

From: AEMAdmin@sdcounty.ca.gov
To: [Potter, Andrew](#); [Fang, Angela](#); [Donnelly, Liberty](#); [Temple, Nicole](#); [Flores, Lauren](#); [COSD, Redistricting](#); [Hall, David](#); [Lau, Chim](#); [Villa, Nicole](#); [Van Wagner, Keith](#)
Subject: IRC eComment
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 2:38:59 PM

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Values:

First_Name :
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eComment :
Honorable Commissioners,

District 5 has been identified as a racially polarized voting (RPV) district, which we strongly urge the Commission to address and rectify. For the most part, Map 13A respects our communities of interest (COI) in District 5, which includes our Latino, A/API, African American, Native American and LGBTQ communities.

Historically, minorities living in District 5 have worked together to address similar issues, such as homelessness, gangs, affordable housing, access to quality education and healthcare, transportation, equal treatment, and immigrant communities.

Oceanside, Vista, San Marcos, Escondido, and Fallbrook have similar demographics, including at least 35% Latino, with Fallbrook, Vista, and Escondido at or approaching over 50%. Most of our communities are over 50% diverse, providing opportunities for our voices to be heard by coalescing with other communities of color and the LGBTQ community to elect a candidate of our choice.

We have a strong presence of A/API communities, including Samoans and Filipino Americans, in Oceanside, Fallbrook, Vista, San Marcos and Escondido, including 12 Samoan churches in the cities of Oceanside and Vista. There is also a Buddhist Temple in Vista and a Thai Temple in Escondido.

Since the 1940's, Camp Pendleton has played a large part in the diversity of its surrounding communities. Residents in base housing strongly identify with the City of Oceanside, as well as the communities of Fallbrook and Bonsall, as these three school districts have school sites near or on base, attended by children of military families. Many within these diverse communities chose to make this region their home and work on base as civilians after separation or remain connected due to multi-generational enlistments within families.

Historically, there was a large village of the San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians in the Oceanside/Camp Pendleton/Fallbrook/Bonsall area for 10,000 years. A landless tribe, members reside throughout District 5, depicted in 13A. Tribal members are very active in preserving their Native American Heritage and Sacred Sites, including partnering with Camp Pendleton and the cities and county in this region to ensure ancestors and historical artifacts disturbed are recorded and reburied at or near the grading site, as land development continues. It is imperative that the San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians have the same county representative and not be split from other tribal

members or other tribes/reservations where they also live. The ancient village, where ancestors and artifacts are buried, should be recognized and allowed to remain intact within the same district.

The Voting Rights Act was adopted “to address ongoing vote dilution and discrimination in voting as matters of statewide concern, in order to enforce the fundamental rights guaranteed to California voters.” It provides for equal opportunity of representation, the ability to elect a candidate of our choice. This Commission has a phenomenal opportunity to address past dilution practices (i.e., removing Escondido from District 5, 20 years ago) by choosing Map 13A as the base map from which to incorporate changes necessary to also address concerns from residents of other districts.

We support ensuring all unincorporated areas of Escondido are included in D5 (Map 13A, V5), as well as the communities of Harmony Grove and Elfin Forrest to be within the same district (Map 13A, V1).

We urge Members of the Commission to recognize our COI and apply the Voting Rights Act to finally allow our communities of color/LGBTQ/protected class communities to elect a candidate of our choice by selecting Map 13A. Please do not ignore the significant Latino communities and communities of color/LGBTQ communities in the North County,

Thank you!

Esther Sanchez

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