AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative (AASRC) Statewide Assembly Map Proposal
for the California Citizens Redistricting Commission

October 2021
AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative

• Network of organizations across six regions with the goal of engaging Asian American, Pacific Islander, Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim communities in redistricting.
  – Held more than 30 workshops for local organizations, residents and leaders to engage people in California’s state redistricting process, which included:
    • Community education about redistricting process and opportunities for engagement
    • Helping people submit community of interest input to the Commission
    • Discussing mapping priorities and proposals.
    • Worked with stakeholders from other communities to share priorities and find compromises.
AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative Principles

Principles

1. District boundaries should comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that minority populations have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice.

2. Districts should respect the integrity of communities of interest and neighborhoods.

3. Proposals should be created in collaboration with other stakeholders, such as Black, Latino, LGBTQ, and environmental communities, to find district line configurations that respect the integrity of other historically disenfranchised communities while also uplifting AAPI and AMEMSA ones.
Statewide Highlights

• Includes 80 ADs all within +/- 1.52% deviation

• Includes 26 potential VRA districts
  – 23 districts at 50+% LCVAP
  – 3 districts at 50+% ACVAP

• Drawn based on input from local AAPI & AMEMSA leaders and community members

• Drawn in collaboration with other civil rights and environmental groups resulting in a proposal similar to other submissions

• Respects AAPI & AMEMSA COIs as well as others, including Black, Latino, LGBTQ, immigrant/refugee, low income, and environmental COIs
Districts 6, 7, and 9 - Sacramento Region
Districts 6, 7, and 9 - Sacramento Region Priorities

- In AD 6, keep the Afghan and Syrian refugee COIs in Arden-Arcade and Carmichael neighborhoods whole and together in a district.

- In AD 7, keep the Southeast Asian COIs in Del Paso Heights and Lemon Hill neighborhoods whole and together due to similar interests such as tenant protections, language needs, and access to safety net programs.

- In AD 6, keep the City of Antelope whole and in a district with Roseville, but separate from Granite Bay. The Punjabi Sikh community in this area exists in both cities and considers themselves a single, united community, with the Roseville Gurdwara.

- In AD 9, keep Elk Grove whole and in a district with southern Sacramento. The communities in this area, many of whom are low income and/or immigrants, share common challenges like encountering hate crimes, housing affordability, and limited English proficiency.

- In AD 9, keep Greenhaven whole and with Elk Grove. These areas have a shared interest in levee system in that area of the Sacramento River.
Districts 17 and 19 - San Francisco & San Mateo
Districts 17 and 19 - San Francisco & San Mateo Priorities

- In AD 17, keep San Francisco’s Chinatown and Japantown whole and together because they are important cultural centers and their immigrant and senior residents share many interests, including a need for affordable housing.

- In AD 19, keep Excelsior whole and with Oceanview, Merced, & Ingleside Heights (OMI), Portola, Visitacion Valley, and the Bayview. These neighborhoods have many low-income residents, including immigrants, who face challenges around housing and food insecurity.

- In AD 19, keep the Sunset and Richmond districts whole and together. Residents of these family-oriented neighborhoods, many of whom are Chinese Americans, have shared interests in education, public safety, and language access.

- In AD 19, keep Daly City whole and with adjacent Filipino American communities in Westborough and Penn (Buri Buri) due to shared concerns about language access, protections for essential workers, and healthcare access.

- The proposed AD 19 is drawn as an Asian American opportunity district with more than 50% ACVAP.
Districts 22 and 24 - San Mateo & South Bay
Districts 22 and 24 - San Mateo & South Bay Priorities

- Keep Pacific Islander COI whole and together. Pacific Islanders face systemic disparities in the areas of education, healthcare, employment, and housing.

- In AD 22, keep together Pacific Islander COIs in Redwood City (Redwood Village, Palm Park, Roosevelt, El Camino Real near Mt. Carmel) and COIs in northern San Mateo County in Lomita Park near Capuchino High School, the San Francisco International Airport, and Bayshore Heights.

- In AD 24, keep the Pacific Islander COI in North Fair Oaks and the Belle Haven triangle with East Palo Alto, due to shared interests around education, employment, and housing affordability.
District 18 - East Bay
District 18 - East Bay Priorities

- In AD 18, keep Oakland Chinatown, Eastlake / Little Saigon, and San Antonio whole and together. These neighborhoods have many Asian American immigrants and refugees, who face pressures of gentrification and displacement, and have shared needs for language access and social services.

- In AD 18, keep Oakland’s Koreatown Northgate (KONO) district whole and with the business district in Temescal. This area is home to Korean, Yemeni, and Ethiopian small businesses, restaurants, and residents, with shared interests in small business support, language access, and neighborhood safety.
District 20 - East Bay Priorities

- In AD 20 keep Union City whole and with Hayward and San Leandro. These cities have large Filipino American populations and working-class Asian residents with shared interests around immigration, employment, and education.

- Keep the Centerville area of Fremont whole and in AD 20. Centerville is home to many Afghani Americans and immigrants, with shared interests around immigration, access to language services and culturally-specific social services, education, parks, and community spaces.
District 25 - South Bay Priorities

- In AD 25, keep the Fremont neighborhoods of Irvington, Warm Springs, and Mission San Jose whole and together. Asian and Muslim residents in these areas share concerns about language services, immigration, and economic opportunity. Many also work in tech-related jobs.

- Keep South Fremont, Milpitas, Berryessa, and Santa Clara together. Many Asian ethnic and religious groups and Muslims have multiple COI concentrations in these cities, with strong cultural ties through religious institutions, schools, and ethnic businesses. Many residents also share economic ties to the tech industry.

- The proposed AD 25 is drawn as an Asian American opportunity district with more than 50% ACVAP.
District 27 - South Bay
District 27 - South Bay Priorities

- In AD 27, keep Alum Rock with East Side San Jose. Alum Rock is home to many Filipino Americans and Latinos, and is adjacent to a Vietnamese community of interest along Story Road. Residents have shared interests in housing affordability and protections for frontline and essential workers.

- In AD 27, keep Evergreen and Silver Creek neighborhoods in San Jose whole and together. These neighborhoods have many Punjabi, Vietnamese, and Filipino families, with strong cultural communities as well as shared interests in education and language access.
Districts 23 and 31 - Fresno
Districts 23 and 31 - Fresno Priorities

- AD 31 is drawn as a Latino VRA district.
- In AD 31, keep the Arabic-speaking COIs around Masjid Badr and Masjid Fresno whole and in the same district.
- In AD 31, keep the Punjabi Sikh COI along the West Fresno 99 corridor whole. They have shared priorities when it comes to the local school districts, the need for more language access, environmental and health issues caused by pollution from Highway 99, and a desire for more recreational activities and access to parks.
- In ADs 31 and 23, keep as much of the Hmong/Southeast Asian community in the Fresno area together as possible, Fresno is home to one of the largest Hmong communities in the country and is a crucial cultural hub for this diasporic community.
Districts 51 and 53 - Metro Los Angeles
Districts 51 and 53 - Metro Los Angeles
Priorities

- ADs 51 and 53 as drawn as LVRA districts.

- In ADs 51 and 53, keep whole the five Asian American ethnic neighborhoods of Chinatown, Historic Filipinotown, Koreatown, Little Tokyo, and Thai Town. All five Asian American neighborhoods have been recognized by the City of Los Angeles and have strong historic preservation goals of protecting and celebrating AAPI culture and heritage.

- Keep the five Asian American ethnic neighborhoods in 2 districts. The five neighborhoods are in close proximity to downtown Los Angeles and share similar social and economic characteristics. Little Tokyo and Chinatown should be in the same district as both densely populated with low-income and limited-English proficient renters who are at risk of displacement due to gentrification.
District 49 - Los Angeles West SGV
District 49 - Los Angeles West SGV Priorities

- In AD 49, keep whole the COI in the west San Gabriel Valley, including the cities of Alhambra, Arcadia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, South Pasadena, and Temple City. Nearly all of these cities are majority-AAPI and a large proportion are limited English proficient immigrants.

- Keep AD 49 above 50% Asian CVAP. Ten years ago, AD 49 was the first assembly district in California where a majority of the citizen age population was Asian American. Since that time, the Asian American community has grown larger and has been able to elect their candidate of choice. The proposed AD 49 is drawn as an Asian American opportunity district with more than 50% ACVAP.
District 57 - Los Angeles East SGV
District 57 - Los Angeles East SGV Priorities

- AD 57 is drawn as a Latino VRA district.
- In AD 57, keep whole the community of interest in the east San Gabriel Valley, consisting of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar, Walnut. These cities are either majority or near majority Asian American and share common interests.
Districts 46 and 54 - Westside Los Angeles
Districts 46 and 54 - Westside Los Angeles Priorities

- In ADs 46 and 54, keep whole the two Japanese American enclaves in west Los Angeles. Sawtelle Japantown (“Little Osaka”) and the Venice-Culver City COI are home to Japanese American community centers, religious institutions, and shops and are a magnets to the local Japanese American COI in the area.
District 66 - Los Angeles South Bay
In AD 66, keep Torrance whole and with much of Gardena. The South Bay is home to the largest concentration of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants in the mainland U.S. It is also home to a growing Korean American community. Both cities have important cultural institutions, and both share a business corridor filled with culturally sensitive shops that runs north to south along Western Blvd.
Districts 62 and 64 - Los Angeles South Bay
Districts 62 and 64 - Los Angeles South Bay Priorities

● AD 64 is drawn as a Latino VRA district.

● In AD 62, keep West Carson whole and with much of Carson. Carson is home to a large Filipino American population and holds many Filipino American educational programs and festivities. Carson is also home to a Samoan community and many Samoan institutions, particularly the Samoan churches. The growing Filipino community is moving west to West Carson.

● Any split of Carson (between ADs 62 and 64) should be as far north as possible in order to keep the small city of West Carson whole and with the adjacent areas of Carson.

● In AD 62, keep Hawthorne, Inglewood, and Lennox whole and together. Tongan community members have been living in the Lennox, Hawthorne, and Inglewood area since the 1970s and the 3 cities have the largest concentration of Tongan churches in the area.
Districts 63 and 70 - Los Angeles South Bay
Districts 63 and 70 - Los Angeles South Bay

Priorities

- AD 63 is drawn as a Latino VRA district
- Keep the Cambodian COI in Long Beach and Signal Hill whole if possible. If not possible cut them at the Signal Hill boundary and keep the southwest portion of the COI in a Latino Voting Rights Act district (AD 63). Long Beach is a gateway community for Cambodian immigrants and has the largest Cambodian American population in the U.S. As a predominantly immigrant/refugee community, the COI has many policy interests related to their low income and limited English proficiency.
Districts 72 and 68 - Orange County
Districts 72 and 68 - Orange County Priorities

- In AD 72, keep the AMEMSA COI that crosses the LA-OC county line whole. The communities are particularly prominent along the border of Los Angeles and Orange Counties, where the cities of Buena Park, La Palma, Cypress, Cerritos, and Artesia come together across county lines.

- In AD 72, keep Little Saigon whole. Garden Grove and Westminster are home to some of the nation’s largest Vietnamese American communities, as well as notable Korean American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations.

- In AD 68, keep Irvine and Costa Mesa whole, drawn together with parts of Tustin, and apart from more affluent coastal communities like Newport Beach and Laguna Beach. With growing numbers of AAPI, and AMEMSA residents, Irvine is also home to an emerging low-income population with needs similar to those of Latina communities in Costa Mesa.
District 77 - San Diego
District 77 - San Diego Priorities

- In AD 77, respect the integrity of the Convoy District within the larger Kearny Mesa neighborhood and keep it in a district with Clairemont, Linda Vista, and Mira Mesa. The Convoy district is a crucial business and cultural center for the AAPI community in San Diego, and is home to many small businesses and community centers.
District 79 - San Diego
District 79 - San Diego Priorities

- In AD 79, keep the broader City Heights refugee community whole. This neighborhood has long been home to refugee communities arriving into the San Diego area. The shared challenges and priorities of this community include high levels of limited English proficiency, extremely low income, and the need to access culturally competent, in-language supportive services.

- In AD 79, keep the northeastern section of National City with the Paradise Hills neighborhood in southeastern San Diego. The AAPI community in the northeastern corner of National City is strongly connected to the community in the Paradise Hills neighborhood.
Thank you for the opportunity to present our statewide assembly proposal focused on respecting and empowering AAPI & AMEMSA communities of interest while also respecting the Voting Rights Act, other COIs, and other traditional redistricting criteria.