

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

- May Lee  
- submitted May 23, 2011
  
- Alex Eng  
- submitted May 19, 2011 together with oral testimony in Auburn, speaker #9
  
- Lilia Rivera  
- submitted May 19, 2011 together with oral testimony in Auburn, speaker #10
  
- Elaine Abelaye  
- submitted May 19, 2011 together with oral testimony  
read by Deanna Kitamura in Auburn, speaker #11
  
- Catherine Ofa Mann  
- submitted May 19, 2011 together with oral testimony in Auburn, speaker #12

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR - SACRAMENTO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
May 23, 2011 regarding Sacramento County*

May Lee

Coalition of Asian Pacific Islanders Together for Leadership & Advocacy

I am May Lee. I am a member of CAPITAL, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Islanders Together for Leadership & Advocacy. CAPITAL is a membership organization in Sacramento County with over 95 organizational members. Comprised of community organizations and associations, public agencies, and alliances with education, legal entities, health, public officials, this vast network represents the voice of the needs and issues in our ever changing diverse communities.

In Sacramento County, CAPITAL is the regional lead organization for CAPAFR, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting. I have been organizing CAPITAL's redistricting efforts for the past year. CAPAFR-Sacramento has held four community meetings. The first three were to educate the community, obtain information, and obtain community mapping priorities. In our fourth meeting, we approved the mapping proposals affecting this area.

Participants in CAPAFR-Sacramento include:

- Asian Resources Inc ARI
- Asian Pacific American Public-Affairs Association APAPA
- Florin Japanese American Citizen's League JACL
- National Organization of Chinese Americans OCA
- Center for Collaborative Policy CCP
- KAPITBAHAY
- Sacramento Asian American Minority Inc - SAAMI
- Pacific Islander Council of Leaders
- Hmong Women Heritage Association
- Central Valley Asian Chamber of Commerce CVACC
- Asian Pacific Islander Seniors Partnership
- Asian Community Center ACC
- My Sister's House MSH
- Hui O Hawaii of Sacramento
- Council on American-Islamic Relations CAIR
- Asian Pacific State Employees Association APSEA
- To'utupu Oeotu Felenite Association TOFA
- Sacramento Pacific Islander Leadership Forum

CAPAFR-Sacramento recognizes and supports the Voting Rights Act interests in Yuba County which affects the drawing of districts in Sacramento. We also believe the commission should keep communities of interest and neighborhoods whole.

Based on our community's interests and the neighborhoods that make up our communities, we have three priorities:

- Keep the southern part of Sacramento (from Fruitridge Road south) with Elk Grove
- Keep the neighborhoods of North Natomas/North Point with other northern Sacramento City neighborhoods
- Keep West Sacramento with a district that includes the City of Sacramento

We hope you take our interests into account by not dividing our communities in the redistricting process.

Thank you for considering our communities input.

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 19, 2011 in Auburn, CA*

Alex Eng

My name is Alex Eng. I am a commissioner on the Sacramento Adult and Aging Commission, an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors on issues relevant to the older adults in the Sacramento region. Prior to my appointment 2 years ago, I've been an active participant advocating on behalf of Asian American and Pacific Islanders and their issues for over 20 years...serving on the boards of OCA, CACS, APSEA, chair of APISP and CHC.

I recently formed the API Seniors Partnership; a coalition that provides resource information for seniors to the leaders of underserved AAPI groups. The needs of our older adults in our respective communities are often overlooked. Housing, health and nutrition are very serious concerns; but without transportation many, especially the frail and disabled are isolated and cannot access public resources or professional services. The economic downturn has affected everyone; with funding extremely limited, forming partnerships and combining resources is something we all need to consider in order to provide much needed services to our constituents.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have a long and rich history in the Sacramento area, comprising 12% (145,000) of Sacramento's population. The largest Asian American group in Sacramento is the Chinese, followed by the Hmong, Filipino, Japanese, Vietnamese, Laotian, and East Indian communities. These ethnic groups are organized into smaller organizations within their own communities. What separates Sacramento from other cities is the formation of the coalition, CAPITAL (Council of Asian Pacific Islanders for Advocacy and Leadership.) To the best of my knowledge, no other organization has a membership of over 90 ethnic CBOs which collaborate to address issues such as health, education, crime, gambling and other problems specific to AAPIs. Through CAPITAL we work collectively with mainstream agencies and decision makers on policy issues and projects on gang violence, hate crimes, mental health, domestic violence, etc.

While AAPIs are a diverse group, we share many similar concerns and needs. Sacramento's high rate of foreign born residents translate into low rates of English language proficiency. We also have a higher rate of poverty and health issues (ie., liver cancer, diabetes) than the general population. Because AAPIs are scattered all over Sacramento, defining district boundaries has been a tremendous challenge.

Historically in the 1890s the Chinese and Japanese Community settled in parts of downtown Sacramento. In the late 40s and 50s the development of Sacramento's downtown business district, forced them to move to South Sacramento (Greenhaven and later Pocket). Because of discriminatory practices at the time, Asian Americans were discouraged from residing in other areas of Sacramento. Today, as our community has grown and a new generation has grown up, the largest concentration of AAPIs can be found from Fruitridge Road) south to Elk Grove.

As immigrant groups (including Southeast Asians, Pacific Islanders, and East Indians, and others) move into the Sacramento area, they tend to settle in the more affordable (poorer) areas of Sacramento. So we find pockets of APIAs residing and establishing businesses in North Highlands, Citrus Heights, and Rancho Cordova,

Meadowview, and West Sacramento. On the other hand, many professional and affluent AAPIs reside in South Sacramento, Elk Grove, North Natomas, Folsom, and Roseville.

In spite of being located all over Sacramento, AAPIs do tend to live in certain neighborhoods, with the largest concentration in South Sacramento and Elk Grove, North Natomas, and West Sacramento. The map attached to my written statement illustrates this. Because of the common bonds the various AAPI communities share, and because of the concentration of Asian American and Pacific Islanders in South Sacramento and Elk Grove in particular, I'm asking your consideration to keep these two areas together.

Thank you.

Alex Eng

Asian Pacific Islander Seniors Partnership

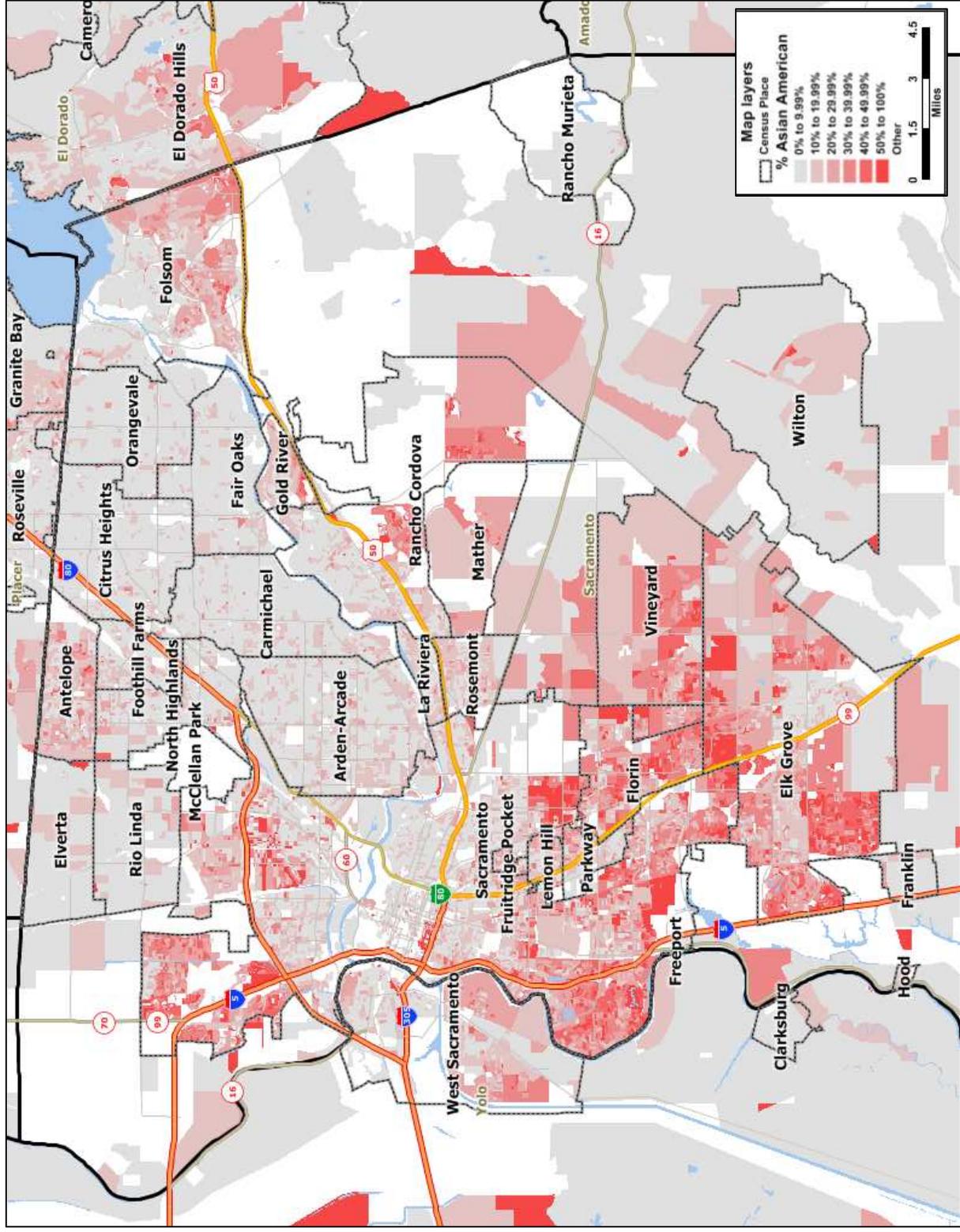
Member CAPITAL-CAPAFR

916424-1374

xeng916@sbcglobal.net

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Alex Eng Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 19, 2011 in Auburn, CA*

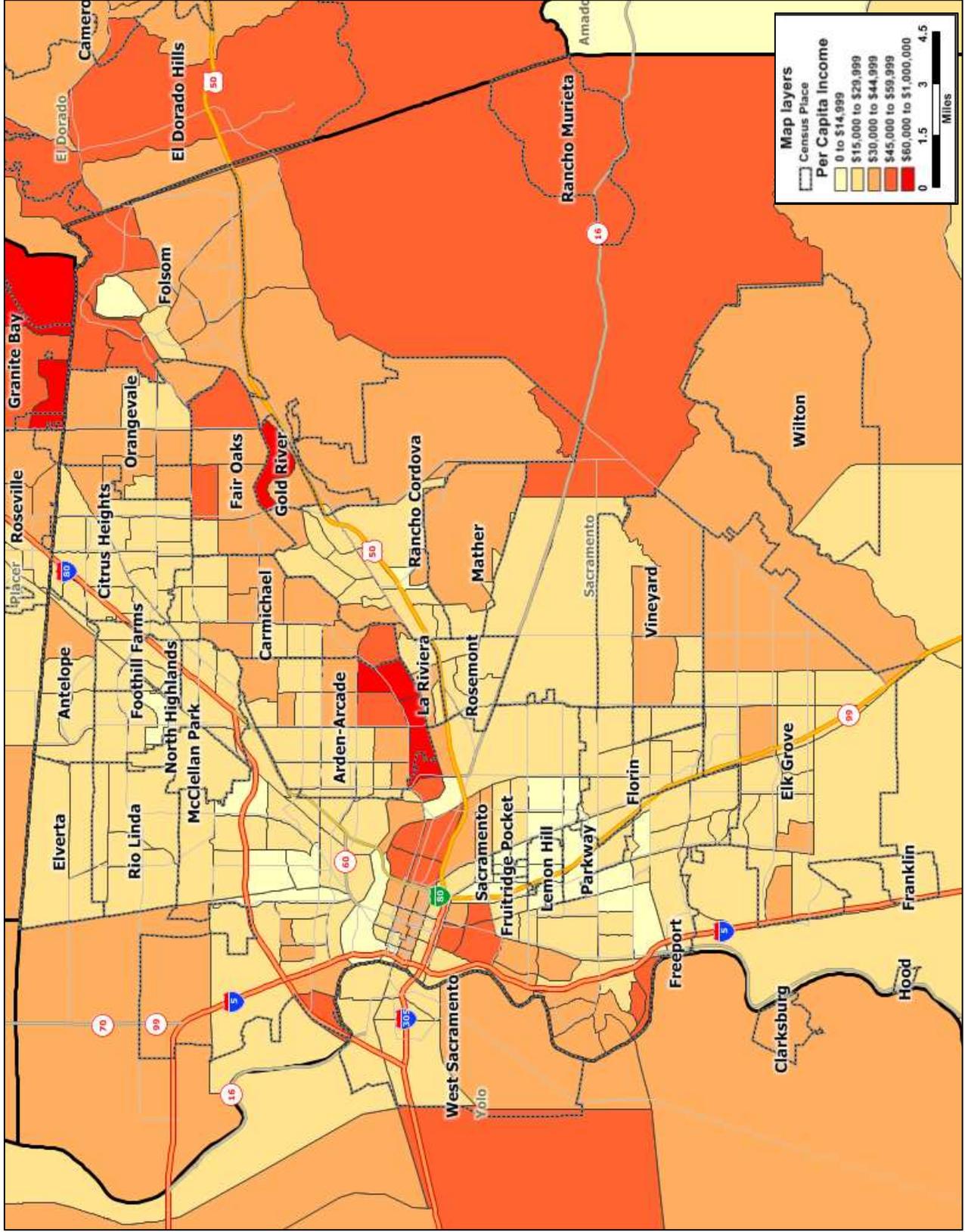
Map of Asian Americans in Sacramento County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census, PL 94-171. Race Category includes both single race and multiracial individuals.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Alex Eng Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 19, 2011 in Auburn, CA*

Map of Per Capita Income in Central Sacramento County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Per capita income is the aggregate income of all residents in the city divided by the total population in the city.

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 19, 2011 in Auburn, CA*

Lilia Rivera  
KAPITBAHAY – Filipino Community

My name is Lilia Rivera, president of the Filipino Community of Sacramento & Vicinity. I am a Manager of KAPITBAHAY, the Activity Center of the Filipino community. *Kapitbahay* means “neighbor” in Tagalog. Its main goal is to unite the numerous Filipino organizations through partnerships in community services and events.

KAPITBAHAY has individual as well as organizational members and operates with an all volunteer staff that is committed to make a difference in the community. KAPITBAHAY programs include not only providing resources for those looking for job opportunities, but also training for public speaking and leadership workshops for young and old. One of its outreach projects was to participate actively in the Census outreach in South Sacramento and neighboring Elk Grove areas.

Sacramento and Elk Grove are home to many Filipinos. There are over twenty Filipino organizations that exist in both places. Filipino migration began around the early 1920’s with the arrival of single male Filipinos recruited to work in the farms of Stockton and Sacramento. At the beginning, Filipinos males were not allowed to bring their families. Marriage between whites and non-whites were forbidden, so the Filipino male had to go back to their country to marry and bring their wives. Times changed and soon they were able to marry outside their own ethnic group and establish their families near the farms of Sacramento and Stockton. For example, the Florin area of South Sacramento was well known for its strawberry farms

It was around the 1960’s that the next migration of Filipino occurred. Professionals consisting of nurses, doctors and other professions such as teachers, accountants, and engineers arrived. The majority of them were related to the early settlers, or attracted to the area due to the presence of Filipinos already established in the South Sacramento area. There is now a large presence of third generation Filipinos in South Sacramento and Elk Grove mixed with new residents coming from different places like the San Francisco area. Filipino organizations, as well as other community groups, draw their members from both Sacramento and Elk Grove. That is why the Filipino community project to build a cultural center in South Sacramento is supported by residents of both communities.

The social network of residents consisting of families and friends, not only of the Filipinos, are residents of either Elk Grove or South Sacramento. The proximity and similarity makes it seem like one big neighborhood. Residents of both make use of the same social and commercial services. Social problems such as gang related crimes go beyond each others boundaries and need to be addressed by both communities. An example of partnership by South Sacramento and Elk Grove government, non-profit agencies, and public groups is the *Cause Initiative*, an outreach program on preventing and assisting victims of domestic violence. Representatives from both Sacramento and Elk Grove communities are involved in this collaboration. The

Filipino community is one of the active partners in *Cause Initiative* along with the other groups comprising the AAPI community.

Please keep Elk Grove whole and in a district with South Sacramento. Thank you for considering my testimony.

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 19, 2011 in Auburn, CA*

Elaine Abelaye  
Asian Resources Inc.

My name is Elaine Abelaye. I am the Executive Director of Asian Resources Inc. (ARI). ARI is a nonprofit, community-based organization in Sacramento. We provide a wide spectrum of social services to low-income and limited English speaking residents in Sacramento County. Although the word “Asian” is in our organizational name, we serve any low-income or limited English speaking resident in the County. ARI has three offices. Our original office and headquarters are on Stockton Boulevard in South Sacramento and serves the South Sacramento and Elk Grove community. Our second office is in the Broadway Corridor which serves the downtown area and even families in West Sacramento. Our northern office is located in Citrus Heights and reaches communities in the northern part of the City of Sacramento such as North Natomas and North Highlands.

We provide naturalization services, English-as-a-second-language (ESL) classes, and employment services. We also provide traditional social services to low-income residents such as assisting residents in applying for low-income public utility programs. Because we serve a diverse population, our staff can speak 13 different languages, including Hmong, Vietnamese, Spanish, and Russian. Each office services a different population because of the demographic make up in the surrounding areas.

Our South Sacramento office serves a large Southeast Asian population. The Southeast Asian population we serve face a number of barriers to accessing all the resources our community has to offer, and ARI provides a number of community services such as ESL classes to help eliminate the barriers. ARI also serves as a bridge for newcomer Southeast Asian communities as we connect them to opportunities for civic participation. For example, each year, ARI helps hundreds of newcomers become citizens and as a result of their integration into the community, their contributions are visible in a host of ways.

The Stockton Boulevard corridor is home to many Southeast Asian restaurants and retailers that have established themselves over the past three decades. This area was designated “Little Saigon” by the City of Sacramento to pay tribute to the many Vietnamese refugees who resettled into the area after the Fall of Saigon in the late 1970’s. The City’s designation is Stockton Boulevard from Fruitridge to Florin Boulevards. There are many opportunities in this corridor particularly because the area has continued to grow new development and attract business owners from Southern California and the Bay Area who are interested in doing business with many of the unique and specialty retailers. In early 2011, a group of local Southeast Asian business owners founded the Greater Sacramento Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce to provide support and build capacity of existing Southeast Asian businesses.

And as Southeast Asian families have grown in size and accumulated resources, we have seen our client population move further south into the Elk Grove area. The Census data poignantly captures the dramatic shift in demographics of the City of Elk Grove as more Southeast Asian

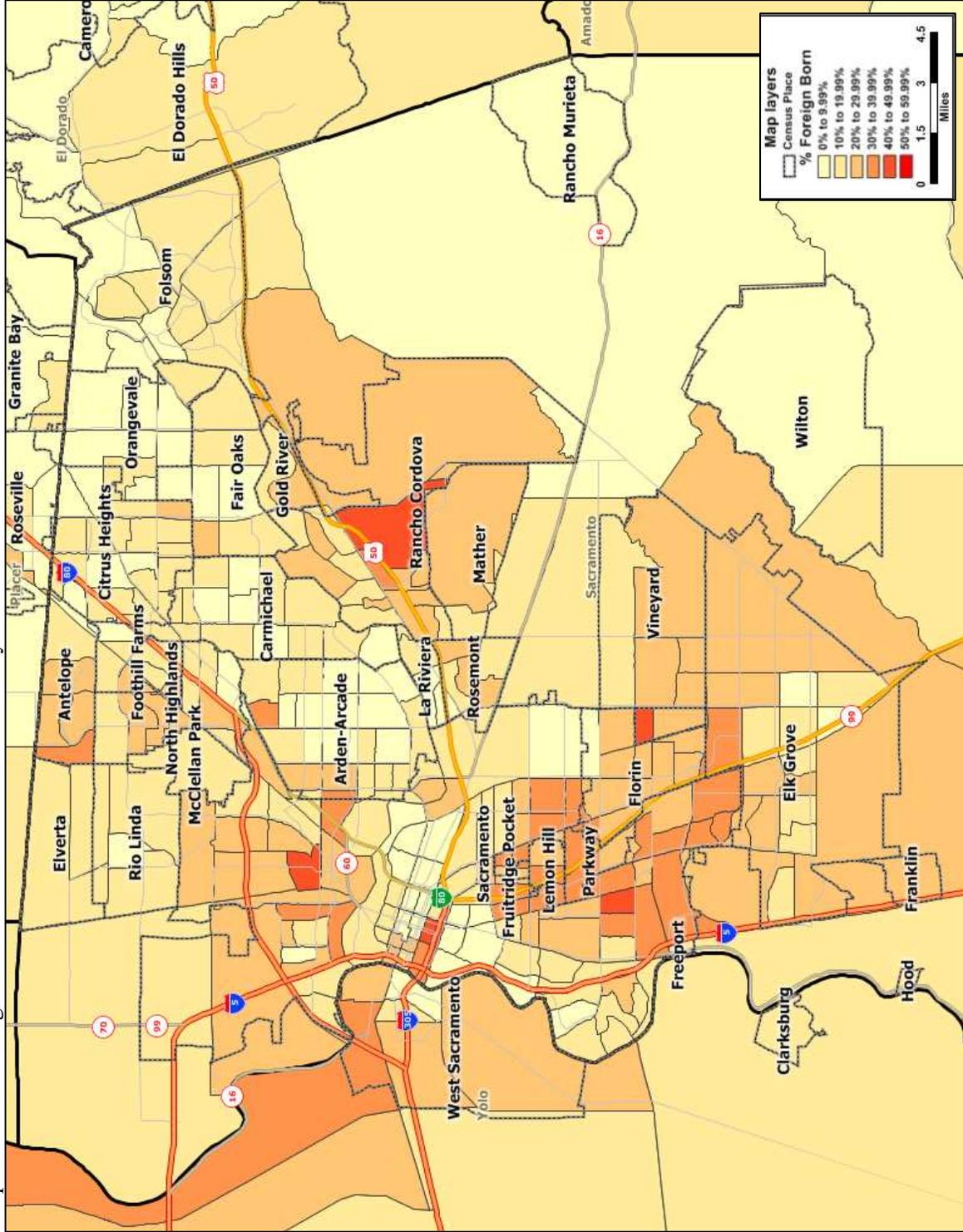
families have moved into the area. Even though they are moving further south, the Southeast Asian community still comes to our office for ESL classes, citizenship workshops, and the social services we provide.

In our Citrus Height office, we see many clients from the Slavic, Latino, and Southeast Asian communities. The northern part of Sacramento has a relatively high number of foreign born residents. This is particularly true of the northern part of the City of Sacramento. Like our South Sacramento office, our Citrus Heights office provides ESL classes and citizenship services. We also provide workforce programs and youth services.

Thank you for considering our input.

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Elaine Abelaye Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 19, 2011 in Auburn, CA

Map of Percent Foreign Born in Central Sacramento County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Percent of individuals born outside of the United States, not including individuals born in Puerto Rico, U.S. island areas or born abroad to American parent(s). United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, Table B05002.

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 19, 2011 in Auburn, CA*

Catherine Ofa Mann

To'utupu Oeotu Felenite Association (TOFA)

Coalition of Asian Pacific Islanders Together for Leadership & Advocacy (CAPITAL)

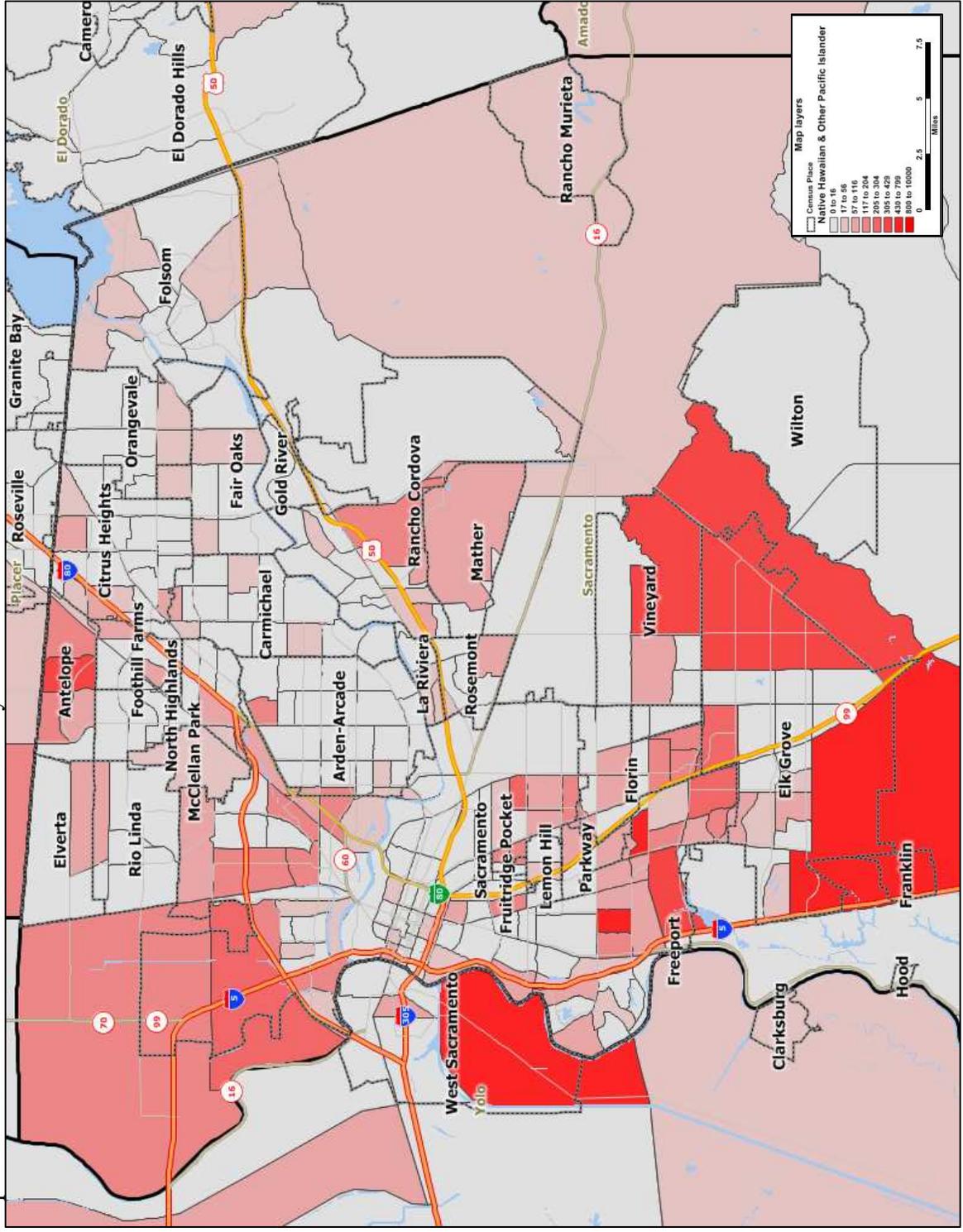
I am Catherine Ofa Mann. I am president of TOFA, To'utupu Oeotu Felenite Association. I am also an officer of CAPITAL, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Islanders Together for Leadership & Advocacy. Thank you for holding this hearing so that residents of Sacramento can provide input in the redistricting process. TOFA is a community based organization in Sacramento working to preserve the Tongan culture, empower our youth, and unite our community. CAPITAL is a membership organization in Sacramento County with over 90 organizational members. CAPITAL includes members from various Asian American and Pacific Islander community organizations including those focused on the Tongan, Samoan, Hawai'ian, Chinese, Philipino, Japanese, Korean, Hmong, Vietnamese, and Indian communities.

The Pacific Islander communities can be found in three general areas around Sacramento: South Sacramento/Elk Grove, North Natomas/North Point area, and West Sacramento. In South Sacramento and Elk Grove, Pacific Islander and Asian Americans works well together in building relationships, resources, expertise and leadership, creating stronger working relationship for the Asian and Pacific Islander community. Pacific Islander communities in North Natomas/North Point share commonalities with the northern portion of the City of Sacramento since many immigrants live in that area. Pacific Islander communities in West Sacramento are more connected with Sacramento than other parts of Yolo County due to types of services available to them (e.g: medical health facilities, low income community programs, Asian markets, mental health services and church services).

Thank you for considering our communities input.

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Catherine Ofa Mann Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: May 19, 2011 in Auburn, CA

Map of Pacific Islanders in Central Sacramento County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census PL 94-171. Race Category includes both single race and multiracial individuals.

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN SAN FRANCISCO AND SAN MATEO COUNTIES**

- Christopher Punongpayan  
- submitted May 23, 2011
  
- Christopher Punongpayan  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #14
  
- David Chan  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #15
  
- Benjamin Leong  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #16
  
- Ray Satorre  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #17

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR – SAN FRANCISCO-SAN MATEO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
May 23, 2011 regarding San Francisco and San Mateo Counties*

Chris Punongbayan  
Asian Law Caucus

My name is Chris Punongbayan and I am the Deputy Director of the Asian Law Caucus based in San Francisco. We are a member of the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting. In our region, many community leaders and organizations participated in community meetings over the past nine months including the Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center, Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, Asian Pacific American Community Center, Visitacion Valley Asian Alliance, Pilipino Senior Resource Center, Laotian American National Alliance, Luzvimin, Resource Center for Children Youth and Families, Japanese American Citizens League, San Mateo Japanese Community Center, and Peninsula Interfaith Action.

There are four main requests for consideration that I would like to offer about the diverse communities of the area of San Francisco and Northern San Mateo County:

- 1) Keep whole Chinatown, SOMA, Tenderloin, Mission, and Bayview neighborhoods of San Francisco and unify with the Excelsior and Visitacion Valley areas;
- 2) Keep together the Asian Pacific Islander and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Transgender (API LGBT) communities of Castro, Upper Market, Bernal Heights, and Haight-Ashbury together with the API LGBT population in the SOMA and Tenderloin neighborhoods;
- 3) Respect the geographic integrity of the City of Daly City;
- 4) Unite the Asian American communities on the west side of San Francisco, the Richmond and the Sunset neighborhoods, with Daly City and South San Francisco.

Thank you for your consideration of these communities of interest in this region. We hope you take our interests into account by not dividing our interests in the redistricting process.

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR – SAN FRANCISCO-SAN MATEO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

Chris Punongbayan  
Asian Law Caucus

Hello. My name is Chris Punongbayan and I am the Deputy Director of the Asian Law Caucus, a member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice. I have lived in San Francisco for seven years. ALC provides free legal services to the low-income immigrant communities in our neighborhood and in total we serve over 1000 clients per year.

San Francisco's Chinatown is the oldest and among the most densely populated Chinatown in North America, second only to New York City. It has been a gateway for new immigrants to this country for over 150 years, and even today, there is a large steady influx of immigrants to this neighborhood. One of the most defining characteristics of this community is the working class status of many Chinatown residents. Many seniors live on a fixed income, and for the younger working population, many jobs here pay barely enough to make a living. Chinatown's housing is 60% SRO, or single room occupancy, buildings and there are many Chinese residents of public housing throughout this section of the City. An important shared characteristic of many of these new Americans is that they are still learning English and require language assistance in order to be able to navigate life in the U.S.

