June 15, 2011

VIA FACSIMILE, E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Honorable Chairman  
Citizens Redistricting Commission  
901 P Street  
Suite 154-A  
Sacramento, California  95814

Re: City of Dana Point ("City") Comments on the  
Citizens Redistricting Commission’s ("Commission")  
First Draft of State Senate and Assembly District Maps

Honorable Chairman:

At its June 13, 2011 meeting, the Dana Point City Council ("DPCC") voted unanimously to object to certain state Senate and Assembly district boundaries proposed in the Commission’s first draft of the district maps ("First Draft"). As part of that action the DPCC also unanimously approved the attached Resolution, which opposes any state Assembly or Senate redistricting plan that would (a) divide the City geographically and/or (b) place the City outside of any state Senate or Assembly districts that do not include our neighboring south Orange County cities.

The DPCC strongly feels that our entire city should be grouped with other south Orange County cities for state Senate and Assembly purposes because of the common issues these cities face as well as the strong working relationships and cooperative arrangements they have developed over many, many years. Shared issues include, but are by no means limited to, ocean water quality, regional transportation at both the local (Orange County Transportation Authority) and state (Caltrans) levels, regional land use planning and affordable housing.

On behalf of the DPCC, I would strongly and respectfully request the Commission to reconsider the state Senate and Assembly district boundaries proposed in the First Draft in view of the City’s comments set forth above. If I or our City Manager, Doug Chotkevys, can be of any further assistance or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [redacted].

Sincerely,

J. Scott Schoeppel  
Mayor
C: The Honorable Members of the California Redistricting Commission
The Honorable Dana Point City Council
Robert Ming, President, Association of California Cities – Orange County
Russell Kerr, Chairman, Dana Point Chamber of Commerce
Doug Chotkevys, City Manager, City of Dana Point
A. Patrick Munoz, City Attorney, City of Dana Point
Thomas G. Mauk, Chief Executive Officer, County of Orange
RESOLUTION NO. 11-06-13-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANA POINT, CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING ANY PROPOSED REDISTRICTING PLAN THAT SPLITS THE CITY AND/OR PLACES THE CITY OUTSIDE OF THE DISTRICT INCLUDING OTHER SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY CITIES

The City Council of the City of Dana Point does hereby resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2011 the California Citizens Redistricting Commission released maps showing a proposed new redistricting for State Assembly and Senate Seat purposes; and

WHEREAS, the proposal divides the City of Dana Point creating two districts within its geographical boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is opposed to any redistricting which divides the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes the City should be included, in its entirety, in the same districts for Assembly and Senate Seat purposes as the rest of what is traditionally considered to be South Orange County based upon the similarity of issues, and historical working relationships the City has with such other South Orange County cities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Dana Point as follows:

SECTION 1. The Council hereby formally opposes the redistricting proposal released on June 10, 2011 and any other proposal by which the City is split into multiple districts.

SECTION 2. The City Council hereby formally opposes the redistricting proposal released on June 10, 2011, and any other proposal by which all, or any part of the City is not included the same Assembly and Senate districts as most, if not all, of the cities traditionally considered to comprise “South Orange County” are located.

SECTION 3. The Mayor and City Manager, and/or their designees are hereby authorized to send letters and or appear at meetings, and participate in such other lawful activities as they deem necessary and appropriate to advocate the above noted positions on behalf of the City.
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Dana Point, California, held on this 13th day of June, 2011, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Council Members Bartlett, Brough, Weinberg, Mayor Pro Tem Anderson, and Mayor Schoeffel

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

J. Scott Schoeffel, Mayor

ATTEST:

__________________________
KATHY M. WARD, City Clerk
CITY OF DANA POINT
AGENDA REPORT

DATE: JUNE 13, 2011
TO: CITY MANAGER/HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: PATRICK MUNOZ, CITY ATTORNEY
SUBJECT: STATE REDISTRICTING

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the City Council adopt the accompanying resolution (1) opposing the current draft redistricting map, (2) setting forth the City’s position that any redistricting should not split the City, and (3) setting forth the City’s preference that the entire City be included in the same district as other South County cities.

BACKGROUND

Last Friday the Citizens Redistricting Commission released a draft map showing its current proposal for redistricting of State Assembly and State Senate seats. Specifically, the current proposal creates two relevant Assembly districts. One is generally the Orange County Coastal area beginning north of the Headlands and going all the way to Seal Beach, and the other being an area starting at the Headlands and comprising what one would traditionally think of as South Orange County. Additionally, it creates two relevant Senate districts. One is generally the same North Orange County Coastal area as noted above combined with much of the central and north, inland portions of the County. The other, is comprised again of what one would traditionally consider to be South Orange County, combined with portions of north San Diego County. The proposed Senate district splits the City of Dana Point at the same location as the proposed Assembly district.

This above information came to the attention of City Staff after the posting of the agenda. Upon review, City Staff is concerned by the proposed redistricting as it splits the City in two, and places a significant portion of the City within the “North County” district. As will be discussed in more detail at the Council meeting, staff feels that it is more appropriate that the entire City remain in the same district. Further, that the entire City be in the district comprised of South Orange County cities with whom the City has many common issues, and historical working relationships.
DISCUSSION:

The proposal is the subject of a series of hearings and meetings occurring over the next month, beginning as early as June 16th. Accordingly, staff believes action is required by the Council prior to its next meeting. Staff specifically recommends adoption of the attached resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact is anticipated as a result of the recommended action.

