

**Subject:** Final decisions!

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** 7/16/2011 12:33 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**CC:** [REDACTED]

Hello Commission:

Allow me to introduce myself my name is Ivonica A. Santos, I reside at 420 shadowgraph drive San Jose CA, 95110 I'm hoping this letter reaches the right people who make the final decisions!

I wanted to join Council Member Ash Kalra and other San Jose representatives, who endorsed the "Tri-Cities" congressional plan, which unites the most Communities of Interest in San Jose. San Jose has always gotten split into a plethora of districts at every level in order to make the surrounding areas more "Blue". So we've been sacrificed for political reasons. For the first time we have a chance at unified federal representation and we want to take that chance. Please reconsider and look at the "Tri-Cities" congressional plan.

Regards,

Ivonica A. Santos

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Reconsider San Jose's districts

**From:** Richard Abarca <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** 7/16/2011 5:17 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**CC:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Hello;

My name is Richard Abarca, I'm a long time resident at 1790 Mt Vernon drive San Jose CA, 95125 and registered voter for the past 26 years.

I wanted to reach out to the commission and ask you to reconsider San Jose's districts. I've followed the commission meetings and my unbiased observation of your process is that it leaves the Bay Area to take the weight and sacrifices of the entirety of Northern California, which surprisingly goes all the way to Ventura County. This process leave the Bay Area to barley be able to get connections that it wants. This is seen from what this commission has done to my home in San Jose at the Assembly, Senate, and Congressional level. Literally, the only district that unites the COI's of San Jose is the Board of Equalization District, but we knew that would happen regardless, right? I saw one visualization a few days ago that was a makeshift thing that your consultants made to give you an idea of what you were saying.

Here is a quick description

1: Richmond in with Contra Costa County, San Ramon with the Alameda County Valley running down to Gilroy or optionally San Jose only.

This visualization, although the commission shot it down, was not such a bad idea. It kept San Jose relevant population wise, it drew together all of our minority communities, and it had responded to the ton of us that showed up on June 25th. This proposal wasn't so bad because of the fact that it was the only other district visualization that actually served San Jose well.

Please revisit the visualization as it does a lot of good for San Jose.

Best Regards,

Richard Abarca

[REDACTED]

San Jose CA, 95125

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** redistricting of San Jose

**From:** Juan Estrada <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** 7/16/2011 11:42 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

My name is Juan Estrada. I am a long time resident of California, and an active member of my community.

I want to express my dissatisfaction with the San Jose Assembly and Senate district maps that were released by the Commission on June 7th and your recent "visualizations" that discriminate against our Latino community. These maps represent a dilution of the critical political leadership of East San Jose. Our community has historically been disenfranchised, and only recently have we experienced success in electing representatives that truly represent our community.

Your actions to divide our community into three Assembly and Senate districts will completely dilute our voice at the state level and divide our community of interest.

I would like to recommend to the Commission that they maintain the 23rd Assembly District as is or with only minor adjustments. The district is reasonably compact. I would also urge that the 28th Assembly District be maintained as it is also reasonably compact. The last decade we have elected Assembly Members in these districts that have served our community very well and given us important leadership at the state level.

I would then recommend that the 23rd and 28th Assembly Districts should be nested together to form a Senate District that combines communities of interest in Santa Clara, Monterey, and San Benito Counties. I recommend this because there are common similarities in these districts that form an effective community of interest. The income and poverty levels are similar, the educational needs are similar, there are cultural similarities, and the employment needs are similar. There is also a transportation corridor that runs through the center of these two districts.

In closing, I would like to remind you that 90 percent of state population growth since 2000 was from Latinos, yet the number of districts where a Latino has a good chance of being elected remains the same or may even go down. I urge the Commission to please fix this before the final maps are approved on August 15. You must also correct the East San Jose split in the final preparation of maps. As the San Jose Mercury News points out "East San Jose is heavily Latino and its fragmentation clearly splits a "community of interest" as defined by law". Finally, we will not stand idly by and allow this commission to disenfranchise and intentionally discriminate against California Latinos.

Sincerely,

[Juan Estrada](#)

President, [Lyndale Neighborhood Association](#)

[REDACTED]