Chinatown may generally understood to be a compact area, but there are also many Chinese Americans who live in adjacent neighborhoods such as North Beach, which is the neighborhood immediately to the North. Accompanying my testimony are maps that show the Asian American population in this area, as well as the socio-economic data that I outlined earlier.

It is imperative that this neighborhood be kept together in one district because of its special history and its shared interests. The Chinatown community is very often unified in its interests on most local, state, and even federal matters. For example, the Chinatown community acts together in advocating for translation and interpretation services from the City and state governments.

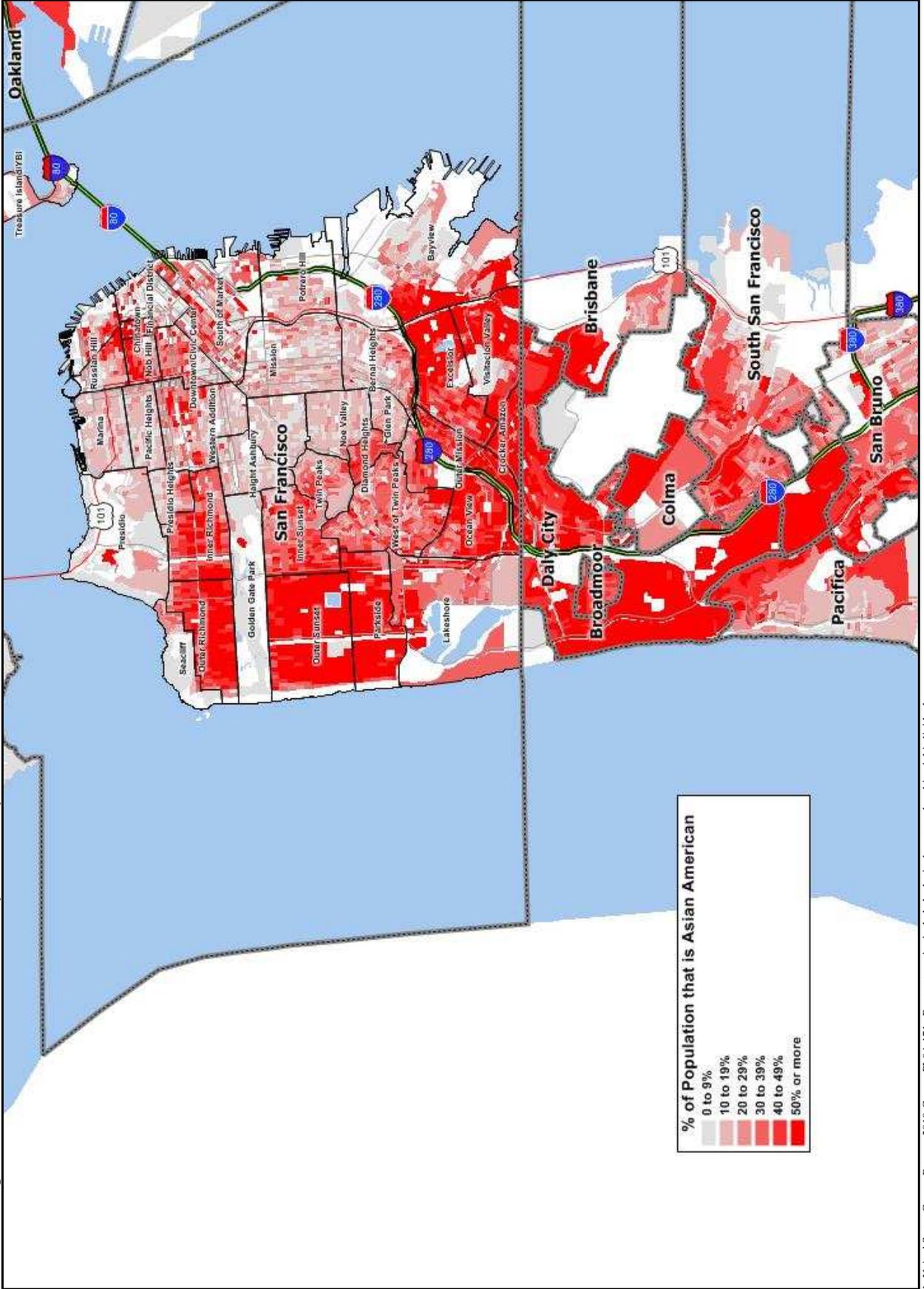
But beyond this immediate area, Chinatown is also an epicenter for the Chinese community throughout the entire City of San Francisco. I would like to highlight in particular the Chinese communities in the Southeast section of San Francisco, the Visitacion Valley, Excelsior, and Bayview districts. Beyond the relative lack of resources and infrastructure in those neighborhoods, many low-income, Chinese Americans comes to Chinatown for everything from social services to employment to commerce to worship. These Eastern neighborhoods share many common characteristics, particularly in terms of characteristics such as income, educational attainment, and limited English proficiency. In fact, the new Central Subway

construction project was contemplated at least partly to accommodate these particular regional dynamics.

In summary, I would like to respectfully request that the Commission respect the integrity of the Chinatown neighborhood and to unite the Asian American communities of Chinatown, Excelsior, Visitacion Valley, and the Bayview. Thank you very much for your consideration.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Christopher Punongbayan  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

Percent of Population that is Asian American, City and County of San Francisco, 2010<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR – SAN FRANCISCO-SAN MATEO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

David Chan  
Asian Pacific American Community Center

Good afternoon, my name is David Chan, I'm here today representing the Asian Pacific American Community Center. APACC is a community based non-profit organization located in Visitation Valley dedicated to serving the API community in Vis Valley.

I'm here today asking that the Asian communities in Vis Valley be respected as they share important cultural, economic, educational and language needs. Vis Valley is predominantly a family-oriented working class neighborhood, and has become home to many recent Asian immigrants with limited English proficiency. Language services are a critical for the community and its one of the main programs that APACC provides to the community.

Vis Valley became home to many Asian Americans, specifically Chinese American families when the rising cost of housing drove many families and newly settled immigrants to find more affordable housing options. As a result, homeownership rates are higher compared to its adjacent neighborhoods, but the area still experiences high rates of foreclosures and lower overall per capita income. The accompanying maps demonstrate this economic difference as well as the prevalence of Asian Americans in Vis Valley and the surrounding neighborhoods.

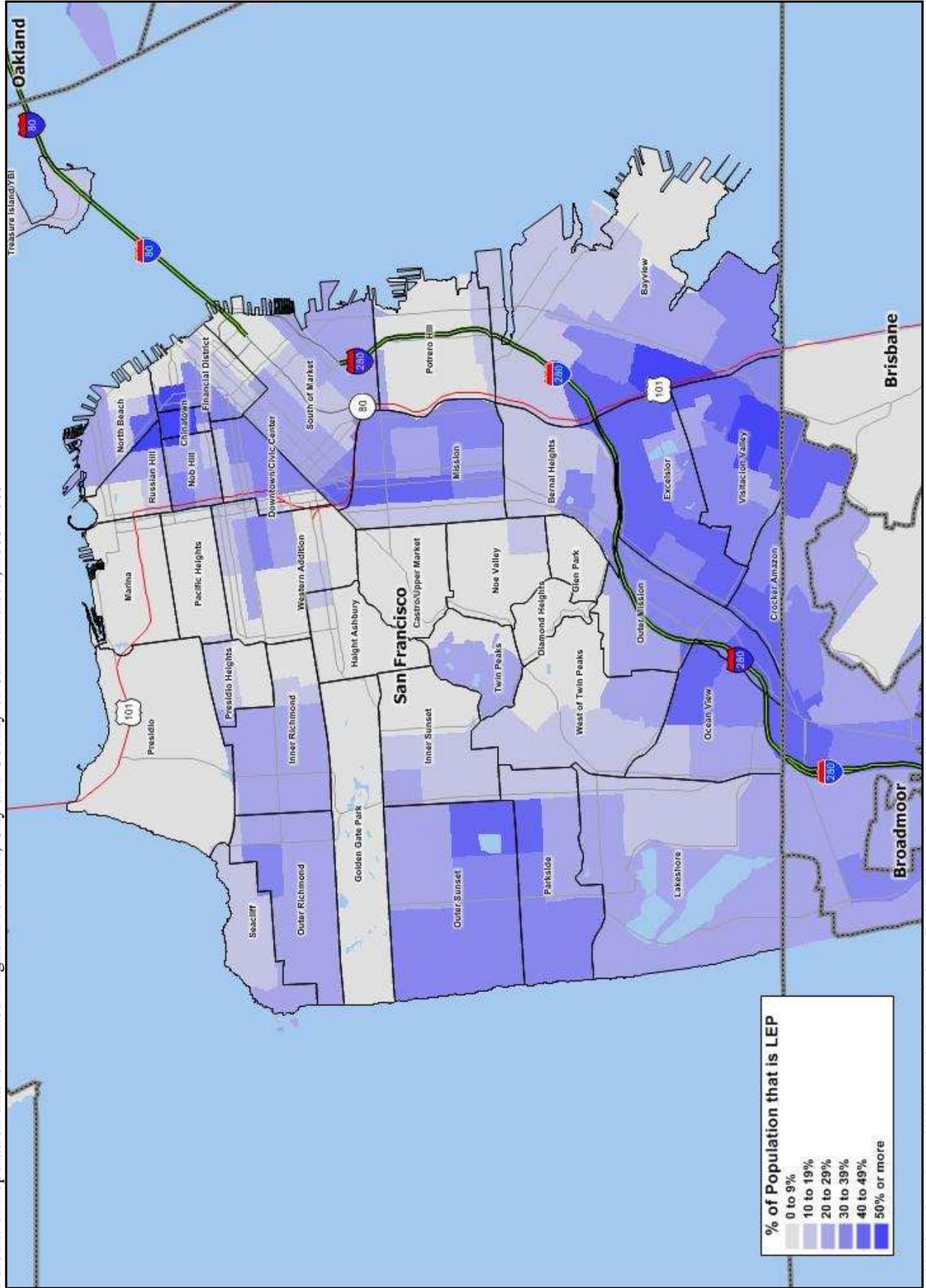
Transportation is also a critical issue that affects and defines the community. Many of the new housing developments were built after the creation of the T-Line in San Francisco. This helped to address the lack of public transportation in the area, but transit needs are still a critical issue.

Vis Valley is an important community that shares similar economic, transportation, and linguistic needs with its surrounding neighborhoods, particularly the Excelsior. We also share much in common with Chinatown, even though it is located in the opposite end of the City and County. Many of the same agencies that provide services to the Chinatown community have set up satellite offices in Vis Valley. But many residents of Vis Valley still make the long ride to Chinatown for many of the services they require, emphasizing the importance of transportation issues for both communities. Chinatown and Vis Valley share many similar characteristics, specifically similar levels of income, educational attainment, and limited English proficiency. For example, the English proficiency and the unemployment rate of both neighborhoods are nearly identical. The city currently plans to extend the T-Line to run from Vis-Valley to Chinatown, this transit line represent the strengthening of the connection between the Chinatown and Vis Valley community.

In closing, I ask that you preserve and keep the Vis Valley community whole, as well as keep it connected to the Chinatown community. Thank you for this opportunity.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of David Chan  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

Percent of Population that is Limited-English Proficient, City and County of San Francisco, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Race categories include single race individuals only.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
CAPAFR – SAN FRANCISCO-SAN MATEO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
May 23, 2011 regarding San Francisco and Northern San Mateo Counties*

Benjamin Leong  
Gay Asian Pacific Alliance

Good afternoon, my name is Benjamin Leong. I'm a current resident of San Francisco and I've lived in the city for the past 6 years. I'm the current Co-Chair of the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, or GAPA and also a member of the API Wellness Center's Board of Directors. GAPA was formed in 1987 to address the issues affecting the Asian Pacific Islander (API) community and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) community. Today, GAPA's members work on a wide range of issues ranging from sexual health, political awareness, and civic engagement.

Today I'd like to talk to you about the connections between the LGBT and API community, and the need to respect the geographic integrity of both. The areas of the city that are home to large working class Asian communities, including the Tenderloin and SOMA, are also home to many API LGBT individuals. We share the same language needs, cultural heritage, and similar socio-economic status. But we also access the service agencies dedicated to the LGBT community, located in Upper Market, Castro, and Haight-Ashbury neighborhoods.

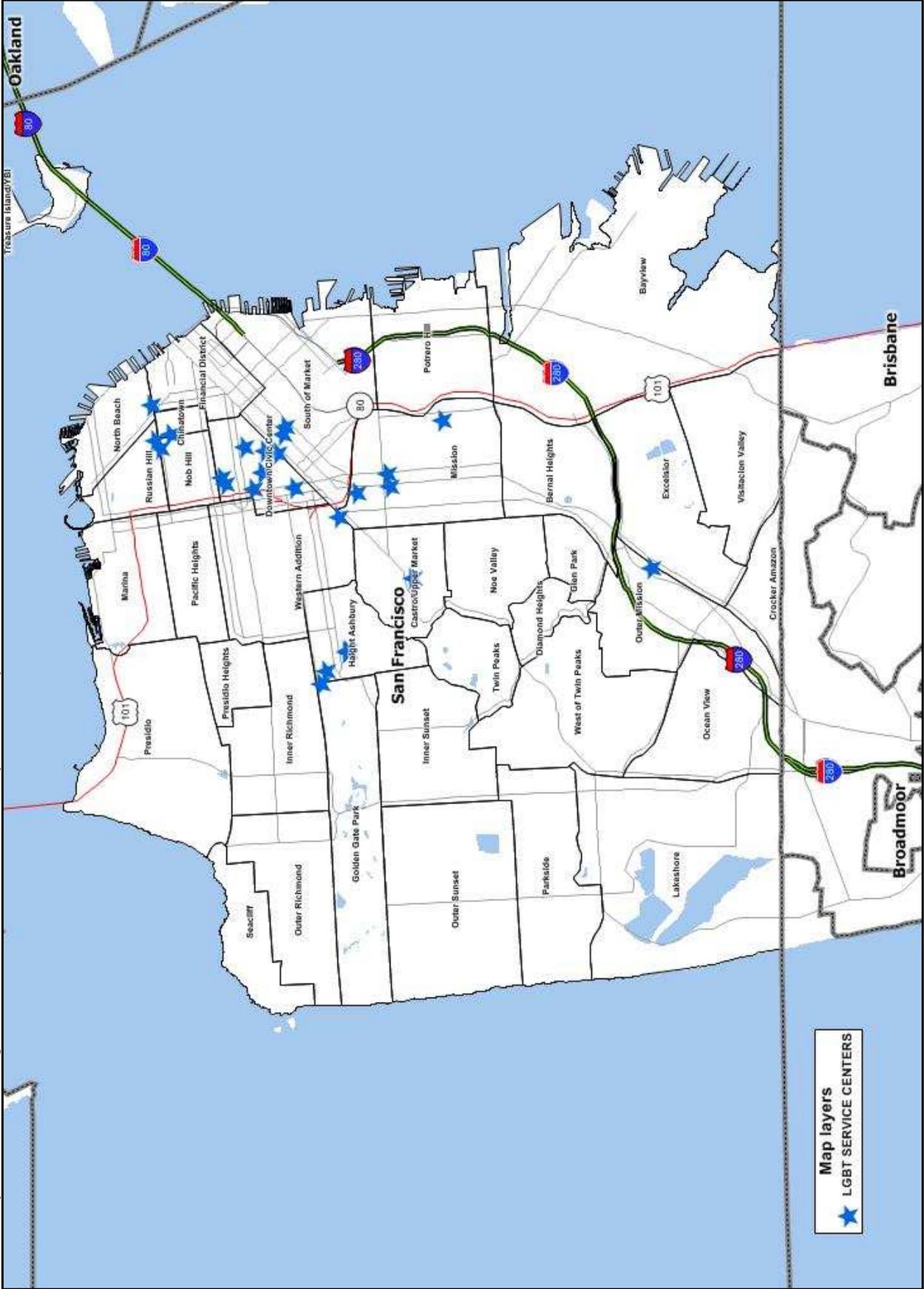
These are community centers, public health facilities, and social service agencies that provide critical resources to our community. But moreover, they provide the physical space in which API LGBT individuals come together for community-building events at places such as the Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center and the SF LGBT Center. While San Francisco is known to be a strong force for LGBT rights, the voice of the API LGBT community is still developing. Our community's needs and aspirations for a stronger voice show why API LGBT should be kept together in a single district. Only then can we effectively access, protect, and advocate for essential human services but also grow our influence and truly carve out a space for a unified community. We might live in different areas of the bay area but we convene and congregate in a centralized area of support and services and these are the service agencies where we gather strength and find support from our fellow minority community members.

In closing, I respectfully request that the geographic integrity of both the LGBT community and the API communities be respected.

Thank you.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Ben Leong  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

Lesbian/Gay/Bi-Sexual/Transgender (LGBT) Service Centers, City and County of San Francisco



COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR – SAN FRANCISCO-SAN MATEO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission*

*Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

Ray Satorre

Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center

Good afternoon, my name is Ray Satorre and I'm the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center, or PBRC. PBRC is a Filipino based community center that serves the needs of the Filipino population in Daly City and surrounding communities. I'm a long term resident of Daly City.

Daly City is home to the largest population of Filipinos in the United States, as well as the largest population of Filipinos outside the Philippines. Filipinos make up one-third of the city's total population and Asians are more than half of Daly City's total population. Accompanying my testimony are maps that show the Asian American population in this area, as well as the socio-economic data that I will now discuss.

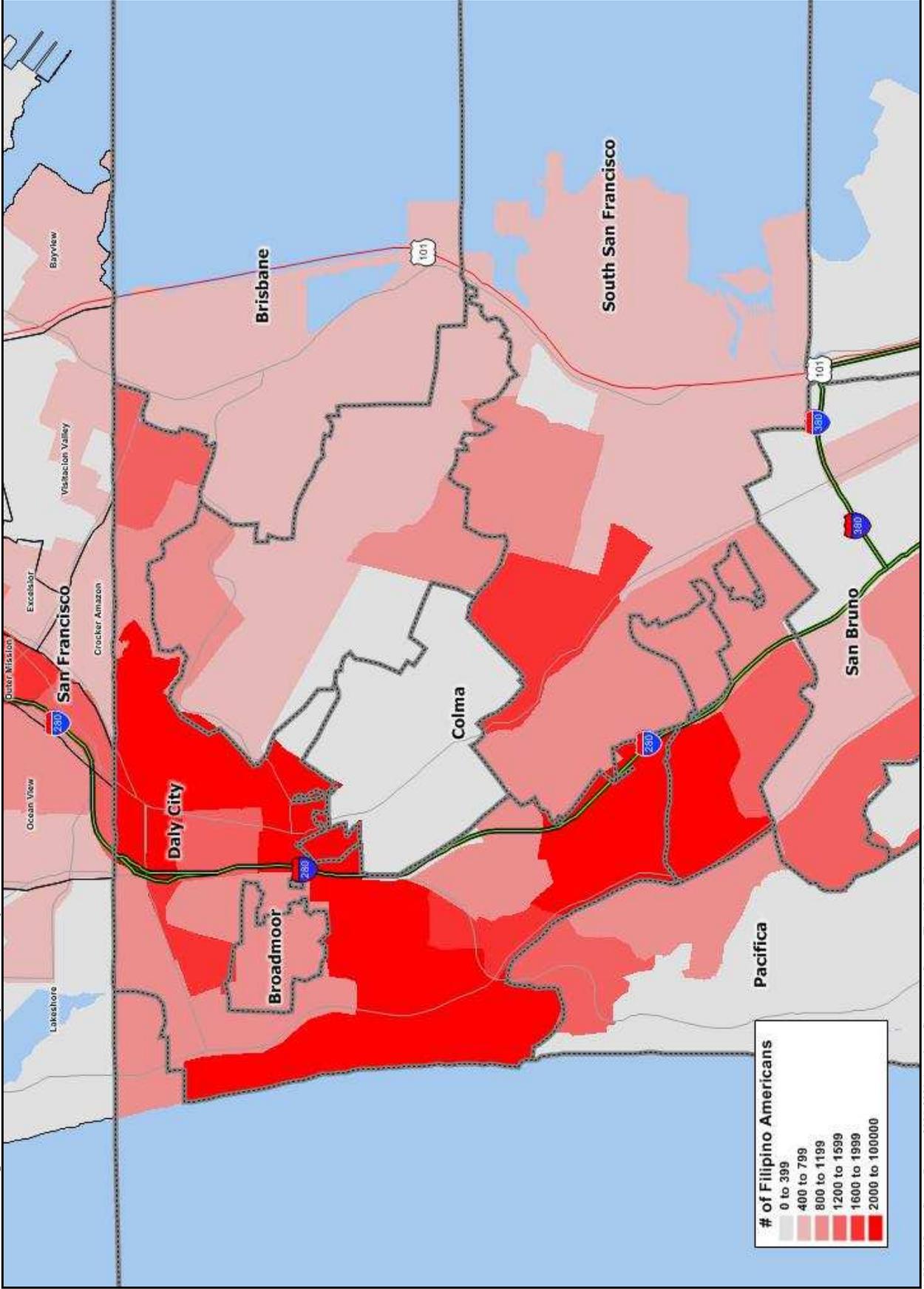
Since the 1970s Asian immigrants have immigrated to Daly City and the neighboring cities of South San Francisco, Broadmoor area and Colma. This migration has been multi-generational and, as a result, a strong family-oriented Filipino community has formed. These families share and access many of the same services located within Daly City, including Community Centers like PBRC, schools, shopping plazas, and local business. The strong cultural, social, and economic ties between the Filipino community in Daly City and the surrounding areas is obvious; just go to Serramonte Shopping Center.

The current State Assembly districts do not respect the geographic integrity of Daly City, as it splits our community into two districts. If our community is divided, our shared interests and community voice will not be heard. Our communities' levels of civic engagement are trending upwards, which is a dynamic that should be respected in the redistricting process. In addition, it is important that Daly City remain connected to other Asian American communities with whom we share many common characteristics. These are, specifically, the Asian communities in the Sunset and Richmond areas of San Francisco, where there are also common traits of homeownership, foreign-born status, and high rates of individuals who are learning English.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Ray Satorre  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

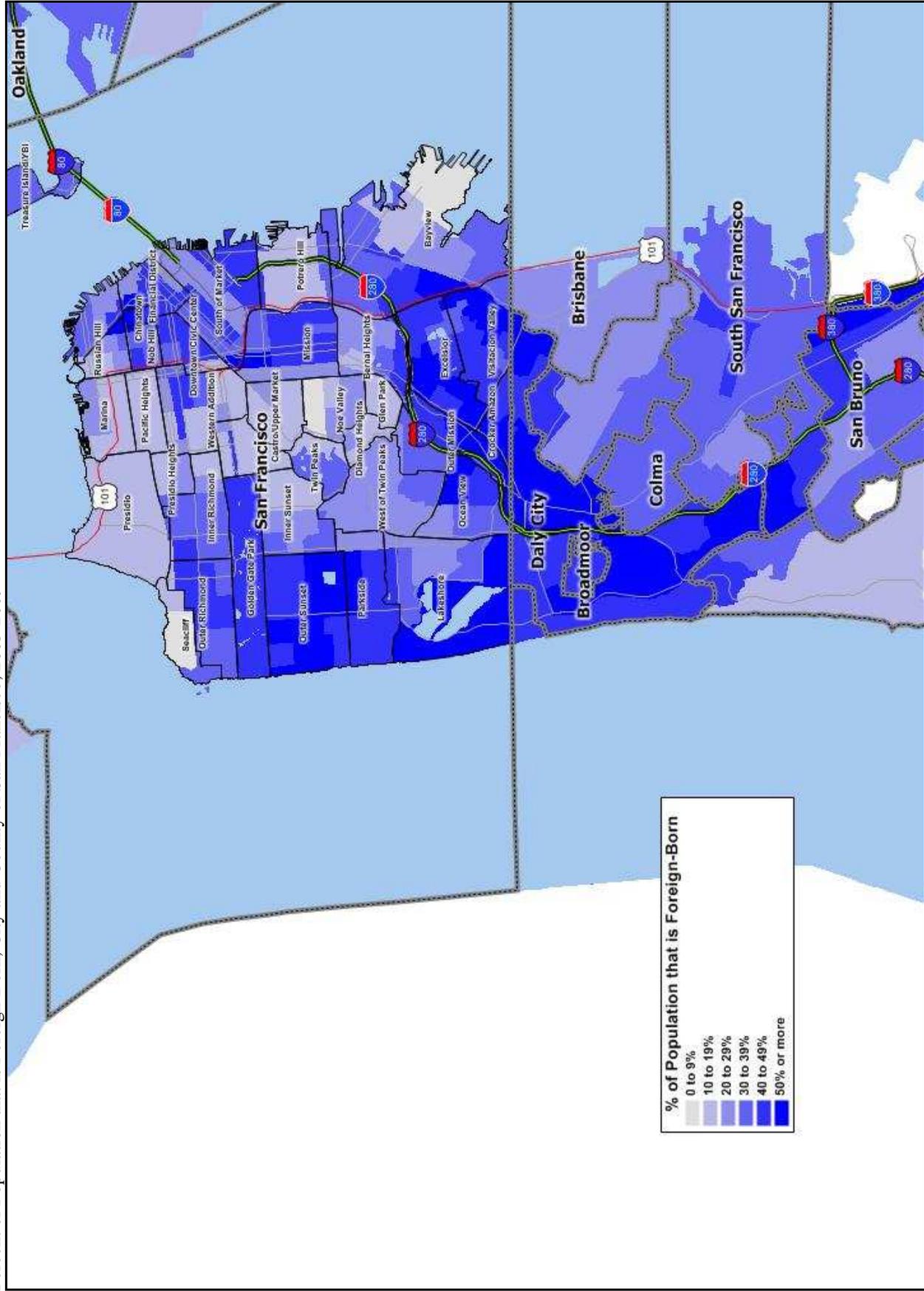
Number of Filipino Americans, City and County of San Francisco, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Race categories include single race individuals only.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Ray Satorre  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

Percent of Population that is Foreign-Born, City and County of San Francisco, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Race categories include single race individuals only.

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN ALAMEDA COUNTY**

- Jennifer Pae  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #9
- Gilbert Dong  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #10
- Lillian Galeo  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #11
- Suizi Lin  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #12
- Albert Wang  
- submitted May 21, 2011 together with oral testimony in Oakland, speaker #13

California Redistricting Commission Hearing

Testimony by Jennifer Pae

May 21, 2011

Good afternoon, my name is Jennifer Pae and I am testifying today on behalf of the East Bay Asian Voter Education Consortium (EBAVEC). EBAVEC is a nonprofit public benefit consortium; our main purpose is to educate the Asian American and Pacific Islander community regarding the election process, voter registration procedures, qualifications for American citizenship and voting, equal and full participation of all citizens in the electoral process, and community issues of concern within the Oakland and East Bay community. The Consortium is comprised of organizations within Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, pooling its resources to improve citizen awareness of public policy issues.

Currently, the Consortium consists of the following community-based organizations: the Chinese American Political Association, the CAPA Community Education Fund, Cal Students for the Asian Constituency, Oakland Asian Cultural Center, Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Citizens for Better Community, Family Bridges, Organization of Alameda Asians, and Organization of Chinese Americans, East Bay Chapter.

EBAVEC has been working with the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR) to bring people together to learn about the redistricting process. Some of the coalition's individual members who received education from CAPAFR will be testifying about their communities of interest today.

Currently, there are over 457,000 Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in Alameda County. AAPIs are one of the county's most rapidly growing populations. In 2000, AAPIs were about 23% of the county's population, and now they make up around 30% of the population, based on census 2010 figures.

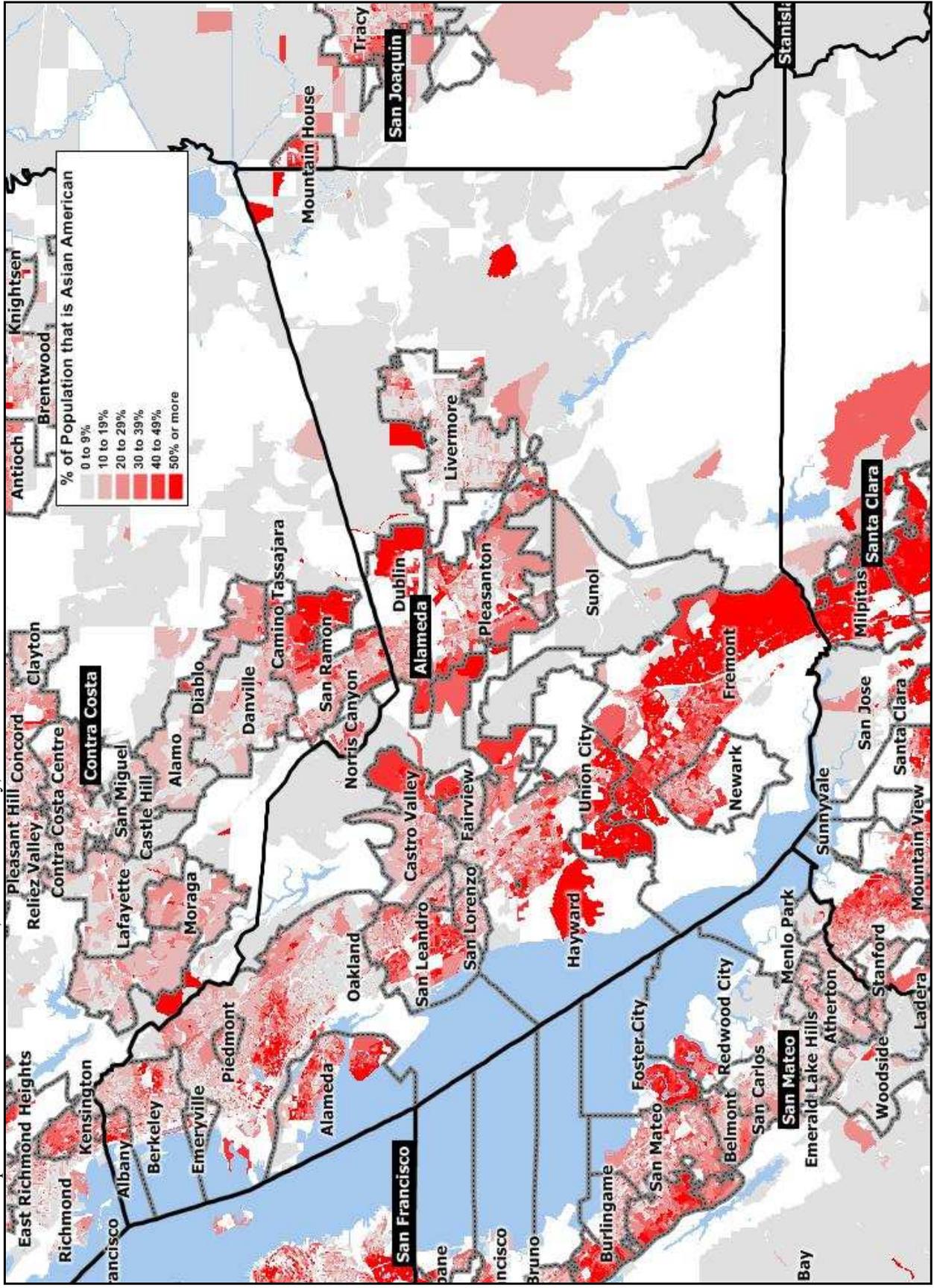
The attached map that I will be providing shows areas of AAPI population density in Alameda County. The first concentration of AAPIs is in Oakland, Alameda, and Berkeley. The second concentration of AAPIs is located in San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Ashland, Cherryland, Hayward, and Union City. And finally, there is a third concentration of AAPIs located in Fremont and Newark.

