July 14, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

On May 20, 2011, Danville along with the Cities of San Ramon, Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore, transmitted a letter to your Commission requesting that our five Tri-Valley cities be considered as a “community of interest” for purposes of drawing new legislative districts for Congress, the State Senate, and the State Assembly.

The “Tri-Valley region” encompasses the San Ramon Valley in southern Contra Costa County, and the Amador and Livermore Valleys, at the eastern end of Alameda County. Danville and San Ramon are located in Contra Costa County, while Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore are in Alameda County.

Danville’s residents consider themselves to be a part of the San Ramon Valley and the Tri-Valley, due to the commonality of transportation networks, demographics, employment centers, business partnerships; and the level of local government’s collaboration that takes place on a multitude of regional projects.

The Commissions initial maps based the preliminary congressional districts upon the Alameda/Contra Costa County line, and placed the San Ramon Valley, including Danville and San Ramon in the Contra Costa district, and the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore in the Alameda district.

Danville has now become aware that on July 13, 2011, the Commission subsequently decided to split the San Ramon Valley by dividing Danville and San Ramon into two different congressional districts, moving San Ramon into the Alameda County district with the other three Tri-Valley cities while placing Danville and the remainder of the San Ramon Valley in the Contra Costa district.
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Danville would like to once again state its preference for inclusion in a single congressional district with our four other Tri-Valley neighbors. However, at a minimum, Danville strongly urges the Commission to retain the San Ramon Valley in its entirety, in a single congressional district. The San Ramon Valley is served by a single independent School District and Fire District that encompasses Danville, San Ramon and the unincorporated areas that surround these communities. Splitting the San Ramon Valley into two congressional districts would be illogical and adversely impact the 150,000 residents who reside here.

We would strongly request and urge the Commission to consider how to keep the San Ramon Valley and the Tri-Valley together within a single congressional district.

Sincerely,

TOWN OF DANVILLE

/Karen G. Stepper
Mayor