



September 22, 2021

2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission
 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Keep Long Beach Together – Regional Partnerships

Dear Commissioners Ahmad, Akutagawa, Andersen, Fernández, Fornaciari, Kennedy, Le Mons, Sadhwani, Sinay, Taylor, Toledo, Turner, Vázquez and Yee:

We want to thank you for your continued work for the State of California. Over the last few months, you have heard from residents, business leaders, racial justice organizations, community organizers and nonprofit leaders throughout Long Beach with one simple message: Keep Long Beach together. Thank you for taking into consideration each of our testimonies.

We have worked hard to meet your call to make our voices heard and we have had one of the strongest public responses in the state. Our community is united and we are grateful that many of you have supported our position to keep Long Beach together. We’ve heard members of the Commission express this sentiment at recent public meetings and we appreciate that greatly.

As we move forward, we want to reinforce some important points that our coalition and local government partners have made:

- We support the request of the Long Beach Unified School District to include **Lakewood, Signal Hill, and Catalina Island** in our federal and state districts. These four cities make up the greater Long Beach community and we share transit, public schools and the community college district. Together, we make up nearly 600,000 people.

Keep Long Beach Together – Regional Partnerships
September 22, 2021

- We support the request from the Port of Long Beach to be included in our federal and state districts. The Port is an important part of our community.
- And, we understand that the redistricting process inherently means district lines will change; but we respectfully ask the Commission consider keeping Orange County border cities with Long Beach in our Congressional District. Communities like **Los Alamitos, Cypress, and Rossmoor** share a border and are extensions of our east Long Beach community. These Orange County cities are very much a part of our greater Long Beach area.

Thank you again for all your work and we will continue to stay engaged throughout the process.

Sincerely,

Randal Hernandez, Chairman
Long Beach Economic Partnership

Jessica Quintana, Executive Director
Centro Community Hispanic Association (CHA)

Naomi Rainey-Pierson, President
NAACP, Long Beach

Charles Song, Co-Chair
Equity for Cambodians

Laura Som, Executive Director
MAYE Center

Jeremy Harris, CEO
Long Beach Chamber of Commerce

Martha Cota, Founder and Executive Director
Latinos in Action

Sithea San, Chairwoman
Cambodia Town, Inc.

Michelle Byerly, Executive Director
Long Beach Nonprofit Partnership

Blair Cohn, Executive Director
Bixby Knolls Business Improvement Association

Kraig Kojian, President and CEO
Downtown Long Beach Alliance

Steve Goodling, President and CEO
Long Beach Convention Center and Visitors Bureau

John Sangmeister, Board President
Long Beach Hospitality Coalition

Kristine Hammond, Executive Director
Zaferia District

Madison Mooney, Executive Director
Long Beach Playhouse

Malcom Benette, Board President
California Apartment Association

Keep Long Beach Together – Regional Partnerships
September 22, 2021

caryn Desai, Artistic Director/Producer
International City Theater

Lourdes Ramos, President and CEO
Museum of Latin American Art

Jennifer Rivera, Executive Director
Long Beach Opera

Jan Hower, President
Long Beach Camerata Singers

Maria Taber, Interim Executive Director
Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra

Ron C. Nelson, Executive Director
Long Beach Museum of Art

Griselda Suárez, Executive Director
Arts Council for Long Beach

Rex Pritchard
Long Beach Firefighters Association, Local 372

Aaron Fletcher
Long Beach Lifeguards Association

Carlos Torres
The LGBTQ Center Long Beach