

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Michael Parker <[\[REDACTED\]](#)>

Date: Sat, 25 Jun 2011 03:41:27 +0000

To: [\[REDACTED\]](#)

From: Michael Parker <[\[REDACTED\]](#)>

Subject: Richmond

Message Body:

I oppose any division of Richmond as part of two congressional districts. We are working very hard to unify Richmond and deal with immense urban problems. Such a division would undermine all of our hard work.

I have no position on what CD Richmond is assigned as long as it is kept together

Mike Parker

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: George Miller

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 12:14:01 -0400

To: [REDACTED]

We would like to urge you not to split Richmond's district up. We have been fortunate to have George Miller represent ALL of Richmond for years. We are a city with many problems, but also a city with much new hope. We are slowly going green and our crime rate is down for the first time in many years. We need the wise and courageous leadership of George Miller to continue to help Richmond develop in a positive way.

Please reconsider.

Thank you,
Camille Zulpo

Subject: Miller

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:59:36 +0000 (UTC)

To: [REDACTED]

Please leave all of Richmond in George Miller's district. Please. Don't split us up.

Christine Caldwell
[REDACTED]

Richmond 94804

Weekends, 40 hour work weeks, overtime, sick leave, vacations, workers compensation, all brought to you by unions.

Have fun, be good, enjoy.
Christine, chris, otter, whatever, and Patsy

Subject: FW: Redistricting the Senate District for Contra Costa County

From: Jennifer Quallick <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 14:33:51 -0700

To: '[REDACTED]' <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting the Senate District for Contra Costa County

To the Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

As constituents of the draft Senate district EALAM, we are calling upon you to assign an odd number to our district as you go through the process of numbering the districts. The majority of our district is now in Senate District 7. It is an odd-numbered district, and we are due to elect our next Senator in 2012. If you choose to make our Senate district an even-numbered district there will be no election for our State Senator until 2014. Our current Senator would then need to step down leaving us with no legitimate representation in the State Senate for two years. It is unacceptable to disenfranchise the residents and businesses of Contra Costa and Alameda Counties in this manner.

Residents, cities, elected boards, nonprofits and businesses in this district all have need for representation from a State Senator duly elected by the people of the district. State funding for education, transportation, health and human services, parks and recreation, water resources and a host of other services are critical for the district. We need a Senator elected by us to represent us to ensure we receive our fair share of state resources

We strongly urge you to retain our district as an odd-numbered district so that the residents and businesses of Contra Costa and Alameda counties are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Quallick
[REDACTED]

San Ramon, CA 94582

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Brook Demmerle <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 17:38:30 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Brook Demmerle <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Richmond

Message Body:

Not sure why you are proposing to cut Richmond in half with your redistricting plan-- doesn't seem to make sense.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: "John A. Peterson" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 17:25:02 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: John A. Peterson <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Draft Redistricting Maps

Message Body:

To: The California Redistricting Commission
Subj.: Draft Redistricting Maps

As a 40-year resident of Contra Costa County, and a "quarter-finalist" in the competition for a seat on the Commission, let me congratulate the Commission on the excellent job you have done in drawing up the proposed new voting district boundaries in our area. No longer will the Central County be torn into unrecognizable pieces!

The State Senate and Assembly District maps in particular show faithful response to the wishes of the voters in respecting existing county and city boundaries, while being sensitive to the "communities of interest" in our area. The binding of the Livermore Valley in Alameda County to the Danville - San Ramon corridor along Highway 680 makes sense, as does combining the eastern edge of the county with districts to the east. Recognizing the reality of the Berkeley Hills in creating separate "communities of interest" west of the hills is also sensible.

The proposed Congressional District could be improved somewhat by including Antioch in the Contra Costa District and combining equivalent areas west of the Berkeley Hills in other districts, but I recognize that may not be possible.

One additional comment: I note that you have received several comments complaining that the proposed new district boundaries look just like the old ones, i.e. "fingers" instead of "fists." I wonder if that might be because the labeling of the new maps on the website is not distinctive from that of the old ones, and also because the new maps are positioned to the right of the old ones rather than to the left. People automatically click first on the map on the left, assuming that's the proposed new map (without reading the labels which are in rather small print), and then get mad when "it looks just like the old one!"

All in all, congratulations again on a job very well done! Please do your utmost to resist any pressure groups who might try to change your mind!

Sincerely,

John A. Peterson

[REDACTED]
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: "J. Kit Eakle" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:55:03 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: J. Kit Eakle <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Redistricting of Contra Costa

Message Body:

As a lifelong resident of Contra Costa County and the city of Richmond, I strongly object to the redistricting reportedly being considered of Richmond into a Congressional District with Berkeley and Oakland. Richmond has ALWAYS had a strong association with the communities along the San Pablo Bay - El Sobrante, Crockett, Walnut Creek, etc. By grouping us with the folks of the Alameda County urban communities, you would be signing the death knell for our identity and independence as the city center of the Contra Costa communities. Richmond would be in danger of just being viewed as a part of an East Bay mega-opolis rather than Richmond's important role as the urban center of Contra Costa.

Please reconsider this tragic move!