The communities in which AAPIs live have shared needs for language access, have similar immigrant backgrounds, and have common economic needs. For example, the attached map show high numbers of foreign-born individuals in the areas I've mentioned. AAPIs have common policy concerns around these needs and interests that would be best-served if the areas in which they live are kept intact within the same district.

We thank you for your time and hope that we may continue to work together in the best interest of the community.

Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Jennifer Pae  
 Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA

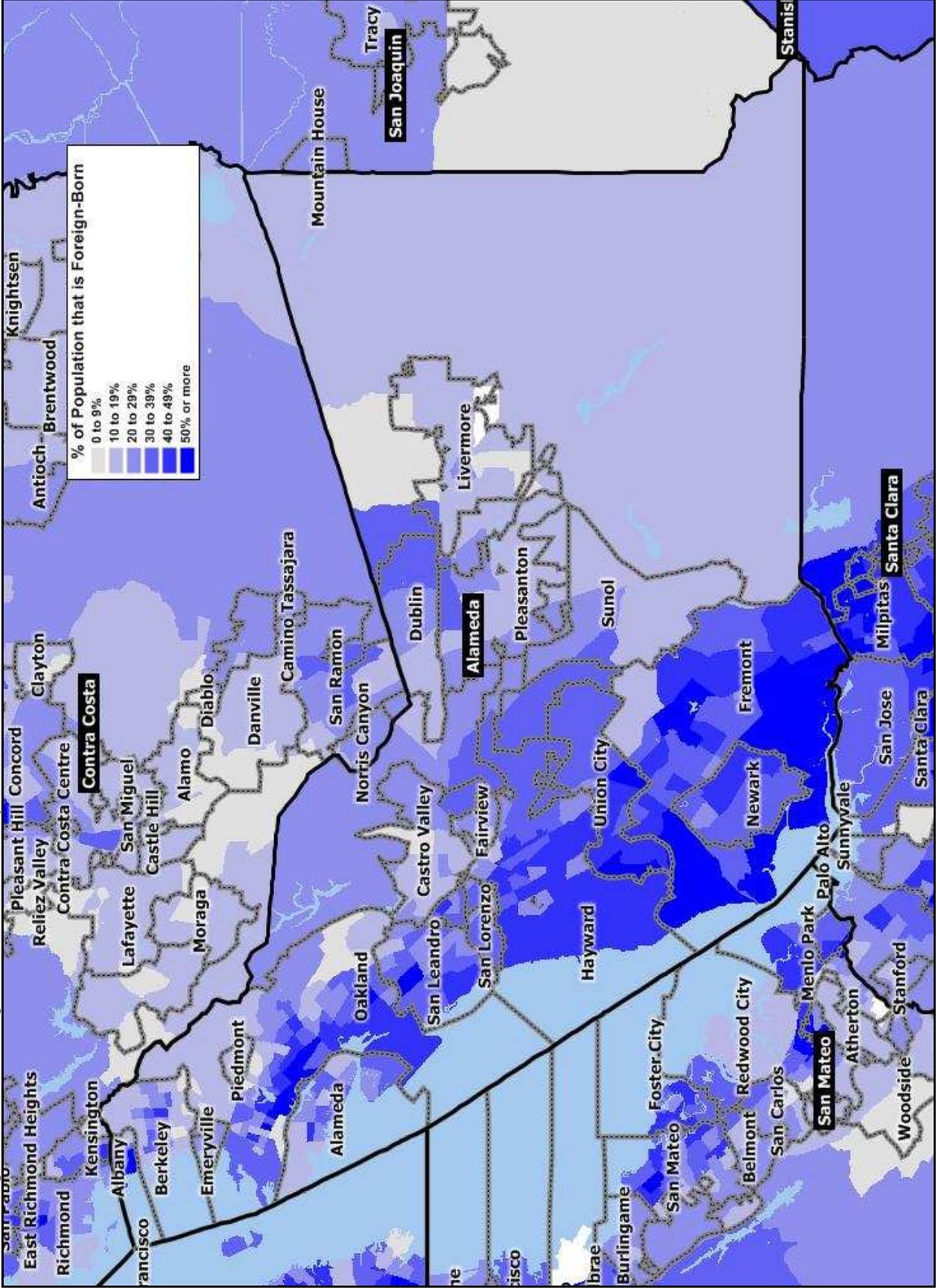
Percent of Population that is Asian American, Alameda County, 2010<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Jennifer Pae  
Public Input Hearings: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA

Percent of Population that is Foreign-Born, Alameda County, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.

Testimony of Gilbert Dong, Oakland resident

Citizens Redistricting Commission Hearing in Oakland

May 21, 2011

Good Afternoon. I want to thank the Commission for the opportunity to testify about my community.

My name is Gil Dong and I am a resident of Oakland and have been a long-time community activist and public service provider in the East Bay for over 25 years.

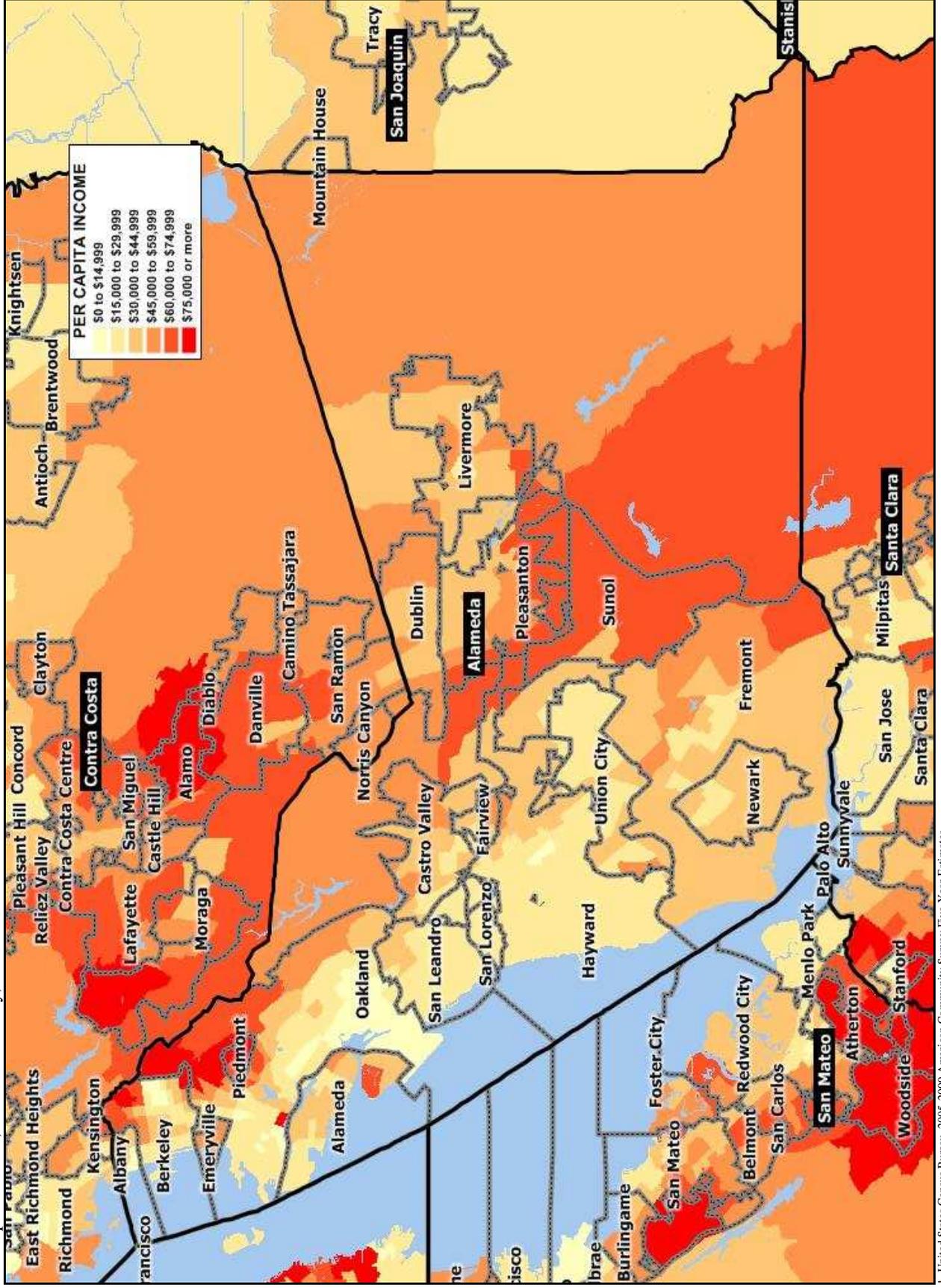
I first ask the commission to keep Oakland's Chinatown whole. Oakland Chinatown is in downtown Oakland and is centered around 8th Street and Webster. The area is very diverse, with Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and other Asian Americans living, working and owning businesses there. There are also a number of community nonprofit organizations that provide services to the Oakland Chinatown.

Second, I want to emphasize that Oakland and the surrounding cities of Alameda and Berkeley are very diverse with many Asian Americans, Latinos and African Americans residents. Across racial groups, many of these residents are underserved and rely upon critical social services provided by government agencies and community institutions. The attached map shows levels of per capita income in this area and illustrate the need residents have for a strong voice at the state and federal levels on issues of social services and jobs & economy.

Based on these common needs, I recommend to the commission to ensure that Alameda, Berkeley, and Oakland districts are economically grouped to ensure that the diverse population in these areas has fair and responsive representation.

Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Gilbert Dong  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA

Per Capita Income, Alameda County, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.

***Lillian Galedo, Executive Director  
Filipino Advocates for Justice  
May 21, 2011***

Good afternoon. I am Lillian Galedo. I have lived in Alameda County for 35 years. I am the Executive Director of Filipino Advocates for Justice. Filipino Advocates for Justice is a nonprofit organization who serves the more vulnerable in our community and works to foster economic stability and civic engagement in a community that is predominantly immigrant, to advance social and economic justice, and democratic and human rights for everyone.

I am also a founding board member of the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, a board member of the Oakland Asian Cultural Center, and a national co-chair of the National Alliance for Filipino Veterans Equity, who has worked to win recognition and equal status for Filipino WWII veterans.

For the past 25 years our organizations has provided youth development and parent support services in Union City. Over the past two decades we have seen the Asian Community in Union City grow to now be more than 50 percent of the city's population. The Filipino community is nearly 20% of the population. The attached map shows Filipino American population in Union City and the neighboring city of Hayward.

I'm here to ask the Commission to keep Union City intact in the new Assembly, State Senate and Congressional districts for the next decade. Union City is a geographically small city – only 18 square miles – with a population of about 60,000. Besides the Asian community, there are also a significant number of Latinos in the city who share similar socioeconomic interests as AAPIs.

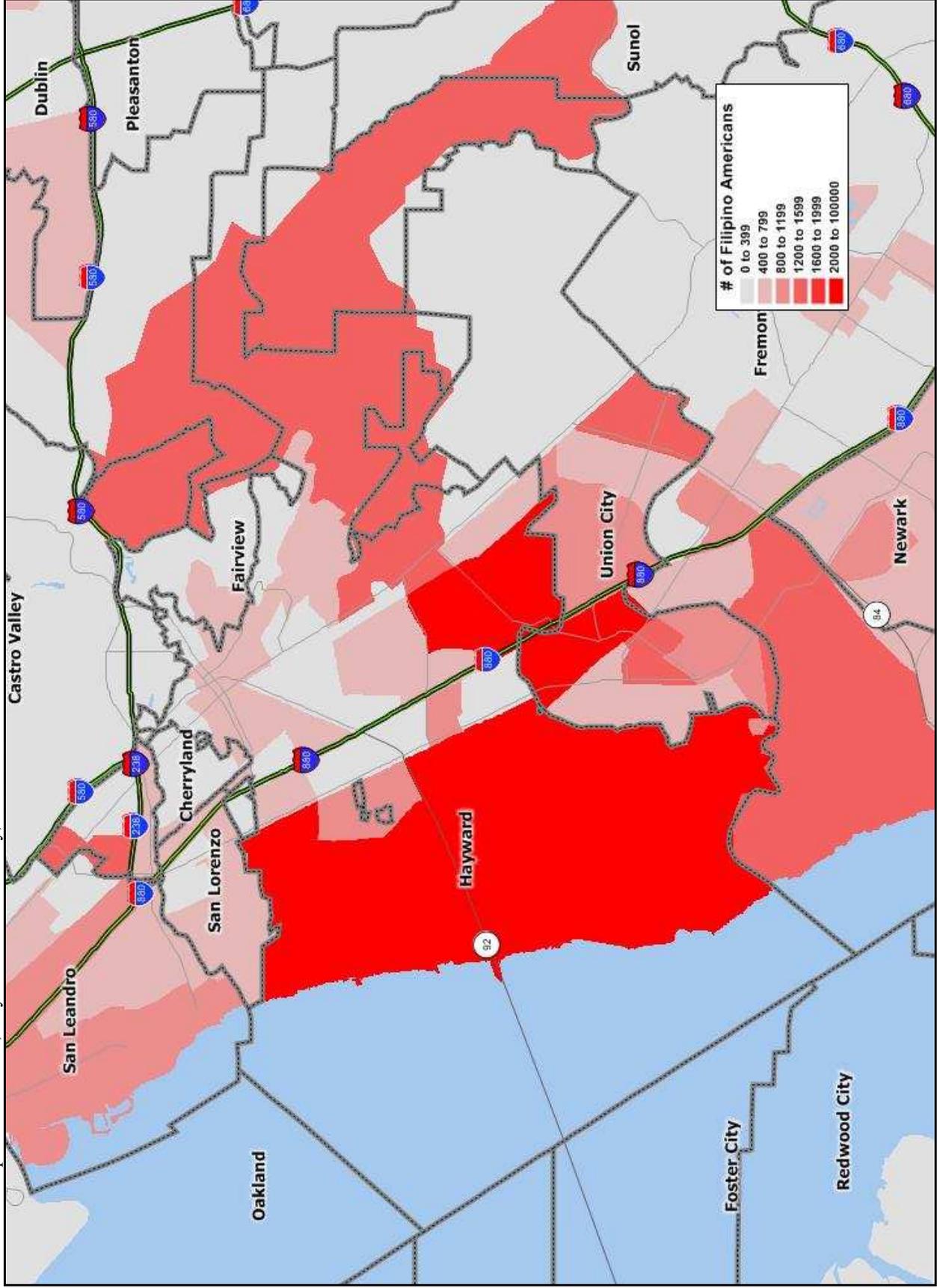
We have checked in with some of our local allies and know that they feel as we do that the residents of Union City prefer and would be best-served by having a common representative at the state and federal levels.

Furthermore, I recommend that the Commission keep Union City with Hayward / San Leandro / San Lorenzo and the unincorporated area of Alameda County as a community of interest. Filipino Americans in Central Alameda County have long shared the same churches, businesses, recreational areas, community organizations, educational and cultural institutions, in addition to similar economic status. Many youth from this part of Alameda County have also participated in our after school programs in Union City.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Lillian Galeado  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

Number of Filipino Americans, Hayward and Union City, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Race categories include single race individuals only.

Suizi Lin  
Resident of Alameda County

Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA

I have lived in Alameda County for almost 30 years, obtaining my education from Pioneer Elementary, Alvarado Middle School, James Logan High School, and the University of California, Berkeley.

I ask the Commission to keep Union City intact. I also ask the Commission to keep Castro Valley and Hayward with Union City as a community of interest.

The Chinese Americans in Union City interact with the Chinese American residents of Hayward and Castro Valley. Many residents from the neighboring cities such as Hayward, Castro Valley, and cities to the north come to Union City to access Asian grocery stores and other institutions in Union City.

Lastly, since Hayward, Union City and Castro Valley cannot make up a community of interest by themselves, I ask the Commission to keep Hayward and Union City with cities to the north such as San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Ashland and Cherryland. Residents of all of these cities have socioeconomic interests in common such as need for ethnic shopping, religious institutions, and cultural activities celebrating the unique heritage. Also, many residents in this area, both Asian American and non-Asian American, are limited English speaking and need language assistance to access vital government services.

Redistricting Commission Hearing 5/21/11 (Oakland)

Albert Wang

I have lived in Fremont for over 30 years. I am the Bay Area Chapter Chair for the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA), a statewide organization promoting civic participation by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs). I also participated in the 2001 redistricting effort together with other AAPI community members.

I ask the Commission to keep together Fremont and Newark because of their similarities. These areas have large AAPI populations, including many South Asian residents. The attached map shows Asian American population density in Fremont and Newark as well as areas to the south.

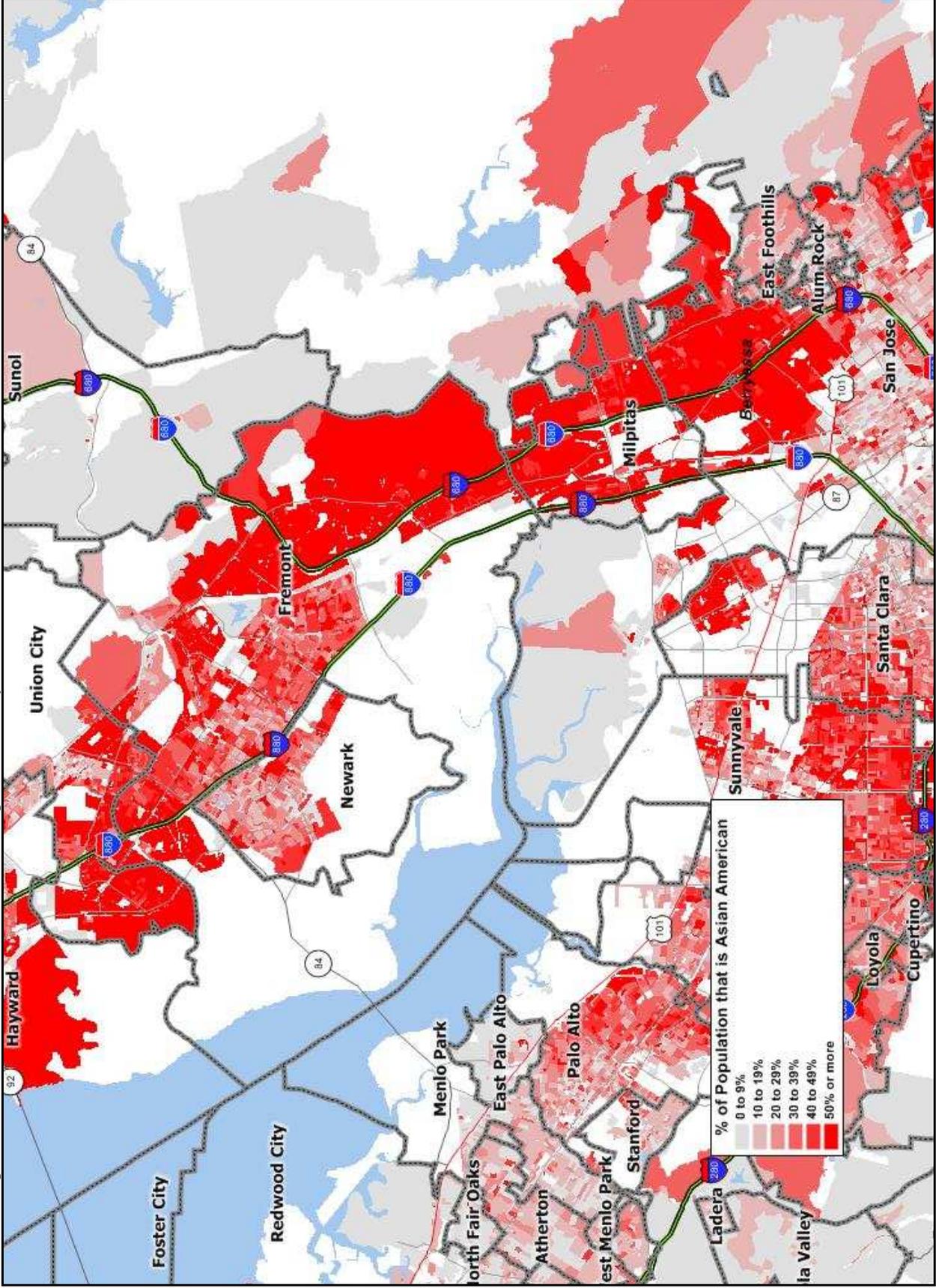
The residents of these areas have other ties, such as being part of the Ohlone Community College, Union Sanitary District, Alameda County Water District, and Washington Township Hospital service areas.

I also ask the Commission to put Fremont and Newark with areas in Santa Clara County such as Milpitas and Berryessa. Many of us from Fremont shop at Milpitas Square, the largest Asian American center in the area, as well as the Great Mall. There are a lot of similarities in terms of demographics (such as income level, ethnic mix, age), types of business and industry, and the close proximity through highway 880 and 680.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the commission to maintain the integrity of similar communities by keeping Fremont, Newark, Milpitas, and the Berryessa area of San Jose within the same assembly, senate and congressional districts so that the residents of this area have unified representation at the state and federal levels.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Albert Wang  
Public Input Hearing: May 21, 2011 in Oakland, CA*

Percent of Population that is Asian American, Fremont, Milpitas, and Berryessa, 2010<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL 94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

- Jacquelyn Maruhashi  
- submitted May 23, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Jose
- Alain Dang  
- submitted May 23, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Jose
- Cat Nguyen  
- submitted May 23, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Jose
- Matthew Mo  
- submitted May 23, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Jose
- Wesley Mukoyama  
- submitted May 23, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Jose
- James Nguyen  
- submitted May 23, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Jose

Jacquelyn Maruhashi  
Resident of San Jose

Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA

Good evening. My name is Jacquelyn Maruhashi. I have lived in San Jose for 26 years.

I am a staff attorney with the Asian Law Alliance (ALA) in San Jose, California. ALA is a non-profit community law office with 6 attorneys. In the 34 years of our existence, ALA has helped tens of thousands of people in obtaining decent housing, justice in the immigration process, and access to basic human and legal rights.

Asian Law Alliance has been a member of the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR) since it was created back in May 1990. I was involved on redistricting issues back in 1991 and 2001 both at the State Assembly level and locally in Santa Clara County.

CAPAFR's goal is to bring people together to learn about redistricting and assist individual members of the public who received education from CAPAFR to testify about their communities of interest.

There are over 628,000 AAPIs (Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders) in Santa Clara County, representing the second-largest AAPI population in the state, by county. AAPIs continue to grow rapidly. In 2000, AAPIs made up 28% of the county's population, and now they make up over 34%, based on Census 2010 figures. The attached map shows areas of AAPI population density in Santa Clara County.

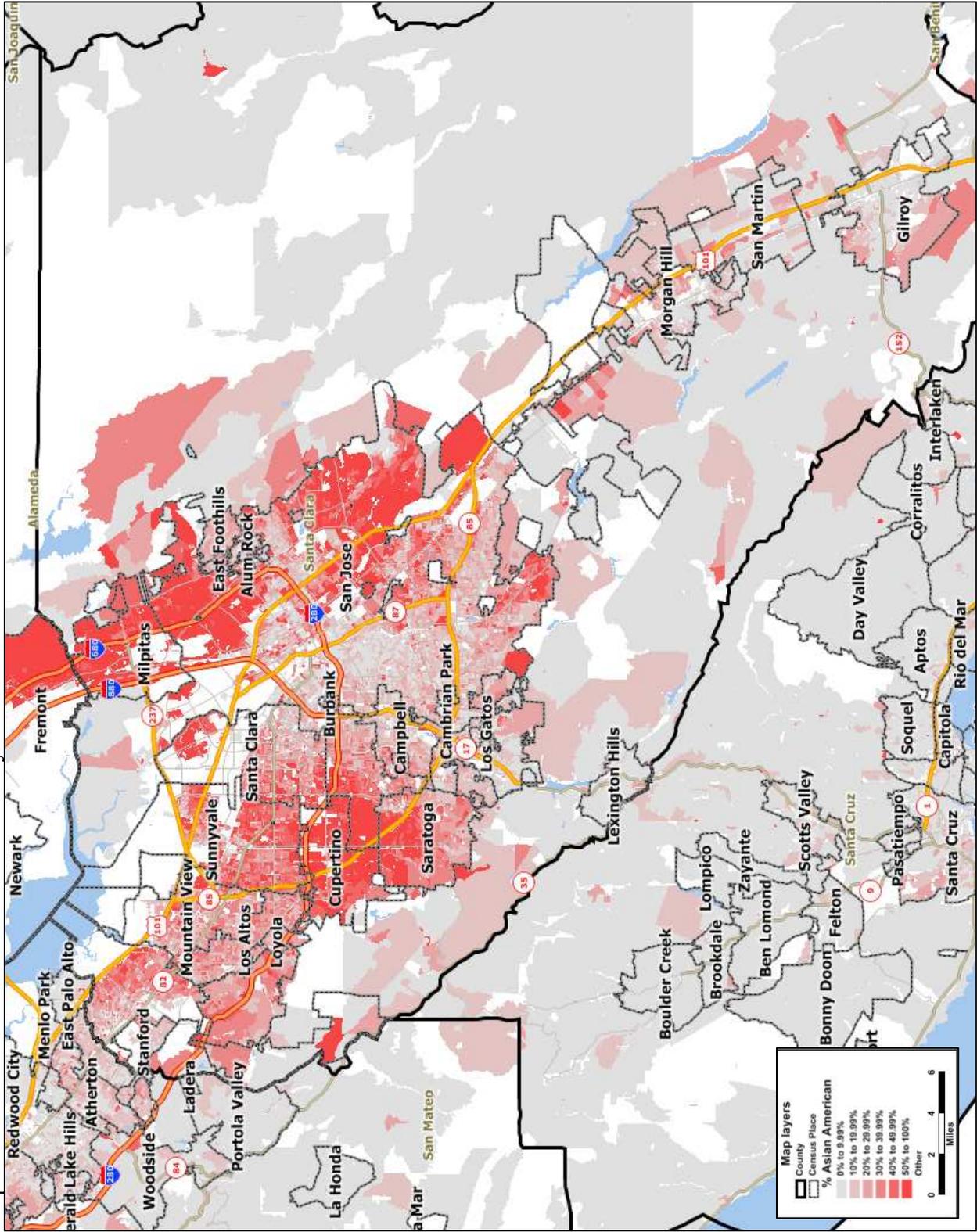
While AAPIs live throughout Santa Clara County, there are concentrations in various parts of the county. Evergreen and the Tully Road/Senter Road area of San Jose are home to a sizable AAPI population, including a large number of Vietnamese Americans and to a lesser extent Filipino Americans. Berryessa and Milpitas have high numbers of AAPI residents. Many AAPI residents also live in cities in west Santa Clara County, such as Santa Clara, Cupertino, Sunnyvale and Mountain View.

The communities in which AAPIs live have shared needs and interests around housing, economy and jobs, and education. For example, the attached map shows income levels within Santa Clara County and illustrate the need that low-income residents in the east side of the county have for effective representation on issues of social services and jobs & economy. AAPIs have common policy concerns around these needs and interests that would be best-served if the areas in which they live are kept intact within districts.

We have been working to ensure that the Asian Pacific American voice is heard in this redistricting process. As you are aware, in the 2001 redistricting process, Berryessa, a San Jose neighborhood with a majority AAPI population, was divided into 4 Assembly Districts. This in effect, prevented the residents of Berryessa from having any say at the state level for the past ten years. Please keep our communities intact. Thank you.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Jacquelyn Maruhashi Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA*

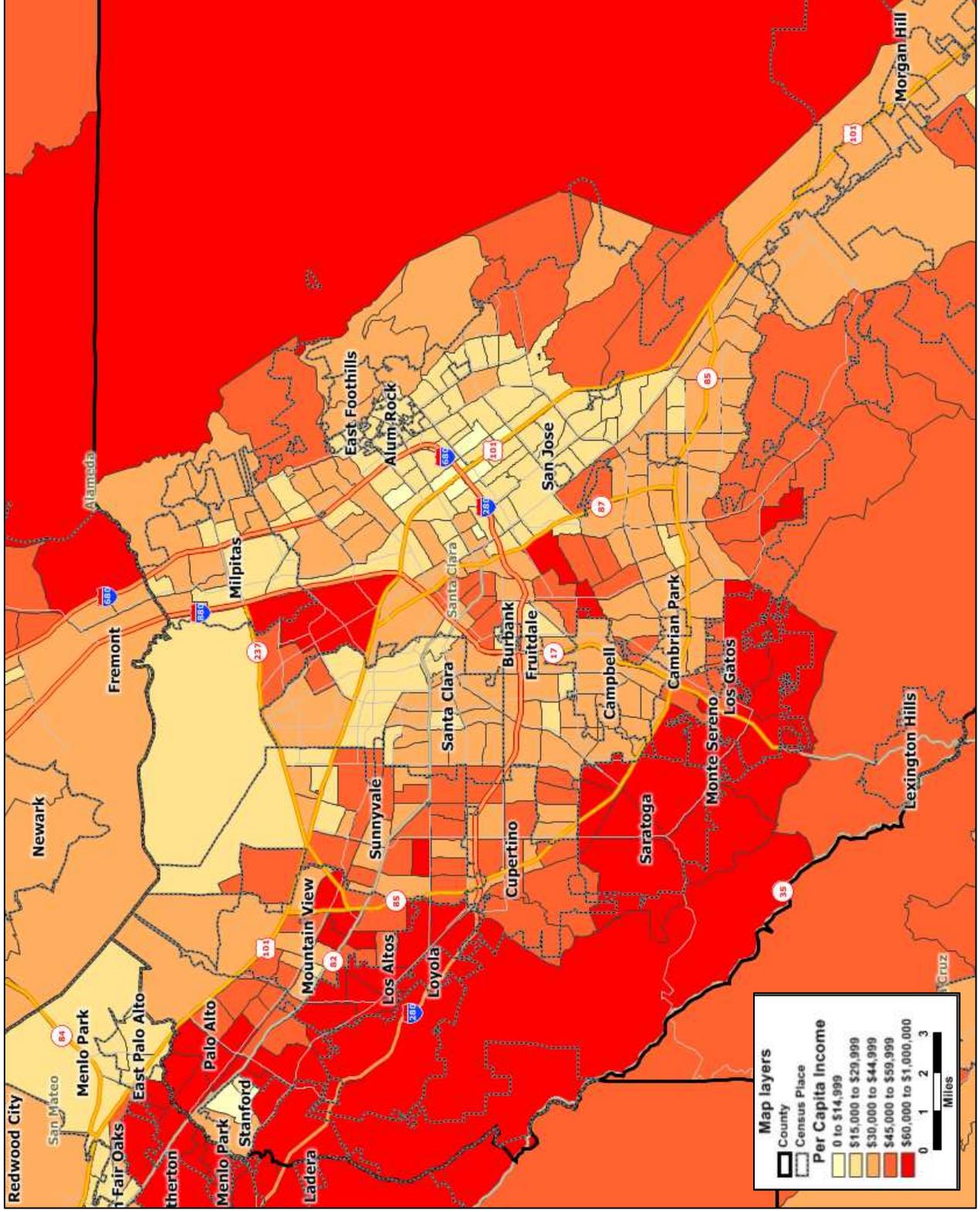
Map of Asian Americans in Santa Clara County!



