

From: Leticia MaldonadoStamos [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:20 AM
To: COSD, Redistricting
Subject: [External] Observations from last night's meeting

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Good morning, Commissioners. I hope you all got a good night's rest. We finally got home after 11 pm but I am very glad we stayed until the end of the meeting.

I am emailing because I am getting more and more concerned about the direction the commission seems to be going with regards to redistricting. I know that as a Fallbrook resident I am from the "hinderlands" going by some of the comments from some members of the public, or more accurately, lack of comment, and some commissioners. But I think that if you have 5 people speaking for 55,000 people and 20 people speaking for over a million people, our voice should be heard as much if not more than the 20.

I keep hearing the phrase from some of you that you are not going to be able to please everyone. Of that we are sure. But if you are starting and finishing from points that are not directly related to the purpose of the districting for representative elections and addressing the CRVA requirements of remedying voting rights violations, then you are almost making it a foregone conclusion that racially polarized voting will continue. I respect veterans, I support LGBTQ issues, I am in the same boat as other minority immigrant groups, I appreciate the work that special interest groups do for the future of my community and the planet, but they are not the protected categories that should be looked at first and last. Please regroup and look to your purpose as "independent" commissioners. It's not to please everyone but to apply the law to remedy an injustice. I know you are tired and it isn't getting any easier, but just step back and consider those who for generations haven't been listened to and now have to be convinced that their voice matters. If they don't speak up, it certainly doesn't mean that they are "happy". Just consider that. And maintaining the "status quo" is not your mission so please refrain from using that term, it is frightening. And when people say that a certain map "best represents all groups" but you have a group right there in front of you that traveled for over an hour, again, to be there with you until 10 pm that says it does not represent them, know that the folks that say "all groups" is being inaccurate at best and disingenuous at worst.

You have a huge job and I pray for your wisdom and fairness. Keep fighting the good fight and I will see you at the next meeting.

Thank you for your time, your service, your commitment to a fair process.
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