

From: [REDACTED]
To: [COSD, Redistricting](#)
Subject: [External] The Elephant in the Room of Redistricting San Diego County
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There has been a great deal of discussion on Racially Polarized Voting in the IRC meetings. But what isn't being said is that the only factor driving redistricting is to protect and further strengthen minority voting blocks in San Diego County. Case in Point: Spring Valley consists of two census designated places; Spring Valley and La Presa.

Spring Valley, in 2010, had a racial makeup of Spring Valley was 38.7% White, 11.1% African American, 0.8% Native American, 5.7% Asian, 2.0% Pacific Islander, 17.4% from other races, and 6.5% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race was 36.0%, in 2000, Hispanic or Latino of any race was 30.1%.

La Presa, in 2010, had a racial makeup of La Presa was 24.0% White, 13.0% African American, 0.8% Native American, 10.5% Asian, 1.2% Pacific Islander, 24.1% from other races, and 7.4% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race was 51.1%. In 2000, Hispanic or Latino of any race was 51.1%.

All demographic data is from Wikipedia.

Seven out of the eight proposed maps bisect the community of Spring Valley. Is this the "elephant in the room" question, that La Presa is being moved to currently proposed districts only because of racial make-up and for no other reason?

I understand that race is a legitimate factor to consider, but does it have to be the only factor and why can't this "only factor" rule be just stated out loud? A lot of comments from the public speak to keeping community identity intact or different lifestyles as in rural/urban, coastal/inland, or north county/south county, of course all as it relates to supervisorial districts. The Commission needs to be direct with these commenters, that the carving up of districts is to protect and strengthen minority voting blocs and that there really is no other reason. You have stated this in your attention to the prevention of "packing" and "cracking" of racially polarized voters.

I realize that such a commission as yours is to prevent the political party gerrymandering of old, but when one factor overrules all other considerations, isn't that just a new form of the old mess?