



Fwd: CD Redistricting Proposal for Tri-Valley Cities and Other Popular Desires

Voter <[redacted]>
To: [redacted]

Wed, Jul 6, 2011 at 3:36 PM

Region 8 - Contra Costa
June 28 prior to 5 pm

----- Original Message -----

Subject: CD Redistricting Proposal for Tri-Valley Cities and Other Popular Desires

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 23:57:52 +0000 (UTC)

From: [redacted]

To: [redacted]

CC: J Nibert <[redacted]>

Dear Commissioners:

I was Speaker 73 at the June 27 meeting in San Francisco. The Commission chair requested that I email my proposal, which I designed to achieve several popular desires for San Francisco Bay Area CDs, based on the Draft 1 maps

In particular, I request that you keep all of the Tri-Valley cities of Contra Costa and Alameda Counties whole within one congressional district. My proposal explains how to achieve this. It is contained in the attached chart as a pdf file.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeff Nibert
Pleasanton, CA



CD Redistrict for Tri-Valley Cities and Other Popular Desires.pdf

23K

CD Designation (Draft 1)	Places Moving into this CD	Leaving from	Population Shift (needs balance adjustment at block level)	COMMENTS (!) = achieves popular desires in public testimony
COCO	Antioch, Brentwood	SNJOA	153,853	(!) Reunites two cities with their own county's CD
FRNWU	Alamo, Danville, Blackhawk, San Ramon *	COCO	150,031	(!) Keeps Tri-Valley cities whole with Pleasanton and Livermore
SANJO	Half of Fremont (22 tracts - pop. 106,980) not already in SANJO, Most of Union City (44,535) **	FRNWU	151,515	(!) Keeps Fremont whole. Unites 92% of Tri-Cities population
SNACL	Southern end of SANJO	SANJO	107,798	Movement only within city of San Jose
STANI	Eastern San Jose foothills ***	SNACL	107,798	Movement consists of rural, low density and outlying communities that match the characteristics of the STANI CD
	Southeastern Santa Clara County, including tract 5135 ****	SANJO	41,528	
			149,326	
SNJOA	Tracy, Manteca	STANI	150,018	(!) Reunites two cities with their own county's CD

Source: <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/popmap/>

Footnotes:

* Includes 28 census tracts, beginning with (and including) these tracts: 3342 (block group 2), 3452.03, 3452.04, 3461.01, 3511.01, and 3511.03, and then all remaining tracts to the south and south east of these. Excludes Tract 3553.06 (Mt. Diablo).

** Excludes the six tracts located west of the railroad tracks that are west of and parallel to Hwy I-880. (4403.04, 4403.05, 4403.06, 4403.31, 4403.32, 4415.01)

*** Includes census tracts 5033.12, 5033.13, 5033.23, 5033.24, 5033.25, 5033.26, 5033.29, 5033.30, 5033.31

**** Includes all tracts east of (but not including) tract 5122

I was Speaker 73 at the June 27 meeting in San Francisco. The Commission chair requested that I email my proposal, which I designed to achieve several popular desires for SF Bay Area CDs. It is contained on this page. Thank you for your consideration.
 Jeff Nibert
 Pleasanton, CA

Subject: Resolution from the Oakley City Council

From: "Bryan Montgomery" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 22:06:47 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

CC: "Jim Frazier" <[REDACTED]>

Dear Members of the Commission:

Please see the attached Resolution from the Oakley City Council that urges the Commission to include Oakley in Districts along with the majority of Contra Costa County and that Oakley be placed in a State Senatorial District with an odd number.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan H. Montgomery

CITY MANAGER

[REDACTED]
OAKLEY, CA 94561

PHONE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



OakleyCityCouncilRESOLUTION.pdf

RESOLUTION NO. 71-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKLEY URGING THE CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION TO INCLUDE THE CITY OF OAKLEY WITHIN THE SAME ASSEMBLY AND STATE SENATE, AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AS THE MAJORITY OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY; AND, TO ASSIGN AN ODD NUMBER TO THE SENATE DISTRICT WHEREIN OAKLEY IS PLACED