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Ellen Sasaki <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:25:01 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Ellen Sasaki <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Redistricting will split Richmond

Message Body:

I strongly oppose redistricting that would divide Richmond. Our city has made great strides in the past few years and a division in representation would cause needless complications for (and delays toward) future progress. It's important that our communities continue to be equally represented: that can happen with having only one elected official, George Miller, who has served this area for a long time and knows the issues, key players, and local politics.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Nancy Baer <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:24:26 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Nancy Baer <[\[REDACTED\]](#)>
Subject: City of Richmond

Message Body:

Please do not divide our City in half in terms of congressional districts. We're on the rise, moving in a positive direction, but we still have significant challenges. Dividing us in half will make it so much harder to make progress, and in fact be another division that we have to work to overcome. We have a local saying -- there's just ONE Richmond -- please help us keep it that way.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Tani Suzanne Martinat [REDACTED]

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:22:52 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Tani Suzanne Martinat <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Don't split Richmond in two!!! Keep ALL of Richmond in the 7th District

Message Body:

I live in east Richmond. Richmond will NOT be well served by splitting it between two different Congressional Districts. Keep ALL of Richmond, CA in the same 7th Congressional District.

Richmond is now on a good path towards growth and improvement due to its unity. Do not destroy this progress!!!

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: David Moore <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:16:39 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: David Moore <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Richmond Congressional redistricting

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners,

I hope that the City of Richmond will not be split into two districts.

Thank you.

David Moore

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: 90049
From: "Susan Hirsch" <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 17:30:08 -0700
To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commission:

It has come to my attention that the current redistricting plans would split Brentwood 90049 along San Vicente Ave and place north and south in different congressional districts. However, Brentwood 90049 functions as a unit, especially the corridor along San Vicente, on so many local issues (with the VA, merchants on both sides, etc.) that "Brentwood" should really be contained within one congressional district.

Thank you,
Susan Hirsch

[REDACTED]
Los Angeles CA 90049

Subject: From Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin
From: "Gayle McLaughlin" <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:54:16 -0700
To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commissioners,

Although I am not taking a position regarding in which district Richmond is placed, I strongly object to dividing Richmond and strongly support redrawing the lines in a way that keeps Richmond unified.

Community ties run deep in Richmond. One of our themes for ongoing community development is: *One Richmond!*

I thank you for your attention to our concerns and look forward to a redrawing of the lines.

Sincerely,

Gayle McLaughlin
Mayor, City of Richmond, CA
[REDACTED]

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Peggy Geary <[\[REDACTED\]](#)>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:03:17 +0000

To: [\[REDACTED\]](#)

From: Peggy Geary <[\[REDACTED\]](#)>
Subject: re-districting

Message Body:

I am opposed to the redistricting plan that would put Richmond into Barbara Lee's district. We are quite happy with George Miller representing us.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Cindy Valentine <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 18:20:05 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Cindy Valentine <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Please don't split the city of Richmond.

Message Body:

Please don't split the City of Richmond into two different districts. WE have enough problems without adding that one. WE support the citizens' redistricting committee, but request that you not split Richmond. Thank you.

Cindy Valentine and Guy Smyth

Point Richmond, CA

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Col Dupont <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 17:40:45 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Col Dupont <[REDACTED]>

Subject: re-districting; cut Richmond in half?!

Message Body:

Please don't do re-districting in such an illogical and unproductive configuration;
cutting Richmond in half, etc. is, well, to put it succinctly, nuts!

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Ella B Roberson <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 20:12:01 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Ella B Roberson <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Re districting

Message Body:

Regarding the Congressional district--It is a stretch to lump part of Richmond in with Alameda county. Richmond has a port and we are in competition with Oakland for instance for Port business. Richmond is more properly aligned with El Cerrito in geography, and proximity. We are now in the same district and see nothing but less representation (not because of any person, just that loyalties will be divided between the competing cities) if we are added to Alameda County due to many more urban problems that already exist there. It would just add more safety issues for our residents. I worry for the safety of our residents as our crime rate is coming down and Oaklands is soaring. We need to stay in Congressional District 7. Our City Council has submitted a resolution requesting the same. That seems to be the will of the majority in Richmond. Please consider our request.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Jon Stiles <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 18:02:15 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Jon Stiles <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Opposition to proposed Congressional redistricting

Message Body:

I oppose the proposed Congressional Redistricting of Contra Costa County, and of Richmond City in particular.

While Richmond, Berkeley and Oakland may "share common social and economic interests," there is a far stronger "community of interest" within the entire city of Richmond (and keeping it together) than among Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda, Emeryville and the City of Richmond. In fact, while Richmond, Berkeley and Oakland may "share [some] common social and economic interests," they are also in heated competition for resources with Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Alameda, such as the location of the second campus for Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, port-related resources, transportation funding, employment training grants, and much more. Currently, Richmond's separate congressional representation helps provide a more level playing field, but if combined with these four cities to the south, the divided one-half of Richmond attached to the new 9th District would represent less than 8% of the District population and would be overwhelmed as well as geographic!

ally remote, joined only by a thin strip of I-80 at the Contra Costa/Alameda County line. This thread of a connection defies the spirit of the requirement that "a district should be connected at all points."

