APPENDIX B

AAPI & AMEMSA STATE REDISTRICTING COLLABORATIVE
COMMUNITY TESTIMONY - ASSEMBLY

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SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY TESTIMONY

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● Oussama Mokeddem, Policy and Advocacy Manager at the Council on American-Islamic Relations - Sacramento Valley & Central California

● Lilia Rivera, President of Filipino Fiesta of Sacramento & Manager of Kapitbahay

● Mandeep Singh, Sacramento Community Organizer at the Jakara Movement

● ‘Alisi Tulua, Pacific Islander Community Leader & Consultant for One East Palo Alto

● Cha Vang, Deputy Director at AAPIs For Civic Engagement - Education Fund

● Dao Vang, Sacramento Field Organizer at Hmong Innovating Politics

● June Lim, Demographic Research Project Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles
Brian Kohaya  
Greenhaven Community Member & Resident  

My name is Brian Kohaya and I was born and raised in the Greenhaven-Pocket area (95831) of Sacramento, California and am a member of the AAPI & AMESMA Redistricting Collaborative. I am speaking before the commission today to advocate for my community and support the map drawn by the AAPI and AMESMA Redistricting Collaborative.

I urge the commission to ensure that the entire community of Greenhaven remains whole. The boundary to the north, west, and south is the Sacramento River and the boundary to the east is I-5. Greenhaven should continue to be drawn with Elk Grove in AD9 as both of our communities have large middle-class Asian American populations. According to recent data, both of our communities are 28% Asian American and have a medium income above the CA average. Additionally, our communities are invested in maintaining high standards for our infrastructure as we are deeply impacted by the structural integrity of our levee system.

Sacramento has an illustrious history of electing AAPI leaders including Robert and Doris Matsui, Dr. Richard Pan, and current councilwoman Mai Vang. Our diverse AAPI community deserves to be represented by those that have our best interest in mind as well as other communities of color. I believe that keeping the current northern assembly boundaries of AD9 will allow our communities to have our candidate of choice represent us.

Finally, I want to thank the commission for your time today and for your service to the great state of California.
Oussama Mokeddem  
**Policy and Advocacy Manager at the Council on American-Islamic Relations - Sacramento Valley & Central California**

My name is Oussama Mokeddem and I currently serve as the Policy and Advocacy Manager for the Sacramento Valley and Central CA office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, the nation’s largest Muslim civil rights organization. I am also here representing the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative. Today, I will be talking about the Arden-Arcade and Carmichael neighborhoods, defined by the Howe Ave. boundary to the west, Auburn Blvd. to Winding Way boundary to the north, Manzanita Ave. boundary to the east, and Hurley Way (between Howe & Watt Aves.), El Camino Ave. (between Watt and Walnut Aves.), and Marconi Ave. (between Walnut and Manzanita Aves.) boundaries to the south.

As an organization that provides free civil rights, immigration, and community education services to the underserved, this region has stood out as one with the highest number of Afghan and Syrian refugees in Sacramento, since heavy resettlements started in 2016. Many service organizations and resettlement agencies have their offices located within this community of interest to be able to reach the refugees in the city. Many refugees in the area are low-income and have limited English proficiency, which is shared across several immigrant and working-class communities residing in the area, meaning that accessibility to resources and services is essential to them. Moreover, a majority of Afghan and Syrian refugee families are of the Muslim faith and this Community of Interest is home to seven mosques, the highest concentration in a single area across all of Sacramento County.

Many of these families rely upon education policies that exist in the San Juan Unified School District, as well as the progress that is being made in relation to cultural sensitivity, to receive quality education for their children. Over the last five years, CAIR, as well as other service organizations, routinely conduct trainings on how to best address the needs of refugee children and families in schools. Additionally, we have contributed to many significant policy implementations aimed at protecting the civil rights of the increasingly Muslim student population within the school district.

We hope that the commission will continue to recognize this community of interest in its entirety and keep it whole, continuing to build upon the progress that has been made since these families have settled in the area. Thank you for your time and consideration.
Lilia Rivera
President of Filipino Fiesta of Sacramento & Manager of Kapitbahay

I am Lilia Rivera, past president of the Filipino Community of Sacramento & Vicinity (FCSV), current president of the Filipino Fiesta of Sacramento, (FFS) an organization in which seven major Filipino organizations form the core steering committee, and also currently manager of Kapitbahay- the activity center of the Filipino community since 2007. All of these organizations are all-volunteer entities in the community. I am also working with the AAPI & AMESMA Redistricting Collaborative.

FCSV was established in 1929 by Filipino farm workers as a social group to provide assistance to its members when needed. FFS was established in 2010 to continue the traditional biggest annual celebration of Philippine Independence Day, - and to share the rich Filipino culture through historical exhibits, food and entertainment and provide an opportunity to showcase the talents of youths. Kapitbahay means “neighbor” in Tagalog. It is a place where groups or clubs can meet for meetings, training or workshops for young and old such as exercise, line dance or other wellness activities. The venue of Kapitbahay is small but it is offered free for
the Filipino community to use by a supermarket. Right now the community is raising money to build its own community center in a lot the community owns.

The area around 57th Avenue of South Sacramento is historically recognized as where the pioneer Filipino families bought their houses because at that time, real estate agents “directed” them to the South of downtown Sacramento (and the Caucasians to North of Sacramento). My family has lived in South Sacramento for over forty years now. Our friends and our children have gone to schools here and feel comfortable living in the area near Pocket Road.

The majority of the different organizations draw their memberships from either Sacramento or Elk Grove, although a small percentage comes from outside the area as far as Roseville or Rancho Cordova. The area boundaries are Fruitridge Blvd in the North, Hood Franklin Road to the South, the area West of I-5 and Elk Grove-Florin Rd to the East. In the early 1920’s Filipino males were recruited to work in the farms of Sacramento and Stockton. It was around the 1960’s that the next emigration of Filipinos occurred. Professionals consisting of nurses, doctors, and other professionals such as teachers, accountants and engineers arrived. There is now a large presence of third generation Filipinos in South Sacramento and Elk Grove. The community is near Little Saigon to the North. It is also home to the Hmongs and Pacific Islanders. Generally, it is primarily immigrants from the Pacific countries, limited English proficiency and low-income. The proximity and similarity make it seem like one big neighborhood. Residents of both cities share the same social group and commercial services. Social problems such as gangs or anti-hate crimes go beyond each other’s boundaries and must be addressed by both communities.

Please keep South Sacramento and Elk Grove in the same District 9. Thank you for your consideration.

Elk Grove COI
Mandeep Singh  
Sacramento Community Organizer at the Jakara Movement

Thank you to the commission for this incredible work you are doing on behalf of Californians. My name is Mandeep Singh and I am the Sacramento Community Organizer for the Jakara Movement. I attended University of California, Davis and Sacramento is my current home. Our organization works primarily with Punjabi-Sikhs all over the state of California. We are also a member of the AAPI and AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative.

Jakara Movement has been active within our community for the last 20 years, organizing and empowering our youth and wider community to better advance our health, education, economic, social and political power. The history of Punjabi Sikh in California goes back to the late 1800s when our people landed on Angel Island in San Francisco.

Our communities live all the way from Roseville down to Elk Grove and from West Sac to Folsom in the Sacramento Region. We have Gurdwaras, our places of worship, located through Sacramento County as a place to come together for the community. Our senior citizens gather in parks in the evenings to see their neighbors and watch their grandkids play with each other.

We are primarily made up of families who work blue collar jobs. Although some of us are educated white collar workers in Northern California, the majority of our community are immigrants with Limited English Proficiency. We work with youth in high schools and colleges, so we see first hand how important public education is to our community. Our people drive trucks, work in factories and restaurants, are farm workers, in addition to many other labor intensive jobs.

As far geographically, we would love if the commission can keep Roseville and Antelope together as much as possible because although these two towns have different names, they are one community for us. All of our community members in Roseville, Rocklin and Antelope gather at the Roseville Gurdwara on Main street in Roseville every Sunday to come together as a community. In the current maps that have been used for the past decade, Roseville is separated from Antelope and is grouped with Granite Bay which splits our community from each other.

We would also ask the commission to keep Elk Grove as one community. Currently, Elk Grove is split down the 99 into two different communities. Elk Grove is a growing community of Punjabi Sikhs, who were able to organize and get the city of Elk Grove to name its newest and 100th park as Singh and Kaur Park. Jakara Movement actually held the opening ceremony for the park which included members of the Punjabi Sikh from all areas of Elk Grove all the way from highway 5 in west Elk Grove to Bradshaw Road in east Elk Grove.
We need language accessibility in our neighborhoods. We also need senior services, transportation, and housing affordability resources. Many of our elderly feel alienated and are codependent on their children because of a lack of resources & language barriers. Per the Sikh Coalition, 67% of the Punjabi-Sikh youth meet racism and prejudice in their schools and seniors often face hate crimes. Furthermore, South Asians, especially Indian Americans come from diverse ethnic, language, and religious backgrounds. Treating Asian-Indians as a homogenous group hurts the ethnic and religious minority communities who are then not given accessibility to the resources they need.

I am calling today to ask the commission to respect the integrity of the Punjabi Sikh communities. Doing so would allow us to receive the necessary services through our vote. Otherwise splitting us dilutes our voices and representation.
‘Alisi Tulua  
Pacific Islander Community Leader & Consultant for One East Palo Alto

Hello, my name is ‘Alisi Tulua and I am a Consultant with One East Palo Alto. I would like to provide input today on a variety of Pacific Islander communities found in the Bay Area, Central Valley, and Central Coast. I am also writing as a member of the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative.

This summer, we worked with the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative to host a regional workshop across Northern California. This workshop reached over 20 community members, each holding expertise in their local neighborhoods and communities. The following maps are a culmination of their knowledge of Pacific Islander communities across Northern California.

