

----- Original Message -----

Subject:Re: 30th Congressional District

Date:Fri, 10 Jun 2011 15:12:18 -0700

From:Polard, Steven (Perkins Coie) <[REDACTED]>

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

My only comment is that if a primary purpose was to make Congressional Districts more competitive, so that voters have a meaningful choice where both parties have a real chance to succeed, then the new map for the 30th Congressional District fails that mission. Although I am a Democrat, the 30th District's suggested boundaries mean that there will not be a meaningful Congressional race for years to come, as no Republican would have a chance in this district, and no Democrat however mediocre would have a chance of losing in this district. The turnover in the House of Representatives at one time was described as that of the old Soviet Politburo. I don't believe the more recent statistics except perhaps for a handful of years such as 1994 and 2010 belie that historical observation. And this redistricting perpetuates this national disgrace.

Steven G.Polard

[REDACTED]
Topanga, California 90067

[REDACTED]



Northern Los Angeles Antelope Valley

The entire Antelope Valley desert region runs in both eastern Kern County and northern Los Angeles County. After the Commission's recent public hearing in the Antelope Valley, there was discussion of not only dividing the two counties, but also splitting Lancaster and Palmdale into different districts. We respectfully urge the Commission to reject this idea. Lancaster and Palmdale have been within the same state legislative districts since at least the 1970s. As bad politician-driven redistricting has been, even they kept these two cities together.

Lancaster and Palmdale share a sixteen-mile border, as well as several special districts that cover both cities, including the Antelope Valley Hospital District, Antelope Valley College District, Antelope Valley High School District, Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency, Antelope Valley Transportation Agency providing bus service throughout the two cities and surrounding communities, Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District and regional LA County Sanitation District. Most regional associations cover both cities as opposed to one or the other. These include the Greater Antelope Valley Association of Realtors, the Antelope Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Antelope Valley Black Chamber of Commerce, the Antelope Valley Board of Trade and the Greater Antelope Valley Economic Alliance. The state has also recognized the area's economic ties by designating Lancaster and Palmdale in the same Antelope Valley Enterprise Zone. The federal government has done the same by recognizing them in the same Antelope Valley Foreign Trade Zone.

Together, the two cities and the surrounding desert communities in just LA County make up approximately 80% of an Assembly District and 40% of a Senate District.

This Map denotes the Los Angeles County portion of the Antelope Valley. Whichever direction Legislative, Equalization or Congressional Districts go, this area should be preserved together.



Population

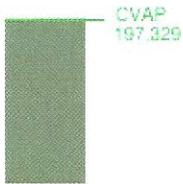
Total Population: 377,215

Universe: Total Population
 Datasource: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census
 Data Year: 2010
 Data Level: Census Block

Total Population	377,215
-------------------------	---------

Citizen Voting Age Population

Universe: Total Population
 Datasource: Statewide Database at the University of California Berkeley
 Data Year: 2010
 Data Level: Census Block



Citizen Voting Age Population	197,329
--------------------------------------	---------

Ethnicity / Race

44.73% Hispanic or Latino
 33.22% White alone
 14.98% Black or African American alone
 3.86% Asian
 0.71% Some Other Race
 2.50% Two or More Races

Universe: Total Population
 Datasource: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census
 Data Year: 2010
 Data Level: Census Block

Original District = Blue line

Hispanic or Latino	44.73%
	168,746
White alone	33.22%
	125,316
Black or African American alone	14.98%
	56,499
Asian	3.86%

	14,570
Some Other Race	0.71% 2,667
Two or More Races	2.50% 9,417

Additional Information

The unemployment rate is approximately 18% throughout the district, with a housing cost of \$50-\$80 per square foot. This differs greatly from Bakersfield and Central Valley communities, some with even higher unemployment as well as the Santa Clarita/Ventura County areas with unemployment around 8% and housing costs nearing \$250 per square foot.

Aerospace has historically been one of the booming businesses in the Antelope Valley. Edwards Air Force Base, USAF Plant 42, and the China Lake Naval Weapons facility and Virgin Galactic at Mojave Spaceport are major economic engines.

Recently, the Antelope Valley has become the green energy capital of North America. Wind and solar resources are better here than anywhere else in the country with dozens of wind and solar energy production facilities being developed throughout east Kern and northern Los Angeles County.

Educationally, the entire High Desert, including northern Los Angeles, eastern Kern and northern San Bernardino counties have joined forces to promote a comprehensive four year university as the next California State University campus. The nearest CSU is over sixty miles from almost any point in the High Desert.

Several government agency boundaries already cross the Kern/Los Angeles County line in order to provide local services. These include the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency and the Antelope Valley Community College District.

Demographically, we have a fast growing Hispanic Community. Splitting us outside of the High Desert would dilute the influence of our Hispanic community.

Conclusion

In every sense, the Antelope Valley is a community of interest that transcends artificial county lines. Environmentally, demographically, geologically, socially and economically we are distinct from areas outside of our mountain boundaries. If there must be a division of the two-county Antelope Valley, at a minimum the LA County portion ought to remain together with Lancaster and Palmdale in the same district. This idea is endorsed by:

The City of Lancaster

The City of Palmdale

Antelope Valley High School District

Antelope Valley College District

Antelope Valley Board of Trade

Greater Antelope Valley Economic Alliance

The mission of the Antelope Valley Board of Trade is to engage in maintaining and promoting diverse business and industry, quality infrastructures, and a strong legislative voice for the benefit of its members and the greater Antelope Valley.

Subject: Tentative Redistricting Maps

From: Houg Tom <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 9 Jun 2011 11:49:21 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

The recently proposed redistricting maps are unfair to residents of my city, South Pasadena. We only have 25,000 people - yet we're part of two assembly districts and two state senate districts. And for Congress, we're lumped in with downtown Los Angeles. We are a middle-class suburban community, and fit well with other San Gabriel Valley cities like San Marino, Pasadena, and Arcadia. To combine our city with the government-dependent urban poor makes no sense, and only marginalizes our votes and our voice. The strategy for creating these maps appears to be inherently racist, as though people with the same skin color must all think alike. The districts should be based more on socioeconomic considerations.

Tom Houg
South Pasadena, CA

Subject: Santa Clarita

From: Marcia Boles <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 7 Jun 2011 11:16:48 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Please add Aqua Dulce to the Santa Clarita Valley Assembly District.

Sincerely,

Marcia Boles

Santa Clarita resident

To the Commission:

We are asking the Citizens Redistricting Commission to work with the contiguous “communities of interest” in the Foothill Mountain ‘Gold Line’ cities of Pasadena, Altadena, Arcadia, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Duarte, Bradbury, Glendora and Azusa.

These 9 cities all lie along the foothills with common interest such as fire and flood control, hillside management, wildlife habitat, medical and hospital systems, waste management programs, newspapers and other communication systems.

Pasadena, Altadena and Sierra Madre share the same school district, and the cities of Sierra Madre, Pasadena, Arcadia and Monrovia share Raymond Water Basin for their water supply. Arcadia and Sierra Madre share a common well for part of their cities water supply.

There is a diversity in these cities complying with the Federal Voting Rights Act criteria for equitable legislative representation.

Currently some of the cities are divided into different precincts which leads to confusion and uneven representation. By combining the above nine cities the voters will be able to get adequate information for their elected representatives.

We urge you to consider the above cities for a fair and balanced district that will bring each city together with common interests and city government continuity.

Sincerely,

DeLoyce and Patricia Alcorn

[REDACTED]

Sierra Madre, CA 91024

[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Wrightwood

From: BILL RIECHEL <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 9 Jun 2011 13:02:11 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Wrightwood is a small community and should not be broken into two districts!

BILL RIECHEL

[REDACTED] ~ (cell)

Subject: Public Comment: Region 4

From: Laurel Telfer <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 24 May 2011 21:51:04 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Laurel Telfer <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 46th Congressional, 54th Assembly District Boundaries

Message Body:

Commissioners:

I am a resident of the East Long Beach area, which is within the boundaries of the larger City of Long Beach. My community is approximately bordered by Pacific Coast Highway and the Pacific Ocean to the north and south, and by the 605 Freeway and Redondo Avenue to the east and west. I am a part of the 46th Congressional District, which at present, very roughly resembles a "barbell", extending all the way from Rancho Palos Verdes through the immediate coastal area of Long Beach to Costa Mesa in Orange County. I am also a part of the 54th Assembly District.

