

616
Culver City

06.16.11 BF -

PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMISSION

**CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
RE: REGION IV (Los Angeles)**

My name is Al Lay, and I have lived in the South Bay of Los Angeles all my life. I grew up in Manhattan Beach. I am now 40.

I can tell you, as a life-long local & employee of various companies to the north, that Marina Del Rey, Venice & the whole Westside have much more in common with the South Bay "community-wise & business-wise" than Palos Verdes has, and ever will.

Some facts:

- Residents I know on the "border" of Palos Verdes (Torrance, Harbor City) don't travel much uphill to PV, and visa-versa.
- Palos Verdes is NOT a "beach city", by any stretch of the imagination.
- Ask anyone NOT from Palos Verdes, and they'll tell you the same: that PV, with it's geography & interests, has more in common with the Harbor Area & Long Beach than with the rest of the Region in question.
- Add LAX to the picture, and it's obvious that ALL the communities surrounding LAX are bound together by this "common interest" of Community & Business as well.

Thus, I say to the Commission:

"Keep the Westside with the South Bay"

Thank you for your time & consideration.

Concerned Citizen,

Al Lay

June 16, 200

To: California Redistricting Commissioners

Subject: Change of District Boundary for Sunland-Tujunga and Neighbors.

6-16
Culver City

06.16.11 BG

The last revision of the map that was released last week will have a negative impact on Sunland-Tujunga and neighboring communities with whom we share the same interest. We understand that your Commission will listen to "community of interest testimony". Presently, your map has included us in a region that is geographically not in sync regarding communities who share the same interest as Sunland-Tujunga. Please note that our area has only 11% of Latino voting population, which we believe is not a significant amount to be considered in your decision making process regarding Sunland-Tujunga.

Sunland-Tujunga's income, education and housing are closer to the communities whom we want to be included with are as follows: Kagel Canyon, Lake View Terrace, Shadow Hills, La Tuna Canyon, La Crescenta, Montrose, Glendale and Burbank. We identify with these communities and share the following concerns: The protection of The Rim of the Valley and Angeles Forrest, the Verdugo Hills, Watershed, Equestrian and hiking trails, the environment, wildlife protection, protection of native trees and plants, and the preservation of open space, etc.

During the STNC General Board meeting on Wednesday, June 8, a Straw Vote was taken of over 100 community members in attendance who voted unanimously to ask the Commissioners to include Sunland-Tujunga, along with our above referenced neighbors who share common interest, to be included in the same district as Glendale and Burbank. Regardless of who our Elected Representatives will be - if our foothill communities can stay united - we will have a better chance of protecting our environment and preserving our open space for future generations to enjoy for years to come.

We have proven history of partnering with the Kagel Canyon and the La Crescenta communities. As it is now, the last of our open space is constantly under attack by developers and we are spending much of our time defending it from destruction. With the help of our foothill area neighbors, we can help prevent this from happening!

In order to prove a point, please note the following memo that was sent to Glendale community members
"The City of Glendale Planning staff has been working with community members to create a plan for future development in North Glendale, based on their following vision:

"We value and embrace a rural suburban lifestyle which allow us to live and work close to nature, offers unique and varied neighborhood-based shopping opportunities, quality schools, a variety of recreational opportunities and recognizes our connection to the mountains, neighboring communities, and our history. We seek to protect open space, advocate sustainable and responsible development, preserve and enhance neighborhood character, provide transportation options and balance land uses."

The Planning Division will present and receive comments on the Draft North Glendale Community Plan on: Wednesday, June 29, 2011, 6 to 8 p.m. Sparr Heights Community Center 1613 Glencoe Way"

I am a 25 year activist in Sunland-Tujunga and serve on the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council LandUse Committee, Chamber of Commerce Board, local Police Advisory Board and Publisher/Editor of the North Valley Reporter, this area's newspaper. I have a good feel for our communities needs. **I am asking** you to honor our community by granting the above request.

Nina Royal



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

6-16
Culver City

May 20, 2011

06.16.11 BH -

Curt Pedersen
Chair, Boundary Review Committee
c/o Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
[REDACTED] ation
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Reference: Re-districting the Third District

Dear Commissioners:

Pacific Palisades Community Council has been the voice of the Palisades since 1973.

Pacific Palisades is a close knit community within the 90272 zip code in Los Angeles County with the Pacific Ocean on the west. Surrounding communities Sunset Mesa, Malibu, Agoura Hills, Woodland Hills, Tarzana, Encino, Brentwood, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Mar Vista, Venice, Playa del Rey, share interests in common as do the communities further north and east as currently within the Third District. Residents within these communities are concerned active participants in homeowner associations, community and neighborhood councils.

Our communities continue to face shared environmental challenges, wildfires, ocean water quality, recreational, transportation, and public safety issues. Our communities depend on working together with our elected officials to face these challenging issues.

Santa Monica Mountains, the National and State Parks connect our communities with the 405 Freeway and Pacific Coast Highway the main arteries running through the district, as well as canyon roads including Malibu Canyon, Topanga Canyon, Sepulveda Blvd, Beverly Glen, Laurel Canyon and Coldwater Canyon.

We urge the commission to consider our common interests and shared challenges, and maintain the cohesiveness of these communities and keep them in the same district when considering redistricting.

Sincerely,

Janet Turner, Chairman
Pacific Palisades Community Council
[REDACTED]

cc: Flora Gil Krisiloff, Sr. Field Deputy for County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky - via e mail

06.16.11 BJ - Culver City

Public Testimony No. 2

My name is Francisco Rivera and I live both in the State Senate District and State Assembly District in the Central Area, in which the Pico-Union, Westlake area is a place where there are a large concentration of Central Americans, that is why this evening, as President of the National Central American Roundtable, request from you to adopt the boundaries as presented June 10, 2011.

As Latinos we want to stay together in Senate District No. 22

If you decide to make changes, then I would support and joint the petition of the members of the Latino coalition, that you will be making their presentation this evening.

Thank you for your attention.

Francisco Rivera

[Redacted address line]

CA., CA 90057

[Redacted address line]

06.16.11 BK -

6-116 Culver City ת"ב



Agudath Israel of California

אגודת ישראל בקליפורניא

Agudath Israel of America, founded in 1922, is a broadly based Orthodox Jewish movement with chapters in major communities throughout the United States and Canada. It sponsors a broad range of constructive projects in the fields of religion, education, children's welfare and social action affecting the lives of young and old in far-flung parts of the Americas, Israel, Europe, and elsewhere.

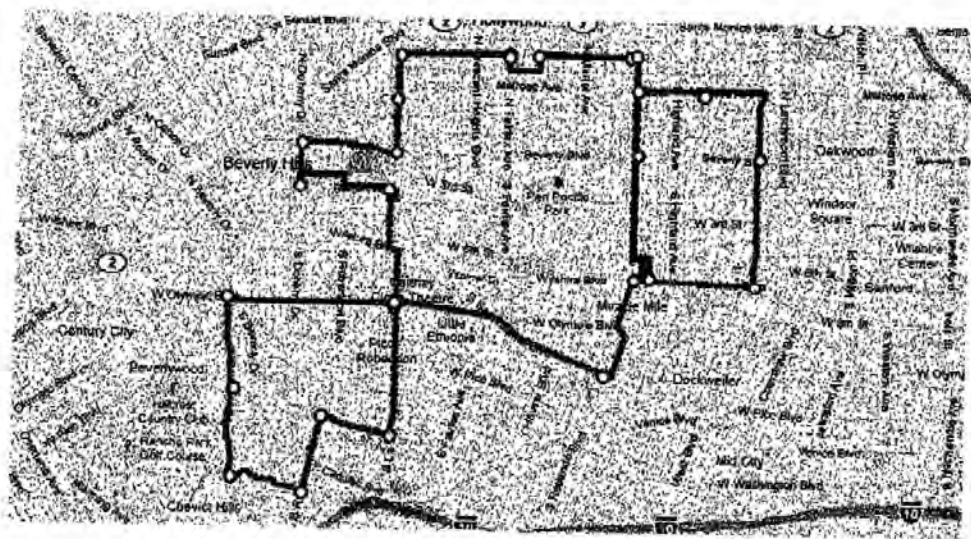
Dear Redistricting Commissioners,

We request that this letter be entered into the record for the Los Angeles County region regarding redistricting considerations.

The Los Angeles Orthodox community constitutes roughly one-quarter to one-fifth of Los Angeles' 621,000 Jewish population, and is made up of a combination of Modern Orthodox and Hasidic Jews, most of whom trace their roots to Eastern European Jewish populations that moved to the area from the 1930s to the 1960s or Middle East Jewish populations that moved here from the 1970s to the 1990s.