As a community, Pacific Islanders are tied together by socio-economic standing which determines the livelihood, trajectory, and future of our community. The pandemic has amplified the impact of being an invisible and under-resourced community lacking collective power. Of California’s 58 counties, 16 disaggregate and report our COVID case and death data and in each of these counties, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have the highest case and death rate than any other ethnic or racial group in the state. In large part, these are outcomes of decades of systemic neglect in all social determinants of health that create disparities in areas such as education, healthcare, employment, and housing for a community that began migrating here following World War I. A vision for a thriving future for the Pacific Islander community begins with the recognition that our people contribute to the richness and growth of this local community and state.

I am writing to ask the commission to respect the integrity of our communities. It’s important that our Pacific Islander COIs are not further broken up by district lines.

Thank you for hearing from me today.
Cha Vang  
Deputy Director at AAPIs For Civic Engagement - Education Fund  

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.

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.
Dear Commissioners,

My name is Dao Vang. I am the Sacramento Field Organizer for Hmong Innovating Politics (HIP), a local grassroots organization based in Sacramento and Fresno committed to mobilizing two of the largest Hmong American populations in the state and nation. Since 2012, HIP has been working closely with Hmong and other disenfranchised communities in the Meadowview and Lemon Hill area. We engage with our voters annually through culturally and linguistically appropriate voter education materials, phone banking and door-to-door canvassing, and empowering Hmong and Southeast Asian young people to realize their power and leadership. HIP also serves as a member of the AAPI & AMESMA Redistricting Collaborative which focuses on empowering Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Arab, Middle Eastern, South Asian, communities.

Our communities sit next to the major highways (I-5 & 99) and south of Fruitridge Rd. Specifically, the Meadowview community is the center of both I-5 and the light rail. The I-5 sits on the West while the light trail tracks sit on the east, and open spaces are located in the south. The 99 neighbors the Lemon Hill area to the west along with Fruitridge road to the north. Train...
tracks and Florin road are located respectively to the east and south of the Lemon Hill area as well.

Our communities are made up of first-generation immigrants who fled war in the early 1980s and 1990s. They resettled in low-income and affordable areas of Sacramento. Due to the lack of accessible financial capital and literacy, our community are mostly renters in the area. To financially support themselves, some families established small businesses in the farming industry and creative clothing outlets. We also have community members working in the service and manufacturing industries. As community members obtained more financial capital, most have moved to suburban areas such as Elk Grove, North Natomas, and Roseville. Our community has been in the United States for over 45 years with the current median age for our community being 23 years old with a huge proportion of them being American-born. There is still a population of community members who are 60 years and over that are limited English proficient. Our community members tend to graduate from high school but have low rates of college attainment and job security. In addition, our community has low rates of civic participation due to a long history of disenfranchisement. Due to the intergenerational trauma & post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) from fleeing the Vietnam War, our communities have high rates of social, economic, and health disparities which has been exacerbated even more by the pandemic. Lastly, our area still remains one of the least vaccinated areas in the county.

These shared characteristics mean that our community has many shared concerns, including the need for tenant protections, language access, adequate health and mental health services, and more. We ask the Commission to consider these shared characteristics and concerns and respect our communities of interest by keeping the Lemon Hill and Meadowview areas whole. Thank you for your consideration.
My name is June Lim and I am the Demographic Research Project Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles. Advancing Justice-Los Angeles is a Census Information Center, meaning we are part of an official program of the United States Census Bureau designed to promote the dissemination of census data to underserved populations. I am joining you today to present data supporting the Community of Interest testimony you’ve heard from our partners representing the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative. These include COIs in the Sacramento areas of Del Paso Heights, Greenhaven, Elk Grove, Meadowview, Lemon Hill, Arden-Arcade, Carmichael, Antelope and Roseville communities.

The Asian American, Pacific Islander, and AMEMSA community is a large and fast-growing part of Sacramento County. For example, the latest census data show that while the population in Sacramento County grew by 12% between 2010 and 2020, the Asian American population in the county grew by 41% and the Pacific Islander community grew by 38%. Asian Americans now comprise 34% of Sacramento County. The Asian American and NHPI communities have
grown considerably in the places in which the COIs described are located, especially in Arden Arcade and Carmichael where our communities grew by 137% and 134%, respectively, over the last decade. The Pacific Islander community grew by 230% in Lemon Hill and also grew by over 79% in Roseville. Thirty-five percent of Elk Grove and 21% of both Sacramento and Lemon Hill are now Asian American; and while Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders were 1% of Lemon Hill’s community in 2010, they now make up 4% of that community.

I would also like to share some sociodemographic characteristics that help to describe the communities of interest shared with you today. Only 14% of the Sacramento County population is Limited English Proficient meaning they speak English less than very well; however, the LEP rate in the Asian American community is 32% and 18% for Pacific Islanders. In the cities and communities in which the COIs described are located, the LEP rate is disproportionately higher. For example, over 46% of Asian Americans in Lemon Hill and Meadowview do not speak English very well. The rates are even higher among older adult community members. Over 91% of Hmong elders and over 63% of PI elders in Sacramento are Limited English Proficient.

