

**Subject:** Current Drafts

**From:** Robert Van Cleef <[REDACTED]>

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

**To:** [REDACTED]

I simply cannot believe that the City of San Jose is cut up like a jigsaw puzzle. This is one of the largest cities in the state, yet you break it in pieces, isolation the majority of it citizens from the down town segment. How does that make sense?

**Subject:** Keep Downtown San Jose Whole!!!

**From:** Terry Christensen <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** 7/17/2011 3:00 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

Redistricting Commissioners:

Thanks for listening to some of the comments from San Jose residents and voters about our districts. The new maps are an improvement over the old maps.

Unfortunately, they still fail to keep downtown San Jose whole -- after the neighborhoods here have worked for decades (four to my knowledge and with my participation) to work together constructively. Now this area is fractured at least to some extent in all three legislative redistricting plans.

Please work to keep the area bounded by Highways 87, 101 and 280 together -- and to keep in a San Jose district, NOT a Fremont/Oakland district (as with the current versions of the senate districts).

Thanks you for your consideration.

--

Terry Christensen

Professor of Political Science

San Jose State University

One Washington Square

San Jose, California 95192-0119

**Subject:** Redistricting of East San Jose

**From:** Martha Campos <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** 7/17/2011 4:15 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**My name is Martha Campos a resident of San Jose, a lifelong 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. We have worked long and hard to make San Jose and Santa Clara County a community that provides an equitable "level playing field" for working class people of all backgrounds and to have our voices heard locally, regionally and at the statewide level.**

**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. 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. Our local community advocates have worked long and hard to have our political voices heard and your current recommendations are taking us backward, not forward from our current status.**

**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. Progressive worker families are the key attributes of these combined areas**

**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 have worked too long to achieve our current level of equitable political and social representation and will not stand idly by and allow this commission to disenfranchise and intentionally discriminate against California Latinos.**

**Sincerely,**

**Martha Campos,  
Immigrants Rights Advocate**

**[REDACTED]**  
**San Jose, Ca 95116**  
**[REDACTED]**