California Citizens Redistricting Commission  

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Re: Support for visualization labeled CD17 COI 1004 767437 (Cities of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Fremont, and other cities)

2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commissioners,

My name is Tara Martin-Milius, I am a resident of the city of Sunnyvale and have lived in the city for more than 40 years. I’ve held commission positions, neighborhood leader positions and have served on Sunnyvale City Council. However, I am writing to you in my own personal capacity and am speaking on my own behalf as an individual.

I support visualization labeled CD17 COI 1004 767437 (with the Cities of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Fremont, and other cities shown). I respectfully urge the Commission to have a district which take into account redistricting with sustainability/climate change considerations. Some of these considerations involve putting the water facing cities and the communities of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Alviso, Fremont, Newark and Mountain View into one district such as done in a visualization from the October 5th redistricting meeting Labeled as CD17 COI 1004 767437 ¹, ². All these cities and communities are facing the San Francisco Bay with direct impacts from sea level rise and salt marsh restoration. There will be more extensive coastal flooding during storms, periodic tidal flooding, and increased coastal erosion which needs to be addressed now, collective to develop resilience for the future.

The cities of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Mountain View, Santa Clara, and Fremont tend to be technology job centers which have challenges in a shortage of affordable housing and less effective system transit with traffic congestion. In contrast, San Jose has traditionally had more housing than jobs, with this imbalance. Therefore, San Jose has different challenges that need to be solved in other ways. “San Jose has traditionally had more housing than jobs, with the imbalance causing the city to lose residents during the day to job centers like Mountain View and Cupertino. The imbalance makes San Jose a “bedroom community,” officials say, and causes a loss of potential revenue.” ³ Therefore, cities which share similar challenges such as Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Santa Clara, and Fremont might best to be in the same district so that those challenges can be resolved regionally.

These common areas of interests to the regional challenges we face are better mitigated when we can focus and collectively impact regional problems specific to our cities.

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¹ October 5, 2021 Redistricting Meeting, Time Tag 2:35:33 / 6:33:32  
https://download.videossc.com/CRC/100521/CRC_100521.mp4


Many of the cities (Cupertino, Sunnyvale, Fremont, Santa Clara) in the visualization labeled as CD17 COI 1004 767437 have some of the Highest Percentage of Asian-Indians and Chinese in California.\(^4\) There is much diversity in these cities and Asian cultural events that bring the

\(^4\) (CA rank) City / population / % Asian-Indians
community together such as the Diwali Festival of lights in Fremont, Cupertino and now Sunnyvale will be having a large Diwali celebration at the end of the month and other celebration and cultural centers that bring the community together.

I realize that you all are making major decisions that will impact this regional, our state and federal governance. Thank you for your dedication to public service for our community in making these redistricting decisions.

Sincerely,

Tara Martin-Milius
