

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Don Saylor <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Mon, 27 Jun 2011 05:26:23 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Don Saylor <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Woodland Daily Democrat Editorial

Message Body:  
Woodland Daily Democrat Editorial published June 19, 2011.

[http://www.dailydemocrat.com/editorial/ci\\_18310055](http://www.dailydemocrat.com/editorial/ci_18310055)

A fair job at redistricting, but we have a beef  
Published By Daily Democrat  
Created: 06/19/2011 12:31:23 AM PDT

There is a lot of tweaking that needs to be done, but overall the Citizens Redistricting Commission has done an excellent job so far of redrawing the state's legislative and congressional districts, demonstrating that voters were right when they decided to take the process out of the hands of self-interested elected officials. The commission released its draft maps last week. The lines were drawn without regard for incumbents' political aspirations. How refreshing.

That doesn't mean we're happy with the outcome thus far for the 1st and 2nd Congressional districts, or what are presently the 5th Senate District, and 2nd and 8th Assembly districts.

We don't like the fact Yolo County is effectively carved up into a total of as many as five districts, compared to the present four (a number which is still too many to our liking), nor are we happy with having what is now Assembly District 8 divided among three assembly members, including two from Sacramento (who could give a lick about Yolo County).

Primarily, we don't think that Davis and Woodland should be placed in two different election districts. We may joke about the differences between Woodland and Davis, but when it comes to voting, it makes little sense to split the county's two biggest cities. The pair make an effective team when lobbying for state and federal recognition and assistance. Dividing them only halves the political strength of Yolo County as a whole.

A decade ago, the lines were drawn

#### ADVERTISEMENT

to protect incumbents of both parties. As a result, there were very few competitive districts, ensuring that the extreme ends of each party would control -- and polarize -- the dialogue in Sacramento. The effect on policy has been devastating. In Yolo County's case, however, we have been better served by single representation -- at least for the 8th Assembly District.

We will admit the new district lines increase the number of competitive seats in the state Assembly from nine to 16 and the number in the state Senate from three to nine. The maps also increase the number of competitive congressional seats from California from four to nine. We like the increased competition.

However, we also want fair representation for our county as a whole. That's not something we see happening with the new district boundaries as presently proposed.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Redistricting

**From:** Ray and Verena Borton <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 22:06:06 -0700

**To:** [REDACTED]

Dear Commission Members:

Seldom do I write to political entities to express an opinion but the redistricting maps of Yolo County prompt this letter to voice my extreme displeasure with your proposals.

Yolo County in a real community of shared interests. It needs to be able to act together, not through nine different elected officials. How you could have thought that our county could be split into so many pieces is beyond comprehension.

Please move the proposed boundaries to allow Yolo people to work together as they have in the past. We have a culture of collaboration and a unique set of shared values centered on UC Davis, agriculture, emerging technologies and natural boundaries such as the Sacramento River, Yolo Bypass and the Putah Creek, and Cache Creek watersheds.

Thank you for whatever you can do to right this potential wrong.

Sincerely,

Raymond E. Borton, retired economist

[REDACTED]  
Davis, CA 95616

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Brian Sway <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Mon, 27 Jun 2011 05:34:54 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Brian Sway <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Yolo County, A Historic Community of Interest Needing to Be Kept Intact

Message Body:

Dear Commissioners & Staff:

I write to express concern with the first draft of maps published by the Citizens Redistricting Committee. This draft distributes Yolo County residents to nine different legislative and congressional districts.

It appears that we, the citizens of Yolo County, did not effectively communicate to the Commission that our county is a closely-knit community of interest that should be kept intact in the ultimate redistricting maps created by the commission.

Yolonians are bound together along four powerful affiliations: economic, geographic/natural resources, governance and history/shared values. Our relatively small cities - Winters, West Sacramento, Davis and Woodland-- have far more in common with each other than with the urban core of Sacramento or the cities in San Joaquin County some 70 miles away, where some of us would be assigned in the proposed first draft of maps.

#### Economically

UC Davis is the heart of our economic well-being and symbolic of our shared economy. The innovation hub for emerging technologies, UCD is also a leader of the world's agricultural modernization. Yolo farmers and entrepreneurs, who serve as the test labs for this innovation, look to the university as a vital element to their well-being.

We identify ourselves as an agricultural county. Tomatoes, sugar beets and grapes and other commodities are grown in every reach of the county and encase our cities i.e., north to south and east to west county boundaries. Yolo urbanites and farmers have long shared a history of and support for agricultural land preservation.

#### Geography/Natural Resources

Yolo County is also marked by the natural boundaries of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Sacramento River. These embrace several attributes important to Yolo County and include the Cache Creek and Putah Creek watersheds. Just as significant to the residents of Yolo is the western border of the Sacramento River where Yolonians look to for our future water needs. Our county's interest in these natural resources diverge significantly with counties to the east and south.

#### Governance

Many of our public and non-governmental organizations are county-based. Our multi-jurisdictional collaborations include the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality District Management District, the Yolo Natural Heritage JPA, Yolo Children's Alliance, Yolo Food Bank and the Yolo Farm Bureau. Even Rotary International recognizes the cohesive nature of Yolo County. The organization groups the nine Rotary Clubs in Yolo County into one organizational district (District 5160), distinct from the district that includes clubs in the greater Sacramento area.

#### History/Shared Values

Yolo County is one of the original California counties, formed in 1860. While many Yolonians commute for work to adjacent regions, we identify with the other residents of Yolo County more than the places of our work. We look to our county's interest as our community of interest in numerous ways. We work together on education, water resources, open space and habitat restoration, agricultural land preservation and air quality to name but a few.

#### Representation of Our Community of Interests Is Best Served by Keeping Yolo County Intact

In Federalist Paper 56, Hamilton and Madison wrote of the importance of having representation familiar with local needs. The relationship between state government and local government is analogous to their comparison between the federal and state governments, particularly in the case of a county such as Yolo with a single community of interest:

“Were the interests and affairs of each individual State perfectly simple and uniform, a knowledge of them in one part would involve a knowledge of them in every other, and the whole State might be competently represented by a single member taken from any part of it. On a comparison of the different States together, we find a great dissimilarity in their laws, and in many other circumstances connected with the objects of federal legislation, with all of which the federal representatives ought to have some acquaintance. Whilst a few representatives, therefore, from each State, may bring with them a due knowledge of their own State, every representative will have much information to acquire concerning all the other States.”

#### Requested Action

For this very reason I urge the Commission to honor the community of interest that has long been honored in the form of Yolo County. The Commission could retain the integrity of Yolo County in its maps.

Davis and West Sacramento should be removed from the WESTSAC Assembly District and the corresponding SACCITY Senate District. They could be replaced by Galt and Lodi, communities that are of similar size and have more in common with southern Sacramento County.

Additionally, Yolo County should continue to be an odd number because ours is the only county historically whose electorate has been forced to wait an additional two years to vote after every reapportionment due to changes in its numbering.

Thank you for your consideration. Yolo County's population is just shy of half an assembly district, a quarter of a senate district, and a third of a congressional district. With this compactness, it should not pose a problem to keep it united in assembly, senatorial and congressional district and thereby respect this special and historic community of interest.

Thank you for your service.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sway, Davis, CA

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Proposed redistricting of Yolo County

**From:** " Norma Rice" <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 07:54:01 -0700

**To:** <[REDACTED]>

Redistricting Commissioners,

I am very concerned about the redistricting maps which join Davis to Sacramento and split us off from most of Yolo County. Although there is a different configuration for Assembly, State Senate and Congressional District representation, in each case, Yolo County is split into 3 sections, which means being represented by 3 different people, for a total of 9 if the current maps are approved. Yolo County must be kept as whole as possible. Our community of interest has developed avenues and means of cooperation which would be severed under the proposed divisions. It also doesn't make sense to me for Davis to be in a separate district from our County seat, Woodland.

***Norma Rice***

***Knits by Norma***

Phone: [REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[www.knitsbynorma.com](http://www.knitsbynorma.com)

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Helen M Thomson <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 18:45:55 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Helen M Thomson <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Reconsider "Visuals"

Message Body:

Please do not balkanize Yolo County to provide the correct number of people to other districts surrounding us. Having served on the Davis School Board, Yolo County Board of Supervisors and in the State Assembly, I know from experience that there is more that unites us than divides us as a community of interest, We have a long history of working together for the common good of our county's residents, both urban and rural. We are NOT a suburb of Sacramento, in reality or spirit!

To have 11 elected representatives for one small area of 200,00 people effectively silences our ability to speak with one voice on behalf of our community,

I hope you will redo the map for Yolo County.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** "Barbara A. King" <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 19:34:31 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Barbara A. King <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Yolo County is a community of interest

Message Body:

The draft map of the redistricting of California would split Yolo County into too many districts. Yolo County is a rural county that makes big sacrifices to preserve the farmland that we all rely on for food, and our influence to help keep this possible would be severely diluted by the currently proposed redistricting. Also, it makes little sense to separate Davis from Woodland in the redistricting because we work closely together on so many things, such as the Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency. Please change the proposed map to keep our community of interest intact. Thank you, Barbara A. King, Davis, CA [REDACTED]

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Karen Mo <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 15:36:10 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Karen Mo <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting

Message Body:

I am very disappointed in the proposed redistricting that will disallow Yolo county to represent it's shared interests by dividing us into fractions with other communities that do not share our commonalities.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Request to Citizens Redistricting Committee

**From:** David Naliboff <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 16:52:40 -0700

**To:** [REDACTED]

I have reviewed the published first draft maps for redistricting and have the following concerns:

It has been clear to me in the 25 years I have lived in Yolo county that the county represents a unique community of interest, which ties together several cities, the University of California at Davis and the rich surrounding farming community. Under the proposed maps, the representation of the various elements will be divided at all governmental levels into disjointed parts which will be attached to some surrounding areas which do not share vision or purpose with the county. It seems quite clear to me that this division will break down the collaborative spirit which has prevailed until now.

It seems quite odd that a portion of the map awkwardly includes a significant area (which has no inhabitants) but which may well give control of water access proposed for the Woodland and Davis communities to an entity which has no obvious interest in solving fresh water problems for the area.

The University of California at Davis has been a central agent in the advance of agriculture and now technology in the county - the currently proposed maps will, I believe, weaken the influence of UCD as a catalyst for future development which preserves agriculture and encourages appropriate industry.

I hope that you will take these comments into consideration in the next set of draft maps.

Respectfully,

David Naliboff, MD

[REDACTED]  
Davis, CA 95618

**Subject:** Yolo County Redistricting

**From:** Charles Russell <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 17:43:26 -0400

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

I am very opposed to the recommended redistricting maps as it relates to Davis and Yolo County.

We should not be lumped in with Sacramento. We are better aligned with our immediate neighbors in Yolo County. Any redistricting that separates us from Woodland (as an example) creates confusion and divides us, rather than unites us.

Please reconsider any redistricting at any level that lumps us in with Sacramento at the expense of being aligned with our immediate neighbors in Yolo County.

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Charlie Russell  
Davis, CA

**Subject:** Yolo County maps

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 20:30:19 +0000 (UTC)

**To:** [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

I first wish to congratulate you on your massive effort to accomplish your first draft of maps for the state of California. But then I have to say that I was terribly disappointed to see what happened to Yolo County in your hands. For each jurisdiction, Yolo County is being divided into 3 different districts. I can't think of anything that would render us more dysfunctional, which I'm sure was not your intent. I realize that the member of your commission from Yolo County has expressed publicly his opinion that Davis is more connected to Sacramento than to Woodland or Winters. I believe he is speaking for himself as a person who lives in Yolo County but has a business he co-owns in Sacramento. This is not true for the majority of Davis residents. Even when I worked in Sacramento, which I did for 20 years, I always felt more a part of Yolo County than of Sacramento. Consequently, I think that the Commission does not adequately understand my view and the view of so many in Yolo County.

