

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Glenn M MacDonald <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:03:15 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Glenn M MacDonald <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:

I have seen the existing District boundaries and they are insane and dishonest. They are obviously based on politics and not logic or fairness. I so appreciate the work you are doing. I want to strongly request that you follow the CCAG proposals which I consider very logical and fair. I and my family are 41 year residents of Contra Costa County.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: "Deferral" of odd-to-even district

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 15:18:39 +0000 (UTC)

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

I am very impressed with much of what you have done!! Thank you!

I am very concerned about changing the numbering of my **7th State Senate** District to an even numbered district. My state senator is very, very effective and I do not want to be left without him for 2 years. **Please keep my odd numbered district odd.** Please do this to all the odd districts, unless it is totally impossible.

Thank you very much for all your hard work.

Carolyn Phinney, PhD

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Jerry Dees <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 20:05:03 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Jerry Dees <[REDACTED]>
Subject: San Ramon to Fremont Gerrymander?

Message Body:

The vast majority of folks in both the Tri-Valley area (Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon, Danville, Livermore) AND those in Fremont know that the Oakland Hills are a natural boundary to communities of interest. Fremont is more linked with cities on the Bay side of the Hills, and the Tri-Valley's issues and interests are linked with those on the valley side of the hills.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Robyn Johnson <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:25:19 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Robyn Johnson <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting decision

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Rob Johnson; I am a resident of Walnut Creek and a Republican. I write in support of the California Conservative Action Group (CCAG).

I have reviewed maps and commentary which in itself is a daunting task and but a fraction of your work so you have my commendations. My wife and I would like to testify before the commission but we are working as hard as we can to make ends meet.

I have seen the criteria for the Commission to use in deciding districts. It is good principle.

But I would say to the Commission that as a Republican I no longer feel represented in my district, nor do I feel equal opportunity to elect representation, and as a "new minority" an abject future of political discrimination.

It seems to me CCAG has many good ideas, as probably other groups, but to me it seems most important the Commission employ the criteria of the Voting Rights Act and etc. and provide districts not drawn to favor or discriminate against an incumbent, candidate, or political party.

Thank you.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: "Jeffrey M. Dickemann" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:29:45 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Jeffrey M. Dickemann <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Splitting Richmond

Message Body:

Please don't split Richmond in two. I have lived here for 21 years. We are striving to make a whole, healthy, productive community rather than separating into a largely black-brown and a largely white community. we oppose racism in boundary drawing. Thank you, JMD, Ph.D. Professor Emeritus of Anthropology

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Christie Rigg <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:53:48 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Christie Rigg <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting

Message Body:

I am a resident of Richmond, and I am AGAINST splitting the City of Richmond into 2 congressional districts.

It seems totally UNFAIR (at a minimum) to lose our ELECTED congressman George Miller.

I think the voters of Contra Costa County need to have a say in this matter. Myself included. How about putting it on the next ballot?

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Nancy Lin <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 18:36:11 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Nancy Lin <[REDACTED]>

Subject: opposition to proposed redistricting for Richmond

Message Body:

· 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."

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.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Redistricting for Contra Costa County

From: Sherri <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 18:29:32 -0700

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 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 County are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely,
Sherri Reed

Subject: Redistricting for the San Ramon Valley

From: Roxanne Lindsay <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:58:09 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

June 27, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154A
Sacramento, CA
Fax: (916) [REDACTED]

Honorable Commissioners;

Thank you for the time you are dedicating to make California's redistricting a logical process of appropriate representation for each and every citizen of the state.

As a member of the San Ramon Valley Fire District Board, I know the importance of consolidating like geographical areas for better representation and service. The District consolidated the south end of San Ramon and the Tassajara Valley over the years bringing quicker response and a local fire governing board and administration for the citizens.

I truly believe in the value of contiguous areas for legislative districts and use of natural dividing lines. Such a situation exists in the San Ramon Valley's association with the eastern Alameda County/Tri-Valley to the south, the Walnut Creek, Lamorinda area to the north and Eastern Contra Costa's communities of Antioch, Oakley, Brentwood and Discovery Bay. The Oakland/East Bay hills serve as a natural dividing line between districts.

The Commission's 1st Draft map regarding nesting Contra Costa Assembly Districts in the same State Senate District will bring the type of representation citizens expect and deserve.

Thank you again for your work on behalf of all of our state of California.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Lindsay

[REDACTED]
San Ramon, CA 94583

Letter to Commission on Redistricting.doc

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: karl dobrinich <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 02:48:01 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: karl dobrinich <[REDACTED]>

Subject: racial and economic devices

Message Body:

It is a big mistake to create districts which have obvious profiles, especially when those profiles can be summed up in one work...poor, rich, black, hispanic, etc. I agree that all district boundaries would make some geographic sense if for nothing than to save travel time and gas. At the same time I think representatives can do well to remember the broad spectrum of people they serve and this can best be done through highly diversified districts.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Re: Keeping Richmond Richmond

From: Jovanka Beckles <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:22:42 -0700

To: michael beer <[REDACTED]>

CC: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, Gayle McLaughlin

[REDACTED], Tom Butt <[REDACTED]>, [REDACTED],

[REDACTED], Corky Booze <[REDACTED]>, [REDACTED],

[REDACTED], Jim Rogers <[REDACTED]>

Nat Bates <[REDACTED]>

Beautiful letter, Michael!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 27, 2011, at 3:10 PM, michael beer <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Richmond, CA
June 27, 2011

Dear California Re-districting Committee,

I am a Richmond resident. I am a dedicated voter, a local consumer whenever possible, a neighborhood person who has had CERT training, and who participates in many events to bolster and uplift my community.

The current plan that divides Richmond into different districts would do a terrible disservice to Richmond. After years of being the back-water of the Bay Area, Richmond is currently undergoing a renaissance (c.f.

"The Man Behind Richmond's Renaissance", East Bay Express, May 2011). This is after years of being ashamed to acknowledge our Richmond postal address due to a reputation of grime and crime.

The impetus behind this renewed spirit of hope is the notion that everybody in Richmond belongs here and is important. Many new projects have been realized and many more proposed. Our ethnic communities have a deeper sense of being included. To draw the boundaries where you have is essentially drawing and quartering our city. Please allow us to continue to pursue our destiny as the "City of Pride and Purpose" and "One Richmond."

Sincerely yours,
Michael Beer

[REDACTED]
Richmond, CA 94804

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: "Barbara A. McCoy" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 14:32:38 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Barbara A. McCoy <[REDACTED]>

Subject: City of Oakley

Message Body:

I am against the redistricting of the City of Oakley. We do not have anything in common with the area of Tracy/Lodi and should not be placed in that area.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: "Eva L.Lane" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 00:05:23 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Eva L.Lane <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting plans for Richmond,CA.

Message Body:

I am a long time resident of Richmond and as a concerned citizen of Rep. George Miller's district, I would ask of the committee to please allow Richmond to remain as is. Richmond does not need to be split up. Rep. Miller has served the city well and shows concern for all of the residents. Richmond needs to remain in one district and served by one Representative. Thanks for your concern.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Redistricting

From: Rita Lindner <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 17:02:12 -0700 (PDT)

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

Commission-Living in Danville, I support the Oakland/East Bay hills as a natural dividing line between Congressional Districts. It appears as a sensible and fair division. The first draft maps approved by the commission for Assembly Districts is something I can support.

Lindner

Respectfully, Rita

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Danville, CA

94526

Subject: State Senate District

From: Louise Clark <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 09:11:51 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Redistricting Commissioners,

I enjoy going to Town Hall meetings when my State Senator, Mark DeSaulnier, is there. He answers questions knowledgeably and intelligently making me proud that I have someone in Sacramento watching out for the interests of me and my neighbors. My Senate District 7 is an odd numbered district due to elect our next Senator in 2012. If you make us an even-numbered district we will not have an election for State Senate until 2014. We will be without a State Senator for 2 years. If this is not unconstitutional, it should be.

Please do not change our district in such a way that we will have no State Senator for 2 years.

Sincerely,

Louise Clark

[REDACTED]
Lafayette, CA 94549

[REDACTED]

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Marilyn Bradley <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 00:41:25 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Marilyn Bradley <[REDACTED]>

Subject: City of San Ramon - Tri Valley Redistricting

Message Body:

Citizens Redistricting Commission

Dear Commissioners:

I have lived in San Ramon for 47 years. The Tri Valley Cities, San Ramon, Danville, Alamo, Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore have grown up together. Since long before my time and before many of these areas were even incorporated, this area has always been known as the Tri Valley. There has always been a community of interest due to the geographics, hospitals, doctors, churches, athletic activities including high school AAA and AA Leagues encompassing all the sports played in our local high schools. Younger athletics are played together within the Tri Valley Area.

The City of San Ramon is in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District along with Danville, Alamo, Diablo and a finger of southern Walnut Creek.

The Tri Valley Cities, growing up together, have created a community of interest in all areas of life. The Cities work together on many issues, i.e., transportation, the management of the agency that jointly oversees the affordable housing in the Tri Valley; community television station broadcasting educational programs unique to the Tri Valley area; City Councils meet regularly to discuss and solve issues that are unique to the Tri Valley Community. This is what happens when you grow up together.

Thank you for realizing the Tri Valley Cities are connected not only geographically but as a community of interest.

It is my understanding that the State Constitution mandates compact redistricting. The Tri Valley Communities are not compact with Fremont and the City of San Ramon certainly is not.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Bradley

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Shirley Meloy <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 01:40:42 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Shirley Meloy <[REDACTED]>
Subject: San Ramon should be with 680 corridor

Message Body:

I appreciate your dedication and openness. I desire that natural borders be used as much as possible. The hill that separates Fremont from Sunol, Dublin and San Ramon should be used as a line. The San Ramon Unified School District preads from San Ramon almost to Walnut Creek and draws teachers and parents in communication and should stay intact. Also San Ramon people interact with those in the Tri Valley 680 corridor. Thank you.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Ernest Wheeler <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 22:14:14 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Ernest Wheeler <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Tri Valley

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners;

I was stunned to hear that the group from Fremont wanted to incorporate the Tri Valley - Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon, and Dublin in with a district with Fremont. I respectfully disagree with this approach. The Tri-Valley has nothing in common with the Fremont part of the 680 corridor. I believe the Tri-Valley should be kept with the "CoCo" district.

I highly recommend that you use the latest maps prepared by Allen Payton of the CCAG for the Congressional, Assembly and Senate districts. The maps better incorporate your guidelines of contiguous, compact, districts which maintain communities of interest. In addition, the Oakland/East Bay/Richmond hills serve as a natural dividing line, with Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore on the opposite side of those hills from Fremont. Your guidelines require compactness as well as respecting natural boundaries.

The Tri-Valley community shares much more in common with the other cities in the CoCo district than it does with the Fremont District. The Pleasanton Weekly recently had an article stating that the 5 cities of Danville, San Ramon, Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin had signed a letter to your committee requesting that they all be kept together in one district due to the many areas of common interest that they have. In addition, I am aware that hundreds of grass-roots citizens (as opposed to paid, political hacks) have also expressed to your committee their wishes that the Tri-Valley cities be in the same district as the inland district (CoCo).

We share common newspapers. Our high schools compete in sports events. We share the same concerns regarding transportation networks. We have similar demographics. Our residents live and work in each other's cities. Our city officials meet together several times a month for regional planning purposes. We attend church together.

The Tri-Valley has little or no interaction with Fremont and the other Tri-Cities that are trying to pull the Tri-Valley away from the district and community they have historically been a part of.

We understand Fremont not wanting to be split up. We understand their request to be coupled with the other Tri-City cities. We have no problem with that request, but we have a BIG problem with taking the Tri-Valley out of the CoCo District.

I notice that your first draft includes the Tri-Valley in the CoCo Assembly District and the Senate District, but not the Congressional District. I strongly encourage you to include the Tri-Valley in the CoCo Congressional District in the same manner that you did for the Assembly and Senate.

Please review the most recent maps proposed by the CCAG. These maps best reflect the wishes of the grassroots citizenry in these affected areas and seem to be the most fair way to get rid of the awful Gerrymandering that we have had in the past.

Thank you for considering my comments.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Redistricting: Concerns about dividing

From: Paul Werner <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 09:52:04 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission,

I am very concerned about the aspect of the draft redistricting plan that would split the city of Richmond in half, placing the west half into a district that currently represents northwest Alameda county and the east half into a Contra Costa county district. It seems most appropriate for the city of Richmond to be considered and maintained as a whole for the purpose of redistricting, to maintain its integrity as a city, and also for it to stay with other West Contra Costa County jurisdictions.

Thank you for considering this input.

Sincerely,

Paul Werner

[REDACTED]
Richmond, CA 94804

Subject: Proposed Redistricting
From: "James & Cathleen Storm " <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 15:54:53 -0700
To: <[REDACTED]>

From James and Cathleen Storm

[REDACTED]
Livermore, CA 94551

RE: CONTRA COSTA MAPS

I like your first draft maps for the Contra Costa area for the State Senate and Assembly Districts. The Congressional map is not acceptable to me.

TRI VALLEY does not belong with FREMONT:

The Tri Valley area is Dublin/Pleasanton/Livermore. It should not be joined in a Congressional District, as a few suggested Saturday in San Jose, with Fremont.

Citizens of Tri Valley do not support that joinder, and neither do voters in Contra Costa or Alameda because that gerrymandered shift will affect all of our Congressional Districts adversely.

On May 24 at the Oakland input hearing, a huge number of citizens testified that the Tri Valley should NOT be joined with Fremont.

