From: Admin, AEM

To: Potter, Andrew; Fang, Angela; Donnelly, Liberty; Temple, Nicole; Flores, Lauren; COSD, Redistricting; Hall,

David; Lau, Chim; Villa, Nicole

**Subject:** IRC eComment

Date: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 9:38:07 AM

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Values:

First\_Name : Patrick

Last\_Name : Benesh-Liu

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eComment:

Greetings to the Independent Redistricting Commission,

My name is Patrick Benesh-Liu, and I have been a resident of San Marcos for over 31 years. I also work in this city as well. San Marcos is a special community, as we have a large Latin-American population that makes its home here. I've always felt at home here, and I treasure the diversity that lives within my city. We've grown a lot over the years, changing from an very rural community with only one main road back when I was a child, to a bustling suburban environment that still maintains its roots in agriculture.

I have long been puzzled by the current districting of North County, especially Escondido's seemingly arbitrary separation from the rest of the 78 corridor. I have to guess that this was due to politicians drawing lines that served their best interests, but they don't serve ours. Anyone who lives in North County can tell you that the five cities along the 78, Escondido, San Marcos, Vista, Carlsbad and Oceanside, are like sisters. We share the same problems, as well as in many ways sharing similar cultures, even though each is unique and distinct. Why are we put together with rural East County, which has a very different character and needs? I urge you to change this.

The 78 corridor is growing rapidly, particularly in San Marcos and Vista, and we need to be able to make our voice heard together. We have a set of common needs, in particular new methods of transportation, to reduce the huge traffic increases in the past ten years, and the effects of coastal erosion, which affects all of us west of the 15, regardless of whether we are on the beaches or not.

Valley Center, Borrego Valley, Pala, Ramona, these are all sisters as well, and they have common needs which are DIFFERENT than those of the five 78 cities. This political mishmash lacks common sense and certainly does not represent the interests of the people who reside here. When you redistrict the County, please take this into account, and bring our sister Escondido back into the fold. Thank you.

Sincerely, Patrick Benesh-Liu Coeditor Ornament Magazine

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