The historical and geographical ties binding Richmond to Contra Costa County, especially the waterfront cities, are stronger than any ties to Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and Emeryville. All social, health and judicial/criminal justice services for Richmond residents are provided by Contra Costa County, while those for Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and Emeryville are provided by Alameda County. There is no rational basis for placing the east half of Richmond into what is now the 10th Congressional District.

Because the highest proportion of minorities in Contra Costa County are located in the Richmond area proposed in 1st Draft District Map, removing this block from the rest of Contra Costa County would disenfranchise those remaining and would likely violate the Voting Rights Act. For example, the City of San Pablo, which is surrounded by Richmond, would remain with central and eastern Contra Costa County, but with its community of interest diluted by the contravening demographics of central and east Contra Costa County.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Anthony Gillispie <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 18:06:52 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Anthony Gillispie <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting

Message Body:

I'm a Richmond resident and believe all the current group congresspersons are an asset to our political advancement in the City, County, State and Federal system, however i think it would be ridiculous to split this or any city in half. This could pit half a citizens interest against one another or cause redundancy by both representatives on behalf of all the citizens.

Sincerely,
Anthony W Gillispie

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Marilyn Langlois <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 19:49:54 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Marilyn Langlois <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Keep Richmond together

Message Body:

Please keep the entire city of Richmond within one congressional district. This is very important. I also favor having all of Richmond in the same district as Berkeley and Oakland. I am a Richmond resident.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Susan Libby <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 17:55:27 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Susan Libby <[REDACTED]>
Subject: George Miller Richmond district

Message Body:

Currently Geo Miller is our representative. I don't want to be lumped in with Berkeley (Barbara Lee) nor do I want Garimandi's district. Richmond has its own needs which are different from these other areas.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Dear Congressional Redistricting Team,

I have been a resident, and homeowner, in Richmond, CA for the last four years; the previous fifteen years I lived, and owned a home, in Berkeley. Two very different communities. I am writing to ask that you re-consider and change your decision to split Richmond in two and combine half with Barbara Lee's 9th district. This request is not a reflection on Congress woman Lee's skill or ability; it is about splitting up a cohesive community of interest and fragmenting its interlacing network of neighborhoods.

The proposed 1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting would split Richmond in half between what is now Congressman John Garamendi's 10th District and Congresswoman Barbara Lee's 9th District. To complicate matters even more, the portion of Contra Costa County east and north of Richmond that is currently in the 7th District would be split north and south into two other districts, leaving the east half of Richmond sharing representation with central and eastern Contra Costa, definitely not a population with common social and economic interests [Blackhawk?]. The jagged dividing line in Richmond roughly parallels and lies to the west of I-80 and/or San Pablo Avenue. Splitting Richmond in half is contrary to Criteria 4 of the Commission's prioritized criteria found in the California Constitution: "Respect cities, counties, communities of interest and neighborhoods where possible without violating the requirements of the preceding criteria." A Richmond resident on the west side of 39th street, for example, would be in the 9th District, and Barbara Lee would be the representative; the neighbor on the other side of the street, however, would be in John Garamendi's 10th District Neighborhood council districts and school attendance areas in Richmond would be divided. This just makes no sense. The drafters of the 1st Draft District Map may not have known that roughly half of more of Richmond's land area lies east of San Pablo Avenue and I-80.

· While Richmond, Berkeley and Oakland may "share common social and economic interests," there is a far stronger "community of interest" within the entire city of Richmond (and keeping it together) than among Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda, Emeryville and the City of Richmond. In fact, while Richmond, Berkeley and Oakland may "share [some] common social and economic interests," they are also in heated competition for resources with Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Alameda, such as the location of the second campus for Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, port-related resources, transportation funding, employment training grants, and much more. Currently, Richmond's separate congressional representation helps provide a more level playing field, but if combined with these four cities to the south, the divided one-half of Richmond attached to the new 9th District would represent less than 8% of the District population and would be overwhelmed as well as geographically remote, joined only by a thin strip of I-80 at the Contra Costa/Alameda County line. This thread of a connection defies the spirit of the requirement that "a district should be connected at all points."

- The historical and geographical ties binding Richmond to Contra Costa County, especially the waterfront cities, are stronger than any ties to Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and Emeryville. All social, health and judicial/criminal justice services for Richmond residents are provided by Contra Costa County, while those for Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and Emeryville are provided by Alameda County. There is no rational basis for placing the east half of Richmond into what is now the 10th Congressional District.
- Because the highest proportion of minorities in Contra Costa County are located in the Richmond area proposed in 1st Draft District Map, removing this block from the rest of Contra Costa County would disenfranchise those remaining and would likely violate the Voting Rights Act. For example, the City of San Pablo, which is surrounded by Richmond, would remain with central and eastern Contra Costa County, but with its community of interest diluted by the contravening demographics of central and east Contra Costa County.

Thank you for reconsidering this slice and dice of Richmond and reassembling our city into one cohesive whole district, as it has been.

Mary Lee Cole, Ph.D.

Subject: redistricting

From: "Larry Hatfield" [REDACTED]

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 11:20:55 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dividing up the city of Richmond makes no sense. Its not NYC, its not that big. We need unifying things not dividing things. I think George Miller has done a good job for Richmond and would like to keep him as our rep. In any case, only one person to represent all of Richmond it the best solution.

