

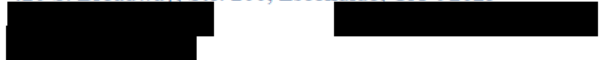
From: [Hannah Gbeh](#)
To: [COSD, Redistricting](#)
Subject: [External] Farm Bureau Redistricting Comments
Date: Saturday, November 13, 2021 11:30:36 AM
Attachments: [County - Redistricting Farm Bureau Letter.pdf](#)

Please find the San Diego County Farm Bureau comments on Agricultural Communities of Interest and draft maps.

Thank you,
Hannah Gbeh



HANNAH GBEH *Executive Director*
420 S. Broadway, Ste. 200, Escondido, CA 92025



The Voice of Local Farming



FARM BUREAU San Diego County

The Voice of Local Farmers
Serving San Diego agriculture since 1914

November 12, 2021

San Diego County Independent Redistricting Commission
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402
San Diego, California 92101

Subject: Agricultural Communities of Interest & Draft Maps

County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC),

The direct economic output from agricultural production in the County of San Diego is valued a \$1.8 billion dollars annually and the San Diego agricultural community is comprised of over 5,500 farms, 12,335 farm workers and nearly 70,000 employees associated with our essential agricultural industry. The mapping proposed by the San Diego IRC fails to account for the three distinct agricultural Communities of Interest (COI) located within the County of San Diego and must be updated to ensure these COIs are properly represented.

San Diego County's three agricultural COIs are as follows:

1. **North Inland Agricultural COI:** The North Inland agricultural COI includes the communities of: Escondido, San Pasqual Valley, Valley Center, Rincon, Bonsall, Fallbrook, Pala, Pauma Valley, Rainbow, and Temecula/Temecula Valley Wine Country.
2. **East County Agricultural COI:** The East County agricultural COI includes the communities of: Poway, Ramona, SD Country Estates, Julian, Santee, Winter Gardens, El Cajon, Jamul, Alpine, Descanso, Pine Valley and everything east/south east of there to the county borders.
3. **North Coastal Agricultural COI:** The North Coastal agricultural COI includes the communities of: Carlsbad, Oceanside, Vista, San Marcos, and Camp Pendleton.

Although the currently proposed Map #11 is close to representing these agricultural COIs, additional revisions to the maps are necessary to ensure the process is fair and equitable to rural and agricultural communities. It is imperative the revised maps do not split unincorporated communities, agricultural communities or special districts, school districts and water districts covering rural areas. Agricultural communities are historically underrepresented in local decision making and the agricultural COIs require adequate representation in government decision making.

The San Diego County Farm Bureau is the leading advocate for the farming community in our region. Our mission is to foster San Diego agriculture through education, public relations, and public policy advocacy in order to promote the economic viability, sustainability, and community building of agriculture. Thank you for your review and consideration in our requests. We look forward to seeing the draft maps revised to reflect the important agricultural COIs in San Diego County.

Sincerely,

Hannah Gbeh
Executive Director
San Diego County Farm Bureau