1 U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census PL 94-171. Race Category includes both single race and multiracial individuals.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Jacquelyn Maruhashi Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA*

Map of Per Capita Income in Santa Clara County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Per capita income is the aggregate income of all residents in the city divided by the total population in the city.

Alain Dang  
Resident of Cupertino

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA*

Good evening. My name is Alain Dang. I will address both Little Saigon in San Jose and core cities within Santa Clara County that have shared interests.

I grew up in Cupertino but know the Little Saigon area of San Jose very well. During my childhood, my family went to Little Saigon to eat and shop a few times a week, and we continue to do that today. We have our favorite spots in Little Saigon – Century Mall, places on Tully Road, and the new shopping center at the intersection of King Road/Silver Creek Road and Capitol Expressway.

The first concentration of Vietnamese businesses located in downtown San Jose because it was cheap and accessible. The downtown area was redeveloped and as a result, the mom-and-pop operations got priced out and moved southeast to the Tully and Senter road area that became the Little Saigon area in the 1980s. That's where my family always went for Vietnamese food and groceries. In the 1990s and 2000s, the Little Saigon area expanded northeast to the Story Road area, and that area became another focal point of development, mostly because of large tracts of developable property.

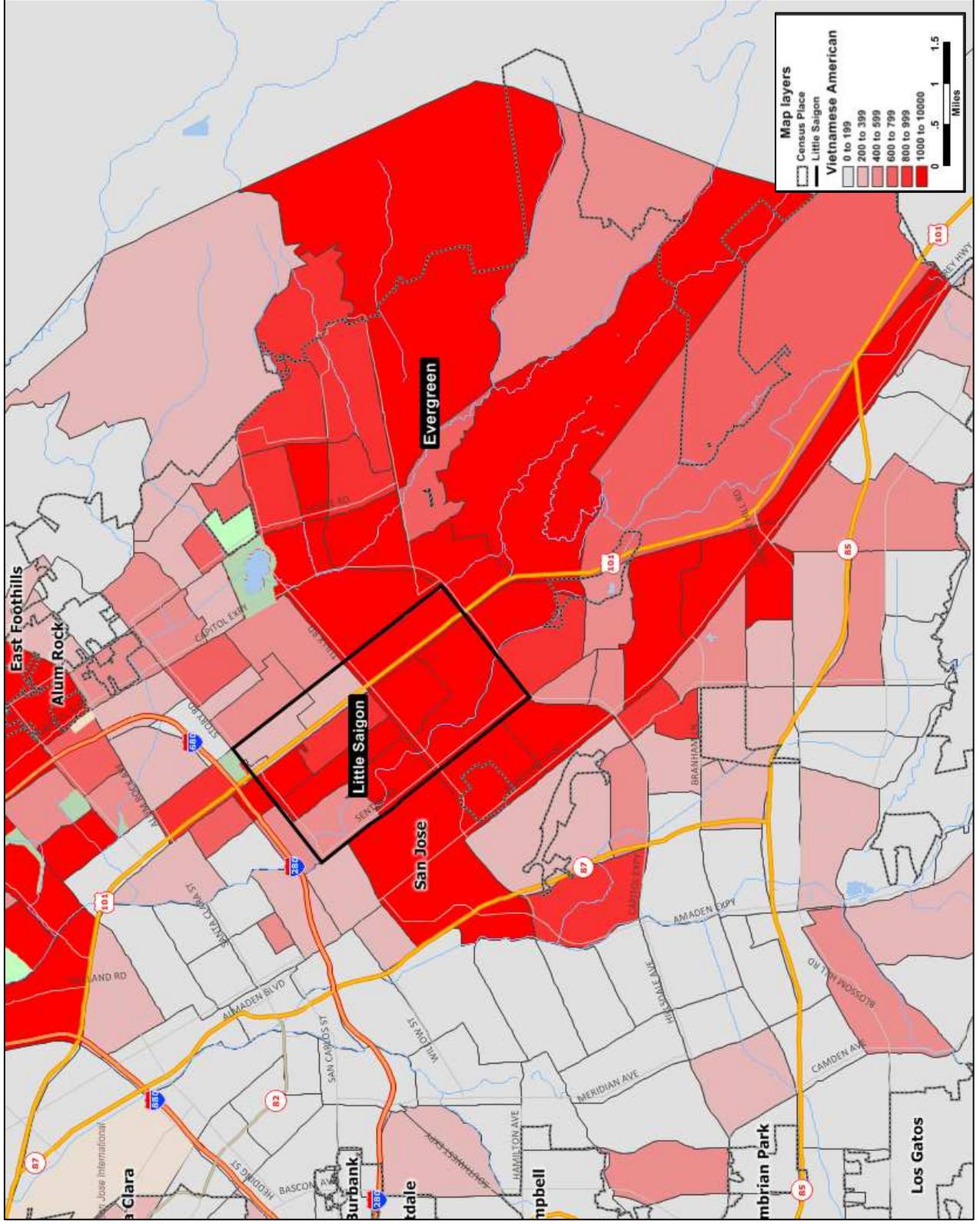
The Little Saigon area in the Tully Road/Senter Road area and Story Road area has always been an important entry point for Vietnamese immigrants – they start businesses and live in Little Saigon, and then "move up" to the newer and larger homes in the Evergreen neighborhood, which is southeast of the Tully Road/Senter Road area. For these reasons, the Evergreen neighborhood has much in common with Little Saigon. I've attached a map that shows the boundaries of Little Saigon, bounded by Story Road to the north, King Road to the east, Capitol Expressway to the south, and Senter Road to the west. The map also shows Vietnamese American population density of Evergreen, Little Saigon and surrounding areas.

In addition, the common denominator of the cities on the westside (Cupertino, Mountain View, Sunnyvale, and Santa Clara) are the public schools. The Cupertino Union School District and Fremont Union High School District cover Cupertino, northern Saratoga, west San Jose, Sunnyvale and the far western reaches of Santa Clara. Even back in the 1980s, Cupertino had a significant Asian population, though it exploded in the last two decades to become the Taiwanese American capital of northern California. In recent years, more South Asians and Koreans have moved in, but it is still overwhelmingly Taiwanese. West San Jose and Saratoga are extensions of this, with high tech professionals populating this area because of the high achieving schools. This extends northward through Sunnyvale and into Santa Clara as well. Most of the Chinese (Taiwanese mostly) businesses and services have clustered in and around Cupertino, while El Camino in Sunnyvale is the Indian business district, before it turns Korean once you cross into Santa Clara.

Thank you.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Alain Dang Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA*

Map of Vietnamese Americans in East Santa Clara County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for population alone.

Cat Nguyen  
Resident of San Jose

Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA

Good evening. My name is Cat Nguyen. I have lived in the Evergreen neighborhood for 22 years. I am the Director of Development of Programs and Services with VIVO (Vietnamese Voluntary Foundation) and have worked for VIVO for 6 years. VIVO provides services primarily to the Vietnamese American community in Santa Clara County and to the refugee community as well. In addition, I used to work for the City of San Jose in City Council District 7 so I am very familiar with the needs of the Vietnamese American community in San Jose.

The Vietnamese community is connected to the Tully Road/Senter Road area of San Jose through the Vietnamese businesses that are located there. Vietnamese American businesses are concentrated in an area of San Jose bounded by Story Road to the north, King Road to the east, Capitol Expressway to the south, and Senter Road to the west. Those of us who live in the Evergreen neighborhood go to this area for recreation, shopping, churches and schools.

As an Evergreen resident who has knowledge about the Vietnamese American community, I ask that this Commission place the Evergreen neighborhood with the Tully Road/Senter Road area of San Jose so that our community is not divided.

Thank you.

Matthew Mo  
Resident of Evergreen

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA*

Good evening. My name is Matthew Mo. I have lived in the Evergreen neighborhood for 27 years. Also, I spent ten years in the real estate business in Evergreen.

Many years ago, the Evergreen neighborhood used to be mostly agricultural with orchards and cattle ranches. The last agricultural area in Evergreen, Mirazo Winery, is now a residential project with 100 units.

The Evergreen neighborhood has been very urban for a long time. Despite this, during the 2001 redistricting Evergreen was placed with rural areas to the east in Assembly District 28. I ask the Commission to keep Evergreen with San Jose rather than rural areas to the east of Evergreen.

The people living in the downtown area of San Jose and the Evergreen neighborhood are very similar. They share middle income levels with many employed in the high-tech companies in the downtown area. In fact, many work in downtown San Jose and live in Evergreen. In addition, people in Evergreen go west to the Evergreen business district for shopping, dining and entertainment. These stores include Eastridge Shopping Center, Lion Asian Market, Marina Asian Market, and many more retail and ethnic business outlets. They do not go east or south for their daily needs.

We share the same transportation concerns with the people who live in downtown San Jose and in the area north and west of them. We use the same thoroughfares to get to work such as Capital Expressway and Highway 87 for our commute.

Also, both San Jose City College and Evergreen College are a part of the San Jose-Evergreen Community College District, but are in different Assembly Districts. San Jose City College is in Assembly District 24 while the Evergreen Community College is in District 28. Both colleges list courses in the same catalog. Students or residents in either district can take courses at either college, depending upon their schedules.

By placing the Evergreen Community College with its counterpart college district in San Jose in the same district, the shared interest of students and residents at both campuses will be unified because these people attend the same college district.

As an Evergreen resident, I ask that this Commission consolidate our community and keep the Evergreen neighborhood with downtown San Jose. I suggest that you use the boundaries of the Evergreen Elementary School District, as these are commonly used boundaries for the Evergreen neighborhood.

Thank you.

Wesley Mukoyama  
Resident of Santa Clara

Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA

Good evening. My name is Wesley Mukoyama. I have lived in the City of Santa Clara for 37 years. I am the former Executive Director of Yu-Ai Kai Community Center, a Japanese American nonprofit organization in San Jose.

I request that the Commission keep together the cities of Santa Clara, Cupertino, Sunnyvale and Mountain View as a community of interest. All of these cities have tech companies including Intel, Yahoo, Google, and Apple among others. As a result, these areas have many middle to high income wage earners who work in the high tech field. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (APIs) make up a significant portion of this community of interest, and like other members of this community, have shared needs and interests. One of these shared interests is having good school districts. In addition, Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Santa Clara share the Highway 101 corridor so they have similar transportation issues.

Another is ethnic shopping areas. Santa Clara, Sunnyvale and Mountain View have common thoroughfares such as El Camino Real. A number of the Asian ethnic shopping areas are located along El Camino Real in Sunnyvale and Santa Clara. Many of us shop along El Camino Real as well as in Cupertino at the Asian Plaza off Wolfe Road.

Please keep the cities of Santa Clara, Cupertino, Sunnyvale and Mountain View together as a community of interest.

Thank you.

James Nguyen  
Resident of Sunnyvale

Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA

My name is James Nguyen and I have been a resident of Sunnyvale since 2006. I teach at De Anza College in Cupertino and am the Assistant Director for the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute. I lived in Santa Clara when I was attending graduate school, so I believe that I know and understand the areas of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Santa Clara and Mountain View well.

I request that the Commission keep together the cities of Santa Clara, Cupertino, Sunnyvale and Mountain View as a community of interest due to the significant population of AAPIs, socioeconomic factors, shared economy and jobs, education system, and housing.

AAPIs make up a significant portion of this community of interest, and like other members of this community, have shared needs and interests. The AAPI population in this community is diverse and is made of up several ethnic groups, including Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Asian Indian, Vietnamese, and Filipino. The attached map shows AAPI population within the geographical areas of this community of interest. Many Asians are attracted to move into this area due to the high quality education and jobs with the many high-tech companies in the area.

Several of the cities in this community of interest are part of the same school districts. For instance, the Fremont Union High School District has five high schools, all of which are contained within Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and West San Jose. The Cupertino Union School District has elementary schools that are located in West San Jose, Cupertino, Sunnyvale, and Santa Clara. The connection between cities and shared school districts underscores the shared interests that residents in these cities have with regard to K-12 education. The attached map shows similar levels of academic performance in the cities of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Santa Clara and Mountain View. Also, De Anza College and Mission College, two community colleges in this community of interest, attract students and employees from all across the geographical area represented by this community of interest.

There are many technology companies in Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Mountain View; these companies and their relationships with employees constitute additional ties that bind together this community of interest. Workers commute to these companies from Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Mountain View and surrounding areas. A sampling of technology companies demonstrates the connection of these cities: Yahoo! (Sunnyvale), Intel (Santa Clara), Google (Mountain View), Microsoft (Mountain View), and Apple (Cupertino).

Another industry prevalent in the area is the defense industry. Moffett Field Air Base is located in Mountain View while Lockheed Martin is in Sunnyvale, adjacent to one another.

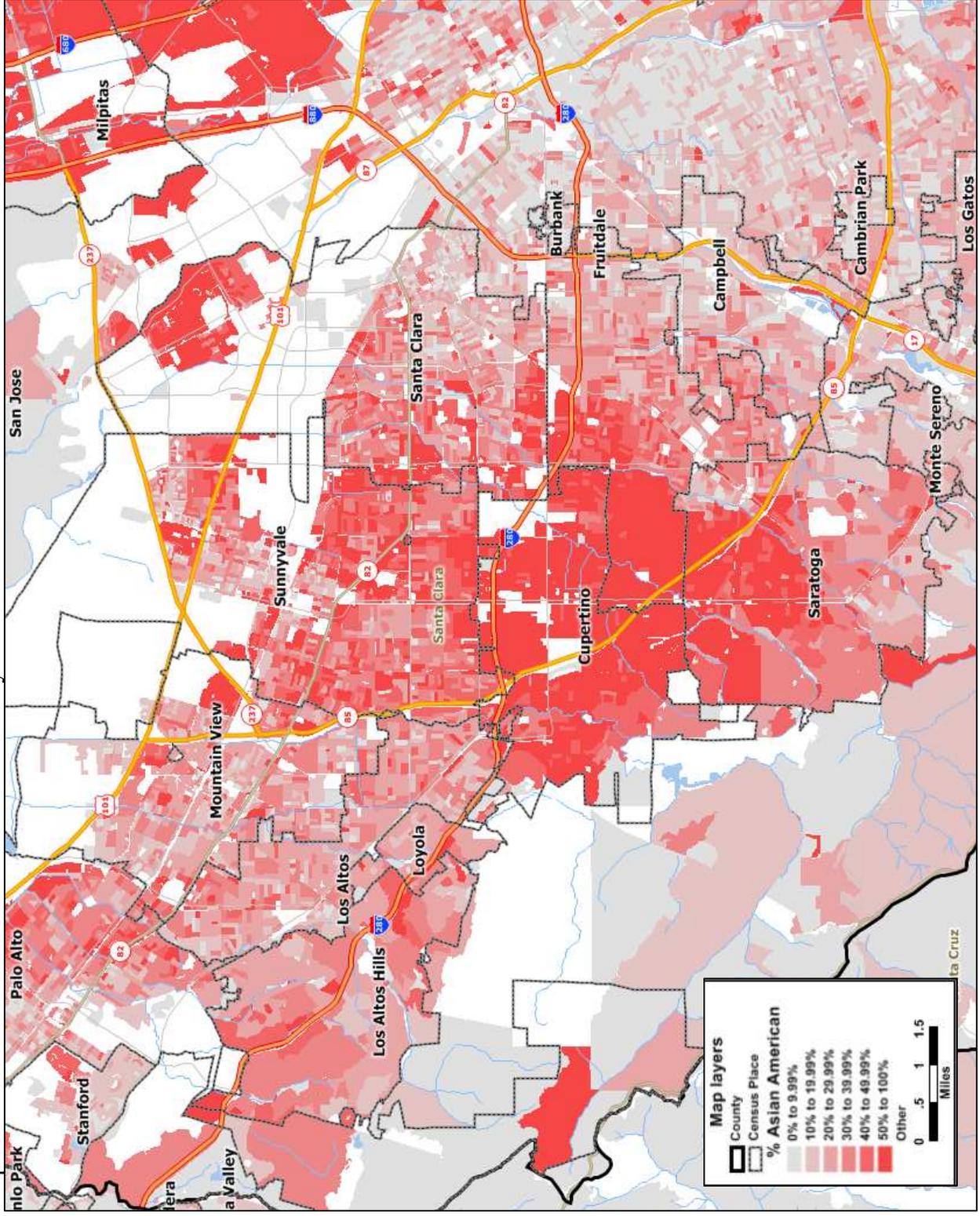
Shared borders, roadways and geographic features also provide similarities among these cities. The 101 freeway runs through parts of Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Santa Clara, while the 280 freeway connects Mountain View, Cupertino, Sunnyvale, and Santa Clara. El Camino Real runs through and connects Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, and Mountain View.

Finally, these cities share the same public transportation systems. This includes Caltrain and the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) light rail and bus system, where residents travel from their home in any one of these cities and travel to neighboring cities for work, shopping, and recreation.

Thank you for considering my testimony. I think you'll agree that the cities of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Santa Clara and Mountain View constitute a community of interest that should be kept together within the same district.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by James Nguyen Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Public Input Hearing: May 23, 2011 in San Jose, CA*

Map of Asian Americans in West Santa Clara County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census, PL 94-171. Race Category includes both single race and multiracial individuals.



**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN FRESNO COUNTY**

- Deanna Kitamura  
- submitted April 15, 2011 together with oral testimony in Hanford, speaker #4
- Fuehoua Thao  
- submitted April 15, 2011 together with oral testimony in Hanford, speaker #5
- Silas Cha  
- submitted April 15, 2011 together with oral testimony in Hanford, speaker #6
- Jennifer Rakaphoume  
- submitted April 15, 2011 together with oral testimony in Hanford, speaker #7
- Dan Ichinose  
- submitted April 15, 2011 together with oral testimony in Hanford, speaker #8
- Richard Molinar  
- submitted May 23, 2011

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR-FRESNO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 15, 2011 in Hanford, CA*

Deanna Kitamura  
Asian Pacific American Legal Center

I am Deanna Kitamura, the Statewide Redistricting Manager at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (also known as APALC). Thank you for your concerted effort in holding public hearings throughout California. I am a native of Fresno so am happy to see the Commission in the Central Valley. APALC is the largest nonprofit organization in the nation dedicated to providing legal services to and advocating for the civil rights of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. APALC is the statewide anchor for CAPAFR, that's the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting. My colleague, Eugene Lee, provided a fairly comprehensive introduction of CAPAFR at the February 26 commission meeting devoted to receiving information on efforts to educate the public on redistricting. As mentioned by Eugene, CAPAFR is a nonpartisan coalition working in 10 regions in California. Each CAPAFR region has a local lead organization conducting outreach and convening a series of regional meetings.

In this region, CAPAFR is working in Fresno County, and the regional coalition is called CAPAFR-Fresno. CAPAFR-Fresno's efforts are led by Fresno Center for New Americans, a community based organization serving the refugee communities in Fresno. CAPAFR-Fresno has held three community meetings to educate the community, obtain neighborhood and community of interest information, and obtain community mapping priorities. CAPAFR-Fresno will hold one more meeting next month to finalize the mapping proposals affecting Fresno County.

Statewide, CAPAFR believes in the importance of the Voting Rights Act in protecting the voting rights of racial minorities. CAPAFR also believes in the importance of keeping neighborhoods and communities of interest together so that community voices are not diluted in the redistricting process. In this region, CAPAFR-Fresno recognizes and supports a potential Latino Voting Rights Act district that can be drawn that includes the southern part of the City of Fresno.

CAPAFR will present statewide assembly and senate mapping proposals at the May 26 hearing in Northridge. Today, we will focus on a specific neighborhood and community of interest. We will not discuss district lines, other than to note and support the potential Latino Voting Rights Act district I just mentioned.

The four other speakers for CAPAFR-Fresno will primarily focus on the Hmong refugee community. Some of the speakers will focus on a specific Hmong refugee neighborhood in the southeast portion of the City of Fresno. This neighborhood is also home to large pockets of Lao and Cambodian refugees.

Let me introduce the other speakers:

Fuehoua Thao, from the Fresno Center for New Americans, will provide information about members of CAPAFR-Fresno. She will also discuss the Hmong community in Fresno and how that community shares many similarities with the Latino community, and, therefore, should be included in the Latino Voting Rights Act district in the southern part of Fresno.

Silas Cha, Southeast Asian Education Council, will speak about the historic and current significance of the Hmong refugee neighborhood within the City of Fresno.

Jennifer Rakaphoumne, a realtor serving the Southeast Asian community, will talk about the expansion of the neighborhood eastward due to the growth and success of the community.

Finally, Dan Ichinose of APALC will provide data that supports the community's testimony, including their arguments that the neighborhood in the southeast portion of Fresno should be kept together and that the neighborhood should be included within the potential Latino Voting Rights Act district in the southern part of the City of Fresno.

At the end of our presentation, we will submit our written testimony and the shape file for the Hmong refugee neighborhood that Silas Cha will describe.

Thank you for this opportunity to present information about Fresno.

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR-FRESNO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 15, 2011 in Hanford, CA*

Fuehoua Thao  
Fresno Center for New Americans

Good evening, my name is Fuehoua Thao. I want to thank you the Commission for holding a hearing in this region and allowing us to provide our testimony in person. I am a program associate at Fresno Center for New Americans.

Fresno Center for New Americans is a nonprofit, nonpartisan community-based organization in Fresno; it has been in existence since 1991 to provide services in employment development, cross-cultural trainings, health education, and advocacy.

FCNA is the lead organization for CAPAFR in Fresno County. As the lead, FCNA conducted outreach and convened regional meetings. CAPAFR-Fresno encompasses all of Fresno County. Some of the groups/organization that make up CAPAFR-Fresno are:

- UC Cooperatives, Small Farmers Program
- Empowerment Institute
- Lao Veterans of America
- Hmong International New Year
- Hmong Farmers of America
- Cambodian Reconciliation Committee
- Southeast Asian Education Council
- Lao Family Community of Fresno
- Khmer Society of Fresno

CAPAFR-Fresno understands and supports a Latino Voting Rights Act district that can be drawn that includes the southern part of the City of Fresno and extending southward. We also believe the commission should keep communities of interest and neighborhoods whole.

Fresno has the second largest Hmong community in the nation. It is estimated by the various respective community leaders that there are:

- 30,000 Hmong population,
- 8,000 Laotian,
- 7,000 Cambodian in Fresno County.

We understand that the Census estimates are lower for each community. We believe this is due to an undercount of our communities.

The Southeast Asian community shares many socio-economic traits with the Latino community, such as poverty and unemployment. Dan Ichinose will be providing you some of the statistics to show the parallels between our two communities.

Because of these similarities, FCNA works with Latino community based organizations. For example, FCNA has worked (in the last couple years) with other Latino organizations like:

- The Binational Center for the Development of the Oaxacan Indigenous Communication and
- Parent Institute for Quality Education – advocating on student education and the impact of budget cut on education.

Because of the common work that we do and our shared socio-economic characteristics, the policy interests of the Southeast Asian neighborhood are best served if it is kept whole and included with the Latino community in the Voting Rights Act district.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of my testimony.

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR-FRESNO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 15, 2011 in Hanford, CA*

Silas Cha  
Southeast Asian Education Council

Good evening, my name is Silas Cha. Thank you for holding the hearing in the region and allowing us to provide our input in front of you. I am the chairman of the Southeast Asian Education Council, a non-partisan advocacy group in Fresno that conducts educational conferences, outreach, and public presentations such as this to educators and other services providers. The Council is consisted of educators, community leaders, college students, and parents who are passionate about the quality of their children's education. Our members are from the Southeast Asian community and Latino community.

I have lived in Fresno for nearly 30 years. In fact, I grew up in Southeast Fresno, the area we will be discussing.

I am also a member of CAPAFR. I fully support the importance of the Voting Rights Act and in keeping communities of interest and neighborhoods whole. Please respect our community's desire for fair representation. We urge you not to dilute our votes and please do not arbitrarily divide our neighborhood.

Within Fresno, there is a neighborhood in which the core of the Southeast Asian community resides. The boundaries are Shields to the north; Highway 41 to the west until Belmont. From Belmont south, the western boundary is First Street. Jensen is to the south, and Temperance is to the east. The map we are projecting is of this neighborhood and the red gradations reflect the Hmong population, with darker color showing higher concentration. The stars show the location of refugee community institutions.

This neighborhood has been and continues to be a gateway community for Southeast Asians: Hmong, Lao and Cambodians.

I am particularly familiar with the Hmong history in this region so will focus much of my comments on the Hmong settlement in Fresno. Hmong families left their homelands in 1975 and initially settled in various cities in the United States. Fresno was not one of the initial cities. However, by the end of the 1970s, families began to resettle in other areas. The first Hmong families in the Central Valley settled in Merced in 1979. About a year later, Hmong families started to move to Fresno. The Hmong refugees started resettling in this area because of the affordable rent and rich agricultural land nearby. The Fresno area has lower income residents and thus it has been attractive to Hmong and other Southeast Asian refugees who could not afford to live elsewhere.

By the mid-1980s, there was a visible number of Hmong refugees who resettled in Fresno. A steady flow of Hmong people continued to resettle in Fresno. The refugee camps in Thailand began closing in 2004. About 4,000 of the 16,000 refugees from the Thai camps settled in Fresno.

The majority of Hmong, Lao, and Cambodian refugees who resettled in Fresno reside in the neighborhood I have identified. In fact, even many of the Southeast Asian farmers who lease land to the south and east of the neighborhood actually live in the neighborhood. Michael Yang, from UC Cooperative's Small Farm Program, estimates that about 40% of the Southeast Asian farmers live in the neighborhood. Staff at the Small Farm Program also indicate that the farmers are unique in that, while the majority of farmers in Fresno County own their land and live on their farms, the majority of Southeast Asian farmers lease their land and do not live on the land.

The refugee neighborhood I identified has fundamental historical and cultural significances and has been a vital area of importance to Southeast Asian communities. There are notable organizations/institutions in the neighborhood that continue to provide vital services. For instance, Fresno Center for New Americans, Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministry, Khmer Society of Fresno, and Lao Family Community of Fresno are at the center of this neighborhood - providing essential services in job development, community organizing, childcare, and mental health. These institutions are on the map.

Another important institution is the Asian Village Mall. It is located at Winery and Kings Canyon. It is significant in that it houses 40 businesses which are primarily owned by Southeast Asians. The mall includes a grocery store, restaurants, and small businesses. It was the first Southeast Asian mall in Fresno. It is significant for establishing entrepreneurs. It is also significant because many events are held at the mall's community hall.

The refugee neighborhood also contains the Fresno Fairground. This is the site of the largest Hmong cultural celebration in the world. It is the celebration of the New Year and has taken place on the Fairgrounds every year for the last 23 years and attracts 120,000 people during the 6-day celebration. Hmong people from all over the world attend this event. Because they spend time in the area, Hmong people all over the world recognize the area as a Hmong refugee neighborhood.

In order to best serve the interest of the Hmong and other Southeast Asian residents of Fresno, it is imperative that you keep this neighborhood whole. The neighborhood often advocates for policies affecting the Southeast Asian residents with local, state, and national officials and agencies in issues such as education, health, unemployment. Therefore, the neighborhood should be kept in one district in order that we can provide a consistent and strong voice to work with officials and state agencies.

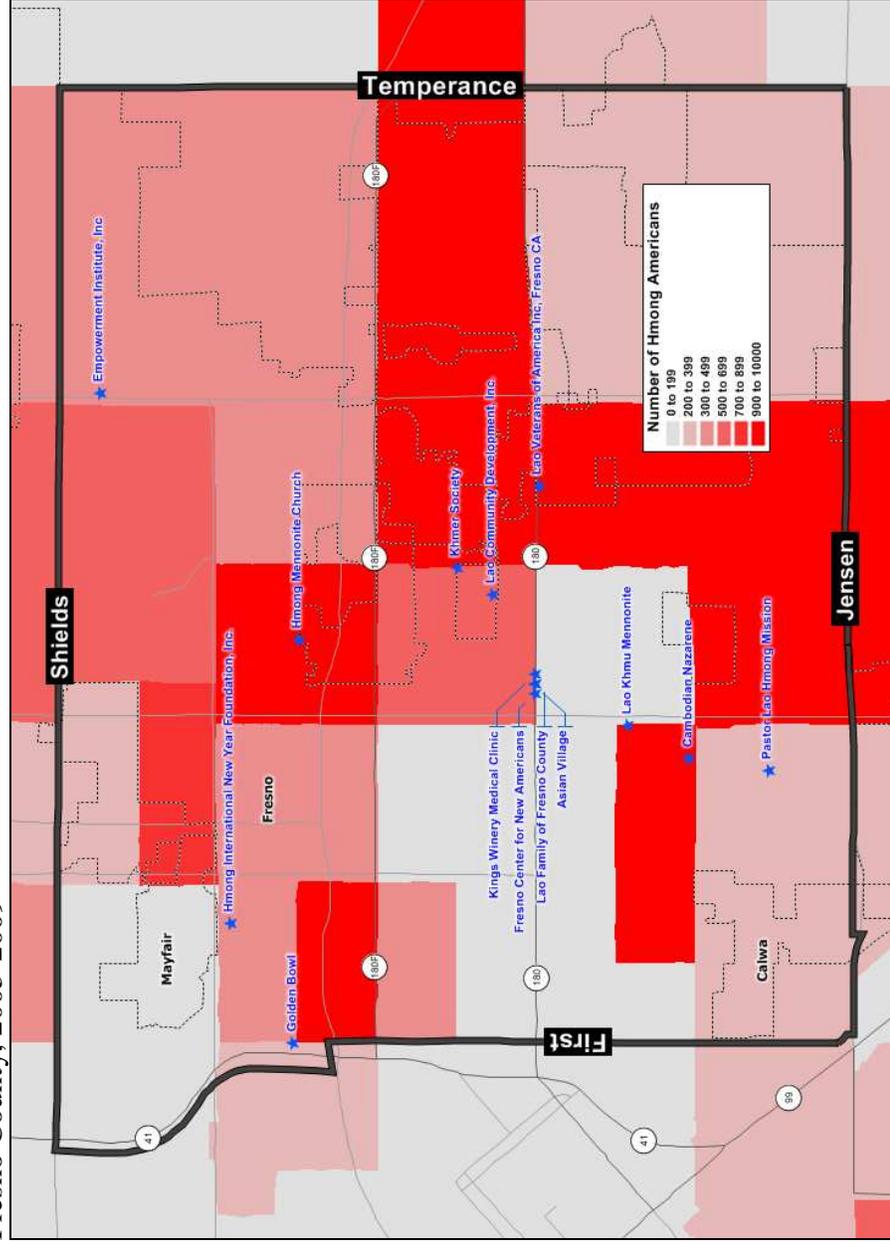
Thank for your attention and consideration of our input.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR - FRESNO

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 15, 2011 in Hanford, CA

Map Fresno 1: Number of Hmong Americans in Hmong Refugee Neighborhood,  
Fresno County, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Three-Year Estimates. Number determined for population alone.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR-FRESNO

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 15, 2011 in Hanford, CA*

Jennifer Rakaphoume

Good evening, my name is Jennifer Rakaphoume. I am a community activist and a Real Estate Broker by profession. I thank the commission for holding a hearing in the region and allowing us to provide our input in person.

