Please comply with the Voting Rights Act in Los Angeles County and let the majority be represented properly.
Subject: Gerrymandering Unacceptable
From: Sharon Lee Kander Cook <[removed]>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 16:51:33 +0000
To: <[removed]>

Dear CCRC Members,

Your proposed congressional district for the Southbay violates Palos Verdes Peninsula residents' right to fair representation. Community members have testified that we have little in common with citizens of Venice and Santa Monica. In fact, our relationship is better described in terms of polarity than diversity. Count me among the majority requesting our district be conjoined instead with Hawthorne and Lawndale. The oath of fairness you swore upon appointment to the commission demands you abide by the interests of the electorate, not political allies. Gerrymandering will no longer be tolerated. Aware that you will be held accountable, we expect you will carry out your responsibilities prudently and faithfully.

Respectfully,

Sharon L. Cook

Sharon L. Cook, Ph.D.
Home [removed]
Cell [removed]
Subject: Increase Latino numbers
From: Lina Mendez <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 09:12:27 -0700
To: [redacted]

I urge to to give Latinos a fair opportunity to elect candidates of their choice by creating Latino-majority districts in LA.

Thanks,

Lina
Dear Commissioners:

1) Please return the city of Calabasas and Hidden Hills to the obvious mountains/coastal Assembly District they should be in, LAMWS (not LA VSF). Communities of interest lie with the mountains/coastal as opposed to the San Fernando Valley. Calabasas is also part of the COG – and these Assembly lines split Calabasas and Hidden Hills off from the other members, mountains and coast.

2) Thank you for listening to citizen’s requests and redrawing the new Congressional lines for WLADT, reuniting the COG cities, unincorporated county areas and coastal/mountain communities of the SMMNRA and Westside. Please keep these lines intact and do not make any line changes that would split up the SMM/coastal communities.

Nancy Rothenberg
Calabasas, CA 91302
Subject: Representation

I am president of the Good Neighbors of 84th Place Block Club. My neighbors have express concern regarding the redistricting process. We live in South Central Los Angeles. As African Americans our concern is legitimate given the history of this country. We want to have the same number of representatives. We feel we are an underserved population.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ms. Akosua Hobert, President
Good Neighbors of

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Brentwood and the West LA VA land should be kept in the same district because the citizens of Brentwood have worked so hard for so long to further community relations with the VA. Many of the same issues that impact the VA also impact the residents of Brentwood. I live in Brentwood Glen, a neighborhood bounded on the south and west by VA land. Traffic, building, land use: all impact our neighborhood.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Todd Millstein <todd.millstein@gmail.com>
To: y

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 14:43:33 +0000

Subject: Los Angeles VA

Message Body:
I live in Brentwood Glen, a neighborhood of Los Angeles that abuts the Los Angeles VA to the north and east. Many land use and other issues that affect the VA therefore also affect my neighborhood. Our neighborhood therefore works very closely with the VA on many things each year and have worked diligently to maintain, improve, and protect our contiguous land.

For these reasons, it is important that the VA is kept in the Brentwood congressional district. Thanks very much for your consideration.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Sharon Bowman <[email protected]>

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 14:59:36 +0000

To: [Redacted]

From: Sharon Bowman <[email protected]>
Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:
Splitting the Brentwood district is harmful. The VA should be retained in our district. Brentwood has worked very hard to protect, improve, and maintain this land.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: paula wainright <paulawainright@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 15:08:27 +0000
To: redistricting

From: paula wainright <paulawainright@gmail.com>
Subject: redistricting

Message Body:
The VA is our immediate neighbor on the south and west of Brentwood Glen and many issues with the VA impact the Brentwood Glenn. Please keep the VA in our district we have worked diligently with them to improve, maintain the contiguous land and it's use. Many of our programs and governance is done within our zip code area to strengthen our input as a community. Thank you

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: Sandra Peterson <sandra.peterson@xyz.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 15:09:39 +0000
To: redistrictingcommission@example.com

Message Body:
Ladies and Gentlemen of the Redistricting Commission:

I commenced participating in the redistricting process for the Southbay districts when I gave testimony at the Long Beach, CA hearing held April 27, 2011. At that time, others and I requested the Southbay congressional district (CD) span from Wilmington to Westchester including Play Vista and Play Del Rey. I subsequently supplied the Commission an Excel Worksheet that identified the cities we proposed during our testimony with population estimates.

Subsequent to the April 27, 2010 hearing, the Commission published a conceptual Southbay CD on June 1, 2012 that was almost a carbon copy of what we had proposed. We of the Southbay were very pleased until the Commission released its June 10, 2011 “preliminary” draft version of the Southbay CD. This version eliminated Wilmington, a city currently in the 26th district, but included Venice and Santa Monica. The elimination of Wilmington from the Southbay district I believe was a direct placation to the 35th CD in accordance with testimony given during the April 27, 2011 hearing.

The Commission requested feedback regarding the Preliminary draft districts released June 10, 2011. Accordingly, others and I obliged by presenting testimony to the Commission at the Culver City Hearing conducted the evening of June 16, 2011. During that hearing, each of us who testified for the Southbay, clearly stated that our Southbay cities have absolutely no “common interest” with the cities of Venice and Santa Monica. We stated we do not work, recreate or shop in any of these communities. We requested that the cities of Venice and Santa Monica be swapped out and the cities of Hawthorne, Lawndale and Lennox be added because these cities are very much communities of interest in our Southbay community and they have the same aggregate population. I subsequently provided more specifics to the Commission via the website following the hearing, further clarifying our positions. I also presented an update to my EXCEL worksheet identifying the cities of common interest that should be included in our Southbay CD and AD.

