

Subject: Coachella Valley Redistricting

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, 23 Jun 2011 13:32:37 EDT

To: [REDACTED]

To the: Citizens Redistricting Commission
Sacramento, California

Generally, I believe the commission has done a good job throughout the state in selecting legislative districts that are properly formulated. However, as a voter who lives in the Coachella Valley, I believe there are changes that could be made in the proposed district for Coachella Valley that would improve the proposed "common interest" communities.

1. *Include Imperial County with the Coachella Valley in eastern Riverside County.*
Reasons for that are:

- a. The Hispanic population in the Coachella Valley and the Imperial Valley is socio-economically interrelated;
- b. Unemployment is extremely high throughout the Coachella Valley, particularly the Eastern end, and throughout the Imperial Valley.
- c. There is a common economic base, primarily agricultural, in the Eastern portion of the Coachella Valley and in Imperial County;
- d. Newly instituted industry pointing toward renewable energy resources, including geothermal, solar and wind, have targeted the East end of the Coachella Valley, and the adjacent Imperial County.

Thank you for considering my comments.

John A Wells

[REDACTED]
Palm Desert CA 92211

Thursday, June 23, 2011

To the redistricting commission,

We here in the Coachella Valley are extremely happy with the lines you have drawn in the first release of the redistricting maps. I, as a citizen and active member of the voting community, implore you to stay with your original decision on these maps. It appears that some of the organizations are trying to influence your decision, by putting pressure on you to change the original maps you've created. Please do not cave!

As I originally stated in my comments to you in the first round, the Coachella Valley is a compact community in itself. Our life blood is tourism and all of our communities rely upon that industry to fuel their businesses. We thus have common interests, including our transportation, airports, schools, industry and economic base. We are a diverse community, but we all have common goals to provide for our families and live together in a cohesive community. We wish to return to a similar situation that we had in the 90's, where we have one assemblyman, one senator and one congressional representative. This makes it easier for them to represent us as a valley and keeps their focus on solving the problems of our area.

You all are too commended for all of the time and effort you are putting into your current project. The hours it takes to listen and respond to residents is enormous. You have listened! Thanks again for serving and for drawing the lines similar to what over 100 citizens requested in their original notes to you as a commission. We are strongly supporting the continued effort along those lines.

Sincerely,

Val Ogburn

Palm Springs, Ca.

Subject: Coachella Valley districts should remain in Riverside County

From: Elaine Finch <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 23 Jun 2011 13:28:16 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

I have lived in the Coachella Valley for 23 years. I own my own business and have been involved with the Chamber of Commerce for many years and currently am involved with the Palm Springs Republican Women Federated. I am now just learning about the effects the redistricting will have on our valley. I am definitely opposed to any redistricting.

From the information I have received and read about it will affect our economy, transportation, healthcare, education, energy, military who visit our desert, funding, media, county governments, and residents.

I request that Coachella Valley districts should remain in Riverside County. And from what I understand Imperial Valley wishes to remain in San Diego County.

Elaine Finch
Coachella Valley Resident

Subject: We SUPPORT Your Coachella Valley Maps!

From: Ellen Swensen <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 23 Jun 2011 22:03:13 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

THANK YOU for listening to our large body of testimony in May (over 100 letters plus 11 speakers) from Coachella Valley that we want to keep our desert cities together in a strong tourism-based COI. Thank you also for listening to the strong May testimony from San Diegans and Imperial Co citizens who share a common "border culture" and want to be districted together. **PLEASE REMEMBER that this is what led you to draw the preliminary maps the way you did: strong testimony from all three counties before June 10!**

On June 20, we had 23 people suddenly testify that they want Imperial to be districted with "East" Coachella Valley, for what reason few could say. I even noticed that June 20's speaker #2 read the exact same words as speaker #1 and could not answer your questions. Others had no reasoning behind this "grab". I am also hearing that current Assemblyman Manny Perez lives in Indio—**could this be an attempt to cross county lines and gerrymander a district favoring an incumbent?** Please check.

PLEASE keep the preliminary maps for Coachella Valley as they are, contiguous, compact and within Riverside Co. Please keep the San Diego-Imperial "border district" as it is. We are all happy with those. **PEOPLE THAT ARE HAPPY DON'T SPEAK OUT**, so please don't take this sudden surge of comment on June 20 as anything but an illogical grab of 2-3 desert cities, across county lines, for illogical or political reasons.

Thanks for all you are doing. You have so much more to do-- keeping our maps as you drew them should help!

Ellen Swensen

Subject: REDISTRICTING

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, 23 Jun 2011 13:55:34 EDT

To: [REDACTED]

Keep our district within Coachella Valley not Imperial.

Keep our desert cities together and districted within Riverside County.

The cities are the desert cities NOT "eastern" desert cities.

The fact that the cities are being called EAST CV alot sounds like an organized political maneuver.

When someone is giving recommendations or an opinion, it should have facts, quality and be in that persons own words.

If someone is happy or pleased with information, data, maps, etc. they have received or seen, why would they need to attend a meeting or write to anyone regarding this.

Subject: Coachella Valley Redistricting

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, 23 Jun 2011 14:04:15 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Commission: I have lived in the East Coachella Valley city of Indio since 2003 and paid attention over the years to the efforts put forth by our local representatives on our behalf. Unfortunately I cannot even tell you the name of our State Senator who I believe is from San Diego, but I have been to two functions where Bill Emmerson the State Senator for the adjacent district has spoken. To me there is no question that the Coachella Valley should be treated as one district. I don't see how it makes any sense to divide and area where the over all interests are similar. I might add that my son is an Assemblyman from the Orange County area and while the proposed changes to his district don't particularly help him, they also make sense from the continuity of interest standpoint as does the proposed Coachella Valley district. I would urge you to maintain the proposed boundaries as set forth in your preliminary maps. Thank you. Don Wagner

Subject: REDISTRICTING

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, 23 Jun 2011 12:25:55 EDT

To: [REDACTED]

We live in Palm Springs and were very happy with the preliminary maps for the Coachella Valley which were published on June 10, 2011. It is vital that we keep our Desert Cities and spheres-of-influence districted with the Riverside County. The main industry for the cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, Palm Desert, Indian Wells and La Quinta is tourism which becomes a large part of our local economy. These cities all budget for promoting tourism to European countries, major golf tournaments, large corporate meetings, etc.

We question whether there is a political move to sway your first decision that the above mentioned cities should remain with the Riverside County. There are extreme differences with the west end of Coachella valley and your first map took that into consideration. We are requesting that you stick with that decision.

Mr. and Mrs William G Pursley

[REDACTED]
Palm Springs, CA 92264