Larry Hatfield

[REDACTED]

Subject: City of Richmond redistricting

From: "Nancy Webb" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 12:19:01 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

The proposed 1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting would split Richmond in half. Richmond should be in one district, and it should be more closely aligned with West Contra Costa County, which has an identity distinct from the rest of Contra Costa County. Even our local Contra Costa newspaper has an edition called the "West County Times." Remember to "Respect cities, counties, communities of interest and neighborhoods where possible." Hercules, San Pablo and other West County cities have very similar interests.

Please don't separate our interests! Please head our City Councilman Tom Butt's thorough analysis of the situation.

Regards,
Nancy Webb
City College of San Francisco
CS/CNIT Instructor

Subject: Congressional district 7

From: "Jean" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 12:09:36 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Please do not assign Richmond to District 10, thus depriving West Contra Costa county of the representation of George Miller III and reducing the historic individuality and interests of this community by putting us under the umbrella of Berkeley and Oakland. Our state representatives in the Senate and the Assembly are already marginalizing us. Diluting Congressional input will worsen our representation.

Jean Knox

[REDACTED]
Richmond, CA 94801.

Subject: Redistricting the Senate District for Contra Costa County

From: Karen Basting [REDACTED]

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 14:27:30 -0700 (GMT-07:00)

To: [REDACTED]

To the Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

As constituents of the draft Senate district EALAM, we are calling upon you to assign an odd number to our district as you go through the process of numbering the districts. The majority of our district is now in Senate District 7. It is an odd-numbered district, and we are due to elect our next Senator in 2012. If you choose to make our Senate district an even-numbered district there will be no election for our State Senator until 2014. Our current Senator would then need to step down leaving us with no legitimate representation in the State Senate for two years. It is unacceptable to disenfranchise the residents and businesses of Contra Costa and Alameda Counties in this manner.

Residents, cities, elected boards, nonprofits and businesses in this district all have need for representation from a State Senator duly elected by the people of the district. State funding for education, transportation, health and human services, parks and recreation, water resources and a host of other services are critical for the district. We need a Senator elected by us to represent us to ensure we receive our fair share of state resources

We strongly urge you to retain our district as an odd-numbered district so that the residents and businesses of Contra Costa and Alameda counties are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely,

Karen Basting

[REDACTED]
Alamo, CA 94507

Karen Basting
President
The Hampton Group

[REDACTED]
Alamo, CA 94507

[REDACTED] direct
[REDACTED] cell

Subject: Redistricting Richmond

From: Lesli Zephyr <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 12:45:12 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

As a Richmond resident I am very much against this redistricting. Congressman Miller knows the issues of our town and has worked with us to combat them.

I have lived in Oakland, and know first hand that many of its problems are the same problems that face Richmond. Violence, gangs, high unemployment, etc., however, Richmond has been pulling itself up by its bootstraps with a great Mayor, wonderful Police Chief, and a good city manager, all who have a good working relationship with the Congressman's office.

I believe that if we fall under Barbara Lee's district that we may well be just one more down on its luck city, that we will indeed be the needy step-child, and the last to get what we need. This is in no way a reflection of how I feel towards Congresswoman Lee, as I have nothing but respect for her.

I do not believe that the people of Richmond will be served if this present plan goes forward. I truly hope you hear the desires of the people of this city and leave us in Congressman Miller's district.

Lesli Zephyr
Richmond, Ca 94804

Subject: Redistricting - Fix Gap in Representation

From: Tomi Comcast <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 14:10:04 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Redistricting Commission,

I am writing to express concern about a critically important and timely issue facing State Senate districts in the redistricting process. While I appreciate that draft maps appear to indicate that the core of our current Senate District will remain much the same, I also understand we may be subject to something called a "deferral" which would leave us without a Senator duly elected by the voters of this district for two years.

How can this happen? We can put a man on the moon but can't ensure representation for affected districts through out the state? As I understand it, it has to do with the number assigned to this Senate district by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. If this new Senate district doesn't retain an odd-number, our current Senator will have to step down at the end of 2012, leaving us with no Senator duly elected by the voters of this district for 2013 -2014. This is an obscure redistricting rule that can leave millions of people disenfranchised and without district-elected representation in the State Senate.

I understand the commission will be releasing new draft maps on July 12th which will include the newly assigned district numbers. It is critical that this issue be resolved before maps are finalized.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Tomi Van de Brooke
Trustee, Ward II
Governing Board
Contra Costa Community District
[REDACTED]

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Al Miller <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 22:59:15 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Al Miller <[REDACTED]>

Subject: El Cerrito & Kensington

Message Body:

Do El Cerrito and Kensington both remain in the same districts in the new draft maps?

I realize that the districts may be new, but are EC & Kens still together?

Thank you.

Al Miller
El Cerrito, CA

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: James Villegas <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 22:28:55 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: James Villegas <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Oakley

Message Body:

I think it quite appalling and almost illegal to separate the City of Oakley from the rest of Contra Costa County and especially from Eastern Contra Costa County (which I would consider a "community of interest").

