From:
COSD, Redistricting

Subject: [External] E-Mail and Letter Submission for Consideration at Dec. 11th IRC Meeting

Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 9:29:19 AM
Attachments: TH Letter to County IRC 113021.pdf

Greetings IRC Commissioners,

Our neighborhood coalition, made up of residents from Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos who signed on to our Nov. 30th letter to the IRC, are extremely disappointed and distressed to learn that our communities may again be placed into an inland supervisor district as part of the county redistricting process after previously expressing our concerns and arguments to the contrary on Dec. 2nd.

At a considerable level, our neighborhoods are ethnically and culturally diverse with a variety of languages spoken, the most of any north of Interstate 8, and an unnecessary move to an inland supervisor district will irrevocably alter the manner in which our neighborhoods and communities relate to county government. Our Nov. 30th letter made those concerns clear, and for your convenience I have again attached and submitted that letter with this e-mail.

I would again point out the considerable geographic dividing line of I-15, which our communities lie fully to the west of and marks an often-cited demarcation line of coastal and inland influence in our county, along with the buffers of MCAS Miramar, Mission Trails, and the open space of the San Dieguito River Valley as geographic boundaries of note as well.

Lastly, our communities have benefitted from our coastal district representation with the county for decades, and we have made it abundantly clear we wish to remain within the coastal supervisor district.

Please do not make a decision on this critical matter without the input and presence of all IRC commissioners, and please let myself and our coalition members who signed onto our Nov. 30th letter – many of whom you will be hearing from today – know what else we may do to impress upon the IRC the seriousness of our concerns and desire for Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos to remain within a coastal supervisor district.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Tommy Hough

Tommy Hough

he / him / his San Diego County Planning Commissioner Environmental Consultant



November 30, 2021

David Bame, Chair County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402 San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Chair,

As redistricting deliberations continue, we the undersigned residents of Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos would like to urge the County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) to include Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos with the coastal area of our county, and not with rural East County. As neighborhoods, we have far more in common with neighboring communities like Carmel Valley and University City than with rural, inland communities like Julian and Jamul.

As two of the most populous communities in the northern tier of the City of San Diego, Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos are invariably defined by our proximity to the coast, and our long-term connection with the city itself, including jobs and economic centers, cultural opportunities and expression, and the diverse array of ethnicities and languages spoken among our neighbors and communities.

In our humble opinion, these factors demonstrate a clear relation and connection with a coastal-based supervisor district, along with the clear geographic matter of Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos being fully located along the west side of Interstate 15 – as considerable a dividing line as any between the influence of our county's coastal and inland communities.

As the IRC considers various map iterations to satisfy criteria expressed in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and population needs identified in the most recent U.S. Census data, we ask that commissioners move forward with a map selection that keeps our communities included as part of a coastal supervisor district – not an inland one.

Furthermore, as active and engaged citizens involved in dozens of neighborhood organizations, we ask that you not only consider our request, but the long-term implications of an ill-advised shift to inland leadership for our communities. Our concerns are more than reasonable, logical,

and equitable, as well as effective given the long-term historical precedent of our coastal-based representation with the County of San Diego.

Please let us know how we may further illuminate these points before the commission.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Tommy Hough, Mira Mesa
Octavio Aguilar, Rancho Peñasquitos
Jack and Lisa Canning, Mira Mesa
Lester and Jennifer Dronick, Mira Mesa
Kaanchan S. Farkiya, Mira Mesa
Greg Hoxsie, Mira Mesa
Ria Otero, Mira Mesa
Dr. Darshana Patel, Rancho Peñasquitos
Joan Raphael, Mira Mesa
Mike Sakasegawa, Mira Mesa
Mudita Tiwary, Rancho Peñasquitos
Dr. Elizabeth Yoe, Mira Mesa