

Subject: Thank you for the outstanding Fremont Congressionalmap visualization!

From: Aref Aziz <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 30 Jun 2011 20:29:50 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

We in the Tri Cities are very pleased with the new proposed Fremont Congressional seat. In this effort I have constantly told our supporters that commission and Q2 would respect our testimony. You have done so in this new visualization. We urge you to vote for its approval and adoption as the final map.

We fully support the proposal to have a congressional district that includes Hayward, Union City, Fremont, Newark, and Milpitas. We are pleased that Fremont is rooted in an Alameda-centric district, and that the district has a strong Asian/South Asian voice.

We also understand the inclusion of San Jose in this congressional district. There was a lot of early community of interest testimony advocating to connect Milpitas and the Berryessa area of San Jose together into districts with Fremont. To this extent, I believe the commission and Q2 did an outstanding job of balancing differing community of interest testimony.

This map really validates our belief in the Citizen's Redistricting Commission. By approving this map, the commission is putting citizen testimony first and foremost. You are granting us the privilege of deciding our association with neighboring communities and the degree of our representation. This entire process and the responsiveness of the commission and Q2 allows us to show that those citizens that choose to go out and advocate can in fact make a difference.

We look forward to supporting this map, and supporting more generally the commission for their extraordinary work in being responsive to public testimony. We will continue to work with other communities to generate broad based support for the commission and this new visualization which we hope and expect will be the final map.

Sincerely,

Aref Aziz

Co-Chair Keep Tri Cities in Alameda County

Date: June 29, 2011

Re: Revised Draft Congressional Maps

Dear Commissioners,

With the release of the visualizations of the congressional map for the Bay Area, I wanted to take a moment and share the positive reaction from the residents in the Tri-Cities: We are very heartened by the new proposed Fremont/Newark/Union City/Milpitas Congressional seat.

These visualizations show that the commission is taking community testimony very seriously and acknowledging the hundreds of voices from our community (and even throughout the Bay Area).

We fully support the proposal to have a district that includes Hayward, Union City, Fremont, Newark, and Milpitas. We are pleased that Fremont is rooted in an Alameda-centric district, respecting our history and institutions, and taking into serious consideration the community's diversity. The Commission and Q2 heard our call for one Congressional district, which has a strong Asian/South Asian voice-- we are deeply moved by your giving a voice to this community.

This map validates our belief in the citizen commission and the democratic process. The Commission is putting citizen testimony first and foremost, and shows that the perspective of communities has been taken into account.

On behalf of all the community members and concerned citizens in Fremont and the Tri-Cities, I want to sincerely thank all of you.

We look forward to supporting this map, and supporting more generally the Commission for their extraordinary work in being responsive to public testimony.

Sincerely,

Anu Natarajan
Fremont City Councilmember