



Singh, Ravi <[REDACTED]>

Fwd: Public Comment: 8 - Marin

Voter <[REDACTED]>

Wed, Jul 13, 2011 at 10:09 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Region 8 - Marin
July 12

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Public Comment: 8 - Marin**Date:** Tue, 12 Jul 2011 15:22:20 +0000**From:** Steve Kinsey <[REDACTED]>**To:** [REDACTED]From: Steve Kinsey <[REDACTED]>
Subject: communities of interest

Message Body:

I have been reviewing various visualizations of the new Congressional boundaries and wish to reiterate what I hear from virtually all Marin County residents that I speak with regarding the boundaries of our federal and state elected districts.

Marin County has more in common with Sonoma County than it ever will have with San Francisco. For two decades, Marin commutes to the city have been declining as jobs within the county and up Highway 101 have increased. Marin is a suburban and rural county while San Francisco is fully urban.

Marin County has more in common with Sonoma County than with Napa County. While there are similarly rural lands in Napa, their agriculture is virtually all vineyards, while Marin and Sonoma share a strong dairy and livestock industry. In addition, in the two counties, the urbanized areas are far more demographically similar than in Napa's single urbanized community; the city of Napa.

Marin and Sonoma share water supply from the Russian River, with many important State and Federal issues associated with that. They also share Pacific Ocean coastal shoreline, with numerous common environmental and tourism issues.

Transportation is inextricably linked between Marin and Sonoma, while there is only a two lane road connection between Marin and Napa. Highway 101 is a backbone commute and freight corridor connecting Marin and Sonoma County. A new commuter rail system (SMART) has been funded through a 1/4 cent sales tax in the two counties and it is currently under development.

While a more consolidated district than the one presented in the Re-districting Commission's first draft would be desirable from a representation and common interests perspective, maintaining the northern coastal extension is far more similar for this district than extending it inland to include Napa County. That is because there are far more issues related to natural resources management and coastal community development inland Napa county.

Thank you for consideration of these observations.

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