WHEREAS, In 2008, Proposition 11 established an independent Citizens Redistricting Committee, made up of California residents to configure State Assembly and Senate districts and Proposition 20 was approved in 2010 which granted the Citizens Redistricting Committee the authority to configure congressional district lines as well, and

WHEREAS, The Citizens Redistricting Commission must draw district boundaries that are consistent with criteria of equal population; compliance with federal Voting Rights Act; contiguity; respect for geographic integrity of counties, cities and communities of interest; compactness; nesting with other districts; and districts not drawn to favor or discriminate against an incumbent, political candidate or political party; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens Redistricting Commission has published its first draft map that includes the boundaries for the Assembly, Senate and Congressional districts; and

WHEREAS, as it relates to the City of Oakley's placement in these districts, the first draft map does NOT provide compactness, does NOT nest well with other districts, and does NOT respect the geographic integrity of counties, cities and communities of interest, as required by State and federal laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, to achieve compliance with the redistricting criteria, State and federal laws and regulations, the City of Oakley should be placed within the same Assembly and Senate districts as the majority of Contra Costa County and not carved out and inserted as the only incorporated city in Contra Costa County into the districts of Solano and Napa counties.

WHEREAS, if the State Senate District wherein Oakley is placed is not assigned an odd number, there will be no Senate election for State Senator until 2014, thus causing Oakley's current State Senator to step down and leaving Oakley no legitimate representation in the State Senate for two years.

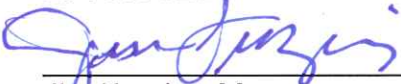
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby urges the Citizens Redistricting Committee to place the City of Oakley in the same Assembly and State Senate and Congressional districts as the majority of Contra Costa County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby requests that the number assigned to the Senate District wherein Oakley is placed by an odd number.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Oakley at a meeting held on the 28th of June, 2011 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTENTIONS:

APPROVED:



Jim Frazier, Mayor

ATTEST:



Nancy Ortenblad, City Clerk

6/28/11

Date

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Contra Costa

From: Doria Mueller-Beilschmidt <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 03:04:03 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Doria Mueller-Beilschmidt <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:

The proposed boundary change to our area which would put us in Barbara Lee's district makes no sense, and doesn't sound like it would work in our favor at all. Barbara is a great leader, but George Miller is engaged in our community, Richmond, including East Richmond Heights or Mira Vista, where we have lived for 20 years. I doubt that Congresswoman Lee will ever even know that a few blocks of Richmond is in her district. Thank you.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: draft Senate district EALAM

From: Martha Parsons <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 21:20:26 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

June 28, 2011

To the members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

As constituents and voters 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 and businesses of Contra Costa County in this manner.

Cities, elected boards, non-profits 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 County are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely,

Byron Parsons

[REDACTED]

Antioch, CA 94509

[REDACTED]

Martha Parsons

[REDACTED]

Antioch, CA 94509

[REDACTED]

Subject: Congressional District re-districting; Richmond, California; strong protest against proposed maps.

From: Christopher Bowen <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 17:05:39 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

I have read with grave concern reports of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission's plan to split the city of Richmond into multiple Congressional Districts and to shove the vast majority of Richmond's citizens from representation into a district that is wholly unrelated to Contra Costa County. I cannot say how strongly I disagree with this proposal, what a terrible idea I believe it is, and how firmly I believe that the citizens of Richmond will be **irreparably harmed if the current proposal is adopted.**

As a citizen of Richmond for 10 years, and a person who has dedicated much of my professional life working in this city, I want you to understand that what you have proposed will lead to **serious under-representation and neglect of the needs of the people of my community.**

We have historical precedent for believing that if our residents are lumped together with residents of Berkeley and Oakland in Alameda County, our needs and issues will be ignored. In the 1990s, term limits caused Richmond to be represented by the Assemblymembers and state Senators who represent Berkeley. For almost 20 years, until very recently, the members of the state legislature who represented our city routinely ignored the problems and needs of Richmond. It has only been recently, under the leadership of Assemblymember Nancy Skinner, that Richmond has again been "on the radar" of our state legislators.