Beyond my own feelings, there are strong and vital reasons why Davis should be part of Yolo County, and why Yolo County should be kept as whole as possible. If your maps were to be followed, Yolo County would have to deal with 3 representatives for each of its Assembly district, State Senate district and House of Representatives district, making 9 law makers in all, a situation most of our local leaders and service providers would have tremendous difficulty negotiating with and consulting with on a variety of county interests.

Your maps fail to recognize that Yolo County is, in fact and in deed, a community of interest: a community of small cities, rural activities, an acknowledged intellectual center, and an activist orientation to preserving lands for public use. From Davis, we travel frequently to our county seat, Woodland, for a full montage of services including our court with all its judiciary functions and the Department of Employment and Social Security. We go to Winters for their marvelous restaurants and excellent dramatic productions. We love our Yolo Bypass with all its lush growth and migratory birds. I could go on, but I think the important point is to keep this county as intact as possible, making sure that we still have all of our area. If the four corners of the county were to be included in a single jurisdiction, I think that we could and would experience a greater sense of integrity as a unit.

I recognize that you are working with a short time line, and I appreciate the opportunity to have input. You will undoubtedly be hearing from many others in Yolo County. I am sincerely hopeful that your next iteration of maps will preserve the unity of Yolo County and allow us citizens to continue to feel that we live in a community that has unity and common interests.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate.

Sincerely yours,

Sandra K. Weiss

[REDACTED]  
Davis CA 95616

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Don Saylor <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Mon, 27 Jun 2011 05:18:33 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Don Saylor <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Davis Enterprise Editorial

Message Body:

The following Editorial was published by the Editor of the Davis Enterprise on June 26, 2011. This can be viewed on the newspaper website at <http://www.davisenterprise.com/opinion/our-view/boundariesshould-unite-us-not-divide-us/>

Boundaries should unite us, not divide us

The issue: Proposed district maps ignore our Yolo County community of interest

The good news on redistricting? Maps defining the new boundaries of California's Assembly, Senate and congressional districts are being drawn by a citizens commission with no vested interest in the outcome, other than their personal pride in doing a good job.

The bad news on redistricting? The commission's proposed maps, released earlier this month, carve Yolo County up into three separate districts for each level of representation, meaning our small county of 200,000 residents would be represented by nine lawmakers.

CAN YOU IMAGINE how difficult it would be to have our collective voice heard?

More good news: Commissioners are accepting public comment, both written and oral, to guide them as they tweak the maps to reflect community concerns. A delegation of local leaders plans to address the commission when it hears public input from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday in Room 4203 of the state Capitol. All interested residents are welcome to join the group; contact Susan Lovenburg at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Here's where we stand now, under the proposed maps:

\* While 200,000 residents constitute more than 40 percent of the population of an Assembly district, the largest number of Yolo County residents in any Assembly District is about 110,000, a bit over 20 percent. Our voice will be severely diluted.

\* Although the concept of redistricting is to "nest" two Assembly districts into a single Senate district, all three Yolo County Assembly districts are nested in Senate districts that do not include another Yolo County district. Thus, our communities are divided into smaller and smaller segments of larger districts.

\* Davis and Woodland will not share any common representatives.

\* Davis and West Sacramento are in the same Assembly and Senate districts but not in the same congressional district.

\* Woodland is in an Assembly district that excludes Davis, but includes Galt and Lodi.

\* Davis is in an Assembly district that excludes Woodland but includes Natomas.

THESE BOUNDARIES fracture our Yolo County community of interest. We are connected by our economies, the social fabric of our cities and rural regions, our geography and our governance. But these maps split those asunder.

Collaboration is the name of the game in Yolo, where governments

work together with great success on water, transportation, air quality and land use issues. Our residents collaborate, too – Yolo is served by nearly 70 nonprofit community organizations that address hunger, homelessness, health care, children's needs and the environment, among other important causes.

THE BOTTOM LINE: Yolo County is a community of interest that needs to be reunited. Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission, hear our plea.