Having lived in my house for 32 years, I can tell you that my neighbors and I identify with the City of Long Beach, not with the Orange County beach and inland cities. Although the city of Long Beach has many neighborhoods and much diversity, we are all bound together and affected by the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, the Convention Center, the Long Beach Airport, the Aquarium of the Pacific, the Queen Mary, the school district and the many Arts and Cultural institutions. I strongly believe that all of the City of Long Beach should be contained in one Congressional and Assembly District, and entirely within Los Angeles County. Orange County is very dissimilar to Los Angeles County in many economic, environmental and demographic concerns. We deserve a Congressperson who will work with our citizens to meet the needs of our entire city as a whole. For the last decade and more, my East Long Beach area has been not been considered to be a true part of the city, at least as !

far as its congressional district leaders have been concerned. Our needs have been low on the priority list as compared to those of Orange County.

Thank you advance for considering my request.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Telfer

[REDACTED]
Long Beach, CA 90803

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Region 4

From: "Tiffany J. Balonek" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 24 May 2011 05:54:18 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Tiffany J. Balonek <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Congressional District for Lomita and Palos Verdes Cities

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to post my comments about redistricting. I am a resident of Lomita CA. As a voter, I am very concerned about where Lomita and the Palos Verdes Peninsula cities are placed in a new congressional district. I sincerely hope that these cities are combined in the same congressional district and do not end up being placed in a district that does not embody our demographics and business-industry interests.

What bonds our community?

Our community is bonded by a beach lifestyle and numerous synergistic businesses and industries. These include the aerospace industry in which I am employed, (our community is the capital of the aerospace industry), shipping and transportation, specifically the port of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles International Airport, Asian automotive industry offices, and major business located on shopping arterials such as Hawthorne Blvd. and Crenshaw Blvd. Additionally, our highly qualified technical base provides tremendous opportunities for developing a "green" industry for our nation.

Perhaps most important to me is the fact that my parents reside in one of the peninsula cities. As family, we visit each other often. We have the same social, economic and family values. We should be in the same congressional district.

Where is your community located?

Our community is located approximately twenty miles Southwest of Los Angeles along the Pacific coast shoreline. It encompasses the current 36th Congressional District excluding Venice, CA. In addition to the remaining cities of the 36th district, our community encompasses the cities of Hawthorne, Lawndale, and the western half of Gardena, currently in the 35th Congressional District; the cities of Rolling Hills Estates, Rolling Hills, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, and Catalina, currently in the 46th Congressional District; and the city of San Pedro. The population of these combined cities from data available via Google is on the order of 712,000, almost exactly the population needed per district in accordance with recent census data. In summary, the congressional district I recommend for our community includes the following cities: Catalina, Rolling Hills Estates, Rolling Hills, Rancho Palos Verdes, Palos Verdes Estates, San Pedro, Wilmington, Lomita, Torrance, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Lawndale, the western half of Gardena, Hawthorne, El Segundo, Lennox, Westchester, Del Aire, Playa Del Rey, and Marina Del Rey.

What are its boundaries?

The boundaries to the west and south of our community are the Pacific coastline. The north boundary is Jefferson Blvd, the north boundary of Westchester that proceeds to the east boundary for that area of our community, the 405 Freeway. The east boundary proceeds southeast along the 405 Freeway to the north and east boundaries of the city of Lennox and then to the north boundary of Hawthorne (Imperial Hwy). From Hawthorne, the east boundary proceeds south along Western Avenue and encompasses the west half of Gardena and the east boundary of Torrance until it extends to the north boundary of Wilmington long Lomita Blvd. The east boundary then proceeds further south along the east boundary of Wilmington to the coast.

Why should the community be kept together, or separate from another area?

As stated above, our community is comprised of numerous synergistic businesses and industries, all of which network to become the powerful economic engine of our community. With our community's cities represented as one congressional district, our community will have a single voice representing our multi-faceted business-industrial base and our richly diversified demographic community.

Again, I thank you for your interest in our community and request that you form a new congressional district that includes the Palo Verdes Peninsula cities and Lomita together as proposed. I know that many of the residents of the Palos Verdes Peninsula are vitally involved with businesses and industries throughout our community, many as leaders. Accordingly, I believe it is important that the peninsula cities be combined with the cities to the north of the peninsula, including Lomita, where they and I work. I especially note that the Palos Verdes cities have little interaction with the cities to the east such as Long Beach and with the cities north of Wilmington and east of Western Ave.

In conclusion, I believe the congressional district I am recommending complies with all of the specific prioritized criteria the Commission has been given by the California Constitution with which to draw a district map for our community. I respectfully request the Commission implement the congressional district I am recommending.

Respectfully,

Tiffany J. Balonek

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Region 4

From: daniel bednarski <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 26 May 2011 09:04:53 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: daniel bednarski <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Communities of Interest

Message Body:

I am commenting on communities of interest.

I live in Alhambra, an independent city in Los Angeles County.

Alhambra and its neighboring independent cities are one community of interest. Although adjacent to Alhambra, neighborhoods that are part of the City of Los Angeles are not a community of interest with Alhambra, nor with the other independent cities in the San Gabriel Valley.

Alhambra and its neighboring independent cities share common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for its effective and fair representation. Those neighboring independent cities include Monterey Park, San Gabriel, Rosemead, El Monte, Temple City, San Marino, and South Pasadena. More ancillary are the cities of Pasadena, La Canada Flintridge, Arcadia, and Monrovia.

Here are several reasons:

1) Geography. The City of Alhambra is on the western edge of the San Gabriel Valley, which consists of more than 30 cities and unincorporated areas. Los Angeles is not geographically part of the San Gabriel Valley, except for a few blocks of the El Sereno neighborhood to the west of Alhambra.

2) Schools. The Alhambra Unified School District serves four cities in the San Gabriel Valley: a) all of Alhambra, b) most of Monterey Park, c) half of Rosemead, and d) portions of San Gabriel. Other cities and unincorporated areas in the San Gabriel Valley are served by a small school district that serves that city or has shared borders with another small city. All neighborhoods in Los Angeles is served by the behemoth Los Angeles Unified School District.

3) Economic and Political Interests. Alhambra and its neighboring independent cities are part of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (CoG). Los Angeles is not part of the San Gabriel Valley CoG. According to its mission statement, "[t]he San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments is a unified voice to maximize resources and advocate for regional and member interests to improve the quality of life in the San Gabriel Valley." The cities primarily formed the CoG to band together to better fight the imbalance in regional financial and political power held by the City of Los Angeles.

4) Fairness. It would be unfair to include smaller independent cities in a district that includes any part of Los Angeles, no matter how small that piece. The primary responsibility of elected officials is to serve the needs and interests of their constituents. Los Angeles is a megaopolis. The interests of its neighborhoods necessarily implicate the interests of the City of Los Angeles as a whole and, through that, other distinct neighborhoods in Los Angeles. As such, any district that includes even a sliver of Los Angeles will come with baggage that may not be relevant or beneficial to the interests of other cities in that district. For example, the interests of West L.A. (25 miles away) may become an issue for someone who only represents the El Sereno neighborhood of Los Angeles, in addition to representing independent cities in the San Gabriel Valley.

5) Local culture. Alhambra and its neighboring independent cities in the San Gabriel Valley share a specific bond that is not shared with Los Angeles. I'm not sure about the source of that bond. It could be that small cities must work cooperatively together to do well and survive. Perhaps it is the fact that each are small cities where it is easy and commonplace to socialize with others from neighboring cities. Or perhaps it comes from the sports teams that compete in the same leagues.

6) Asian community. The West San Gabriel Valley cities each have large percentages of Asians who have brought their cultures into the forefront and improve the diversity of our communities. Our communities function together as one big, sprawling Chinatown. The interests of the Asian groups in the cities are make them a community of interest. The continuity of that Asian community stops at the border with Los Angeles. It is not until Los Angeles Chinatown, five miles away at the edge of downtown Los Angeles, that there is a similar concentration of Asians and Asian businesses.