Richmond is part of Contra Costa County. In the coming years, decisions about health care and the administration of justice (including possibly building a new courthouse) will be made. If we are not represented in the United States Congress by a person with strong ties to Contra Costa County and an understanding of the larger political picture here, it will be extraordinarily difficult (if not impossible) for the city as a whole to get the attention of our legislators at all levels of government in order to secure funding for services and infrastructure which our city desperately needs and deserves. The "**community of interest**" that Richmond belongs to is **not** that of Berkeley and Oakland in Alameda County, but that of the other cities of West contra Costa county (San Pablo, Pinole,

Hercules, Rodeo, Crockett) and cities in central Contra Costa County (including Martinez, our county seat.)

I refute and reject the argument that Richmond has more in common with Berkeley and Oakland than with the surrounding communities in West Contra Costa County. This is a total red herring. Richmond is a vibrant, economically, culturally and socially diverse city, unlike Berkeley, which has become racially homogeneous over the past 25 years. Unlike Berkeley, which relies primarily on the University of California as its major employer, Richmond has a diverse and healthy mix of private and public employers, and has recently focused with great success and promise on building new "green" business.

Richmond plays a vital role within not only the West Contra Costa community, but also within the large Contra Costa County community as a whole. There is no question that Richmond will be the forgotten stepchild if we are lumped together with Berkeley and Oakland in a district that is largely made up of Alameda County residents. In addition, it goes without saying that it will be impossible for a person from Richmond to have a realistic chance of ever being elected to Congress from a district with two more greatly populated cities dominating. Essentially, we would be relegated to the position of a colonial outpost. Most people in Berkeley and Oakland know nothing about Richmond, and have not a care for the needs and issues of our people.

During the Second World War, the people of Richmond made extraordinary sacrifices on the home front that contributed to the victory of the forces of freedom and democracy over tyrants and dictators. Shortly after the war ended, Richmond was abandoned by some of the governmental and industrial institutions that had called upon its citizens during the war effort. Some six decades later, Richmond is finally emerging from to a bright new future.

Please do not take any action that would endanger the wonderful progress that has been made in our city. The idea that you would take our city and rip it in two, putting some of our citizens in one Congressional district, and others in a district that has little, if anything, in common with the history and the present of Richmond. The idea of dividing our city at 39th Street makes **no sense whatsoever**. This is right in the middle of a neighborhood--the "North and East" neighborhood--that is itself very cohesive and is viewed throughout the

city as a "whole" and not a neighborhood that can be torn asunder as you propose. This neighborhood is generally recognized to be circumscribed by Macdonald Avenue to the South, 23rd street to the West, McBryde Avenue to the North, and San Pablo Avenue to the East. Your proposed lines run right through the neighborhood, and cause people on either side of 39th Street to be in different districts.

This simply makes no sense from any rational perspective.

From a legal perspective, it is virtually certain (and in my view obvious) that the newly-drawn maps you propose will violate the Voting Rights Act, as it will dilute the strength of the votes of persons of color living in West Contra Costa County, and lump most of the population of Richmond in with other communities (Oakland) that also have a high percentage of minority voters. Your proposed maps create a "Jim Crow" scenario, where most of the minority voters are shoved into one district, thereby diluting their representation in other districts and creating nearly "all white" districts in Contra Costa County.

I hope that you will realize the folly of the maps as currently proposed and respond to the many voices that are being raised in support of a saner, sounder, and legal re-drawing of the Congressional district maps for the City of Richmond.

Sincerely,

Christopher R. Bowen



Richmond, CA 94805-0047