

Subject: Pleasanton state assembly districts

Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 10:50 AM

From: Joan Laursen [REDACTED]

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Conversation: Pleasanton state assembly districts

Dear commissioners – I am writing to express my concern about the way the current boundaries are drawn for the 15th, 18th, and 20th assembly districts. I live in Pleasanton, population approx. 68,000, and we currently are split into 3 assembly districts. This dilutes our voice because our assemblymembers have to divide their attention between their more populous “home” areas and us.

http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=pleasanton,+ca&aq=&sl=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=27.008217,60.380859&ie=UTF8&hq=&hnear=Pleasanton,+Alameda,+California&ll=37.662081,-121.874084&spn=0.21036,0.471725&z=11 <http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=pleasanton,+ca&aq=&sl=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=27.008217,60.380859&ie=UTF8&hq=&hnear=Pleasanton,+Alameda,+California&ll=37.662081,-121.874084&spn=0>

As you can see from the Google map, we are geographically separate from Fremont and Hayward, yet 2 of our assemblymembers are based in those areas. Not only are we geographically separate, but we have different concerns than those of our Bay-front neighbors. Pleasanton is a very distinct community, with one unified school district, excellent city management, and our motto is “the city of planned progress”. Although, like many East Bay communities, our demographics are changing (20% of our current residents are now foreign-born), we work together well in managing our city and our schools. We are an “official” Community of Character – both our City and our School District have adopted the same character traits and we strive to live up to them.

Pleasanton is part of the Tri-Valley area – our businesses, charitable organizations, and educational partners work together with other Tri-Valley members - Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, San Ramon. We have economic, educational, and regional issues in common with other Tri-Valley cities. We have MUCH less in common with communities closer to the Bay.

Please draw our assembly boundaries to keep all Pleasanton residents within the same assembly district – or, at the very least, keep us with other Tri-Valley cities.

Thank you,

Joan Laursen

Joan Laursen

Member, Board of Trustees

Pleasanton Unified School District

Achievement, Partnerships, Communication