I reside in the Fresno neighborhood Silas described and have family members and many friends living in the Fresno region. I work and travel widely in the Fresno area because of my job.

I am a member of CAPAFR, and I support the importance of the Voting Rights Act and in keeping communities of interest – whole.

I also support the broader principles that have been articulated by the other speakers for CAPAFR. Please respect our community's desire for fair representation. Please do not dilute our votes and please do not arbitrarily divide our neighborhood.

As a realtor, I am intimately familiar with the neighborhood described by the previous speaker, Silas Cha, in which the core of the Southeast Asian community lives. The neighborhood boundaries have grown over the course of the years. In the past, very few developments within our neighborhood existed east of Clovis Avenue. However, new developments have been built in the last couple of years. The current trend is that many Hmong and other Southeast Asians are moving east by purchasing homes between Clovis Avenue and Temperance. I have sold many homes over the past 5 years in the existing and new subdivisions within this area. And the easterly trend is not stopping at Temperance Avenue. I have also sold homes to Southeast Asian families in Sanger. The motivating factors are: increased income, the affordability of homes, the proximity to the land which many farm, lower crime, accessibility to schools, freeways and preserving the cultural value of living near extended family.

In addition to my experience as a Real Estate Broker, I have an understanding of the Southeast Asian farming community because my family owns a local Asian market in the neighborhood Silas described. Although Southeast Asians farmers lease land in different areas within Fresno, the agricultural land in our neighborhood continues to grow local ethnic produce. And much of the produce is supplied by the local farmers who live in our neighborhood.

Any decision that will divide this neighborhood will be detrimental to its stability and negatively affect the Southeast Asian community here.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of our input.

# COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

## CAPAFR – FRESNO

*Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 15, 2011 in Hanford, CA*

Daniel Kikuo Ichinose, M.A.  
Asian Pacific American Legal Center

My name is Dan Ichinose and I direct the Demographic Research Project and Census Information Center, or CIC, at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. The CIC program is an official program of the United States Census Bureau designed to promote the dissemination of census data to underserved populations. I am here to present data supporting the testimony you've just heard.

The latest census data show that Asian American and Pacific Islander communities are a large and growing part of Fresno County's demographic landscape. Table Fresno 1 shows the size of these communities and their growth.

*Table Fresno 1: Asian American and Pacific Islander Population in Fresno County, 2000 and 2010<sup>1</sup>*

Group <sup>2</sup>	2000		2010		2000-2010
	Population	% of Population	Population	% of Population	% Growth
Asian American	65,863	8%	91,715	10%	39%
Pacific Islander	682	< 1%	1,066	< 1%	56%
<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>	<b>799,407</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>930,450</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16%</b>

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF 1 and 2010 Census PL94-171.

<sup>2</sup> Race categories compliant with Office of Management on Budget (OMB) guidance on aggregation and allocation of data on race for use in civil rights monitoring and enforcement (OMB Bulletin No. 00-02).

According to the 2010 Census, nearly 92,000 Asian Americans and 1,100 Pacific Islanders live in Fresno County, making up roughly 10% of the county's total population. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are among Fresno's fastest growing racial groups, increasing in size 39% and 56% respectively between 2000 and 2010. In contrast, the county's total population grew only 16% over the same period.

Fresno County's largest Asian American and Pacific Islander ethnic group are Hmong Americans. According to the Census Bureau's 2007-2009 American Community Survey Three-Year Estimates, there are over 26,000 Hmong Americans living in Fresno County. We expect this figure to reach 30,000 when new 2010 Census data capturing the size of ethnic communities are released later this year. Indeed, the county's Hmong American population is the nation's second largest, second only to Ramsey County, Minnesota in size. Roughly half of Fresno County's Hmong American population resides in the Hmong Refugee Neighborhood, as outlined by Silas.

One of the priorities expressed by CAPAFR – Fresno today is to draw Fresno’s Hmong refugee Neighborhood into the county’s Latino voting rights seat. Asian Americans in the area, especially Hmong Americans, share much in common with Latinos. Table Fresno 2 also features data from 2007-2009 American Community Survey Three-Year Estimates.

*Table Fresno 2: Characteristics of Fresno County Population by Race, Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>*

Group <sup>2</sup>	% Living Below the Poverty Line <sup>4</sup>	% Unemployed <sup>5</sup>	% Without High School Degree <sup>6</sup>	% Limited-English Proficient <sup>7</sup>
Asian American	22%	9.5%	28%	35%
Hmong American <sup>3</sup>	38%	13.7%	49%	49%
Latino	28%	12.0%	47%	31%
Non-Hispanic White	10%	7.5%	9%	2%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2007-2009 American Community Survey Three-Year Estimates Selected Population Profiles.

<sup>2</sup> Characteristics determined for population alone or in combination with other groups.

<sup>3</sup> Characteristics of other Asian American ethnic groups not available in 2007-2009 American Community Survey Three-Year Estimates Selected Population Profiles.

<sup>4</sup> Percent of individuals based on income received during the last 12 months (2009 inflation-adjusted).

<sup>5</sup> Percent of civilian labor force 16 years-of-age or older.

<sup>6</sup> Percent of individuals 25 years-of-age or older.

<sup>7</sup> Percent of individuals 5 years-of-age or older who speak English less than 'very well'.

The second column captures the percent of a given group that lives below the poverty line, inflation-adjusted to 2009. Approximately 22% of Asian Americans and 38% of Hmong Americans in Fresno County live in poverty. While 28% of Latinos countywide live below the poverty line, only 10% of non-Hispanic Whites do.

The third column shows the percent of a given civilian labor force 16 years-of-age or older that is unemployed. Roughly 10% of Asian Americans and 14% of Hmong Americans are unemployed, compared to 12% of Latinos and only 8% of non-Hispanic Whites.

The fourth column captures the percent of a given group 25 years-of-age or older without a high school degree. Approximately 28% of Asian Americans and almost half of Hmong Americans haven’t finished high school. While nearly half of Latinos are also without a high school degree, only 10% of non-Hispanic Whites are without one.

Finally, the fifth column shows the percent of a given group that is limited-English proficient, or face some difficulty communicating in English. Roughly 35% of Asian Americans and 49% of Hmong Americans are limited-English proficient, compared to 31% of Latinos and only 2% of non-Hispanic Whites.

These data show that Asian Americans and Latinos share similar poverty rates, levels of unemployment, levels of educational attainment, and rates of limited-English proficiency. In contrast, Asian Americans in Fresno have very little in common with non-Hispanic Whites.

In summary, CAPAFR – Fresno asks the Commission to (1) respect the integrity of the Hmong Refugee Neighborhood outlined by Silas in the redistricting process and (2) recognize common interests shared by Hmong American and Latino communities by drawing the Hmong Refugee Neighborhood into the county’s Latino voting rights seat that includes the southern part of the City of Fresno. We thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation to the Commission.

We hope it proves useful in your efforts to respect the interests of Asian American, Pacific Islander, and all communities in the redistricting process.

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Submitted on May 23, 2011*

Richard Molinar  
UC Small Farm Program

I am the Small Farm Program advisor for the UC Extension in Fresno County. As part of the Small Farm Program, my staff and I work with the Southeast Asian farmers in Fresno County. One of the groups we work with among the Southeast Asian farmers is the Hmong American Cooperative. We provide education to the farmers in all aspect of farming, including pest and weed management, crop diversity, and complying with federal and state work laws.

The Southeast Asian farmers in Fresno County are made up of Hmong, Lao, Cambodian, Yao, and Vietnamese. They are unique among farmers in Fresno in at least two ways. First, most farmers in Fresno own their land and live on their farms. However, the majority of Southeast Asian farmers lease their land and do not live on the land. Second, the Southeast Asian farmers generally grow vegetables for the markets catering to the Southeast Asian communities in Fresno, such as lemon grass and Chinese long bean. This means they have different farming and marketing needs.

The Southeast Asian farmers lease land throughout Fresno County. However, the majority of the farms are located south of Ashlan Avenue to Selma and west of Academy.

Although the leased farms are generally outside the City of Fresno, my assistant, Michael Yang, estimates that about 40% of the Southeast Asian farmers live in a neighborhood within the City of Fresno where a large number of Hmong and Lao families live. The generally boundaries of the neighborhood are Shields to the north; Highway 41 to the west until Belmont then First Street south of Belmont; Jensen to the south; and Temperance to the east.

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY – METRO**

- Mark Masaoka  
- submitted April 28, 2011
- Chanchanit Martorell  
- submitted April 28, 2011 together with oral testimony in Los Angeles, speaker #50
- Bill Watanabe  
- submitted April 28, 2011 together with oral testimony in Los Angeles, speaker #51
- Aquilina Soriano Versoza  
- submitted April 28, 2011 together with oral testimony in Los Angeles, speaker #52
- Lawrence Lue  
- submitted April 28, 2011 together with oral testimony in Los Angeles, speaker #53
- Grace Yoo  
- submitted April 28, 2011 together with oral testimony in Los Angeles, speaker #54
- Joanna Lee  
- submitted April 28, 2011 together with oral testimony in Los Angeles, speaker #55

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR-LA Metro

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA*

Mark Masaoka  
Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council

I am Mark Masaoka, the Policy Coordinator for A3PCON, the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council.

As I mentioned yesterday, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR) is working in three coalitions in Los Angeles County, and A3PCON is the lead regional organization. Today, we will focus exclusively on CAPAFR-LA Metro. CAPAFR-LA Metro has held three community meetings to educate the community, obtain information, and obtain community mapping priorities. CAPAFR-LA Metro will hold one more meeting next month to finalize the mapping proposals affecting this area.

CAPAFR-LA Metro includes:

- Thai Community Development Corporation
- Search to Involve Pilipino Americans
- Korean American Coalition
- Little Tokyo Service Center
- Chinatown Service Center
- Filipino American Service Group Inc
- Japanese American Citizens League-Pacific Southwest
- Koreatown Neighborhood Council
- Korean Resource Center
- Koreatown Youth and Community Center
- Asian Professional Exchange
- People's Community Organization for Reform and Empowerment
- Asian American Drug Abuse Program
- Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment
- AARP's Greater LA Chinatown Chapter

As I mentioned last night, our coalition will be submitting mapping proposals on May 26. Our proposals for LA Metro will respect the Voting Rights Act interests of African American and Latinos and will respect the communities of interest and neighborhoods we are discussing this evening.

The City of LA is a city of neighborhoods. Many of the neighborhoods are well known. For example, we have Westwood, Watts, and Venice Beach. The City of Los Angeles recognizes various neighborhoods throughout the city. These neighborhoods have their distinct identity and

character. We are here today to talk about the various Asian American neighborhoods in the City of Los Angeles that should be kept together.

Specifically, you'll hear community leaders talk about five neighborhoods: Thai Town, Little Tokyo, Historic Filipino Town, Chinatown, and Koreatown. All five neighborhoods are recognized by the City of Los Angeles. All five neighborhoods have strong historic preservation goals. In fact, the federal government has designated Thai Town, Little Tokyo, Chinatown, and Koreatown as Asian Pacific Islander Preserve American Neighborhoods and the community is working to obtain the same designation to Historic Filipino Town. Key goals of the API Preserve American Neighborhoods are to protect and celebrate API culture and heritage. These five neighborhoods have also come together as API PAN Coalition to engage in the cross marketing and promotion of each API neighborhood's cultural events and activities, businesses, and historic assets in an effort to make each neighborhood a cultural destination for the purposes of economic development, neighborhood revitalization, and cultural preservation.

Our last speaker will be one of the demographers from the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. She will provide socio-economic data for the five neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering our communities input.

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR-LA Metro

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA*

Chanchanit Martorell  
Thai Community Development Center

Good evening. I am Chanchanit Martorell, Exec. Dir. of Thai CDC. I am also affiliated with the Thai Town Rotary Club, Thai American Chamber of Commerce of California, API Small Business Program, API Preserve America Neighborhood Coalition, and A3PCON among others. And I am a member of CAPAFR-LA Metro. I have been a resident of the City of Los Angeles for 39 years since immigrating here from Thailand.

Thai CDC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to advance the social and economic well-being of low and moderate income Thais and other ethnic communities in the greater Los Angeles area through a comprehensive community development strategy including human rights advocacy, affordable housing, access to health care, promotion of small businesses, neighborhood empowerment, and social enterprises. Thai CDC led the campaign that successfully designated East Hollywood as Thai Town on October 27, 1999, the only such official municipal designation in the world. The six block stretch of Hollywood Blvd. between Western Ave. to the west and Normandie Ave. to the east are the boundaries of Thai Town. The map we are projecting shows Thai Town and Thai institutions within the neighborhood.

The vision for Thai Town is based on an economic development strategy to revitalize an otherwise depressed and neglected section of East Hollywood through cultural-based tourism. The area that is now known as Thai Town has served as the historic port of entry for newly arrived Thai immigrants and has seen the proliferation of Thai owned businesses over the last fifty years. The vision for Thai Town includes the three E's: *Education, Entrepreneurship and Empowerment*. Thai Town is adjacent to the East Hollywood Business Improvement District (EH BID) both of which are engaged in common economic activities and share common socio-economic characteristics, cultural assets, and economic interests. We are tied together by a compact geographic area and transportation corridor and work together towards common economic goals for the greater East Hollywood area, therefore, any redistricting should not separate Thai Town from the EH BID nor diminish our impact.

In 2008, Thai CDC successfully obtained the designation of Thai Town as a Preserve America Community by the White House. The designation marks a historic and momentous occasion for the Thai community as it further increases the visibility of Thai Town and recognizes its contributions to the social and economic vitality of the City of Los Angeles. The goals of Thai Town are in line with the goals of Preserve America, which are to ensure that our community protects and celebrates its heritage, uses its historic assets for economic development and

community revitalization, and encourages people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

It is, therefore, of critical importance that any redistricting keeps Thai Town in tact if the multi-ethnic stakeholders in the area are to benefit from the vision of Thai Town as an economic development strategy that will contribute to jobs, housing, businesses, community beautification and amenities, and cultural preservation.

The designation of Thai Town was not about signage but rather about a community building process and an act of assertion of one's community consciousness. It is about saying that we are a community, we do exist in LA, we do occupy a space not just around the borders of Thai Town because one cannot draw boundaries around no form but rather it is about a community defining history associated with a place in history, saying we're a people with a history. It is about laying claim to our place in local history.

We believe the commission should keep communities of interest and neighborhoods like Thai Town whole. Thai Town has its own distinct identity and character. Only in Thai Town, do we find unique Thai products, authentic Thai cuisine and desserts, traditional Thai massage, Thais engaged in the ritual of alms giving to a procession of Buddhist Thai monks donned in their saffron robes, Thai Elvis, cultural activities and programs like the annual Thai Cultural Day and the annual Thai New Year Songkran Festival where six blocks of Hollywood Blvd. are closed down and over 100,000 festival goers come to experience Thai food and desserts, classical music, contemporary entertainment, kick boxing, and a water blessing ceremony.

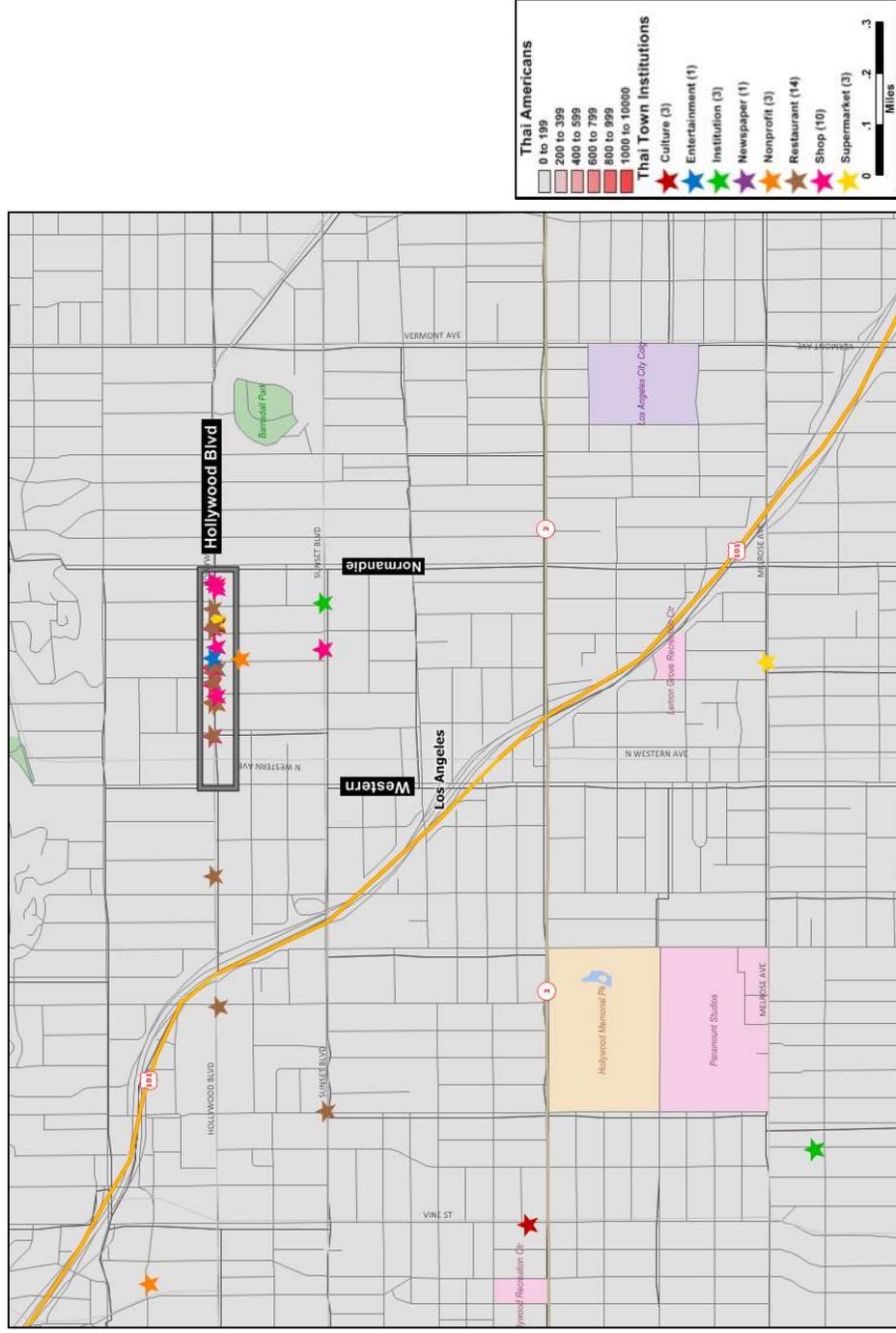
We want to be counted as more than just another part of the "rich tapestry" but rather as a united entity that can put demands on the greater polity not just put on display our culture for appreciating. In order to successfully do this, we cannot be divided by the electoral maps.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to discuss Thai Town with you.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LOS ANGELES

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA

Map Los Angeles 1: Number of Thai Americans in Thai Town and Community Institutions<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone. Institutions Provided by Thai Community Development Corporation.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA*

Bill Watanabe  
Little Tokyo Service Center

I am Bill Watanabe, Executive Director of Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC). LTSC builds and manages affordable housing and provides social services to seniors. I have been the Executive Director of LTSC for the past 31 years. LTSC was an active member of CAPAFR 10 years ago and is an active member during this round of redistricting.

LTSC is based in Little Tokyo, an ethnic neighborhood a few blocks from City Hall. Little Tokyo is a 125-year old ethnic neighborhood that has survived economic hardship and World War II decimation as a community. The Little Tokyo community has fought off civic center expansion plans due to the community's intense loyalty to and desire to preserve the neighborhood.

The community has worked hard for the current economic vitality that exists in Little Tokyo. Little Tokyo has tremendous cultural, historical, and economic resources. It is a magnet which encourages businesses, cultural tourism, repeat visitors, foreign visitors and those outside of the area who want to experience a "taste" of Japan in Southern California.

The historic Little Tokyo community redevelopment agency boundaries were defined 40 years ago. They are Los Angeles and Aiso Streets on the west, an alleyway south of Temple on the north, Alameda on the east, and Third Street on the south. While these boundaries are generally accepted, Temple should be viewed as the northern boundary since a neighborhood park is being proposed for the area up to Temple St.. We are projecting a map of Little Tokyo which includes some of the cultural institutions in the area. Even though our boundaries are small, Little Tokyo is a well-known and identified ethnic neighborhood that should not be divided.

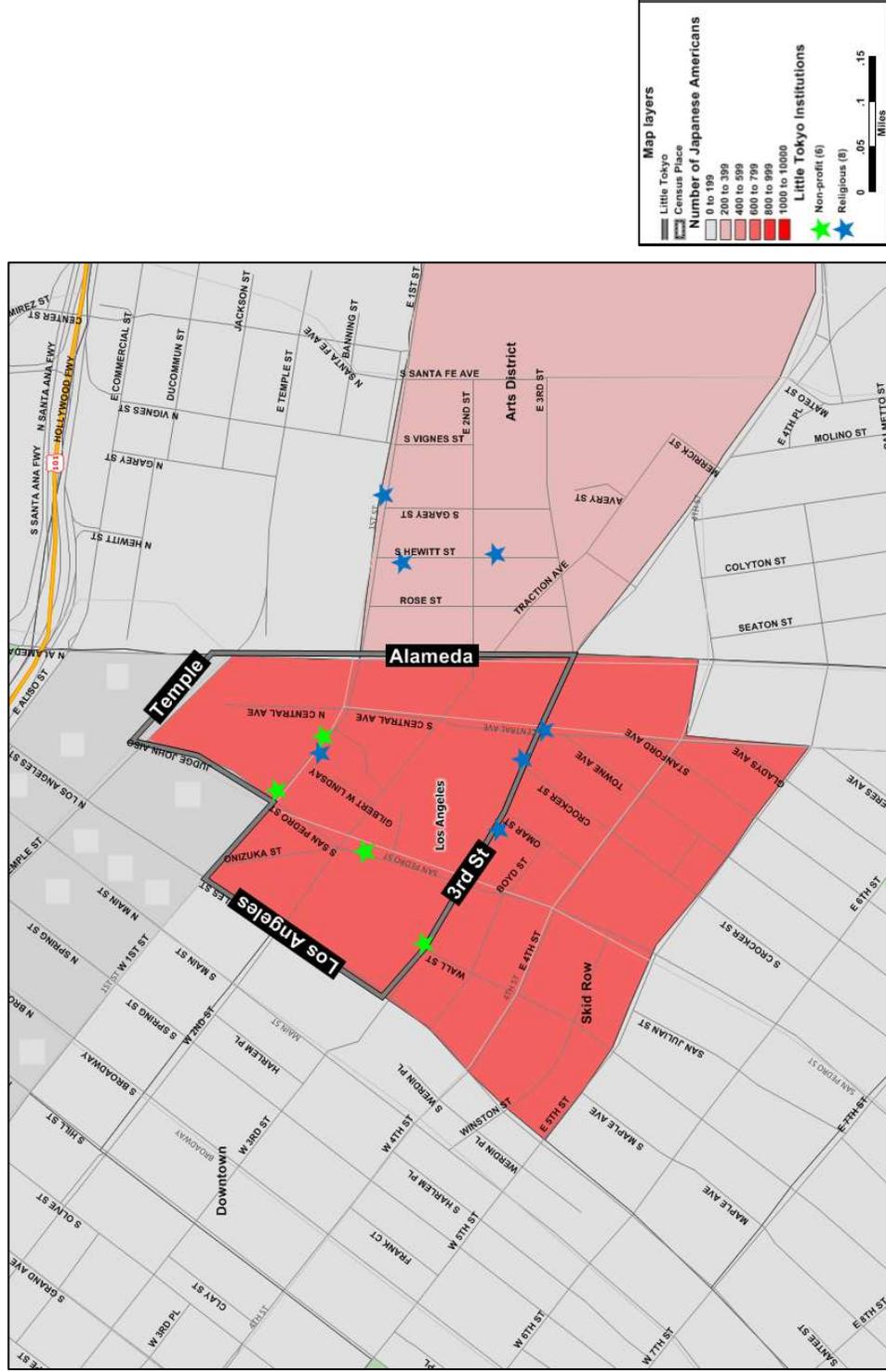
The Little Tokyo Community Council, which was formed ten years ago and is composed of businesses, residents, nonprofits and churches, has become a strong advocate for the community's issues and needs, successfully dealing with transit issues and gentrification in tandem with our elected officials. Little Tokyo must be kept together in order to maintain the integrity of our strong yet diverse community fabric.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this input.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
CAPAFR – LOS ANGELES

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA

Map Los Angeles 2: Number of Japanese Americans in Little Tokyo and Community Institutions<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone. Institutions Provided by Bill Watanabe, Little Tokyo Service Center.

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR-LA Metro

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA*

Aquilina Soriano Versoza  
Pilipino Workers Center of Southern California

I am Aquilina Soriano Versoza. I am the Executive Director of the Pilipino Workers Center of Southern California. The Pilipino Workers Center is a community-based nonprofit organization working with Filipino and other low-wage workers and their families in Historic Filipinotown. My organization is one of many Filipino service organizations and institutions in Historic Filipinotown. The map we are projecting shows the boundaries of the neighborhood and many of the Filipino cultural institutions within it.

The City of Los Angeles designated the neighborhood of Historic Filipinotown in 2002. Although the City's designation is fairly recent, Historic Filipinotown has been a gateway community for Filipinos since the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and continues to be a gateway community for Filipino immigrants. Not only are many residents Filipino, many of the businesses there are Filipino-owned and cater to the Filipino community.

The City's designated boundaries are from Hoover on the west, the 101 Freeway on north, Beverly on the south, Glendale/Lucas on the east. Although this is the City's designation, the southern boundary should extend to Third Street because many Filipinos reside there as well. For example, SIPA, Search to Involve Pilipino Americans, built and runs an affordable housing complex in the extended area. The extended area shares the same socio-economic character as that of the officially designated portion.

The community in Historic Filipinotown has strived to preserve the historic significance of the neighborhood. In fact, we have applied to be an Asian Pacific Islander Preserve American Neighborhood, a federal program run by the City's Redevelopment Agency. We are in the process of identifying different historic sites in the neighborhood and have every belief that our application will be approved.

The residents in our Filipino neighborhood share many other interests and concerns. My organization, along with SIPA, Filipino American Service Group Inc., Asian Pacific Health Care Venture published a study in 2009 on the health of Filipino residents in the neighborhood. Our study showed that the Filipino residents had specific health access issues due to limited English proficiency and cultural concepts about health besides other issues of affordability and geographic accessibility.

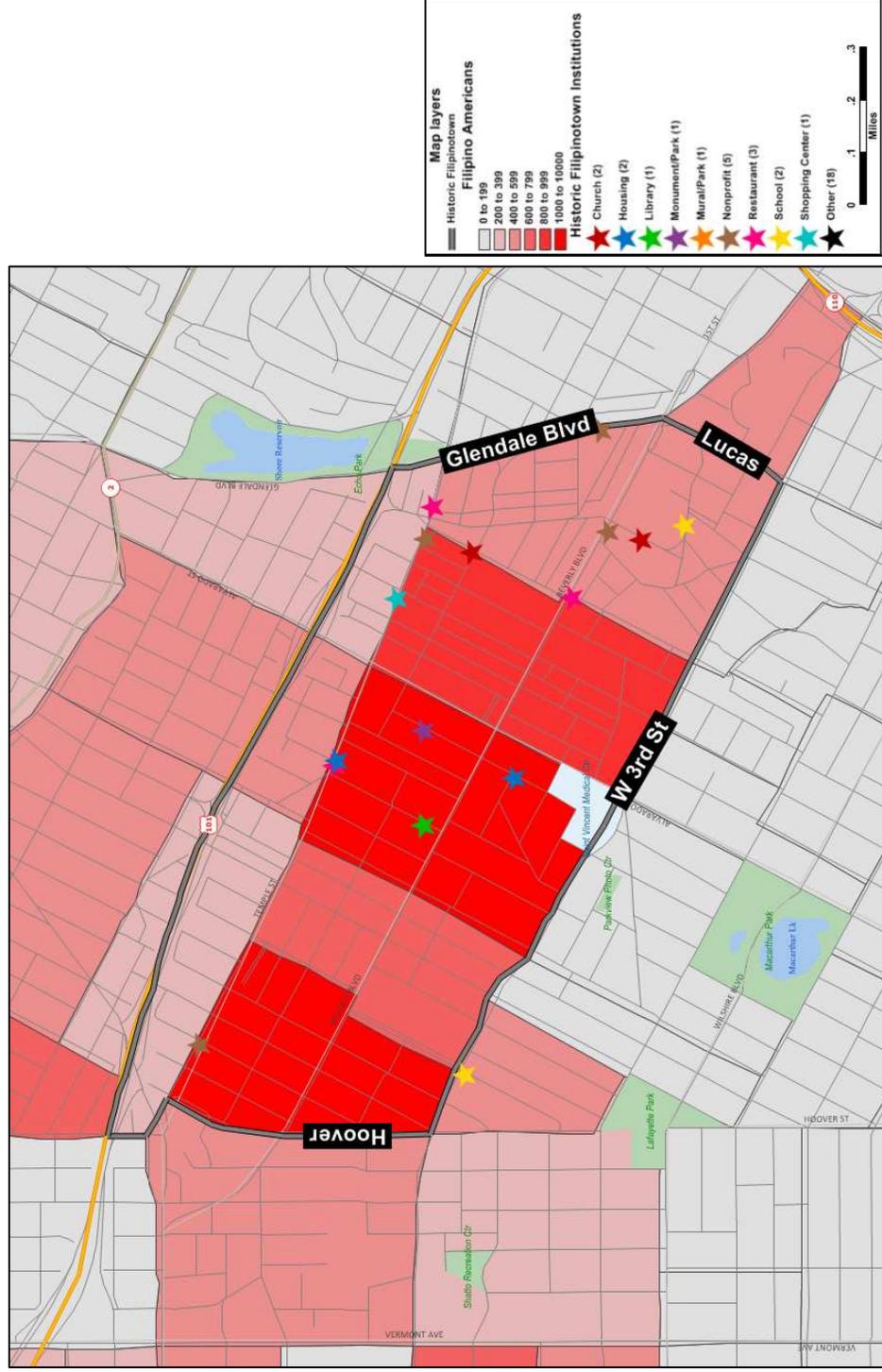
Because the residents share these interests and cultural commonalities, Historic Filipinotown, including the extending area south to Third Street, should be kept intact when you draw the new electoral lines. I hope you do not split up my neighborhood.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this input.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LOS ANGELES

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA

Map Los Angeles 3: Number of Filipino Americans in Historic Filipinotown and Community Institutions<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone. Institutions Provided by Dennis Arguelles, Search to Involve Filipino Americans

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR-LA Metro

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA*

Lawrence Lue  
Chinatown Service Center

My name is Lawrence Lue. I am the Chief Executive Officer of Chinatown Service Center. Chinatown Service Center was established in 1971 and is the largest community-based Chinese American health and human services organization in Southern California. We are a member of CAPAFR-LA Metro.

The Chinese in Los Angeles initially settled in the area where Union Station stands. But when the City of Los Angeles decided to build Union Station in the 1930s, the current Chinatown was established. And since the 1930s, the existing Chinatown has been the primary gateway community for Chinese and, more recently, Southeast Asian immigrants, providing social supports and resources critical to their resettlement and establishment in American society. Chinatown is a residential neighborhood, a cultural center for Chinese living outside the City, and a tourist-friendly neighborhood to non-Chinese.

