

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Jerry Power [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 10:03 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Jerry Power [REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting of Richmond CA

Message Body:

I would like to protest your dedistricting of Richmonds Congressional District by dividing Richmond in half into two different districts, one not even in our County. I thought the idea was to respect City and County lines when drawing up districts. Splitting up our City does a disservice to our City. I fully support our Councilman, Tom Butt, in his protest about dividing Richmond into pieces.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Juan P Reardon <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/25/2011 8:50 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Juan P Reardon [REDACTED]

Subject: Keep Richmond in one district

Message Body:

Dear Citizens in the redistricting commission.

I'm not opposed to having Richmond be part of the district now represented by Barbara lee.

I have her in the highest esteem.

However: I am strongly opposed to dividing our city into two congressional districts.

Whatever your determination in the end keep the City of Richmond all in the same congressional district.

Thank You

Juan Reardon

Richmond resident

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Sydney Metrick [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 7:36 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Sydney Metrick [REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:

The city of Richmond will not be well-served with the proposed division for many reasons. I'm sure you have received longs lists. Please consider Councilman, Tom Butt's rationale. I concur.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Jacob Lubliner <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/25/2011 10:48 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Jacob Lubliner <[REDACTED]>

Subject: El Cerrito

Message Body:

I was very disappointed to see that in the first draft of the Congressional map El Cerrito remains attached to the inland Contra Costa district, centered in Walnut Creek. El Cerrito is a San Francisco Bay community that basks in the bay and ocean breezes, and our interests are much closer to those of Oakland and Richmond when it comes to issues potentially involving federal action, such as transportation and the environment. Please reconsider!

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: terry baird [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 8:17 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: terry baird [REDACTED]

Subject: richmond

Message Body:

richmond is a city with more than it's share of economic, employment, health, law enforcement, education, environmental and safety problems. we are separated from our county seat (martinez) by distance, geographic barriers, weather, and poor public transportation. we are separated from our natural neighbors (berkeley and oakland) by being in a different county.

it's not within the commission's mandate to solve richmond's problems. but in the many years i have lived here i'm finally seeing the people of richmond making progress together to make this a better community. to split up the city in any political division would be a major setback to this city's progress. citizen's of richmond need to be able to pull together with elected leaders that represent us -- not part of us. we need one richmond. thank you for your exciting work in making california a better democracy.

terry baird

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Daniel Moriarty [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 11:55 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Daniel Moriarty [REDACTED]

Subject: dividing Richmond into two districts

Message Body:

Keep Richmond whole, We are one community and need to be represented as such. Political fragmentation will not be helpful to our goal of "One Richmond"

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Jane Mountcastle <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/25/2011 12:06 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Jane Mountcastle [REDACTED]

Subject: City of Richmond

Message Body:

Hi,
I understand that there is a possibility that the City of Richmond could be divided in re-districting and I would like to strongly advocate that lines be redrawn in a way that keeps the City united. Richmond is really trying to come into its own and it would be very undermining of all the hard work by so many people to have the city divided. Thank you for your consideration and work on this project.

Jane Mountcastle
[REDACTED]

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

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

From: charles smith [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 12:58 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

CC: Tom Butt [REDACTED] Gayle McLaughlin [REDACTED]

Marilyn Langlois [REDACTED]

I am a 37 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 an economically struggling city, a community that in recent years has managed to improve many of its social and economic problems. The citizens have a new sense of pride in their city. We live in a city that is not afraid to set new goals which would have been thought of as impossible just a few years ago. Richmond is a city that is unified and we intend to stay that way. To suggest that our political representation should be divided by the stroke of a pen is a cruel blow to what we have accomplished. To suggest that someone, not connected with our city's history, can divide us is outrageous. To an outsider it would appear that our city has been divided along class and racial lines. Was this the intention?

If Richmond is put into a different congressional district so be it but please do not divide our city into two congressional districts.

Charles T. Smith

[REDACTED]
Richmond, CA 94805

Subject: The City of Richmond should be intact within a district with other Contra Costa County towns
From: "andi.biren" <[REDACTED]>
Date: 6/25/2011 1:14 PM
To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Dear Commission Members:

I live in Point Richmond, a neighborhood of the City of Richmond, which is at the tip of the western edge of Contra Costa County west of I-80 and south of the Richmond Bridge. Under the proposed 1st Draft District Map my neighborhood and the neighborhoods west of I-80 to the south would be in Barbara Lee's 9th District whereas the much of rest of Richmond would be in what is now Congressman John Garamendi's 10th District.

From my vantage point, I believe I have more of a community of interest with the rest of Richmond and Contra Costa county than with Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda County. Although economically my neighborhood is wealthier than much of Richmond and I often go to Oakland and Berkeley, my community is inextricably tied to Richmond. I use the Richmond BART station on the other side of the proposed line. My neighborhood council reports to the city council meets on the other side of the proposed line. The public works and building departments are on the other side of the proposed line. My garbage dump is on the other side of the proposed line. The main post office for me is on the other side of the proposed line. The main police station is on the other side of the proposed line. If the 1st draft is approved, the governmental seats of the city and county to which I turn for services and to which I pay my taxes will be in another Congressional district. I want my Congress member to be working for Richmond and Contra Costa County.

Moreover, Richmond residents on the other side of the proposed line come to Point Richmond. They come for the National Rosie the Riveter Park (which historically is tied to other Contra Costa county shipbuilding sites that would lie in the other district if the 1st draft division is approved). They come for the George Miller Regional Park and Keller Beach. They come for the Plunge, a community swimming pool. They come to work at the port and in the community. And frankly, they come to commit crimes - so a common crime prevention strategy and funding commitment is very important to me.

If the part of Richmond to the west of I-80 is in a district with Oakland, I believe we will be denied fair and effective representation. There are inherent conflicts that can be seen in the current heated competition for resources with Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Alameda, such as the location of the second campus for Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, competition for tenants at the ports, transportation funding, employment training grants, criminal justice 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 part of Richmond attached to the new 9th District would represent less than 8% of the District population.

Finally, I believe that, with regard to part of Richmond to the west of I-80, the 1st Draft offends the spirit of the requirement that a district should be connected at all points since the nexus between my area and the rest of Barbara Lee's district is only a thin strip of I-80 at the Contra Costa/Alameda County line.

Thank you for your attention to this problem. I know you have a difficult task and I appreciate your hard work.

Andrea Biren



Richmond, CA 94801

Subject: Redistricting

From: Eugene Fleming [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 1:54 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

The proposed Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting would split Richmond in half between the 10th District and 9th District. 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.

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." I am a Richmond resident on the west side of 39th street. 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.

I live in Richmond. 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.

Sincerely,

Eugene F Fleming, III

Subject: Richmond

From: Gretchen Blais [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 2:59 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

I know it is difficult to re-draw the lines, but please find a way to leave Richmond in one district. We have worked hard to generate a sense of community and being in one district helps us meet that goal.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Blais
Richmond Resident

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Chia Hamilton [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 9:23 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Chia Hamilton [REDACTED]

Subject: Richmond in one district

Message Body:

I have been watching Richmond coalesce to become the sort of community we all wish for ourselves and each other. The positive changes in Richmond are the result of their coming together.

PLEASE do not divide Richmond when you draw the lines for the new districts.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: "Leslie O'Hara" [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 1:21 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Leslie O'Hara [REDACTED]

Subject: Richmond

Message Body:

Please reconsider dividing the city of Richmond, We are opposed to he concept of our city being in two districts.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: jim hite [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 1:14 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: jim hite [REDACTED]

Subject: City of Richmond

Message Body:

Dear Madame/Sir:

I live in Point Richmond, a district in the greater unified City of Richmond. I am concerned that our city will be divided in the redistricting proposal. While it is not as important to us (in the city) which district we will eventually be placed, it is vital to our past and future efforts to keep the whole city in one district.

As you may well know, Richmond has had a violent past history. Over the years through the determined efforts of the city's government and concerned citizens we have managed to bring forth positive results and we are in the process of turning Richmond into one of the most vibrant and productive cities in the Bay Area.

Dividing our city in the redistricting process will greatly reduce our effectiveness as we work to transform our city from poverty and violence to prosperity and peace.

Look at our progress. We are spending our time and energy doing what democracy does best, concerned citizens and government working together to create a prosperous and respectful society dedicated to serving all in our community.

Please allow us to continue on our path as a united Richmond.

Thank you,

Jim Hite

[REDACTED]
Pt. Richmond 94801

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Rebecca E Robinson [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 9:08 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Rebecca E Robinson [REDACTED]

Subject: Richmond in one district

Message Body:

I've been teaching in Richmond for over twenty years, and we have a large, disconnected school district. It's often difficult for students to relate to issues concerning distant towns. It's important for our families to feel a part of a community, having Richmond in one district will help.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Tani Suzanne Martinat [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 2:18 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Tani Suzanne Martinat [REDACTED]

Subject: Do not divide Richmond, Ca!!!!

Message Body:

Do not divide Richmond, CA between 2 districts!!!

We've made lots of progress based on unified Richmond. PLEASE, don't set us backwards.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Eugene F Fleming III [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 1:49 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Eugene F Fleming III [REDACTED]

Subject: Opposition to Proposed Redistricting Plan

Message Body:

The proposed Draft District Map for Congressional redistricting would split Richmond in half between the 10th District and 9th District. 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.

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." I am a Richmond resident on the west side of 39th street. 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.

I live in Richmond. 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.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Rocky Leplin [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 9:42 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Rocky Leplin [REDACTED]

Subject: City of Richmond

Message Body:

Please do not split Richmond into different districts.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: JOAN BARTULOVICH <[REDACTED]>

Date: 6/25/2011 4:26 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: JOAN BARTULOVICH [REDACTED]

Subject: REDISTRICTING

Message Body:

PLEASE KEEP RICHMOND ONE DISTRICT

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: redistricting in Contra Costa

From: Perfectpage [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 3:14 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Dear Board Members,

I object to the redistricting of my area as shown in the draft map. In addition to splitting the city of Richmond it seems to have moved me into the Berkeley/Oakland district. Since my issues are mainly involved with Contra Costa County it makes more sense to keep me in the congressional district where I now reside.

The districts are not numbered on either of the maps and I don't remember what the numbers are, but I live in the El Sobrante section of Richmond and have had many contacts over the years with my Representative, George Miller, who has been very responsive. I'd rather not have to start over with someone who has no familiarity with the issues that affect me and my area.

Please consider the wishes of the residents of the districts as you carve them out.

Thank you for your attention.

Jeannette Mahoney

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Jeannette Kortz [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 8:59 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Jeannette Kortz [REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting of Richmond, California

Message Body:

Dear Redistricting Commission Members,

I am asking that you do not divide Richmond. I strongly object to Richmond being divided, and ask that you redraw the lines so that Richmond can stay united.

Richmond is going through a very positive change. This change has come about because all our communities are coming together. Splitting Richmond is not be good for our city, especially at a time when such great positive changes are coming about.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeannette Kortz

A Richmond Resident

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: David Vasnaik [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 10:37 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: David Vasnaik [REDACTED]

Subject: Richmond CA

Message Body:

Dear members,

I would like to send a note of support for Mayor Gayle McLaughlin's request to keep the City of Richmond in one district.

Thank You.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Anne Marie van Amson [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 10:22 AM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Anne Marie van Amson [REDACTED]

Subject: Richmond Redistricting

Message Body:

Please do not divide the city of Richmond into multiple districts. Please keep the whole of Richmond together so that we can continue strengthening our city's unity.

Thank you.

Anne Marie van Amson

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: NO splitting Brentwood

From: Dodi Fromson [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 12:41 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

We are ONE community and expect to continue as ONE community. I strongly disagree with cutting our area in half.

dodi fromson

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Michael J Meagher [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 1:11 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Michael J Meagher [REDACTED]

Subject: Richmond

Message Body:

As a 24 year Richmond homeowner, I want all of Richmond to be in ONE DISTRICT!! And I want Richmond to stay in Contra Costa County, as it is now, and not to be in the same District as Berkeley or Oakland. Not that I have anything against either-it's just a better fit the way it is now.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: [REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Date: 6/25/2011 5:19 AM
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov
CC: [REDACTED]

Richmond has long been one of the top 10 most dangerous cities in USA, due to the astronomical murder rate.
Now that after *DECADES* of struggle, Richmond has finally gotten on the right track and is making progress at reducing the murder rate, you want to split us apart??? Richmond will lose what little political influence it had, and be subjected to the will of the crazies in Berkeley and Oakland. Look at the murder rate in Oakland. You want Richmond to be controlled by the lunatics who let Oakland be turned into a violent sewer??? Richmond is a pragmatic city hardened by dealing with many decades of hard real-world problems, not the academic fantasy world of Berkeley radicals. You want us to let them destroy us? We have practically nothing in common with that lunatics asylum, Richmond is a Contra Costa city through and through, completely alien to Alameda county. We have so many conflicting interests with Berkeley and Oakland, such as port issues, not just a different approach to police and public safety issues. Richmond is finally working, you want to destroy all the progress we have made???

Subject: City of Richmond

From: Maxine Henagan [REDACTED]

Date: 6/25/2011 5:18 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

In your deliberations for redistricting the 7,9, and 10th districts please consider the city limits of Richmond and keep our entire community (the city of Richmond) in one district.

Please, please donot go forward with spliting the city down 39th street!

Thank you for your consideration.

Richmond resident and concerned citizen,

 ***Maxine Henagan***

"The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"