Congressional District Map Narrative

Napa County shares one daily newspaper, one valley-wide local radio station, one bus system and one large school district that serves most of the school population of the county, so that keeping Napa within the same Congressional District would be consistent with preserving the geographic integrity of the valley. The County also shares a community of interest as a Great Wine Capital of the world, and premium grapes are grown in Napa County from the south in American Canyon to the northernmost area of Pope Valley.

Napa County shares many interests and similarities with Sonoma, Lake and Solano counties, and the citizens of our counties will be best served by remaining in the same Congressional District, which is the most logical and appropriate configuration for our unique geographic region. The winegrape industry, the tourism industry, local government partnerships, and regional watersheds provide strong ties and long-term relationships that are shared between these counties.

In addition, Napa County and the southwest portions of Solano County (Vallejo and Benicia) share common roadways that are essential for the travel of goods and workers – State Route 37 (SR37) Corridor and State Route 29 (SR29). SR37 is vulnerable to sea level rise that has caused flooding in recent years, resulting in shut downs and traffic diversions at times lasting for weeks. Also, a greater number of commuters on SR37 are workers from Napa and Solano counties who drive east to their jobs in Marin and Sonoma counties. From Mare Island to Sonoma Raceway, only one lane in each direction accommodates the demand, which can add up to an additional hour of commute time in both directions. Improving SR37 by addressing sea level rise and adding lanes is important for the continued flow of goods and services in the North Bay. With this in mind, it is imperative that Napa and Solano counties continue to work together to obtain federal funding for the reconstruction of SR 37 in order to withstand rising seas and storm surges while improving mobility and safety along the route.

For these reasons, we urge the Citizens Redistricting Commission to keep Napa County within a single Congressional District as well as in the same districts as Sonoma, Lake and Solano counties.

Sincerely,

Belia Ramos    Leon Garcia
Napa County Supervisor  Mayor, City of American Canyon
District 5