

REGION 2: SAN BERNARDINO



July 21, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 651-5711

**Re: Opposition to Congressional SoCal (Options 1/2/3) ONTPM District Visualization
July 14 - Support for ONTPM Commission Visualization July 8 (attached)**

Commissioners,

On behalf of a combined 248,000 residents in the Cities of Ontario and Upland, we would like to submit a joint public comment to the Commission in support of a Commission Visualization dated July 8 (attached).

Presently, the SoCal Visualizations (Options 1/2/3) dated July 14 make significant shifts from prior versions that had kept the southwest portion of San Bernardino County in a compact and regional district recognizing long established communities of interest among Ontario, Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, Claremont, Montclair, and Pomona.

Upland and Ontario prefer the Commission Visualization dated July 8 that respects these communities of interest, retains perfect deviation, and allows for a Voting Rights Act ("VRA") protected seat based primarily in Rialto and San Bernardino.

By using the July 8 draft, the Commission would also avoid splitting Upland, as the July 14 drafts result in 40% of Upland placed in the San Gabriel Valley (LA County) and 60% placed within a district that spans to San Bernardino and Redlands (San Bernardino County).

The ONTPM Visualization dated July 8 is superior to the currently proposed drafts dated July 14 for the following reasons:

- The July 8 Commission option protects more cities that are currently within a VRA protected 43rd Congressional District (current 43rd CD protects San Bernardino, Colton, Rialto, Fontana, and Ontario; proposed ONTPM protects Ontario, Pomona, Fontana, and 40% of Rialto)
- The July 14 Visualization for San Bernardino ('SB') Congressional District does not protect either the City of Colton or San Bernardino (both of which are entirely currently protected);
- The July 8 Commission option is VRA-compliant and contains a San Bernardino-Colton-District Based District that meets the CVAP D.

Subject: IEAARC Map Submission for CD in San bernardino County

From: WS Hawkins <[REDACTED]>

Date: 7/23/2011 2:34 PM

To: [REDACTED]

To the Citizens Redistricting Commission

We are submitting a recommendation for a critical change in the SB and ONTPM CDs. The current configuration severely disenfranchises the African American community in San Bernardino County. By following these suggestions, the Commission will keep two strong Hispanic majority districts as well as keep the voting influence of the African American community from regressing. The an analysis of the totality of circumstances in this region would support the IEAARC recommendation.

This is also supported by the NAACP San Bernardino Branch.

Thank you for considering these recommendations.

Walter Hawkins

Westside Action Group

Inland Empire African American Redistricting Coalition

— Attachments: —

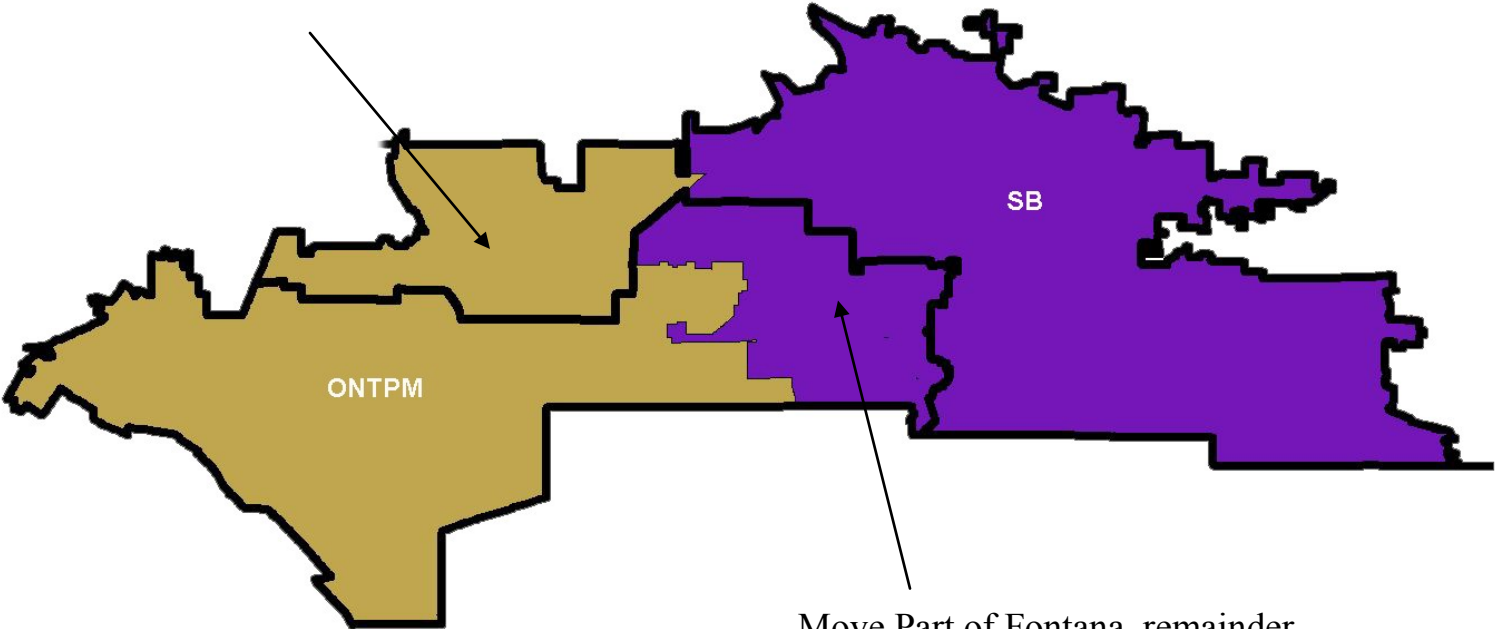
20110723_IEAARC_CD_SBcounty.pdf

222 KB

Inland Empire African American Redistricting Coalition

Illustration of Recommended Changes to CD in San Bernardino County Maintains African American Voting Influence in the Ebony Triangle

Move Upland and Rancho Cucamonga
from SB to ONTPM 209,941 people.



Move Part of Fontana, remainder
of Rialto, and all of Bloomington
from ONTPM to SB
Switch of 209, 491 people

OLD BOUNDARY

Subject: Please don't split Mt Baldy along the County line

From: Brian Keeley <[REDACTED]>

Date: 7/23/2011 10:28 AM

To: [REDACTED]

I would like to endorse everything that my neighbor, Robbie Warner, says below about the importance of not splitting Mt. Baldy into two districts. It is important to us that we not be split. It is also important to us that we be joined with the communities (Upland, Claremont, Montclair) that many of us work in and all of us shop in.

I would like to add one thing to his points below. If we (or a portion of our community) were to be placed in the large district centered in Bishop, as some of the proposed maps show, then in order to get to other parts of that district, we would have to drive quite a long ways THROUGH ANOTHER DISTRICT to get to the rest of that district. That is to say that although, on a map, you would be creating a geographically contiguous district, there are no roads that connect us directly to that large district. We would have to drive down into Upland, get on the 210, travel east to the 15, then north over the Cajon Pass to finally re-enter the rest of the proposed district.

Similarly, in splitting our community in two, even those of us left on the Los Angeles side of the dividing line will be a good ways away from the rest of our new districts. For example, in the map labeled "q2 state congress", the bulk of the population in that district would be centered in and around Sierra Madre, which is ~35 miles away by car from the LA county homes in Mt. Baldy. We would have to drive through THREE other districts to get to events centered where most of this new, proposed district lives.

Such proposals are not in keeping with the principles that citizens that live together in the same community should share government representation when possible and that historically and economically related communities should be grouped together, not torn asunder.

Please keep Mt. Baldy politically unified and connected to our economic base in the valley below us.

Thank you,

Brian L. Keeley

[REDACTED]

Mt. Baldy, CA

([REDACTED] Mt. Baldy, CA, 91759)

From: Robbie Warner

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Tange Sue Cate

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2011 11:29 AM

Subject: Please don't split Mt Baldy along the County line

Mt Baldy is a small, unincorporated, close-knit community in the San Gabriel Mountains that straddles Los Angeles/San Bernardino County Line. We have our own school district <<http://www.mtbaldy.k12.ca.us/>>, volunteer fire department <<http://www.mtbaldyfire.com/>>, Post Office/Zip Code (91759), Town Hall, and we hold numerous annual community-wide events, such as the Pancake Breakfast and Steak Fry. The people who live here do so because they appreciate the friendly small-town atmosphere, community spirit, and beautiful natural environs. It's a place where neighbors help neighbors every day or during times of adversity when the only road out of town may be closed due to flood, fire, landslides, excessive snowfall, or some other natural or man-made disaster. As far as the community is concerned, the County line, which runs right through the heart of Mt Baldy Village, is literally and figuratively invisible.

Every draft/option of the proposed redistricting maps <<http://swdb.berkeley.edu/gis/gis2011/>> splits Mt Baldy's representation the county line at all levels (State Assembly, State Senate, Congressional, and Board of Equalization districts). These same maps show that this County line is not sacrosanct since virtually every draft/option for all representatives keeps portions of Claremont (LA County) and Upland (San Bernardino County) immediately to the south in the same district, yet these are separate cities in separate counties. We citizens of Mt Baldy would like maintain unified representation in the same way as these portions of Claremont and Upland just a few minutes away.

Currently, out of the State Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional districts, only the Senate district boundary splits Mt Baldy. We all currently share the same US Congressman (David Dreier), but that would change if any and all of the maps are adopted as proposed. We would be placed into a mega-large Congressional district extending north from here almost up to Lake Tahoe; we'd share a Congressional district with Victorville, Mammoth Lakes, and Needles, but not with Upland, Claremont, or Rancho Cucamonga, communities within which we work, shop, and much more closely identify.

Among the criteria that the California Citizens Redistricting Commission was supposed to consider was: "Districts must respect the boundaries of cities, counties, neighborhoods and communities of interest, and minimize their division, to the extent possible." Mt Baldy is clearly a "community of interest," and as such, I believe we should share the same elected representatives.

We may be a small community of only about 500 people, but we are much more cohesive than just about any other community in California regardless of size. Please keep our

representation together, and to the extent possible, draw district boundaries that maintain our affinity with communities in the foothills to the south that are only 15 minutes away, rather than with high desert and eastern Sierra communities that are hours and up to hundreds of miles away.

