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Public Comment JUNE 16, 2011
CULVER CITY

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California State Assembly - Santa Clarita

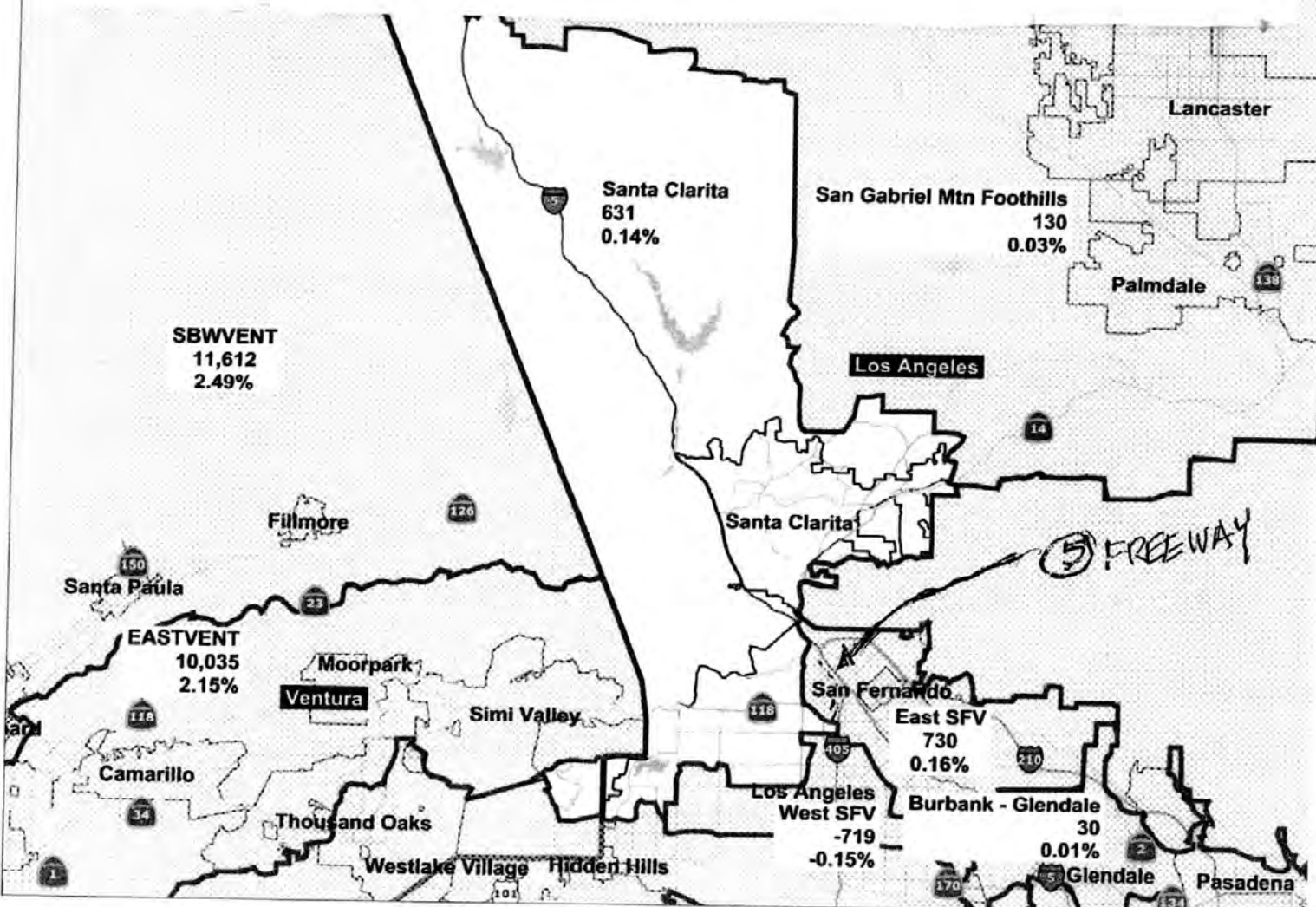
Testimony - Joe Vitti -representing the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce and the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council.

Current district line cuts through Granada Hills dividing the community.

