

From: [REDACTED]
To: [COSD, Redistricting](#)
Subject: [External] Break Up District 2
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Hello, I have lived in District 2 for over 30 years. It is time for a change. There are indeed many things that hold us together. Similar cultures, business connections within the White community. But one of the underlying currents of East County is racism, bigotry, and extremism. This was brought home to everyone when the racist hate group, Defend East County, was formed on Facebook during the Black Lives Matter protests. 20,000 people joined the group in a week or two. This was absolutely terrifying to me. The leader of this group attended the January 6 insurrection, and is still espousing his traitorous rhetoric.

Beyond that, at a personal level, I live in a virulently Trumpist neighborhood. Their animosity towards 'libtards' seems to ratchet up often. I feel that I live with a target on my back. They all have basically an armory in their homes. I am very much afraid of them. This is hard for a white woman such as myself, and must be terrifying for a person of color.

Lastly, one of the things I heard in your presentation, was that the districts must be created so that everyone living there has a chance to vote for the candidate of his or her choice. It has been years since I felt anyone representing my point of view has run for office. I did not vote for either candidate for Supervisor in the last election because I felt both candidates, both Republicans, were reprehensible. This district is a very seriously Republican district and even though it is square it has been created over many, many years to ensure that only Republicans get elected.

Both El Cajon and Santee's demographics have changed and are changing. El Cajon is an immigrant community but these immigrants have no meaningful voice in any local office. Santee is becoming very urban and its needs would be best served by being associated by a more urban community such as El Cajon, La Mesa, Lemon Grove. Both Santee and El Cajon have much less to do with Lakeside, Ramona or Alpine.

Please break up District 2. Districts like District 2 are the reason the nonpartisan commission was created so that our voting districts reflect changes in our demographics. Your maps have given me hope.

Thank you, Esme