Fwd: Public Comment: 8 - Solano

Mon, Jul 25, 2011 at 8:46 AM

To: 8 Solano
July 23

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

Subj ect: Public Comment: 8 - Solano
Date: Sat, 23 Jul 2011 16:59:13 +0000
From: Christina Arrostuto
To:

From: Christina Arrostuto
Subject: Thank you!
Message Body:
I am much more satisfied with the second round of maps. Solano gets two Congresspeople which is VITAL to our interests in Washington, since our county is so diverse that one voice would not be effective. The way the county is distributed for Congress makes sense from the perspectives of our types of diversity (Vallejo and Benicia with the North Bay Area and the rest of the county with rural/agricultural areas).

I also much appreciate the state Assembly split for Solano - again, having two Assembly Members makes sense, and the way the county is split makes sense for the interests each Assembly Member will represent. (Vallejo and Benicia were included in the East Bay, and the rest of the county with more rural/agricultural areas).

It would be nice to have two state senators!! But you can’t have everything, and you did a LOT, especially compared to the first set of maps.

Thank you for your thoughtful and diligent efforts, and your attention to our public comments!!

Best regards,
Christina Arrostuto

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Individual Comment re: CRC Visualization Q2 Mapping (June 23rd) and Follow-up Concern re: Addendum (May 21st) and Community of Interest Testimony (5/23th) for 1st Draft CRC Maps.

From: Roberto Valdez <roberto.valdez@gmail.com>

Date: 7/23/2011 6:31 PM

To: California Redistricting Commission <californiaredistrictingcommission@californialegis.gov>

June 23, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1139 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear California Redistricting Commissioners:

During May 21st and June 28th I submitted my CIT comments and addendum with mapquest version of my community in Vacaville, CA within Solano County respectively re: 1st Draft CRC Maps, but I do not understand why both of my submitted emails were not documented in your Public Comments for both May & June within my Regional 8, so please have your CRC staff correct and include my individual comments. Did I missed something in your commentary directions? By the way, I spoke to one of your staff who intends to follow-up on my concern with regards to public commentary process.

Also, I am a grateful that both the Assembly and Senate visualization maps have proposed to keep the City of Vacaville whole (not splitting) which will have a less significant impact on the growing Latino/Hispanic population in my living community that I hope that you will follow in your final versions on July 29th.

In addition, I am still concerned that you do not split the Latino/Hispanic populations within both the large urban as well as small rural communities in California such as the City of San Jose for the following sociological reasons re: the growing majority of Latino/Hispanic population in California as well as USA within the next 5-10 years. For example, due to the downward Californian economy, Californian Latinos/Hispanics will continue to deal with a lot of socioeconomic challenges in higher education, employment opportunities, and health services; they do not need to feel more alienated in our American society, due to bilingual/bicultural backgrounds. So that, they need to be included in the American political process in a fair and impartial matter within all regions of the Great State of California.

Furthermore, although I recognize that you all were given awesome responsibilities to balance both the Californian population growth and shifts from the past ten years until the 2020 U.S. Census, I agree strongly with both NALEO and MALDEF, two outstanding Latino Voters advocacy organizations, that you minimize the tendency to split whole communities with large Latino/Hispanic populations in our different regional maps, so that the Latino/Hispanic individuals are able to identify within their community locations in socially-acceptable ways and have a fair & impartial chance to elect their political representatives during the next decade.

Thank you very much.

Yours Truly,

Roberto Valdez, Vacaville and Solano Resident.

"Those who do not learn from the past are condemned to repeat it (George Santayana)".
Subject: Addendum to Community of Interest Testimony( 5/23th) for 1st Draft CRC Maps.
Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 18:55:30 -0700

Dear Commissioners:

I am submitting an addendum to my original Community of Interest Testimony( 5/23th) for the first Draft of the CRC Maps. I am very concerned that the Latino voters in Solano County be kept together within each of the their designated communities in fair and impartial manner during the next 10 years as an outcome of your redistricting efforts with regards to the CRC mapping process. For example, given the fact that Solano County has the following registered voters of Latino/Hispanic background:

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<th>Solano</th>
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<tr>
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I would like to recommend that you and your staff make every effort to maintain the significant diversity of each Latino/Hispanic communities within each of our distinct suburban cities in Solano County. More specifically, I am currently very concerned that our Board of Supervisors are proposing to balance the equal representation of 82,669 per district by combining the small City of Dixon with the larger City of Vacaville without any regard to the impact of the Latino population( 44.7% or & 7,000 Latino Population) in Dixon which will result in their voting disenfranchisement for the next 4 years. Thus, I request that you listen to the call for both fair & impartial representation for all Solano County residents as well as Californians.

Also, I respectfully want to urge you and your planning staff that you to make sure that our Latino/Hispanic population is treated in both fair & impartial manner by recognizing their growing contribution to our participatory democracy by including rather than excluding them in both the planning process and the final outcome. For example, it has been brought to my attention from both NALEO and MALDEF, both well-known Latino Advocacy Organizations, that during the last ten years the Latino/Hispanic voters were not given equal opportunity to participate in our worthy American democracy which will repeat itself unless you change it. Thus, I suggest that you be well advised that you include and respect exponentially the social needs of the Latino population in California.

In addition, although I recognize that you are dealing with a monumental task re: CRC process, I wish to suggest that you find innovative ways to reach-out to the Latino/Hispanic barrios by working together with worthy community organizations such as NALEO in Los Angeles, CA, MALDEF in the U.S.A., and listen to what the bilingual voters are saying to you in your worthy efforts to provide the best fair & impartial representation for all Californians.

Thank you very Much.

Your Sincerely,

Roberto Valdez, Californian Resident.
May 21, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814


Dear Commissioners:

I am a long-time resident who is concerned with keeping both the impartial and fair political representation of Vacaville, CA. having lived in Solano County for the past 23 years. I am requesting that Vacaville be kept together in a unified way in the redistricting maps, but I also want to present a realistic picture on our suburban community. For example, Vacaville is located along the busy Highway I-80 and I-505 in a northwestern direction, but it is separated by Leisure Town Road as well as several agricultural farmlands from Dixon, CA in the west side and Alpendale Road from Winters, CA in the north side. While, the picturesque Lagoon Valley Road is situated in the south side and Pleasant Valley Road lies along the west side, crisscrossed diagonally by the Vaca Mountains. In short, it is geographically characterized by sloping hills with strong winds, but it offers the following socioeconomic unifying features:

- has several annual community celebrations such as the Fiesta Days Parade and Events, Holy Procession of Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe, and Andrew Parks 4th of July Fireworks.
- has 2 large high schools, i.e., Vacaville and Will C. Wood, with several smaller public and parochial schools.
- has a very active McBride Senior Center community and a seasonal farmers' market/small businesses/city hall/Vacaville Art League Gallery in the downtown area.
- has 2 Vacaville Public Libraries at both the downtown square and Ulatis Community Center.
- has numerous community-minded churches and non-denominational events such as Merriment on Main (Street) during December.

Thus, in my opinion, Vacaville represents a growing and prosperous city which is managing to maintain its socio-economic growth with redevelopment projects in both Solano County and California.

Also, recognizing the direct correlation between the 2010 U.S. Census Survey and the 2011 CRC Maps, I am very concerned on both the impartial and fair political representation of the Hispanic/Latino/Mexican-American populations in Vacaville on account that, in my observations, Spanish-speaking/bilingual population is following currently at 18.3% (16,899 total) growth in the same patterns as both Solano County (22%) and California (36%) levels. From my work experiences and community involvement, I have observed that Vacaville Spanish-speaking community is more similar to both Dixon (44.7%) and Winters (49.4%), but it is different from Fairfield (24.7%) and Vallejo (20.8) in its multicultural activities and very distinct to Benicia and Rio Vista; however, I realize that both Benicia (11.8%) and Rio Vista (15.9%) have smaller rural Hispanic/Latino residents in Solano County.

In addition, I am very concerned that the CRC Maps provide realistic representation for the Spanish-speaking/bilingual community in Vacaville on account that it is very important that the whole community identify with our elected representatives in a fair and impartial manner. For instance, although Vacaville is generally a peaceful community with a strong police force, during past 2 years Vacaville has started to deal with a serious gang problem which may be related to lack of jobs to our youthful population. Thus, I hope that CRC maps will alleviate the resurgent alienation among our Hispanic/Latino/Mexican-American youth. Plus, encourage citizen participation.

Furthermore, I appreciate your efforts to consider my information with regards to Hispanic/Latinos/Mexican-Americans in Vacaville CA. as part of the mapping process.

Thank you very much.
Yours Sincerely,

Roberto Valdez Jr., California Resident.
Subject: FW: Addendum(June 28th) & Community of Interest Testimony(5/21th) for 1st Draft CRC Maps.

From: Roberto Valdez <robertovaldez@vmail.com>
Date: 7/23/2011 6:02 PM
To: California Redistricting Commission <california-redistricting-commission@state.ca.us>

Dear California Redistricting Commissioners:

During May 21st and June 28th I submitted my CIT comments and addendum with mapquest version of my community in Vacaville, CA within Solano County respectively re: 1st Draft CRC Maps, but I do not understand why both of my submitted emails were not documented in your Public Comments for both May & June within my Regional 8, so please have your CRC staff correct and include my individual comments. Did I missed something in your commentary directions? By the way, I spoke to one of your staff who intends to follow-up on my concern with regards to public commentary process.

Also, I am grateful that both the Assembly and Senate visualization maps have proposed to keep the City of Vacaville whole(not splitting) which will have a less significant impact on the growing Latino/Hispanic population in my living community that I hope that you will follow in your final versions on July 29th.

In addition, I am still concerned that you do not split the Latino/hispanic populations within both the large urban and small rural communities such as the City of San Jose for the following sociological reasons re: the growing majority of Latino/Hispanic population in California as well as USA within the next 5-10 years. For example, Californian Latinos/Hispanics continue to deal with a lot of socioeconomic challenges in higher education, employment opportunities, and health services; they do not need to feel more alienated in our American society, due to bilingual/bicultural backgrounds. So that, they need to be included in the American political process in a fair and impartial matter within all regions of the Great State of California.

Furthermore, although I recognize that you all were given awesome responsibilities to balance both the Californian population growth and shifts from the past ten years until the 2020 U.S. Census, I recommend strongly with both NALEO and MALDEF, two outstanding Latino Voters advocacy organizations, that you minimize the tendency to split whole communities with large Latino/Hispanic populations in our different regional maps, so that the Latino/Hispanic individuals are able to identify within their community locations in socially-acceptable ways and have a fair & impartial chance to elect their political representatives during the next decade.

Thank you very much.

Yours Truly,

Roberto Valdez, Vacaville and Solano Resident.

"Those who do not learn from the past are condemned to repeat it( George Santayana)".
designated communities in fair and impartial manner during the next 10 years as an outcome of your redistricting efforts with regards to the CRC mapping process. For example, given the fact that Solano County has the following registered voters of Latino/Hispanic background:

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Also, I respectfully want to urge you and your planning staff that you to make sure that our Latino/Hispanic population is treated in both fair & impartial manner by recognizing their growing contribution to our participatory democracy by including rather than excluding them in both the planning process and the final outcome. For example, it has been brought to my attention from both NALEO and MALDEF, both well-known Latino Advocacy Organizations, that during the last ten years the Latino/Hispanic voters were not give equal opportunity to participate in our worthy American democracy which will repeat itself unless you change it. Thus, I suggest that you be well advised that you include and respect exponentially the social needs of the Latino population in California.

In addition, although I recognize that you are dealing with a monumental task re: CRC process, I wish to suggest that you find innovative ways to reach-out to the Latino/Hispanic barrios by working together with worthy community organizations such as NALEO in Los Angeles, CA, MALDEF in the U.S.A., and listen to what the bilingual voters are saying to you in your worthy efforts to provide the best fair & impartial representation for all Californians.

Thank you very Much.

Your Sincerely,

Roberto Valdez, Californian Resident.

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Subject: Community of Interest Testimony for 1st Draft CRC Maps deadline (May 23, 2010) re: Hispanic/Latino/Mexican-Americans in Vacaville, CA.
Date: Sat, 21 May 2011 18:39:04 -0700

May 21, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

I am a long-time resident who is concerned with keeping both the impartial and fair political representation of Vacaville, CA. having lived in Solano County for the past 23 years. I am requesting that Vacaville be kept together in a unified way in the redistricting maps, but I also want to present a realistic picture on our suburban community. For example, Vacaville is located along the busy Highway I-80 and I-505 in a northwestern direction, but it is separated by Leisure Town Road as well as several agricultural farmlands from Dixon, CA in the west side and Allendale Road from Winters, CA in the north side. While, the picturesque Lagoon Valley Road is situated in the south side and Pleasant Valley Road lies along the west side, crisscrossed diagonally by the Vaca Mountains. In short, it is geographically characterized by sloping hills with strong winds, but it offers the following socioeconomic unifying features:

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In addition, I am very concerned that the CRC Maps provide realistic representation for the Spanish-speaking/bilingual community in Vacaville on account that it is very important that the whole community identify with our elected representatives in a fair and impartial manner. For instance, although Vacaville is generally a peaceful community with a strong police force, during past 2 years Vacaville has started to deal with a serious gang problem which may be related to lack of jobs to our youthful population. Thus, I hope that CRC maps will alleviate the resurgent alienation among our Hispanic/Latino/Mexican-American youth. Plus, encourage citizen participation.

Furthermore, I appreciate your efforts to consider my information with regards to Hispanic/Latinos/Mexican-Americans in Vacaville CA. as part of the mapping process.

Thank you very much.

Yours Sincerely,

Roberto Valdez Jr., California Resident.