AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative
Southern California Congressional 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, and South Asian 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.
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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.
Southern California Plan Highlights

- Includes 20 CDs covering districts in Los Angeles County (metro Los Angeles, San Gabriel Valley, west Los Angeles, and South Bay), all of Orange County, and all of San Diego County
  - all drawn within a deviation of +/- 8 residents
- Includes 7 potential Latino VRA districts
- 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, and low income, and environmental COIs
Districts 28 and 34 - Metro Los Angeles Priorities

- CD 34 is drawn as a Latino VRA district.
- In CDs 28 and 34, keep the AAPI ethnic neighborhoods of Chinatown, Historic Filipinotown, Koreatown, Little Tokyo, and Thai Town whole and in two districts.
  - All five AAPI neighborhoods have been recognized by the City of Los Angeles and have strong historic preservation goals of protecting and celebrating AAPI culture and heritage. Each should be kept whole.
  - Chinatown and Little Tokyo in particular share common interest due to its low-income immigrant renters fighting gentrification issues in and around their neighborhoods and should be kept together in one district.
District 27 - West SGV
In AD 49, keep whole the COI 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 immigrants and limited English proficient residents.
District 38 - East SGV
District 38 - East SGV Priorities

- CD 38 is drawn as a Latino VRA district

- In CD 38, keep whole the community of interest in the east San Gabriel Valley, consisting of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar, Walnut, and do not pair with communities west of the 605 to the extent feasible.
District 42 - Los Angeles South Bay
District 42 - Los Angeles South Bay Priorities

- Keep Gardena whole and with the non-coastal portion of Torrance in order to keep the AAPI COI in one district; and pair the community with similar socio-economic neighbors rather than the wealthy coastal zone.

- Keep whole the Tongan COI who live in Lennox, Hawthorne, and Inglewood and travel between the three cities to attend the Tongan churches in the area.
Districts 39 and 43 - Los Angeles South Bay
Districts 39 and 43 - Los Angeles South Bay Priorities

- In CD 43, keep West Carson and Carson whole and keep the two together. In our Assembly Plan, Carson was split into two districts due to population equality limitations. However, the growing Filipino American COI in Carson and West Carson and the Pacific Islander COI in Carson should be kept whole whenever possible since they share cultural and socio-economic characteristics.

- In CDs 39 and 43, keep the Cambodian COI in Long Beach and Signal Hill whole to the extent possible. If not whole, cut the COI based on Signal Hill boundaries and keep the portion southwest of Signal Hill in an LVRA district - that portion shares many low-income and language access policy interests with the surrounding Latino community.
In CD 33, keep whole the two Japanese American enclaves in west Los Angeles. As discussed in the Assembly Plan, both Sawtelle Japantown and Venice-Culver City are home to Japanese American residents and cultural institutions. The Japanese American residents in both access the Japanese American community centers, religious institutions, and culturally sensitive shops in their respective neighborhoods.
Districts 44 and 46 - Orange County
Districts 44 and 46 - Orange County Priorities

- In CD 46, keep the AMEMSA COI that crosses the LA-OC county line whole. The communities are prominent along the border where the cities of Buena Park, La Palma, Cypress, Cerritos, and Artesia come together across county lines.

- In CD 46, keep Little Saigon whole. Garden Grove and Westminster are home to one of the nation’s largest Vietnamese American communities, as well as notable Korean American and Pacific Islander populations. As immigrants and refugees, the Little Saigon COI shares language access needs much like that of the AMEMSA COI directly to the north and should be drawn in the same district.

- In CD 44, 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.
Districts 50 and 52 - San Diego Priorities

- CD 52 is drawn as a Latino VRA district and CDs 50 and 52 are drawn respecting a potential LVRA district in the adjacent Imperial County.

- In CD 52, 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 in order to keep a AAPI COI whole.

- In CDs 50 and 52, keep the broader City Heights refugee COI in 2 CDs and cut it so that the traditional definition of City Heights is whole.

- In CD 50, keep the northeastern section of National City with the Paradise Hills neighborhood in southeastern San Diego because the AAPI community in the northeastern corner of National City is strongly connected to the community in Paradise Hills.
Thank you for the opportunity to present our Southern California Congressional 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.