6/12/11

Region 8: Sonoma

The Plan to
include Santa Rosa
with central areas
is (not) preserving
"community of interest."

In fact it disenfranchises
Santa Rosa!

A terrible mistake

K. Rigg, Citizen
Santa Rosa CA

You have not abided
by your mandate!

CITY OF PETALUMA

PETALUMA, CA 94953-0061

Mike Healy
Councilmember

June 5, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re.: North Bay Assembly Districts

Dear Commissioners:

I write with respect to one specific aspect of the Commission's June 1 draft visualization regarding North Bay Assembly districts.
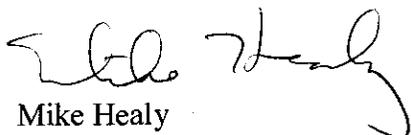
As you are aware, the major population centers in Sonoma County are found along the 101 corridor. Viewed this way, the visualization cuts off Petaluma (the second largest city in Sonoma County) from our sister cities directly to our north, Rohnert Park (third largest) and Santa Rosa (largest). Petaluma also has much in common with Marin directly to our south, but I'm not going to suggest joining with them because of the domino effect on other proposed districts.

I ask that you move Lake County (2010 Census population: 64,665) from the Santa Rosa – Napa district and place it instead in the North Coast District. You can then move the city of Petaluma (57,941) and its immediate environs from the North Coast district to the Santa Rosa – Napa district.

Petaluma has far more in common with the proposed Santa Rosa – Napa district than with the proposed North Coast district. Conversely, rural Lake County has more in common with Mendocino County and the rest of the North Coast than with prosperous and Bay Area-oriented Napa County.

This proposed change also eliminates a peculiarity of the visualization's proposed Assembly districts, namely that Petaluma – at the far southern end of the North Coast district and cut off from the rest of the district along the 101 corridor – would otherwise be that district's largest city.

Sincerely,

Mike Healy
Petaluma City Councilmember

Petaluma City Hall

Petaluma, CA 94952

Phone
Fax

E-Mail

RECEIVED JUN 15 REC'D

PETALUMA AREA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: North Bay Assembly Districts

Dear Commissioners:

The Petaluma Area Chamber of Commerce has reviewed the initial concept of redistricting of our area's legislative boundaries and would like to express our concern.

This concept divides the communities that constitutes Sonoma County's Highway 101 corridor, separating Petaluma from its sister cities of Rohnert Park, Cotati and Santa Rosa. These communities share a common bond in a great many areas including economy, demographics, water supply, transportation needs and visions for our area's future.

On the other hand, Petaluma would be a junior and isolated segment of the proposed Coastal District, the majority of which will be agrarian with totally different economic factors at play.

It would certainly appear that Lake County would be a much better fit for the Coastal District than Petaluma. This swap of Lake County with its population of 65,000 and Petaluma with our population of 58,000 (plus unincorporated areas surrounding Petaluma to equalize the populations of the swapped territories), would be an easy exchange. It would leave Petaluma and Lake County both in districts in which each shares common characteristics and communities of interest with rest of their districts. This would allow for better representation of both districts.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Onita Pellegrini, CEO
Petaluma Area Chamber of Commerce

PETALUMA
CALIFORNIA
94952

TELEPHONE:

FAX:

E-MAIL:

URL: