

From: stephanie elkins <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: redistricting line for san mateo county seems quirky

Message Body:

I am perplexed at why San Mateo County redistricting lines would split the city of Menlo Park.

It seems that MP and Atherton should remain entirely in San Mateo.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 8 - San Mateo

**From:** Edward Moritz <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Tue, 28 Jun 2011 21:15:32 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Edward Moritz <[REDACTED]>

Subject: San Mateo District

Message Body:

Dear Commission Members,

I want to start by saying how pleased I am with the work you are doing. Bringing geographic continuity to the outlines of the Congressional districts has been long needed. Thank you each for the time you have put into this effort.

I write to point out one geographic incongruity that effects me and the other voters in Menlo Park. The map you have drawn for our congressional district has outlined the central area of Menlo Park as a "Phallic Intrusion" into what is otherwise a reasonably contiguous set of geography. For some reason we have been segregated away from the surrounding communities and placed with communities that are 5 to 10 miles to our north.

I would like to be able to vote with the communities that surround Menlo Park (Palo Alto, Atherton, Woodside and Portola Valley). This would allow me to participate and work with citizens in communities surrounding me on political issues facing us.

I ask that you include (not exclude) central Menlo Park in the congressional district you have proposed to surround us.

Thank you,

Edward Moritz

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 8 - San Mateo

**From:** Edward Moritz <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Tue, 28 Jun 2011 21:14:02 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Edward Moritz <[REDACTED]>

Subject: San Mateo District

Message Body:

Dear Commission Members,

I want to start by saying how pleased I am with the work you are doing. Bringing geographic continuity to the outlines of the Congressional districts has been long needed. Thank you each for the time you have put into this effort.

I write to point out one geographic incongruity that effects me and the other voters in Menlo Park. The map you have drawn for our congressional district has outlined the central area of Menlo Park as a "Phallic Intrusion" into what is otherwise a reasonably contiguous set of geography. For some reason we have been segregated away from the surrounding communities and placed with communities that are 5 to 10 miles to our north.

I would like to be able to vote with the communities that surround Menlo Park (Palo Alto, Atherton, Woodside and Portola Valley). This would allow me to participate and work with citizens in communities surrounding me on political issues facing us.

I ask that you include (not exclude) central Menlo Park in the congressional district you have proposed to surround us.

Thank you,

Edward Moritz

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 8 - San Mateo

**From:** Terry Thygesen <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Tue, 28 Jun 2011 19:49:59 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Terry Thygesen <[REDACTED]>

Subject: concerns about Menlo Park's congressional district

Message Body:

As a 2rd term Trustee for the Menlo Park City School District and long-time Menlo Park community member, I am highly concerned about the current proposal that appears to split my school district into two separate congressional districts and carve West Menlo Park away from it's contiguous neighborhood community. West Menlo Park is highly integrated with its contiguous neighbors in Atherton, Woodside, and Portola Valley and I respectfully request that the committee find a way for us to be in the same congressional district as our neighbors so that our common concerns will be represented in congress.

Terry Thygesen  
Trustee, Menlo Park City School District

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 8 - San Mateo

**From:** R Yoschak <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Tue, 28 Jun 2011 16:22:41 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: R Yoschak <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Thomas Jefferson, quote.

Message Body:

United we stand...

Divided we fall...

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Please don't split Menlo Park  
**From:** John Boyle <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** Tue, 28 Jun 2011 15:54:20 -0700 (PDT)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** John Boyle <[REDACTED]>

I understand that the draft lines show portions of Menlo Park being split between two districts. I realize how difficult your job must be, and I fully support your efforts ... especially to draw the new lines without regard to political impact. It does seem strange, however, to split a city. In this case it's especially troublesome that portions of Menlo Park may be split between two counties (Santa Clara and San Mateo). As a former Menlo Park city councilmember, I can tell you that it is important for our city to have a strong representation, and we already struggle with being a small city on the southern edge of a big county. If we now get split for these districts, it will make our voice even less well heard....

Best regards and good luck. Thank you for your critically important efforts on this project.

/John Boyle  
Former Menlo Park City Council Member and former Vice Mayor

**COMMENTS BY P. GREGORY CONLON,**  
**SPEAKER NUMBER 55**  
**BEFORE THE**  
**CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**  
**June 27, 2011**

My name is P. Gregory Conlon and I reside in Atherton, California located in San Mateo County, just north of Palo Alto in Santa Clara County and Menlo Park in San Mateo County.

My comments are based primarily on my experience as a Republican candidate for both the 21<sup>st</sup> Assembly District located in both San Mateo and Santa Clara County in 2010 and in the Congressional District in both San Francisco and San Mateo County in 2008. My comments try to point out what the Commission should do in determining the Community of Interest in San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

**ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 21 COMMENTS-**

This District runs in the north from San Carlos, Redwood City, Menlo Atherton, Woodside and Portola in San Mateo County and Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills in the northern portion of San Clara County and Los Gatos and the Almaden Valley in the City of San Jose in the southern portion and Santa Clara County. The Commission has created four new Assembly District which are both compact and contiguous which I applaud your effort.

**Congressional Districts in the San Francisco Mid Peninsula Area:**

The new Congressional District in the North of the Peninsula covers most of San Mateo County which is reasonable, except that now Menlo Park is excluded from Palo Alto and Atherton. All three of these cities have common community of interest standpoint they should all be in the same Congressional District because

they are all contiguous and have the same community of interest of Stanford University and Stanford Shopping Center and are all part of Silicon Valley.

**12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional Districts Comments:**

I ran for the Congressional seat of the 12<sup>th</sup> District in 2008. It is clear that the City of Belmont was excluded from the Cities of San Mateo on the north and the City of Carlos on the south of Belmont. There is in my view no way to have the District circle around Belmont for any common community of interest. San Mateo and San Carlos are intertwined and almost the same cities when driving up El Camino or Highway 101. The Commission has fixed this problem in its new design and should be applauded for doing so.

I originally suggested that if possible to maintain a community of interest in San Francisco that the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District start at the County of San Mateo line and go south. This would remove the Sunset District in San Francisco and area east of the Sunset all the way to the San Mateo County line into District 8. In my view the San Mateo cities of Daly City, Brisbane, Colma and South San Francisco do not relate to the City of San Francisco community of interest economically or otherwise.

**The Commission has moved the Sunset District to District 8 but could still move more of the San Francisco streets that are East of the Sunset, including West Portal, Saint Francis Woods and surrounding areas into the District 8 San Francisco District. I remember campaigning in Saint Francis Woods and knocking on doors and someone challenging me on what I know about San Francisco living in Southern San Mateo County. This change would require having to move the District line along the San Mateo County line North enough to capture the voters that are moved out of the area East of the Sunset discussed above.**

Thank you for the opportunity to present my comments.

P. Gregory Conlon, Atherton, California e-mail: 




Redistricting Commission:

Thank you for service. Most of your draft maps look great; you let the lines fall where they may and have done away with all the awful gerrymandered districts. Except my own district – you split Menlo Park and Redwood City and in Menlo Park you drew a crazy line that reverts back to the worst of the old redistricting. While acknowledging that we are at near the borders of two districts, it seems you could keep each City together by just including one city in each district rather than putting part of each City in both districts.

Thank you for your consideration.

John J. Wallace

  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

**Subject:** Redistricting -- public input

**From:** S Chung <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Tue, 28 Jun 2011 09:33:30 -0700

**To:** [REDACTED]

Dear Citizens Redistricting Commission,

Thank you for your work on this issue. Here is my public input:

I have seen the 1st Draft of the District Map of my city, Menlo Park, and I would like you to reconsider where you are drawing the lines.

The proposed plan splits up the citizens of Menlo Park and dilutes our vote as a community. Please redraw the lines so that Menlo Park is intact.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Susan Chung

[REDACTED]  
Menlo Park, CA 94025