Describe your community

Give your community a name*

Three Rivers-Visalia COI

Tell us about your community. What are your shared interests? What brings you together? What is important to your community?*

The Three Rivers-Visalia COI consists of the communities of Three Rivers, Sequoia National Park (Lodgepole and Ash Mountain), Woodlake, Lemon Cove, Lindcove, Exeter, Farmersville, Ivanhoe, and the largest city Visalia. Geographically, Lake Kaweah and Sequoia National Park are prominent in our communities' lives, as Three Rivers and Visalia consider themselves the "Gateway to the Sequoias". Many citizens in Three Rivers commute to Visalia and the other listed communities for employment. Our shopping is done in those communities, even groceries. Our main line of transportation is Highway 198, with the local Amtrak station connection, county-wide bus station, and airport located in Visalia. Three Rivers' children attend high school in Woodlake and higher education is offered at the College of the Sequoias (COS) in Visalia, along with the Fresno State and Fresno Pacific satellite campuses. Kaweah Delta Hospital, Kaweah Health Network, Family Health care network and many private health providers - all located in Visalia - provide most of our health care. As Three Rivers is located within Tulare County, all of our relevant county business is located in Visalia, including the Sheriff's Department, Planning Department, Assessor's Office, Courthouse, and Elections Office. The nearest Social Security office and DMV are located in Visalia. Cultural and enrichment opportunities such as the Sequoia Symphony, Fox Theater, Arts Visalia, COS Choir, COS Theater productions, and Children's Theater are enjoyed by many Three Rivers residents. Movie theaters, restaurants, outdoor events, Rawhide Ballpark baseball games provide entertainment for those of us living in Three Rivers. The valley community residents frequent Three Rivers for recreation provided at Lake Kaweah (fishing, boating, skiing, camping), Three Rivers (swimming, hiking, camping), and of course Sequoia National Park (camping, hiking, swimming, mountain climbing). Residents of all of these communities have a shared appreciation for the area, the beauty, and each other.

Are there nearby areas you want to be in a district with? Nearby areas you don't want to be in a district with? Why or why not?

We currently are located within Congressional District 23 which includes Bakersfield, Ridgecrest and Lancaster (in northern LA County). We do not travel to Bakersfield or any of those communities during the year. Bakersfield (1 hour and 45 minutes away) is three times further from us than Visalia (30 minute drive). Being this far away from Bakersfield means that we do not enjoy easy access to the office/staff of our Congressional representative.

Is there anything else you can tell us about your community?

I have been a resident of Three Rivers for 43 years and our strong connection with Visalia and all the valley communities is long-standing, significant in our daily lives, and mutually beneficial. I feel that it just makes sense for the Three Rivers-Visalia COI to be included and represented in our next congressional district.