

From: [REDACTED]
To: [COSD, Redistricting](#)
Subject: [External] Redistricting Comment Fixing 13a to Meet our Community's Needs
Date: Friday, November 19, 2021 4:22:32 PM
Attachments: [PastedGraphic-6.png](#)
[PastedGraphic-8.tiff](#)
Importance: High

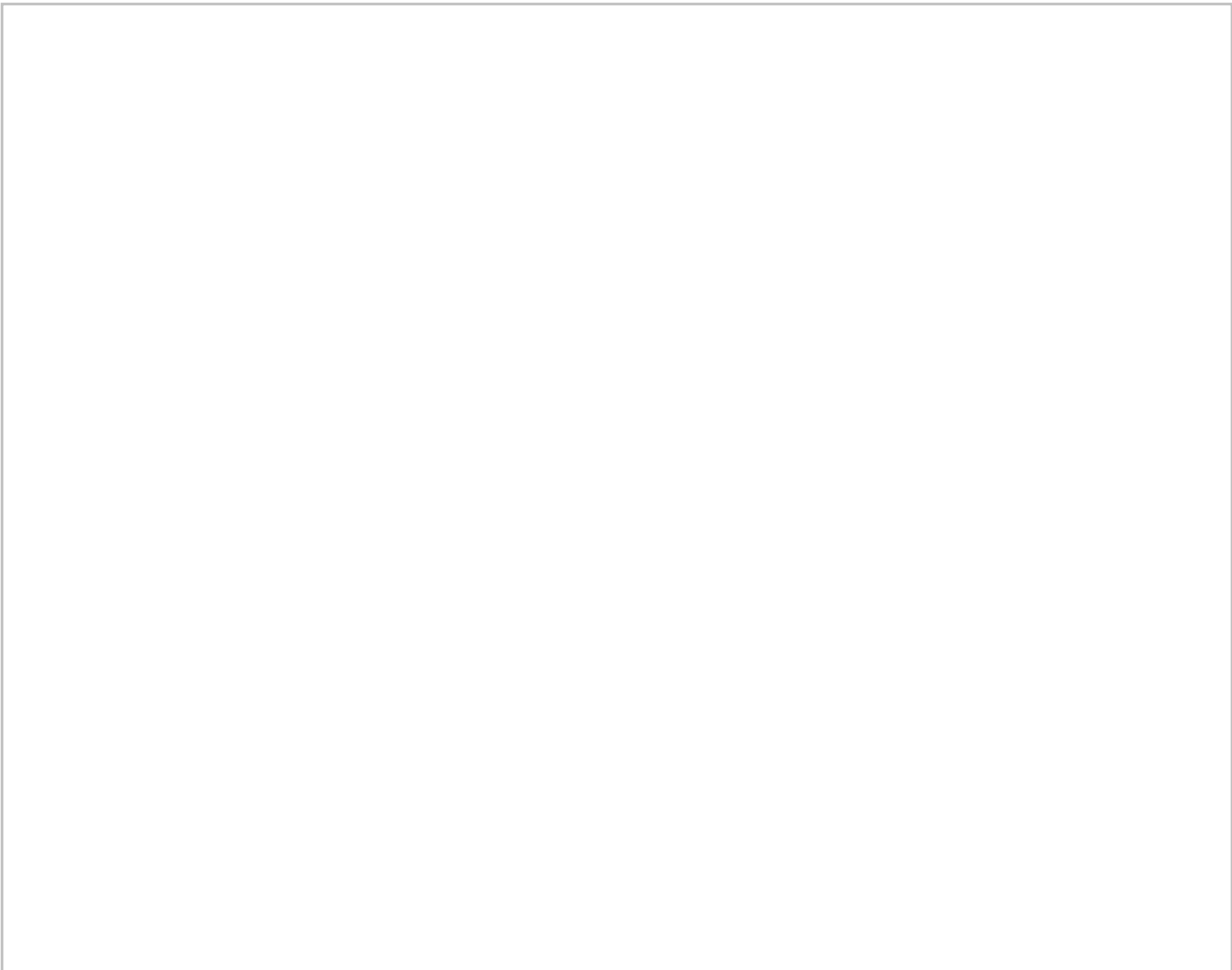
To redistricting commissioners:

My name is JP Theberge and I'm the Chair of the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council. My community has weighed in on the need to keep our community from being split up. Currently maps 13a and 14 both create a historic split in our unincorporated community which we are vigorously opposed to. Our community is in an unincorporated area that stretches from just north of Rancho Santa Fe to Escondido. It is a rural community, with large animal keeping properties and 90% in a Very High Fire Severity Zone.

- We are represented by the Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove Town Council (elected by members of the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove communities)
- We are represented by the San Dieguito Planning Group (which also includes Rancho Santa Fe).
- We participate in multiple community-wide events every year:
 - The valley-wide Fourth of July Picnic and Parade (45 years running),
 - the Keepin' it Rural Trail Run and Festival and many more.
- We have a Fire Safe Council that represents the area and
- we have a Community Foundation that represents the area.
- And we are in the same Fire District, Rancho Santa Fe Fire.

Splitting us up would be unconscionable.

For reference, the following is a map from our community from our Community Plan (filed with the County of San Diego) adding in a small sliver of unincorporated area prior to Escondido.



OUR REQUEST:

Our preference is for a map that keeps us together. If 13b does not appear feasible for whatever reason, I would like to propose an alternative 13A map.

There's a very simple fix that fixed our issue of being split up as well as addressing some of the other problems that commenters have noted with Map 13A. It involves a three-way swap between the Eastern, Central, and Coastal districts. If you look at the arrows, you can see how the districts basically shift counter-clockwise.

1. Issue: Many commenters have noted that El Cajon is the historical heart of East County. It probably doesn't belong where it is being placed now.
Solution: Move El Cajon and Rancho San Diego into the Eastern District.

2. Issue: This leaves the Center district 120 thousand short.
Solution: By moving this district northwest into Kearny Mesa and Linda Vista, the district can strengthen its role as an emerging Majority Minority district.

3. Issue: Mira Mesa—heavily AAPI—clearly does not belong with East County. And also, the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove (and San Dieguito) Planning Area should not be split in half.

Solution: By taking Mira Mesa, Torrey Highlands, and Harmony Grove from the Eastern District and shifting it to the Coastal District, it can gain the 120k population it lost to the Center District by gaining 120k from the Eastern District, thus balancing out the 120k the Eastern District gained from the Center District.

Attached is a rough map of how that would look.

