

Subject: Belle Haven redistricting

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, 11 Aug 2011 20:55:14 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Attached is a letter about redistricting.

Matt Henry [REDACTED]
Belle Haven Neighborhood Association

The Redistricting Insult.doc

The Redistricting Insult

Subject: One Congressional District for Menlo Park

From: "Jerome-Robinson, Starla L" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 11 Aug 2011 18:03:05 -0700

To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

CC: "Rojas, Glen" <[REDACTED]> "Cline, Richard A" <[REDACTED]> "Cohen,

Andrew M" <[REDACTED]> "Fergusson, Kelly J" <[REDACTED]>

"Keith, Kirsten" <[REDACTED]> "Ohtaki, Peter I" <[REDACTED]>

Mayor Cline is submitting the attached letter on behalf of the City of Menlo Park.

Commission Letter re Redistricting.pdf

RICHARD CLINE
MAYOR

KIRSTEN KEITH
MAYOR PRO TEM

ANDREW COHEN
COUNCIL MEMBER

KELLY FERGUSSON
COUNCIL MEMBER

PETER OHTAKI
COUNCIL MEMBER



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August 11, 2011

Citizen's Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Building
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

City Clerk
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FAX ██████████

City Council
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

City Manager's Office
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Community Services
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Engineering
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Environmental
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Finance
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Housing &
Redevelopment
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Library
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Maintenance
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Personnel
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Planning
TEL 650 ██████████
FAX ██████████

Police
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

Transportation
TEL ██████████
FAX ██████████

RE: One Congressional District for Menlo Park

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Menlo Park City Council, let me express our appreciation for your hard work, we know the task before you is challenging. While the Commission has done a good job to date, there are important flaws that must be addressed before the final map is unveiled.

It is important that ALL of Menlo Park remain in one Congressional District. We are one City and all of our residents deserve, and desire, to have one voice. The Commission is effectively stating that the Belle Haven neighborhood is not important and really not a part of Menlo Park. This is a very disturbing message to send, and one that will remain for a decade, at least. There will be negative unintended consequences.

Please find a way to meet your requirements while balancing the need to keep individual cities in one Congressional District. We encourage you to look at the population of other cities on the border of the Congressional District lines and reassign an appropriate city. Thank you for your important consideration. We understand the difficult job that you have undertaken and appreciate your willingness to rectify this situation.

Additionally, Menlo Park is the home to many important hi-tech businesses, including Facebook. Many in our community work in the cities to the south of us while some who live in those cities come to our community for work. We have a great deal in common with Stanford and its' world-renowned University. Since we share many of the same interests with communities to the south of us – Palo Alto, Mountain View and Sunnyvale, for example – we believe our entire city should be grouped with those communities to form one cohesive Congressional District.

Menlo Park also has a great deal of interaction with the communities to our south on federal issues from transportation to the environment. Within Menlo Park are two significant federal Menlo Park also has a great deal of interaction with the communities to our south on federal issues from transportation to the environment. Within Menlo Park are two significant federal

Agencies conducting important scientific research including the US Geological Service and the Stanford Linear Accelerator Complex. For cohesive oversight of such work, it is important to maintain all of Menlo Park within one Congressional District. Additionally, the proposed district redistricting splits the Veterans Administration facility in Menlo Park from the VA Headquarters in Palo Alto. This would be splitting a vital community of interest between two Congressional Districts.

Overall, the Commission has balanced many different criteria and made excellent decisions on districts throughout the state. On behalf of Menlo Park residents, however, we urge the Commission to redraw Congressional District SMCSC and include all of Menlo Park in that District. Menlo Park is a small but cohesive community and we feel it is extremely important that we are represented by one congressional member.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich", written in a cursive style.

Rich Cline,
Menlo Park, Mayor

cc: City Council
Glen Rojas, City Manager