

Subject: Public Comment: 7 - Santa Cruz

From: William Justin <[REDACTED]>

Date: 7/24/2011 10:39 AM

To: [REDACTED]

From: William Justin <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Follow-up to previous comments

Message Body:

My previous comments objecting to the split of the Santa Cruz community and the dilution of its unique political character referred to the Congressional district.

The more I look at this, the more I object to it.

At the very least, you need to push the division of Santa Cruz to the east, to, say, on the eastern border of Aptos. And if you can't do that, you certainly need to keep the city of Santa Cruz whole and do more to incorporate associated areas like Live Oak, Capitola, and Soquel.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 7 - Santa Cruz

From: Duane Overby <[REDACTED]>

Date: 7/24/2011 10:29 AM

To: [REDACTED]

From: Duane Overby <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Congressional districting

Message Body:

I was deeply disappointed to see the draft maps for new Congressional districts. The decision to split the City of Santa Cruz into two Congressional districts is misguided and inappropriate and once again threatens to dilute our city and county's voice and representation.

Santa Cruz would be one of the smallest cities in the state to be divided into two districts. It can

not be argued that the interests of west Santa Cruz are more in line with those of the San Francisco peninsula than the east side of Santa Cruz. There is simply no common-sense rationale for splitting the City of Santa Cruz into two congressional districts and I urge you to

reconsider this adverse and short-sighted action.

Note: This is an excerpt of a previous comment that has been echoed throughout my community.

Thank you both for your hard work and consideration,
Duane Overby

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 7 - Santa Cruz

From: Wiliam Justin <[REDACTED]>

Date: 7/24/2011 10:20 AM

To: [REDACTED]

From: Wiliam Justin <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Why are you splitting my town in two?

Message Body:

Your latest redistricting maps splits the community of Santa Cruz into two, and in a very haphazard manner, at that. Avoiding this kind of arbitrary split of a community is exactly the reason I voted for the commission. I am, therefore, extremely disappointed with the results. I strongly object to the way the the Santa Cruz community and its political character has been divided and diluted. Even if, in the end, you had to create a split somewhere in Santa Cruz, it could be done better than what you've proposed in the latest maps. Please fix this.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 7 - Santa Cruz

From: William Justin [REDACTED]

Date: 7/24/2011 3:32 PM

To: [REDACTED]

From: William Justin <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Second follow up to earlier comments

Message Body:

I was informed by my friend about the Voting Rights Section 5 requirements that caused the Commission to change their original plans and split the Santa Cruz community in two. First of all, I believe that the Commission's original plans did not have the purpose of discriminating based on race or color. (I'd think the Commission's transparency would assure against that.) Nor do I think it would have had the effect of discrimination. Shifting, perhaps. But not discrimination. But I can see where the Commission wanted to avoid that can of worms. Still, the net effect of the new Congressional boundary is to rather crudely and arbitrarily rip the City of Santa Cruz in two (as well as break up the larger community of Santa Cruz.) I really don't think the current plans are at all reasonable or fair to the people and community of Santa Cruz. I don't know at this point what I'd recommend: the issue was only brought to my attention recently. (Did the Commission consider an appeal !

to the Attorney General or US District Court for the District of Columbia who are in charge of enforcing Section 5?). At the very least, the City of Santa Cruz should be kept whole. But in the end, it looks like the city and community of Santa Cruz is being done an injustice (one might even say "discriminated against") by a rule that was designed to prevent injustice. Ironic, but still wrong.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission