

Subject: Citizens Redistricting Commission

From: "Jacqueline Elliott" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 16:52:17 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

May 23, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission

901 P Street, Suite 154-A

Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax: (916) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Commission:

I work for a nonprofit Central Contra Costa County, specifically the Monument Corridor which is a community of interest within the 11th Assembly District. The Monument Corridor is the 2nd most dense community in the Bay Area and it is important for our community of interest to stay together in the new redistricting lines. I believe this is important because of the many links within Central Costa County including our shared regional priorities, transportation interests, civic and business groups and many joint efforts, including civic efforts, sporting communities, and work relationships. I recommend the Central Contra Costa County cities of Pittsburg, Bay Point, Pacheco, Concord, Martinez, and Pleasant Hill be kept together in redistricting. To have enough population to make new districts, our community should be joined with similar towns, such as Antioch, Hercules, Pinole, and Walnut Creek by expanding east and west along the main transportation routes of Highway 4 and 680.

Thank you for your time and dedication in listening to our voice as a community.

Jacqueline Elliott

Communications Coordinator

Michael Chavez Center for Economic Opportunity

www.chavezcenter.org

blog.chavezcenter.org

[Sign up for our eNewsletter](#)

[REDACTED] x 2200

“Transforming community through economic opportunity.”

Subject: Richmond & Oakland

From: Jonathan Bair <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 16:47:33 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Redistricting Commissioners:

I had the opportunity to speak to you on Saturday May 21 in Oakland, I was speaker 92.

I support Oakland staying in one Assembly district, but if it is necessary to divide Oakland, it be done so that large areas are together as much as possible, and Oakland isn't piecemealed like it is now. City Council district lines are a rough measure of large sections of the city. Highway 580 in North Oakland, Lake Merritt, 23rd Ave, or High Street would be appropriate places to draw lines if Oakland can't be contained in one district. Please do not use Highway 980, or 13, or 580 in East Oakland as dividing lines.

Oakland City Council map: <http://gismaps.oaklandnet.com/councils/Default.aspx?cd=all>

Also please look to the boundaries of the Western Contra Costa County Unified School District to see the Richmond metropolitan area, and please don't divide it - Pinole and Hercules should be in the same district as San Pablo and Richmond. You heard about these small cities and unincorporated areas around Richmond staying together for representation at the May 20 hearing.

I can't find a map but the WCCUSD describes its area on its home page: <http://www.wccusd.net/wccusd/site/default.asp>

Thank you for all the work are doing to ensure fair representation for the people of California and for the opportunity to provide this input.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Bair

Subject: REdistricting concerns

From: Sandra Scherer <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 14:54:12 -0400

To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

CC: Sandra Scherer <[REDACTED]>

May 23, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission

901 P Street, Suite 154-A

Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax: (916) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Commission:

As Executive Director of the Monument Crisis Center I know how important it is for this community of the Monument Corridor to remain as a whole within the current 11th Assembly District.

I work right here in Central Contra Costa County, specifically the Monument Corridor which is a community of interest within the 11th Assembly District. The Monument Corridor is the 2nd most dense community in the Bay Area and it is important for our community of interest to stay together in the new redistricting lines. I believe this is important because of the many links within Central Costa County including our shared regional priorities, transportation interests, civic and business groups and many joint efforts, including civic efforts, sporting communities, and work relationships. I recommend the Central Contra Costa County cities of Pittsburg, Bay Point, Pacheco, Concord, Martinez, and Pleasant Hill be kept together in redistricting. To have enough population to make new districts, our community should be joined with similar towns, such as Antioch, Hercules, Pinole, and Walnut Creek by expanding east and west along the main transportation routes of Highway 4 and 680.