Twenty percent of Sacramento County is foreign-born. When we look at some of the specific places where the COIs described by community members are located, the proportion of immigrant communities is much higher. For example, although 23% of the City of Sacramento is foreign-born, nearly 50% of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities that reside there are foreign-born. Similarly, 55% of the Lemon Hill Asian American community is foreign-born whereas only 31% of the Lemon Hill area is immigrant.

Nearly 40% of the Sacramento County population is low-income and 20% is in poverty. About half of the Meadowview community and 70% of the Lemon Hill community is low income. The rate of poverty in Lemon Hill is 39%—almost double that of Sacramento County. Although there is a large Asian American community in Elk Grove, it has distinct differences from the Asian American community in Lemon Hill in that the community in Elk Grove has a lower percentage of its community that is low income or in poverty. In fact, the communities in Roseville and Elk Grove fare better economically than the greater Sacramento County with 22 and 24% of their communities being low-income, respectively.

In closing, the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative asks the Commission to respect the integrity of the communities of interest presented today in the areas of Del Paso Heights, Greenhaven, Elk Grove, Meadowview, Lemon Hill, and Arden-Arcade, and Carmichael. I will submit to the Commission data maps and shapefiles of these Communities of Interest with my written testimony. Thank you for your time.
## SACRAMENTO DEMOGRAPHIC DATA TABLES

### 2020 Asian American & NHPI Population

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<thead>
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<th>Place/City</th>
<th>ASIAN AMERICANS</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># Asian Americans</td>
<td>% of Total Population</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antelope</td>
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<td>Arden-Arcade</td>
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<td>Carmichael</td>
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Data: 2020 Decennial Census PL 94-171; 2010 Decennial Census PL 94-171

### Asian American & NHPI: Percent Foreign-Born

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<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
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<td>Arden-Arcade</td>
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<td>Carmichael</td>
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<td>51%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lemon Hill</td>
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<td>49%</td>
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Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table B05003

*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size
### Asian American & NHPI: Percent Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)

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<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Arden-Arcade</td>
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<td>Roseville</td>
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Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table B16004

*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size

### Asian American & NHPI: Percent Low Income & Poverty

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<th>% Poverty</th>
<th>% Low-Income</th>
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<td>25%</td>
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<td>Sacramento</td>
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Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table C17002

*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size
SACRAMENTO HEAT MAPS

DEL PASO HEIGHTS HMONG COI – Cha Vang, AAPIs for Civic Empowerment Education Fund

Estimated population low-income, defined as 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

[Map of Del Paso Heights]

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Table S1701 5-Year Estimates

MEADOWVIEW HMONG COI – Dao Vang, Hmong Innovating Politics

Estimated population low-income, defined as 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

[Map of Meadowview]

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Table S1701 5-Year Estimates
LEMON HILL HMONG COI – Dao Vang, Hmong Innovating Politics

% Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Tables C16001 and B16005B-I.

ARDEN ARCADE/CARMICHAEL AFGHAN AND SYRIAN REFUGEE & MUSLIM COI - OUSSAMA MukEDDEM, Council on American-Islamic Relations - Sacramento Valley & Central California

Estimated population low-income, defined as 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Table S1701 5-Year Estimates
GREENHAVEN COI – Brian Kohaya

Median Income (2018 Inflation adjusted dollars)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP3062

ELK GROVE/SOUTH SACRAMENTO FILIPINO COI – Lilia Rivera, Filipino Fiesta of Sacramento

Estimated Number Filipino (by census tract)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP5042
ROSEVILLE/ANTELOPE SIKH & PUNJABI COI – Mandeep Singh, Jakara Movement
Median Income (2018 Inflation adjusted dollars)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP3062
SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA COMMUNITY TESTIMONY

- Christopher Chin, Community Advocate at Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus
- Rob Chua, Consultant for the Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center
- Jessica Ho, Sunset Community Member & Resident
- Steve Nakajo, Executive Director at Japantown Task Force
- Tiffany Ng, Civic Engagement Director at the Chinese Progressive Association
- Alisi Tulua, Pacific Islander Community Leader & Consultant for One East Palo Alto
- June Lim, Demographic Research Project Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles
Christopher Chin  
Community Advocate at Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus

Hello, my name is Christopher Chin, and I am the Community Advocate on the Voting Rights team at Advancing Justice-Asian Law Caucus, located in San Francisco, CA. I am calling in today to share information about the communities where our clients live in San Francisco and to provide an introduction for the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative for the San Francisco Peninsula & the East Bay. As the Commission may know, along with Advancing Justice-LA, the ALC leads the AAPI and AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative, and have worked to engage organizations and individuals in the San Francisco Peninsula & the East Bay. The testimony that my colleagues and I have prepared for you reflects our engagement with community members and community based organizations to identify COIs that capture the diversity of our regions.

Similar to our Collaborative’s work in the South Bay, our SF Peninsula & East Bay regional tables each held 4 community workshops, reaching 18 community based organizations and over 30 community members and staff. Besides identifying COIs, we also used these meetings to educate attendees on the importance of redistricting and share the various ways for community members to engage. The feedback that we have collected for you today comes from a variety of stakeholders, including community health providers, families, leaders, and community organizers.

As the nation’s first legal & civil rights organization serving low-income Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders, the Asian Law Caucus is committed to utilizing advocacy, community engagement, & direct legal service to uplift the most vulnerable of our communities. In San Francisco alone, our Housing and Workers’ Rights programs provided legal counseling and representation to over 200 clients in 2020. Significant concentrations of the clients we serve are found in historic San Francisco Chinatown, as well as the Excelsior and Balboa Park neighborhoods.

As the oldest Chinatown in North America, San Francisco's Chinatown houses a large portion of senior, limited English proficient immigrants. Many of the community members we serve in Chinatown are working class and SRO residents, having similar policy needs including a need for language assistance as well as tenant & employment protections.

Farther south, there is another large concentration of low-income and immigrant communities in the Excelsior & Balboa Park neighborhoods. Many of the clients we serve within these areas are low-income Chinese residents, many of whom have been historically displaced due to rising housing costs in the city. Many residents in these neighborhoods have come to us with concerns related to unemployment assistance and eviction from their homes. Language barriers are also a challenge for many of our clients from Excelsior & Balboa Park.

Today, I am urging the commission to respect the integrity of both of these COIs, each holding importance for the Chinese communities we serve in San Francisco. Thank you so much for hearing from me today and the rest of the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative.
Good afternoon, Commissioners:

My name is Rob Chua, representing the Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center (PBRC), a nonprofit located in Daly City. PBRC has provided direct services since 1989 to the Filipino population of San Mateo County—including legal services, immigration services, food distributions, and cultural activities.

Today, I will be speaking as part of the AAPI & AMESMA Redistricting Collaborative to cover the following areas: Daly City, Westborough, and the Penn (Buri Buri) area.

Most of our FilAm COIs are encapsulated within the boundaries of Daly City, including Serramonte, St. Francis, Westlake, & Hillside. Daly City also houses the largest concentration of Filipinos in the United States. According to the 2019 Census, one in three individuals in Daly City identify as Filipino. As seen on the map, our community has grown exponentially and has gradually moved south covering the Westborough and Penn areas.

Westborough begins North on King Dr. and follows both the Junipero Serra & Skyline Blvd. South to Valleywood Drive.

Penn (Buri Buri) begins South on Westborough Blvd, moving north along the 280 corridor to Arlington Dr. This northern boundary extends to Mission and wraps around Holy Cross cemetery along Lawndale Blvd. The neighborhood is closed off along Hillside Blvd to the West, finally connecting with Chestnut Blvd to the South.

These neighborhoods house major Catholic churches and places of worship that serve as community hubs. Since many Filipino families in the region are immigrants, many are concerned about language barriers, institutional accessibility, and civic participation. If the community continues to be divided, we fear that a growing number of Filipino immigrants will be in isolation from other Filipino Americans.

Inequities in health disproportionately affect the Filipino community, as health disparities are shaped by socioeconomic challenges and the lack of culturally competent resources. With a high representation of Filipino Americans performing essential services, our community members have been risking their health to meet ends. In particular, the great presence of Filipino Americans in the healthcare industry has led to an alarming death rate of registered nurses from the community.

According to the Los Angeles Times, approximately one-quarter of the Asian American
population in California represents Filipino Americans. Yet, Filipino Americans “account for at least 35% of COVID-19 deaths in the state’s Asian population.”

During COVID-19, our community members have also faced added mental stressors from unemployment, lack of social support, and increase in racial violence and harassment across the Bay Area.

As these issues distinguish the Filipino community, they also attest to the need for visibility. Our community’s experiences must not be homogenized or reduced under the broader Asian American population.

PRBC respectfully requests that the Commission keep our community whole and not divided.

Thank you to the Commission for the opportunity to speak on behalf of PBRC and the Filipino American community.
Hello, my name is Jessica Ho, and I am a resident of the Sunset District in San Francisco, and I would like to provide input today on this neighborhood. I am also writing this email as a member of the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative.

My grandmother moved to the Sunset District in the 1980s from Taiwan and purchased a few properties within the district. My parents lived in the Sunset for a few years when I was attending UC Berkeley, and I moved in with them during my last year in college. I lived in the Sunset while attending UCSF and interning for the City, but I did leave for a few years for school and for work. I came back to the Sunset District in 2018 and worked for former Sunset District Supervisor Katy Tang. I now work for a health care nonprofit that provides much needed services in the neighborhood, and I participate in various community organizations and Boards in and around the neighborhood.

