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Resident of the Greater Sacramento Area

North Sacramento Hmong/SEA COIs - 5 on the line.

Introduction:

Good morning commissioners. My name is Cha Vang and Deputy Director with AAPIs For Civic Empowerment - Education Fund. I am a member of the AAPI and AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative. Today I will provide an introduction to our Collaborative's work and input on the Del Paso Heights Neighborhood in North Sacramento.

Since the beginning of the year, AAPI FORCE-EF has worked as a regional partner with the AAPI and AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative in the Greater Sacramento region. Four community workshops were held to engage the greater Sacramento AAPI and AMEMSA community members in redistricting. The first workshops were held to educate the community about redistricting and the state's process for the year. The following workshops helped to educate community members about communities of interest and to help them start identifying COIs in Sacramento. This work was done in hopes of helping the community engage with the redistricting process as well as to help the Commission better understand the diverse AAPI & AMEMSA communities in the Greater Sacramento community. There were 7 different community-based organizations who participated in the workshops.

North Sacramento:

A historically underinvested and disenfranchised area, the Del Paso Heights Neighborhood in North Sacramento is one of the most diverse areas in the city. While there are large numbers of Latino and Black communities, the Hmong and Southeast Asian communities also have a rich history in this area of North Sacramento. Since settling in Sacramento, Hmong and Southeast Asian communities have raised their children, opened small businesses and organizations to serve the community.

The Hmong and Southeast Asian communities that live in Del Paso Heights share similar socioeconomic status as the Black and Latino communities in the area. Many are limited English proficient who are refugees and immigrants. Other similarities include families who rely on safety net programs.

The area has high numbers of renters therefore the issues that impact the Hmong and Southeast Asian communities are tenant protection and rent control. In addition, there are high needs for quality healthcare and mental health. For decades, the Del Paso Heights area has been a food desert so access to healthy food has always been an issue for residents.

The core of Del Paso Heights runs from Northgate Blvd up to Bell Ave, from Bell Ave to Winters St and down to El Camino Ave in the South.

To allow the Hmong and Southeast Asian communities to have strong voices for the next ten years, I am urging the commission to keep the Del Paso Heights neighborhood whole in Assembly District 7 when considering maps for the Greater Sacramento area. Thank you so much for your time and the rest of the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative.