

From: COSD, Redistricting
Sent: Saturday, December 11, 2021 12:42 PM
Cc: COSD, Redistricting
Subject: Public Communication

Hello Commissioners,

Please see the below correspondence received from the public:

First_Name :
Salim

Last_Name :
Battou

eComment :

1. I am a member of the Iraqi Community.
 2. Our family goes to school, church and work in El Cajon and east county.
 3. We all vote together as a community.
 4. Don't separate El Cajon and the rest of east county. This will separate our community and our voice.
-

First_Name :
Mina

Last_Name :
Raffo

eComment :

The Chaldean community wants to stay together in East County. We are opposed to redistricting.

Email:

I have lived in Harmony Grove for over 20 years, and if asked where I live, I would never answer "Escondido"!! In fact, the residents of Harmony Grove petitioned LAFCO to leave the Sphere of Influence of Escondido, and were granted that right, I believe the first community to do so in the history of San Diego County! We have shared a Town Council with Elfin Forest since 1980, and publish regularly revised editions of a Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Community Guide. Please do not separate us from our rual "sister" community and push us into a totally inappropriate urban environment with no shared values.

I fully support the final draft map as of Thursday (13a v11). Please don't change it.

Mid Hoppenrath
2640 Harmony Heights Rd
Harmony Grove, CA

First_Name :

Angela

Last_Name :
Zetouna

eComment :

I am an American Chaldean living in El Cajon, CA my entire 26 years of life. It is a beautiful and important community. Please do not split our voice

First_Name :
Debbie

Last_Name :
O'Neill

eComment :

Dear Committee Members,

I have lived in Harmony Grove for over 20 years. After our community spoke at the December 2nd meeting, the map was adjusted to reflect our wishes, which was to keep Harmony Grove, Elfin Forest, and Eden Valley together, and to be placed in the Coastal District with the rest of the communities who are in the San Dieguito Planning area as well as the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District. We were very happy about this as can be seen by the emails and e-comments sent in by the residents of our community. It is important for us to stay together as we have for generations. We have traditionally had to work together in good times, such as the planning of our annual events for the community, the 4th of July Parade and Picnic, and the Keepin' It Rural Trail Run, as well as in bad times such as during wildfires when we all have to evacuate on the same roads and after the fires helping our community to recover. Much of this community planning is driven by The Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Town Council made up of members of both communities. Harmony Grove, Elfin Forest, and Eden Valley are located in a Severe Wildfire Risk area and it is vital for future planning and risk management that we stay in the same district as the other communities who are in the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District and the San Dieguito Planning Group.

At the last meeting, some voices came forward to ask to separate Harmony Grove from Elfin Forest and place us in the North County District. These voices are from people who do not live in Harmony Grove. I can't speak to what their motivation is but I can address some false information they passed on. One, falsehood is that Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove don't connect but that is incorrect. Harmony Grove and Elfin Forest are directly adjacent and are connected through Harmony Grove Road. Another falsehood is that we are a part of the city of Escondido. We are in fact in an unincorporated area. We are not able to vote in Escondido elections, we don't have coverage by the Escondido Police or Fire, and while some of the Harmony Grove children do attend schools in Escondido, there are no Escondido Schools within Harmony Grove. We have much more in common with the other unincorporated areas west of us than we do with the nearby cities of Escondido or San Marcos which have no jurisdiction over Harmony Grove or Elfin Forest. I humbly ask the Committee to please listen to the wishes of the people who live in our community, and keep us together in the Coastal District as you planned. It makes the most sense, and it is what those of us living in these communities want.

Thank you!

Debbie O'Neill

Email:

I am a resident of Harmony Grove and am very satisfied with the map as of Thursday. Any further development will jeopardize our safety from fires and add to dangerous traffic problems if there is a fire.

William Travis

First_Name :

Timothy

Last_Name :

Snyder

eComment :

In the IRC's "Draft Final Map" prior to the December 9th meeting, the Spring Valley Community Plan Area (SVCPA) was fortunate to be restored to its intact boundaries containing the unincorporated Spring Valley and La Presa census tracts and within the mostly unincorporated Supervisorial District 2. This was the ideal circumstance for conducting effective planning and development support for this area. I write "was" because the map was torn apart during the December 9th meeting as the IRC seemed to abandon their previous efforts and progress at redistricting.

Spring Valley and La Presa have long been treated as stepchildren by local governments because they are unincorporated and abut multiple cities to the north and west. Often, it seems, the only organized government presence is the Spring Valley Community Planning Group, which may now be split between two supervisorial districts and lumped with incorporated cities in one or more of these districts.

My observation is not driven by race, ethnic groups, regional differences, or voting blocs, which are the driving forces in splitting this community apart and then these forces will recede from the community once the damage is done. Rather I am only concerned about the day-to-day governance of a community that seems to only get brief attention from outside during the end of a two year election cycle or a ten year redistricting event.

I ask that the IRC leave the unincorporated communities of Spring Valley and La Presa together in a single mostly unincorporated San Diego County Supervisorial district.

First_Name :

Zaid

Last_Name :

Abo

eComment :

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 3. We all vote together as a community.
 4. Don't separate El Cajon and the rest of east county. This will separate our community and our voice.
-

First_Name :

Jakleen

Last Name:

Qanno

eComment :

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-

First_Name :

Nidhal

Last_Name :

Saliman

eComment :

Keep chaldean family's together

Email:

COSD Redistricting Staff
San Diego County Independent Redistricting Commission

REFERENCE: Special Meeting 12-11-21

Dear Committee Members,

I have lived in Harmony Grove for over 20 years. After our community spoke at the December 2nd meeting, the map was adjusted to reflect our wishes, which was to keep Harmony Grove, Elfin Forest, and Eden Valley together, and to be placed in the Coastal District with the rest of the communities who are in the San Dieguito Planning area as well as the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District. We were very happy about this as can be seen by the emails and e-comments sent in by the residents of our community. It is important for us to stay together as we have for generations. We have traditionally had to work together in good times, such as the planning of our annual events for the community, the 4th of July Parade and Picnic, and the Keepin' It Rural Trail Run, as well as in bad times such as during wildfires when we all have to evacuate on the same roads and after the fires helping our community to recover. Much of this community planning is driven by The Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Town Council made up of members of both communities. Harmony Grove, Elfin Forest, and Eden Valley are located in a Severe Wildfire Risk area and it is vital for future planning and risk management that we stay in the same district as the other communities who are in the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District and the San Dieguito Planning Group.

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Thank you!

Debbie O'Neill

First_Name :
Eiman

Last_Name :
Soolaka

eComment :
Please dont change it !!

First_Name :
Amena

Last_Name :
Radwan

eComment :

Thank you for keeping the Black community together in the newest iterations of the Final Draft Map and I urge you to please keep the Black community in Central and Southeast San Diego in the final map. I am speaking in concern of El Cajon, and why El Cajon MUST stay in District 4. El Cajon has been included in District 4 due to months of COI testimony, where you heard directly from low-wage earners, renters, and our newcomer communities advocating to be together with other BIPOC, refugee and immigrant communities. There are not just Arab communities in El Cajon, but there are Somalis, Ethiopians, Congolese, and Afghan refugees & immigrants as well who have mutual support networks that span to City Heights. El Cajon is much different from other East County cities, as El Cajon has the highest poverty rates and the largest percent of growth in poverty among East County Cities.

If you remove El Cajon from District 4, you are keeping the status-quo that we have seen in San Diego County for decades. We have seen the effects this has on our communities - they struggle to pay rent, face increased rates of homelessness and poverty, and lack the resources they need for successful resettlement.

San Diego County welcomes more refugees than any other California county, with significant numbers of them resettling in El Cajon, and it is very likely that our region will experience the second largest resettlement of Afghan refugees in the State.

Please do not move forward with propositions to remove El Cajon from District 4. From El Cajon to City Heights, our communities must reunite. In a time of anti-Asian violence, Asian communities should not be put into white rural areas that do not align with our values. Please do not put Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos and Convoy with communities in east county.

First_Name :

Linda

Last_Name :

Kako

eComment :

I do not want my community which is Middle East to be separate.

First_Name :

Dany

Last_Name :

Rajab

eComment :

This should stop. If we separate El Cajon and rancho it's going to start problems and there isn't any point of separating. Please stop this.

First_Name :

Jennifer

Last_Name :

Raban

eComment :

To the redistricting commission,

There's much that has already been written to you, that I don't need to reiterate. I keep up some with politics. Seems to me this is against the diversity, inclusion, and equity values that are espoused. It's an obvious attack to squash the voices of minorities, in order to make all of San Diego homogenous. Most refugees left from tyrannical and authoritarian governments. This is a power play, and will bring back trauma to many who risked their lives seeking true freedom.

