

From: AEMAdmin@sdcounty.ca.gov
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 9:07 PM
To: Potter, Andrew; Fang, Angela; Donnelly, Liberty; Temple, Nicole; Flores, Lauren; COSD, Redistricting; Hall, David; Lau, Chim; Villa, Nicole
Subject: IRC eComment

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Values:

First_Name :
Rinad

Last_Name :
Taha

E-mail :
[REDACTED]

Phone :

eComment :
Dear Commissioners,

My name is Rinad Taha and I am the Youth Coordinator with Majdal: Arab Community Center of San Diego, which is located on East Main St in El Cajon. Our communities have shared languages, cultural practices, food, and common goals for our children and families. We often speak Arabic language with our community and we celebrate Muslim holidays together. We are immigrants, refugees, or children of immigrants refugees. Our Communities are mainly composed of renters, English language learners, and large families, and many prioritize affordable housing and English as Second Language services. I define my community in El Cajon that I work with on a daily basis by these general boundaries: Bostonia to the North, Granite Hills to the East, Rancho San Diego to the South, and La Mesa to the West. Some community landmarks are as follows: Majdal Center, East Main Street, & ICSD East County.

I am writing to you today to emphasize the importance of keeping El Cajon united in one district, as well as including San Diego refugee communities together in a single Supervisorial district. As a newcomer community, the majority of us speak a primary language other than English at home, and are limited English proficient. El Cajon has historically seen high numbers of refugee resettlement, relying on strong community networks for mutual aid and support. We see ourselves in community with City Heights, Lemon Grove, La Mesa, Rancho San Diego, Granite Hills, Bostonia, Paradise Hills, Spring Valley, Encanto and Skyline communities and we define our COI as BIPOC, Immigrant, & Refugee. We also see our communities included in the current 4th district.

In addition, El Cajon must remain united in a single District and be included with other refugee communities throughout the county to ensure that our shared needs as BIPOC refugees and immigrants, such as affordable housing, equitable

transportation access, and English Language Services, are adequately addressed by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Rinad

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