

**From:** [Travis Lyon](#)  
**To:** [COSD, Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** [External] IRC - ACPG Comment Letter - 11.13.21  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2021 10:08:58 AM  
**Attachments:** [IRC - ACPG Comment Letter - 11.13.2021.pdf](#)

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Please see attached.

Thank you,

**Travis Lyon** | Chairman  
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**Alpine Community Planning Group**  
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November 13, 2021

County of San Diego, Independent Redistricting Commission  
Sent via email: [redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov)

Dear Chair Bame and commissioners,

The Alpine Community Planning Group held a public meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and reviewed the Draft Maps 1-8 developed by the County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC). The group voted unanimously to authorize me, as Chair of the Alpine Community Planning Group, to provide comments to the IRC on behalf of the planning group regarding the redistricting of the County of San Diego Supervisorial Districts.

Alpine is a distinct Community of Interest (COI), long defined as an unincorporated community in the County of San Diego. Alpine's boundaries are defined by the Alpine Community Planning Area and is represented by a 15-member planning group elected by the voters in the planning area established by the County of San Diego.

Our concerns with the initial draft maps were that those maps completely obliterated the current Supervisorial District 2, which has represented East County San Diego for decades. Unlike North County, South Bay, and Central San Diego whose COIs were mostly kept intact, Alpine, along with much of the unincorporated communities of East County, was faced with maps that radically reshaped our supervisorial district.

These maps separated Alpine from the larger municipalities we had been grouped with for decades, specifically El Cajon, Santee, and La Mesa. This was concerning because many government agencies that represent Alpine, including the Grossmont Union High School District, the Grossmont Cuyamaca Community College District, and the Grossmont Healthcare District, are based in these cities. Alpine also receives its water services from Padre Dam Municipal Water District headquartered in Santee.

In addition, many maps separated Alpine from other unincorporated COI such as Lakeside, Ramona, Crest, Dehesa, and Jamul. These unincorporated communities have no city councils or mayors as their local representatives. The county supervisor is the first level of government representation for public safety, public health, and land use for these communities. We share infrastructure needs, overlapping local government agencies, and have common social and cultural interests. It is critical that we have one county supervisor that understands and can address our shared goals.

**Significant Consequences Impacting Operational & Planning Cooperation & Collaboration:**

1. All our highway and roadway infrastructure are interconnected (traffic use, future strategy & planning are contingent on collective community commonalities and interaction).

2. All our potable water infrastructure originates with Padre Dam Municipal Water Authority and extends through intervening communities to Alpine. Use and planning are contingent on collective and differing use along with understanding future needs.
3. All our wastewater recycling is integrated with Padre Dam Municipal Water Authority and its potable water infrastructure. Planning is dependent on collective and differing use along with understanding future needs.
4. Our high school infrastructure (campuses, transport services, and special education centers and collaborative operations such as school transportation services) is headquartered at Grossmont Union School District in La Mesa and spans across all the interconnected cities and the unincorporated areas east through Alpine and beyond into the Mountain Empire region. Operational planning and future strategy development and budgeting is contingent on collaboration.
5. Our fire protection and emergency medical services share a common dispatch and planning services coordinated from El Cajon and spans those cities eastward through Alpine and further east. Operational planning and future strategic positioning span multiple independent fire districts and the County Fire Authority. The comprehensive geographic needs of services that differ city to city and by unincorporated community region-wide across the East County is centered at the Heartland Communications Facility Authority based in El Cajon.
6. Separating Alpine from its traditional integral relationships with nearby cities and unincorporated communities diminishes the important role and influence of the County District Supervisor. Concise and efficient district management by a single supervisor would become inefficiently split across multiple supervisors.
7. Critical state and local statutory commissions similarly will lose efficiency and effectiveness. The San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission is an example. LAFCO was a driving force recently working with multipole fire agencies from those cities and local and Native American communities in analyzing, rationalizing and in approving an annexation of East Alpine by the Alpine Fire Protection District and in adjusting all boundaries with neighboring fire agencies and the Country Fire District for improved service, response times, and for future planning and budgeting.

Along with other East County residents, I provided public comment at the October 28<sup>th</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> IRC meetings and am pleased that the commission has since made modifications to draft maps to address these concerns. I strongly support the mapping on [sdcountyredistrictingmap.org/supervisors](http://sdcountyredistrictingmap.org/supervisors) and the IRC's Draft Map 11.

Alpine and East County are distinct Communities of Interest and should be kept intact through the redistricting process. Please keep effective governance at the forefront of your decision making moving forward.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Travis Lyon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Travis Lyon, Chair