

# Region 9: Yolo

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May 19, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission  
901 P Street, Suite 154-A  
Sacramento, CA, 95814

To California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

My name is Gary Sandy and I am a resident of Yolo County and the former mayor of Woodland. I have lived, virtually my entire life within 10 miles of the I-80 corridor. I grew up in Solano County and have now lived in Yolo County for over two decades.

Unfortunately, time and distance prevent me from appearing before the Commission this evening, however I did want to express to you my deep concern that you aggregate "communities of interest" together for the purposes of redistricting. The Interstate 80 corridor is a logical linkage between the communities of West Sacramento on the east and Fairfield or Vallejo on the west. These communities share similar commute and employment patterns, ethnic and cultural practices, and common community planning goals. This east-west orientation to redistricting would knit these similarly constituted cities together in a way that recognizes their great similarities and existing affiliations, notes their similarities even in cropping patterns and tree crop orientations, and would underscore their shared watersheds and drainage courses. A north-south orientation, which fails to recognize the existing dynamics between these communities would join them in the north to communities with different orientations where points of commonality may be few and far between.

Stewardship of the Delta is an example of an issue that joins the communities along the I-80 corridor together as do Putah and Cache Creeks and the Sacramento River. These water conveyance and eco-corridors are an area of important regional significance that link Yolo and Solano County.

I-80 itself is a vitally important corridor linking commerce with job creation and business retention and creation. Moreover, many I-80 corridor residents use the interstate to get to and from work.

Last but not least the emerging viticulture industry joins the communities together as more and more hillsides are converted to growing and processing grapes.

I encourage you to draw lines that unite our communities along the I-80 corridor. Thank you for your attention and time.

Respectfully,

Gary Sandy

Woodland, CA 95695