

# **CANYON BACK ALLIANCE**

September 26, 2011

County Board of Supervisors  
c/o Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Room 383, Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
commserv@bos.lacounty.gov

## **Re: Third Supervisorial District Boundaries**

Dear Supervisors:

Canyon Back Alliance (“CBA”) is dedicated to preserving public access to recreational trails in the Santa Monica Mountains. We are writing in support of Redistricting Plan A3 because it alone would preserve the Santa Monica Mountains community of interest within a single Supervisorial District. The recently-proposed alternatives, Plans T1 and S2, impair the community of interest by severing the Santa Monica Mountains along artificial lines. Doing so would undermine this long-established Santa Monica Mountains community of interest.

Redistricting Plan A3, however, would largely preserve the current boundaries of the Third District, which follow the spine of the Santa Monica Mountains between Griffith Park to the east and Las Virgenes to the west, encompassing Malibu, Las Virgenes, Topanga, Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Tarzana, Woodland Hills, Encino, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, and Griffith Park, on the north side of the Santa Monica Mountains, and Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica, Brentwood, West Los Angeles, Bel Air, Beverly Hills, the Hollywood Hills, and Hollywood on the south side. These boundaries define a significant community of interest that should be protected against fragmentation through redistricting.

The Santa Monica Mountains are a unique and defining scenic, environmental and recreational resource for the County. Recreational trails and the open space through which they run must not only be preserved and maintained, but also expanded through trail connectivity projects and the acquisition of open space. The importance of unified County representation for the entire Santa Monica Mountains is critical for achieving these goals. The CBA has worked for the past seven years with residents, elected public officials, and organizations located within these boundaries for the preservation of public access to trails in and along the Santa Monica Mountains and

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for the acquisition of open space to improve trail connectivity and enhance the unique aesthetic and environmental treasure that is the Santa Monica Mountains. In doing so, we have received invaluable leadership and support from the current Third District Supervisor, whose expertise in issues related to the Mountains has been crucial.

The natural boundary that is the Santa Monica Mountains is geographically self-evident.



The wildlife that pass through our backyards on the western side of the Mountains likewise share our neighbors' backyards on the eastern side. This common experience leads to a community of interest that encompasses wildlife protection within the Mountains. The risk of wildfire poses an equal threat to all in or along the Mountain areas, whether east, west, north or south. Residents and trail users within the Santa Monica Mountains area thereby have a common concern for fire safety and protection. And, as hillside residents and recreational trail users on all sides of the Santa Monica Mountains, we are concerned about hillside stability and flood protection.

But Redistricting Plans T1 and S2, unlike Plan A3, would abruptly sever the eastern portion of the Santa Monica Mountains along wholly artificial boundaries. The impact of this artificial division would be to split representation over a "piece" of the Santa Monica Mountains by placing it within a District where the significance of common and often complex Mountains-related issues do not loom so large with the vast majority of constituents who reside outside the Santa Monica Mountains.

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The likely result of dividing the Santa Monica Mountains community of interest by carving it into eastern and western sections would be the dilution of the community of interest. Redistricting is not supposed to sacrifice established communities of interest. We therefore ask you to approve Plan A3, which largely preserves the Third Supervisorial District's longstanding boundaries, and reject the artificial boundaries of Plans T1 and S2.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Freeman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas R. Freeman, President  
Canyon Back Alliance

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**From:** LUSIN KUYUMJYAN [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 1:10 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Katz, Alisa  
**Subject:** Support for A3 Redistricting Plan

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy our community of interest comprised of Armenian refugees from the former Soviet Union, which historically settled in the Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrants into Los Angeles county.

If implemented, either of these plans will destroy the results of many years of hard work by resettlement agencies and community-based organizations and will very negatively impact the wellbeing of seniors, disabled and low-income members of our community who depend on the County services.

Compliance with Voting Rights Act can and should be achieved without destroying communities of interest, including but not limited to the immigrant communities.

Name Lusin Kuyumjyan

Address [REDACTED], North Hollywood, CA 91605

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**From:** Regina <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 1:11 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Subject:** new district boundaries

please leave the current district boundaries where they are and do NOT re-draw the lines. This redistricting appears to be an attempt to manipulate votes and voters. The voters in Los Angeles of all ethnic groups and economic levels are able to choose the candidate to support without relying on ethnicity as their major consideration. And we expect a candidate from any ethnic group to represent ALL of the citizens once elected into office. Relying on ethnic and racial characteristics when grouping the citizens into districts is not necessary and insulting to the citizens of Los Angeles.

sincerely,  
regina neuman

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**From:** Barbara Fish [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 1:14 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Subject:** Redistricting of Malibu

As 40 year Malibu residents, we urge you to adopt a plan similar to A3 which respects the dignity of our Third District.

Thank you,  
Barbara and Sal Fish  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** Boris Sokol <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 1:35 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Katz, Alisa  
**Subject:** Support for A3 Redistricting Plan

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy communities of interest comprised of refugees, seniors and disabled constituents of Russian, Armenian, Iranian and Israeli descent which historically settled in the Westside and the Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrant communities into Los Angeles county.

Boris Sokol

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**From:** Elizabeth Hunter <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 2:11 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Subject:** County Redistricting-Oppose T1 & S2

Dear Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,

The Third District, as home to the entire Santa Monica Mountains range, is no stranger to natural disasters. Our communities have made huge strides in learning from, preparing for and guarding against wildfires, floods and other emergency conditions. Keeping the Santa Monica Mountains as the centerpiece of a compact and cohesive district would help ensure political leadership that is sensitive to these issues.

The Santa Monica Mountain priorities as regards fire and disaster management have had a leader in our Third District Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky who responded with County support, funding, and organizational support for the creation of community-based Emergency Management Plans that include Prevention, Response, and Recovery. The Topanga Emergency Management Plan and Survival Guides, the Santa Monica Mountains Fire Safe Alliance and its "Road Map to Fire Safety", Fire Safe Councils, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan for the Santa Monica Mountains, the Equine Response Team, Operation Safe Canyons, are examples of collaborative efforts and partnerships between government and community that need to continue far into the future to increase disaster preparedness in this disaster-prone wildland interface, and protect public safety. These unified efforts would be placed at risk with a Supervisor we did not elect and who may not share our same priorities, and/or is unfamiliar with how important they are to the safety of this region.

**I am asking you to oppose the gerrymandered T1 & S2 maps which would literally: 1) destroy the partnerships that have been developed for the past two decades to address our priorities, and 2) will definitely affect the quality of our representation and could jeopardize the tremendous progress we've made in land use policies, emergency preparedness policies, environmental and watershed protections, transportation, homelessness, and many other issues.**

**I ask the Board of Supervisors to support a map that would meet the Federal Voting Rights Act requirements *without* reassigning 3.5 million people into districts with a Supervisor they did not vote for.**

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Goldfarb  
[REDACTED]

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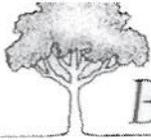
**From:** Cori Solomon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 2:33 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Subject:** Brentwood Glen Association Response to LA County Redistricting  
**Attachments:** LA County Redistricting.jpeg

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached please find a letter from the Brentwood Glen Association regarding the redistricting of LA County's supervisorial districts.

Thanks,

Cori Solomon  
President  
Brentwood Glen Association



**BRENTWOOD GLEN**  
A S S O C I A T I O N

Cori Solomon,  
President

September 25, 2011

Sue Casamassima

Executive Office

Mitch Feinman

Board Of Supervisors

David Horvitz

Room 383

Charles Lagreco

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

Bill McKnight

500 W. Temple Street

Judy Meadow

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Brandon Murphy

Dear Board of Supervisors:

Mary Pringle

RE: Redistricting Los Angeles County Supervisorial Districts

Teri Solomon

Brentwood Glen Association joins with Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky in opposing both the T1 and S2 redistricting proposals. Contrary to the goals of the Voting Rights Act, the two plans will rob the Westside of having an elected official on the Board of Supervisors who will serve Brentwood's needs, which on many issues are different from the needs of the far-away communities that may become part of the new proposed Third District. Both plans will move 3.5 million people from one district to another, which will undermine established relationships and reverse years of progress on important community issues.

In particular, as a community that is adjacent to the VA and which is directly impacted by the problem of homelessness, Brentwood Glen is very concerned about the impact the plans will have on the ongoing work on this issue in the San Fernando Valley and on the Westside.

The plans are also likely to have an adverse impact on the Third District's progress toward rapid transit improvement, our current public-private social service partnerships, including healthcare partnerships, and the District's strong network that promotes environmental care.

The Third District unites three adjacent, interlocking communities of interest: the greater Westside, the San Fernando Valley and the Las Virgenes region. This region is topographically, geographically, economically and socially cohesive. The Third District as presently constituted should be kept together in order to ensure that citizens of our community have access to the services, support and future they deserve.

Sincerely,

Cori Solomon

President

Brentwood Glen Association

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**From:** Gennadiy Lukyanchuk <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 2:47 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Katz, Alisa  
**Subject:** Support A3 Restricting Plan

**Categories:** Red Category

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy communities of interest comprised of refugees, seniors and disabled constituents of Russian, Armenian, Iranian and Israeli descent which historically settled in the Westside and the Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrant communities into Los Angeles county.

If implemented, either of these plans will destroy the results of many years of hard work by resettlement agencies and community-based organizations and will severely jeopardize the empowerment of immigrant communities of interest.

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky takes the interests of the immigrants' communities very seriously and has a very strong record of facilitating successful adaptation of the immigrants through the county network of social services. We insist on keeping the Third District together and to continue being represented by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.

Compliance with Voting Rights Act can and should be achieved without destroying communities of interest, including but not limited to the immigrant communities.

Name: Gennadiy Lukyanchuk

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**From:** Gayane Metzoyan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:19 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Katz, Alisa  
**Subject:** Support A3 Redistricting Plan

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy our community of interest comprised of Armenian refugees from the former Soviet Union, which historically settled in the Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrants into Los Angeles county.

If implemented, either of these plans will destroy the results of many years of hard work by resettlement agencies and community-based organizations and will very negatively impact the wellbeing of seniors, disabled and low-income members of our community who depend on the County services.

Compliance with Voting Rights Act can and should be achieved without destroying communities of interest, including but not limited to the immigrant communities.

Name: Gayane Metzoyan

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**From:** Nelli Khachatryan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:21 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Katz, Alisa  
**Subject:** Support A3 Redistricting Plan

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy our community of interest comprised of Armenian refugees from the former Soviet Union, which historically settled in the Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrants into Los Angeles county.

If implemented, either of these plans will destroy the results of many years of hard work by resettlement agencies and community-based organizations and will very negatively impact the wellbeing of seniors, disabled and low-income members of our community who depend on the County services.

Compliance with Voting Rights Act can and should be achieved without destroying communities of interest, including but not limited to the immigrant communities.

Name: Nelli Khachatryan

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**From:** Makruhi Torgomyan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:24 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Subject:** Support A3 Reditricting Plan

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy our community of interest comprised of Armenian refugees from the former Soviet Union, which historically settled in the Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrants into Los Angeles county.

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Compliance with Voting Rights Act can and should be achieved without destroying communities of interest, including but not limited to the immigrant communities.

Name: Makruhi Torgomyan

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**From:** Anna George [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:28 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Katz, Alisa  
**Subject:** Support A3 Redistricting Plan

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy our community of interest comprised of Armenian refugees from the former Soviet Union, which historically settled in the Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrants into Los Angeles county.

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Compliance with Voting Rights Act can and should be achieved without destroying communities of interest, including but not limited to the immigrant communities.

Name: Susanna Avetisova

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:30 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Katz, Alisa  
**Subject:** Support for A3 Redistricting Plan

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy our community of interest comprised of Armenian refugees from the former Soviet Union, which historically settled in the Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrants into Los Angeles county.

If implemented, either of these plans will destroy the results of many years of hard work by resettlement agencies and community-based organizations and will very negatively impact the wellbeing of seniors, disabled and low-income members of our community who depend on the County services.

Compliance with Voting Rights Act can and should be achieved without destroying communities of interest, including but not limited to the immigrant communities.

Name: Zabel Guyumjyan

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**From:** Joseph Rosendo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:35 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Subject:** Redistricting Plans -- NO on T1 and S2

**Importance:** High

Dear Sirs and Madam,

My name is Joseph Rosendo and I am a resident of District 3 and currently Zev Yaroslavsky is my representative. I am pleased that he is for many reasons, one being that I voted for him. If T1 and S2 are passed as the new redistricting plans we will lose Zev and we will lose a lot of the rights for all Angelenos that we have fought so very hard for in Topanga.