In mid July, he Commission elected to not release a second draft of maps based on input from we the people as planned. Instead, the Commission elected to work behind close doors on “visualization” maps that are not easily accessible to the public. It is my understanding that the “visualization” map for the Southbay CD has currently morphed into a “Pacific coastline” CD that spans from San Pedro to Malibu. I respectfully submit that this gerrymandered district is in direct violation of the criteria the commission has been directed to implement by law. Other than the coastline, the Southbay cities have absolutely nothing in common with the cities of Venice, Santa Monica and Malibu. In fact, I am of the understanding that the people of these cities declare the same about the Southbay cities. They have no common interest in our Southbay cities. The Commission is obviously not listening to the public.

In short, although I am very pleased the Peninsula cities are now in the same districts as the Southbay cities to our north, I am very disappointed about the fact that the Commission has gerrymandered a nonrelevant CD for the Southbay so as to placate the wishes of the districts to our immediate east. This is not fair and is in violation of your oath to implement districts in accordance with the guidelines posted on your
website. It is apparent to me that the Commission is not listening to the input provided by the people of the Southbay and that the Commission is very much interested in placating all wishes of the people to the east of our communities. That is just not fair!

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the commission comply with the criteria they have been given to establish lines for the Southbay districts, heed the testimony provided by the Southbay populace and return the Southbay districts to those that are in line with the interest of our community. To assist you, I have again attached my EXCEL worksheet that contains my original proposed CD that I placed on the Commission's website May 22, 2011 and an enhanced proposed Southbay CD that differs primarily from the May 22, 2011 proposed CD because the Commission has taken Wilmington out of the current 26th district and assigned it to the 35th CD. Considering circumstances, I fully expect this swap out is now non negotiable. Additionally, the attached EXCEL worksheet also outlines the Assembly District (AD) we propose for our community.

The below describes the Southbay districts by cities that comprise our community of interest. The populations associated with the cities comprising these districts are presented in the EXCEL spreadsheet attached for your use. I have used 2010 census data to the extent I could locate it.

Southbay Congressional District: Spans from San Pedro to Jefferson Blvd, i.e. Westchester/Playa Vista and Playa Del Rey with a population of approximately 708,000.

Includes the following cities: Playa Del Rey, Westchester/Playa Vista, Lennox, El Segundo, Del Aire south of El Segundo Blvd (approximately 50% of population), Hawthorne, Lawndale, Gardena south of Roscrans (approximately 65% or Gardena population), Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Torrance, Harbor Gateway south of the 405 (approximately 30 % of Harbor Gateway population), Harbor City, San Pedro, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Palos Verdes and Catalina.

Southbay Assembly District: Spans from San Pedro to El Segundo with a population of approximately 466,000.

Includes the following cities: El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach Redondo Beach, Torrance, Del Aire south of El Segundo Blvd (approximately 50% of population), Lawndale, Lomita, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Catalina and San Pedro.

In summary, I greatly appreciate the fact that the Commission has included the peninsula cities into a CD with the beach cities of the north. I respectfully request that the Commission finalize the Southbay districts as described above. In doing such, please recognize that the Commission has testimony from the cities of Westchester, Hawthorne, Lawndale and Torrance specifically requesting that their cities be included in the Southbay CD as they certainly are very much a part of our community of interest, as is south Gardena.

I thank the Commission in advance for correcting this very important matter for we the people of the Southbay community. Thank your for listening to our desires, giving us “fair representation” and permitting us the opportunity to be involved in drawing the lines for our districts.

Yours truly,

Eugene Starr

Seconded: Sandra Peterson
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: "Robert J. Buckley" <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 15:51:22 +0000
To: [redacted]

From: Robert J. Buckley <[redacted]>
Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:
Please do not change us to communities that do not have the same interests as we do. Leave us with Whittier, Santa Fe Springs, Norwalk, Bellflower and Long Beach. If you change us then I will have to cast my vote in future elections for others.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: Todd Martin
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 15:57:37 +0000
To: 

From: Todd Martin
Subject: California Congressional Redistricting

Message Body:
I am writing regarding the redistricting for Brentwood - 90049 zip code.

I request that you keep the VA in our district- we have worked diligently with them to improve, maintain and protect the contiguous land and its use.

Many of our programs and governance is done within our zip code area to strengthen our input as a community.

The VA is our immediate neighbor on both the South and West of Brentwood Glen and many issues with the VA impact the Brentwood Glen.

Thank you.
Todd Martin

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: Raul Lopez
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 16:04:34 +0000
To: 

From: Raul Lopez
Subject: Redistriction of Downey area

Message Body:

I'm a City of Downey resident for the last 30 Years, and very Happy to be in the area were we have nice Cities around who are our Partners, Please do not disturbe our relationship with them, please keep our City with the South East Region do not send us to the Path of Los Angeles that is not good for our City and Residents.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: Christina Anderson <christina.anderson@downey.ca.us>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 16:41:35 +0000
To: 

From: Christina Anderson <christina.anderson@downey.ca.us>
Subject: District Maps

Message Body:
Please do not change the districting maps for the City of Downey. We have been partners with our surrounding cities for so long and it has worked well for us and for them.

Thank you.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
I support the new districts. I think we are better off being separated from our traditional partners. Thank you and please don't let city officials put too much influence into your decisions, they have their own motives as to why they want things to stay the same.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: Valerie Mucha <valerie.mucha@city.rpv.ca.us>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 16:58:01 +0000
To: pgreddy@citizensredistricting.com

From: Valerie Mucha <valerie.mucha@city.rpv.ca.us>
Subject: 36th Congressional District

Message Body:

Here in Rancho Palos Verdes, we have nothing in common with the cities of Santa Monica, Venice, Malibu, Bel Air Beverly Hills, Topanga, and Calabassas.

El Segundo, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Torrance, Lomita, all of the Palos Verdes peninsula, San pedro, Lawndale, and Hawthorne should all be in the same Congressional District.

Thank you

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Redistricting the VA

Message Body:
Please keep the VA in our district. The VA is our immediate neighbor to the south and west. We work closely with the VA on issues and support to help the community. Much of our progress is made within the same zip code area.
Carole Coluzzi Armbruster
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: BRYAN HINCKLEY <bryan.hinckley@citizensredistricting.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 17:20:53 +0000
To: 

From: BRYAN HINCKLEY <bryan.hinckley@citizensredistricting.com>
Subject: Los Angeles--Brentwood Glen

Message Body:
I understand you plan to redistrict West Los Angeles. As a home owner and tax payer who lives in Brentwood Glen, I request that you keep the Veterans Administration (VA) and Brentwood in the same district. The VA is our immediate neighbor on both the South and West of Brentwood Glen and many issues with the VA impact the Brentwood Glen. Likewise, we support the VA and their activities but keeping the district unified allows us to maintain our mutually beneficial relationship. Our neighborhood group works hard to improve, maintain and protect the contiguous land and its use. As you review the redistricting, please keep this in mind and maintain the VA within the Brentwood district.

Best Regards,
Bryan

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Gerald Marcil <geraldfmarcil@charter.net>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 18:01:10 +0000
To: Gerald Marcil <geraldfmarcil@charter.net>

From: Gerald Marcil <geraldfmarcil@charter.net>
Subject: Gerrymandering the 36th District

Message Body:
What is going on?

The 36th District MUST include Torrance. Please put your politics aside and get this right.

Torrance is a Beach City as is Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, etc. You can’t just pull it out and say that it’s issues are the same as Inglewood and South Central L.A. and put Torrance in a new district. Torrance has as much in common with South Central L.A. as Beverly Hills has with South Central Los Angeles.

What was wrong with the old 36th District - - before it got gerrymandered by the 2 political parties so that the incumbents (Rohrabacher and Harman) were protected. We can all see how professional politicians have run this country. If we want to make a change - - how can that be done if there is gerrymandering?

Go back to the old district - - that will satisfy the most people and be the pairings of cities/communities that should be together.

BTW - - I consider the South Bay a community: (Torrance, Lomita, Harbor City, Palos Verdes, Gardena, Hawthorne, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo, San Pedro, Wilmington). That is a geographically consistent district (bordered by 105 FWY on North and 110 FWY on the east). THE SOUTHBAY.

Everything else you have proposed for the 36th is just political gerrymandering.... AGAIN!

Gerald Marcil

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: separating the VA from Brentwood Glen community

Message Body:
Please keep the VA in our district. We have worked with them to improve, maintain and protect their land and its use. Many of our programs and governance is done within our zipcode area to strengthen our input as a community. The VA is our immediate neighbor on two sides and many issues involving the VA impact us significantly.
Please do not split us up into different zip codes!

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Message Body:
I am a resident of Valley Village, and have been for the past 10 years. In that time, I've come to think of it as a neighborhood and a community. From the Colfax World Fair, which is held every year by my daughter's school, to the Valley Village 4th of July Parade, which winds its way through our community and finishes in our neighborhood park, we are bound together in a way that no other place I've lived in Los Angeles has been. I love the empassioned neighborhood discussions in our community center (Starbucks) and the fact that we pull together to support each other and make Our Community a better place to live. Please do not balkanize us with this redistricting effort. Valley Village is a community by its nature - we deserve to be represented as one.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: Vicki Neesby <vicki.neesby@citizensredistricting.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 18:26:12 +0000
To: 

From: Vicki Neesby <vicki.neesby@citizensredistricting.com>
Subject: 36th District

Message Body:
Please put Torrance back in the 36th Congressional District. This is our communities and where we have our personal and business lives. We are intertwined with our neighbors and communities here and not areas that are many, many miles away.

Thank you,
Vicki Neesby

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: "Sandra J. Rygel" <sandra.rygel@citizensredistricting.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 18:27:42 +0000
To: "Sandra J. Rygel" <sandra.rygel@citizensredistricting.com>
Subject: VA & redistricting

Message Body:
Dear Friends:
I am a resident of Brentwood and the VA is very important as it is right with us....everything it does affects us. We have consistently worked with them to help improve, maintain and protect the land.

Lots is done in our zip code 90049 and it is important to have input as a community.

We have shown that we can be helpful and that we want to have both the interests of the VA and residents in Brentwood be served.

Thanks for working to keep the VA in our district!
Best, Sandra Rygel

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Please keep Valley Village together

Message Body:
I am Jay Werner, a 20 year resident of Valley Village in Los Angeles California. The new map that I saw you have proposed cuts my community in half, and separates our 25,000 residents into two different congressional districts. If you move the boundary from Colfax Avenue over to the 170 Freeway, it keeps all of Valley Village together. The area involved is very small, 3 blocks by 12 blocks, but very important to us. Please move this boundary so Valley Village stays together.

Jay Werner

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Peter Santana <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 18:30:18 +0000
To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Congressional Redistricting

Message Body:
I am not as surprised by this as I am disappointed. Small government can make the same mistakes as the main branches. One of the many reasons Valley Village thrives is because it's small and organized. You add a second district you'll confuse more people than not and you'll have once organized folks in direct competition against each other.

Peter Santana

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Dean Kraemer <deankraemer@example.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 18:32:44 +0000

To: 

From: Dean Kraemer <deankraemer@example.com>
Subject: Valley Village

Message Body:
Your current plan to separate Valley Village and split off the portion east of Colfax simply is unacceptable. Please redraw the line at the 170, where it should be.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles
From: Tony Braswell <tbraowell@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 18:34:15 +0000
To: [redacted]

From: Tony Braswell <tbraowell@gmail.com>
Subject: New Congressional Map Divides Valley Village - PLEASE CHANGE THE BOUNDARY

Message Body:
Good day - I am Tony Braswell and I live in Valley Village California. My community is in Los Angeles, and we have repeatedly been praised and recognized for our voter participation and for being one of the state's greenest neighborhoods. There is a strong sense of "family" in our community.
The most recent map proposed by the Commission splits off a large part of Valley Village into a 2nd congressional district. As drawn now, the dividing line goes from Burbank Boulevard, south along Colfax Avenue, and then east on Riverside Drive. This moves approximately 1/4 of our Valley Village residents into a separate congressional district.
Can you please amend this part of the boundary to trek along the 170 freeway? This will keep Valley Village in one Congressional district. It is not a very large area of homes and not a big change to your maps. But this is a very important issue to us and to our stakeholders. Please change this line so that we can remain one community. This request is in line with your own guidance to strive to keep communities, neighborhoods and cities together.

Thank you for the work that you are doing.

Tony Braswell

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Message Body:
Your map has several overlays that obscure the district boundaries of the map. Please correct. If the first draft is no longer current, do you update so that a current view is possible? I heard a rumor that much of Torrance has been removed from District 36. Is this true? Thank you.

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Abbe Murray-Cote <name>

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 18:37:15 +0000

To: name

From: Abbe Murray-Cote <name>

Subject: Valley Village proposed redistricting

Message Body:
read the following blog to see why Valley Village should NOT be redistricted (cut) along Colfax Avenue. You cut out 20% of the very active community in the associations and schools and cut our Valley Village park right out of the district!

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
July 20, 2011

Dear Commissioners:

I’m writing because I’m keenly aware that there have been many map proposals over the past few weeks. My name is Barbara Goldman and I live in Santa Monica and I work in Malibu. My community of interest includes Santa Monica, Malibu, Brentwood, Pacific Palisades, Topanga and BOTH sides of the Santa Monica Mountains. This mountains and coastal district is defined by key transportation corridors of PCH, the 405 and the 101. Cross mountain roads provide access for both our residents, commuters and the many people who come to visit the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and Santa Monica Bay.

As you know, the City of Malibu is part of a Council of Governments with Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills and Westlake Village. These 5 cities and Topanga have a strong interest in staying together in order to address transportation, fire protection, and resource protection issues that impact the coastal communities and Santa Monica Bay. The unincorporated areas of Ventura County along the coast as well as Thousand Oaks would add strength to these goals. The 101 Corridor communities in the SF Valley include Woodland Hills, West Hills, Tarzana, Encino, Sherman Oaks and Studio City. I understand that additional parts of the Valley and Westside may need to be added to this district to achieve the required population.

All these cities and communities serve as gateways to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and our beaches. Many locally elected officials and residents, homeowner and neighborhood council leaders have testified at your hearings and sent in letters in support of this united community of interest. The Supervisor who represents this area in LA County, Zev Yaroslavsky, also has sent letters restating this strong connection between the Westside, coast, mountain cities and the SF Valley.

Several of the most recent maps on the Commission’s website dramatically changed our community of interest. Please do NOT include areas North of the 118 Freeway. Simi Valley, Moorpark, Santa Clarita, Stevenson Ranch, Val Verde and other communities are separate geographic areas and share little in common with this Santa Monica Mountains, 101 corridor and coastal district. We do not share the same roads, schools, religious institutions, County Supervisors, or cultural or civic organizations. Please recognize that these are two distinct areas by keeping them in separate districts so that an elected official can better represent their interests.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Barbara Goldman
Santa Monica, Ca 90403
Subject: Assembly Districts in Venice
From: Marc Saltzberg
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 08:15:53 -0700 (PDT)
To: Californias RFedistricting Commission

Marc Saltzberg

Marina Del Rey, California  90292

July 20, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission

Delivered by FAX to and emailed to:

Dear Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

I am a resident of the community of Venice in the City of Los Angeles and live in the area known as the Marina Del Rey Peninsula. I'm a member of the Venice Neighborhood Council and am active within my community, working on projects and advocacy aimed at improving the quality of life in Venice. I'd like to comment on the maps that have been released showing proposed boundaries for our Assembly District. Note that I sent you testimony earlier, on June 27th, 2011; I'll now be commenting on the recently released Visualization Maps that cover Venice.

First, thank you again for your service. The redistricting process has required a huge investment from you on behalf of our state. That it's a job that has to be done doesn't make it easier.

District AD LAIHG from Visualization 2011-07-14 08:42AM assembly LA opt 1 and opt 2 is the district I now find myself in. I note that this district now encompasses the Ballona wetlands in their entirety, a huge improvement over earlier drafts which split the wetlands between two districts. I also note that the visualized district now includes the communities of Playa Vista and Westchester.

But these new visualizations split the community of Venice between three Assembly Districts. Should this visualization become the final map, it would be disastrous for our community. A letter detailing all of the reasons for this would go on for pages – let me make just 4 points and leave the extrapolation to you:

1. Venice is a small, compact community, wholly contained within the City of Los Angeles City Council District 11 and represented by a single Neighborhood Council. We have a rich history and feel connected to each other, taking great pride in living in Venice. The boundaries of the City Council and Neighborhood Councils should be respected in the redistricting process - indeed, Proposition 10, the state-wide initiative that established the redistricting process says: "The geographic integrity of any city, county, city and county, neighborhood, or community of interest shall be respected to the extent possible...."

2. The problems faced by Venice as the number one public tourist destination in Southern California require a common, unified approach to traffic, parking, law enforcement, community preservation, air & water quality, environmental concerns, tourism and business development that relies on cooperation between City, State and Federal
representatives. The California Coastal Commission, with members in part appointed in the Assembly, is critical to maintaining coastal access and our environment. To have Venice represented by three different Assembly members will inevitably create roadblocks to cooperation and cracks that problems can fall into; our community must be represented by a single voice in the Assembly, a representative that is responsible for representing the unique needs of our community. A single representative will be more responsive to our input and can take ownership for addressing community concerns.

3. The problems of the homeless in Venice are intractable and often appear politically unsolvable, even in the current environment - splitting Venice into three Assembly Districts will make it much more difficult to develop common approaches to state involvement. The state sets requirements for including low income housing in new developments (considered somewhat controversial in Los Angeles), has been instrumental in requiring replacement housing in the Coastal Zone through the Mello Act and provides funding for medical services through MediCal and other programs. Our State Assembly Representative must be able to speak with authority to questions about how changes to these and other state programs and regulations will impact our community. New programs introduced to deal with homelessness require an Assembly person that can speak for Venice’s community of interest. Having three Assembly members will dilute our voice and make addressing these problems much more difficult.

4. Venice is a coastal plain and much of its land area lies within the state’s defined tsunami inundation zone. Additionally, much of the community rests on reclaimed marshland that is subject to liquefaction in the event of an earthquake. Preparation for disaster requires community-wide awareness and planning; a single State Assembly person can engage with the community and other governmental representatives to address disaster planning and can help get our community state resources in case disaster does strike; 3 representatives trying to do the same would result in chaos.

Again, thank you for your service; it is greatly appreciated.

Marc Saltzberg
Good morning,

Just a note to put in my two cents regarding the proposed redistricting as it relates to my community, Hermosa Beach. As you know, Los Angeles County is a very diverse place and it is difficult for all of the various people groups to be represented fairly. However, it would help if the district that includes Hermosa Beach, the South Bay, could exclude the Westside (Venice, Santa Monica, and north of the Airport).

Thanks for considering our family's interests,

Barbara Blazek
WINDSOR SQUARE is a 100 year old community and should not be divided. It is a neighborhood bounded on the east at WESTERN AND ON THE WEST AT LA BREA and as such should remain in tact. It is a vital part of the Greater Wilshire Area.

Regarding DRAFT MAPS:

Please return us to the LA District for the State Board of Equalization. We have no community interest in the EAST.

Congressional Districts: Pls keep us with WLADT.

Assembly Districts: We should not be divided. We belong with LAMWS or with LADNT.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Grace Fritzinger, A Greater Wilshire Neighbor

--------------------------------------------------------------
GROUP III MANAGEMENT CORPORATION
E-mail: (Grace Fritzinger) (Regina Sears)
Subject: REDISTRICTING THE 36TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
From: "Mae Landauer" <melandauer@rpv.org>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 03:50:12 -0700
To: <receiver_email>

Please help our community in the redistricting process. As a long-time resident of Palos Verdes Peninsula, I relate to those cities from Westchester south, including Torrance and Beach Cities.

It makes no sense to align us with a string of communities with which we have no relationship. I speak out because the 36th Congressional District deserves to have a sensible shape to it—in which I can identify myself with it because that is where I shop, go out to eat, travel and around in. The other cities being mentioned are as far away from my life as northern California or another state!!

Please do the right and logical drawing of the district on our behalf. Thank you. Mae C. Landauer, RPV
To : California Redistricting Commission
email : 

My name is M. Grace Di Pasquale and I am a 32 year resident of Hawthorne. I am writing to notify you of my support of Hawthorne Resolution No. 7391 and urge you to include of the City of Hawthorne into the same congressional district as the other South Bay Cities of El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach and Torrance. I live in Hawthorne but I have many vital relationships with the South Bay communities of interest including my shopping, employment, entertainment, sporting activities, physicians, hospitals, church, family and friends. These activities are very much tied in with the other "South Bay communities".

Please recognize these vital community relationships by including Hawthorne in the same Congressional District as "South Bay".

Thank you for your service to the people of California
Signed,
M. Grace Di Pasquale

M. Grace Di Pasquale
Principal
Coastal Academy
Lomita, CA 90717
Dear Committee:

I have lived in Torrance for over 30 years. I was an elected Trustee of Torrance Unified School District for 12 years and continue on the Board of Education for Southern California Regional Occupational Center in Torrance presently. The entire City of Torrance needs to be included in the Beach Cities Assembly District. I am asking you to include Westchester, El Segundo (where I have a business), Hawthorne, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, all of Torrance, P.V. Peninsula, Lomita, Harbor City and San Pedro in the Beach Cities Congressional District.