The boundaries defined by the Chinatown Historic Neighborhood Council correctly identify the current boundaries of Chinatown. The map we are currently projecting shows the boundaries of Chinatown. The shading reflects the number of Chinese American residents in the area. The pinpoint dots show cultural institutions in the area.

The federal government has designated Chinatown as an Asian Pacific Islander Preserve America Neighborhood. We have worked hard to preserve our culture and heritage. We hold various cultural festivities including a large lunar new year parade and we have done much to promote tourism.

Although Chinatown is a bustling neighborhood, Chinatown residents have high rates of poverty, limited English proficiency, and individuals born outside of the U.S. My organization knows all too well that the residents need specific services that will address their needs such as culturally sensitive health care and specialized workforce training.

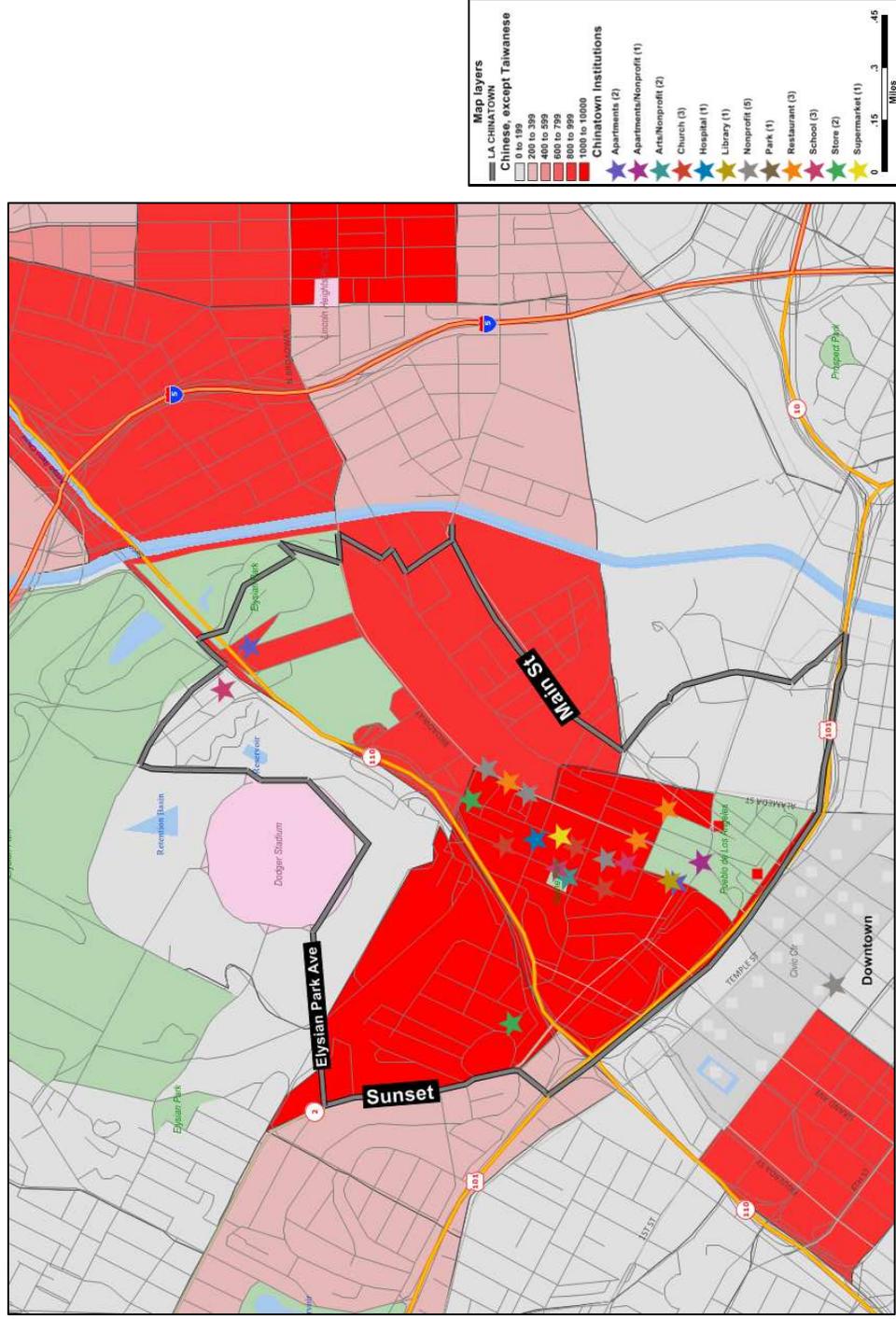
The policy interests of the residents of Chinatown on issues such as historic preservation, health care, and community economic development and workforce training would be best-served if Chinatown were kept intact within the same assembly, senate, and congressional districts.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to share a bit about Chinatown.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LOS ANGELES

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA

Map Los Angeles 4: Number of Chinese Americans in Chinatown and Community Institutions<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone. Institutions Provided by the youth of the LA Mentee + Mentor Project.

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR-LA Metro

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA*

Grace Yoo  
Korean American Coalition

Good evening, my name is Grace Yoo. And I am the Executive Director of the Korean American Coalition. KAC is a non-profit, non-partisan community advocacy group that was established in 1983 to promote the civic and civil rights interest of the Korean American community and believes in coalition-building with diverse communities. KAC is one of many service organizations and institutions serving the Korean American community in Koreatown.

Since the late 1960's, Koreatown has been a gateway neighborhood for the Korean community in Los Angeles. Besides the large number of Korean residents, Koreatown also has many Korean-owned businesses that catering to the Korean-speaking community.

Last year, the City of Los Angeles designated Koreatown as an official neighborhood in the City. While the City's designation includes the heart of Koreatown, most everyone considers the Koreatown community to be far more expansive. Our community views our neighborhood as the area within the boundaries of the Los Angeles Police Department's Olympic station. In fact, our community fought to get LAPD to designate the current Olympic station boundaries in order to specifically address the public safety needs of the Korean community. More than 70% of the Koreans within the Olympic station boundaries are limited English proficient. Recognizing this, the city officials and LAPD have employed 26 Korean speaking officers at the Olympic station to service the needs of the community.

The map we are projecting shows the boundaries of the Olympic station Koreatown neighborhood and many of the Korean cultural institutions within it. Generally, the boundaries are Melrose on the north, Hoover on the east, the 10 Fwy on the south, and Plymouth/Crenshaw on the west.

Koreatown residents know all too well what happens when a community of interest or neighborhood is split by political lines. Currently, Koreatown is split into two state senate districts and multiple assembly districts. Because Koreatown is divided, we have had difficulty getting our elected officials to address our needs. For example, afterschool tutorial enrichment centers are an important educational supplement in the Korean community. Yet, even with the situation being dire, with \$300 daily fines, our representatives ignored our pleas. We had to seek assistance outside of our district to obtain a practical resolution.

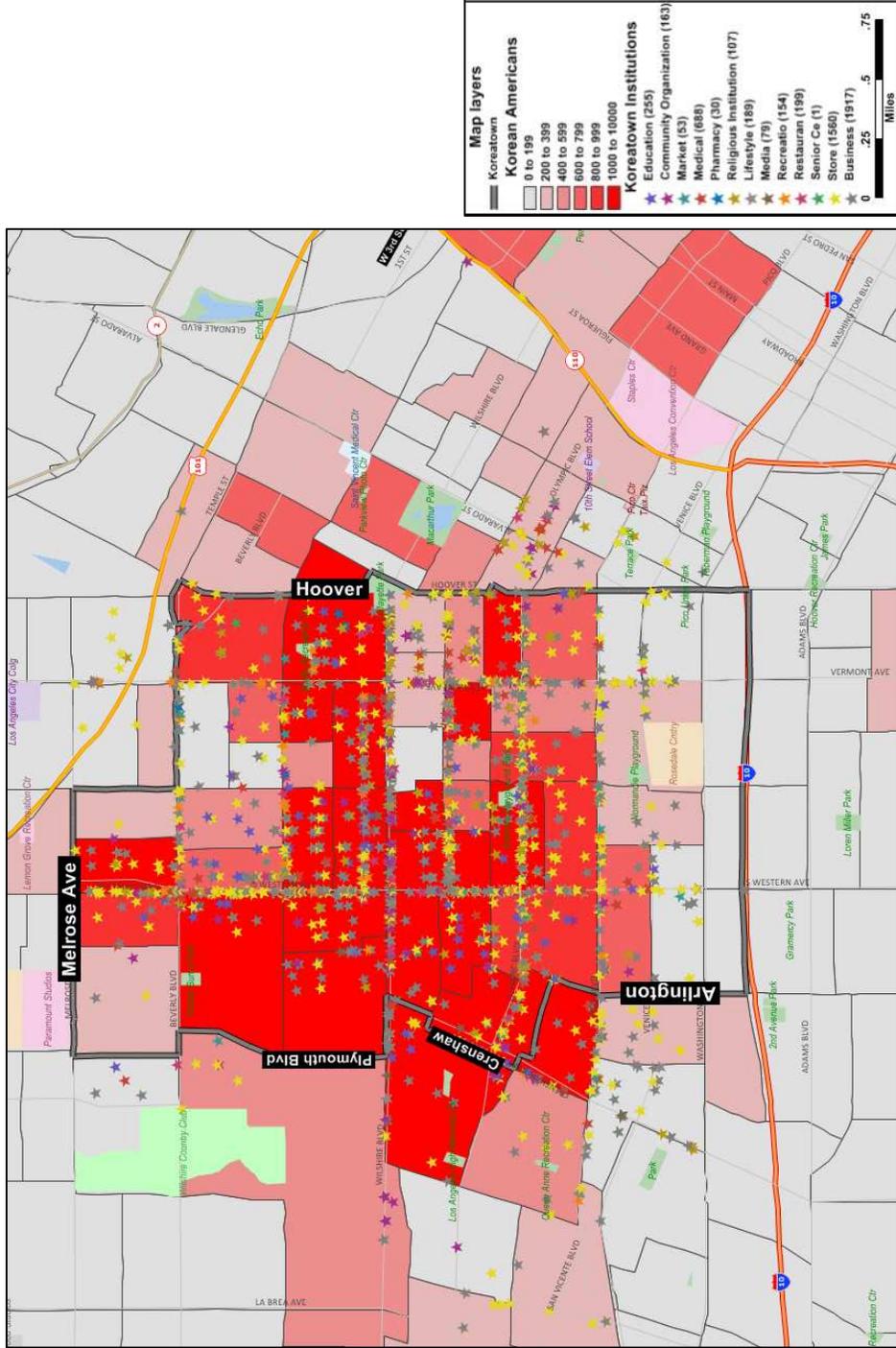
Because the Olympic station Koreatown neighborhood has specific needs and interest unique to our area, we ask that you keep it whole when you draw the new district lines.

Thank you.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LOS ANGELES

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA

Map Los Angeles 5: Number of Korean Americans in Koreatown and Community Institutions<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone. Institutions from Radio Korea's RAKOTEL Yellow Pages, provided by Korean Resource Center.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR – Los Angeles

*Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 28, 2011 in Los Angeles, CA*

Joanna Lee, M.A.  
Asian Pacific American Legal Center

My name is Joanna Lee and I am the Senior Research Analyst in the Demographic Research Project and Census Information Center, or CIC, at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. I am here to present data supporting the testimony you've just heard.

Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles comprise about 15% of the total population in the city. Table 1 shows 2010 U.S. Census Bureau population numbers for Asian Americans in Los Angeles compared to other U.S. cities with large Asian American populations. As you can see, Los Angeles has over 480,000 Asian Americans – third largest population of any U.S city. While much of the population lives throughout the region, the five Asian neighborhoods in the center of the city remain important cultural places for native born Asian Americans as well as important ports of entry for new Asian American immigrants. Table 2 shows mainland U.S. cities with the largest Pacific Islander population. The city of Los Angeles has the second largest population of Pacific Islanders on the mainland.

Table 1 Los Angeles: U.S. Cities with Largest Asian American Population, 2010<sup>1</sup>

City	Asian American <sup>2</sup>	
	#	%
New York, New York	1,134,919	14%
Honolulu, Hawaii	590,926	62%
Los Angeles, California	483,585	13%
San Jose, California	326,627	35%
San Francisco, California	288,529	36%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL 94-171.

<sup>2</sup> Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

Table 2 Los Angeles: Mainland U.S. Cities with Largest Pacific Islander Population, 2010<sup>1</sup>

City	Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup>	
	#	%
New York city, New York	24098	0.29%
Los Angeles, California	15031	0.40%
San Diego city, California	11945	0.91%
Sacramento city, California	10699	2.29%
San Jose city, California	8116	0.86%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL 94-171. Does not include the Pacific Islands.

<sup>2</sup> Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

The five Asian neighborhoods share similar social and economic characteristics. Below is a table with census tract-level data aggregated by each ethnic neighborhood. The data are from 2005-2009 Census Bureau American Community Survey five-year estimates, which is the most recent file available at small levels of geography. Table 3 shows that most of the neighborhoods have lower per capita income and more residents living in poverty than the city as a whole. These neighborhoods also have large and diverse immigrant populations. Most of the neighborhoods have almost 60% or higher foreign born residents and large limited English proficient residents. Little Tokyo is slightly different because the southern part of the census tract includes Skid Row, which reflects the very high poverty rate, and has also experienced gentrification through a dramatic increase in market-rate residential developments.

Table Los Angeles 3: Social and Economic Characteristics of Los Angeles' Asian Neighborhoods<sup>1</sup>

Asian Neighborhood	Per Capita Income <sup>2</sup>	% Living in Poverty <sup>3</sup>	% Foreign Born <sup>4</sup>	% Limited English Proficient <sup>5</sup>
Chinatown	\$11,636	39%	64%	62%
Historic Filipinotown	\$15,313	27%	67%	52%
Koreatown	\$18,094	24%	63%	56%
Little Tokyo	\$30,815	54%	30%	27%
Thai Town	\$18,104	33%	57%	46%
<b>Los Angeles City</b>	<b>\$27,070</b>	<b>15.80%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>30%</b>

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.

<sup>2</sup> Per Capita Income is the aggregate income of all residents in the city divided by the total population in the city.

<sup>3</sup> Percent of individuals based on income received during the last 12 months (2009 inflation-adjusted).

<sup>4</sup> Percent of individuals born outside of the United States, not including individuals born in Puerto Rico, U.S. island areas or born abroad to American parent(s).

<sup>5</sup> Percent of individuals five years-of-age and above who speak English less than "very well."

In addition to similar characteristics, the enclaves are located in close proximity to downtown Los Angeles. As you see in map 6, Little Tokyo is located in downtown, Chinatown is located to the northeast, Historic Filipinotown and Koreatown are adjacent to downtown, with Thai town being located less than six miles from downtown. The map shows the boundaries of each neighborhood and is color-coded based on per capita income, with the lighter areas being low income. As you can see all of the neighborhoods are in relatively low income areas in the core of the city.

In summary, CAPAFR Los Angeles asks the commission to consider these neighborhoods together and keep them whole in districts. We respect the Voting Rights Act and understand that the Voting rights act may place constraints on how districts are drawn in this area but as much as possible, CAPAFR Los Angeles would prefer to keep neighborhoods together in one district.

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY – SAN GABRIEL VALLEY**

- Eugene Lee  
- submitted April 29, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Gabriel, speaker #57
  
- Janet Chin  
- submitted April 29, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Gabriel, speaker #58
  
- Jay Chen  
- submitted April 29, 2011 together with oral testimony  
read by Natasha Khanna in San Gabriel, speaker #59
  
- Howard Wang  
- submitted April 29, 2011 together with oral testimony  
read by Brian De Guzman in San Gabriel, speaker #60
  
- Daniel Ichinose  
- submitted April 29, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Gabriel, speaker #61

Eugene Lee, Voting Rights Project Director  
Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC)

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 29, 2011 in San Gabriel, CA*

I am Eugene Lee, the Voting Rights Project Director at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC). APALC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to providing legal services to, and advocating for the civil rights of, the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community.

As you know, APALC anchors a statewide network called the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR). CAPAFR has been working since last year to provide education about redistricting. CAPAFR plans to submit a statewide mapping proposal at the commission's hearing on May 26. The purpose of the May 26 hearing is to hear presentations about mapping proposals. This is different from the commission's regional hearings, which are to take input about communities of interest. At the commission's regional hearings, members of the public who received education from CAPAFR are testifying about their communities of interest.

Today several individuals will testify about two communities of interest. The first is located in the West San Gabriel Valley. It is made up of Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, Arcadia, San Marino and Temple City.

The second is located in the East San Gabriel Valley. It is made up of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Walnut and Diamond Bar.

Both of these communities of interest have significant AAPI populations and many of the residents in these communities are immigrants. Also, each community has shared socio-economic needs and interests with respect to language access and education. It is unlikely that these two communities could be joined within one assembly district, but each should be kept intact.

Lastly, I want to call the commission's attention to the fact that it may be possible to draw an Asian American Voting Rights Act assembly district centered in the West San Gabriel Valley. If you look at the attached map, you will see a swath of areas in the west valley where Asian Americans make up over half of citizen voting-age population (CVAP). The commission should take note not only of the community of interest in the west valley cities I mentioned, but also that the Asian American population in these cities, along with adjacent areas, could constitute a majority of an assembly district's CVAP.



Janet Chin  
President, Garvey School Board

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 29, 2011 in San Gabriel*

My name is Janet Chin. I am a member of the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR)'s LA San Gabriel Valley coalition and want to thank the Commission for holding a hearing in the San Gabriel Valley region.

I am the President of the Garvey School Board. I live in Rosemead and have been a resident of the San Gabriel Valley for over 37 years. I am an U.S. Army veteran and am involved with recruitment for the Army.

I participate in a number of civic and community activities. I am a member of the board of directors for the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association and serve as captain of my neighborhood watch. I also run an educational charity called the M. Janet Chin Youth Foundation which provides service-based learning projects for youth.

There is a community of interest in the West San Gabriel Valley, the core of which consists of Monterey Park, Alhambra, Rosemead and San Gabriel. This community of interest extends to adjacent cities such as Arcadia, San Marino and Temple City. The residents of these areas share common immigrant backgrounds and common interests in education and language access.

The West San Gabriel Valley has seen continuing growth in the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, dating back to the 1970s when Monterey Park outlawed restrictive covenants barring property sales to non-whites, encouraging AAPIs to move there. This was followed by an influx of Asian immigrants during the 1980s and 1990s who moved to Monterey Park and surrounding cities such as Alhambra, Rosemead, San Gabriel, and now Arcadia, San Marino and Temple City. The West San Gabriel Valley continues to be a gateway for new immigrants.

Residents of this area have a shared need for language access. Many residents of this area have limited English-speaking ability. These language needs are clearly highlighted by a bait-and-switch scheme that was carried out in 2000 and 2001, in which an Alhambra car dealership defrauded Chinese American consumers with limited English ability. The dealership used Mandarin-speaking sales people to negotiate car contracts with these consumers, but then gave those consumers written contracts with less desirable financing and warranty terms.

This incident led to the legislature's passage of AB 309 in 2003, which requires businesses to provide certain types of written consumer contracts in the language the contracts were negotiated in. Residents of this area were fortunate to be included in an assembly district that encompasses several of the West San Gabriel Valley cities, producing an assembly member who responded to their needs by authoring AB 309.

Residents of these West San Gabriel Valley cities, specifically AAPI residents, have faced discrimination tied to their shared language needs and also their common immigrant background. In the 1980s, at a time when Monterey Park experienced a rapid growth in its immigrant population and related commercial development, there was a racist backlash in the form of efforts to impose an English-only rule on business signs. While these efforts were fortunately defeated, they speak to the need West San Gabriel Valley residents have for strong representation at the state and federal level.

The residents of these cities are also tied together by common educational interests. As a school board member, I am intimately familiar with the needs of the many independent school districts in the West San Gabriel Valley. These include Alhambra Unified, Arcadia Unified, Garvey, Rosemead, San Gabriel Unified, San Marino Unified, and Temple City Unified. Students in this area have similar educational needs, as indicated by their common levels of educational attainment and the prevalence of English language learner students.

The policy interests of the residents of this community of interest on issues of education, immigration and language access, as well as other issues, would be best-served if the community was kept intact within the same assembly, senate and congressional districts. Thank you for your attention and I urge you to preserve this community of interest, made up of the cities of Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, and also Arcadia, San Marino and Temple City.



Jay Chen  
President, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 29, 2011 in San Gabriel, CA*

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input regarding our community. I am Jay Chen, the President of the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, which is the largest school district in the San Gabriel Valley and serves approximately 50,000 students from K-12 to adult education. I have lived in Hacienda Heights for over 20 years and am a graduate of middle and high schools in the area.

Besides serving on the school board, I am the President of the La Puente Valley Regional Occupation Program, a joint powers authority that manages career technical programs for the Hacienda-La Puente, Bassett and Rowland Unified School Districts. I also serve on the board of the San Gabriel Valley YMCA and am a direct commission officer in the United States Naval Reserve.

I request that you keep Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Walnut and Diamond Bar together to maintain the integrity of the community of interest comprised of the residents in those areas. This is a geographically contiguous area bounded and defined by natural boundaries such as the Whittier, Puente and Chino Hills, and connected by manmade ones such as the economic corridors along Colima Road, Valley Blvd and the 60 freeway. These boundaries and arteries have helped to develop this area into a community of interest sharing educational, language access, immigration and business concerns.

If you were to take a ride along Valley Blvd, Colima, or the 60 freeway, you would be struck by the number of thriving small businesses that operate along this corridor. Late night Asian eateries, tea shops, 99 ranch markets and more dot this corridor, as well as warehouses and showrooms stocked with wholesale goods from China. This is a thriving region for Asia-related commerce, and it spills into the residential side as well since many of these business owners live in the surrounding communities of Hacienda Heights, Rowland, Walnut and Diamond Bar.

The residents of these areas have similar educational interests. This is why Rowland Unified, Bassett Unified and Hacienda-La Puente Unified decided to create a joint powers authority to administer to the vocational needs of our similar student populations. Hacienda-La Puente and Walnut Valley Unified School District (which serves Walnut and Diamond Bar) are both Districts of Choice, meaning they can accept students from outside of their district. These districts regularly compete for the same students and often students transfer back and forth across Hacienda, Rowland and Walnut school districts. This has happened so frequently that Rowland Unified recently sued Walnut Valley for taking too many of its students, a suit that Rowland ultimately won. The disagreement over these transfers aside, the frequent interchange of students across school districts in the East San Gabriel Valley is striking and underscores the need for residents of these areas to have common representation on educational issues.

Academically, these regions have very similar school performance as well. Rowland and Hacienda-La Puente have nearly identical API scores of approximately 790 points, while Walnut has an API of approximately 890 points, placing all three districts firmly in the upper echelon of districts in California. The student body served by these three districts is similar as well, with

many students hailing from a Chinese, Korean, or Latino background. All three districts have very significant English Language Learner populations that require a unique approach compared to less diverse districts.

From the joint powers authority that links Hacienda Heights to Rowland Heights, to the interchange of students among all of the above mentioned towns and cities, to the similar student demographics and achievement levels, it is clear that this region has very similar educational needs best served by unified representation at the state and national level.

Additionally, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities in this area have a clear need for fair representation. On various issues, the preferences of the AAPI community in this area have faced opposition tied to their common immigrant background and the misperception of AAPIs as outsiders.

For example, during the mid-1980s, protests erupted over a plan to build a Taiwanese Buddhist temple in the hills of Hacienda Heights over misplaced fears of gong-banging and animal sacrifices. Although the temple was ultimately completed, Hacienda Heights found itself at the heart of another ethnic controversy when a visit from Al Gore to the temple in 1996 prompted investigations of political donors with Asian sounding names, casting a pall over Asian American political participation locally and nationwide for several years.

Largely due to the continuing prevalence of these tensions, Hacienda Heights remains an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County. Multiple efforts to achieve cityhood for Hacienda Heights have been defeated at the ballot box over the decades, with the latest occurring in 2003 in part after fears were raised of Asian American candidates dominating the new city council. After I was elected to the school board in 2007, I was even told that my seat should have gone to a “white” candidate since the board member that I was replacing was white.

These ethnic tensions have only increased now that our school board is majority Chinese American. Efforts to bring a Chinese language program to Cedarlane Middle School have been met with howls of protest from a pocket of predominately elderly and white residents who claim that the program promotes Communism and is favoritism towards Chinese students, even though nearly all of the students at Cedarlane are Latino. I have personally been called a Communist and other board members have been told to go back to China (even if they are not from China).

These xenophobic and racist statements that have been made during school board meetings have gotten so out of hand that they have been covered by CNN, The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, Fox News, NBC, and the BBC. Currently the protestors are collecting signatures for a recall election, directly targeting the three school board members of Chinese descent, even though the decision to continue the Chinese program was made unanimously by the entire board.

These ethnic tensions are not limited to Hacienda Heights alone. AAPIs in Walnut and Rowland Heights have also seen their struggles as well. Efforts for cityhood in Rowland Heights have been even less successful than in Hacienda Heights, and the federal government is currently suing the city of Walnut for blocking the construction of a Buddhist church, as a Catholic church of even greater size had been permitted earlier.

Because these underlying tensions are not just persisting, but growing, AAPI communities in Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Walnut and Diamond Bar should be kept together to

preserve their political voice. There are very few regions in Southern California that are home to such a concentrated population of AAPIs, and have borne witness to so much ethnic tension. To allow these communities to be split would be devastatingly disempowering.

The cities of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Walnut and Diamond Bar have long suffered from split and disparate representation, such that these cities have often been rendered afterthoughts in the schemes of big businesses and environmentally unfriendly corporations. For example, Hacienda Heights is home to the largest operating landfill in the United States. The smell of rotting garbage is something very familiar to the children who attend my schools Orange Grove Middle and Los Altos High. Hacienda Heights has always lacked representation since it does not have a city council to fight for it, and has always been a mere appendage to whatever Assembly District it is tacked onto. Hacienda Heights is currently represented by two State Senators; I live in Senate District 30 but if I walk across the street I am in Senate District 29. Is it any wonder that a toxic landfill would be placed in the backyard of a political orphan?

Most recently, big businesses were able to have an environmental exemption approved in the California legislature for a proposed football stadium that would border Diamond Bar and Walnut. Placing a stadium of such a size would have a devastating impact on the quality of life in the area, and would make the gridlocked traffic of the 60/57 interchange even more unbearable. It is incredible that a full environmental impact review was waived for a project of this size, but it is not surprising. Because of how this region of the San Gabriel Valley has been split into various districts, there is not a single state or national elected official to hold accountable for this region.

In closing, I wish to reiterate the need to keep the communities of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar and Walnut contiguous in the consideration of state and national electoral lines. These cities bear remarkably similar economic, educational, and environmental concerns, and have been poorly served by the gerrymandered lines of districts in the past. It is my hope that a committee of objective, educated, and concerned citizens can see the sense in maintaining this portion of the San Gabriel Valley as a contiguous whole. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments about redistricting in the East San Gabriel Valley.

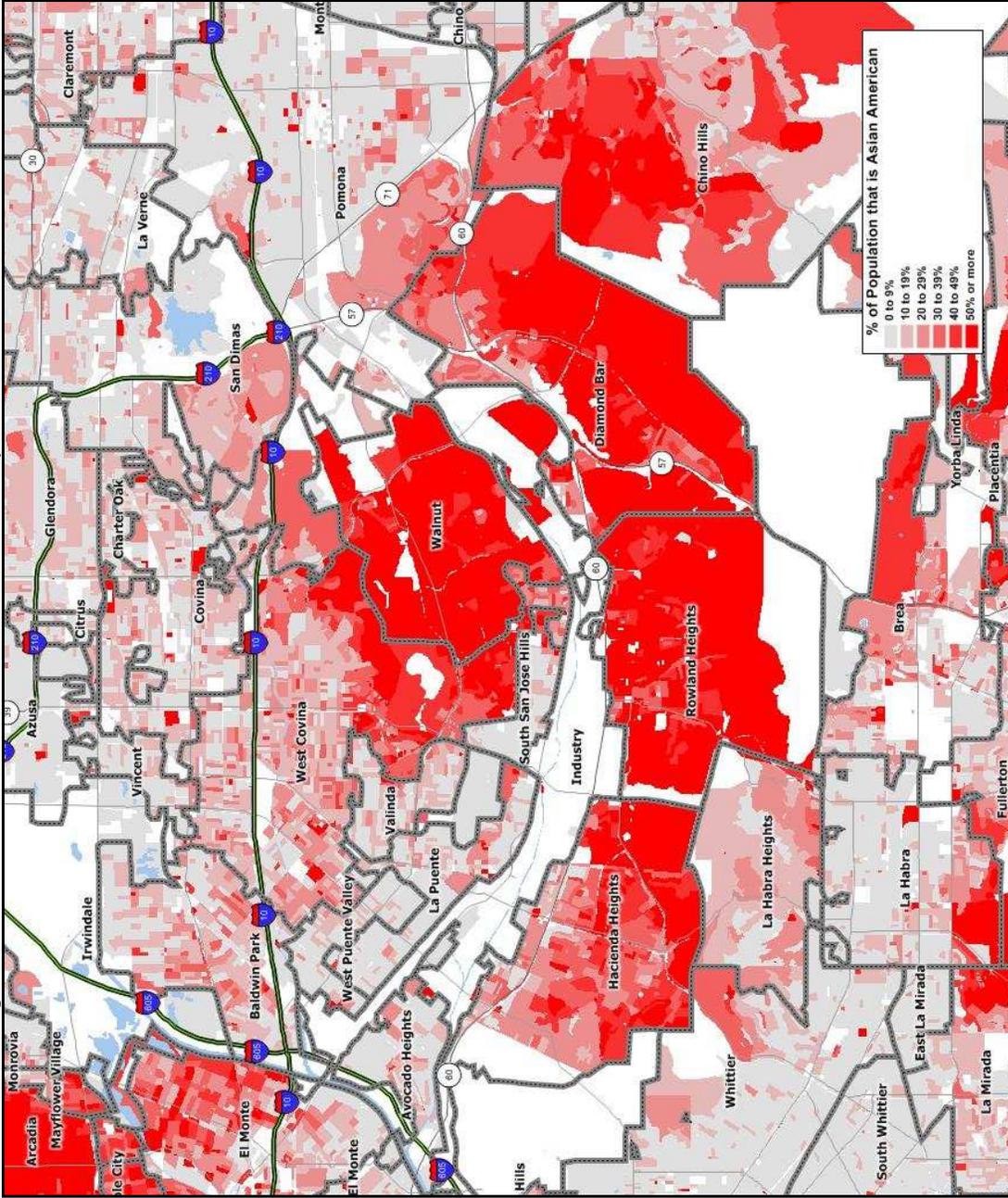
Sincerely,

Jay Chen

President, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District  
President, La Puente Valley Regional Occupation Program

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Jay Chen, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Public Input Hearing: April 29, 2011 in San Gabriel, CA*

Percent of Total Population that is Asian American, East San Gabriel Valley, 2010<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL 94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

Howard Wang  
Resident of Walnut

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 29, 2011 in San Gabriel*

My name is Howard Wang. I want to thank the Commission for holding a hearing in the San Gabriel Valley region. I am the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs for Cal State Fullerton. I have lived in the San Gabriel Valley for over 16 years: 10 years in El Monte, and almost 6 years in Walnut.