Short URL: <http://www.davisenterprise.com/?p=57463>

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Sherri Venezia [REDACTED]

**Date:** Mon, 27 Jun 2011 04:21:19 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Sherri Venezia <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redrawing districts

Message Body:

I have lived in Davis for over 43 years. Yolo County is a very different demographic than Sacramento. Our issues about the local environment, air quality, water, preservation of wild river status for Cache Creek, the university small town setting of the Davis area and our connection with Winters and areas to the West including the watershed which we share with Napa.....all combine to make the new redistricting a mismatch. I am opposed to adding Yolo County and the Davis area to join a Sacramento district. Our interests and needs are different; we are not oriented towards the urban issues of Sacramento such as the arena, and the larger urban issues of crime, traffic patterns, etc. We align with the West side of the Sacramento River as a boundary that defines a different set of needs.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Janet Mercurio <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 23:56:12 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Janet Mercurio <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Keeping Yolo County in the same districts

Message Body:

Hello -

I've lived in various places within Yolo County since 1968 and have a strong sense of connection to the county as a whole. I really hope that the redistricting maps can keep the county unified rather than splitting it up, as is the current proposal. I've lived in Capay Valley, near the town of Yolo, in rural Winters, and in the towns of Woodland and Davis. Having the county unified politically would help us Yoloans continue to maintain a sense of community, as does our county fair, which is the largest free admission county fair in the state. It would also help us have more political clout in the legislature.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely, Janet Mercurio, Winters

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Joanne <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 21:14:04 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Joanne <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Approval

Message Body:

The redrawing of boundaries in Yolo County makes sense. Good job.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Michael Bartolic <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 21:04:34 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Michael Bartolic <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Opposed to Yolo County redistricting

Message Body:

The current proposal to redistrict Yolo County is terrible and unfair. It would effectively disenfranchise Yoloans by scattering our votes among districts with which we share little or no affinity and scant mutual interests. Rather, Yolo County should, largely in whole, be kept intact for its Assembly, Senate and Congressional representation.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Timothy Fenton <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 20:50:46 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Timothy Fenton <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Please don't chop our county to pieces.

Message Body:

Yolo County's communities and agricultural area are closely bonded to each other with significant common interests political, economic, cultural and historical. The proposed redistricting of Yolo tears our communities apart from each other and links us to other communities with which we have little in common. Please, please reconsider your proposal.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** karen klussendorf <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 19:16:49 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: karen klussendorf <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Keep Yolo County together as a voting district

Message Body:

I believe that the residents of Yolo County share with each other a common vision, economy, social fabric, governance and collaborative spirit. Our relatively small cities have far more in common with each other than with the urban core of Sacramento or the cities in San Joaquin County some 70 miles distant. Collectively, we are more aligned with the other mid-sized cities along the I-80 corridor and the agricultural areas in Solano County than we are with downtown Sacramento and the areas along Highway 99. The Sacramento River is a natural boundary for us. Our commitment to open space, agriculture and the environment define our county. The smart growth planning we have followed for decades and the values of our residents could be dwarfed and diluted in urban districts.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Public Comment: 9 - Yolo

**From:** Davis Campbell <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Sun, 26 Jun 2011 18:03:33 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

From: Davis Campbell <[REDACTED]>

Subject: community of interest

Message Body:

I am writing to respectfully request that the Commission reconsider the Assembly, Senate and Congressional lines being recommended for Yolo County. One of the most important criteria to move away from political gerrymandering which has characterized past redistricting efforts by both parties, is to base each district on, among other things, a common community of interest. Splitting Yolo county into three separate districts for all three levels violates that criteria in an egregious way.

Yolo County is not a suburb of Sacramento. It is a diverse set of communities bonded together by a common interest with a unique quality of life, a high level of cooperation and shared interest and a firm commitment to an agricultural base. Most significantly, the founders of the California Higher Education system recognized this common interest and located the University's agriculture university, the University Farm, in Davis. The proposed redistricting would separate the University Farm from the farm and re designate it as part of the Sacramento urban/suburban community of interest. Separating the University political representation from its agricultural base makes no sense.

We strongly urge the commission to reconsider and maintain Yolo County as one community of interest.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission