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From: Stephanie Staley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021 8:53 AM
To: COSD, Redistricting
Cc: Desmond, Jim; Robert Smith
Subject: [External] Letter for the Independent Redistricting Commission of San Diego County
Attachments: IndependentRedistrictingCommissionLetter_PBMI_10-28-2021.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good Morning,

Please see the attached letter from Chairman Robert Smith of the Pala Band of Mission Indians regarding the redistricting of San Diego County.

Thank you, and please let us know if there are any questions or concerns.

Stephanie Staley
Administrative Assistant | Tribal Chairman's Office
Tribal Enrollment Specialist

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PALA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

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**PALA BAND OF
MISSION INDIANS**

PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road
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October 27, 2021

Mr. David Bame, Chair
San Diego County IRC
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Redistricting of San Diego County

Sent via email to redistricting@sdcountry.ca.gov

To the Independent Redistricting Commission of San Diego County:

On behalf of the Pala Band of Mission Indians, we write to the members of Independent Redistricting Commission to respectfully ask you to ensure that the Tribal Reservations in Inland North County be maintained in a North County Supervisorial District.

The independent and self-governing Nations, including the Reservations of La Jolla, Los Coyotes, Mesa Grande, Pala, Pauma/Yuima, Rincon, Santa Ysabel and San Pasqual are currently contained within one Supervisor District. We urge you to maintain their current placement within a North County district.

Doing so would ensure that the important community and intergovernmental ties we have forged with our neighbors will be maintained.

As others have noted, North County has historically been a mixture of urban and rural, coastal and inland. The current District 5 certainly reflects that mix. The Tribal Reservations, in our historic lands in Inland North County, are linked to the more urbanized areas to the west by the two main highways, 76 and 78.

We are also linked by the interlocking relationships between the special districts that provide services to so much of North County. The water districts and fire districts serve our direct neighbors and they also assist us in emergencies.

Our children are educated in the school districts in Valley Center and Fallbrook and many other districts. Our ties to our neighbors in surrounding communities and our ties to all of North County are deep and important. And we also have close ties to the cities in North County: San Marcos, Vista, Oceanside, Carlsbad and Escondido. Those ties are important to us.

A recent public safety example illustrates the importance of maintaining one cohesive Supervisor District. Recently, we were alerted by our Supervisor that the State of California intended to place an individual designated as a Sexually Violent Predator on property in close proximity to

Pala, Pauma and the Rincon Tribal Reservations. We were extremely concerned about the safety of Tribal members, especially the children. With the Supervisor, we launched a concerted effort to block the placement, and were joined by thousands of our North County neighbors. We were successful in blocking the placement of dangerous SVP, and the help from our North County neighbors, some as far away as Oceanside, was critical.

Finally, North County surely represents a community of interest. Beyond that, however, for the Sovereign Tribal Reservations in North County, it is important that we continue to be part of a single North County Supervisor District, one that comprises the coastal and urban and rural communities and the transportation corridors, the chambers of commerce, and the network of businesses and organizations that make up North County. These are our historic lands and we ask that you ensure that our voices continue to be heard.

Regarding the Commission's initial draft maps, the current Draft Map 1 and Draft Map 3 (10/14/2021 IRC Meeting) comes closest to representing a district that would ensure genuine and fair representation for the Sovereign Tribal Reservations of North County.

Respectfully,



Robert Smith, Tribal Chairman
Pala Band of Mission Indians

cc: Supervisor Jim Desmond, District 5