I am a member of OCA-Greater Los Angeles chapter and Board of Advisors of OCA in Orange County where I work. I am a member of the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA), and a member of the Chinese American Association of Walnut. I have received education about redistricting from the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR), specifically CAPAFR's San Gabriel Valley coalition, and have attended all the meetings that educate various communities on the Voting Rights Act and redistricting. I fully understand and whole-heartedly support the importance of keeping communities of interest and neighborhoods whole.

I support the broader principles that have been articulated by other members of CAPAFR throughout the state and in this hearing. Please respect our community's desire for fair representation. Please do not dilute our votes and please do not arbitrarily divide our neighborhoods and communities.

There is a community of interest in the East San Gabriel Valley, centered around cities and census-designated places of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar and Walnut. The residents of this area are tied together by common interests in education, language access, immigrant background, and commercial interests.

I am familiar with educational issues within this community of interest. Students have common levels of educational attainment, but at the same time there are a significant number of English language learner students as well as "linguistically isolated" communities. The residents of this area have an interest in after-school as well as Saturday language schools to maintain our language heritage. School districts in this area similarly have an interest in establishing language programs to enhance student learning and inter-cultural communication. These interests would be best-served if this community of interest is kept intact at the assembly, senate and congressional levels.

Additionally, the areas along the 60 freeway, sandwiched by Colima Road and Valley Boulevard, represent an important economic corridor and commercial thoroughfare for the San Gabriel Valley. Business development in this area shares common commercial interests and issues. Most of the businesses are small, family operated stores that carry products and services that cater to a number of Asian ethnic groups such as Filipinos, Korean, Chinese and Vietnamese. Even several of the large businesses such as banks with Asian names and grocery chain stores also cater to a large number of Asian communities across the number of cities mentioned above. The current district mapping divides up communities that share such interests.

The policy interests of the residents of this community of interest on issues of education, immigration and language access, as well as other issues, would be well-served if it was kept intact within the same assembly, senate and congressional districts. I thank the Commissioners for your attention.

Daniel Kikuo Ichinose, Demographic Research Project  
 Asian Pacific American Legal Center

*Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 29, 2011 in San Gabriel, CA*

My name is Dan Ichinose and I direct the Demographic Research Project and Census Information Center at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. I am here to present data supporting the testimony of stakeholders you've heard from tonight about two communities of interest in the San Gabriel Valley.

Asian American and Pacific Islander communities are a major part of the San Gabriel Valley's demographic landscape. Table San Gabriel Valley 1 shows the size and concentration of Asian American and Pacific Islander population in 11 major cities in West and East San Gabriel Valley.

*Table San Gabriel Valley 1: Asian American, Pacific Islander Population in San Gabriel Valley Cities, 2010<sup>1</sup>*

Region	City	2010 Population			
		Asian American		Pacific Islander	
		#	%	#	%
West SGV	Alhambra	45,395	55%	308	<1%
	Arcadia	34,416	61%	191	<1%
	Monterey Park	41,284	68%	176	<1%
	Rosemead	33,107	62%	92	<1%
	San Gabriel	24,672	62%	151	<1%
	San Marino	7,349	56%	55	<1%
	Temple City	20,412	57%	134	<1%
East SGV	Diamond Bar	30,478	55%	335	1%
	Hacienda Heights CDP	20,891	39%	290	1%
	Rowland Heights CDP	30,088	61%	271	1%
	Walnut	19,258	66%	152	1%
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY <sup>2</sup>		505,124	29%	6,820	<1%
LOS ANGELES COUNTY		1,497,960	15%	54,169	1%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

<sup>2</sup> Defined as a region east of the city of Los Angeles, south of the San Gabriel mountains, and west of the Los Angeles County, San Bernardino County line including the cities / unincorporated areas of Alhambra, Altadena, Arcadia, Avocado Heights, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bradbury, Charter Oak, Citrus, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, Duarte, East Pasadena, East San Gabriel, El Monte, Glendora, Hacienda Heights, Industry, Irwindale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Puente, La Verne, Mayflower Village, Monrovia, Monterey Park, North El Monte, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, Rowland Heights, San Dimas, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South El Monte, South Monrovia Island, South Pasadena, South San Gabriel, South San Jose Hills, Temple City, Valinda, Vincent, Walnut, West Covina, and West Puente Valley.

Over one-third of Asian Americans in Los Angeles County live in the San Gabriel Valley. According to the 2010 Census, the region is home to over 505,000 Asian Americans and 6,800 Pacific Islanders. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders make up a majority of several cities and unincorporated communities in the region, including Alhambra, Arcadia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, and Temple City to the west and Diamond Bar, Rowland Heights, and Walnut to the east.

Table San Gabriel Valley 2 draws on recently released data from the University of California, Berkeley's Statewide Database and shows the percent of the citizen voting-age population in seven West San Gabriel Valley cities that is Asian American.

*Table San Gabriel Valley 2: Asian American Citizen Voting Age Population in West San Gabriel Valley Cities, 2010<sup>1</sup>*

City	2010 Citizen Voting Age Population	
	Asian American	
	#	%
Monterey Park	25,350	65%
Rosemead	17,071	57%
San Gabriel	12,302	54%
Alhambra	24,814	48%
Temple City	11,467	47%
Arcadia	16,050	46%
San Marino	3,967	46%
<b>LOS ANGELES COUNTY</b>	<b>741,330</b>	<b>14%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Statewide Database, University of California, Berkeley. Race categories compliant with Office of Management on Budget (OMB) guidance on aggregation and allocation of data on race for use in civil rights monitoring and enforcement (OMB Bulletin No. 00-02).

**Drawn together with adjacent areas, these West San Gabriel Valley cities make up the core of a California State Assembly seat in which more than 50% of the district's citizen voting-age population is Asian American. As you know, meeting this 50% threshold is required if a district is to be protected under Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act.**

For cities in both West and East San Gabriel Valley, Table San Gabriel Valley 3 shows the percent of population that is foreign-born, the percent of population that is limited-English proficient, and the median Academic Performance Index score for schools there.

*Table San Gabriel Valley 3: Social and Economic Characteristics of San Gabriel Valley Cities*

Region	City	% Foreign-Born <sup>1</sup>	% Limited-English Proficient <sup>2</sup>	Median Academic Performance Index Score <sup>3</sup>
West SGV	Alhambra	51%	37%	804
	Arcadia	48%	30%	923
	Monterey Park	53%	44%	834
	Rosemead	56%	53%	794
	San Gabriel	54%	41%	816
	San Marino	37%	16%	951
	Temple City	43%	31%	871
East SGV	Diamond Bar	41%	24%	908
	Hacienda Heights CDP	41%	29%	808
	Rowland Heights CDP	55%	37%	792
	Walnut	45%	26%	890
<b>LOS ANGELES COUNTY</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>761</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Percent of individuals born outside of the United States, not including individuals born in Puerto Rico, U.S. island areas or born abroad to American parent(s). United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, Table B05002.

<sup>2</sup> Percent of individuals 5 years-of-age or older who speak English less than 'very well'. United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, Table B16004.

<sup>3</sup> Median Academic Performance Index (API) score for K-12 schools in city. California Department of Education, 2009 Base API Report.

Shared characteristics such as these establish two distinct communities of interest in the San Gabriel Valley, one in the west, one in the east. These two communities of interest cannot be drawn together, but neither should be divided in the redistricting process.

In summary, CAPAFR – LA San Gabriel Valley asks the Commission to (1) recognize and respect the integrity of two distinct communities of interest in the San Gabriel Valley and (2) consider voting rights interests of Asian Americans in the West San Gabriel Valley.

Thank you.

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY – SOUTH BAY**

- Mark Masaoka  
- submitted April 27, 2011 together with oral testimony in Long Beach
  
- Audrey Alo  
- submitted April 27, 2011 together with oral testimony in Long Beach
  
- Rose Ibara  
- submitted April 27, 2011 together with oral testimony in Long Beach
  
- Suely Ngouy  
- submitted April 27, 2011 together with oral testimony in Long Beach
  
- Iku Kiriyaama  
- submitted April 27, 2011 together with oral testimony in Long Beach
  
- Joanna Lee  
- submitted April 27, 2011 together with oral testimony in Long Beach

## COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

### CAPAFR-LA South Bay

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA*

Mark Masaoka  
Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council

I am Mark Masaoka, the Policy Coordinator for A3PCON, the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council. Thank you for holding these hearings in Los Angeles County. A3PCON is an association of forty AAPI nonprofit community organizations in Los Angeles County. We strive to be an advocacy voice, convener and clearinghouse for the local AAPI communities, with emphasis on lower income, immigrant and other vulnerable populations.

In Los Angeles County, A3PCON is the regional lead organization for CAPAFR, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting. CAPAFR has three coalitions in Los Angeles County: CAPAFR-LA Metro, CAPAFR-LA San Gabriel Valley, and CAPAFR-LA South Bay. Today, we focus on CAPAFR-LA South Bay. CAPAFR-LA South Bay has held three community meetings to educate the community, obtain information, and obtain community mapping priorities. CAPAFR-LA South Bay will hold one more meeting to finalize the mapping proposals affecting this area.

CAPAFR-LA South Bay includes:

- Pacific Islander Health Partnership
- Pacific Islander Community Council
- Empowering Pacific Islander Community
- Guam Communication Network
- Samoan National Nurses Association
- Office of Samoan Affairs
- Tongan Community Service Center
- United Cambodian Community
- Khmer Girls in Action
- Japanese Historical Society of Southern California

CAPAFR-LA South Bay recognizes and supports the African American and Latino Voting Rights Act interests north and northwest of this area. We also believe the commission should keep communities of interest and neighborhoods whole. We will be submitting mapping proposals on May 26. Our proposals for LA South Bay will respect the Voting Rights Act interests of African American and Latinos and will respect the communities of interest and neighborhoods we are discussing this evening.

Five other speakers will speak on behalf of CAPAFR-LA South Bay. Four of those speakers will focus on specific communities of interest and neighborhoods. We have community leaders who will discuss the Pacific Islander communities in Carson as well as in

Lenox/Hawthorn/Inglewood; the Filipino community in Carson; the Cambodian community in Long Beach; and Japanese American community in Torrance and Gardena. They will be followed a demographer from the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. She will provide data that supports the community's testimony.

We will send the maps that we display to you via email so that you can give them to Q2.

Thank you for considering our community's input.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
CAPAFR-LA South Bay

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA*

Audrey Alo  
Pacific Islander Health Partnership

Aloha mai kakou,

In the way of my ancestors, allow me to introduce myself.

My paternal grandparents are: Aisa Alo from Fagasa, Sāmoa; Hana Kawai from Kaua`i. Maternal grandparents: Okona Whitney Magalei from Faleniu, Sāmoa; Emerita Ah Fook from Sāmoa. My parents, Thompson Taisi Alo, Lā`ie, Hawai`i, and Felila Magalei, Faleniu, Sāmoa. I am Audrey Aofiaomaloafa`atasi Lā`ieikawai`ōpua Alo from Lā`ie, O`ahu, Hawai`I, currently residing in Long Beach. I am Sāmoan, Hawaiian, Chinese.

At this time I want to express my appreciation to the commission for this hearing and providing our face-to-face input tonight.

I am affiliated with the Hawai`I's Daughters Guild of California (40 years old); `Ahahui `O Lili`uokalani Hawaiian Civic Club (38 years old), Pacific Islander Community Council ( 21 years old), Pacific Islander Health Partnership (8 years old), Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Alliance (5 years old). My volunteer community service of 12 years is primarily in the south bay area in Los Angeles county.

When I refer to Pacific Islanders, I speak of Sāmoans, Tongans, Hawaiians, Chamorro, Cook Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, and Tahiti.

Pacific Islanders migrated to the Los Angeles-Long Beach area due to socio-economic reasons. Our cultures are community and faith-based. The importance to us of keeping Carson whole has to do with the fact that Carson is where we are most concentrated: Native Hawaiians, Chamorro, Sāmoans. We live, attend church, send our children to school in this community, seek medical attention in the Carson- Torrance area.

California State University at Dominguez Hills, which is in the northern part of Carson, has been a friendly resource over the past five years. Dean Mitch Maki and his colleagues opened their doors to provide our children and parents an opportunity to go onto a university campus to see the possibilities of attending school. CSUDH hosted an Asian Pacific Islander Community Leaders Reception this week with the President of California State University, Dominguez Hills to further their commitment to building community partnerships with coalitions, service groups and faith-based organizations and their campus. The administration is exploring ways to work with the Asian Pacific Islander community to encourage more students to attend college and broaden their opportunities for success. On June 4, 2011, Journey to Success Pacific Islander,

How to Get to College Day! Is a six-hour event of workshops for our communities to know how they can attend a university and succeed.

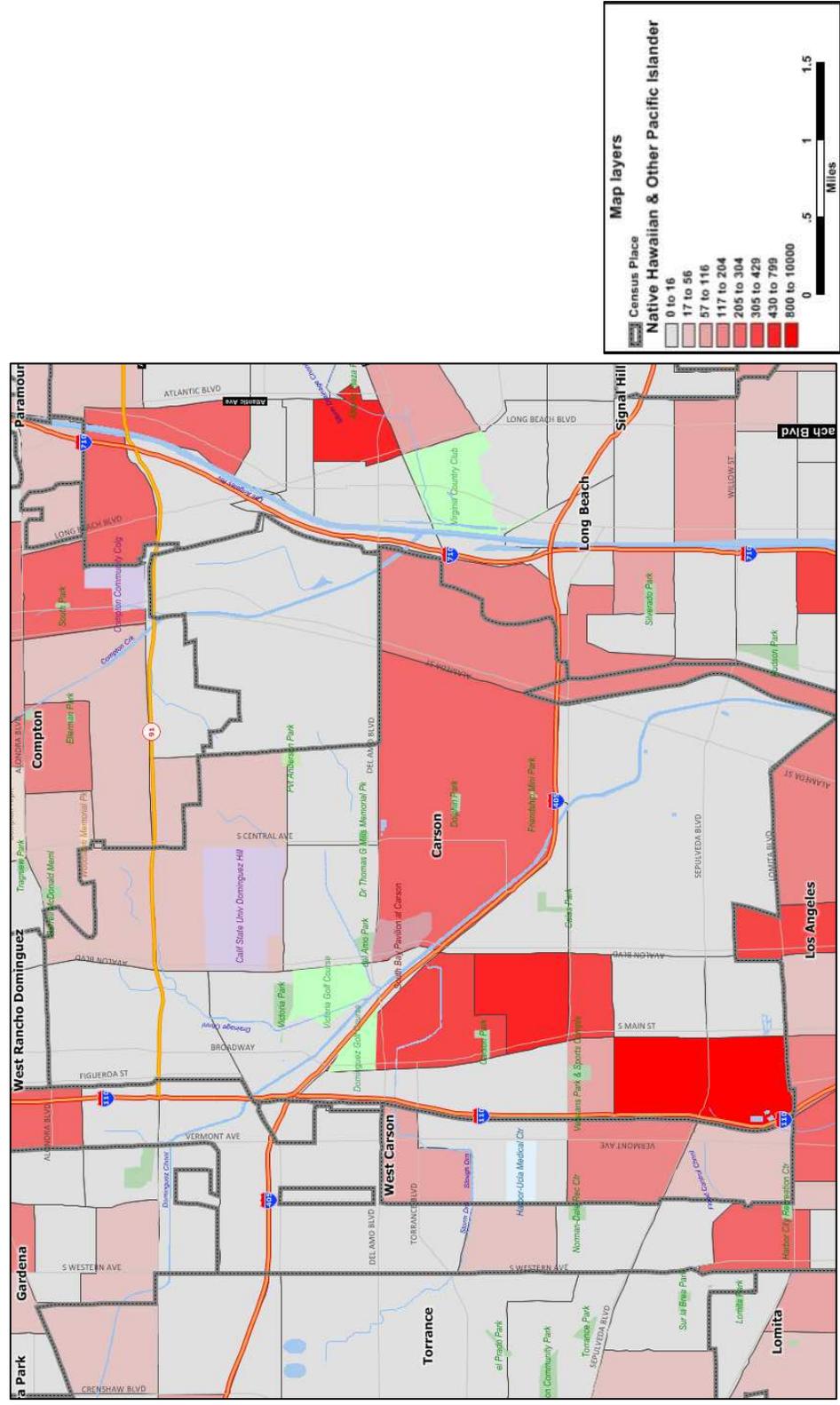
Lennox/Hawthorne/Inglewood has the largest population of the Tongan community in Southern California. The largest aggregation of Tongan churches, which are the gathering places of the community, are also in this area. Tongans in this area share the same socioeconomic status as other minority groups in the area – Latinos and African Americans. Keeping these areas in the same district is very important because of the shared characteristics, shared issues, and shared approaches to building community as other groups of color in the area. Dividing up this area will separate the voices and strength of the Tongan community to be able to work as a unit, not only as a Tongan community, but also in solidarity with other groups that have the same struggles. Keeping these communities in the same place will allow the Tongan community a unified voice of representation.

Mahalo nui loa, fa`afetai lava, malo au pito for this opportunity tonight to express our concerns, provide input and be a part of the process of redistricting.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LA SOUTH BAY

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA

Map South Bay 1: Number of Pacific Islander Americans in Carson<sup>1</sup>

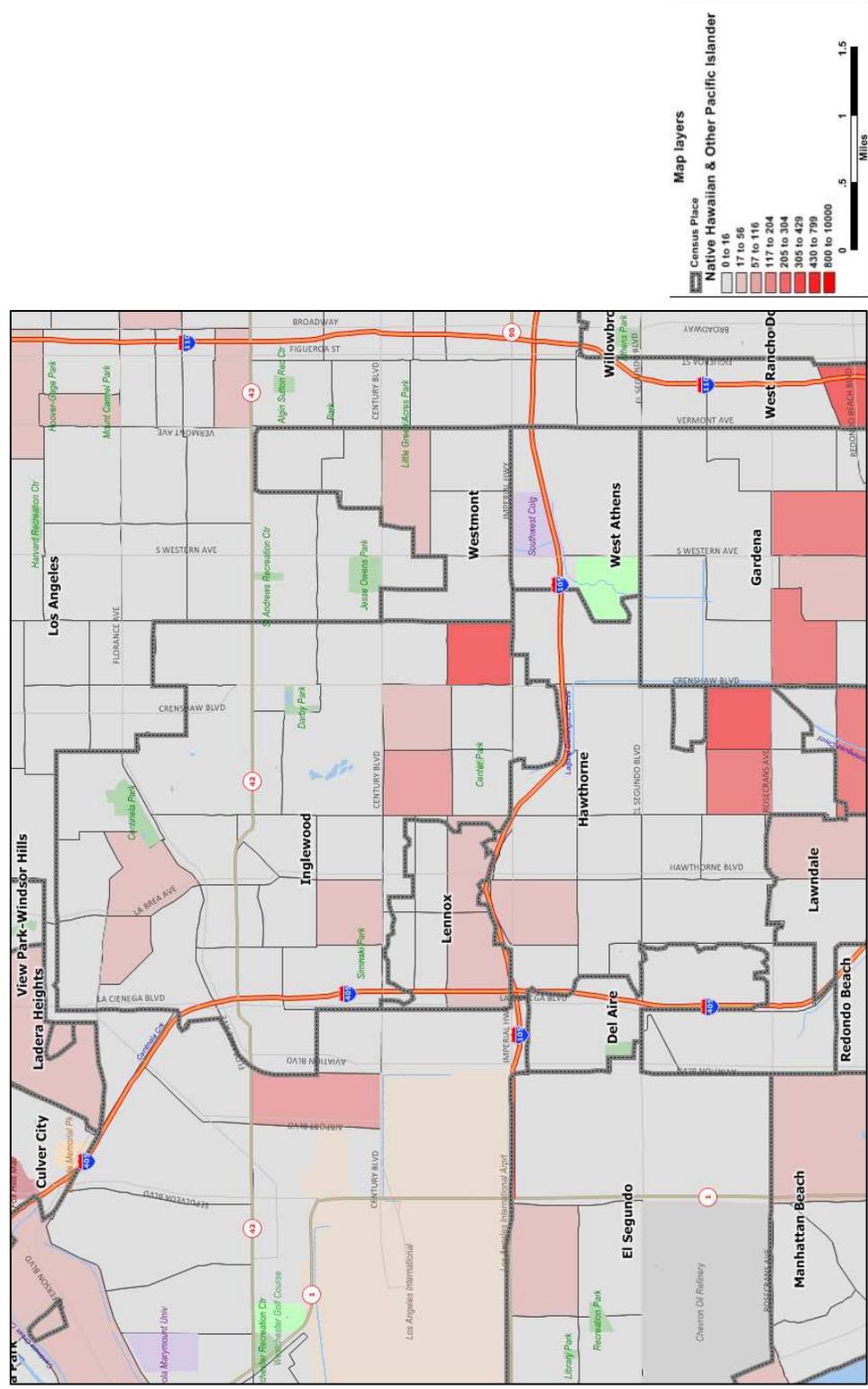


<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LA SOUTH BAY

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA

Map South Bay 2: Number of Pacific Islander Americans in Hawthorne, Lennox, Inglewood<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR-LA South Bay

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA*

Rose Ibanez

Author of *Filipinos in Carson and the South Bay*

Good evening, my name is Roselyn Estepa Ibanez. I want to thank the Commission for holding one of your meetings in one of the main regions of Los Angeles County, the South Bay.

For over 10 years, I have been a member of the Filipino American Library Board. Since 2002, I have been a member of the County Community Action Board and am a recent member of Carson's Ad Hoc Committee to work on the establishment of a Carson Civic Engagement Board.

I've lived in the Carson for over 37 years with my husband who grew up in Wilmington & Carson. We have two daughters who were born here, attended LAUSD schools. My eldest daughter remains in the area, living with her family in Gardena

I am a member of CAPAFR-LA South Bay. I support and respect the potential Voting Rights Act interests in this area.

Last year, my husband and I co-authored a pictorial history book – "Filipinos in Carson and the South Bay." The book highlights the history of the Filipino America community since the early 1910s. Many of the early Filipinos to Carson were young single men. They worked in the U.S. military, or as farm workers, or Terminal Island cannery workers, or students attending the colleges in the nearby areas. Today, Filipino families, seniors, and youth all call Carson their home. It is one of the major cities in Los Angeles County with a large population of Filipino Americans. The Filipino American community is the largest Asian American and Pacific Islander group in Carson. And with continuing immigration to the U.S. and continuing growth of the Filipino community, more and more are settling their roots and raising their families in Carson

Because of the Filipino Americans' long history in Carson, there are many groups, coalitions, religious institutions and small businesses addressing Filipino Americans' needs; such as, the Filipino Community of Carson (FCC), Pilipino American Alliance (PAA); Southern California Allied Neighborhoods (SCAN), as well as regional associations.

Because our interests are better served when we are united, it is important that Carson remains intact. Through these united efforts, we have had annual celebrations of June 12th Philippine Independence Day for over 20 years and now hold annual October celebrations as Filipino American History Month; both events help promote our cultural heritage and history for all to

learn from. In addition, as a united Filipino American community in the Carson, we have been able to quickly respond and work together to pool our resources and fundraise for financial assistance to many victims in the major natural disasters in the Philippines.

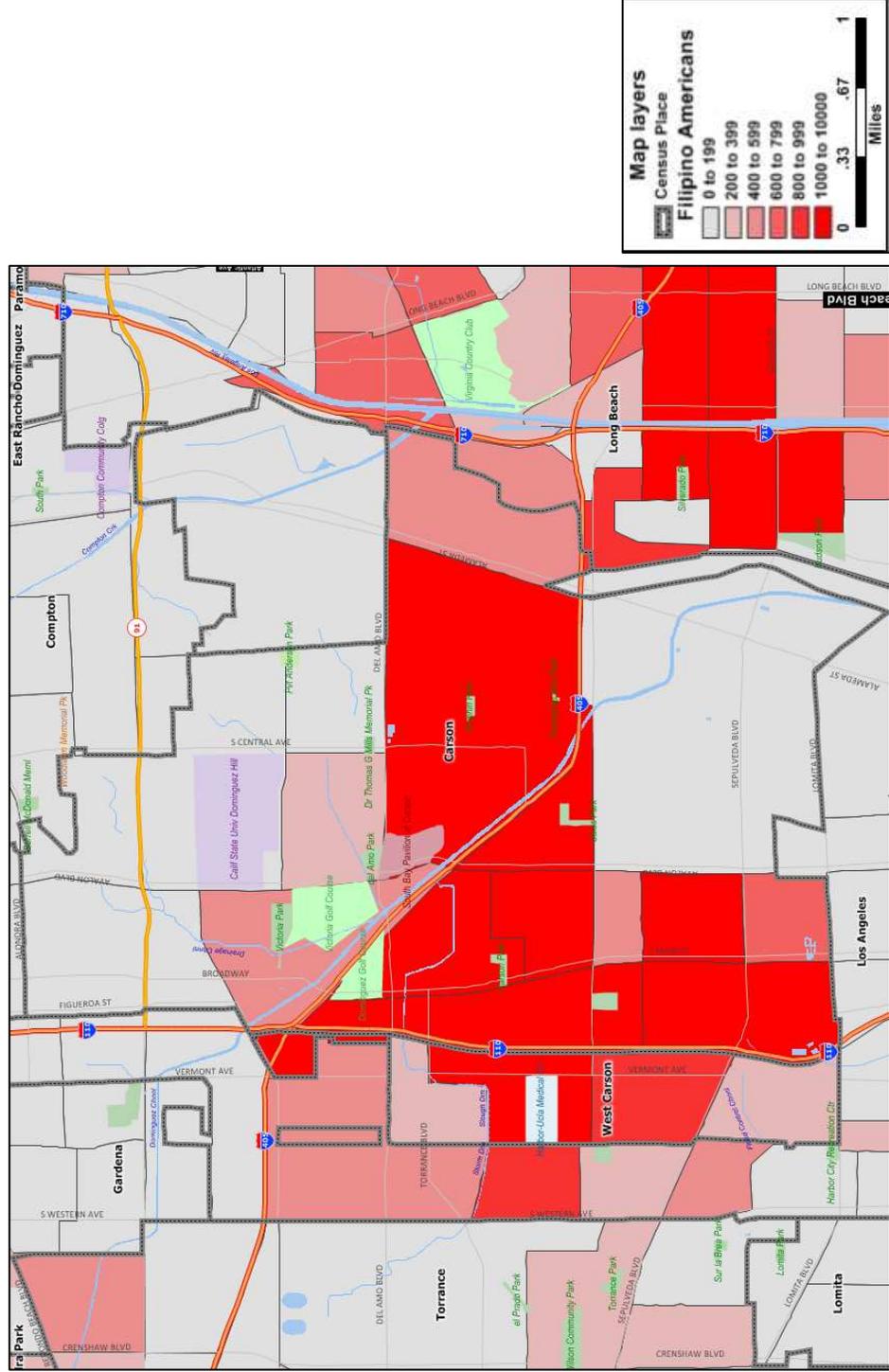
I ask for your support to ensure the City of Carson continues to be served and will remain in a district as one.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide my input in this process.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LA SOUTH BAY

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA

Map South Bay 3: Number of Filipino Americans in Carson<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
CAPAFR-LA South Bay

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA*

Suely Ngouy  
Khmer Girls in Action

Hello, my name is Suely Ngouy. Thank you, commission, for holding a hearing in the region. I am the Executive Director of Khmer Girls in Action, a community based organization in Long Beach. I recently bought a home in Long Beach. Khmer Girls in Action's mission is to develop the leadership of Cambodian and other Southeast Asian young women to do organizing and advocacy to improve the Cambodian community.

KGA is a member of CAPAFR-LA South Bay. We respect and support the Voting Rights Act interests in this area.

Long Beach is a gateway community for Cambodian immigrants and has the largest Cambodian population in the United States. Over 17,000 Cambodians live in Long Beach. The map we are projecting shows two Cambodian neighborhoods in Long Beach. The darker shading on the map shows higher concentrations of Cambodian residents. The map also pin points Cambodian community institutions in the neighborhoods. As you can see, the core of the Cambodian community is in the central neighborhood of Long Beach but the community is spreading north. The southern neighborhood's boundaries are generally Redondo Ave on the west, 7<sup>th</sup> St on the south, Long Beach Boulevard on the west Spring on the north except for a pocket of Signal Hill. The northern neighborhood boundaries are Atlantic Avenue on the west, Artesia Boulevard on the north, Cherry Avenue on the east, and San Antonio Drive on the south. Many of the Cambodians in the central neighborhood are renters. Once they are able to buy a house, they often move to the northern neighborhood.

