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Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Potter, Andrew; Fang, Angela; Donnelly, Liberty; Temple, Nicole; Flores, Lauren; COSD, Redistricting; Hall, David; Lau, Chim; Villa, Nicole; Van Wagner, Keith
Subject: IRC eComment

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Values:

First_Name :
Ikra

Last_Name :
Awaleh

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Phone :
[REDACTED]

eComment :

Hello commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Ikra Awaleh and I have been a resident of Lemon Grove for 1 year. I live on Mallard street and I work in City Heights for 2 years. I participated in the community mapping session posted by PANA. We are immigrants, refugees, or children of immigrant refugees. Our community has shared languages, cultural practices, community centers, socioeconomic status, and common goals for our children and families. Of the County's draft maps, I really liked that City Heights, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, El Cajon, Paradise Hills, Spring Valley, and Rancho San Diego are kept together in Draft Maps 6, 7, and 8.

District 3 in draft maps 6 and 7, and District 2 in draft map 8 are important in uplifting our Black, Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, Asian refugee, and immigrant communities. However, I dislike that Santee was included in the BIPOC, refugee, and immigrant district in the earlier draft maps.

As a newcomer community, the majority of us speak a primary language other than English at home and are limited English proficient. The BIPOC, Refugee, and Immigrant Community of Interest must be kept together to ensure that our shared needs such as increased affordable housing, equitable transportation access, and English language services are adequately addressed by the County Board of Supervisors. Thank you for your hard work and for keeping our community in mind while redrawing the lines. We appreciate and ask that you keep our communities together in this process.

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