Thank you for your time and dedication in listening to our voice as a community.

all the best
sandra

Sandra Scherer
Executive Director
Monument Crisis Center
[REDACTED]

Concord, Ca. 94520

[REDACTED]
Pleasant Hill, Ca. 94523

[REDACTED] x 105
[REDACTED] Fax


www.monumentcrisiscenter.org

Subject: Redistrict
From: Julio Correa <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 23:59:39 +0000
To: <[REDACTED]>

May 23, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Commission:

I work in Central Contra Costa County, specifically the Monument Corridor which is a community of interest within the 11th Assembly District. The Monument Corridor is the 2nd most dense community in the Bay Area and it is important for our community of interest to stay together in the new redistricting lines. I believe this is important because of the many links within Central Costa County including our shared regional priorities, transportation interests, civic and business groups and many joint efforts, including civic efforts, sporting communities, and work relationships. I recommend the Central Contra Costa County cities of Pittsburg, Bay Point, Pacheco, Concord, Martinez, and Pleasant Hill be kept together in redistricting. To have enough population to make new districts, our community should be joined with similar towns, such as Antioch, Hercules, Pinole, and Walnut Creek by expanding east and west along the main transportation routes of Highway 4 and 680.

Thank you for your time and dedication in listening to our voice as a community.



Julio Correa
[REDACTED]
Walnut Creek Ca 94597
[REDACTED]

Subject: Public Comment:

From: James Coffey <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 22:33:48 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: James Coffey <[REDACTED]>

Subject:

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners

I spoke briefly to the Commission Saturday May 21, but with the two minute limitation, felt that I did not express myself as fully as I would have wished.

I agree with many speakers that maintaining county political boundaries is desirable. In the case of Contra Costa County, natural barriers were crossed to gerrymander districts (Congressional district 7 crossed the Carquinez Strait to join portions of Solano County with Contra Costa, and Congressional district 10 crossed the Oakland-Berkeley hills (or Ridge Line) combining portions of Alameda County, and also crossed the San Joaquin River on the western border of Contra Costa County to incorporate portions San Joaquin County with Contra Costa County). I expect the Commission to at least stop this political abuse.

Although these two gerrymandered U.S. Congressional districts are contiguous, they incorporated people who have different interests and communities. Alameda County is more urbanized than Contra Costa, and many residents of suburban Contra Costa County commute to Oakland and San Francisco for work purposes. Likewise San Joaquin County has been largely agricultural but has been increasingly suburbanized in the last decade to include people who commute to Santa Clara, Alameda and San Francisco Counties for work purposes. With redistricting multiple political districts, I would suggest that these made overlap and follow understood county political boundaries as much as possible to reduce confusion in the mind of the public as to what they are voting for and along with whom they have common interests.

Many people identify with the political, cultural and economic interests that are associated with county political lines. Shared common values, historical and political should be encouraged, like the democratic principle of one person, one vote.

While ethnic groups, in the past were isolated in urban areas, in the past four decades they have dispersed into neighboring suburban areas. I think that this is a desirable trend. The 1964 Civil Rights Act ensured that people of all ethnicities or national origins were free to purchase homes wherever they chose.

However, I am concerned about segregation and political fractionalization along ethnic or national origin grounds. While there may be legitimate group self-segregation on ethnic and national origin basis, if it is freely chosen, it is another thing to institutionalize legally such groupings. Such formal legalization has the potential to increase race-based animosity and even increase racism. Ethnic animosity can be manipulated by race-based special interest groups for their own self interests, making each grouping even more insular and hence disconnected from the larger political communities with which they share common interests. Racism is something that as Americans, we should leave increasingly behind. Disputes between counties and political subdivisions on cultural, and economic grounds are divisive enough, but form a basis for political analysis and dispute. Race and national origin generally do not, and should be subject to county line limitations, to avoid fragmentation of the body politic.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Central Contra Costa County

From: David Pitman <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 23:07:51 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: David Pitman <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Central Contra Costa County

Message Body:

I live in Central Contra Costa County, specifically the Monument Corridor in the City of Concord, a community of interest within the 11th Assembly District. The Monument Corridor is the 2nd densest community in the Bay Area and it's important for our community of interest to stay together in the new redistricting lines. We have many links within Central Costa County between shared regional priorities, transportation interests, civic and business groups, joint efforts, sporting communities, and work relationships.

I recommend the Central Contra Costa County cities of Pittsburg, Bay Point, Pacheco, Concord, Martinez, and Pleasant Hill be kept together in redistricting.

To have enough population to make new districts, our community should be joined with neighboring towns east and west along the main transportation routes of Highway 4 and 680.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment on Redistricting

From: Alissa Friedman <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 12:36:52 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

May 23, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission

901 P Street, Suite 154-A

Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax: (916) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Commission:

I work in East Contra Costa County, specifically in the city of Antioch, which is a community of interest within the 11th Assembly District. I am advocating for our community of interest to stay together in the new redistricting lines. I believe this is important because of the many links within East and Central Costa County including our shared regional priorities, transportation interests, civic and business groups and many joint efforts, including civic efforts, sporting communities, and work relationships.

Indeed, the organization I work for serves low-income individuals from the Far East County communities of Brentwood, Oakley, Discovery Bay, and Bethel Island through the East County communities of Antioch, Pittsburg, and Bay Point, on down Highway 4 through Concord, and Martinez, and occasionally even Pinole, El Sobrante, Hercules and Richmond. We also serve individuals in Clayton, Pleasant Hill, and Walnut Creek.

Ideally, Antioch should be grouped with these all of the Far East and East Contra Costa towns and communities mentioned above, because of the shared regional issues and interests, plus as many other Highway 4 and Central County communities as are needed to meet the population constraints.

Thank you for your time and dedication in listening to our voice as a community.

Alissa Friedman
[REDACTED]

Subject: Public Comment for Citizens Redistricting Commission

From: "Bryan M. Balch, PHR" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 13:32:11 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Respected Commission:

I work in Central Contra Costa County, specifically the Monument Corridor which is a community of interest within the 11th Assembly District. The Monument Corridor is the 2nd most dense community in the Bay Area and it is important for our community of interest to stay together in the new redistricting lines. I believe this is important because of the many links within Central Costa County including our shared regional priorities, transportation interests, civic and business groups and many joint efforts, including civic efforts, sporting communities, and work relationships.

I recommend the Central Contra Costa County cities of Pittsburg, Bay Point, Pacheco, Concord, Martinez, and Pleasant Hill be kept together in redistricting. To have enough population to make new districts, our community should be joined with similar towns, such as Antioch, Hercules, Pinole, and Walnut Creek by expanding east and west along the main transportation routes of Highway 4 and 680.

Thank you for your time and dedication in listening to our voice as a community.

Bryan

"Instead of looking for the exception, we should look to become exceptional."

Bryan M. Balch, PHR
Executive Director
Monument Community Partnership

[REDACTED]
Concord, CA 94520

[REDACTED] (Office/Video)
[REDACTED] (Cell)

Subject: Public Comment for Citizens Redistricting Commission

From: Mike Van Hofwegen <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 13:21:30 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

May 23, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission

901 P Street, Suite 154-A

Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax: [\[REDACTED\]](tel:(916) [REDACTED])

Dear Commission:

I work in Central Contra Costa County, specifically the Monument Corridor which is a community of interest within the 11th Assembly District. The Monument Corridor is the 2nd most dense community in the Bay Area and it is important for our community of interest to stay together in the new redistricting lines. I believe this is important because of the many links within Central Costa County including our shared regional priorities, transportation interests, civic and business groups and many joint efforts, including civic efforts, sporting communities, and work relationships.

I strongly recommend the Central Contra Costa County cities of Pittsburg, Bay Point, Pacheco, Concord, Martinez, and Pleasant Hill be kept together in redistricting. To have enough population to make new districts, our community should be joined with similar towns, such as Antioch, Hercules, Pinole, and Walnut Creek by expanding east and west along the main transportation routes of Highway 4 and 680.

Thank you for your time and dedication in listening to our voice as a community.

Mike Van Hofwegen

Executive Director,

Michael Chavez Center for Economic Opportunity

[REDACTED]
Concord, CA 94520

[REDACTED]
www.chavezcenter.org

Subject: Please keep our community whole

From: "Sally Smith" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 16:53:50 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commission:

I work in Central Contra Costa County, specifically the Monument Corridor which is a community of interest within the 11th Assembly District. The Monument Corridor is the 2nd most dense community in the Bay Area and it is important for our community of interest to stay together in the new redistricting lines. I believe this is important because of the many links within Central Costa County including our shared regional priorities, transportation interests, civic and business groups and many joint efforts, including civic efforts, sporting communities, and work relationships. I recommend the Central Contra Costa County cities of Pittsburg, Bay Point, Pacheco, Concord, Martinez, and Pleasant Hill be kept together in redistricting. To have enough population to make new districts, our community should be joined with similar towns, such as Antioch, Hercules, Pinole, and Walnut Creek by expanding east and west along the main transportation routes of Highway 4 and 680.

Thank you for your time and dedication in listening to our voice as a community.

Sally K Smith

[REDACTED]

Concord, CA 94520

[REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

May 22, 2011

To the Commission on Redistricting

Fax Memo: [REDACTED]

My name is Matt Heavey I testified (#20) at Saturday's hearing in Oakland.

To reiterate, anybody who has to wear a jacket during the summer months should not lead the "Diablo Valley" (Lafayette, Orinda Moraga, Walnut Creek, Clayton, San Ramon)—The hills that separate Contra Costa from Alameda County (Caldecott Tunnel) also separate the large political differences of the two areas which must be respected.

I call(ed) it the "Diablo Valley" because I graduated from "Mount Diablo Unified School District", and got an AA from "Diablo Valley (Jr) College". It is distinct and different from the "Tri Valley" I believe San Ramon is part of the "Diablo Valley" and that Dublin is part of the Tri Valley (my parents lived in San Ramon for eight years and Dublin for five years, my father has mentioned the differences of San Ramon and Dublin and I believe much of the testimony you receive will also mirror our request to put San Ramon with the Diablo Valley and Dublin with the Tri Valley).

As I lived in most of the towns listed above Lafayette, Walnut Creek and San Ramon and (Concord) for ten years each I have a unique understanding of each of the areas and can attest to their commonality.

Concord in my opinion should be split between Walnut Creek and Martinez. The dividing line should be the Monument Corridor as I lived close to that area and have seen the subtle yet distinct differences of the two areas. In short—the south side of Concord is an extension of Walnut Creek and the north side of Concord is similar in nature and demographics to Martinez.

Please contact me for comment or clarification.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Matt Heavey
[REDACTED]

May 23, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
[REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to support the following geographical area as a viable District in the East Bay:

Lamorinda, Walnut Creek, the San Ramon Valley, the Tri-Valley (Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore) and Discovery Bay and Brentwood.

This is one instance where, based on Community of Interest, it makes all the sense in the world to draw a district encompassing the southern part of Contra Costa County and the northern part of Alameda County.

I am a business owner and 21 year resident of San Ramon, CA, located in southern Contra Costa County. Residents in my area work and move easily across the county borders.

My community's natural boundaries are:

On the North: the entire San Ramon Valley, which includes Walnut Creek, Alamo, Danville, and San Ramon.

On the South and East: Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore, which **with San Ramon**, comprise the Tri-Valley area

On the West: the East Bay Hills.

All of these cities are well-connected by:

I-580 running east and west,

I-680 running north and south,

and the intersection with Hwy 24 on the north extends our community into the Lamorinda area.

My Community is bound together by the following:

Civic and Cultural attractions that draw from the entire area are:

The Leshner Center Theater in Walnut Creek

Festival Opera in Walnut Creek

The Danville Community Theatre

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley

The Blackhawk Auto Museum

The Danville 4th of July Parade which draws up to 40,000 each year.

The Alameda County Fairgrounds, which is one of the most successful fairgrounds in the United States.

Wente Vineyards summer productions.

Livermore Valley Opera.

The Livermore viticultural region.

Major retail and dining regions which serve this entire area are:

Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek on the north

Stoneridge Mall in Pleasanton on the south

Hacienda Plaza in Dublin on the East

Downtown and Orinda Marketplace on the West

Downtown Pleasanton and Downtown Danville provide quaint, historical, local shopping experiences which draw from this entire region.

In addition, my church in Danville draws members from this entire area, including as far away as Orinda, Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Pleasanton, Livermore, and Mountain House.

My Danville Toastmasters group draws from Walnut Creek to Pleasanton and Livermore.

It makes sense that this Community: Lamorinda/Walnut Creek/San Ramon Valley/Tri-Valley/Discovery Bay/Brentwood area be kept together in a district for the following reasons:

We have natural geographical boundaries: we surround Mt. Diablo on the West, South, and Southwest, and are separated from Hayward, Castro Valley, and Oakland by the East Bay Hills.

We have good transportation corridors which allow easy access to the entire community.

We have residents with similar backgrounds, education, professions, and recreational interests.

We have major cooperation between local governments in the above stated region (**even across county boundaries**) on issues like law enforcement, fire districts, traffic management, and school districts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Becky J. Kolberg

San Ramon, CA

