


June 16, 2011

Mr. Curt Pederson, Chair, Boundary Review Committee  
C/o Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Room 383, Hall of Administration  
500 W. Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

  
Diamond Bar CA 91765

Dear Mr. Pederson,

I strongly oppose the plans designated by the County as B1, C1, D1, G1, I1 and any of the other plans that would relocate Hacienda Heights (HH), Rowland Heights (RH) and Diamond Bar (DB) from Supervisorial District 4 to another District. There are in excess of 150,000 residents living in these three communities that have a longstanding relationship with the Supervisor of District 4 and his staff. District 4 maintains a field office located in Rowland Heights that is central to these three communities and also to the cities of Walnut and Industry. Staff at our District 4 field office has for many years routinely attended the meetings of the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association, the Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council and the Diamond Bar City Council to maintain open lines of communication with both residents and community leaders. As a result they are very well informed of the issues and problems in all three communities. The nearest field office for District 1 is many miles away in El Monte.

Moving the above areas into a new District would be both unnecessarily disruptive to a large number of residents and would be counterproductive. The residents in Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights and Diamond Bar last voted for a supervisor in 2008. If they are placed in District 1 they would not be entitled to vote again for a supervisor until 2014 and would effectively be disenfranchised for 2012 through 2014. There is a simpler solution that avoids disenfranchising anyone. District 4 needs to pick up about 50,000 new constituents to balance out the number of people in the Districts. That is approximately the population of Walnut. Its residents last voted for a supervisor in 2010. If that city moved into District 4 its residents would not be disenfranchised, and in fact would be advantaged by being able to vote 2 times in a 6 year period.

Another factor that should be considered is the fact that Supervisor Molina will term out in 2014. It would take at least two years for her and her staff to establish a local field office in our area and become familiar with the problems and issues of our communities. By that time she will term out and we would have to start all over again with another new supervisor. That is an unnecessary and unfair burden to place on both her and our communities. This is an especially important consideration for the unincorporated areas of Hacienda Heights and Rowland Heights. The Supervisor of our district, and his or her staff, effectively oversee the provision of our local services and a close working relationship is very important. They are essentially their City Councils.

Together Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar and Walnut form an unquestionable community of interest with strong ties binding us together. Below I have listed just a few of the many ways we are connected.

1. Culturally we are all ethnically diverse communities, consisting of a melting pot of various ratios of Asian/Pacific Islanders, Caucasians, and Latinos.
2. Being bedroom communities we are heavily dependent on free flowing traffic on the 57 & 60 Freeways.
  - a. When a proposal was made a few years ago to concentrate all eastbound truck traffic onto a designated truck lane on the 60 Freeway our communities joined forces to object to this ill-conceived plan and spread the word regarding the crippling health and congestion impact it would have on our area.
  - b. Conversely, we all joined forces to support an excellent plan proposed by the City of Industry to improve the 57/60 Freeway interchange to reduce accidents and improve traffic flow.
3. We all have planning issues that are most efficiently handled by being in one District.
  - a. All of the communities are hillside areas prone to slides
  - b. Walnut, Diamond Bar and Rowland Heights are all 100% dependent upon imported water. Density is an important consideration when entitlements are being issued.
4. We are bound together socially through a wide variety of entities, just a few of which include
  - a. Walnut Valley Rotary draws members from Walnut, Diamond Bar and Rowland Heights – and strongly supports and oversees the large and active youth Interact Clubs at Walnut, Diamond Bar, Rowland, and Santana High Schools.
  - b. Hacienda Heights Kiwanis draws its members from Hacienda Heights and Rowland Heights and supports Key clubs at Rowland High and the Hacienda Heights area high schools.
  - c. The various parades and festivals in the area are all attended and supported by the residents of all of the communities, as are the concerts in the parks and 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks shows.
  - d. Residents frequently shop and dine out in each other's communities.
  - e. The youth all-star travel sport teams in the area frequently consist of a combination of kids from all four communities
  - f. We have a large population of seniors in the area and members attend meetings of several of the senior clubs in neighboring areas, not just the one in their community.

In summary, Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar and Walnut form an obvious community of interest. Plans B1, C1, D1, G1 and I1 would be very disruptive of services and be unfair to a large number of people. I urge you to consider adopting one of the plans such as H2, M1 or N1 that keep the above communities in District 4 and in addition moves Walnut into that District. All of them would consolidate the areas of common interest in the East San Gabriel Valley. Plan F1 would also be a good plan if it was slightly modified to include Walnut in District 4.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

*Cynthia S. Simms*  
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*Diamond Bar, CA 91765*