The Sunset District community primarily lives within the boundaries of 19th Avenue to the Ocean/Great Highway (East/West), and from Lincoln Street, which borders the southern portion of Golden Gate Park, to Sloat Avenue (North/West). The fourth Supervisorial District of San Francisco looks generally like a big rectangle, However, due to the last local redistricting, the
Sunset District also includes a small tract from 17th Avenue to 19th Avenue and from Lincoln Street to Judah Street. There are three main neighborhood commercial districts that run through the sunset district: Irving Street, Noriega Street, and Taraval Street, but there are also other commercial areas throughout the district that have attracted more small businesses and a larger customer base, including: outer Irving/Judah, outer Noriega, outer Lawton, outer Taraval, and on Sloat by the SF Zoo. The commercial areas East of Sunset Boulevard along Irving, Noriega, and Taraval tend to have more Chinese-owned businesses, and the other commercial areas tend to be more multicultural/diverse, but that is more of a trend than the rule.

The Sunset District community is made up of people from diverse ethnicities/backgrounds, but the Sunset historically has been known as a more family-friendly, blue-collar, middle-class neighborhood, and it is also known to be a more residential part of San Francisco. The Sunset used to have a high concentration of Irish Americans, but throughout the years, more Asians, especially Chinese Americans, make up most of the population in the Sunset. In fact, Supervisor Gordon Mar recently designated the Sunset as the Sunset Chinese Cultural District. While the Sunset does feature many Chinese-owned small businesses such as restaurants and laundromats, there are also many shops owned and operated by people from diverse backgrounds. The United Irish Cultural center, for instance, which has tremendous historical and cultural significance for Irish Americans, is also located in the Sunset District. In general, I believe that most residents in the Sunset District are appreciative, tolerant, and even celebrative of our community’s diversity.

While there are exceptions, I have observed that most Sunset residents want what’s best for their families and for their community, and they often feel like their needs are different than those of people who live in the downtown area. Some people in the Sunset tend to be more hesitant about new, large housing projects in their neighborhood as there are many single-family homes in the Sunset, but we have also seen a growing number of residents who are supportive of denser, larger housing projects in the Sunset District - especially around transit corridors. Additionally, the homes themselves share many similarities in the layout because many of them were designed by the same architect, Henry Doelger. However, it should be noted that these homes also share similar characteristics with homes in Daly City, Lakeshore, and some other neighborhoods because the same architect also helped design some of these homes as well. Although the layout of many of the homes are the same and are often connected to their neighbors, each home retains its own unique style. For instance, each home is often painted in a unique color that is different from their neighbors, and residents often take pride in decorating, personalizing, or even remodeling their homes to their individual tastes.

Sunset residents generally support the concept of public safety and want to prevent crime, theft, and violence in their neighborhoods. There are not as many homeless individuals in the Sunset District as some other parts of the City, which is another quality that we do not share with other parts of San Francisco like the downtown area. Since the City does spend a considerable amount of time and energy on homelessness and other pressing matters, some Sunset residents may feel like the City does not prioritize Sunset residents’ asks/needs regarding quality-of-life issues like illegal dumping, dirty streets, roads that need to be repaved, and the maintenance of Sunset Boulevard. While many Sunset residents rely on public
transportation given both the L-Taraval and N-Judah run through the district and there are many critical bus lines, Sunset residents are more likely than residents in other denser parts of the City to own a car. As a result, parking can be a contentious issue. Most residents, even those who rely on public transit, would like the public transit system to run more frequently and more efficiently. I have often heard that people in the Sunset feel like driving downtown is a "journey." Similarly, people who live downtown often view the Sunset as a location that is "very far away" even though the two neighborhoods are only separated geographically by a few miles. Finally, in general, I believe that most parents in the Sunset are very concerned about the quality of education that their children receive.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.
Steve Nakajo  
Executive Director at Japantown Task Force

My name is Steve Nakajo. I am the Executive Director of the Japantown Task Force, Inc. I would like to provide input on the boundaries of historic Japantown in San Francisco. I am also writing as a member of the AAPI and AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative.

The Japantown Task Force, Inc. (JTF) works to help protect, develop and revitalize Japantown, strengthen the ethnic diversity of the community, and create an atmosphere of safety, beauty, vitality and prosperity. JTF oversees the Japantown Cultural District, one of 8 San Francisco Cultural Districts. The San Francisco Cultural Districts are a formalized collaborative project with the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD) to stabilize historic communities at risk of displacement and gentrification. JTF also engages in community studies and research projects to develop strategies for the cultural and economic preservation of Japantown.

Our community lives and works within the boundaries of SF Japantown, marked by Steiner & Gough streets to the East and West, and California and Ellis streets to the North and South. As one of the last 3 remaining Japantowns in the US, it is essential that our community is maintained.

