

**From:** [Marlon Mansour](#)  
**To:** [COSD, Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Letter Re: Redistricting Proposals  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2021 1:27:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [NMA Letter Re Redistricting.pdf](#)

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Good afternoon Commission,

Please find attached a letter on behalf of the Neighborhood Market Association in strong opposition to the current redistricting proposals, particularly in regards to the East County part of San Diego.

I appreciate your time and for allowing the public's voice to be heard on this issue.

Best regards,  
Marlon Oram Mansour  
President  
Neighborhood Market Association



[www.neighborhoodmarket.org](http://www.neighborhoodmarket.org)



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**To: Redistricting Committee**

**From: Neighborhood Market Association**

**Date: 11/16/2021**

**Re: San Diego County Redistricting Proposals**

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I am extremely disappointed to learn of the redistricting proposals currently being contemplated by the County of San Diego that would transform its makeup in illogical ways.

I am the president of the Neighborhood Market Association (NMA), a 25-year-old non-profit organization representing hundreds of independent retailers and family-owned businesses in the state of California.

On behalf of the entire NMA membership, we are strongly opposed to the dilution of the East County population. The communities in El Cajon, Santee, Lakeside, Alpine, La Mesa, and Lemon Grove have shared ideals and identity with one another. Splitting these communities apart and/or having these communities share new districts with residents of La Jolla or City Heights is not only confounding but will only serve to disenfranchise East County residents.

I urge the committee to rethink the effects of the proposals and what it will do to negatively impact the current cohesive community structure. While we have members throughout California, our vast majority is located in San Diego County, and of that majority, most are located in East County. Many of our members are Chaldean Christians who came to America for a better life; to have their voices finally heard. Going forward with these redistricting proposals would only set the communities back and silence their voices.

East County, in particular, is home to many in the Chaldean community. There are other groups out there trying to lump the Chaldean community with Arab groups and interests; these are not only offensive but inaccurate. 70 years ago, the first Chaldean Christians arrived in East County. Since then, the population has grown to over 50,000 and continues to grow. Chaldeans have become a part of the fabric of the community and have helped serve that community as business owners and job creators.

This issue is vital to our community. Thank you for your consideration.

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Marlon Oram Mansour, President