Citizens Redistricting Commission
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ladies and gentlemen,

A brief reminder, if I may. I spoke to you and also wrote earlier about keeping my community, City Heights, united in any maps you draw. You recall that early draft maps pulled one of our neighborhoods, Corridor, out of City Heights and consigned it to some place else where it shouldn’t be. I gave you a paper map of City Heights that had Corridor outlined boldly and asked you to give it back to us.

I urge you to keep City Heights together as a unit in all the maps you draw. It is a community-of-interest, one that should not be broken apart.

Thank you,

Jim Varnadore
City Heights
Comments on 7.13.11 Assembly District Visualization for National City

July 20, 2011
Via electronic mail

Commissioners of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments on 7.13.11 Assembly District Visualization for National City

Dear Commissioners:

I am the President of Council of Philippine American Organizations (COPAO) located in East National City. COPAO has a membership of over 50 Filipino American organizations in San Diego County. COPAO has been working closely on the redistricting maps with the Southwest Center For Asian Pacific American Law (SCAPAL), the lead organization for CAPAFR SAN DIEGO.

We support the Unity Map submitted by CAPAFR and supported by MALDEF and AARC for San Diego County Assembly and Senate Districts. We support the comments submitted by SCAPAL on July 14 and by SCAPAL and APALC on July 15 to your visualizations for our area. We also support the proposed mapping changes for San Diego County submitted by CAPAFR yesterday.

We write to focus your attention on the Assembly lines you have drawn for National City based on the visualization of July 13th. The dividing line between east and west National City you have drawn is South Euclid Avenue. This line basically isolates Filipino Americans residing in East National City in SSAND, which is a Section 2 Latino Votings Right Act District.

Our Filipino American community has testified both in person and by
electronic mail before this Commission that residents of East National City prefer to be in the adjoining LMSAND AD. Their voices will be joining a significant number of other Filipino Americans in Alta Vista, Paradise Hills, Bay Terrace, Bonita, and east Chula Vista who are already in LMSAND. (This also applies to the Senate districts.)

Our 5-page attachment will clarify where we would like the boundary lines drawn for East National City. Page 1 is the proposed changes to your lines for East National City, which is essentially what is in the Unity Map. Page 2 is a map with street identification and boundary lines drawn by the Commission and proposed by CAPAFR. Page 3 lists the street designations for East National City we support. Pages 4 and 5 identify the Filipino American institutions in East National City.

As testified previously, East National City is the hub for social, cultural, health and economic interests and needs of Filipino Americans as well as the larger Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities of Paradise Hills, Bay Terrace, Bonita and Chula Vista. APIs come to National City to work, socialize, worship, shop and access health and social services. This area is a contiguous community of interest that should be kept together so their residents have an equal and fair opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit these comments and attachment for your consideration. We look forward to your next set of visualizations.

Sincerely,

Marita (Merly) Ferrer
President, Council of Philippine American Organizations

Attachment - 5 pages

EMAIL COPAO to CRC 7.20.11 Attachments.pdf
COUNCIL OF PHILIPPINE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

CAPAFR Proposed Changes to San Diego County Assembly District
NATIONAL CITY
July 19, 2011

A: Move portion of National City into LMSAND to unite Filipino Community
B: Move portion of National City into SSAND for population equality
C: Move portion of Chula Vista into SSAND for population equality
COUNCIL OF PHILIPPINE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

STREET LEVEL DETAIL  http://134.173.236.112/DraftPlans

EAST NATIONAL CITY – SAN DIEGO COUNTY ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS

Starting point going north:
E Plaza Blvd at D Ave go north on D Ave to E 9th St
West on E 9th St to mid block between C Ave and D Ave go north to E 8th St
E 8th St west to D Ave go north on D Ave to E 7th St
E 7th St east to G Ave go south on G Ave to E 8th St
E 8th St east to M Ave go north on M Ave to E 6th St
E 6th St east to Palm Ave go north on Palm to E 4th St
E 4th St east to Rachael Ave go north on Rachael to Division Ave
Division Ave west to N Harbison Ave go north on N Harbison to Cervantes Ave
Cervantes Ave west to Euclid Ave

Starting point going south:
D Ave at E Plaza Blvd go east on E Plaza Blvd to Highland Ave
Highland Ave go south to E 12th St go east on E 12th St to J Ave
J Ave south to E 13th St go east on E 13th to K Ave
K Ave south to E 16th St go east on E 16th to M Ave
M Ave north to E 14th St go east on E 14th to Palm Ave
Palm Ave south to E 18th St go east on E 18th to Euclid Ave
Euclid Ave south to E 20th Street east on E 20th to La Siesta Way
La Siesta Way south to Granger Ave east on Granger to Van Ness Ave
Van Ness Ave north to E 20th St east on E 20th to Rachael Ave
Rachael Ave north to Alleghany St east on Alleghany
Dear Commission Members:

Please look at the situation from a higher perspective. We need to combine/unite San Diego, Orange and Riverside counties -- more of a circle -- rather than a vertical district ranging from the Oregon border to the Mexican border. This seems more appropriate as northern California and southern California are certainly of different demographics and viewpoints. This would result in better and more fair representation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cathy Richardson
Capistrano Beach, CA  92624
Ladies and gentlemen:

I am concerned that the proposed changes to BOE districts that link dissimilar and extremely distant cities such as San Diego and Yreka will not be in the best interests of either business community.

My understanding is that, among other criteria, the commission is charged with uniting communities of interest in geographically compact zones. Thus, please consider redrawing lines that more closely resemble the San Diego, Orange and Riverside County mix that links areas with more common interests, as are presently represented in BOE Region 3.

