July 13, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
Sacramento, CA 95814.

Re: City of Hawthorne Requests to Be Moved Into the South Bay/Beach Cities Congressional District.

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Commission is currently involved in the redistricting process, the City of Hawthorne residents wish to identify the issues that are important to our community and to define our community of interest. Because Hawthorne’s community of interest is primarily with the South Bay/Beach Cities which lie south of the #105 Freeway and west of the #110 Freeway, the City of Hawthorne requests to be moved into the 36th Congressional District.

Hawthorne has been a member of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) since its inception in 1994 and has been heavily involved in a variety of activities from South Bay Environmental Services Center, Energy Leadership Program and South Bay Measure R Highway Program allocations to collectively applying for and receiving variety of State and Federal grants for projects to improve quality of life in the South Bay. Those projects overlapped boundaries of Hawthorne with neighboring cities of Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach and El Segundo.

Hawthorne is inextricably tied to the aerospace industry which it shares with the Beach Cities. Recently, Hawthorne worked in conjunction with the Beach Cities to prevent the closure of the LA Air Force Base, which saved thousands of Hawthorne and South Bay jobs at both the base and its affiliated aerospace partners. This protected a huge economic engine for the entire South Bay. The bonds which made this possible were issued by Hawthorne and Hawthorne’s citizens will be paying approximately $142 million to retire them. This action encouraged further development of aerospace, including Space X, which is headquartered in Hawthorne.

Moreover, Hawthorne has its own airport which is used on a daily basis by aerospace and film industry personnel who are doing business in the South Bay. The Hawthorne Police Department helicopter, which is based at Hawthorne Airport, patrols and assists the other Beach Cities Police Departments, who pay Hawthorne for this service; a win/win for all involved. The Western-Pacifi...
Aviation Administration, which serves the entire South Bay Community, including Torrance Airport, is located in Hawthorne.

Hawthorne also has significant ties to the entertainment industry due to its proximity to major studios in El Segundo and Manhattan Beach. Hawthorne is within walking distance from both the Manhattan Beach Studios and El Segundo Studios. Many movie and television shows including True Blood, CSI Miami and the recently cancelled Medium were filmed in Hawthorne.

Because of Hawthorne’s location near LAX, as well as the junction of the #405 and #105 Freeways and our own Hawthorne Airport, Hawthorne truly is the Gateway to the Beach Cities and the rest of the South Bay. Hawthorne shares north-south arterials Crenshaw Boulevard and Hawthorne Boulevard and east-west arterials Marine Avenue, Rosecrans Avenue, and El Segundo Boulevard, which are major business and shopping thoroughfares with the Beach Cities of the South Bay. The residents of the Beach Cities frequently access the #405 Freeway by using entrances and exits located in Hawthorne.

They also commute to downtown Los Angeles by using the #105 Freeway, which is located in Hawthorne, in order to access the #110 Freeway north into the downtown area and in order to access the #405 north to the west side.

Based on all of the above, Hawthorne’s community of interest is primarily with the South Bay/Beach Cities which lie south of the #105 Freeway and west of the #110 Freeway and we wish to be placed in the South Bay/Beach Cities Congressional District.

Very truly yours,

Larry M. Guidi
Mayor

Ginny Lambert
Councilmember

Angie Reyes
Councilmember

Alex Vargas
Mayor Pro Temp

Daniel Juarez
Councilmember

Arnold Shadbeh
Interim City Manager