7) I go on a daily basis into other San Gabriel Valley cities to shop, socialize, and for a multitude of other reasons on a daily basis. On the contrary, I do not go into El Sereno for any reasons, except on the few occasions I visited Cal State L.A.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Region 4

From: "Charles J. McLurkin" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 25 May 2011 17:26:23 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Charles J. McLurkin <[REDACTED]>

Subject: June 16, 2011 Meeting

Message Body:

To Whom it May Concern:

It is my understanding that the June 16, 2011 meeting will be held at Culver City City Hall. With the proposed maps coming out a week before this meeting, I believe there will be a huge public turnout and Culver City's City Hall will not be big enough to facilitate this meeting. I would suggest a large state-owned facility like the California Science Center or the Ronald Reagan Building.

Thank you,

Charles McLurkin

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Region 4

From: "Eugene L. Starr" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 24 May 2011 06:31:24 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Eugene L. Starr <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Congressional District for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Cities of CA

Message Body:

My apologies. I submitted an input yesterday under "General." Please accept this input and delete my input under "General." Again my apologies for the mix-up

To the Members of the Redistricting Commission:

I thank the Commission for giving me the opportunity to address you at the Long Beach hearing April 27, 2011. As I stated at the time, I am a resident of Rolling Hills Estates. As a voter, I am very concerned about where the Palos Verdes Peninsula cities are placed in a new congressional district. I sincerely hope that our cities do not end up being placed in a district that does not embody our cities demographics and business- industry interests.

As I stated in my testimony, our cities are very much connected with the cities to our north. They are the cities where we work, shop and recreate. Because of the two-minute time limit I was unable to adequately address, articulate important specifics I believe the Commission should know. The following provides these specifics in the context of the questions posted on your website.

What bonds our community?

Our community is bonded by a beach lifestyle and numerous synergistic businesses and industries. These include the aerospace industry, (our community is the capital of the aerospace industry), shipping and transportation, i.e., the port of LA and the LA International Airport, Asian automotive industry offices, and major business, shopping arterials such as Hawthorne Blvd. and Crenshaw Blvd. Additionally, our highly qualified technical base provides terrific opportunities for developing a "green" industry for our nation.

Perhaps the most important bond is the fact that many of us residing in the peninsula cities have children residing and working in the cities immediately north of us. They are busy rearing their children, our grandchildren, in these cities. For instance, my daughter and son-in-law reside in Lomita wherein they are rearing their son, our grandson, just minutes from our home.

Where is your community located?

Our community is located approximately twenty miles Southwest of Los Angeles along the Pacific coast shoreline. It encompasses the current 36th Congressional District excluding Venice, CA. In addition to the remaining cities of the 36th district, our community encompasses the cities of Hawthorne, Lawndale, and the western half of Gardena, currently in the 35th Congressional District; the cities of Rolling Hills Estates, Rolling Hills, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, and Catalina, currently in the 46th Congressional District; and the city of San Pedro. The population of these combined cities per data available via Google is on the order of 712,000, almost exactly the population required per district based upon the recent census.

In summary, the congressional district I propose for our community encompasses the following cities: Catalina, Rolling Hills Estates, Rolling Hills, Rancho Palos Verdes,

Palos Verdes Estates, San Pedro, Wilmington, Lomita, Torrance, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Lawndale, the western half of Gardena, Hawthorne, El Segundo, Lennox, Westchester, Del Aire, Playa Del Rey, and Marina Del Rey.

What are its boundaries?

The boundaries to the west and south of our community are the Pacific coastline. The north boundary is Jefferson Blvd, the north boundary of Westchester that proceeds to the east boundary for that area of our community, the 405 Freeway. The east boundary proceeds southeast along the 405 Freeway to the north and east boundaries of the city of Lennox and then to the north boundary of Hawthorne (Imperial Hwy). From Hawthorne, the east boundary proceeds south along Western Avenue and encompasses the west half of Gardena and the east boundary of Torrance until it extends to the north boundary of Wilmington long Lomita Blvd. The east boundary then proceeds further south along the east boundary of Wilmington to the coast.

Why should the community be kept together, or separate from another area?

As summarized above, our community is comprised of numerous synergistic businesses and industries, all of which network to become the powerful economic engine of our community. With our community's cities represented as one congressional district, our community will have a single voice representing our multi-faceted business-industrial base and our richly diversified demographic community.

Again, I thank you for your interest in our community and request that you form a new congressional district that includes the Palo Verdes Peninsula cities as I suggest. We of the Palos Verdes Peninsula are vitally involved with the businesses and industries of our community, many as leaders of these businesses. Accordingly, we believe it imperative that our peninsula cities be combined with the cities to the north where our work and businesses are generally located and with the cities of Wilmington and San Pedro where our jobs are predominately associated with the port. Our Palos Verdes community has little interaction with the cities to the east such as Long Beach and with the cities east of Western Ave., north of Wilmington.

In conclusion, I believe the congressional district I propose complies with all of the specific prioritized criteria the Commission has been given by the California Constitution with which to draw a district map for our community. In short, it brings the peninsula cities back to the status they had over ten years ago before the politicians agreed to gerrymander our cities with Orange County cities, cities with which we have little to nothing in common. Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Commission implement the congressional district I recommend. It is the only appropriate placement for the peninsula cities.

Respectfully,

Eugene L. Starr

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Region 4

From: Kathryn Sanders <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 26 May 2011 15:07:53 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Kathryn Sanders <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:

I am a resident of Palmdale, in the Antelope Valley.

I would respectfully request that the commission consider making the Antelope Valley district start at Acton and end at the San Bernardino County.

The Antelope Valley is a unique area with issues that simply do not fit Santa Clarita or Bakersfield.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathryn

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Region 4

From: Richard Gibson <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 26 May 2011 18:35:54 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Richard Gibson <[REDACTED]>

Subject: San Fernando Valley representation

Message Body:

I am a resident of West Hills, which is a community in the West San Fernando Valley. At present, both my immediate community, and the San Fernando Valley as a whole, is without representation either in Congress or the State Legislature. The reason for this is that the San Fernando Valley has been chopped into pieces and then the pieces are attached to districts from other regions. My Congressional District, for example, is dominated by the Westside of Los Angeles, Malibu and Santa Monica. A little piece of the West Valley, for some reason, has been sewn onto this very different region. Please understand something. The San Fernando Valley is a distinct area and a distinct community. The area is very easy to define. We are between the mountains. Our southern border is Mullholland Drive, our northern border is the 118, our western border is the Ventura County line and our eastern border is the 5 freeway. The area in between is a community. Please draw the lines so th!
at our community is kept together.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Region 4

From: "Martin A. C. EnriquezMarquez" [REDACTED]

Date: Tue, 24 May 2011 06:44:53 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Martin A. C. EnriquezMarquez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Pasadena & Altadena together by Census Tracts in Assembly District

Message Body:

Martin A. C. EnriquezMarquez

[REDACTED]
Pasadena, CA 91106

May 23, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Pasadena & Altadena together by Census Tracts in Assembly District

After reviewing almost all the Public Comments for Region IV Los Angeles County and most of the general comments for May 2011, I am struck by the many innovative approaches offered by the public. I realize the electoral laws have been developed over the last three decades. However, the district lines of the 1980's for Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional seats in the greater Pasadena area are worth noting. I know that those lines cannot be duplicated, but they offer interesting methods for preserving and recognizing "community interests" beyond those offered by officialdom.

Assembly Districts 41 and 55 from 1980's

The source material came from:

1. <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/info/ad82maps/1982ad55.pdf>
2. <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/info/ad82maps/1982ad41.pdf>

Please observe the treatment for the Assembly Districts 41 and 55. The latter district AD 55 grouped Western Pasadena (West of Lake Avenue and North of Colorado Blvd) with Los Angeles along the 110 Freeway. This made sense in commonality of socio-economic status with a diverse ethnic mix.

The rest of Pasadena was in Assembly District 41 linked with more affluent communities. They too shared commonalities of similar socio-economic factors. In no way did this set up diminish the importance of Pasadena's various communities. In fact, it gave a strong voice to Northwest Pasadenans whose needs were often overlooked compared to the more prosperous sectors of Pasadena.

State Senate Districts 16 and 21 in the 1980's

The source material came from:

3. <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/info/sd82maps/1982sd21.pdf>
4. <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/info/sd82maps/1982sd16.pdf>

Again the prized area for democratic voters was Northwest Pasadena and Western Altadena which was connected to State Senator Walter Stern (State Senate District 16). This time the most easterly line was Hill Avenue instead of Lake Avenue, then shifting north. This area along the 210 Freeway is also known as Pasadena's Hispanic Corridor.

These lines keep the bulk of Pasadena's Mexican American community together with almost all of Pasadena's African Americans in the same State Senate seat 16. They were given consideration by Senator Stern with a district office opened in the area. Also represented were the people of Altadena, west of Lake Avenue.

Republicans too were able to elect a representative of their choice in State Senate District 21. This district grouped wealthy neighborhoods of Linda Vista and San Rafael with easterly Hastings Ranch and all the area south of Colorado Blvd.

Census Tracts having the greatest commonality

All of the peoples of Pasadena and Altadena are great. They should be united in the same Assembly district. But if not, there can be a reasonable solution as presented in the above. Recognition that within the City of Pasadena there are differing community interests which are present.

Thus as much as possible keep the following census tracts together:

Pasadena: 4609, 4615, 4616, 4619, 4620, 4621, 4622, 4623, and 4627.

Altadena: 4602, 4603.01, 4603.02, 4610 and 4611

Source: 5. http://www.lapl.org/resources/guides/tract_maps/ct06037_d08.pdf

Congressional Districts 25 (Edward Roybal) and 22 from the 1980's

The source material came from:

6. <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/info/cd80maps/1980cd25.pdf>
7. <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/info/cd80maps/1980cd22.pdf>

The Great Edward Roybal represented Pasadena in the 25th Congressional District. The Honorable Roybal's district was based in Los Angeles yet it extended to Pasadena and Altadena to the north. It included almost all the area north of Colorado Blvd with Altadena Drive as its most east boundary. Again this demonstrated the existence of the Pasadena's Hispanic Corridor running on both sides of the 210 Freeway. It included almost all of Pasadena's and Altadena's African American communities as well.

In the 22nd District Representative Carlos Moorhead represented well the rest of Pasadena. He was the dean of the California Republicans in the House of Representatives. He had his office in Pasadena. If these great men could represent the interests of Pasadena without difficulty, surely lines could be established that give equal voice to all Pasadena and Altadena.

Dedication of CRC and its Responsibilities

The CRC has as its mission to honor the community interests of all Californians in a

fair manner. I have read with amusement the public commentary. Some comments were woefully unaware of election law and judicial decisions. Others ignored historical circumstance and housing patterns that reflect past discriminatory practices.

Humans can correct past instances of inelegant behavior. You are now charged with that monumental endeavor. The transparency demonstrated so far it admirable. Keep up the good work.

Greater Pasadena Area

As explained above, community interests can differ within city boundaries because of various cultural, social, and economic factors, even in cities the size of Pasadena. As the Commissioners you are empowered to draw the lines as the people's agents. Do not despair in harsh critiques: it is alright to bisect a city if commonalities with adjoining areas represent a better mix that increases the opportunity for the not so prosperous to have parity with those who are economical dominant.

I would prefer a Pasadena based Assembly district in the San Gabriel Valley in union with western Altadena. The other portions of Pasadena and Altadena could be an adjacent Assembly district within a Senatorial District. That would make the probable Republican and Democratic Assembly members compete for elevation to the Senatorial District.

The Congressional district should be oriented east to the San Gabriel Valley. Pasadena is the cultural and educational capital of the San Gabriel Valley. Pasadena has commonality with its Verdugo Hills neighbors (Burbank, Glendale and La Canada-Flintridge) but it is the leader in San Gabriel Valley, that should be reflected in the Congressional seat.

Respectfully,

Martin A.C. EnriquezMarquez
CRC Applicant 6216
May 23, 2011

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Larry Andre <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 00:34:50 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Larry Andre <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Congressional District

Message Body:

I have viewed the maps that are available and the City of Lakewood has been included with Long Beach. Lakewood has little in common with Long Beach but has much more in common with Bellflower, Cerritos, Artesia, Whittier, La Mireada, Downey. Long Beach is a medium sized city with little in common with the other cities named as they are smaller cities.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: region 4 comments on redistricting

From: Laurie Cohn <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 7 May 2011 21:35:35 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Laurie Cohn <[REDACTED]>

Subject: region 4 comments on redistricting

Message Body:

May 7, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission

1130 K St Suite 101

Sacramento, CA 95814

To Whom It May Concern:

I had mailed in a letter on April 26, 2011 but do not see it posted, so am now emailing my comments. I live in and own three rental homes in Studio City in the San Fernando Valley. I am a co-director of the non-profit, Save LA River Open Space, and a member of the Studio City Residents Association. I have also lived in West Hollywood, the Fairfax area, Beverly Hills, Brentwood, and Westwood. I have lived on both sides of the hill, divided by Mulholland Drive, for the past 50 years.

Studio City is a close knit community, bordered by the communities of Beverly Crest and Hollywood Hills to the south, Sherman Oaks to the west, Valley Village and North Hollywood to the north and Toluca Lake and Universal City to the east. We would like the entire community of Studio City to be included in an Assembly and State Senate district, particularly because we already are split into three separate City Council districts. The LA River and the Santa Monica Mountains run through our district. Revitalization of the L.A. River, open space preservation, traffic and transportation, and controlled development are major issues of importance to us.

Our community of interest includes both the SF Valley and the Westside of Los Angeles. We share common interests with the residents and communities of Sherman Oaks, Encino, Tarzana and Woodland Hills and west to the Ventura County line (Calabasas and Agoura Hills), all of which are primarily located along the busy 101 Ventura Freeway corridor. These communities are all represented by active and involved local homeowners associations, neighborhood and community councils. These Valley communities are directly linked to the Westside through transportation corridors (Laurel Canyon, Coldwater Canyon, Beverly Glen, Sepulveda, the 405-San Diego Freeway). Both sides of the Santa Monica Mountains should be included in this Valley and greater Westside District. We work and enjoy cultural, shopping, and recreational interests on the Westside, to the beaches of Santa Monica and Malibu, UCLA, Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and the Westside. Many residents from the Westside come to the valley for shopping, recreation, hiking in the Santa Monica Mountains or along the L.A. River. Many of us in the valley go over the hill daily to work, and vice versa. Many of our residents are active in the protection of the Santa Monica Mountains and participate in the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy meetings. The Santa Monica Mountains bind these cities and communities together from Studio City and West Hollywood to the Ventura County line at Malibu and Westlake Village.

My hope is that Studio City and Sherman Oaks can remain part of the 23rd Senate district as it is now, joined with communities along Ventura Blvd. in the valley and the many communities over the mountains from West Hollywood to Malibu.

Sincerely,

Laurie Cohn

[REDACTED].
Studio City, CA 91604
[REDACTED]

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Joan Levine <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 01:16:18 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Joan Levine <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Keep the Hollywoods Together! As Much as Possible!

Message Body:

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I have followed your adventures these last few months and read the comments and listened to the testimony. A constant refrain in one form or another is "Keep the Hollywoods Together."

(1) "Hollywood" is a historical neighborhood in Los Angeles. It includes the neighborhoods of Hollywood and the Hollywood Hills and East Hollywood. "East Hollywood" is a separate neighborhood now, that includes Little Armenia and Thai Town. Historically, East Hollywood included Silver Lake and Los Feliz. Both neighborhoods are part of the Hollywood Hills "mountain" range. They also featured the original Motion Picture industry: Los Feliz was the home to Disney Studios, and Silver Lake, then known as Edendale, was where most silent pictures were shot.

(2) Expansively, Hollywood also contains other communities. Studio City, as the name implies, also had lots of filming. However, Studio City is not a city, but a neighborhood of LA. Some call it in the San Fernando Valley, but really, it is in the same Hollywood Hills, just on the other side.

North Hollywood is also in the San Fernando Valley, but it is also part of the CITY of Los Angeles, and it is north Hollywood.

West Hollywood is a separate city, that has existed since only 1992. But it is west Hollywood.

At the most expansive, Burbank could be included in this universe because it has a ton of studios too, and it touches the same Hollywood Hills.

Griffith Park runs right smack in the middle of these communities.

The bottom line is that you have ignored all the pleas and separated these communities into FOUR assembly districts. We could understand two; we could understand using the not so expansive definition of Hollywood, but the current plan is just a disaster for this area. One of the biggest issues locals have with the 2001-2011 districts is that Los Feliz is split in two districts and Hollywood and Griffith Park into three. Please tell me you have heard our pleas.

We ask you again to keep the Hollywoods together. It strikes me that you could easily do three vertical districts starting in the west and head east. You could do a district that is 25% Latino; one that is 50% Latino; and one that is 75% Latino, that are much more logical than the ones you have now.