Recommendation

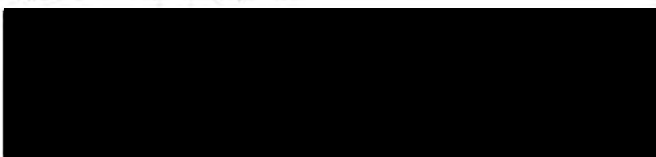
On the Southeastern boundary change assembly district line to continue south on the 5 freeway to the 405 freeway instead of going south on Balboa Blvd.

Most of the land between the freeways and Balboa Blvd. is occupied by the LA DWP, LA Police dept., Water reservoirs and other DWP facilities.



Contact:

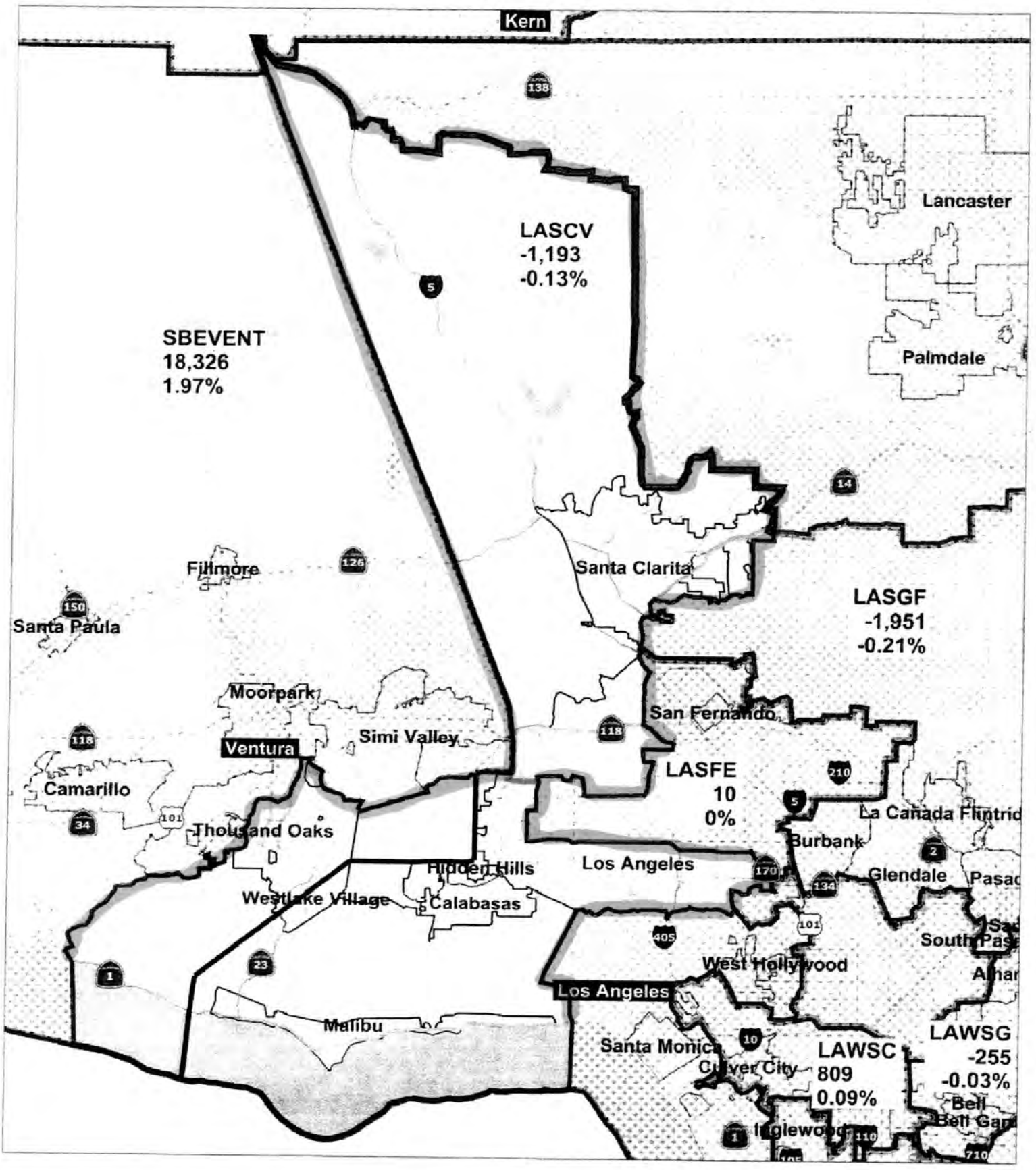
JOE VITTI



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#9 people

California State Senate - LASCV





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— 06.16.11G

June 16, 2011

Citizen's Redistricting Committee

Public Input Hearing

City Hall

Mike Balkman Council Chambers

[REDACTED]
Culver City, CA 90232

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Dear Commissioners,

Hispanas Organized for Political Equality® (HOPE) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization committed to ensuring political and economic parity for Latinas through leadership, advocacy, and education to benefit all communities and the status of women. For over twenty years HOPE has been working to provide a critical voice to Latinas to develop their personal growth, prosperity, and political clout. During this time, HOPE has continually advocated for fair and equal representation of Latinas at all levels of government.

