Norbert Tan  
Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council

My name is Norbert Tan. My family has lived in Ventura County for 18-years. We are currently 13-year residents of the South Bank neighborhood in North Oxnard, CA. I serve as the Deputy Director of the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON) in Los Angeles. A3PCON is a member of two multiracial coalitions advocating for equitable representation for communities of color in the redistricting process: the People’s Bloc and the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative. Currently, I commute to downtown Los Angeles 2-4 times a month. I also work remotely and travel within Los Angeles and Ventura County for my nonprofit consulting clients and executive coaching clients.

Geographically, South Bank is bound by the 101 freeway to the north, North Ventura Road to the west, Vineyard Avenue to the south, and North Oxnard Blvd to the east.

Our neighborhood is made up of a range of lower middle class to upper middle-class residents, living in apartments and single-family homes. Many of the single-family homes have multiple-generations living together. Our residents range from migrant workers to health care workers to professionals with advanced degrees.

Our immediate neighborhood has an elementary school, park, and cemetery, but is flanked by RiverRidge Golf Course, the Collection, the Esplanade Towers and retail center.

Our neighborhood is predominantly made up of Latinx residents. Spanish is widely spoken. The City of Oxnard hosts various festivals, like the Strawberry Festival and the Salsa Festival.

The Oxnard school districts and Haas Automation are the largest employers in our area.

Oxnard College, Ventura College, and Cal State Channel Islands are the major higher education institutions in our area.

Most residents travel by car and bus. There is Amtrak service through Oxnard.

Some of the major issues facing our neighborhood is:

1) The unhoused living in the Santa Clara Riverbank.
2) Housing affordability
3) Environmental effects stemming from the floods and wildfires.
4) General recovery from the pandemic.

I would urge any redistricting commission to keep the boundaries of Oxnard whole because of the unique challenges and opportunities that come from having such a diverse populations defined by such definite boundaries. The vibrant mix of agriculture, retail, education, tourism,
and technology industries in Oxnard continue to make it the largest and most economically powerful city in the county. It’s important to me to have elected officials who can rise to the challenge of representing a community.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my story.