There is no community of interest between Fremont and the Tri Valley.

The Richmond/Oakland/East Bay hills are a natural dividing line which puts Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore in a separate Congressional District from cities on the West side of those hills. Please respect compact redistricting, as mandated by Article 21 of our State Constitution, and do not put the Tri Valley with Fremont.

Citizens living in such a gerrymandered district would not be able to reach their legislator in the Fremont area because of the pass over the hills. Those in the Tri Valley would be disenfranchised.

Such a gerrymandered district would violate constitutional principles requiring compactness (respect for geographical boundaries) and a community of interest based upon the common characteristics in a community that are subject to the vote, such as: transit, schools, hospitals, public safety, fire protection, roads, and the like.

Respectfully Submitted,

James A Storm (registered voter)

Cathleen E Storm (registered voter)

Subject: Keeping Richmond Richmond

From: michael beer <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 15:10:55 -0700 (PDT)

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

CC: Gayle McLaughlin [REDACTED], Tom Butt

[REDACTED], "jeff@jeffritterman.com" [REDACTED], Corky Booze

<[REDACTED]> [REDACTED] Jim

Rogers <[REDACTED]> Nat Bates <[REDACTED]>

Richmond, CA

June 27, 2011

Dear California Re-districting Committee,

I am a Richmond resident. I am a dedicated voter, a local consumer whenever possible, a neighborhood person who has had CERT training, and who participates in many events to bolster and uplift my community.

The current plan that divides Richmond into different districts would do a terrible disservice to Richmond. After years of being the back-water of the Bay Area, Richmond is currently undergoing a renaissance (c.f.

"The Man Behind Richmond's Renaissance", East Bay Express, May 2011). This is after years of being ashamed to acknowledge our Richmond postal address due to a reputation of grime and crime.

The impetus behind this renewed spirit of hope is the notion that everybody in Richmond belongs here and is important. Many new projects have been realized and many more proposed. Our ethnic communities have a deeper sense of being included. To draw the boundaries where you have is essentially drawing and quartering our city. Please allow us to continue to pursue our destiny as the "City of Pride and Purpose" and "One Richmond."

Sincerely yours,

Michael Beer

[REDACTED]

Richmond, CA 94804

[REDACTED]

Subject: Congressman Miller's 7th CD should include Richmond

From: Jean Womack <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 09:56:47 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you to request that you reconsider the boundary lines for the new 7th CD and please include Richmond in Rep. Miller's district. Councilman Nat Bates made a very important point that Richmond competes with Oakland for port-related business and for federal dollars because of a low income population. Miller has provided very good representation for Richmond in the many years he has been in Congress. He is responsive and accessible to his constituents and regularly appears in Richmond and San Pablo. It would be a terrible shame and tragedy to lose him as our representative in Congress. Please reconsider your boundary lines for the 7th CD. Thank you.

Jean Womack

--

Jean Womack

[REDACTED] (h)

or [REDACTED] (c)

One kind word can warm 100 winter nights
Japanese proverb

Subject: Keep Richmond Unified

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 10:27:45 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

CC: [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

I am agreement with our Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin to keep Richmond unified. In the past year the School Board leadership and Teacher leadership have worked very hard together to improve our schools in these difficult economic times. We strongly support the new construction projects that have made our school community and stakeholders proud.

Equity in Richmond schools is a priority and a factor in the education of all our students. We strongly object to redrawing lines that would be devisee or could potentially create inequities in the education of our students. We have been working diligently with the school board leadership on better access, communication and accountability with our school representatives.

I want to thank you for your attention and listening to our concerns. We look forward to redrawing lines that continue to keep a unified Richmond.

Sincerely,

Diane Brown, President, United Teachers of Richmond

[REDACTED]

United Teachers of Richmond

[REDACTED]
Pinole, CA 94565

Office: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Subject: keep Richmond in one district
From: "sara g." <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:04:38 -0700
To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commissioners,

I take the stand of the mayor of Richmond, Gayle McLaughlin: 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,

Sara Goolsby

[REDACTED]

Richmond, CA 94805

From: Jovanka Beckles <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 07:44:40 -0700
To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

To: Citizens Redistricting Commission
From: Jovanka Beckles, City Council Member, [Richmond, California](#)

Although I have no position regarding which congressional district Richmond is in, I am very concerned that current proposal divides Richmond between two districts. As it stands the proposal violates the principle of maintaining the integrity of cities and undermines our attempts to unify diverse neighborhoods in Richmond. I urge you to correct this serious error.

Thank you,
Jovanka Beckles
Richmond City Councilmember

Sent from my iPad