The first draft Congressional maps released on June 10, 2011 by California's Citizen Redistricting Committee would critically decrease Latino political progress if emplaced. As of 2010 Latinas represent over **6.5 million or 18%**¹, of the total California population, and by 2020 this statistic is expected to grow to over 9 million². Thus, the increasing electoral influence of the Latina population deserves to be met with districts that are representative of their demographic make-up. However, the proposed maps would not only limit, but would ultimately diminish the chances of Latina representation and that of other communities of color facing socioeconomic disparities.

The greatest example of this misrepresentation is the proposed district for the Pico-Union area, which is densely populated by Latinos—being included in the same district as Beverly Hills and Pacific Palisades: two extremely affluent communities which do not share the same interests or needs as the heavily populated Latino community. A key HOPE staff member, Jacqueline Caraves, has experienced polarized communities on a daily basis and shares, "I grew up in Koreatown, in a neighborhood greatly populated by Latinos, from Mexico and Central America, yet throughout my whole primary education I had to leave my comfort zone and hop on a bus that took me to Brentwood and Pacific Palisades. I often felt out of place and never had role models that represented my personal background and struggles. I truly believe that the current

¹ US census Bureau – <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/>

² California Health Interview Survey, UCLA Center for Policy Research. 2007 – <https://www.chis.ucla.edu>

district in which Pico-Union is drawn into will create the same experience for the Latinos living in the area. They run the risk of being excluded due to their perceived lack of 'political' influence."

Additionally, HOPE is also concerned with the proposed district that would combine South Gate and Inglewood together. This new district has the potential to diminish the political progress that has been made by both the Latino and African-American communities. Ultimately, this would wage Latinos and African Americans against each other, instead of creating fair and equal representation for both.

Due to these two examples we urge the Citizens Redistricting Commission to comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA), which protects underrepresented communities from discrimination in the electoral process. Doing so, will allow for underrepresented communities to gain representation based on their needs and interests while creating a diverse representation of whom California is really composed of.

Thus, it is important for the Redistricting Commission to fairly represent all communities, and to truly ensure that the growing Latina population is not marginalized, nor positioned against other communities. If not, California representatives will not be reflective of the communities they serve and the small progress made in the past ten years towards equal representation will be reversed.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Helen Iris Torres
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer

Redistricting Commission Hearing
Culver City, CA, June 16, 2011

RE: Senate District LAPVB
CAPAFR -LA/South Bay

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Please Put Gardena and Carson Back in South Bay

06.16.11 H

Hello,

My name is Kanji Sahara and I live in the city of Torrance. I am a retired missile engineer who worked for General Dynamics, Hughes and Raytheon for a total of 38 years. I am here to talk about the proposed Senate District LAPVB. I notice that this district includes cities in South Bay plus Beverly Hills and West Hollywood.

South Bay has been the historic center of the aerospace industry. We had Hughes, TRW, McDonald-Douglas, North American and many other companies located in South Bay. The people who worked there, the engineers, the technician and the factory workers, lived in Torrance, Palos Verdes, Gardena, Carson, the Beach Cities and Santa Monica. These workers helped win the Cold War and Space Race against Russia. These workers are proud of what they did for America.

The people who live in Beverly Hills and West Hollywood are not part of South Bay. They were not part of the aerospace industry. Gardena and Carson are part of South Bay and were the homes of many in the aerospace industry.

The aerospace industry has now fallen on hard times. Our employment is way down from the peak. We need help. We want a Senator in Sacramento who knows us to represent us. We want a Senator in Sacramento who is 100% South Bay.

The northern boundary of Senate District LAPVB should be Santa Monica Blvd. It should not include Beverly Hills and West Hollywood. In its place, it should include Gardena and Carson.

By the way, when the Japanese American soldiers returned from war, many went to college and became engineers. Many worked in the aerospace industry and bought homes in Torrance, Gardena and Carson. Most are now retired but many still live there. They always considered themselves resident of South Bay. They want to be in Senate District LAPVB. Please put Gardena and Carson back in South Bay.

Thank you,

Kanji Sahara

Torrance, CA 90501

My name is Bob Anderson. I represent the Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association. SOHA represents a broad homeowner base in the southern San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles. Sherman Oaks is one of the oldest communities in the Valley – bounded by Mulholland on the south, the 405 freeway on the west, Oxnard on the north, and Coldwater Canyon on the east.

SOHA has been part of Sherman Oaks since 1964. With several thousand members, we see how our community works together on local projects and cares about our community of interest – the San Fernando Valley. SOHA’s monthly meetings draw up to 500 attendees, especially when our residents participate in hotly contested political debates. Many SOHA members have already sent email recommendations to the Commission.

We appreciate that the Commission’s redistricting maps have kept Sherman Oaks whole within the “Thousand Oaks – Santa Monica Mountains” Assembly district and “Los Angeles – Santa Clarita Valley” Senate district. Placing the boundaries for both districts at

Mulholland is the right answer. It allows us to participate in state politics as an integral unit, and as part of the greater San Fernando Valley.

We are very concerned that the draft Congressional redistricting maps have split Sherman Oaks at Ventura Boulevard, with the northern half in the “West San Fernando Valley – Calabasas” district and the southern half in the “West Los Angeles – Downtown” district. This makes no sense. It removes the southern half of Sherman Oaks from its San Fernando Valley community of interest, and groups it with a 17-mile wide district stretching from Downtown Los Angeles to the Pacific Ocean.

SOHA strongly recommends that the Commission reconsider the Congressional Districts, and modify the proposed “West San Fernando Valley – Calabasas” district to encompass all of Sherman Oaks by moving the southern district boundary to Mulholland Drive.

Thank you.

06.16.11 J -

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Officers
President
 Richard H. Close
Vice President
 Matt Epstein
Vice President
 Jules Feir
Treasurer
 Chuck Betz
Secretary
 John Isen

 Founded in
 1964



SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

[REDACTED]
 Sherman Oaks, California 91413
 Information: (818) 377-4590
 [REDACTED]

Board of Directors
 Bob Anderson
 Chuck Betz
 Richard H. Close
 Matt Epstein
 Jules Feir
 Elke Heitmeyer
 John Isen
 Marshall Long
 Ellen Vukovich

#24 purple

June 16, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
 1130 K Street, Suite 101
 Sacramento, CA 95814
votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Subject: Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association Concerns on Splitting Sherman Oaks Between Two U.S. Congressional Districts – Move Proposed “West San Fernando Valley – Calabasas” Congressional District Southern Boundary to Mulholland Drive

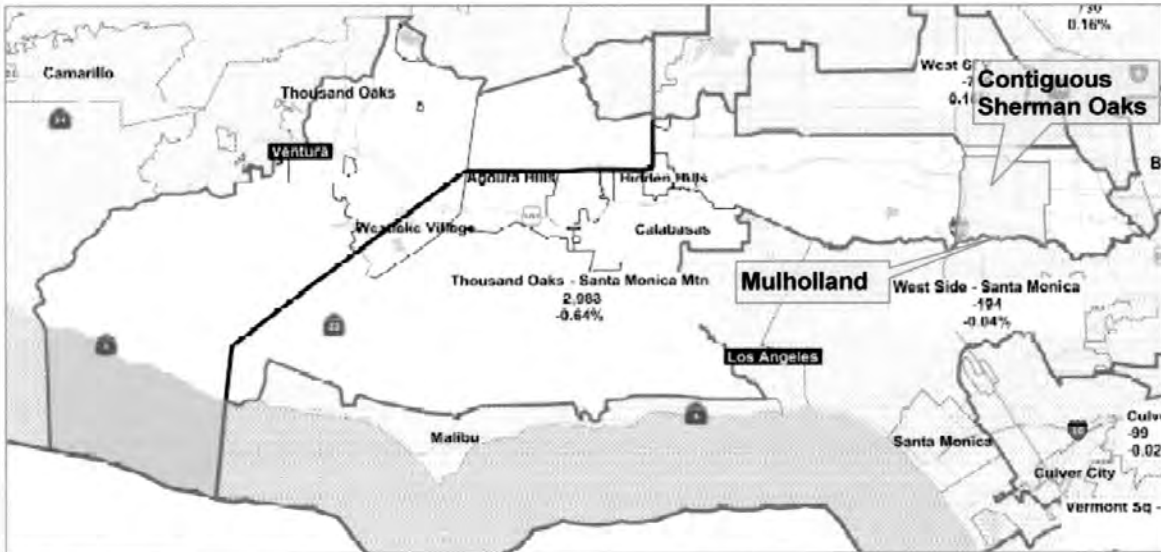
Dear Honorable Commission Members,

The Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association (SOHA) represents a broad swath of homeowners in the Southern part of the San Fernando Valley in Los Angeles. Sherman Oaks is one of the oldest communities in the Valley. It is a large community, essentially bounded by Mulholland Drive on the south, the I-405 freeway on the west, Oxnard Street and Burbank Boulevard on the north, and Coldwater Canyon Boulevard on the east.

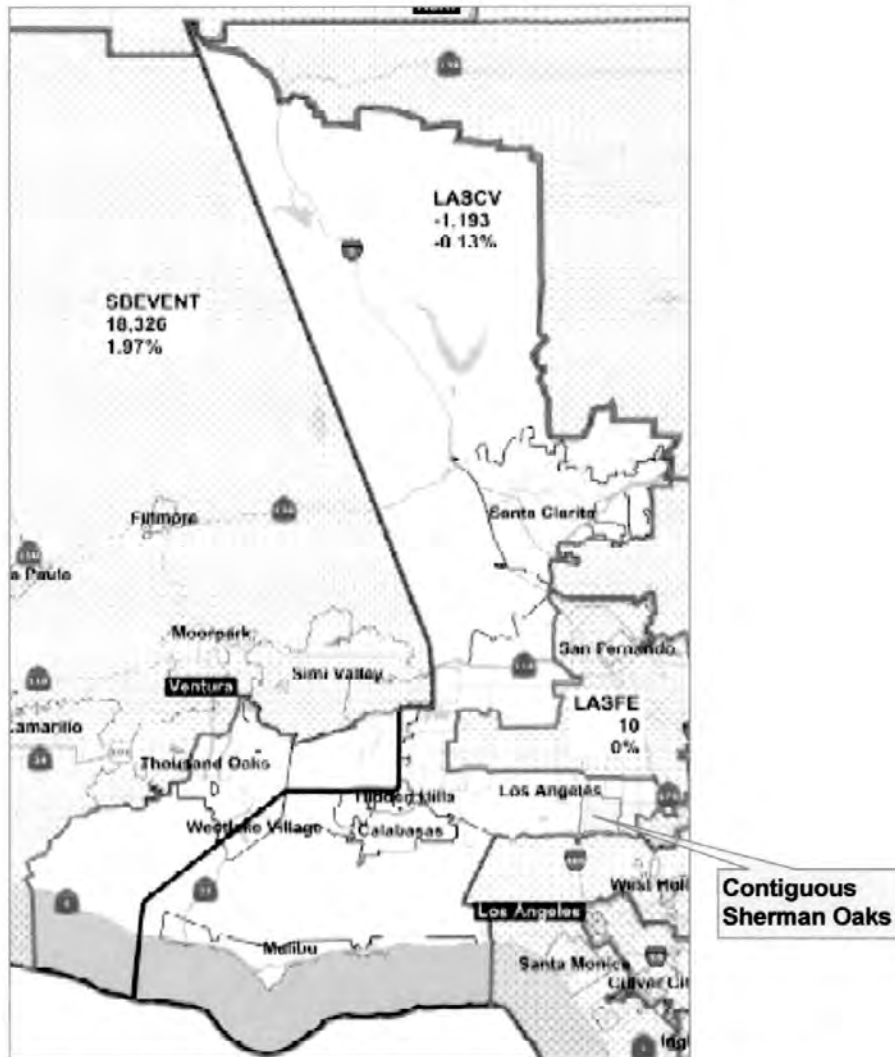
SOHA has been a part of this community since our founding in 1964. With a membership of several thousand, we see how our community works together on local projects and cares about our community of interest, which is the San Fernando Valley. SOHA’s monthly meetings draw up to 500 attendees, especially when our residents get to participate in debates for hotly contested political seats.

We appreciate that the Commission’s redistricting maps have kept the Sherman Oaks community whole within the “Thousand Oaks – Santa Monica Mountains” California Assembly District and “Los Angeles – Santa Clarita Valley” California Senate District (see maps on page 2). Placing the boundaries for both districts at Mulholland Drive is the right answer. This allows Sherman Oaks to participate in state politics as an integral unit, and as part of the greater San Fernando Valley.

However, we are very concerned that the Commission’s redistricting maps have split Sherman Oaks into two U.S. Congressional districts. The split occurs along Ventura Boulevard, with the northern half of Sherman Oaks in the “West San Fernando Valley – Calabasas” U.S. Congressional District and the southern half in the “West Los Angeles – Downtown” U.S. Congressional District (see maps on page 3). This makes no sense because it removes the southern half of Sherman Oaks from its San Fernando Valley community of interest, and groups it with a district that stretches from Downtown Los Angeles to the Pacific Ocean – a distance of more than 17 miles. We understand the difficulty of balancing populations among districts, but this difficulty should not disrupt well-established communities of interest.



Proposed California Assembly District: "Thousand Oaks - Santa Monica Mountains"



Proposed California Senate District: "Los Angeles - Santa Clarita Valley"

#24



Proposed U.S. Congressional District: "West San Fernando Valley – Calabasas"



Proposed U.S. Congressional District: "West Los Angeles – Downtown"

The Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association strongly recommends that the Commission reconsider the U.S. Congressional Districts in question, and modify the proposed "West San Fernando Valley – Calabasas" District to encompass all of Sherman Oaks, i.e., by moving the southern district boundary to Mulholland Drive.

Thank you for your consideration.

You can contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Bob Anderson
Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association
Chair, Redistricting Committee

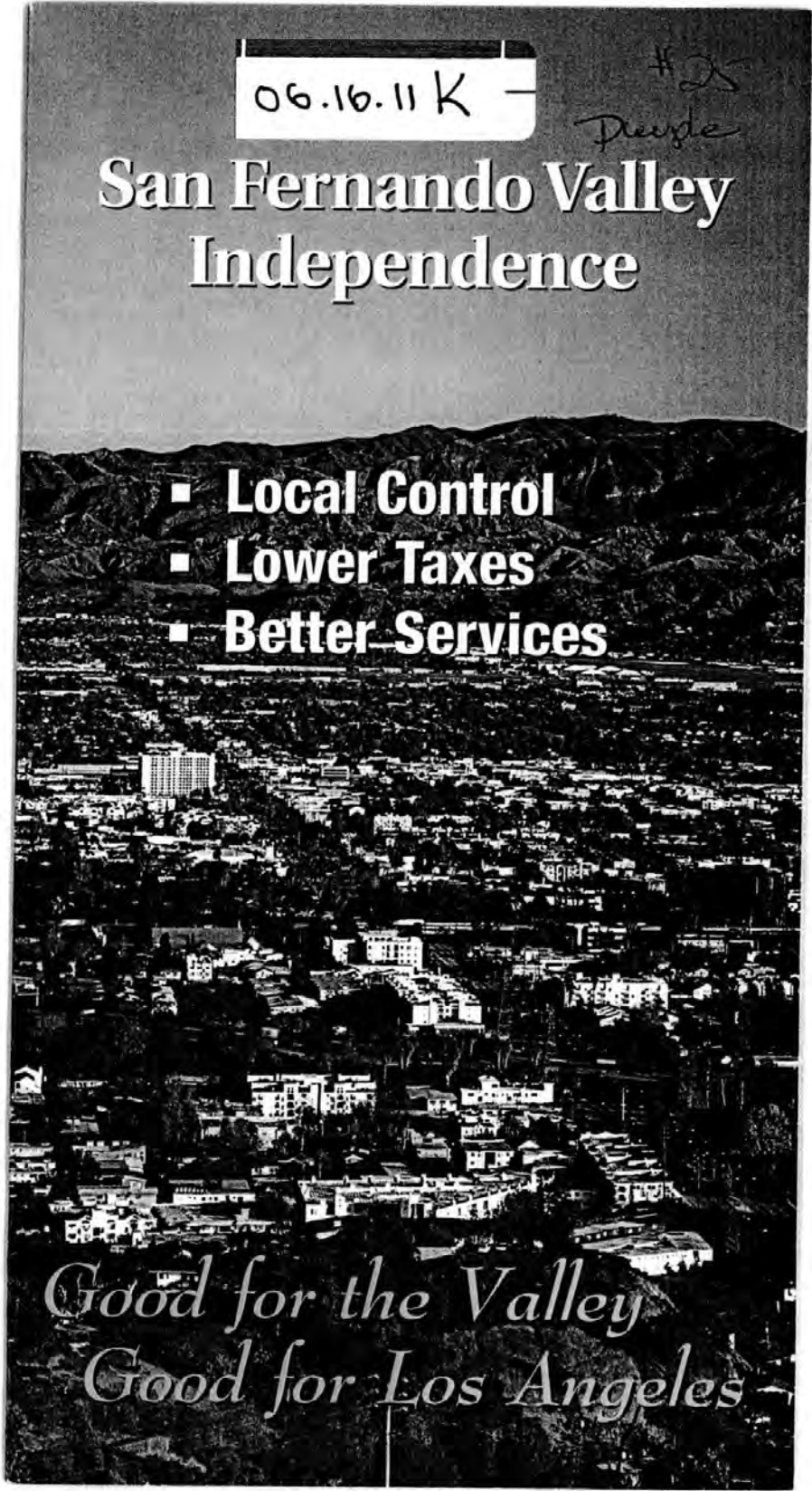
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#25
People

San Fernando Valley Independence

- Local Control
- Lower Taxes
- Better Services

*Good for the Valley
Good for Los Angeles*



Facts About Valley Cityhood

On November 5th, voters will have the opportunity to create an independent city for the San Fernando Valley. Valley cityhood will greatly benefit residents in the Valley and throughout the city of Los Angeles.

The San Fernando Valley has been ignored by City Hall for too long.

- City Hall deprives the Valley of our fair share of services. Valley residents pay \$128 million more each year in taxes than we get back in city services.
- We pay for better police and fire protection, yet City Hall has allocated only half the police protection in the Valley compared to the rest of the city.
- We want diverse cultural opportunities, yet after 85 years City Hall has not located any major museums in the Valley.
- We want to improve access to learning, yet City Hall has provided only half the libraries in the Valley compared to the rest of LA.
- We want a decent transportation system, yet the Valley has no mass transit, despite paying billions to provide mass transit in the remainder of the city.

Creating an independent Valley city benefits both the Valley and Los Angeles.

- Smaller government, closer to the people. Currently, each Los Angeles city council member represents nearly a quarter of a million people! A single LA council district has more people than the entire cities of Orlando FL, Hartford CT, and Rochester NY! Residents in the Valley and in Los Angeles will enjoy better local government by supporting Valley cityhood.
- Improved quality of life. Both the new Valley city and Los Angeles will have local governments focused on their own needs and priorities.
- More accountability. Voters in the valley and throughout Los Angeles will be able to hold public officials more accountable for their decisions.

The bloated LA bureaucracy wastes a fortune in taxpayer dollars each year.

Other major cities like Phoenix, Dallas and San Diego spend, on average, \$250 less per person to provide what most people agree are better services to residents.

- LA City Hall pays department heads exorbitant salaries – as much as \$326,000 per year!
- Each LA council member is paid over \$133,000 per year – more than any other in America!

Valley residents will keep over \$1 billion in taxes that can be invested in local communities.

Taxpayers in the Valley currently pay far more in taxes than we receive in services from City Hall. By creating an independent city, within the first 20 years the Valley will keep \$1.3 billion in tax revenue we already pay downtown that can be used to improve Valley services and improve local neighborhoods throughout the Valley.

- Tax dollars will stay in local communities.
- Federal and state grants will be available to both the new Valley city and Los Angeles.



Los Angeles will not be harmed financially.

State law ensures that creating a new Valley city will not harm the remaining city of Los Angeles. Los Angeles will have plenty of money to provide needed services to a smaller, more manageable Los Angeles.

- A comprehensive study conducted by an independent state agency found that a new Valley city would thrive financially and the remaining city of Los Angeles would not be harmed.
- LA City Hall will finally be forced to manage its budget wisely and more efficiently.

San Fernando Valley water and power rates would remain the same as Los Angeles.

Taxpayers in the Valley and Los Angeles built the Department of Water and Power together. A vote for Valley cityhood would require that DWP rates be the same for Valley and Los Angeles residents.