I am writing in opposition to the proposed redistricting maps (denoted as T1 and S2) that were submitted as part of the redistricting plan and that would radically redraw the Board of Supervisors' district boundaries, leaving communities separated and an estimated 3.5 million people suddenly represented by a supervisor for whom they never cast a vote. My opposition to the two proposals is based on their redistricting based on the premise that they are supporting the will of the Voting Rights Bill in order to give minorities an equal right to representation.

The idea that non-minorities won't vote for a minority candidate in L.A. County is false. The winning election campaigns of Latino candidates even where Latinos did not represent a majority of the voters such as the election of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Sheriff Lee Baca and County Assessor John Noguez is proof enough. And, no group of residents is more sensitive to the issues of Voting Rights than the people of Topanga. We have historically been a community that has stood up and fought for the rights of all people. We believe that the supervisors can meet all the requirements of the federal Voting Rights Act without dramatically dividing cities and communities of interest, as two of the proposed plans would do.

We need to keep our current District 3 as geographically and sensibly unified as possible. The challenges we face here are nothing like those in the South Bay or other areas of the county with whom we would be paired in the proposed redistricting. We are largely a rural district and our concerns with public safety, for example, are vastly different in this northern mountain portion of the county than the Beach Cities, Hawthorne, Torrance, etc. The new districts would be inefficient as well. We are unnecessarily going to be fighting for resources against other areas, simply because there is no common interest. Torrance's needs for urban public safety, for example, are far different from the needs of the communities that now make up District Three. I think the two proposals - T1 and S2 - will result in confusion, chaos, inefficient use of funds and unnecessary bickering between municipalities that isn't necessary. The supervisor will be placed in the position of deciding winners and losers when a more cohesive approach would avoid this. There are environmental and fire safety concerns as well.

I therefore urge you to support the plan and suggestions put forth by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and keep District 3 together as much as possible by supporting Redistricting Plan A3.

Thank you,  
Joseph Rosendo

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Debby Maddis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:23 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Krisiloff, Flora Gil  
**Subject:** Opposition of T1 and S2

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors:

We are writing to express our opposition of proposed plans T1 and S2 for redistricting. The current composition and geography of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District is in compliance with the federal Voting Rights Act and best represents the residents and topography of this region. Plans T1 and S2 threaten the important groundwork laid over the past several years in the areas of health care, homelessness and housing, mass transit, water and other critical public policy issues.

We urge you to vote to keep the integrity and diversity of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District in tact. The consequences for making changes to our district will have negative ramifications for many years to come.

Thank you for your consideration in opposing T1 and S2!

Debby Maddis and David Tillipman  
3 [REDACTED]  
Santa Monica, CA 90405

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**From:** Carol Leacock [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:55 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Subject:** redistricting

To whom it may concern:

I would like to quote what Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky has said about the redistricting issue:

"Our Third District is a diverse and vibrant community, uniting the greater Westside, the San Fernando Valley, the Las Virgenes Region and the Santa Monica Mountains into a cohesive whole. "

I totally agree, let's keep it that way!

Sincerely, Carol Leacock

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**From:** Igor Blum [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 4:09 PM  
**To:** CommServ  
**Cc:** Katz, Alisa  
**Subject:** Support for A3 Redistricting Plan

I strongly oppose T1 and S2 plans.

These proposed plans will destroy communities of interest comprised of refugees, seniors and disabled constituents of Russian, Armenian, Iranian and Israeli descent which historically settled in the Westside and the Valley and developed in the course of many decades a network of social, educational, cultural and religious institutions to facilitate successful integration of these immigrant communities into Los Angeles county.

If implemented, either of these plans will destroy the results of many years of hard work by resettlement agencies and community-based organizations and will severely jeopardize the empowerment of immigrant communities of interest.

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky takes the interests of the immigrants' communities very seriously and has a very strong record of facilitating successful adaptation of the immigrants through the county network of social services. We insist on keeping the Third District together and to continue being represented by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.

Compliance with Voting Rights Act can and should be achieved without destroying communities of interest, including but not limited to the immigrant communities.

