, my cable company, LA Unified School District, and on and on. My father's beautiful home is in the East Valley neighborhood of Studio City and it should be grouped with the other East Valley Neighborhoods like Valley Village and Sun Valley. I have friends in the West Valley neighborhood of Calabasas and they should be grouped with other West Valley communities like Tarzana and Encino. But none of us should be linked up with folks over the hill in Beverly Hills or West Hollywood or some such crazy thing like we ha!

we now.

Thanks again for all of your work and I am looking forward to see how this all shakes out. Best of luck to you all.

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