I ask you to please listen to us, the residents, and make your decision based on what the community desires.

Regards,

Heidi Ashcraft
Hello,

I am a voter who lives in the community known as Greater Wilshire in Los Angeles. Our community includes 15 residential associations with histories dating back nearly 100 years. Our two largest and best known neighborhoods are Hancock Park and Windsor Square. Our eastern boundary is Western Avenue. Our western boundary is La Brea Avenue. You have proposed to split us in half at Plymouth Boulevard in your draft redistricting maps.

You are obliged to keep our century-old neighborhood intact in your redistricting effort, pursuant to the following governing rule: "The geographic integrity of any city, county, city and county, neighborhood, or community of interest shall be respected to the extent possible without violating the requirements of any of the preceding subdivisions. Communities of interest shall not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates."

Required Corrections to Draft Maps:

a. State Board of Equalization. Please return us to the LA district for the State Board of Equalization. We lie at the midpoint of Los Angeles, but you have inexplicably removed us and placed us in a district called East, where we claim no community of interest.

b. Congressional Districts. In each of the 3 options, you have divided us in half at Plymouth Boulevard. We belong with WLADT. The westernmost boundary of ELABH should not begin until Western Avenue.

c. Assembly Districts. In both of the 2 options, you have divided us in half at Plymouth Boulevard. We belong with LAMWS or with LADNT, but the entirety of Greater Wilshire from La Brea Avenue to Western Avenue must be included in one or the other, not both.

Much thanks!

Louis J. Cuck
Subject: Request to Redraft the EVENT District
From: [Redacted]
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 14:03:30 EDT
To: [Redacted]

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to ask that the Commission redraft the EVENT District to include the Santa Monica Mountains community of interest, which is comprised of Malibu, Santa Monica, Pacific Palisades, Brentwood, Agoura, Calabasas, Encino and Sherman Oaks.

I served as Chair of the Brentwood Community Council (BCC) from 2006 - 2009, as Chair Emeritus from 2009 - 2011, and have been a BCC representative since 2001. The BCC was formed in 1998 and was modeled after the neighboring Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC). The PPCC was established in 1973 and is the oldest Community Council in Los Angeles. The PPCC and the BCC served as models for the Neighborhood Council system that was created through Charter Reform in 2000. The BCC works closely with the PPCC on land use, transportation and traffic, public safety and hillside issues based on our closely-aligned interests. Members of our Councils and their member organizations regularly seek governmental assistance, attend hearings, meetings and workshops together.

Further, the Santa Monica Mountains unify Brentwood, Pacific Palisades and Santa Monica with hillside neighbors Topanga Canyon, and Malibu on the south and west side of the Mountains, and Agoura, Calabasas, Encino and Sherman Oaks on the north and west side of the Mountains. I have witnessed this commonality of interest in my role as the current Vice President and a longtime member of the Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, which was founded in 1952 and currently represents 33 organizations spanning the Santa Monica Mountains within the City of Los Angeles.

The geographic configuration of this hillside and coastal community is bordered by the 405 freeway to the east, the 101 freeway to the north, the Pacific Ocean/the Pacific Coast Highway to the west, and the southern boundaries of Brentwood (at Wilshire) and the City of Santa Monica. This boundary encompasses the critical hillside areas and the east-west transportation corridors linked by cross-Mountain roads and the 405 freeway, all of which unify the community of common interests that is Malibu, Santa Monica, Pacific Palisades, Brentwood, Agoura, Calabasas, Encino and Sherman Oaks. For that reason, I strongly urge you to reformulate the EVENT District to encompass this community of interest.

Thank you for your consideration,
Dear Commissioners:

The Upper Mandeville Canyon Property Owners’ Association (“UMCA”) represents approximately 300 families residing in the upper portion of Mandeville Canyon in the Brentwood neighborhood of Los Angeles. We are writing in response to the latest versions of the redistricting maps for the EVENT and LAPVB Districts.

We were shocked to discover that the July 14, 2011, Working Draft Visualization, would make Mandeville Canyon Road the dividing line between the two proposed Districts. The UMCA vehemently opposes this proposal to divide our community down the middle. By doing so, the July 14 map would not only divide Upper Mandeville Canyon in two, it would divide the entire Mandeville Canyon area, encompassing more than 1,200 households, including those residing in the lower portion of Mandeville Canyon, represented by the Mandeville Canyon Association, and the Brentwood Hills area, which is also within Mandeville Canyon. The July 14 map would divide our unified Canyon community into two separate Senate Districts.

After much confusion, we discovered that three different maps are provided on the [website]. Apparently, the two July 17, 2011, versions of the map would situate all of Mandeville Canyon within the LAPVB District. We hope that the July 14 Mandeville Canyon Road dividing line was an oversight that will not be repeated in any future versions of the map. The UMCA would take special exception to any version of the map that, like the July 14, 2011 version, would divide Mandeville Canyon down the middle.

