7/14

TESTIMONY TO CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
SIMI VALLEY MAYOR BOB HUBER
JULY 14, 2011

I am Mayor Bob Huber from the City of Simi Valley. I have traveled here today to present alternative Congressional district configurations for our region that would better meet the Commission's objectives for setting boundaries, based on rational criteria that addresses geographic constraints, and contiguity of communities. The Commission is currently considering placing Simi Valley into the Antelope Valley-Santa Clarita district. This would unnaturally link Simi Valley across a mountain range to a population more than 30 miles away, diminishing representation for the 127,000 residents of Simi Valley. I am submitting a series of maps illustrating the separation and our proposal for a more logical configuration ---- a visualization that keeps Simi Valley an integral part of Ventura County and remains true to its commonly known historic designation as the "Gateway to Ventura County."

The first draft Antelope Valley – Santa Clarita Congressional District map splits the City of Santa Clarita between two districts, literally down its Main Street. The whole of Santa Clarita and a portion of Los Angeles could be placed into the Antelope Valley- Santa Clarita District, thus allowing for Simi Valley and Moorpark to shift into the East Ventura County District. This would cure the geographic and population separation caused by placing Simi Valley into the Antelope Valley map.

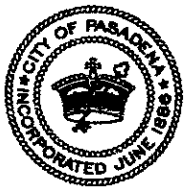
Recognizing that the Commission is constrained from making adjustments at the northern end of Ventura County, and considering continuity of urban areas, the 101 corridor from Thousand Oaks to Agoura Hills would then shift from the East Ventura District into the West San Fernando Valley-Calabasas District, as that corridor is continuously developed. Further, these communities, bridging two counties, have consciously elected to share their common interests, one example of which is the unification of the Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village and Agoura Hills Chambers of Commerce. I would additionally note that this

configuration with the Thousand Oaks area as part of the West San Fernando Valley Congressional District existed from 1992 –2002 and, according to recent news reports , was considered by the Thousand Oaks former Mayor and current Mayor pro tem to have worked well for their community.

I urge your favorable review of our proposal, and the benefits it has in addressing current flaws in the First Draft Congressional District maps.

Thank you for your time.

7/14
See.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

July 14, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P St., Ste. 154A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This statement is submitted in connection with the Commission's determination of final district boundaries for the Assembly District that has until now included Pasadena, Altadena and South Pasadena. Thank you for this opportunity to present views on this important element of your historic work.

I am the Mayor of Pasadena, having recently begun a fourth 4-year term as Pasadena's first directly elected Mayor. The past 12 years have provided an opportunity for me to experience the operation of local government and to pursue the important relationship between a city and its elected representatives at other levels of government.

The Commission's current tentative boundaries for this Assembly District recognize the close ethnic, social, economic, educational, and cultural ties that bind these three communities. This approach appears to me to be optimal for our area, having in mind the goal of redistricting to strengthen the democratic process. I urge that this configuration be retained in the final determination, even if this requires grouping these three communities with other towns along the San Gabriel Foothills to the east.

As you consider options, please continue to recognize, as does the tentative configuration, the importance and the benefits of keeping the three communities together. The Commission has difficult choices to make, but I am convinced that the current proposal not only complies with redistricting guidelines, but protects public interests in the region.

Thank you for this opportunity to present my views, and for your hard work in this effort.

Sincerely,

Bill Bogaard

BILL BOGAARD
Mayor

BB:jls

[redacted] · Pasadena, CA 91109
Fax [redacted]

Public comment
10:29 am

Michele Martinez 7/14/2011
Santa Ana Resident / Councilmember
47th C.D

Good morning Commissioners, my name is Michele Martinez a resident of Santa Ana and a Councilmember in the city of Santa Ana, Orange county. I have been following your meetings online and at your July 9th meeting a discussion was had around separating Santa Ana and Anaheim in the 47th Congressional district. I am here this morning to reiterate again to this commission my same sentiments of region 3 meeting that was held on June 18th at CSUF: Please keep communities of interest "Santa Ana and the flatlands of Anaheim". Please note, I also support the Dewane map, which respects the natural OC communities of interest of keeping Santa Ana with Western and Central Anaheim. Keeping Huntington Beach, Costamesa with Westminister and Garden Grove and keeping Irvine with South County.

Recent visualizations of the SA/Anaheim District are quite similar to the Dewane map, except that the commission version includes eastern Garden Grove instead of Western Orange. You might include that the Dewane map could easily be modified to keep the Commission's Santa Ana/Anaheim district by adding Newport Beach to the coastal district and adding Tustin to Irvine in the South county district.

Lastly, I urge you not to seperate the only Latino District in Orange County in the G.D. Thank you!

7/14
Sac

Linda Lambourne's Comments to

California Redistricting Commission – July 14th

My name is Linda Lambourne and I have lived in Santa Clarita for the past 34 years.

At the hearing on Saturday, July 9th the Commission instructed the line drawers to draft a Santa Clarita Valley to east Ventura County Senate District.

As a Santa Clarita resident who was raised in Simi Valley -- and have recently inherited property there, I've come before you today to endorse the Santa Clarita/Eastern Ventura County Senate District.

Santa Clarita and Simi Valley share so much in common.

Economically, Santa Clarita and east Ventura County have similar industry including biotech, aerospace/defense and the film industry.

Both areas embrace similar land-use policies and are dedicated to protecting quality of life issues for their residents.

As a horseperson, I can tell you both are dedicated to preserving open space and providing equestrian and hiking trails.

Additionally, the Santa Clarita Valley and east Ventura County have a long history of being linked together. We have shared a Senator since 1982.

The Commission has received an abundance of "community of interest" testimony in support of such a district. Yet, to date the line drawers **have not provided a single visualization** for the Commissioners to consider.

I strongly urge you to consider a Santa Clarita Valley to east Ventura County Senate District.

Thank you.

# # #

7/14

Dear Commission:

I am a board member of Marina Peninsula Neighborhood Association, with over 1200 members.

We understand that under the currently proposed redistricting plan that Marina del Rey and Venice will be moved out of their current coastal Assembly and Senate districts and grouped with the inland community of Inglewood. We in Marina del Rey are opposed to dividing the Santa Monica Bay environmental community of interest into 3 separate districts. This will weaken protection of our community of interest, in which the Santa Monica Bay environmental community of interest shares the following common concerns and interests:

protection of marine life
coastal dependent tourist industry
coastal dependent recreation
impacts of urban run-off
fragile coastal ecosystem
impaired water quality.

We urge the commission to keep Marina del Rey and Venice within the coastal assembly district.

Thank you, Diana Spielberger, Board Member Marina Peninsula Neighborhood Association

Diana Spielberger, Esq.
[redacted]
Santa Monica, CA 90405
[redacted]

To Members of the Redistricting Commission:

My name is Dr. Steven Mittleman. I have lived in Marina del Rey since 1994, and work in Culver City.

I am very concerned about a new draft for redistricting that moves the Assembly and Senate districts representing Marina del Rey and Venice away from the adjacent (and demographically similar) Santa Monica and South Bay communities and into the inland communities of Inglewood (and Culver City).

The beach area communities are much more similar in terms of the political views, and demographics. The beach communities have specific interests of tourism, beach access, beach and water quality, and traffic issues. The Marina del Rey and Venice areas share these concerns with Santa Monica and other bay communities.

These are not issues that are of such concern with more inland communities.

I appreciate the difficult work that the Commission is undertaking, but moving the Marina's representation to the inland communities will bury the voice of the neighborhood.

Please contact me if you require additional information.

Respectfully,

Steven A. Mittleman, M.D.
Marina del Rey, CA

7/14

July 14, 2011

My name is Eric Jimenez and I am a resident of Rancho Cucamonga.

I had intended to save my comments until after the release of our second draft maps as they involve a small refinement rather than a major change. However, with your decision to scrap your second draft I am now submitting comments on my home town.

Listening to your debate it is clear that Rancho Cucamonga will be split in the Assembly plan and possibly the Senate plan as well. While almost every city would prefer to be kept whole that is not always possible. However, when you do split a city, you should be able to do it in a fair way. I do not believe your current split of Rancho Cucamonga lives up to this standard and I respectfully ask that you change it.

Specifically, I ask that you use the natural dividing line of Foothill Blvd (State Route 66). As you can see Foothills Blvd is not a small road but rather a major thoroughfare. More importantly it is not only a physical barrier but also a cultural divide. Residents below Foothill Blvd are very different from those in other parts of Rancho Cucamonga. They are more diverse and less affluent than the rest of the city. They also tend to identify more closely with Upland and Ontario than the rest of Rancho Cucamonga.

Indeed the Commission already recognized this as a dividing line in our city. At your May 28th meeting, Commissioner Yao said, "Northern Rancho Cucamonga is different from the southern Rancho Cucamonga. Commissioner Filkins-Webber added, "I was going to say that Route 66 north Foothill Boulevard," and "So if we needed to get additional population, would you have any disagreement of coming a bit further, like down to maybe the 30 or Foothill Boulevard?" I do not know why this division is not in your current maps but ask that you recognize it now.