Drawing in the mansions of Los Feliz and Silver Lake into East Los Angeles has got to be the most bizarre proposal I have ever heard.

Keep these neighborhoods together. If not all, then some. If not every one, then most. Please.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

June 8, 2011

Dear CRC,

After reading many inputs you've received from the California population, I can appreciate the daunting task ahead of you. As a resident of greater Whittier, I've seen the absurd districting maps representing our city. When I say "city", I refer to the entire area the Post Office has on record as "Whittier" zip codes 90601-90606. Even where I live, in an "unincorporated Whittier area", the residents identify with Whittier as their home. They deserve to be represented by elected officials who will look out for the interests of all of us in the greater Whittier area as a whole. A similar theme is evident in the hundreds, if not thousands, of comments you have received over time indicating the desire to "keep our city together". The greater Whittier community represents a varied socio-economic, ethnic and region of common interests that are in line with the spirit of the laws for equal representation. Equal doesn't mean a majority of one ethnic group over another, as the current gerrymandered districts were designed to propagate. Please consider "Whittier" as one community worthy of concerted representation.

Sincerely,

James Pasinato

[REDACTED]

Whittier, CA 90601

May 23, 2011

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

Dear Members:

As a current resident of Santa Monica and as a resident of the Westside of Los Angeles for nearly thirty years, I am writing to strongly urge you to ensure that Senate District 23 retains Santa Monica as well as 1) its neighbors to the east in Beverly Hills, Brentwood, Bel Air, and West Hollywood, and 2) the cities and neighborhoods in the westernmost portion of Los Angeles County, which include Malibu, Topanga, Agoura Hills, Westlake Village, and Calabasas.

While these cities and communities each have their own name and individual characteristics, they also share a joint identity that deserves united representation in the California State Senate. Their connection begins with the fact that Santa Monica forms the center of two key links: 1) it is intimately connected to Malibu because both are part of the same school district, and 2) it is connected to West Hollywood and Beverly Hills by the Westside Cities Council of Governments. Beyond these institutional links there are three key connections that argue strongly for these communities to remain together in one Senatorial District.

First, these communities are united by their interrelated educational institutions. Many of the K-12 schools in this area are some of the best in the region and they are one of the factors that draw residents, including my family, to this area. We deserve a Senator who will recognize the existing strength of these schools and will work to help preserve this important community asset. This is all the more true given the fact that the above-described area includes not only high-quality schools but also schools that are in many cases members of School Districts that are dwarfed by the much larger Los Angeles Unified School District. For example, Santa Monica-Malibu, Las Virgenes, and Beverly Hills, as well as Palisades Charter High School and Canyon Charter Elementary School, which both enjoy significant autonomy from LAUSD, while retaining formal affiliation with LAUSD. The needs of these smaller school districts and independent schools are often different from those of larger districts and both deserve separate representation that can focus on their particular needs. In addition, Senate District 23 unites what it perhaps one of the most important educational continuums in the region: the connection between Santa Monica College and UCLA. Given the numerous transfers between the two institutions, it is important that the Senate retain a single representative who understands the needs of both institutions and its students to ensure that educational priorities can be aligned even for those students who do not move directly from high school to a four year university.

Second, these communities are united in the high priority they place on environmental protection. This focus on environmental issues should naturally be expected given the fact that this area is adjacent to two of California's most precious resources: its mountains and the Pacific Ocean. In fact, rather than

dividing these communities the Santa Monica Mountains forms the backbone of the District. In a way that is perhaps unmatched anywhere else in California, the Santa Monica Mountains in the 23rd District create both a recreational resource enjoyed by residents from throughout Southern California, as well as the exclusive residential neighborhoods of Bel Air, the Pacific Palisades, Malibu, Agoura Hills, Westlake Village, Topanga, Calabasas, Santa Monica Canyon, and significant portions of Beverly Hills and West Hollywood. Given the central role the mountains play to this area, it is absolutely critical that these areas are represented by a Senator who will be in a position to represent these communities' vital interest in preserving the mountains and preserving the many State Parks and state-related Conservancy lands that are present in this area (including Topanga, Malibu Creek State Park, Temescal, and Will Rogers State Parks, Ramirez Canyon, King Gillette Ranch, and many more).

Finally, this area is united by the fact that residents, including myself and my family, travel frequently within this area to play, shop, and dine. Given the numerous east-west road networks and cross-mountain routes these communities naturally continue without interruption from one to the next. I frequently find myself traveling from my home in Santa Monica to eat breakfast in Brentwood, visit the Getty Center in Bel Air, the Getty Villa in the Pacific Palisades, the Theatricum Botanicum in Topanga, or the Geffen Play House in Westwood, hike in Topanga State Park, or take a bicycle ride up the beach along Pacific Coast Highway toward Point Dume, and then meet friends for dinner in West Hollywood or Beverly Hills. In short, I travel between the various corners of the Los Angeles County portion of Senate District 23 without ever feeling like I am leaving my home community.

Senate District 23 is united geographically, socially, and economically, and by its unique natural environment. Given the vital role that the State plays in determining how natural areas will be preserved and how educational resources will be distributed protected, the above-described area deserves to be united within one Senatorial District. The current 23rd Senatorial District (and, perhaps even better, the 1991 version of the 23rd Senatorial District), does a fantastic job of encompassing these mountain and Westside communities. Your Commission would do this area proud by protecting the existing integrity and boundaries of Senate District 23.

Thank you very much for your service and for your attention to these views.

Sincerely,

Ben Saltsman


Santa Monica, CA 90404

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Nicholas Capistrano <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 04:21:24 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Nicholas Capistrano <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Follow-Up Req'd By Commission

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for allowing me to address you this morning. You asked that I send you something in writing to document the neighborhoods that feel their strong, environmental-based community of interest has been terribly split in the first working draft maps. I would refer you to the hundreds of written comments that environmental activists sent you in the past two months.

Those commenters, each who took the time to draft you long, logical, and legal arguments for keeping certain communities together, asked you for two things:

(1) To keep the communities that touch Griffith Park in the same state legislative districts. Other phrased this as keeping as many communities (as possible) that are part of the eastern Santa Monica Mountains / (foothills really, which separate the San Fernando Valley from Los Angeles city) in the same district. Those communities are: Studio City, Toluca Lake, North Hollywood, Burbank, and especially, the Hollywood Hills, Hollywood, Los Feliz, Silver Lake, East Hollywood, and Atwater Village. All of these communities are (1) hill communities; (2) that border parkland; (3) that deal with wildlife, open-space preservation, and FIRE issues. Just a few years ago, a terrible fire threatened all of these communities. They are desperate in their need to speak with a unified voice on fire and environmental funding.

(2) Similarly, to keep the communities that touch the WESTERN Santa Monica Mountains in the same legislative districts. Again, you received several comments. Again, these communities, stretching from Agoura Hills and Calabasas, through Topanga and the south San Fernando Valley neighborhoods, need to speak with one unified voice to address the tumultuous proposed changes in terms of preservation, development issues, and wildlife.

Instead of listening to the public, you drew districts that split the Greater Hollywood/Greater Griffith Park area into four Assembly districts. The heart of the area (Silver Lake, Los Feliz, and the Park itself) is placed into East LA, even though it is not east of the river or east of downtown, which are the natural boundaries you must follow! The Western Santa Monicas are similarly split, though not as badly. However, in the Senate districts you drew, you lumped part of them in with the Santa Clarita area, which is another exceedingly odd choice.

I strongly suggest that you take a look at the following links to get a feel for what neutral authorities, like the Los Angeles Times, and the City of Los Angeles deem communities of interest. Your work is pretty much done if you just look at the following maps:

<http://projects.latimes.com/mapping-la/neighborhoods/region/central-la/>

<http://projects.latimes.com/mapping-la/neighborhoods/region/santa-monica-mountains/>

<http://www.laalmanac.com/LA/lamap2.htm>

I also suggest that you spend a couple minutes to actually review the comments you have

received on these areas if you haven't had a chance to already. Those who care about the environment have sent you more on these two areas than just about anywhere else in the state, and we are feeling pretty darn ignored right now. Thank you.

Nick Capistrano
Environmental Advocate

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Isabella Diaz <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 01:09:06 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Isabella Diaz <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Los Angeles "East LA" Districts

Message Body:

By the way, your "email us" address does not seem to be working.

Commissioners:

When you Commissioners were picked, many of us in Los Angeles (and many in the media) were concerned that none of you lived in the City of Los Angeles. We were told not to worry, that you understood the region and would draw fair maps. We've also been told, throughout the process, that the era of odd-shaped, gerrymandered districts, featuring odd pairings of communities, were over.

Then, in your initial draft maps, you proposed a district lumping together Los Feliz, Silver Lake, and East Los Angeles!!!!!! To get there, the district lines cross the Los Angeles River and dart around Downtown Los Angeles, making the district as bizarrely shaped as anything the politicians ever drew.

It will be extremely difficult for whomever is in elected in that district to represent those communities. Those communities are as different as can be.

I ask you to draw more sensible maps. East Los Angeles (and Lincoln Heights, etc.) MUST be together with other eastside communities so that residents can elect a repetitive of their choosing.

The communities of Los Feliz, and Silver Lake are not "eastside."!!!!!! No portion of those communities are east of Downtown or east of the Los Angeles River. Those communities most logically belong in your Central Los Angeles ("Hancock Park") district or the Westside or even the Burbank district. They are a contiguous stretch of hillside communities of the east Santa Monica Mountain range. They should be lumped with the Hollywood Hills, with which they share a newspaper and so much in common. I've seen the 100s of letters pushing for the communities that touch Griffith Park to be in one district, how could you ignore them????

The "East Los Angeles" state assembly district, as initiately drafted, is a farce!!!!!! It makes the district impossible to govern for whomever is elected. It will always result in one half or the other feeling completely left out of the process. It is bizarrely shaped and illogical. Keeping it as drafted will let down EVERYONE in those communities.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Veronica Bloomfield <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 01:57:37 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Veronica Bloomfield <[REDACTED]>

Subject: ARTESIA

Message Body:

Hello.

I am a third generation Artesian. I was born in Los Angeles and raised in the city of Artesia. I am proud to be a resident of the City of Artesia and Los Angeles county. Artesia is one of the most linguistically and culturally diverse cities of its size in the nation. We reflect the religious, cultural, and linguistic differences that make Los Angeles County an amazing place to work and live.

Our values, our aesthetic, and our mindset is that of LOS ANGELES COUNTY. We do not travel to Orange County for entertainment or business. We in no way identify ourselves with the conservatism, white flight, and materialism so deeply entrenched in the OC. We may be a small city, but we are mighty in our own right. Please respect the history we have as part of Los Angeles County and do not rope us into a neighboring county for which we feel no affection.

Sincerely yours,

Veronica Elizabeth Bloomfield

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Miguel Canales <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 10 Jun 2011 01:53:06 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Miguel Canales <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Artesia

Message Body:

Hello. I am writing this letter of concern regarding the redistricting of part of LA County that would actually put the city where I live in Orange County. I am highly opposed to this.

Both Artesia and Cerritos have a great deal in common demographically with cities like Bellflower, Downey, Lakewood, and Norwalk and very little in common with cities like Tustin and Westminster.

- The Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG) provides regional leadership, in transportation, housing and air quality to name just a few issues. If more than ¼ of our district is in a different county, the majority of the attention of our elected representatives will be on how policy issues affect that county.

We are part of Gateway Cities and issues around policies, water, and transportation would be greatly affected by this redistricting.

- The places we go to shop, eat and for entertainment are in the Gateway Cities area. We do not travel to Orange County for these kinds of activities on a daily basis.

There is no good reason to split Cerritos and Artesia from the rest of the Gateway Cities and put them in Orange County. This seems to violate one of the reasons Prop. 10 was put on the ballot. To keep our communities together.

Please do not disrupt our identity as part of Los Angeles County.

Sincerely yours,
Miguel Canales
Planning Commissioner, City of Artesia
Gov't Teacher, Gahr High School, Verritos

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Ricky Grubb <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 9 Jun 2011 09:02:13 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Ricky Grubb <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Sunland Tujunga, rim of the valley grouping

Message Body:

Hi,

My community of Sunland 91040-1856 and Tujunga is on the route of the rim of the valley trail, we are both foothill community with scenic Verdugo mnts and Angeles National Forest a constant backdrop. This soothing and popular outdoor recreational feature we share in common with the nearby communities of LaTuna Canyon, la crescenta, Kagel Canyon, Lake view terrace, Montrose, Glendale and Burbank and we could rightly be grouped with them to share more common ground issues such as environmental protections, endangered species, habitat, recreational trails and open space.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Los Angeles (Central)

From: Isabella Diaz <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 8 Jun 2011 20:59:12 -0700 (PDT)

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

CC: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

Commissioners:

When you Commissioners were picked, many of us in Los Angeles (and many in the media) were concerned that none of you lived in the City of Los Angeles. We were told not to worry, that you understood the region and would draw fair maps. We've also been told, throughout the process, that the era of odd-shaped, gerrymandered districts, featuring odd pairings of communities, were over.

Then, in your initial draft maps, you proposed a district lumping together Los Feliz, Silver Lake, and East Los Angeles!!!!!! To get there, the district lines cross the Los Angeles River and dart around Downtown Los Angeles, making the district as bizarrely shaped as anything the politicians ever drew.

It will be extremely difficult for whomever is in elected in that district to represent those communities. Those communities are as different as can be.

I ask you to draw more sensible maps. East Los Angeles (and Lincoln Heights, etc.) MUST be together with other eastside communities so that residents can elect a representative of their choosing.

The communities of Los Feliz, and Silver Lake are not "eastside."!!!!!! No portion of those communities are east of Downtown or east of the Los Angeles River. Those communities most logically belong in your Central Los Angeles ("Hancock Park") district or the Westside or even

the Burbank district. They are a contiguous stretch of hillside communities of the east Santa Monica Mountain range. They should be lumped with the Hollywood Hills, with which they share a newspaper and so much in common. I've seen the 100s of letters pushing for the communities that touch Griffith Park to be in one district, how could you ignore them????

The "East Los Angeles" state assembly district, as initiately drafted, is a farce!!!!!! It makes the district impossible to govern for whomever is elected. It will always result in one half or the other feeling completely left out of the process. It is bizarrely shaped and illogical. Keeping it as drafted will let down EVERYONE in those communities.

Subject: Los Angeles State Districts

From: Joan Levine <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 8 Jun 2011 21:10:55 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

CC: [REDACTED]

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I have followed your adventures these last few months and read the comments and listened to the testimony. A constant refrain in one form or another is "Keep the Hollywoods Together."

(1) "Hollywood" is a historical neighborhood in Los Angeles. It includes the neighborhoods of Hollywood and the Hollywood Hills and East Hollywood. "East Hollywood" is a separate neighborhood now, that includes Little Armenia and Thai Town. Historically, East Hollywood included Silver Lake and Los Feliz. Both neighborhoods are part of the Hollywood Hills "mountain" range. They also featured the original Motion Picture industry: Los Feliz was the home to Disney Studios, and Silver Lake, then known as Edendale, was where most silent pictures were shot.

(2) Expansively, Hollywood also contains other communities. Studio City, as the name implies, also had lots of filming. However, Studio City is not a city, but a neighborhood of LA. Some call it in the San Fernando Valley, but really, it is in the same Hollywood Hills, just on the other side.

North Hollywood is also in the San Fernando Valley, but it is also part of the City of Los Angeles, and it is north Hollywood.

West Hollywood is a separate city, that has existed since only 1992. But it is west Hollywood.

At the most expansive, Burbank could be included in this universe because it has a ton of studios too, and it touches the same Hollywood Hills.

Griffith Park runs right smack in the middle of these communities.

The bottom line is that you have ignored all the pleas and separated these communities into FOUR assembly districts. We could understand two; we could understand using the not so expansive definition of Hollywood, but the current plan is just a disaster for this area. One of the biggest issues locals have with the 2001-2011 districts is that Los Feliz is split in two districts and Hollywood and Griffith Park into three. Please tell me you have heard our pleas.

We ask you again to keep the Hollywoods together. It strikes me that you could easily do three vertical districts starting in the west and head east. You could do a district that is 25% Latino; one that is 50% Latino; and one that is 75% Latino, that are much more logical than the ones you have now.

Drawing in the mansions of Los Feliz and Silver Lake into East Los Angeles has got to be the most

bizarre proposal I have ever heard.

Keep these neighborhoods together. If not all, then some. If not every one, then most. Please.

Subject: Fwd: Public Comment Deadline for First Draft maps

From: "Shupe, Christina" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 9 Jun 2011 13:54:56 -0700

To: Communications Office <[REDACTED]>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Astrid Garcia** <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, Jun 9, 2011 at 1:13 PM

Subject: Public Comment Deadline for First Draft maps

To: "Claypool, Daniel" <[REDACTED]>

Hi Dan,

I hope you are doing well.

Do you know if the Commission will be setting a deadline for written public comment on the Commission's First Draft Maps so that these comments are included into the next draft maps ?

It would be helpful if the Commission can set all these deadlines for comments on the maps for all the drafts . I know that the Commission is always accepting on going comments but it would be helpful to have some of these deadlines for the draft maps so that community members can plan accordingly.

Thank you

Astrid

Astrid Garcia

Director of State Election Policy and Redistricting

NALEO Educational Fund

[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, CA 90015

[REDACTED] [Ext.](#) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Fax

[REDACTED]

The NALEO Educational Fund is the leading nonprofit organization that facilitates full Latino participation in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.

"Not a Member? Join Now!"

www.naleo.org/join



June 8, 2011

To :Redistricting Commission

From: Laurie Cohn, Studio City

Dear Commission:

I am a homeowner, resident, and rental property owner in Studio City.

I've been reviewing the preliminary maps and I don't agree with any of these maps. I live in Senate District 23, map area IV. We've always been in a district with our "community of interest" on both sides of the Santa Monica Mountains, from West Hollywood to Malibu on the Westside, and from Studio City to Westlake Village, then Oxnard on the San Fernando Valley side. I think our area in Studio City, Sherman Oaks, the west valley, Malibu, Las Virgenes and now Thousand Oaks should be nested with the new proposed Westside Assembly seat (Pacific Palisades, Brentwood, Santa Monica, Marina del Rey, Studio City, Beverly Hills, and West Hollywood) instead of being nested with parts of LA County that we have no community of interest with like the South Bay down to Torrance and Palos Verdes or east to Alhambra and Rosemead as were shown on the June 1 maps. The communities on both sides of Mulholland Drive in the Santa Monica Mountains have shared a community of interest for many years and all commute back and forth for work, entertainment, access to the LA River.

Thank you for your consideration and your hard work.

Sincerely,

Laurie Cohn

██████████
Studio City, CA 91604

██████████

████████████████████

Subject: Pomona

From: Primo Castro <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 7 Jun 2011 09:21:19 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Please keep the city of Pomona under one congressional, assembly and state senate district.

Assembly District should include:

Pomona, Montclair, Chino and Ontario.

State Senate district should include:

Pomona, Montclair, Chino, Ontario, Fontana and Rialto.

Congressional District should include:

Pomona, Montclair, Chino, Ontario, Fontana and Rialto.



Since 1895

I am writing to express my strong view that the maps that were posted on the website on June 1 will do much better job of providing representation for me and our community than those posted on June 7.

I work in the Gateway Cities area and I strongly believe that Artesia and Cerritos have a great deal in common demographically with cities such as Bellflower, Downey, Lakewood, Norwalk, Paramount and Santa Fe Springs and very little in common with cities such as Stanton, Tustin and Westminster.

Our cities are a part of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG), which provides regional leadership in issues such as transportation, housing and air quality to name just a few. If more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of our district is in a different county, the majority of the attention of our elected representatives will be on how policy issues affect that county, not LA County which I live and work in.

You must consider that our message to our elected officials on issues we currently share with our neighboring cities in Los Angeles County and addressed in this regional planning by the COG will be fractured if we have different representation in Sacramento than the other cities in the COG.

The places my friends and family go to when we shop, eat and for entertainment are in the Gateway Cities area. We do not travel to Orange County for these kinds of activities on a daily basis.

When Proposition 10 was on the ballot, it was stressed that "The geographic integrity of any city, county, city and county, neighborhood, or community of interest shall be respected to the extent possible. There simply does not seem to be a compelling reason to split Cerritos and Artesia from the rest of the Gateway Cities and put them in Orange County. This seems to violate one of the reasons many of us supported Prop. 10

We want to keep our communities together. Please do just that.

Subject: Neighborhood of Toluca Lake- City of Los Angeles- Area IV

From: Andrew Westall <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 7 Jun 2011 13:15:24 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

CC: [REDACTED] "Waldman, Stuart"

Dear Commissioners:

After analyzing the visualizations presented at the meeting today, our community is appalled that the Commission would consider splitting the Greater Toluca Lake community again in the Assembly and Senate maps. In the 2001 Redistricting, our community (see attachment-Toluca Lake Map.pdf; Toluca Lake.dbf) was split into two Assembly Districts, two Senate Districts, and two Congressional Districts. These current lines have made it very difficult for our residents to deal with the issues of the State Highway 134/State Highway 101 Interchange, as well as the community impacts of Universal City at the state and federal levels. Even if the Commission utilizes the official Neighborhood Council boundaries as recognized by the City of Los Angeles (see attachment-Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council), the community would also be split into two Assembly and Senate Districts. Our community has a population of 18,446 residents based on the 2010 Census, most of whom work in the entertainment industry nearby in Burbank (Warner Brothers, Walt Disney Company, NBC), Glendale (Dreamworks, BET, ABC, Fox), and Universal City (Universal Studios) just to name a few. Our community ranges from a middle class to upper class community, and is very homogenous in terms of demographics and workforce. Our community must be kept intact for many of the same reasons and principles that other communities throughout the State have stated previously. While we are not advocating to be located in a particular district, our community should also be kept together with other San Fernando Valley communities per the VICA principles which our Neighborhood Council adopted at our May, 2011 board meeting.

On a personal note, this is particularly disturbing to me as a redistricting expert who served as the Technical Director for the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission and the City of Los Angeles Redistricting Commission for the LAUSD, as well as the chief line drawer for over 30 Democratic Assembly Districts for the State Assembly in 2001. I have purposely not participated in the Commission process up until this point on principle. I believe the Commission should do the work of the people, and I understand the freedom of not having to draw lines at the behest of elected officials. But on this point, I must defend our community and request that the community be kept intact for the next ten years in terms of representation for the State Legislature and the House of Representatives.

On a lighter note, we hope that the community will remain intact as shown in the Congressional visualization.

Best Regards,

Andrew J. Westall

President
Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council



cc: Toluca Lake Homeowners Association
Toluca Lake Chamber of Commerce
Valley Industry and Commerce Association

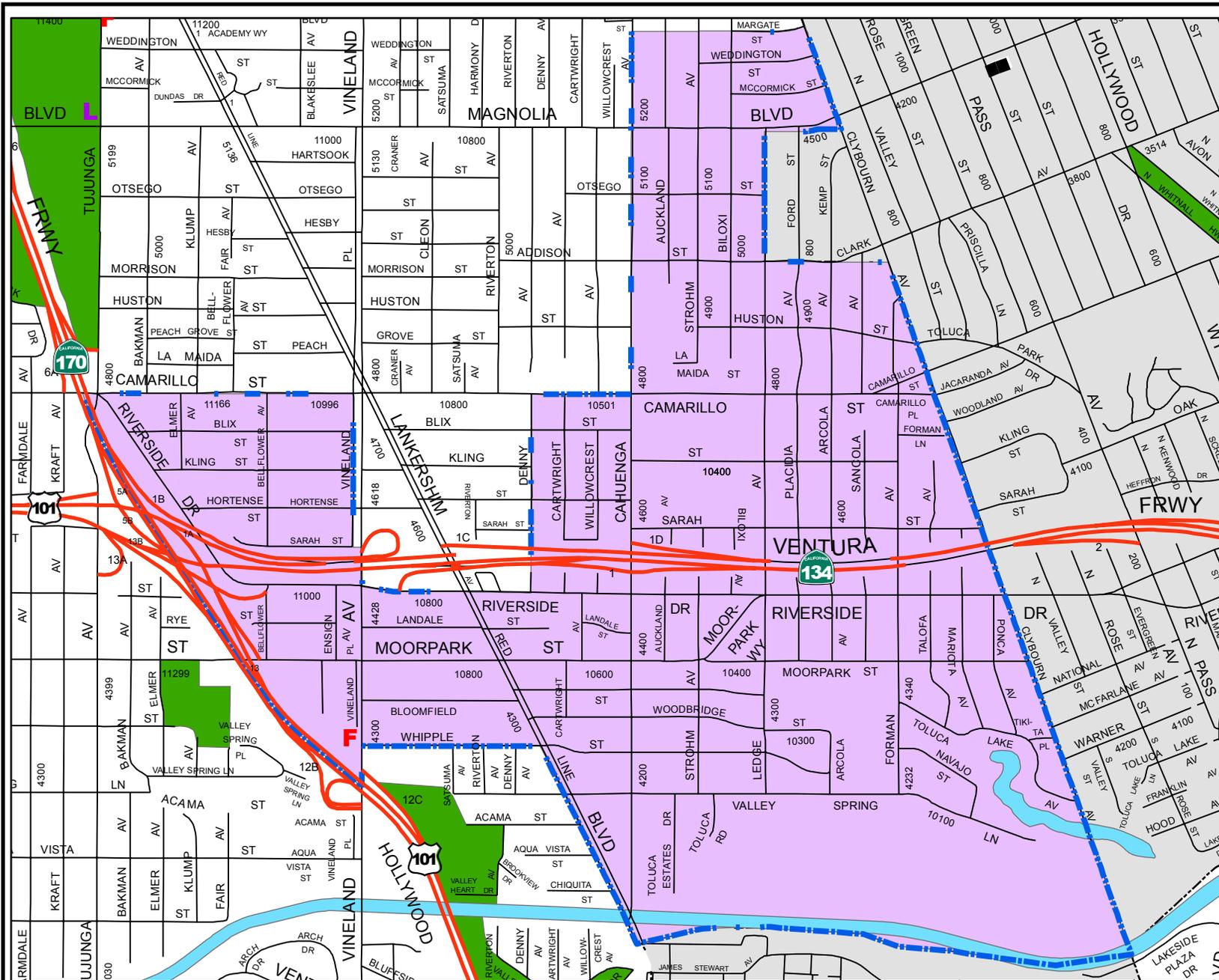
Toluca Lake Map.pdf

— Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council.pdf —

Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council.pdf

— TOLUCA LAKE.DBF —

TOLUCA LAKE.DBF



SOUTH VALLEY AREA
COUNCIL DISTRICT: 4
GREATER TOLUCA LAKE NC
CERTIFIED: 09/10/2002
 Department of
 Neighborhood Empowerment
 or dial 311
 or neighborhoods.com

- P** Police Station
- F** Fire Station
- L** Library
- Park
- Recreation Area
- Water
- Freeway
- Street



NOT TO SCALE
 Copyright (C) 2007 City of Los Angeles
 Prepared by ABOEIGIS MAPPING DIVISION : 08/2007
 This shall not be copied or reproduced, all or any part thereof, whether for distribution or resale, without the prior written permission of the CITY ENGINEER
 Streets Copyright (C) 2004 Thomas Bros. Maps



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
 MAYOR

GREATER TOLUCA LAKE
 NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
 DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT
 CITY OF LOS ANGELES



GARY LEE MOORE, P.E.
 CITY ENGINEER

Subject: 6/9/2011 Public Comment

From: Nick Capistrano <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 9 Jun 2011 10:57:46 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

CC: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for allowing me to address you this morning. You asked that I send you something in writing to document the neighborhoods that feel their strong, environmental-based community of interest has been terribly split in the first working draft maps. I would refer you to the hundreds of written comments that environmental activists sent you in the past two months.

Those commenters, each who took the time to draft you long, logical, and legal arguments for keeping certain communities together, asked you for two things:

(1) To keep the communities that touch Griffith Park in the same state legislative districts. Other phrased this as keeping as many communities (as possible) that are part of the eastern Santa Monica Mountains / (foothills really, which separate the San Fernando Valley from Los Angeles city) in the same district. Those communities are: Studio City, Toluca Lake, North Hollywood, Burbank, and especially, the Hollywood Hills, Hollywood, Los Feliz, Silver Lake, East Hollywood, and Atwater Village. All of these communities are (1) hill communities; (2) that border parkland; (3) that deal with wildlife, open-space preservation, and FIRE issues. Just a few years ago, a terrible fire threatened all of these communities. They are desperate in their need to speak with a unified voice on fire and environmental funding.

(2) Similarly, to keep the communities that touch the WESTERN Santa Monica Mountains in the same legislative districts. Again, you received several comments. Again, these communities, stretching from Agoura Hills and Calabasas, through Topanga and the south San Fernando Valley neighborhoods, need to speak with one unified voice to address the tumultuous proposed changes in terms of preservation, development issues, and wildlife.

Instead of listening to the public, you drew districts that split the Greater Hollywood/Greater Griffith Park area into four Assembly districts. The heart of the area (Silver Lake, Los Feliz, and the Park itself) is placed into East LA, even though it is not east of the river or east of downtown, which are the natural boundaries you must follow! The Western Santa Monicas are similarly split, though not as badly. However, in the Senate districts you drew, you lumped part of them in with the Santa Clarita area, which is another exceedingly odd choice.

I strongly suggest that you take a look at the following links to get a feel for what neutral authorities, like the Los Angeles Times, and the City of Los Angeles deem communities of interest. Your work is pretty much done if you just look at the following maps:

<http://projects.latimes.com/mapping-la/neighborhoods/region/central-la/>

<http://projects.latimes.com/mapping-la/neighborhoods/region/santa-monica-mountains/>

<http://www.laalmanac.com/LA/lamap2.htm>

I also suggest that you spend a couple minutes to actually review the comments you have received on these areas if you haven't had a chance to already. Those who care about the environment have sent you more on these two areas than just about anywhere else in the state, and we are feeling pretty darn ignored right now. Thank you.

Nick Capistrano

Environmental Advocate

Subject: ASIAN COMMUNITY OF INTEREST BETWEEN WEST AND EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

From: "John Wong" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 9 Jun 2011 07:21:48 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

CC: <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>

To: Commissioner Filkins Webber,

Questions have been raised regarding shared community of interests between the West and South East San Gabriel Valley specifically Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar, Walnut, Duarte. Here are some things that show a commonality of community of interest with respect to Asian Americans. This is not an exhaustive treatment, just the highlights.

Hacienda Heights by population is 36% Asia American; Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar, and Walnut Asian Americans exceed 50% in population. This is recognized by the Commission's current 32nd United States Congressional District map. The 29th Senate District as proposed by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge is achieved by adding additional cities and areas.

Other than high Asian American population, some other community of interests items are:

In Hacienda Heights there is the Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple in which is the largest Asian Buddhist place of worship in the United States. In addition in Hacienda Heights are United Chinese Church, Chinese Adventist Church, Chinese Congregation of the Holly Trinity Lutheran Church, and St. Marks Chinese Lutheran Church. On Hacienda Boulevard there is a high concentration of Asian Restaurants, and also along the Pomona Freeway.

Rowland Heights has become Koreatown and Chinatown that reflect the settlements that began in 1980. Of the 48,993 residents, 29,284 (60%) are Asians Americans. Among the Korean churches in Rowland Heights are Korean Good Sheppard Presbyterian Church one of the largest Korean Churches in the United States, Rowland Heights Korean Baptist Church, and St. Mary's Korean Catholic Church. There are also the Chinese Baptist Church of Rowland Heights, Rowland Heights Chinese Christian Church, and Blessed Umc Chinese Church. The above churches are prominent with large congregations. Along Colima Road in Rowland Heights are significant Asian restaurants, supermarkets, and businesses.

Diamond Bar has two Asian American City Council Members Ling Ling Chang and Jack Tanaka. As a City it is 50% Asian American. Along the 60 Freeway there are significant Asian Restaurants, supermarkets, and businesses.

The City of Walnut has three Asian City Council Members Joaquin Lim ,Mary Su and Tony Cartagena. Walnut is 57% Asian Americans of which 21% is Filipino.

We believe that the Asian churches, businesses, and population are strong indicators of a community of interest.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

John Y. Wong, Grand Vice President
Chinese American Citizens Alliance



SINCE 1895

Re: redistricting project:

CRC:

Please work with the contiguous “communities of interest” in the Northern Sierra Madre Foothill Mountain ‘Gold Line’ cities of Arcadia, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Duarte, Bradbury, Glendora, Azusa, La Verne, & Claremont to maintain each metropolitan goal of social, educational, political, economic, geographic, and commonality of equally shared interests.

Thank you.

Sally Heimann



Pasadena, CA 91101

6-7-11