The LAPVB District presented in the July 17 maps, however, fails to honor the established community of interest and separates Brentwood from its closely-aligned Santa Monica Mountains neighbor, Pacific Palisades, and most of the other areas within the Santa Monica Mountains community of interest. On May 20, 2011, the UMCA submitted a letter asking that the Commission, in drawing the maps for the Senate Districts, maintain our Santa Monica Mountains “community of interest” so that the community comprised of Malibu-Topanga-Pacific Palisades-Santa Monica-Brentwood-Encino-Sherman Oaks remains intact. This community of interest is essential for protecting the unique issues confronting residents within the Santa Monica Mountains and watershed areas, with our shared interests in hillside issues, including hillside stability, fire safety, flood control, the protection of open space, and public access to recreational trails in the Santa Monica Mountains. All of these neighborhoods serve as points of entry to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. This community is also defined by the key transportation corridors of PCH, the 405, and the 101. This east-west mountain area community is the essential community of interest for all of us in the Malibu-Topanga-Pacific Palisades-Santa Monica-Brentwood-Encino-Sherman Oaks region.
We therefore ask that the boundary of the EVENT District be redrawn in conformity with the Santa Monica Mountains community of interest, encompassing Malibu-Topanga-Pacific Palisades-Santa Monica-Brentwood-Encino-Sherman Oaks.

Sincerely,

James Wright, President
Upper Mandeville Canyon Association

Jim Wright
Los Angeles, CA  90049
Are you out of your minds?

Venice is one unit. We have worked together since early 1900s.

Keep Venice in one district, no matter which one it is.

Thanks,
Later, Challis Macpherson
What is going on?

The 36th District MUST include Torrance. Please put your politics aside and get this right.

Torrance is a Beach City as is Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, etc. You can’t just pull it out and say that it’s issues are the same as Inglewood and South Central L.A. and put Torrance in a new district. Torrance has as much in common with South Central L.A. as Beverly Hills has with South Central Los Angeles.

What was wrong with the old 36th District? Go back to the old district - - that will satisfy the most people and be the pairings of cities/communities that should be together.

BTW - - I consider the South Bay a community: (Torrance, Lomita, Harbor City, Palos Verdes, Gardena, Hawthorne, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo, San Pedro, Wilmington). That is a geographically consistent district (bordered by 105 FWY on North and 110 FWY on the east). THE SOUTHBAY.

Everything else you have proposed for the 36th is just political gerrymandering!

- Rebecca Pulmano (Torrance Resident)
Good morning,

I have been a Valley Village homeowner for 19 years.

I'm alarmed at the idea that a significant chunk of our little community might be redrawn to be included in another district. Please keep VV's eastern boundary at the 170 freeway. The freeway is a large, logical boundary that makes complete sense for the eastern edge of our neighborhood. Leaving the edge of Valley Village there means that Westpark Park, a beloved part of our community, would stay part of our district. It also means that a much larger percentage of people who send their children to Colfax Avenue Elementary would retain their status as residents of the same district where their children go to school.

There is nothing logical about making Colfax Avenue the dividing line between VV to the west and something else to the east. The logical, people-sensitive dividing line--much larger, broader, impassable (by foot, bicycle, and most nearly by car except for a few onramps)--is the 170 freeway, and it should remain so.

Thank you,

Juli B. Kinrich
VV homeowner for 19 years, at , VV, 91607.
Subject: "Tony Duarte" <[
From: "Tony Duarte" <[
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 12:34:28 -0700
To: "California Citizens Redistricting Commission" <[

Antonio "Tony" Duarte, Teacher on Special Assignment, Parent Education/Program Improvement, El Monte City School District El Monte, CA 91731, (email)

Redistrict Map (2).doc
Dear Redistricting Commission Members:

Let me start off by thanking you for taking into account some of our comments regarding the Senate District that includes the cities of Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Norwalk and Pico Rivera among others. Your visualizations prepared on July 15 demonstrate that you listened to us and our concerns regarding representation for our communities.

I would like to make a couple of observations however. The City of Montebello seems to more properly belong in the district directly north of this district. I have always thought of Montebello as part of the San Gabriel Valley rather than the Gateway Cities or Southeast cities. Montebello is a part of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments. If you search the term San Gabriel Valley, Montebello will show up as a part of the definition or listing of cities. I would also question why La Habra, which is in Orange County, is included in this district. It seems like a representative of mostly Los Angeles County would be not the best choice for one city in Orange County.

My family, friends and I rarely go to Montebello or La Habra for entertainment, to shop, to dine or for recreational opportunities. I consider Lynwood, South Gate, Huntington Park and Paramount to be much more similar to my communities and the other communities depicted in the visualization on your website. The Chinese American Citizens Alliance Proposed 27th Senatorial Districts Alternative Plan/Map also makes these distinctions. I believe the proposed Alternative Plan/Map for the 27th District prepared by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance does a better job in grouping our cities based on the similarities of our communities and the geography. Their maps seem to better reflect our communities of interest.

Again, I appreciate your responsiveness to our concerns and comments and am pleased that the California Citizens Redistricting Commission has done what the voters who passed the Voters First Act asked for. You listened to Californians. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Antonio Duarte
According to the visualization for the congressional districts in L.A., Agoura Hills and Malibu would join Redondo Beach and Palos Verdes in the same district. This proposal is not a good option by any means. In addition to the great geographic separation, the communities in these areas are extremely different and shouldn’t be placed in the same congressional district – how well can they be represented if the district has been amplified to include extraordinarily distinct communities and groups? Please review this region – Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Hermosa Beach belong with neighboring Torrance, which is the largest economy in the South Bay, and probably the locus of work and economic activity for the residents of those above mentioned Beach Cities!

Thank you,

Jonathan Beutler
My name is Jack Fine. I reside at 11923 Saltair Terrace Los Angeles, CA 90049. I write to strongly suggest that there is a serious error in your draft report concerning the community in which I live. Our neighborhood is an intact community within the City of Los Angeles that has existed for over 100 years as such. We are a very proud, and tight-knit community, with strong cultural, multiethnic ties, strong neighborhood organizations and governance institutions. We have several Homeowners’ Associations for the various parts of our community, a Community Council for the overall area, and we have always had unified representatives, both in the Los Angeles City council, within the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and in our state and congressional representatives. These aspects, I believe, are intended to be preserved by the redistricting efforts you are embarked upon. Yet, as I understand it, the draft map which you have prepared for our community breaks off a large area and places it into a different district from ours, thus separating it from us. I refer to the area developed and known as the "VA property" on the eastern edge of our Brentwood community. The VA property and its residents are an integral part of the Brentwood community. They shop with us, walk with us, and we utilize its facilities as and for local purposes, such as ball fields, theatres, etc. The geographical boundary of Brentwood is the 405 freeway, not the VA property. The wide freeway separates and defines what is Brentwood. Even the climate breaks and changes at the freeway. As we head west along Wilshire Boulevard on our commutes back to our area from work or play in the larger city, there is always at least a 10% temperature reduction as soon as we go under the freeway. The ocean breezes which define and keep our climate cooler than the rest of Los Angeles, extend all the way to the freeway. There is absolutely no justification for placing the VA property into another district. We are the citizens who continually fight and have fought to maintain the integrity of the VA land for the uses for which it was intended. We are the community most affected by what happens there. It would be an egregious mistake to have that area represented by elected leaders from another district than ours. Please take another look, and avoid such a major error. Thank you.
Below are my comments regarding the July 17th & 18th redistricting maps.

Tom Houg
South Pasadena, CA

LA Congressional Districts
Map: 2011-07-18 05:00PM congress la

The southwestern portion of Pasadena should not be severed from the rest of Pasadena. I also recommend continuing northward all the way through the mountains the district boundary between Bradbury and Azusa. It makes more sense for foothill communities to have a say regarding trails adjacent to their communities than to allocate the entire mountain area to the Pasadena-based district. Once this is done, perhaps Duarte should be in the same district as Monrovia to numerically offset putting Glendora in the eastern district.

LA Assembly Districts
Maps: 2011-07-14 05:00PM assembly la option 1, and option 2

Arcadia and San Marino should be part of the Pasadena-based district. These communities have always had much in common. The eastern cities like San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont and Upland should be assigned to the West Covina district, and the Monterey Park district should grow east (Duarte? El Monte? South El Monte?) as necessary to compensate.

LA State Senate Districts
Map: 2011-07-17 10:30AM senate la

Arcadia should be part of the Pasadena-based district. The district boundary between Bradbury and Azusa should continue northward all the way through the mountains, as described for congressional districts.
To whom it may concern,

My name is Claudia Botero, resident of the city of Hawthorne for the past 5 years and tonight I found out that the city because of redistricting may now not be part of South Bay cities.

This is a big concern to me and to my neighbors because the south bay is a community dedicated to business and the well being of all its residents. I moved to the area because of this and now my worry is that my electoral district may be part of Compton and Watts.

Also, the housing crisis has already affected the value of my house as it has many Californians... But because you are now planning on put Hawthorne with cities such as Compton and Watts, I am EXTREMELY worried the value will go down even further!

I ask you that you please leave Hawthorne as part of the south bay cities.

Thank you,

Claudia Botero
Report Unvision 34
Hawthorne, CA 90250

Claudia Botero | Anchor/Reporter | Univision Local Media | Angeles, CA 90045
Direct: | | |

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To whom it may concern-

Two important points:

The 36th Congressional District should include Torrance.

Only Westchester South belongs in the 36th District.

Common sense borders are important and should not favor either party.

Please be fair.

Sincerely,

Lani Luedde
Rancho Palos Verdes
Subject: Comments from the Arcadia City Council re: redistricting
From: "Linda Garcia" <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 2011 08:23:25 -0700
To: <[redacted]>

Please see the attached document. Thank you.

[hppscan1.pdf]
July 20, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commission Members:

On behalf of the City of Arcadia, we are writing to express our opposition to any redistricting that would separate Arcadia from its neighboring foothill communities in the San Gabriel Valley.

One of the criteria that must be taken into consideration when drawing the new boundaries is that districts must represent, respect and minimize the division of “communities of interest.” Separating Arcadia from other foothill communities and placing it with cities further south, west and east with which Arcadia has significantly less in common shows clear disregard for this requirement of the Voters First Act. For example:

- Arcadia shares critical transportation interests with other foothill communities through the construction of the Gold Line Foothill Extension, the operation of the 210 Freeway, and heavily-traveled east-west thoroughfares.
- Arcadia has shared arrangements and agreements with other foothill communities for important public services such as law enforcement, fire protection, water and health care.
- Our connection and similarities with foothill communities extends to educational and employment opportunities, media and communication resources, environmental matters, economic development issues, recreation and cultural activities, and demographics.

It is critical that the unity and strength of the San Gabriel Valley foothill communities – Arcadia included - be preserved. We are a group of involved, connected and collaborative “communities of interest” and to separate our city from those with which we have the most in common is divisive and, frankly, wrong.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary A. Kovacic
Mayor

Robert C. Harbicht
Mayor Pro tempore

Peter M. Amundson
Council Member

Roger Chandler
Council Member

Mickey Segal
Council Member

Arcadia, CA 91006-6021
www.ci.arcadia.ca.us