

Region 8 - Solano  
June 24

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

**Subject:**Public Comment: 8 - Solano

**Date:**Fri, 24 Jun 2011 23:50:02 +0000

**From:**Sandra Kirkpatrick <[REDACTED]>

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Sandra Kirkpatrick <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Benicia-Martinez connection

Message Body:

In the first draft map of Congressional districts, I see you have put Benicia in with most of the rest of Solano County (plus Hercules). Although we certainly share many community interests with our next-door city, Vallejo, we actually identify as a community more with the cities of Martinez, Pleasant Hill and Concord. Part of that is the fact Benicia and Martinez both face the Carquinez Strait -- our lives are very much influenced by that waterway (and we are connected by the aptly named Benicia-Martinez Bridge. But we are also very similar in small-town identity (compared to other parts of our respective counties, which are more agricultural in nature). Benicia, Martinez, Pleasant Hill and Concord are also a part of a commuter corridor. The lives of those in Benicia are directly impacted by happenings in Martinez, Pleasant Hill and Concord, rather than Fairfield or Vacaville. And we share little interests in common with the more distant Davis/Woodland area. Many of

! our non-profit organizations in Benicia (such as AAUW, with which I'm involved) have sister organizations with whom we partner in Martinez, Pleasant Hill and Concord.

So I hope that your next draft of the Congressional District aligns Benicia to the communities with which we most closely identify, especially Martinez, Pleasant Hill and Concord.

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