



June 20, 2011
Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
VIA FAX: (916) 322-0904

Re: Keep Pasadena whole, include with Glendale and Burbank in one congressional district
add Altadena to Assembly District

Dear Commission members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on redistricting for our area and thank you for the work you have done so far. On the whole, the Board of Directors of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce is pleased with the way districts have been drawn for state offices. We are very pleased to see that Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena have been included in a single Assembly district. That is a very positive development and one that we welcome.

While we do appreciate that Burbank and Glendale have been kept in one Congressional district with the northern half of Pasadena, The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors strongly urges you to unite all of Pasadena in a single congressional district that is shared with the entire communities of Glendale and Burbank. Pasadena is a single community and does not deserve to be split among two districts for representation in the House of Representatives.

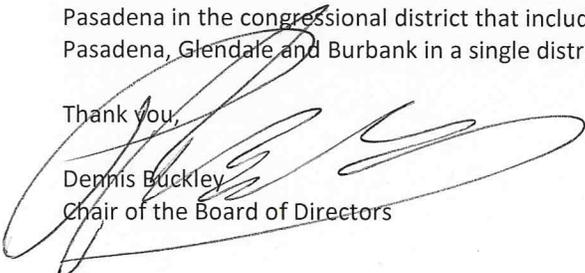
Further, the southern half of Pasadena has little, if anything, in common with the communities of Chino Hills, Diamond Bar and those at the extreme edge of the district. For your reference, the southern half of Pasadena houses the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena City College, Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts, major commercial office, hotels and hospitality companies. The population of that area is made up of families of Armenian, Latino, African-American, Asian extraction as well as white families. They are also affluent, middle class, working class and poor, as well.

We encourage the commission to reconnect those citizens with their community of interest by uniting Pasadena in one congressional district and continuing to link them with Glendale and Burbank. As you are aware, our three cities have much in common. Our three cities jointly own and operate Bob Hope Airport under the auspices of the Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena Airport Authority. Each of our cities is very similar in their operation, population and economies. All are charter cities with professional administration and part-time city councils. Each operates its own water and power utility and share in the ownership of various power generation plants throughout the Southwest, in addition to operating their own power plants. Each has its own public safety agencies, both police and fire and unified school districts. Each also has significant higher educational institutions, with Caltech, Art Center, Fuller Theological Seminary, Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Academy and Pasadena City College in Pasadena, Glendale Community College in Glendale and Woodbury University in Burbank. In addition, each city has significant and contributing populations of Armenian, Latino, African-American and white citizens.

Further, we appreciate the division for the State Assembly district that includes the entirety of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena, but would urge you to include Altadena, if at all possible, in that same district, as that community and Pasadena share much in common and hope you can accomplish that while maintaining the integrity of the district that includes Pasadena, Glendale and Burbank.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, I urge the commission to place the entirety of Pasadena in the congressional district that includes Burbank and Glendale. Also, please do what you can to include Altadena with Pasadena, Glendale and Burbank in a single district for State Assembly elections.

Thank you,


Dennis Buckley
Chair of the Board of Directors

Vance Pomeroy
President

March 10, 2011

Lori Weatherbie
Vice President

Citizens Redistricting Commission

Juniper Hills is a rural community in the foothills along the north slope of the San Gabriel Mountains. We have about 400 homes with a population of around 700. The new census will give us a better indication. The Angeles National Forest is our "backyard." We are bounded by the recently established Pleasant View Ridge Wilderness to the south.

Walt Grabe
Secretary

The nearest communities to the south are Monrovia, Duarte, and Glendora; which are about 23 miles "as the crow flies" through the Angeles National Forest. One would have to drive 85 miles from our community to the see Senator Bob Huff of the 29th District, who represents 25% of our community. (If the Station Fire had not destroyed the Angeles Crest Highway, the route would still be 65 miles.)

Don Pierce
Treasurer

As a "Community of Interest," the Juniper Hills Town Council is requesting that the Redistricting Committee consider a revising our southern boundary line using the Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2), which is about half way between the two communities. This will provide a more even representation for our community.

Brenda Avadian
Member

We are not the only community affected by the boundary for the 29th, so if you make the change we have requested, please look at Wrightwood and ask them what the best boundary would be for them, as Hwy 2 goes through part of their community.

Billie Dickey
Member

We have included a map of Juniper Hills, which can also be found on our Community web site, www.juniperhills-ca.org.

Larry Evans
Member

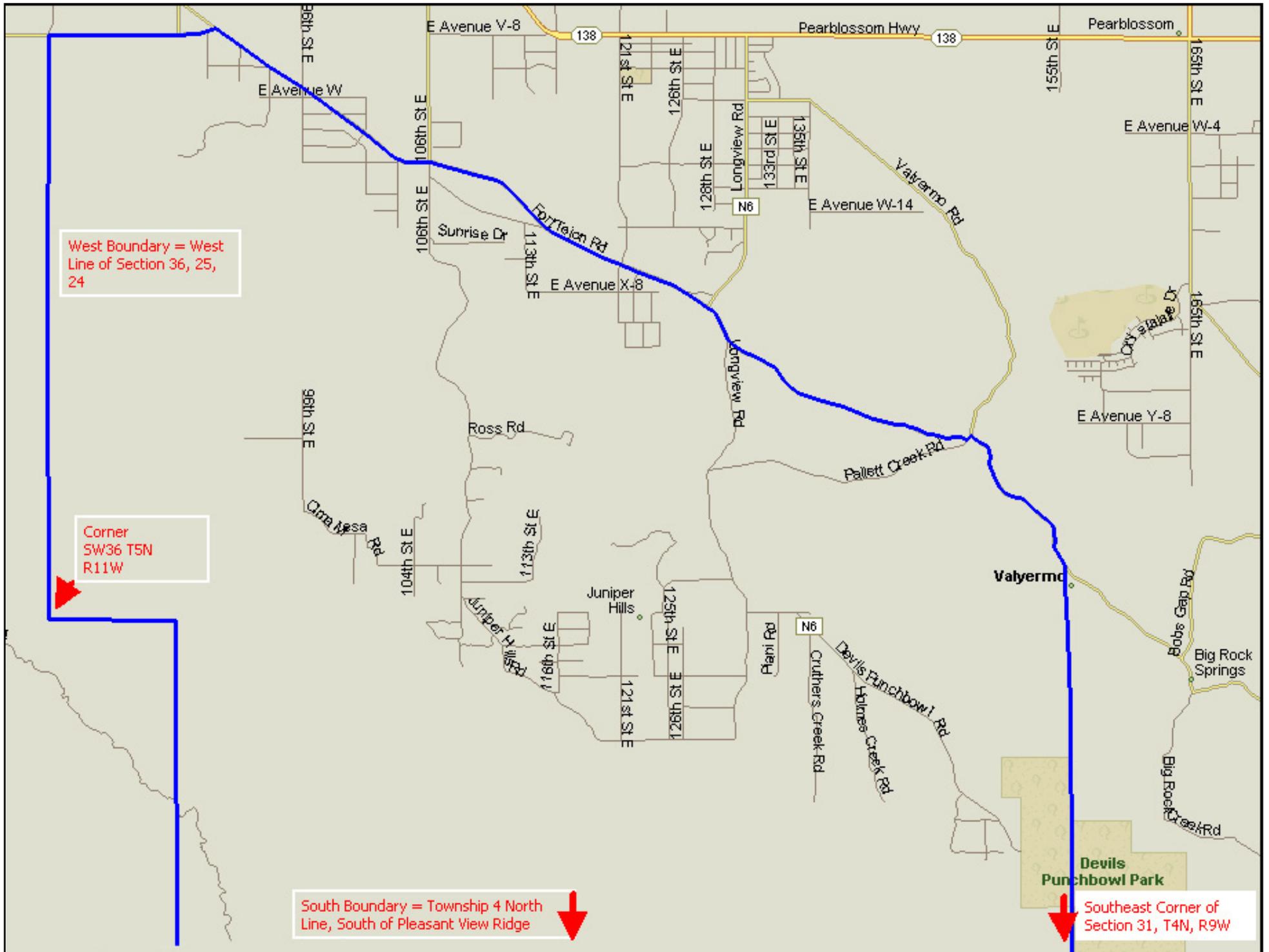
Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important matter.

Vance Pomeroy
President

[Redacted Signature]

Lori Weatherbie
Vice President

[Redacted Signature]





education fund

June 18, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 "K" Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, California 95814

Comments on the June 10 Draft Commission Map for the proposed LASCV Senate district

Dear Honorable Commissioners:

On behalf of the California League of Conservation Voters Educational Fund and our sister organization, the California League of Conservation Voters (with over 50,000 members and activists), we wish to express our support for the decisions of the commission to consider "environmental" factors when defining communities of interest. We also applaud the Commission's efforts in many areas to "nest" two Assembly districts within a single Senate district and to create districts that represent communities of interest.

However, we urge the commission to reconsider the boundaries of the proposed Los Angeles Santa Clarita Valley (LASCV) Senate district and to consider applying the above factors to this district. Specifically, we urge you to consider a LASCV district that nests the two contiguous Assembly districts of "West Side-Santa Monica" and Thousand Oaks-Santa Monica Mountains."

This Senate district is currently defined by coastal and San Fernando Valley communities that border on the Santa Monica Mountains. They share the natural environment of the coast and the Santa Monica Mountains. These contiguous communities share a common interest in the watershed, wildlife, open space and recreational values of the coast and mountain ecosystems in this region. The communities also share common socio-economic, cultural, educational transportation corridors, and infrastructure interests.

PROBLEM –The draft LASCV Senate district substantially fails the Commission's own criteria to create a geographically compact district with a fairly regular shape. The proposed district does not respect the communities of interest surrounding the Santa Monica Mountains. It poorly "nests" the two relevant Assembly districts, by excluding almost 75 percent of the West Side-Santa Monica district. The proposed LASCV Senate district now includes a third (distant) Assembly district that is far inland (up to 50 miles from the coast), with few characteristics common to the communities (within the two Assembly districts), adjacent to the Santa Monica Mountains.

SOLUTION – We therefore urge the commission to create a geographically compact Senate district that respects the communities of interest by an increased nesting the two above mentioned Assembly districts rather than adding a third, inland Assembly district. We urge the Commission to consider including a greater percentage of the West Side-Santa Monica Assembly district into the LASCV Senate district. This will create a Senate district that far more accurately meets the Commission's fundamental criteria. It will respect the communities of interest and uphold the Federal Voting Rights Act. It will improve the coordination between Senate and Assembly representatives in this region. Finally, it will create boundaries and districts that contribute to the quality of life for the communities and people within them.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully

Warner Chabot

CEO, CA League of Conservation Voters and CLCV Education Fund

Subject: Citizens Redistricting Commission

From: Jan Wight <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 20 Jun 2011 13:10:36 -0700

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

I feel that it is vital that Anaheim and Santa Ana be kept together as the new legislative districts are drawn. The Latino community deserves nothing less.

Janet wight

Francine Diamond
[REDACTED]
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
[REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

I have lived in Pacific Palisades since 1967 and have been fortunate to provide public service as a member of the Californial Regional Water Quality Control Board for Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. I was first appointed by Governor Gray Davis and have been reappointed every 4 years since 1999 and am its current Chair. I am a long time member of both the California League of Conservation Voters and Heal The Bay. But I am here today as a citizen who believes that the environment should be considered as an important community of interest in your deliberations on redistricting.

Thank you for your efforts on the boundaries of the two assembly districts referred to as “Westside-Santa Monica” and “Thousand Oaks-Santa Monica Mountains.” These two districts share strong communities of interest, and meet the criteria set out by your commission. They are contiguous and together represent the greater Santa Monica Mountains and the communities within.

The boundaries respect municipal lines and the L.A. County unincorporated areas that have mutual environmental, transportation infrastructure, cultural and educational concerns. They are geographically succinct and together have a compact shape will defined by the Santa Monica Mountains, Santa Monica Bay and major transportation corridors.

Yet, while these two assembly districts represent logical and practicable boundaries for a Senate District and can and should easily be nested within one Senate District, the Commission has not done so.

Instead, the Senate District denoted as California State Senate “LASCV” as drawn ignores some 70% of the contiguous “West Side-Santa Monica” district and is capped far to the north by the Assembly District denoted as “Santa Clarita.” This northern assembly district is linked to the “Thousand Oaks Santa Monica Mountains” Assembly district b a narrow L.A. City corridor which has virtually no common relationship with the communities of the Santa Monica Mountains and the Westside. Indeed the City of Santa Clarita and the communities of the two Santa Monica Mountains/Bay Assembly Districts agree this is an awkward and unmanageable Senate District configuration.

It makes for more sense, in keeping with the Commission’s guidelines, to use the new Assembly boundaries encompassing the “Westside-Santa Monica” and the “Thousand Oaks-Santa Monica Mountains a” as a compact, geographically contiguous Senate District to meet the needs of the interconnected communities within.

I request, with all due respect, that the commission revisit this Senate district and separate the northern and southern assembly districts that currently comprise Senate District "LASCV." Instead, the two "Santa Monica" Assembly districts should nest within and denote the boundaries for a "Santa Monica Mountains-Westside" Senate Distr

Please preserve critical environmental and coastal areas in California. This is a real community of interest for the cities who live in and adjacent to the Santa Monica National Recreation Area. Nesting the LAVSF and LAMWS assembly districts would accomplish that objective.

Sincerely,

Francine Diamond

Subject: Response to the first draft of maps from a resident in Alhambra, CA

From: "vcjr@juno.com" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 21 Jun 2011 04:44:37 GMT

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

I am a Chicano/Boricua resident of the city of Alhambra in Los Angeles County. I work at a community college in the LA Community College District. I have been a resident of this area for almost 6 years. I moved here from the San Diego area where I lived for almost 25 years. I am a member of the Latino/a Roundtable of Pomona and San Gabriel Valley, an organization that advocates on behalf of Latinos/as and other marginalized communities in the Pomona and San Gabriel Valleys. I also have been on the board of directors for a non profit in San Diego, Izcalli, for many years.

I would like to respond to the first draft of maps that your commission has developed. My feedback to your maps:

Where communities of interest are relevant, I do believe this should be considered in the drafting of your maps, but please make certain that you keep the federal voting rights act in mind as you draw your lines and do not disenfranchise communities of color, particularly the Chicano/a-Latino/a and African American communities. I'm concerned about how your first draft of maps pits Latinos against African Americans in South LA and you eliminate a Latino/a district in Central and Southeast Orange County. I also ask that you please do not disenfranchise Latino/a political power in San Diego County. Please do not disenfranchise the Latino/a community and all its efforts to progress politically in this state.

Thank you for your time.

Victor M. Chavez, Jr.

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Subject: Redistricting plan

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 20 Jun 2011 16:30:44 EDT

To: votersfirstact@CRC.CA.GOV

It appears that your committee has ignored the San Fernando Valley, specifically the West Valley, again. I would like to remind you that the West Valley is the 405 Fwy west to the LA county line, and includes the Conejo Valley. The East Valley goes from the 405 Fwy east to Burbank/Glendale. I live in the West Valley. As a resident, a voter, and a concerned citizen I believe it is in the best interests of all West Valley residents to have Assembly and Congressional districts wholly contained in the West San Fernando Valley. We have the population (and enough ongoing daily aggravation over being ignored) to justify this plan. The needs of the West Valley are very different from those of WLA, Malibu, Torrence, and other communities. We need our own representatives (representative being the key word here) who will look out for our interests first and always. Stop this nonsense of pretending that you are doing a big job, full of change, and get down to the honest division of districts like we citizens expect.

Gail DeMario

[REDACTED]
West Hills, CA 91304