Name Igor Blum

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**From:** Medina, Katherine on behalf of ExecutiveOffice  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 3:35 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Redistricting letter for the Supervisors  
**Attachments:** Sept. 27 statement revised2.letter.doc

The following e-mail is being forwarded to you from the Executive Office's Public Response e-mail for your review/information.

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**From:** Lynne Ebenkamp [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 25, 2011 5:14 PM  
**To:** ExecutiveOffice  
**Subject:** Redistricting letter for the Supervisors

Please pass the attached letter on to each supervisor. I covers something that I have not heard in the live comments at the redistricting hearings.

Thank you,  
Lynne Ebenkamp

September 24, 2011  
RE: Redistricting of Los Angeles County

Honorable Supervisors,

Thank you for allowing me to write to you, and hopefully speak to you on Tuesday.

First of all, I want to point out that people in each District think their Supervisor does a fine job and each wants his/her district to remain similar to what it is now. Please also consider that the unincorporated areas will be hit the hardest with aggressive redistricting since they do not have a city government to see them through the years of transition it will take to get acquainted with a new Supervisor and staff.

That being said, I appeal to each of you to read ***all*** the plans thoroughly with open minds. As I understand it, the A3 Plan is not acceptable because the Latino/Hispanic population needs to be represented by a majority of the voters in 2 districts. Look closely and you will see that **Latinos are the largest group of voting age residents, not in 2, but 3 of the five districts in the A3 Plan.**

Here are the figures for the Latino/Hispanic residents in the **A3 Plan** to back this up:

Total population: District 1=72.1%, District 2=54.6%, and District 4=43.3%.

Voting Age Majority population:

District 1=67.7%, District 2=49.8%, and District 4=38.7%.

In each of the above 3 districts, the Latino/Hispanic group is dominant, having more than any other group in the A3 Plan.

The S2 and T1 Plans, form 2 “super-majority” Latino/Hispanic districts, and 1 “majority” district. This situation was not the intent of the Fair Voting Act. The Act was written to make it possible for minorities to have a *fair* chance of being elected. That is actually what the A3 Plan does. It gives Latinos a leg up in being fairly represented in local elections. In contrast, what is being accomplished with the S2 and T1 plans is that it makes sure that no group, other than Latinos, have any chance for their candidates to be elected.

Here are the figures for the Latino/Hispanic majorities in the **S2 Plan**:

Total Population: District 1=69%, District 2=54% District 4=62%

Voting Age Majority Population:

District 1=64%, District 2=50%, District 4=58%

Here are the figures for the Latino/Hispanic majorities in the **T1 Plan**:

Total Population: District 1=67%, District 2=52.5%, District 3=68.4%

Voting Age Majority Population:

District 1=63%, District 2=48%, District 3=63%

Some supervisors say that having the most in a single ethnic group in any district paves the way for that group to have a better chance of being able to elect its candidate. I

disagree because I believe that fair minded people would elect the best leaders due to experience, interest in *all* ethnic group problems, etc. But that does not seem to be what is most important here today. If we could eliminate super-majorities, it would be possible for voters in each district to elect the best candidate, not just a candidate with a particular surname or skin color.

The A3 Plan is the most balanced plan, best for both incorporated and unincorporated communities, and meets the criteria of 2 dominate Latino voter districts. The S2 and T1 Plans are unreasonable because they move 3.5 million residents to new districts. They form Latino/Hispanic "super-majority districts". This is gerrymandering in the worse possible way, and the people in the audience speaking for the S2 and T1Plans have not been told this.

I plead that you use reason, fairness and good judgment when looking at the 3 presented plans. As our Supervisors, you owe it to all residents of LA County to come to a reasonable 4 to 1 majority, not send this important matter of redistricting to 3 county officials who do not deal with specific problems in all communities like you do. If you decide to dodge your duties, please pass the information in this letter on to them, as I believe they will see clearly that the A3 Plan is fair to all, and is what the people prefer. Please be very careful because you are setting the stage to pit ethnic groups against one another.

I have pointed out that the A3 Plan does conform and allows not only 2 Latino/Hispanic districts with more ethnic voters than any other group, but also a third district. The A3 Plan meets the criteria that the District 1 and District 2 Supervisors have requested, so it should be amenable to all five Supervisors.

Thank you,

Lynne Ebenkamp  
Rowland Heights