ACTION DOCUMENT:

A. Resolution ................................................................. 3

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT:

B. Proposed Redistricting Maps as of June 10, 2011 ....................................... 5
ACTION DOCUMENT A

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANA POINT, CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING ANY PROPOSED REDISTRICTING PLAN THAT SPLITS THE CITY AND/OR PLACES THE CITY OUTSIDE OF THE DISTRICT INCLUDING OTHER SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY CITIES

The City Council of the City of Dana Point does hereby resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2011 the California Citizens Redistricting Commission released maps showing a proposed new redistricting for State Assembly and Senate Seat purposes; and

WHEREAS, the proposal divides the City of Dana Point creating two districts within its geographical boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is opposed to any redistricting which divides the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes the City should be included, in its entirety, in the same districts for Assembly and Senate Seat purposes as the rest of what is traditionally considered to be South Orange County based upon the similarity of issues, and historical working relationships the City has with such other South Orange County cities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Dana Point as follows:

SECTION 1. The Council hereby formally opposes the redistricting proposal released on June 10, 2011 and any other proposal by which the City is split into multiple districts.

SECTION 2. The City Council hereby formally opposes the redistricting proposal released on June 10, 2011, and any other proposal by which all, or any part of the City is not included the same Assembly and Senate districts as most, if not all, of the cities traditionally considered to comprise “South Orange County” are located.
SECTION 3. The Mayor and City Manager, and/or their designees are hereby authorized to send letters and or appear at meetings, and participate in such other lawful activities as they deem necessary and appropriate to advocate the above noted positions on behalf of the City.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Dana Point, California, held on this 13th day of June, 2011, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

________________________
J. Scott Schoeffel, Mayor

ATTEST:

________________________
KATHY M. WARD, City Clerk
Proposed Senate and Assembly Districts
June 21, 2011

At its June 13, 2011 meeting, the Dana Point City Council voted unanimously to object to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission’s first round of draft maps for State Assembly and State Senate district boundaries relevant to Dana Point. As part of that action the Dana Point City Council also unanimously approved the attached Resolution, which opposes any state Assembly or Senate redistricting plan that would (a) divide the City geographically and/or (b) place the City outside of any state Senate or Assembly districts that do not include our neighboring south Orange County cities.

The Dana Point Chamber of Commerce concurs with the opinions and the recommendations of the Dana Point City Council to approve the attached Resolution. Under the current map draft, the City of Dana Point would be split into two different State Assembly districts. The business community of Dana Point is better served and has a stronger influence on pertinent issues with a unified representation in the State Assembly. We strongly feel that our entire city should be grouped with other south Orange County cities for state Senate and Assembly purposes because of the common issues these cities face as well as the strong working relationships and cooperative arrangements they have developed over many, many years.

SECTION 1. The Council hereby formally opposes the redistricting proposal released on June 10, 2011 and any other proposal by which the City is split into multiple districts.

SECTION 2. The City Council hereby formally opposes the redistricting proposal released on June 10, 2011, and any other proposal by which all, or any part of the City is not included the same Assembly and Senate districts as most, if not all, of the cities traditionally considered to comprise "South Orange County" are located.

SECTION 3. The Mayor and City Manager, and/or their designees are hereby authorized to send letters and/or appear at meetings, and participate in such other lawful activities as they deem necessary and appropriate to advocate the above noted positions on behalf of the City.

On behalf of the Dana Point Chamber of Commerce, I would strongly and respectfully request the Commission to reconsider the state Senate and Assembly district boundaries proposed in the First Draft in view of the comments set forth above. If I, or any of the Chamber staff, can be of any further assistance or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Laura Ouimet
Executive Director
Dana Point Chamber of Commerce

www.danapointchamber.com
July 5, 2011

Mr. Daniel Claypool
Executive Director
California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

State Redistricting Boundaries – City of Dana Point

Dear Mr. Claypool,

Recently, Dana Point City Council Member Lisa Bartlett and I had the opportunity to testify before the Citizens Redistricting Commission in San Francisco and Sacramento. The purpose was to make the Commission aware of the City’s concerns relative to the currently proposed redistricting boundaries for the State Senate and Assembly Districts. Simply put, the currently proposed boundaries effective cut the City of Dana Point in half. Because the City has a population of approximately 33,000, this not only marginalizes the City’s political presence in Sacramento, it also significantly limits the City’s political voice.

At its June 13, 2011 City Council meeting, the Dana Point City Council took unanimous action to oppose the proposed boundaries that were recently circulated. As part of that action, the Dana Point City Council also unanimously passed the attached Resolution opposing any redistricting plan that would split the City and/or places the City outside of the District including our neighboring South Orange County Cities.

The Dana Point City Council believes that the City should be included, in its entirety, in the same districts for State Assembly and State Senate purposes as the rest of what is traditionally considered to be South Orange County based upon the similarity of issues, and historical relationships the City has with other such South Orange County cities. These issues would include, but would not be limited to issues relating to, ocean water quality, regional transportation at the Local (OCTA) and State (Caltrans) levels, affordable housing and land-use planning issues.

Subsequent to the Dana Point City Council’s action, the Dana Point Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors also took action to support the City’s position and to ask the Commission to revisit the proposed boundaries in order to not “split” the City.
I strongly and respectfully would ask and encourage the Citizens Redistricting Commission to re-visit the proposed boundaries and to include Dana Point in its entirety with the other South County cities in any future redistricting maps. If I can be of any further assistance or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [redacted].

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Chotkevys
City Manager

Enclosures

C: The Honorable Mayor and Dana Point City Council
   Thomas G. Mauk, Chief Executive Officer, County of Orange
   Russell Kerr, Chairman, Dana Point Chamber of Commerce
   Laura Ouimet, Dana Point Chamber of Commerce