



**Sent Via Email**

February 23, 2021

To: County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission  
[CommServ@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:CommServ@bos.lacounty.gov)

Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission  
c/o Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D., President  
Executive Director  
KH Consulting Group  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90067

**RE: Inclusion of All Residents in Los Angeles County as part of the Redistricting Process**

Dear Commissioners:

Congratulations on your selection to the Los Angeles County Independent Redistricting Commission. We commend you on your sense of duty to serve and your commitment to uphold a transparent district line-drawing process that is inclusive of all residents in Los Angeles County. On behalf of a diverse coalition made up of good government, civil rights, advocacy, environmental and ethnic-based direct service organizations committed to racial and economic equity, we are writing to respectfully request the Commission engage and seek input directly from communities of interests (COIs) to ensure all Los Angeles County residents, regardless of their background, form a part of the redistricting process.

In many instances, COIs have been left on the sidelines; just last year the undocumented immigrant community was faced with the uncertainty of being excluded in the Census 2020 count despite the United States Constitution stating that the census must count all persons that reside in the country, regardless of legal status, every ten years.<sup>1</sup> As the Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission's public outreach plan is developed and implemented we urge this commission to include all communities in the redistricting process, regardless of background, including but not limited to voting history and citizenship status. We also ask that the commission secures the inclusion of the nearly 3.5 million immigrants living in the County—comprising 35% of the population—the largest number of any region in California, by inviting them to be part of

---

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Constitution. Art. I , Sec. 2 , Cl. 3.

the commission meetings, pre- and post-map hearings and through Los Angeles County own public mapping tool to collect COIs testimony.<sup>2</sup>

We recommend that commissioners partner with immigrant rights, environmental, advocacy, ethnic-based, and good government organizations to seek diverse perspectives and experiences to inform the way the work is carried out to produce the final maps. This is important because the commission's work will impact how well each community will be represented in County government for the next decade, including whether they have the ability to elect someone from their community into office and how responsive the County will be to community needs and interests.

Furthermore, before the commission moves forward on deliberating outreach plans, we urge the commissioners to **begin and complete training on state and federal redistricting requirements and best practices**. This information will ensure that commissioners are grounded in their responsibilities, informed about the values that should be at the forefront of the redistricting process, and aware of the criteria and requirements involved when both planning and carrying out a redistricting process. Our groups would be happy to work with the subject matter expertise working group, co-chairs, and entire Commission, to help build a training curriculum, including presenters and speakers, for the LA County Commission to ramp up its training. We outline [potential training subjects, and how our groups can support the Commission in being trained and building subject matter expertise, in our letter to the Commission dated 2.9.2021](#)

We look forward to our continued work together to ensure robust public input on this crucial process and your ongoing deliberations.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeon  
Staff Attorney  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Los Angeles  
[djeon@advancingjustice-la.org](mailto:djeon@advancingjustice-la.org)

Kiyana Asemanfar  
Program Manager  
California Common Cause  
[kiyana@commoncause.org](mailto:kiyana@commoncause.org)

---

<sup>2</sup> Pastor, M., Ortiz, R., Carter, V., Scoggins, J., & Perez, A. (2012, September). California Immigrant Integration Scorecard. USC Dornsife.  
[https://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/731/docs/California\\_Immigrant\\_Integration\\_Scorecard\\_web.pdf](https://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/731/docs/California_Immigrant_Integration_Scorecard_web.pdf)

Samuel P. Sukaton  
Redistricting Coordinator  
California League of Conservation Voters & California League of Conservation Voters Education  
Fund  
[samuel@ecovote.org](mailto:samuel@ecovote.org)

Yvonne Gonzalez Duncan  
State Director  
California League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)  
[kfuentes.lulac@gmail.com](mailto:kfuentes.lulac@gmail.com)

Angelica Salas  
Executive Director  
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)  
[kdiaz@chirla.org](mailto:kdiaz@chirla.org)

Alberto Retana  
President/ CEO  
Community Coalition  
[hector@cocosouthla.org](mailto:hector@cocosouthla.org)