We follow strict religious observance as set forth in the first five books of the Hebrew Bible. We do not operate cars or machinery on Saturdays and worship and conduct education separated by gender. We also follow strict rules regarding preparation of food, which requires that we only shop at stores and restaurants that follow these rules and are certified by a rabbi that they have done so.

Because of our deep religious observance and limitations on our transportation on the Sabbath, these populations tend to focus on tightly-knit neighborhoods in the Beverly-Fairfax area, Hancock Park and Pico Robertson/Beverlywood (see the map below), with smaller populations in southern Beverly Hills and Valley Village in the San Fernando Valley.



The communities in the Los Angeles Basin are particularly interdependent, sharing their own ambulance service (Haztolah), utilizing the only Jewish hospital in the region at Cedar Sinai and attending over 20 small private schools and forty or more synagogues in the area.

We have strong representation on the three neighborhood councils covering the region (South Robertson, MidCity-West and Greater Wilshire), all of whose borders also closely mirror those of our community.

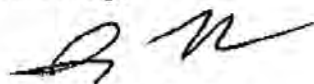
Most of our businesses are locally owned, in walking distance, and cater to the needs of the religiously observant in the neighborhood.

In the past, our Los Angeles Basin communities have been divided between districts, such as between the 42nd and 47th Assembly District, the 23rd and 26th Senate District and the 30th and 33rd Congressional District. Only our County Supervisorial district has kept our community representation whole.

Because of the distinct character of our community and the importance of having representation that understands our unique cultural and religious observances, we would like to set forth in the strongest terms our desire to keep our representation under a single Assembly, State Senate and Congressional district, uniting the Beverly-Fairfax, Hancock Park and Pico-Robertson/Beverlywood areas into single districts.

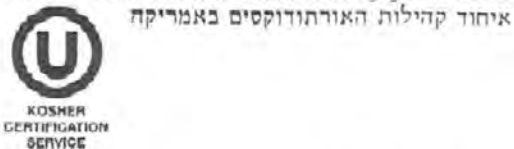
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. Irving Lebovics

Chairman, Agudath Israel of California



06.16.11 BL



6-16
Culver City
WEST COAST REGION

ORTHODOX UNION תורה ומצוות

LOS ANGELES, CA 90035

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 322-0904

May 9, 2011

Dear Redistricting Commissioners,

We request that this letter be entered into the record for the Los Angeles County region regarding redistricting considerations.

The Los Angeles Orthodox community constitutes roughly one-quarter to one-fifth of Los Angeles' 621,000 Jewish population, and is made up of a combination of Modern Orthodox and Hasidic Jews, most of whom trace their roots to Eastern European Jewish populations that moved to the area from the 1930s to the 1960s or Middle East Jewish populations that moved here from the 1970s to the 1990s.

We follow strict religious observance as set forth in the first five books of the Hebrew Bible. We do not operate cars or machinery on Saturdays and worship and conduct education separated by gender. We also follow strict rules regarding preparation of food, which requires that we only shop at stores and restaurants that follow these rules and are certified by a rabbi that they have done so.

Because of our deep religious observance and limitations on our transportation on the Sabbath, these populations tend to focus on tightly-knit neighborhoods in the Beverly-Fairfax area, Hancock Park and Pico Robertson/Beverlywood (see the map below), with smaller populations in southern Beverly Hills and Valley Village in the San Fernando Valley.



The communities in the Los Angeles Basin are particularly interdependent, sharing their own ambulance service (Haztolah), utilizing the only Jewish hospital in the region at Cedar Sinai and attending over 20 small private schools and forty or more synagogues in the area.

Continued...

We have strong representation on the three neighborhood councils covering the region (South Robertson, MidCity-West and Greater Wilshire), all of whose borders also closely mirror those of our community.

Most of our businesses are locally owned, in walking distance, and cater to the needs of the religiously observant in the neighborhood.

In the past, our Los Angeles Basin communities have been divided between districts, such as between the 42nd and 47th Assembly District, the 23rd and 26th Senate District and the 30th and 33rd Congressional District. Only our County Supervisorial district has kept our community representation whole.

Because of the distinct character of our community and the importance of having representation that understands our unique cultural and religious observances, we would like to set forth in the strongest terms our desire to keep our representation under a single Assembly, State Senate and Congressional district, uniting the Beverly-Fairfax, Hancock Park and Pico-Robertson/Beverlywood areas into single districts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Alan Kalinsky

Rabbi Alan Kalinsky
Director,
Orthodox Union-West Coast

06.16.11 BM-

6-16
Culver City
Redact Name please.

Area Around LAX should be kept Intact As A Single Geopolitical Unit

~~_____~~ I have lived and worked in close vicinity of LAX for more than 20 years. Based on my long acquaintance with the culture and concerns of this area, I believe that redistricting will do great injustice.

The citizens in that area share administrative, civic safety, and life quality issues that are not share by the communities that are not proximate to the LAX Airport into which they will be absorbed with a corresponding loss of topical influence by redistricting.

I have not seen a clearly-defined map of the redistricting proposed for the area surrounding LAX. The images I found posted to the Internet were as vague as if they were done by children finger-painting.

I understand that it would move oversight of LAX away from or place divisions within the inland communities, where most of the Los Angeles area population affected by the airport's noise and safety issues are located. This is very significant, as the citizens in these areas, who have long shared common life quality, health, airport expansion and safety issues posed by the presence of the airport, will no longer have a solid and unified forum. Their special needs will be watered down by the unrelated interests of outside communities.

From the standpoint of administrative jurisprudence and civic safety, as well as shared historical and cultural concerns, the communities surrounding LAX should be represented as a block. To divide them is to deprive those residents of a unified voice.

My Testimony

6-16
Culver City

06.16.11 BO -

My name is Anastasio Aquino and I am live/work in the community of

PICO / UNION / WESTLAKE

I am here today to share my perspectives on the First Draft maps. The Commission's maps affect my representation in the following way:

BEVERLY HILLS AND PALISADES DO NOT
SHARE ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS TO MY COMMUNITY

The following communities share common social and economic characteristics to my community. (state the neighborhoods):

WILSHIRE CENTER, RAMPART VILLAGE, PICO / UNION / WESTLAKE, MIDCITY,
LEIMERT PARK, CRENSHAW DISTRICT, INGLEWOOD, SOF HILLS, PARK MESA HEIGHTS,
MORNINGSIDE PARK, VERMONT HARBOR, SOUTH CENTRAL LA,
WESTMOUNT, WEST ADREN, MILLVA BROOK, CENTRAL ALHAMBRA, WATTS

My community is different from (state the neighborhoods):

PALISADES AND BEVERLY HILLS

My recommendation is that the Commission remove the following communities:

WEALTHY WESTERN COMMUNITIES E.G. BEVERLY HILLS, PALISADES

My recommendation is that the Commission add following communities:

I can be reached at (add phone or email) [REDACTED]

Signature Anastasio Aquino

Date 6-16-11

June 16 2011

06.16.11 BP -

6-16
Culver City

Public Testimony No. 4

My name is Aaron Mackenzie and I am here to express my support to the State Senate and State Assemblies district as drawn by the Commission. I believe there is a balance between the different groups and it does not represent a big change from the boundaries as they are now.

You should be commended for your hard work, and finally, I want to reiterate that you keep the boundaries for the Central Area as you have done.

Thank you.

Aaron Mackenzie

JUNE 16-2011

06.16.11BQ-

6.16
Covina City

Public testimony No. 1

My name is Kenny Mackenzie and I represent the latino community in East Hollywood.

I want to recognize the hard work of all of you as members of the Citizen Redistricting Commission of California, which is not an easy task. I am here today in support of both the State Senate and State Assemblies District for the Central Area of the County of Los Angeles, which I believe really keep us as Latinos, preserving our language and sharing our culture, as well as balancing our voting rights with the voting rights of other ethnic groups and making a fair balance.

Please approve the Districts as drawn by the Commission.

Kenny Mackenzie

June 16, 2011

06.16.11 BR

6-16
Culver City

My name is Andrea Mackenzie and I am in support of the State Senate and State Assembly boundaries established by you and presented on June 10, which reflect the need to keep together communities bound by culture, language and ethnicity and political representation.

I just want to call your attention to the Congressional District in the central area of the County of Los Angeles, particularly Congressional District 31. It is quite a change, linking Pico-Union with Beverly Hills. This is something that needs to be revised, and consider the proposed boundaries by organizations like MALDEF, Nales, and the Latino coalition.

Thank you for your attention to this testimony.

Andrea Mackenzie

DAVID

Good evening, my name is David Kohan. I serve as a boardmember of 30 Years After, a civic organization designed to promote the participation of Iranian-American Jews in American civic and political life.

I am here to request that the Iranian-American of Los Angeles not be split up as proposed.

Southern California boasts more than an estimated 300,000 Iranian Americans, the largest community outside of Iran. The majority of Iranians in California live in Los Angeles. Los Angeles the "Persia on the Pacific" is home to Iranian Muslims, Jews, and Bahias.

Since the Iranian Revolution of 1979 many Iranians have made West Los Angeles their home. The heart of the Iranian-American community on the Westside centers around the communities of Westwood, Beverly Hills, and Pico-Robertson (which is located from Rexford to La Cienega, from Pico to Cadillac).

The three communities mentioned are home to many Iranian newspapers, Iranian owned restaurants and stores, and locally produced Iranian shows. Many Iranian Muslims that live in Beverly Hills dine in Persian restaurants on Westwood and attend the IMAN, a religious center, near the Pico-Robertson area. Many Iranians Jews that live in Westwood regularly eat at Kosher restaurants in the Pico-Robertson area attend synagogues in Beverly Hills. The new district lines will fragment the Iranian community on the Westside.

The communities have similar demographic, economic profiles and resources, such as markets, community centers, religious centers and schools.

We request that these communities not be split up as proposed.

Good evening, my name is Michael Yadegaran and I'm an executive board member of 30 Years After, a grassroots organization that was established to help Iranian American Jews organize politically and increase their civic involvement.

I am here with my colleague to request that the Iranian-American and Iranian-Jewish communities not be split up by the proposed redistricting plans.

The greater Southern California area has served as a safe haven for Iranians who fled political, religious and social persecution following the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran.

My own family, along with thousands of others, make up the nearly 50,000 Iranian Jews who have thrived here and given so much back to their new home. The Iranian Jewish community in Los Angeles has made meaningful contributions to life in this city in various sectors ranging from public office and education to medicine, business and entertainment. Eight years ago, Beverly Hills elected its first Iranian-American city council member, Jimmy Delshad.

The heart of the Iranian-American Jewish community centers around the communities of Westwood, Beverly Hills, and Pico-Robertson (which is located from Rexford to La Cienega, from Pico to Cadillac).

These three communities are tightly intertwined. Iranian-American Jews in Beverly Hills frequently shop at the Persian markets in Pico Robertson and bookstores on Westwood Boulevard. The four largest Iranian-American Synagogues are located in Beverly Hills, Pico-Robertson, Westwood and West Hollywood. These communities have similar demographic, economic profiles and resources, such as markets, community centers, Jewish schools and synagogues.

To split up these districts through the proposed plans would be to split up the Iranian Jewish and greater Jewish communities of Los Angeles who have established themselves as integral components of their communities

We request that these communities not be split up as proposed.

NOTE: If asked or this can be in the letter: If population needs to be exchanged the costal areas, Marina Del Rey, Venice, Westchester and Santa Monica can be swapped or moved around to accommodate the change. We share little in common with the coastal communities and avoid crossing the 405 unless absolutely necessary.

► What is a "Community of Interest"?

A Community of Interest (COI) is a geographically connected population which shares common social and economic interests. Examples of such shared interests are:

- Those common to areas such as urban, rural, industrial, or agricultural; as well as geographical such as rivers, mountains, coastal, inland, watershed, etc.
- Those common to areas in which the people share similar living standards, use the same transportation facilities, have similar work opportunities, or have access to the same media of communication relevant to the election process; as well as shared common goals.

► How can public comment and testimony be given?

The Commission encourages the public to provide testimony in an effort to best identify the unique regional qualities of Communities of Interest. Public comments about Communities of Interest can be submitted in a variety of ways, including:

- In-Person at an Input Hearing which are being held around the state. A schedule of all input hearing locations and dates can be found at the www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov website.
- In writing: public comments can be sent via email to votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov or via mail or fax: Citizens Redistricting Commission, 901 P Street, Suite 154A, Fax: (916) 651-5711
- Through a community-based organization (CBO): There are many CBOs that are working with communities and presenting testimony to the Commission. Go to: www.RedistrictingCA.org.

► How should public testimony at Input Hearings be given?

Each individual at a Public Input Hearing will be given up to 2 minutes to talk about their community to the Commission. It is recommended that the public consider incorporating answers to the questions listed below in an effort to assist the Commission in understanding each Community of Interest.

What bonds your community - what do you see as the common links in your community? *I don't wish to speak on this*

I live in Panorama City - I will lose my Councilman Cardenas in your redistricting - we need to keep him - I don't want to have Brad Sherman & that person have to be in the same district - we will lose our Jewish representation in the Valley - they are well liked - you

Where is your community located - what are the boundaries of your community? *we want to redistrict them away*

I live in Canalman Park new district - Please Don't draw new districts - I live near Roscoe & Woodman (ARLETA)

Why should the community be kept together - or separate from another area? *we need several in Van Nuys - like we have already*

I feel we need to keep the same representation - we have already - keep our same districts - its not meant to bring some districts together & break new ones - Read my comments on the back

Maps are very helpful! Examples include Google Maps, AAA, or even hand-drawn. All maps should clearly state where the county is located (e.g. County/City) as well as its borders (e.g. streets, rivers, railroad tracks, etc.) *on the back*

► Where can I learn more about the Citizens Redistricting Commission or redistricting in general? *You don't have to be disabled -*

The Citizens Redistricting Commission's web site offers useful information and important links to redistricting sites and issues throughout California at www.wedrawthelines.org.

*Join us in making California redistricting about "Fair Representation - Democracy at Work!"

You are wrong to let people speak 2 minutes
when you have so many people coming - it looks like
your people come from all over the valley - even
Please keep in mind about Jewish
representation - I don't know Brad Sternman
as one Congressman & Hal Berman in another
close area - Both helped the San Fernando
Valley with all their constituents - But they cared
about all different people who lived in their
Congressional districts - I don't feel we need
another new district - we don't need to lose our
City Councilman who just got re-elected - Antonio
Cardenas to leave before he gets sworn in - even
~~we~~ You are splitting up Los Angeles City Council -
We do not need another run for CD 6 - we meant
a Reddy low CD 15 (Janie Hahn) before her time -
We need our Council in Los Angeles - all 15 - to
work on needed city employee problem - with health
care (retiree) we need to keep the Valley intact
Please don't break up Reddy - that makes no
sense - I don't see what benefits you are giving to
the valley - I will write another letter when I have
it well thought out & mail it - You should have a
meeting in the valley - only take those who did not get
to speak -

6.16
Culver City

June 16, 2011

06.16.11 BV -

Subject: Change of District Boundary for Sunland-Tujunga and Neighbors

Dear Redistricting Commission,

My personal background is - a business owner in Glendale, Burbank and Sunland-Tujunga, President and Secretary of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC), a member of the STNC Land Use Committee, LA City Neighborhood Council Review Commission, on the Board of the Sunland-Tujunga Chamber of Commerce, member of several service and other community organizations. I am very active in the Foothill communities that I am speaking about.

The community of Sunland-Tujunga, La Tuna Canyon, Shadow Hills, Lake View Terrace, Kagel Canyon, La Crescenta and Montrose are all part of the Foothills area. They, along with Glendale and Burbank, should be included in our own District

During "Station Fire" in 2009, Kagel Canyon, Lake View Terrace along with Shadow Hills and La Tuna Canyon neighbors were here to assist us with evacuation of our horses and other animals and helped to provide emergency services. Those communities referenced above, also helped Sunland-Tujunga fight against a Home Depot, who was going to locate in an undesirable neighborhood in Sunland-Tujunga. All the above communities are also fighting to save the Verdugo Hills Golf Course, in the Verdugo Hills, from being developed into multiple unit homes. We, in turn, helped to save Glendale's Oakmont V from being developed and helped the Kagel Canyon community during the "Marek Fire" and also to fight the development of Lopez Canyon. We are all working together to stop the expansion of the 710 freeway tunnel because of environmental and financial reasons. We have work together with our neighbors in La Crescenta: both the Glendale and County portions. We have similar issues with public safety, future development and emergency preparedness because of our geographic boundaries. It is for these reasons and more that we need to stay together. We have more in common with the above referenced communities than those we have been designated to be with on the present draft map. The only interest we share with those communities as mapped out are the same city government. We have little else in common. Therefore, we are asking you to make our request for our own District happen.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service on the Redistricting Commission.

Respectfully,



Cindy Cleghorn

P.S. I should also mention that our rural foothill communities must shop in Glendale or Burbank