Ideally the entire area below Foothill would be kept whole. However, it appears that your current division of Rancho Cucamunga along with San Antonio Heights is only about 25,000 people which is not large enough to capture the entire area. However, Haven Avenue would make an ideal eastern border. To the west of Haven are working-class homes. To the east is a commercial/industrial area. Nestled within this area is the Empire Lakes Golf Course with accompanying housing that differs from the rest in southern Rancho Cucamonga.

The area bordered by Foothill in the north and Haven to the east has about 25,000 people making it an even exchange. It is a bit of a finger but no more so than your current boundary.

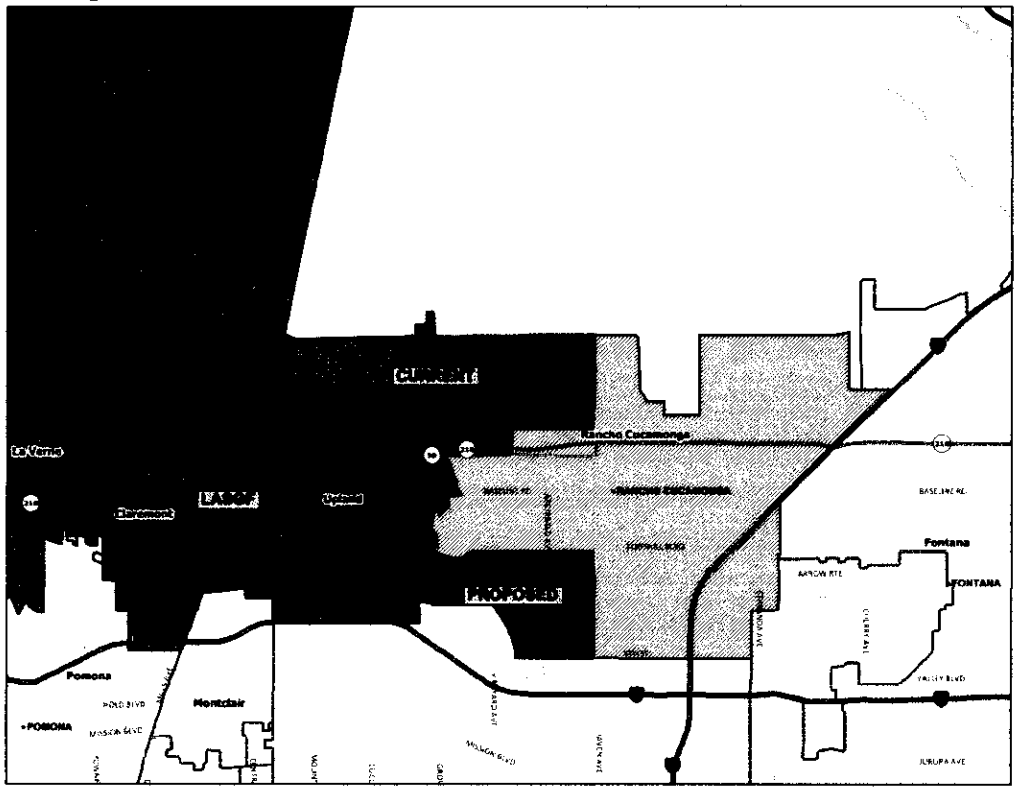
Unlike your current boundary it would respect a neighborhood and keep some common communities together.

Thus should you decide to split of Rancho Cucamonga I urge you to combine the area south of Foothill into your Upland district.

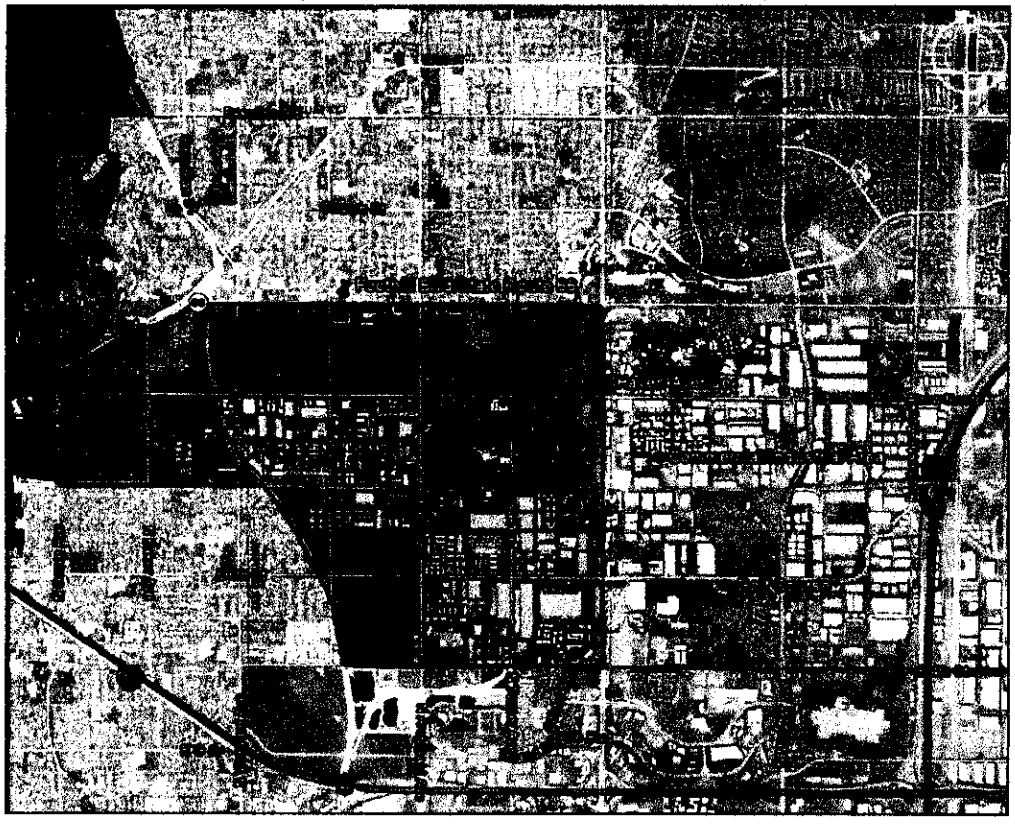
Sincerely,

Eric Jimenez
Resident of Rancho Cucamonga

Proposed Change



Google Map of Proposed New Boundary



7/14

The Latino Policy Forum
07/14/11

As you known the Latino Policy Forum has turned in regional Senate maps for Southern California and testified at many of your hearings. After watching the testimony presented at today's hearing, our group completely agrees with the many speakers who pointed out that in the greater Los Angeles region there is a strong tradition of multicultural alliances.

As a group, we too strongly believe that these alliances must be maintained with seats that preserve African American political representation. Especially, the two state senate Seats that honors the traditions of the region. An East West oriented Senate district that stretches from Culver City to Florence Firestone is essential as is another Senate district that includes Inglewood, Hawthorne, Compton, Carson District and portions of Los Angeles.

This plan's feasibility is enhanced by the prospect of districts that connect East Ventura County to Santa Clarita up to Palmdale in one Senate district. As you know, the Latino Policy Forum has stressed this particular district on several occasions. The plans discussed today will also help keep the Santa Monica Mountains area connected to West LA, Beverly Hills and West Hollywood in a separate district.

This comprehensive regional approach on the state Senate level will ensure that diverse constituencies receive ample opportunities to advance their perspectives and goals.

The Latino Policy Forum strongly believes that maintaining balance is the key to advancing the interests of all of Southern California. By simply connecting East Ventura County up with Santa Clarity and Palmdale, you can not only ensure that the communities of interest you have heard so much from in those areas are maintained, but you can also honor the African-American, Hispanic and coastal traditions of the greater Los Angeles region. Thank you for your consideration of this plan.

7/14

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

July 12, 2011

Dear Honorable Commissioners:

On behalf of the California League of Conservation Voters Education Fund and our sister organization, the California League of Conservation Voters, I am writing to express our awe of the inherent task you have collectively undertaken, and again to complement your sensitivity in looking at environmental communities of interest and keeping them under a blanket of sound representation.

We are, however, very concerned about the current visualization of the State Assembly South Santa Monica Bay districts.

Moving the Los Angeles Airport into the Inglewood district connects it to a community suffering the most environmental impacts. However, please remember there are other environmental communities of interest in the "del reys" (e.g., Playa del Rey; Marina del Rey) that should NOT be submerged by losing their community of interest in protecting coastal recreation, water quality and the eco-systems of protecting the health and quality of coastal water ways. Chopping up a homogenous coastal district splinters the community of interest.

Bottom line: coastal communities should stay coastal.

We ask for your gracious re-consideration of the latest assembly visualizations. Thank you again for your continued efforts.

Sincerely,

H. Eric Schockman

H. Eric Schockman, PhD
Vice President, CLCV Education Fund

california league of conservation voters education fund / *www.clcvedfund.org*
[redacted] Los Angeles, California 90048 / [redacted]
[redacted] Oakland, California 94612 / [redacted]