Sincerely

Jennifer Raban

First_Name :

May

Last_Name :

Sahib

eComment :

Our community We want to be together in East County

First_Name :

J. Scott

Last_Name :

Shaffer

eComment :

I am disappointed this committee is allowing a partisan group of zealots from El Cajon disenfranchise Spring Valley. Your 9 December draft kept the Spring Valley Community in tact, but now you have divided our community and standing planning group.

Spring Valley is a majority BIPOC that has been underrepresented in San Diego for a long time. I strongly encourage this committee to go back to the maps presented on 9 December that kept Spring Valley together.

First_Name :

cherry

Last_Name :

diefenbach

eComment :

Working map scenario 2 minimizes make the most sense because it keeps El Cajon in East County with its sister communities Bostonia and Rancho San Diego. This change will respect the desires of the Chaldean community who have previously spoken out loud and clear during public hearings.

The only recommended change to this map is to remove the community of Borrego Springs from District 2 and put it into District 5 where it originally was located as per the community's request.

First_Name :

Maggie

Last_Name :

K

eComment :

This is NOT necessary

First_Name :

Leona

Last_Name :

Abbo

eComment :

As a resident of Rancho San Diego/El Cajon, these actions are extreme and unnecessary for our community! East county is a base for our Chaldean community and you'll be breaking up a minority immigrant Community. Leave East County the way it is!!!

First_Name :
Anita

Last_Name :
Sadik

eComment :
We cannot separate El Cajon or Rancho from the East County. We have always been apart of it and as Chaldeans, it will affect us badly

First_Name :
Rafah

Last_Name :
Goria

eComment :
Don't divide El Cajon city please

First_Name :
Jonathan

Last_Name :
Dummer

eComment :

Dear Commissioners

A few days ago I sent in an e-comment thanking the commission for keeping Harmony Grove and Elfin Forrest together and placing us in the Coastal District. As a 60 year resident of Harmony Grove I know that is where our community belongs. Again, Harmony Grove and Elfin Forrest share the same Town Council and Fire District and are both in the San Dieguito Planing Group. But mostly we are both small communities that found it necessary to unite decades ago to protect our rural way of life.

It saddens me to see recent comments sent to the commission from outside business interests whom are pushing a narrative that Harmony Grove is part of Escondido. As a matter of fact when given a chance to be annex into the city of Escondido ten years ago the community overwhelmingly vote against doing so. This is because Harmony Grove and Elfin Forrest are rural communities that have a desire to remain rural. Escondido's interest in annexation was to build high density housing in our community. Please don't let outside business interests, people who don't live here determine our future.

Thank you

Jonathan Dummer
Harmony Grove

First_Name :
Hoger

Last_Name :

Saleh

eComment :

Please keep the Community of Interest Spring Valley, La Presa and the Unincorporated area West of SR-125 together

First_Name :

Roger

Last_Name :

Sal

eComment :

Please keep the Community of Interest Spring Valley, La Presa and the Unincorporated area West of SR-125 together. We as a community would like the December 3rd mapping that was put out to public.

First_Name :

Nisreen

Last_Name :

Elias

eComment :

I want El Cajon city to be part of San Diego county as it is now and for ever

First_Name :

Samuel

Last_Name :

Alhajjar

eComment :

Please do not separate el cajon

First_Name :

Jesse

Last_Name :

Robles

eComment :

Please keep the Community of Interest Spring Valley, La Presa and the Unincorporated area West of SR-125 together.

I am a lifelong resident of the COI and represent parts of this area as a member of the Spring Valley Community Planning Group and a Director for the San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District. The La Presa-Spring Valley area is home to countless dedicated residents who have worked together for years to improve the community.

Separating this community would undercut the decades of work and progress made by residents and their elected representatives to ensure this area continues to serve as an economic engine for the region, but also a destination for homeowners and businesses alike.

Thank you.

First_Name :

Xavier

Last_Name :

Gilford

eComment :

Mira Mesa is so much closer to the coast than East County. East County is way less accessible than the coastal communities and downtown. We're attached to the City because it's most accessible. Mira Mesa is way more city and coast than country. Matters within the coastal communities are more relative to us than whatever goes on in East County.

Thank you,

COSD Redistricting Staff

San Diego County Independent Redistricting Commission

Phone: 619-409-3003

www.drawyourcommunity.com