Thank you for your consideration.

Penny Harrington
Vista, CA
Subject: Public Comment: 1 - San Diego
From: Maclen Zilber <maclen.zilber@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 22:52:09 +0000
To: 

From: Maclen Zilber <maclen.zilber@gmail.com>
Subject: San Diego

Message Body:
Thank you for putting the UC San Diego campus and University City in the same district in your new visualizations. The students of UCSD appreciate it, as those who live on campus and those who are in the triangle boxed between the 5, the 805, and the 52 form a cohesive community of interest of around 25,000 people.

Mac Zilber
AVP Academic Affairs, Associated Students of UC San Diego

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Dir Sir or Madam,

Please find a copy of San Diego County Restaurant Association (SDCRA) comment letter regarding the proposed BOE Map.

Thank you,
Chris

Chris Duggan
Director, Local Government Affairs
California Restaurant Association
San Diego, CA 92108
T: / (619) 
E: 
www.calrest.org
Membership matters.

Confidentiality note:
This electronic message transmission contains information from the California Restaurant Association which may be confidential or privileged. The information is intended to be for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the contents of this information is prohibited.

If you have received this electronic transmission in error, please immediately notify us by telephone at .

LettertoBOESDCRA.pdf
July 20, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
Sacramento, CA 95814

Delivered Electronically

RE: Board of Equalization Proposed District Map

Dear Commissioner:

On behalf of the San Diego Chapter of the California Restaurant Association (SDCRA), which represents an industry of nearly 1,500 establishments in San Diego County, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our strong support for the 1st draft Board of Equalization Map.

We base our support on the concept that BOE staff and members must serve a geographic region that shares commonalities including; bordering economies, cultural and ethnic mix. Additionally, SDCRA believes it would be detrimental to fuse communities that have different regional priorities and needs entirely.

Historically, the San Diego region and Orange County have been linked via the BOE District. It is this strong relationship between BOE staff and small business that has allowed our regional economies to grow and prosper. Any division to this relationship will greatly impact small business owners and our emerging economies.

Therefore, on behalf of the SDCRA, we strongly urge that the Citizens Redistricting Commission support the 1st draft Board of Equalization Map.

Sincerely,

Mike Morton Jr,
San Diego Chapter, California Restaurant Association
Subject: RE: Redistricting
From: Khamp Thongrivong <k.thongrivong@california.gov>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 22:31:35 -0700
To: Commissioners of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission
CC: Pam Hooper <pam@california.gov>
     Sandy Spackman <s.spackman@california.gov>

July 20, 2011

Via Electronic Mail

Commissioners of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments on July 13th & July 18th Assembly District Visualization for National City

Dear Commissioners,

Your plan to split the Filipino American community in East National City between Assembly District SSAND and LMSAND is akin to efforts of the past to substantially dilute their voting strength to access or elect a representative of their choice.

As a member of the Laotian community of San Diego, we stand united with the Filipino American community. We respectfully ask that the Commission focus on drawing lines similar to the CAPAFR-MALDEF-AARC unity map by putting East National City in Assembly District LMSAND.

The unity map keeps Filipino American community institutions in eastern National City together with API community members from National City, Paradise Hills, Alta Vista, Bay Terrace, Bonita and East Chula Vista who rely on those institutions for key services.

Respectfully,

Khamp K. Thongrivong, Vice President
Lao American Coalition
DATE: July 20, 2011
TO: Citizen Redistricting Commission
RE: Board of Equalization District Lines

I maintain businesses in both San Diego and Orange County.

The Citizen Redistricting Commission (CRC) was charged with establishing new district lines that are built around communities of interest and keeping them whole where possible.

The CRC established new district lines in its 1st draft of maps for the Board of Equalization (BOE) that clearly achieved this directive.

San Diego has a unique land of Asian, Latino and minority business communities more closely aligned with that of Orange County, not Central and Northern California. While any business can appeal to any BOE office, it is essential that the BOE staff serving a geographic region identify with that region’s unique ethnic mix. That’s why we believe we would be better served in a seat that includes Orange County rather than Central or Northern California communities.

For San Diego County to be included with a district that runs from the Mexico border to the Oregon border including rural communities that have different priorities and environmental needs simply means we will be drowned out. Our economic engine will suffer and our needs will go unmet. San Diego County’s business model is more closely aligned with Orange County’s, therefore, if drawn into a district running to the State of Oregon, we believe our business community will be drowned out and unrepresented.

San Diego and Orange County have traditionally been together in the same BOE seat. Because of that, our small business owners and others who are serviced by the Board of Equalization have become accustomed to the staff in this district’s office and likewise the staff has become accustomed to our region’s unique business needs. For example, when we talk about San Diego County and coastal environmental needs the staff understands that. To remove this staff and its knowledge and turn it over to a staff representing Redding would be detrimental to our communities, businesses, environmental needs and unique quality of life.

Clearly, the 1st draft of new district lines established for the Board of Equalization protect the Voting Rights Act, keep communities of interest whole including minorities, businesses and the environment, and provide competitive districts that will ensure fair representation for the entire electorate.

I urge you to consider supporting the 1st draft Board of Equalization maps.

Sincerely,

Keep In Touch

Bob Mahan
Dear Commission Members:

Please look at the situation from a higher perspective. We need to combine/unite San Diego, Orange and Riverside counties -- more of a circle -- rather than a vertical district ranging from the Oregon border to the Mexican border. This seems more appropriate as northern California and southern California are certainly of different demographics and viewpoints. This would result in better and more fair representation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Showleh Vandermaas
San Clemente, CA 92672