San Fernando Valley

Narrative:
The San Fernando Valley is a community bounded by the Los Angeles Forest in the North, North Hills in the West, Van Nuys in the South, and Sun Valley in the East. The main freeways connecting these cities are the 118, 405, 210, 170, and 5. The main streets used by my community are Van Nuys Blvd, Laurel Canyon Blvd, Gleanoaks, and San Fernando Rd.

The Valley is one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the U.S., being home to many Latinex communities, many of them being immigrants. The ethnicity of the community includes but is not limited to Peruvians, Chileans, Argentinians, along with many more. There are also larger communities of Russian, Vietnamese and Filipino immigrants. The primary languages spoken besides English in the Valley are Spanish with some residents speaking Indo-European languages, Vietnamese, and Tagalog. The immigrant families that reside in the Valley are low income and working class people. Most of the immigrant families and individuals have service industry jobs such as grocery clerks, housing keeping, gardening, bussers, jornaleros, day laborers.
Valley residents are so glad to call the valley their home because is a welcoming community to workers, families, undocumented and mix status immigrant families.

Key Unifying Trends:
One of the biggest concerns of the working class immigrant community is housing accessibility which has been further exacerbated by the pandemic.

Another issue in the Valley is accessibility to affordable housing and the need for solutions to address the rate in which the homeless population has grown. Many families and individuals locally live with 6 to 8 people in a small one bedroom apartment or home with a garage and a bedroom. Even then, many families have been displaced from their homes.

Additionally, there is a lack of access to affordable health care, especially for the immigrant community. In San Fernando there are organizations like MEND and El Nido that provide some services, but they can't service the entire valley.

District Preferences:
Community members ask the commission to keep Sylmar, Pacoima, San Fernando, North Hills, Van Nuys, Panorama, Reseda, Canoga Park, North Hollywood, and Sun Valley in one district. The community of San Fernando is incredibly different from communities in Calabasas, Malibu, WoodlandHills, Porter Ranch, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, and West Hollywood. These cities house wealthy residents, and they do not prioritize creating long term solutions that address affordable housing. Those regions have access to resources such as healthcare and higher education which we lack due the differences in property taxes that fund our schools and public services.

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