Oakley has historically been part of Eastern Contra Costa County (An area encompassing the communities of Pittsburg, Bay Point, Antioch, Brentwood, Knightsen, Bethel Island, Byron, and Discovery Bay.) Our interests are tied to other communities in our area. To separate our community from our region would put our community at a disadvantage when it come to representation.

I strongly ask the CCRC to keep Oakley with it neighbors when the next redistricting draft is released.

James Villegas

Former Library Commissioner - City of Oakley, Contra Costa County Library Commission
Former Youth Advisory Commissioner, Contra Costa County Human Relations Commission

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Kerry Moriarty <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 22:03:58 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Kerry Moriarty <[REDACTED]>

Subject: New boundaries

Message Body:

I strenuously object to the proposed division of the City of Richmond. Not only would we lose our current representative entirely, we would be joined with other communities in a way that entirely diminishes our voice. Richmond citizens would be subsumed into other communities. Keep Richmond whole as it is now. Your proposal makes no sense and causes harm to a great community. I also entirely support the comments sent to you by our city councilman, Tom Butt.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Splitting Richmond

From: Miriam Joscelyn <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 09:17:17 -0700

To: '[REDACTED]' <[REDACTED]>

I live in Richmond and think the entire city should be in the same Congressional district. Please do not divide the city between two Congressional districts.

Thank you

Miriam Joscelyn

[REDACTED]
Richmond, CA 94805

[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPad

Subject: Senate Redistricting

From: Charlie Richard <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 08:09:47 -0700 (PDT)

To: '[REDACTED]' <[REDACTED]>

To the members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

As constituents of the draft Senate district EALAM, we are calling upon you to assign an odd number to our district as you go through the process of numbering the districts. The majority of our district is now in Senate District 7. It is an odd-numbered district, and we are due to elect our next Senator in 2012. If you choose to make our Senate district an even-numbered district there will be no election for State Senator until 2014. Thus, our current Senator will need to step down leaving us with no legitimate representation in the State Senate for two years. It is unacceptable to disenfranchise the residents of Contra Costa county in this manner.

With the state's economy and Contra Costa county's economy still in trouble and the county's unemployment rate still above 10%, the working people of Contra Costa county cannot be left without representation in the state Senate. Employers and employees alike have a need for representation from a State Senator duly elected by the people of the district. State funding for education, transportation, health and human services, parks and recreation, water resources and a host of other services are critical for the district. We need a Senator elected by us to represent us to ensure we receive our fair share of state resources and jobs.

We strongly urge you to retain our district as an odd-numbered district so that the voters of Contra Costa counties are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely, Charlie Richard Jr.

Local resident and President Painters Local 376 IUPAT

Subject: Richmond, CA redistricting

From: "Strohmeier, John" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 09:07:11 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

I am writing to ask that the city of Richmond not be divided in half by the new redistricting. This community is on a very positive trajectory. Richmond needs to operate as a unified political unit at all legislative levels to sustain this progress. My point is not that we need to retain George Miller necessarily, or John Gioia, but that we need and deserve one go-to person at each level with the focus, priorities, experience, and hometown voter accountability to serve the community fairly. Otherwise I fear we end up as the neglected stepchild of Oakland or Walnut Creek. Thank you.

* * * * *

John Strohmeier, Multimedia Advertising Consultant

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Subject: Richmond Ca Redistricting

From: Sharon Coffer <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 13:12:45 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

CC: [REDACTED]

Greetings All,

Your proposed redistricting of the city of Richmond makes no sense and will inhibit my functionality as a citizen of the United States of America.

Please note some of the reasons my family opposes the 1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting include:

- The proposed 1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting would split Richmond in half between what is now Congressman John Garamendi's 10th District and Congresswoman Barbara Lee's 9th District. To complicate matters even more, the portion of Contra Costa County east and north of Richmond that is currently in the 7th District would be split north and south into two other districts, leaving the east half of Richmond sharing representation with central and eastern Contra Costa, definitely not a population with common social and economic interests [Blackhawk?]. The jagged dividing line in Richmond roughly parallels and lies to the west of I-80 and/or San Pablo Avenue. Splitting Richmond in half is contrary to Criteria 4 of the Commission's prioritized criteria found in the California Constitution: "Respect cities, counties, communities of interest and neighborhoods where possible without violating the requirements of the preceding criteria." A Richmond resident on the west side of 39th street, for example, would be in the 9th District, and Barbara Lee would be the representative; the neighbor on the other side of the street, however, would be in John Garamendi's 10th District Neighborhood council districts and school attendance areas in Richmond would be divided. This just makes no sense. The drafters of the 1st Draft District Map may not have known that roughly half of more of Richmond's land area lies east of San Pablo Avenue and I-80.
- While Richmond, Berkeley and Oakland may "share common social and economic interests," there is a far stronger "community of interest" within the entire city of Richmond (and keeping it together) than among Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda, Emeryville and the City of Richmond. In fact, while Richmond, Berkeley and Oakland may "share [some] common social and economic interests," they are also in heated competition for resources with Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Alameda, such as the location of the second campus for Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, port-related resources, transportation funding, employment training grants, and much more. Currently, Richmond's separate congressional representation helps provide a more level playing field, but if combined with these four cities to the south, the divided one-half of Richmond attached to the new 9th District would represent less than 8% of the District population and would be overwhelmed as well as geographically remote, joined only by a thin strip of I-80 at the Contra Costa/Alameda County line. This thread of a connection defies the spirit of the requirement that "a district should be connected at all points."
- The historical and geographical ties binding Richmond to Contra Costa County, especially the waterfront cities, are stronger than any ties to Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and Emeryville. All social, health and judicial/criminal justice services for Richmond residents are provided by Contra Costa County, while those for Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and Emeryville are provided by Alameda County. There is no rational basis for placing the east half of Richmond into what is now the 10th Congressional District.
- Because the highest proportion of minorities in Contra Costa County are located in the Richmond area proposed in 1st Draft District Map, removing this block from the rest of Contra Costa County would disenfranchise those remaining and would likely violate the Voting Rights Act. For example, the City of San Pablo, which is surrounded by Richmond, would remain with central and eastern Contra Costa County, but with its community of interest diluted by the contravening demographics of central and

east Contra Costa County.

My family and I have lived in the Richmond Maria Bay Community for 15 years. We love it and we are proud of it. We interact with neighbors on a regular basis and participate in community events with our children frequently. It would a detriment to my community my implementing the draft district map. Please see the proposed districting map submitted by the Richmond City Counsel. It makes more sense for our community and the State of California as a whole.

Kind Regards

Sharon Coffer
Richmond CA 94804

Subject: Congressional Redistricting

From: "Carol J. Manahan" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 10:43:10 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Hello Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the position taken by the Richmond City Council, when they adopted Resolution 52-11 on June 21, 2011.

The resolution called attention to several difficulties with the first draft redistricting proposal, in particular:

The proposal divides Richmond, in Contra Costa County between two congressional districts. Splitting Richmond is contrary to Criterion 4 of the Commission's prioritized criteria found in the California Constitution: "Respect cities, counties, communities of interest and neighborhoods where possible without violating the requirements of the preceding criteria." The city of Richmond has a strong interest in being well represented by one representative. The drafters of the 1st Draft District Map may not have known that roughly half or more of Richmond's land area lies east of San Pablo Avenue and I-80.

The district that would represent the western part of Richmond primarily represents cities in Alameda county, and is barely connected to that district, by a narrow land area west of I-80 along the shore. What about the requirement that "a district should be connected at all points"? If combined with the four cities to the south, the divided one-half of Richmond attached to the new 9th District would represent less than 8% of the District population and would be overwhelmed as well as geographically remote.

Historically, Richmond has been in a different political sphere, the Contra Costa coastline cities of other refinery towns.

Contra Costa County overall is fractured by the proposed redistricting plan.

All social, health and judicial/criminal justice services for Richmond residents are provided by Contra Costa County, while those for Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and Emeryville are provided by Alameda County.

Please consider carefully the interests of each city in constructing the new districting plan.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Manahan

[REDACTED]
Richmond, CA 94804



LEVIN RICHMOND TERMINAL CORPORATION

Gary M. Levin

President

[REDACTED] Richmond, CA 94804

Tel [REDACTED]

June 24, 2011

Via email

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

Re: Redistricting of the 7th Congressional District

Dear Commissioners:

I am extremely concerned by the first draft of the New Congressional Districts Line Maps, and support the City of Richmond Council Resolution (passed on June 21, 2011) to request that the California Citizen's Redistricting Commission keep the City of Richmond in the Contra Costa County Congressional District 7.

Of concern is many of the residents who spoke on this subject at the June 21, 2011 City of Richmond Council meeting stated that opportunities for input were not well publicized within the City. Another issue is that those who did wish to attend public meetings could not because they were held in San Francisco and not in Richmond or Contra Costa County. It would be better if future meetings are held in the City of Richmond as many of the meetings required commuting to areas outside the means of many Richmond residents.

Given the first draft of redistricting maps for Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate and Board of Equalization districts, the new maps move the majority of the City of Richmond from the current District 7 - away from inland Contra Costa County, and, suggested alignment with East Bay communities of Berkeley, Oakland, Emeryville and Alameda. Berkeley, Oakland, Emeryville and Alameda are all in Alameda County with only Richmond in Contra Costa County.

As a business owner and operator in the City of Richmond for over 30 years, I am concerned about several issues that will result if the redistricting takes place:

- Our current Congressional Representative has been supportive of trade growing in the City of Richmond. Our marine terminal is exporting commodities which benefits the

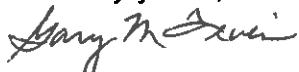
city and provides employment. We need this type of support for continued employment growth and economic viability.

- The City of Richmond has unique qualities that our current Congressional Representative is aware of from his extensive service working with the City. This historical knowledge and support would be of great loss to a city facing diverse issues.
- The current Congressional Representative's extensive experience on and with Congressional committees serving education and health issues are in direct correlation to the key needs of the City.
- The redistricting does not engage the economic impact that this will have on the City of Richmond in regards to competition for state and federal funding and other projects, e.g. Lawrence Berkeley National Labs expansion project for which Richmond is in direct competition with the Cities of Berkeley, Oakland, Emeryville and Alameda.
- The redistricting guidelines call for the Commission to respect County and City boundaries. With this in mind, the City should not be split in half.

This redistricting would also impact the City of Richmond regarding its Supervisorial representation. If approved, at the county level, it would split the City among supervisorial districts. We could foresee a situation where there could be disagreement over a program for the betterment of Richmond and the County, but in competition with another Supervisor's district. For example should Richmond be split amongst two Supervisorial districts, the City of Richmond and the City of Berkeley competing for a ferry service could result in one Supervisor representing Richmond and Berkeley could possibly promote the Berkeley area in deference to the other Supervisor promoting Richmond. This would not be conducive to economic development of the City of Richmond.

Therefore - in support of the City of Richmond's Resolution, I am requesting that you keep the City of Richmond in the Contra Costa County Congressional District 7.

Sincerely yours,



Gary M. Levin

Cc: Jim Cannon
Barbara O'Neill

Subject: Richmond Re-districting

From: Amy Ukena <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 10:29:22 -0700 (PDT)

To: ' [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Amy Ukena and I have lived in Richmond for well over 15 years, both "up on the hill" and "down in the flats." I am writing you today in support of Tom Butte's suggestions for redistricting our fair city. Richmond is a city that has more in common with itself than with any of the potential partners in the plan currently being discussed. East Contra Costa County is a far cry from Richmond, both in community ethos and community vision. To pair Richmond with Hercules, Black Hawk, Berkeley, Albany or any of the other communities would be to water down and possibly destroy the good work that is currently being done in Richmond, both in terms of development and nurturing of our resources.

Please don't destroy Richmond by putting it with other communities that have very little in common with us. We are a strong, willing, and able community, and we do good things.

Thank you for listening,

Amy Ukena

[REDACTED]
Richmond CA 94801
[REDACTED]

Subject: Splitting the City of Richmond into two congressional districts is wrong!

From: Nina Smith <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 14:07:40 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

CC: Tom Butt [REDACTED], Gayle McLaughlin

[REDACTED], Marilyn Langlois <[REDACTED]>

I am a 24 year resident of Richmond, California, and I am writing to voice my strong objections to the Commission's proposed redistricting which would split the City of Richmond between two congressional districts. Richmond is a primarily poor community and should not suffer the additional disadvantage that would be the inevitable consequence of having it served by two different congressional representatives. In addition, the actual boundary proposed seems to be in large part splitting off the poorer section of the community from the eastern, more middle-class section, which would work against our attempts to unify our City and overcome decades of racial, ethnic and class divisions. This is a horrible proposal and I sincerely hope that you rethink it.

I do agree that Richmond has more in common with Alameda County than those portions of Contra Costa County which lie east of the hills. I would not object to Richmond being put in Barbara Lee's district if it could be accomplished without splitting the City into two districts. But, I strongly object to splitting the City and if it can remain unified only by putting us with the rest of Contra Costa County east of the hills that would be preferable to splitting us in two.

Thank you for considering my views.

Nina Smith
[REDACTED]

Richmond, CA 94805
[REDACTED]

From: Robert Lane <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 10:27:14 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Richmond should be heard in a single voice, not divided up into two separate districts... Stay with George Miller or give the entirety of Richmond to Barbara Lee. Robert Lane

Subject: Protest of Congressional Redistricting Plan from two Richmond Residents

From: Susan Elwell <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 14:07:28 -0700

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

The proposed 1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting would split Richmond in half between what is now Congressman John Garamendi's 10th District and Congresswoman Barbara Lee's 9th District. To complicate matters even more, the portion of Contra Costa County east and north of Richmond that is currently in the 7th District would be split north and south into two other districts, leaving the east half of Richmond sharing representation with central and eastern Contra Costa, definitely not a population with common social and economic interests [Blackhawk?]. The jagged dividing line in Richmond roughly parallels and lies to the west of I-80 and/or San Pablo Avenue. Splitting Richmond in half is contrary to Criteria 4 of the Commission's prioritized criteria found in the California Constitution: "Respect cities, counties, communities of interest and neighborhoods where possible without violating the requirements of the preceding criteria." A Richmond resident on the west side of 39th street, for example, would be in the 9th District, and Barbara Lee would be the representative; the neighbor on the other side of the street, however, would be in John Garamendi's 10th District Neighborhood council districts and school attendance areas in Richmond would be divided. This just makes no sense. The drafters of the 1st Draft District Map may not have known that roughly half of more of Richmond's land area lies east of San Pablo Avenue and I-80.

- While Richmond, Berkeley and Oakland may "share common social and economic interests," there is a far stronger "community of interest" within the entire city of Richmond (and keeping it together) than among Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda, Emeryville and the City of Richmond. In fact, while Richmond, Berkeley and Oakland may "share [some] common social and economic interests," they are also in heated competition for resources with Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Alameda, such as the location of the second campus for Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, port-related resources, transportation funding, employment training grants, and much more. Currently, Richmond's separate congressional representation helps provide a more level playing field, but if combined with these four cities to the south, the divided one-half of Richmond attached to the new 9th District would represent less than 8% of the District population and would be overwhelmed as well as geographically remote, joined only by a thin strip of I-80 at the Contra Costa/Alameda County line. This thread of a connection defies the spirit of the requirement that "a district should be connected at all points."
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- Because the highest proportion of minorities in Contra Costa County are located in the Richmond area proposed in 1st Draft District Map, removing this block from the rest of Contra Costa County would disenfranchise those remaining and would likely violate the Voting Rights Act. For example, the City of San Pablo, which is surrounded by Richmond, would remain with central and eastern Contra Costa County, but with its community of interest diluted by the contravening demographics of central and east Contra Costa County.

Virginia Susan Elwell

James Michael Elwell

[REDACTED]
Richmond, CA 94801-4039

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Subject: Keep Our District Odd-numbered

From: District3 <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 14:21:04 -0700

To: '[REDACTED]' <[REDACTED]>

CC: Karen Basting <[REDACTED]>

To the Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

As constituents of the draft Senate district EALAM, we are calling upon you to assign an odd number to our district as you go through the process of numbering the districts. The majority of our district is now in Senate District 7. It is an odd-numbered district, and we are due to elect our next Senator in 2012. If you choose to make our Senate district an even-numbered district there will be no election for our State Senator until 2014. Our current Senator would then need to step down leaving us with no legitimate representation in the State Senate for two years. It is unacceptable to disenfranchise the residents and businesses of Contra Costa and Alameda Counties in this manner.

Residents, cities, elected boards, nonprofits and businesses in this district all have need for representation from a State Senator duly elected by the people of the district. State funding for education, transportation, health and human services, parks and recreation, water resources and a host of other services are critical for the district. We need a Senator elected by us to represent us to ensure we receive our fair share of state resources

We strongly urge you to retain our district as an odd-numbered district so that the residents and businesses of Contra Costa and Alameda counties are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely,
MARY NEJEDLY PIEPHO
County Supervisor, District III

MNP:ao

**Office of Supervisor Mary Nejedly Piepho
Contra Costa County, District III**

[REDACTED]
Danville, CA 94526

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Brentwood, CA 94513

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

SUPERVISORIAL STAFF:

Karen Basting, Chief of Staff

Lea Castleberry, Deputy Chief of Staff

Alison Olsen, Scheduler and Office Operations

Karyn Cornell, East County Field Representative

Jennifer Quallick, South County Field Representative

Subject: 1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting - Contra Costa County

From: "Kendal Andersen" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 13:04:05 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

RE: Contra Costa County - 1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission;

I live in a neighborhood area of Richmond, California, called "The Richmond North & East." We also have a certified neighborhood council (<http://northandeast.org/>). Richmond's North & East Neighborhood has a population of approximately 5,000 homes. It is an old, established neighborhood that is primarily residential. It is bounded on three sides (San Pablo Avenue, Macdonald Avenue and 23rd Street) by small businesses and bordered on the fourth side by the City of San Pablo.

Current map of Richmond North & East neighborhood: <http://classic.mapquest.com/maps?city=Richmond&state=CA&address=23rd+St+%26+Macdonald+Ave&zipcode=94804&country=US&latitude=37.93573&longitude=-122.34755&geocode=INTERSECTION>

This North & East neighborhood includes three elementary schools, a middle school, and one high school. The neighborhood includes the Richmond Public Library, police department, city hall and community center, the Richmond Art Center, the Richmond Senior Center, and other churches and non-profit groups. There are also major transportation routes along Macdonald Avenue, San Pablo Avenue, and Barrett Avenue leading to the Richmond Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station and Amtrak, Interstate 80, and to other Richmond shopping areas.

The North & East Neighborhood Council is actively engaged in improving the community by patrolling for crime, holding neighborhood events and meetings, and working to improve schools, parks and playgrounds, zoning, multi-modal transportation routes, and urban tree and landscaping improvements.

The proposed **1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting** splits the North and East Neighborhood into two odd parts – in proposed Districts 9 and 10 – rather than keeping the whole neighborhood together. This will have a significant impact on the North & East Neighborhood, will divide school districts, and impact plans for transportation and other improvements.

Map 1st Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting
http://c365736.r36.cf2.rackcdn.com/maps_20110610_q2_cd_bayarea_coco.pdf

Please keep the entire Richmond North & East Neighborhood together in proposed District 10 rather than dividing it into two separate districts.

Sincerely,
Kendal E. Andersen



Richmond, CA 94805

Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Just say no to redistricting

From: Jennifer Kirkland <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 11:27:54 -0700

To: ' [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

As a registered voter in Richmond, I feel compelled to express my outrage at the possibility of redistricting. Barbara Lee does NOT speak for me, nor does Garamendi. George Miller represents me and has done so with care and forethought. Redistricting does not serve the constituents. In this case it is a slimy tactic used to divide a diverse city, thereby weakening its already unheard voice. Richmond deserves one individual to watch out for us as a city united in its efforts to rise above crime, poverty and racism. Dividing Richmond by socioeconomic and racial lines undermines all of our efforts.

Gerrymandering has a bad name for a reason. Shame on all of you for attempting it.

Jennifer Kirkland
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone