

From: AEMAdmin@sdcounty.ca.gov
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 4:03 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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The draft regional maps developed by FLO Analytics at the request of the Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) identify the locations of urban communities and all the Indian reservations. However, the same maps fail to show the unincorporated communities like Alpine, Borrego Springs, Ranchita, Fallbrook, Spring Valley, Lakeside, Ramona, Jamul, Campo, Descanso, Pine Valley, Boulevard, Jacumba, and others. Through their omission, the IRC maps not only marginalize rural towns, they also visually minimize the potential impacts that redistricting will have on the autonomy and rural nature of the unincorporated communities.

The IRC's draft maps should include more rural highways such as Hwy 94, Hwy 79, Hwy 78, and Hwy 80. Local communities are sited along these highways, and they are needed to provide the public, especially residents in the unincorporated areas with visual references as to how their district boundaries may be changing.

Draft maps of the proposed new District boundaries should also include an overlay that shows the boundaries of the Mountain Empire Unified School District (MEUSD) which covers a huge geographical area. The MEUSD provides educational and transportation services for students residing in Descanso, Guatay, Pine Valley, Mt. Laguna, Potrero, Campo, Boulevard, and Jacumba, which are all communities of interest (COIs).

Specific Comments on IRC Map 5:

On IRC Map 5, a finger of District 4 dips south of I-8 just east of the Viejas Reservation into District 1. As it does so, District 4 then isolates some closely related COIs which share the Mountain Empire sub-region's sparse educational, health, and infrastructure resources. Map 5 also appears to separate portions of Alpine into District 1 and District 4. Recommendation: Shift the southern boundary of District 4 north of the community of Mt. Laguna so that Descanso, Guatay, Mt. Laguna, and Pine Valley can remain in the same supervisory district with other similar rural communities in the Mountain Empire sub-region and community of Alpine is not divided Specific Comments on IRC Map 6:

Map 6 appears to separate Mt. Laguna and Guatay from the Pine Valley planning area and splits up the community of Descanso. Recommendation: Shift the southern boundary of District 4 to the north and west so that the tiny communities of Mt. Laguna and Guatay remain within the PV planning area and Descanso is also kept intact.

Specific Comments on IRC Map 7:

Same comment regarding shifting the proposed southern boundary of District 5 north so that Descanso remains intact and Mt. Laguna and Guatay remain within the Pine Valley planning area.

Specific Comments on IRC Map 8:

Same comments about shifting the southern boundary of District 4 north of its existing location so that the communities of Alpine and Descanso will remain intact, and Mt. Laguna and Guatay remain within the Pine Valley planning area.

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