Our community is bound together through the deep connection to many cultural organizations and nonprofits that serve the Japanese and Japanese American community. Japantown not only serves as the cultural capital for people of Japanese ancestry, but also serves as a historical center dating back to its founding in 1906. Japantown is home to one of the largest concentrations of seniors in San Francisco. Japantown needs affordable housing, which is one of the strategies of the Cultural, History, Housing, Economic Sustainability Strategy (CHHESS) report. The CHHESS report is a strategy report based on extensive community input on seven Key Areas of focus that are designed to help stabilize at-risk communities. Strategies for Japantown and tactics for implementing those strategies have been developed through the synthesis and analysis of broad community input and extensive research. We are collaborating with MOHCD on the CHHESS report. Japantown is a community that serves the greater Bay Area including Japanese and Japanese Americans who have historically been displaced. Ensuring this community remains intact is critical to the work that is being done to protect it.

I request that the commission respect this culturally rich and historic district. It is important that our community boundaries remain intact for the preservation of our community, and to prevent any further marginalization or displacement.
Hello, my name is ‘Alisi Tulua and I am a Consultant with One East Palo Alto. I would like to provide input today on a variety of Pacific Islander communities found in the Bay Area, Central Valley, and Central Coast. I am also writing as a member of the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative.

Our organization works primarily with East Palo Alto, Belle Haven, and East Menlo Park families and extends our work to inform San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties agencies on the needs of those we serve. We have been active within the community for over 20 years providing services in crime reduction, mental health/wellness, substance abuse, youth employment, leadership development, immigration, housing, and civic engagement for East Palo Alto families. Recently, One East Palo Alto is assisting to build capacity for engaging Pacific Islander communities in Santa Clara County.
This summer, we worked with the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative to host a regional workshop across Northern California. This workshop reached over 20 community members, each holding expertise in their local neighborhoods and communities. The following maps are a culmination of their knowledge of Pacific Islander communities across Northern California.

As a community, Pacific Islanders are tied together by socio-economic standing which determines the livelihood, trajectory, and future of our community. The pandemic has amplified the impact of being an invisible and under-resourced community lacking collective power. Of California’s 58 counties, 16 disaggregate and report our COVID case and death data and in each of these counties, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have the highest case and death rate than any other ethnic or racial group in the state. In large part, these are outcomes of decades of systemic neglect in all social determinants of health that create disparities in areas such as education, healthcare, employment, and housing for a community that began migrating here following World War I. A vision for a thriving future for the Pacific Islander community begins with the recognition that our people contribute to the richness and growth of this local community and state.

I am writing to ask the commission to respect the integrity of our communities. It’s important that our Pacific Islander COIs are not further broken up by district lines.

Thank you for hearing from me today.
Tiffany Ng  
Civic Engagement Director at the Chinese Progressive Association

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission,

My name is Tiffany Ng and I am the Civic Engagement Director at the Chinese Progressive Association (CPA) in San Francisco. Established in 1972, CPA serves, educates, organizes and empowers the low income and working class immigrant Chinese community in San Francisco to build collective power with other oppressed communities to demand better living and working conditions and justice for all people. In the past few months, we participated in training and meetings with the AAPI & AMESMA Redistricting Collaborative to share about our communities of interest. CPA provides strategic services and holds program activities from a few specific neighborhoods that include Chinatown, Excelsior and Oceanview, Merced & Ingleside Heights (OMI).

Chinatown is one of the most densely populated neighborhoods and serves as a major community hub that connects people from across San Francisco to community services, language resources and job opportunities. Chinatown residents are primarily immigrant, low-income and elderly. As of 2017, the median household income in Chinatown is $31,700. Many Chinatown residents and their families live in Single Room Occupancy (SRO) residential housing and are challenged with finding affordable and livable housing. As general boundary markers, SF Chinatown begins North along Broadway moving south to Pine St, with Eastern & Western boundaries of Powell & Kearny.

San Francisco’s OMI neighborhood has experienced drastic population shifts. Between 1980 and 2010, the neighborhood’s Black population dropped from 61 to 14 percent, while the Asian population grew from 11 to 54 percent. Now, the neighborhood consists largely of immigrant families, including many monolingual Chinese seniors, who grapple with food insecurity due to lack of access to healthy and locally grown produce, and affordability, particularly those who are working minimum wage jobs and struggling to hold onto San Francisco housing. The general boundaries of the OMI neighborhood begin with Holloway Ave to the north, extending to the 280 freeway to the East & South as well as Brotherhood Way & Junipero Serra Blvd to the West.

The Excelsior neighborhood shares many similar demographic traits and interests with the OMI neighborhood and they are actually part of the same Supervisorial District 11 and share political power in San Francisco. For example, both OMI and Excelsior residents have concerns about affordability, food security, and access to adequate health care services. During the pandemic, the Excelsior and OMI neighborhoods opened up their own COVID19 testing and vaccination sites. Since there is less access to grocery stores in the OMI neighborhood, many OMI residents shop in Excelsior’s many grocery stores and restaurants. Excelsior’s boundaries can
be drawn starting North along Silver Avenue, with Eastern & Western boundaries of University St. & Mission. Its Southern boundary follows Geneva Ave and includes John McLaren Park.

In closing, I am asking that the Commission unite Asian American communities in the Excelsior and OMI neighborhoods, while respecting the integrity of Chinatown. Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

Tiffany Ng
Civic Engagement Director
Chinese Progressive Association
June Lim  
Demographic Research Project Director at  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles

My name is June Lim and I am the Demographic Research Project Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles, which is a Census Information Center, an official program of the US Census Bureau designed to promote the dissemination of census data to underserved populations. I am joining you today to present data supporting the COI testimony you’ve heard from our partners representing the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative. These include COIs in the SF Japantown, SF Chinatown, Daly City, and the Excelsior & OMI neighborhoods.

The AAPI and AMEMSA community is a large and fast-growing part of the Bay Area. The latest census data show that the Asian American population in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties grew considerably more in the last decade than the counties’ overall populations. The Asian American community grew by over 30 percent in each of the aforementioned counties with the highest growth in Contra Costa county at 44%. Similarly, the Pacific Islander community grew by 32% in Contra Costa. Given such substantial growth, the AAPI & AMEMSA communities now comprise more than \( \frac{1}{3} \) of Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties. Our communities make up over half of the communities in Daly City, Union City, Fremont, Sunnyvale, and Milpitas; and over 40% of San Jose, South San Francisco, and Santa Clara.

More than half of AAPI and AMEMSA communities in these counties are immigrants with percent foreign-born AAPI and AMEMSA communities ranging from 52 to 62%. In some of the cities where our COIs are located, such as in Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose, and San Leandro, over 50% of AAPI community members are Limited English Proficient meaning they speak English less than very well. Over 70% of Chinese Americans in Oakland and Korean Americans in Union City are LEP, and over 60% of Vietnamese Americans in Oakland, San Jose, San Leandro, and Union City do not speak English very well.

There are socioeconomic differences in the AAPI & AMEMSA communities that vary across counties and across cities and ethnic groups within these counties. When we look at the cities in which the COIs identified by our Collaborative are located, our communities experience significant economic disparities. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Oakland have disproportionately high proportions of low-income households, especially Vietnamese and Chinese Americans communities. Although Asian Americans in San Francisco have higher than average proportions of low-income households, PI communities have even higher proportions. Vietnamese Americans in Fremont, San Leandro, Union City, San Jose, and the City of Santa Clara have significantly higher than average proportions of households that are low-income.
I will submit to the Commission data maps and shapefiles of these Communities of Interest with my written testimony. In closing, the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative asks the Commission to respect the integrity of the communities of interest presented today. Thank you for your time.

**SF PENINSULA DEMOGRAPHIC DATA TABLES**

**2020 Asian American & NHPI Population**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th># Asian Americans</th>
<th>% of Total Population</th>
<th>% Change 2010 to 2020</th>
<th># NHPI</th>
<th>% of Total Population</th>
<th>% Change 2010 to 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daly City</td>
<td>61189</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>316407</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3869</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South San Francisco</td>
<td>28246</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>1076</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>-4%</td>
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Data: 2020 Decennial Census PL 94-171; 2010 Decennial Census PL 94-171

**Asian American & NHPI: Percent Foreign-Born**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daly City</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South San Francisco</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table B05003

*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size

**Asian American & NHPI: Percent Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daly City</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>South San Francisco</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table B16004

*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size
### Asian American & NHPI: Percent Low Income & Poverty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian Americans</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% Low-Income</td>
<td>% Poverty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daly City</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South San Francisco</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>6%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table C17002

*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size

### SF HEAT MAPS

**SAN FRANCISCO CHINATOWN COI– Tiffany Ng, Chinese Progressive Association**

% Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)

![SF Heat Map](image-url)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Tables C16001 and B16005B-I.
SAN FRANCISCO EXCELSIOR COI– Tiffany Ng, Chinese Progressive Association
% Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Tables C16001 and B16005B-I.

SAN FRANCISCO OMI COI– Tiffany Ng, Chinese Progressive Association
% Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Tables C16001 and B16005B-I.
SAN FRANCISCO JAPANTOWN COI – Steve Kakajo
Estimated Population % Foreign-Born

SAN FRANCISCO SUNSET COI – Jessica Ho, Community Member
Median Income (2018 Inflation adjusted dollars)
BURI BURI COI – Rob Chua, Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center
Estimated Number Filipino (by census tract)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP5042

WESTBOROUGH COI – Rob Chua, Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center
Estimated Number Filipino (by census tract)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP5042
EXCELSIOR, PORTOLA, BAYVIEW, VISITACION VALLEY – Median Income (2018 Inflation adjusted dollars)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP3062

EXCELSIOR, PORTOLA, BAYVIEW, VISITACION VALLEY – % Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Tables C16001 and B16005B-I.
SF - RICHMOND, SUNSET – % Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Tables C16001 and B16005B-I.