The Cambodians in Southern California tend to be on the lower end of the socio-economic ladder:

- 36% of Cambodians are below federal poverty line (the highest of all API groups in Southern California)
- 56% of Cambodians are limited English proficient
- 54% have less than a high school degree

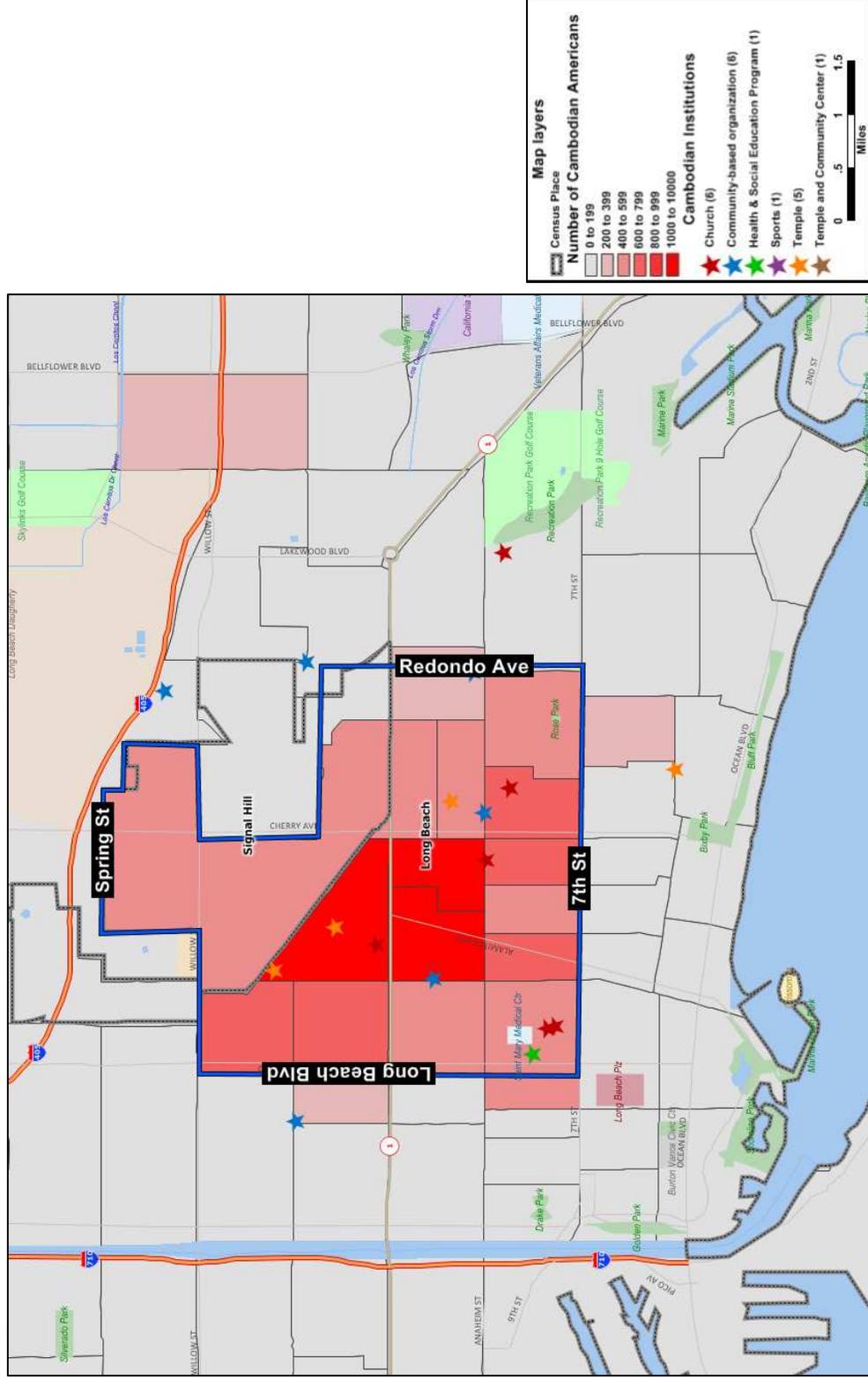
Because the neighborhoods have specific needs and interests unique to the Cambodian community, we ask that you do not divide either Cambodian neighborhoods in the redistricting process.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this input this evening.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LA SOUTH BAY

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA

Map South Bay 4: Number of Cambodians in Central Long Beach and Cambodian Institutions<sup>1</sup>

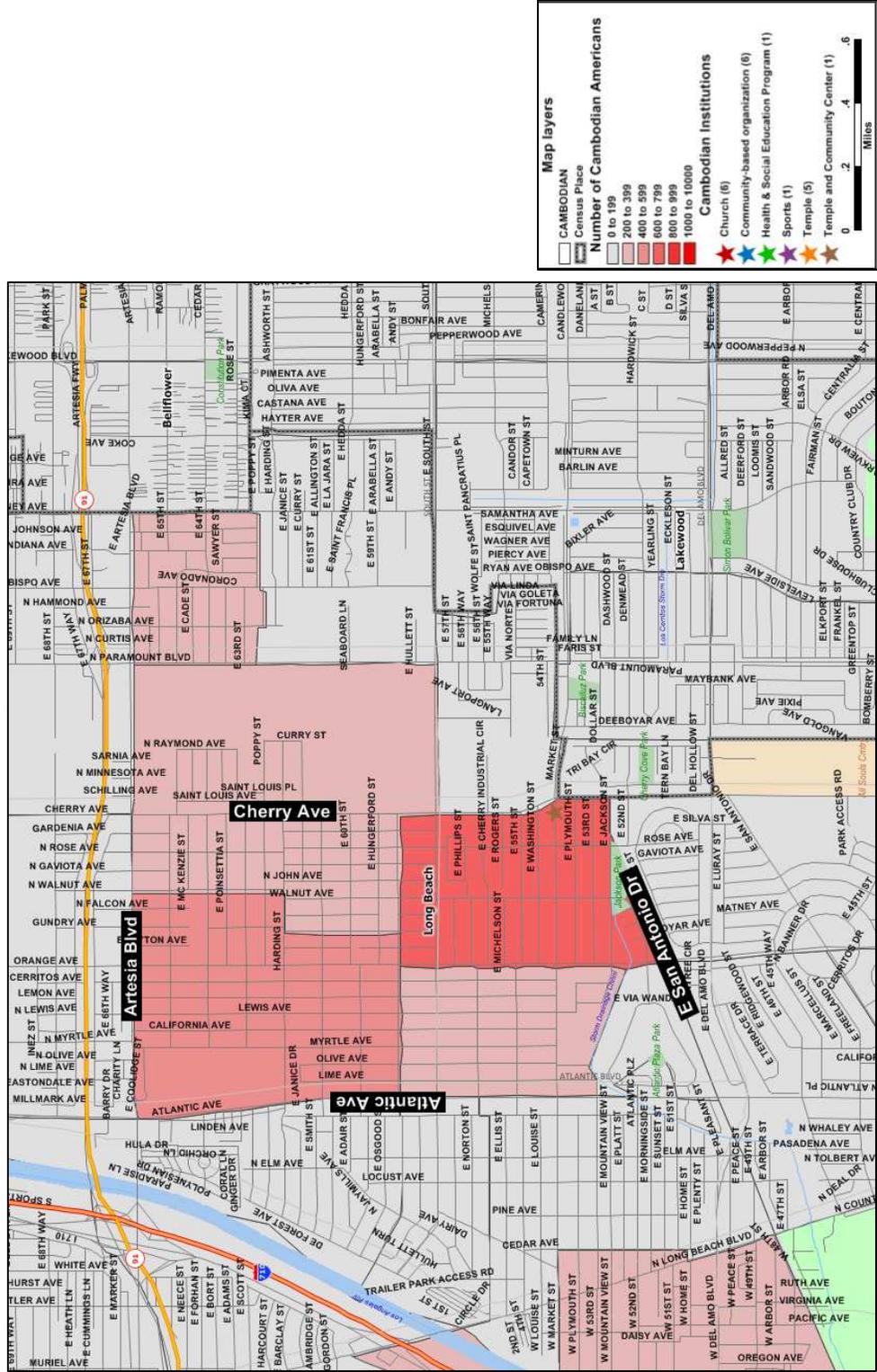


<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for population alone. Institutions from Needham, Susan and Karen Quantiliani. *Cambodians in Long Beach*. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2008.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LA SOUTH BAY

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA

Map South Bay 5: Number of Cambodians in North Long Beach and Cambodian Institutions<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for population alone. Institutions from Needham, Susan and Karen Quantiliani. *Cambodians in Long Beach*. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2008.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

CAPAFR-LA South Bay

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA*

Iku Kiriyaama

Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. My name is Iku Kiriyaama. I am a retired Los Angeles Unified School District teacher, a co-founder of the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California based in Torrance, a former City of Torrance Human Resources Commissioner, and chair of Friends of Coastal Asian Pacific Mental Health Center, an L.A. county facility in Gardena.

I am a member of CAPAFR – LA South Bay. I'd like to request that you keep Torrance and Gardena together to maintain the historical, cultural, economic and social integrity of the Japanese American community.

My childhood from the postwar 1940s and most of my adult years, including raising a family, employment and community activities, have been in the cities of Torrance and Gardena. I believe my life experiences and observations of those 54 years mirror the lives of the first, second and third generations of the Japanese Americans of Torrance and Gardena.

My father came to the U.S. in 1916. He and other first generation Issei supported and established many of the institutions that still exist today: the Gardena Buddhist Church, Japanese language schools, Gardena Baptist Church, judo and kendo clubs. Like many other second and third generation Japanese Americans, I grew up in Torrance but went to Japanese school and church in Gardena. Throughout the years, many other Japanese American cultural institutions, places of worship, and businesses were established in Gardena and Torrance. For example, the South Bay Keiro Nursing Home in Gardena was established to meet the cultural needs, such as food and bilingual staff, to provide a place of comfort to the Japanese American elderly from around the South Bay. The community also built the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (JCI) that, today, offers senior citizen activities, classes, sports for young people, and cultural and community events. Physically, the JCI is a good example of why Torrance and Gardena should logically be in the same district. JCI Gardens, a senior housing complex, separated from the JCI by a parking lot, is in North Torrance. The JCI building on the east side of the parking lot is in Gardena. I used to joke with my senior citizen students that they walked ALL the way from Torrance to Gardena to my class.

The map we are projecting on the screen shows the many Japanese American institutions in the area.

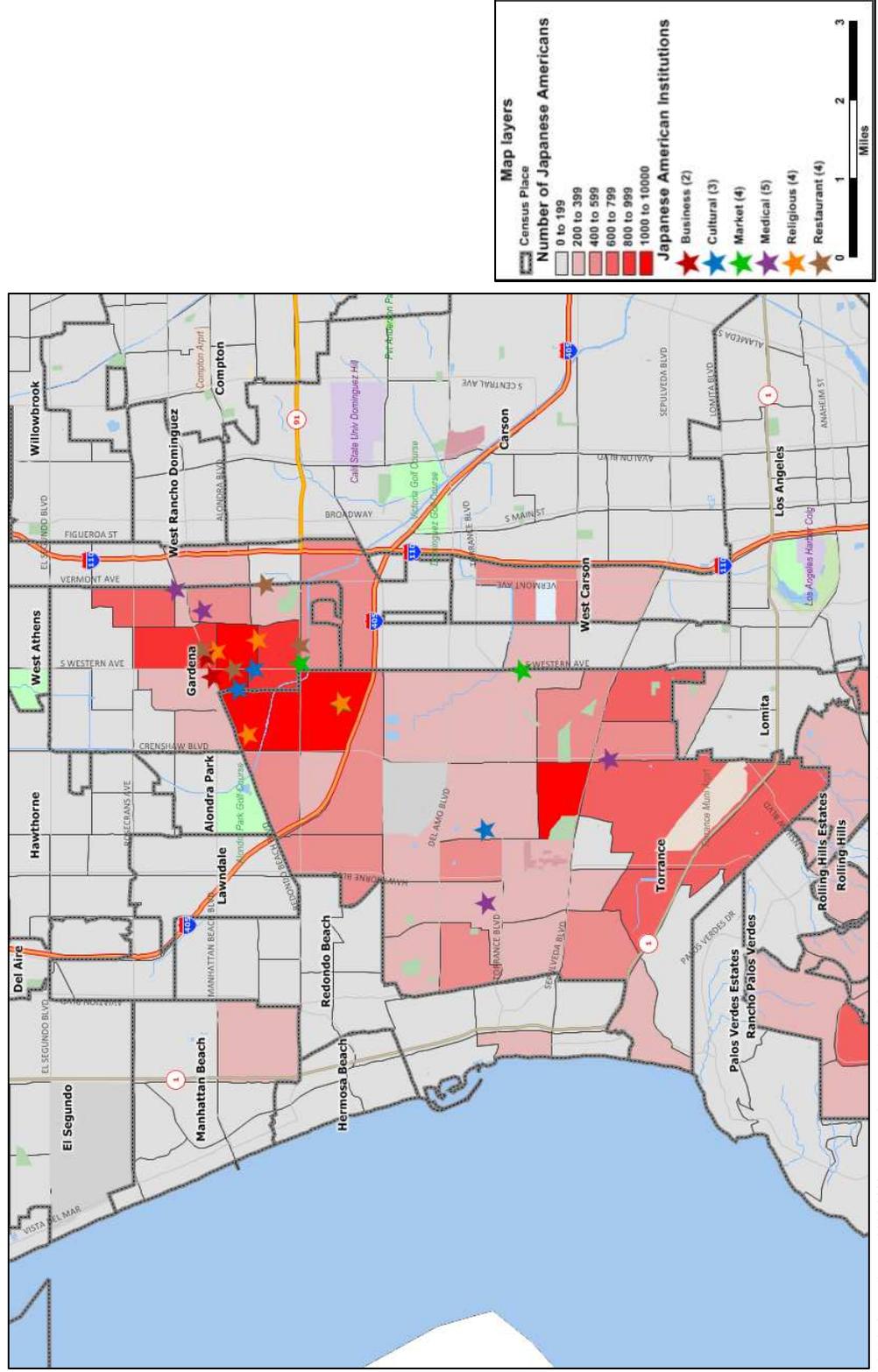
The first and older second generations tended to stay in Gardena, where they raised their children. However, many of the younger generations have moved to Torrance. Family and cultural ties unite us throughout the year. We cross city lines back and forth as we support cultural activities and frequent Japanese American businesses and professionals.

Thank you for your consideration to keep Gardena and Torrance together and allowing me this opportunity to share my thoughts with you.

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)  
 CAPAFR – LA SOUTH BAY

Map Submitted in Support of Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA

Map South Bay 6: Number of Japanese Americans in Torrance and Gardena and Japanese American Institutions<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone. Institutions Provided by Huko Kiriyama.

# COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS FOR FAIR REDISTRICTING (CAPAFR)

## CAPAFR – Los Angeles South Bay

*Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: April 27, 2011 in Long Beach, CA*

Joanna Lee, M.A.  
Asian Pacific American Legal Center

My name is Joanna Lee and I am the Senior Research Analyst in the Demographic Research Project and Census Information Center, or CIC, at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. The CIC program is an official program of the United States Census Bureau designed to promote the dissemination of census data to underserved populations. I am here to present data supporting the testimony you've just heard.

The latest 2010 census data shows that Asian American and Pacific Islander communities continue to be a large and growing part of Los Angeles County's South Bay. Many of the cities in the South Bay have a larger percentage of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders than the county as a whole. Table 1 shows the number of Asian Americans and their concentration in four core South Bay Cities: Torrance, Gardena, Carson and Long Beach. Table 2 shows Pacific Islander communities. Though they are much smaller, the community resides in the northern cities of the South Bay as well as Carson.

Table 1: Asian American Population in Select South Bay Cities, 2010<sup>1</sup>

City	Asian American <sup>2</sup>	
	#	%
Torrance	55,499	38%
Gardena	16,602	28%
Carson	25,296	28%
Long Beach	67,961	15%
Los Angeles County	1,497,960	15%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL 94-171

<sup>2</sup> Race categories include Asian alone or in combination with one or more race categories to include multi-racial Asian Americans.

Table 2: Pacific Islander Population in Select South Bay Cities, 2010<sup>1</sup>

City	Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup>	
	#	%
Carson	3,088	3%
Hawthorne	1,337	2%
Lennox	218	1%
Inglewood	597	1%
Los Angeles County	54,169	1%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL 94-171

<sup>2</sup> Race categories include Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders alone or in combination with one or more race categories to include multi-racial Pacific Islanders.

Table 3 shows some of the characteristics that unite the Central South Bay cities - Torrance, Gardena and Carson. These places have similar per capita incomes and have significant portions of immigrant communities. Foreign-born residents make up roughly one-third of each of these cities' population. Similarly, about 20-26% of residents who are five years of age and older are limited English proficient. I included Manhattan Beach in this table to illustrate that these cities differ from the South Bay beach cities, which are much higher income and have fewer immigrant residents.

Table 3: Social and Economic Characteristics of Torrance, Gardena and Carson<sup>1</sup>

City	Per Capita Income <sup>2</sup>	% Foreign Born <sup>3</sup>	% Limited English Proficient <sup>4</sup>
Torrance	\$36,263	30%	20%
Gardena	\$20,983	33%	26%
Carson	\$23,588	33%	23%
<i>Manhattan Beach</i>	<i>\$78,356</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>3%</i>

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates

<sup>2</sup> Per Capita Income is the aggregate income of all residents in the city divided by the total population in the city.

<sup>3</sup> Percent of individuals born outside of the United States, not including individuals born in Puerto Rico, U.S. island areas or born abroad to American parent(s)

<sup>4</sup> Percent of individuals five years-of-age and above who speak English less than "very well."

The northern cities of the South Bay share similar characteristics and challenges as you can see in Table 4. Hawthorne, Lennox and Inglewood – three cities with relatively large population of Tongan Americans – have lower per capita income and more individuals living in poverty than the county as a whole. In addition, the three cities have high percentages of individuals 25 and above that lack a high school degree. Lennox, which is a small city situated between Hawthorne and Inglewood, faces particular challenges in these areas.

Table 4: Social and Economic Characteristics of Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lennox<sup>1</sup>

City	Per Capita Income <sup>2</sup>	% Living under the poverty line <sup>3</sup>	% Without High School Degree <sup>4</sup>
Hawthorne	\$18,837	17%	25%
Inglewood	\$18,996	18%	29%
Lennox	\$11,420	27%	55%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates

<sup>2</sup> Per capita income is the aggregate income of all residents in the city divided by the total population in the city

<sup>3</sup> Percentage of individuals based on income received during the last 12 months (inflation-adjusted)

<sup>4</sup> Percent of individuals 25 years-of-age and older

Long Beach, as Suely Ngouy testified, is home to a large Cambodian population. According to 2005-2009 U.S. Census American Community Survey estimates, the city of Long Beach has the highest number of Cambodians in any city in the United States. Table 5 shows cities in the United States with the highest number of Cambodian Americans.

Table 5: United States Cities with Highest Number of Cambodian Americans<sup>1</sup>

<b>U.S. City</b>	<b>Cambodian Population<sup>2</sup></b>
Long Beach, California	17,242
Lowell, Massachusetts	12,694
Stockton, California	9,718
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	6,658
San Jose, California	4,244

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates  
<sup>2</sup> Number determined for population alone.

In summary, CAPAFR South Bay asks the Commission to (1) respect the history of the Japanese American community in Torrance and Gardena by keeping these communities together in the same district, (2) respect the integrity of the Filipino and Pacific Islander communities in Carson and (3) respect the integrity of the Tongan community in Hawthorne, Lennox and Inglewood by keeping them together in the same district and (4) respect the integrity of the Cambodian community in central Long Beach as well as the additional community developing in Northern Long Beach. Thank you.

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN ORANGE COUNTY**

- Mary Anne Foo  
- submitted May 6, 2011 together with oral testimony in Santa Ana, speaker #5
- Paul Joo  
- submitted May 6, 2011 together with oral testimony in Santa Ana, speaker #6
- Saima Husain  
- submitted May 6, 2011 together with oral testimony in Santa Ana, speaker #8
- Lac Tan Nguyen  
- submitted May 6, 2011 together with oral testimony in Santa Ana, speaker #9
- Troy Nguyen  
- submitted May 6, 2011 together with oral testimony  
read by Asma Men in Santa Ana, speaker #14
- Joanna Lee  
- submitted May 6, 2011 together with oral testimony in Santa Ana, speaker #15
- Keddy Chen  
- submitted May 6, 2011 together with oral testimony in Santa Ana, speaker #17
- Sundaram Rama  
- submitted May 6, 2011

Mary Anne Foo, Executive Director  
Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA)

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

Good evening, my name is Mary Anne Foo. I have been a resident of Orange County for over 20 years.

I am the Executive Director of the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA). OCAPICA is a nonprofit organization located in Garden Grove. Our mission is to improve the health and social and economic well-being of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in Orange County.

OCAPICA has been working with the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR) to bring people together to learn about redistricting. At today's regional hearing, individual members of the public who received education from CAPAFR are testifying about their communities of interest.

Several areas of Orange County are home to significant AAPI populations, and AAPI populations continue to grow rapidly within the county. In 2000, AAPIs made up about 15% of Orange County's total population. Census 2010 data show that AAPIs now make up over 20% of the county's population.

AAPIs are concentrated in several areas of the county. In north county, there are significant AAPI populations in Fullerton, Buena Park, Brea, La Palma and Cypress.

In central county, Garden Grove and Westminster are home to a large AAPI population, with the most numerous group consisting of Vietnamese Americans, who also live in adjacent areas such as Fountain Valley, Midway City, Stanton and parts of Santa Ana. The attached map shows AAPI population density for north and central Orange County.

In south county, Irvine has a sizable AAPI population, including many Chinese and Korean Americans.

Many residents of these areas are immigrants or refugees and are bound together by key needs around education language access, jobs and the economy. For some of the north county cities, these ties extend to cities in Los Angeles County such as Cerritos, Artesia and La Mirada.

Other interests tie these communities together as well. Many AAPIs have small businesses and would benefit from common representation so that their small business needs can be addressed by policymakers. Orange County is home to over 63,000 Asian American-owned businesses, representing the third-highest number of Asian American-owned businesses in the country.<sup>1</sup>

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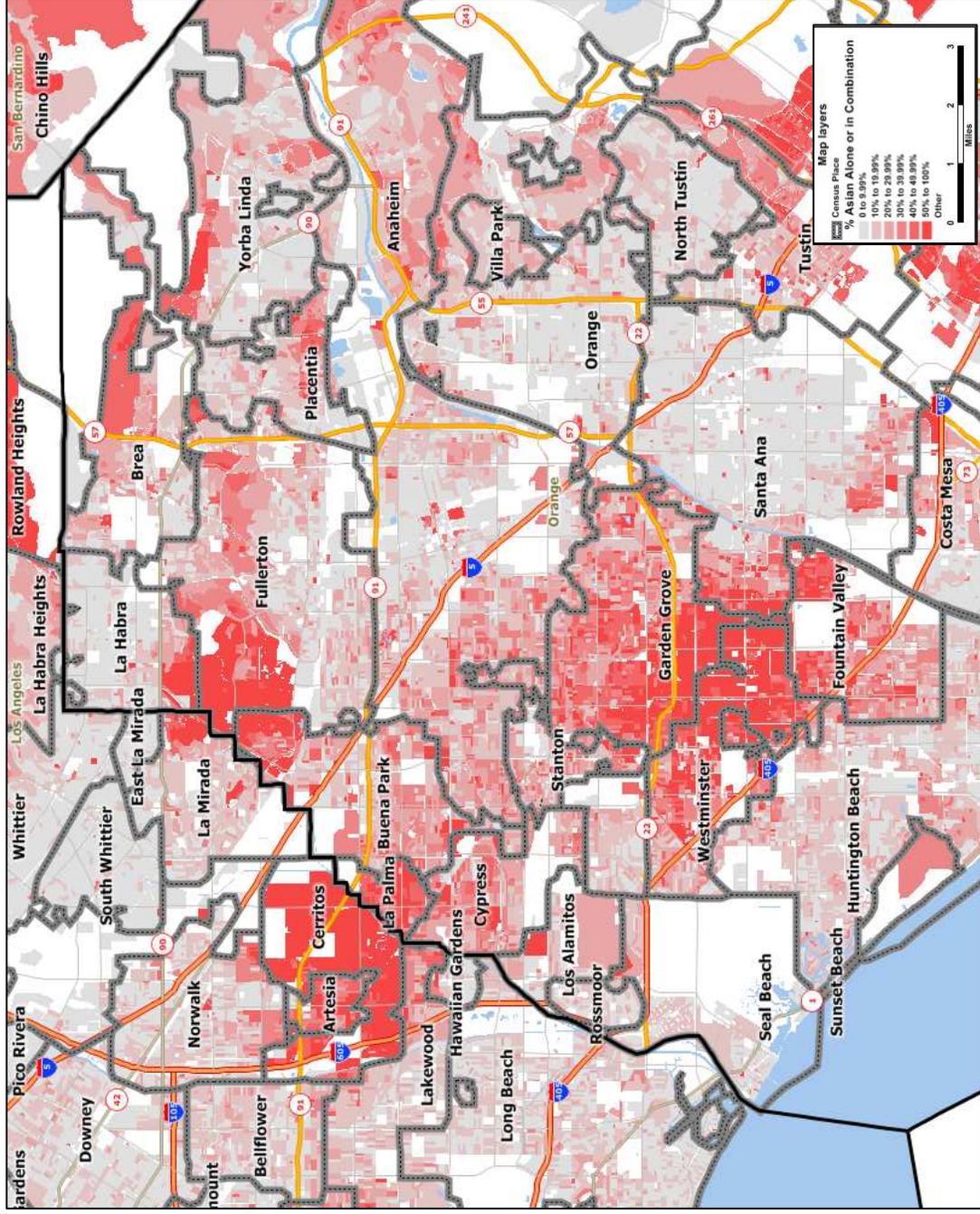
<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Business Owners: Asian-Owned Businesses: 2007, Table 2 (Census Bureau press release available at [http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/business\\_ownership/cb11-74.html](http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/business_ownership/cb11-74.html)).

Many of these vibrant and dynamic businesses are located in the north county cities I mentioned as well as Little Saigon.

Please keep these communities intact so they have truly responsive representation at state and federal levels. Thank you for your attention.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Mary Anne Foo Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

Map of Asian Americans in North Orange County/South Los Angeles County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census PL 94-171. Race Category includes both single race and multiracial individuals.

Paul Joo  
Resident of Orange County

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

Greetings. I am Paul Joo, an Orange County resident. I am a certified public accountant and own a firm with offices in Garden Grove and Brea. My firm provides accounting, tax and audit services to small and mid-sized businesses in a variety of industries.

I am civically engaged and am the current president of a community organization called the Orange County Korean-U.S. Citizens League. I have received education from the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR) and would like to provide the commission with information about my community of interest.

There is a sizable Korean American population located in Fullerton and Buena Park. The attached map shows the Korean American population in these cities, which also shows concentrations of Korean Americans in surrounding cities such as Brea, La Palma, Cypress and Cerritos.

The residents of these cities, including Korean Americans, share common interests and needs for education and language access. Many of the residents in this area are also immigrants.

The Korean American population in Fullerton and Buena Park has strong cultural ties, indicated by the significant number of Korean restaurants in this area, the large segment of the population regularly attending church, and the paramount importance that the community's value system places on education. There is a growing Korean American population in adjacent areas such as Brea and Cypress, and these cultural ties extend to these areas, as well as areas in Los Angeles County such as Cerritos.

Notably, Brea has entered into a sister city arrangement with the city of Anseong in South Korea to promote cultural awareness and learning through exchange programs and educational events. Also, during the past decade the Korean American business community in Fullerton and Buena Park has expanded into Brea. With a high number of Korean Americans going to church, the growth of the Korean American community in Brea is marked by the establishment of several Korean American churches.

The many Korean American small business owners in Fullerton, Buena Park and Brea have shared economic interests that would be well-served by having common representation. Because of high rates of limited English proficiency, these business owners also have common language needs. As the owner of a firm providing professional services to small and mid-sized owners in the area, I know that many Korean American businesses face language barriers to understanding complex rules around taxes, auditing and accounting and have a need for policymakers who are sensitive to these needs.

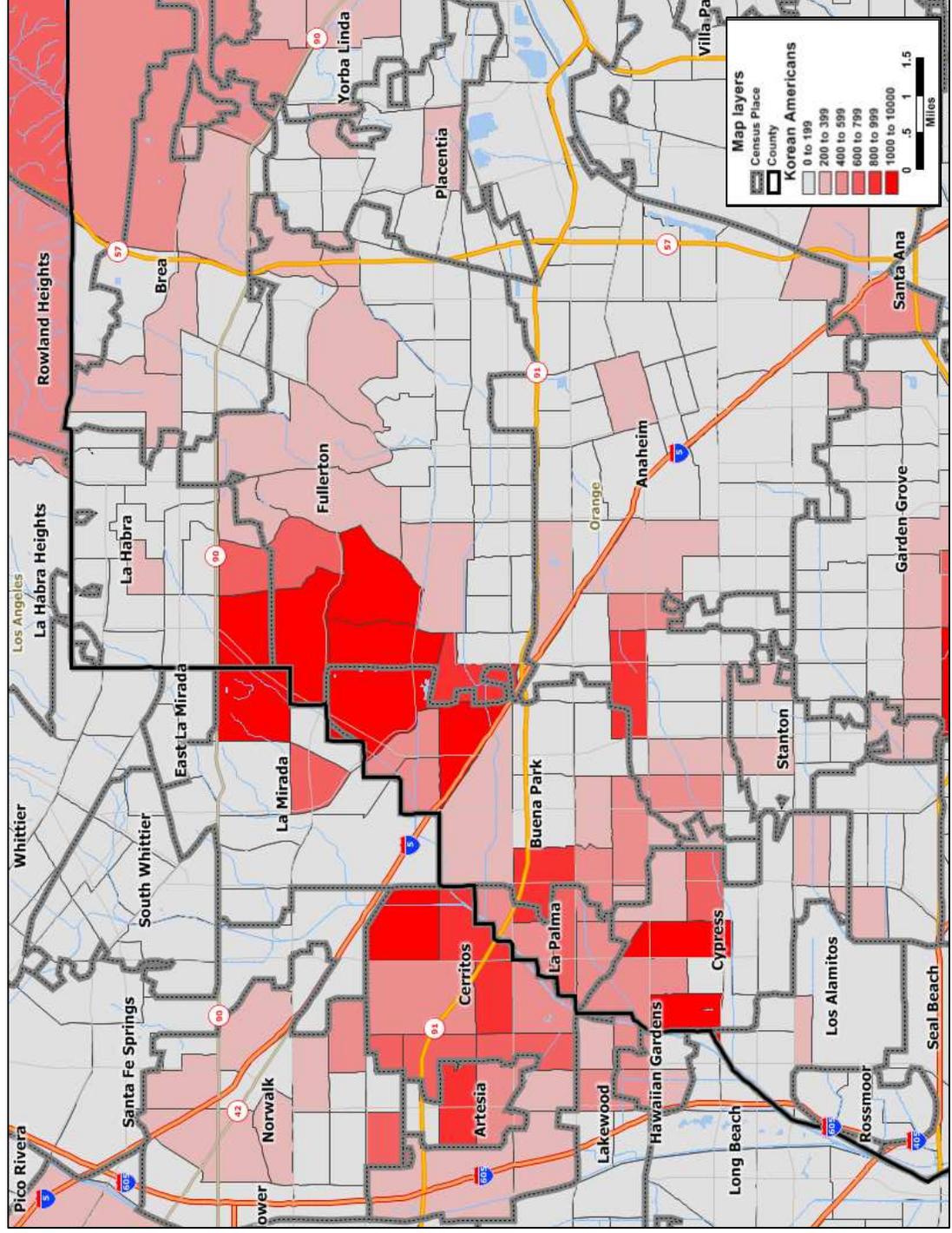
The residents in cities such as Fullerton, Buena Park and Brea constitute a community of interest that should be kept together so that their representatives are motivated to address their concerns around education, jobs and economy, and language needs.

Since these cities are not large enough to make a district by themselves, I suggest that they be paired with adjacent areas such as Cypress, La Palma and Cerritos.

Thank you for holding this hearing and I appreciate the opportunity to talk to you about my community.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Paul Joo Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

Map of Korean Community in North Orange County/Los Angeles County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone.

Saima Husain, Director of Programs  
South Asian Network

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

Good evening. I am Saima Husain. I am the Director of Programs at the South Asian Network (SAN). SAN is a grassroots, community-based organization dedicated to advancing the health, empowerment and solidarity of persons of South Asian origin in Southern California.

With our main office located in Artesia, we are familiar with the needs of the significant South Asian populations in Artesia and Cerritos, which together are known as Little India. The attached map shows South Asian population in this area as well as north Orange County.

While the South Asian community is diverse in many aspects, the residents of these areas have shared interests around immigration and common social service and health needs. Because of these ties, we believe that Artesia and Cerritos should be kept together within the same legislative and congressional districts.

South Asian families that have immigrated to the U.S. face considerable challenges to staying together and obtaining visas for spouses, children, and siblings. Because of the U.S. system of quotas on family-based visas, family members from India in particular face waiting periods of six, eight or even eleven years before being able to reunite with their sponsoring family members in the U.S.

Like other communities, the South Asian community faces issues of domestic violence, and it also faces issues of human trafficking and elder abuse. Individuals and families facing these issues have common needs for services that are culturally competent and language-appropriate.

Seniors are among the most vulnerable segments of the South Asian community. While Artesia and Cerritos have sites for government-provided meal programs, many South Asian seniors typically cannot participate in these programs because they are vegetarian or require their food to be halal. Additionally, AAPIs including South Asians make up a majority of individuals receiving assistance from the state's Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) program. CAPI is a state program that provides cash assistance to senior and disabled non-citizens who are ineligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or State Supplemental Payment (SSP) due to their immigration status. CAPI perennially faces the threat of funding cuts due to the state's budget difficulties.

Because of the concerns shared by their residents around immigration, social services and health, we request that the Commission keep Artesia and Cerritos together within state and congressional districts.

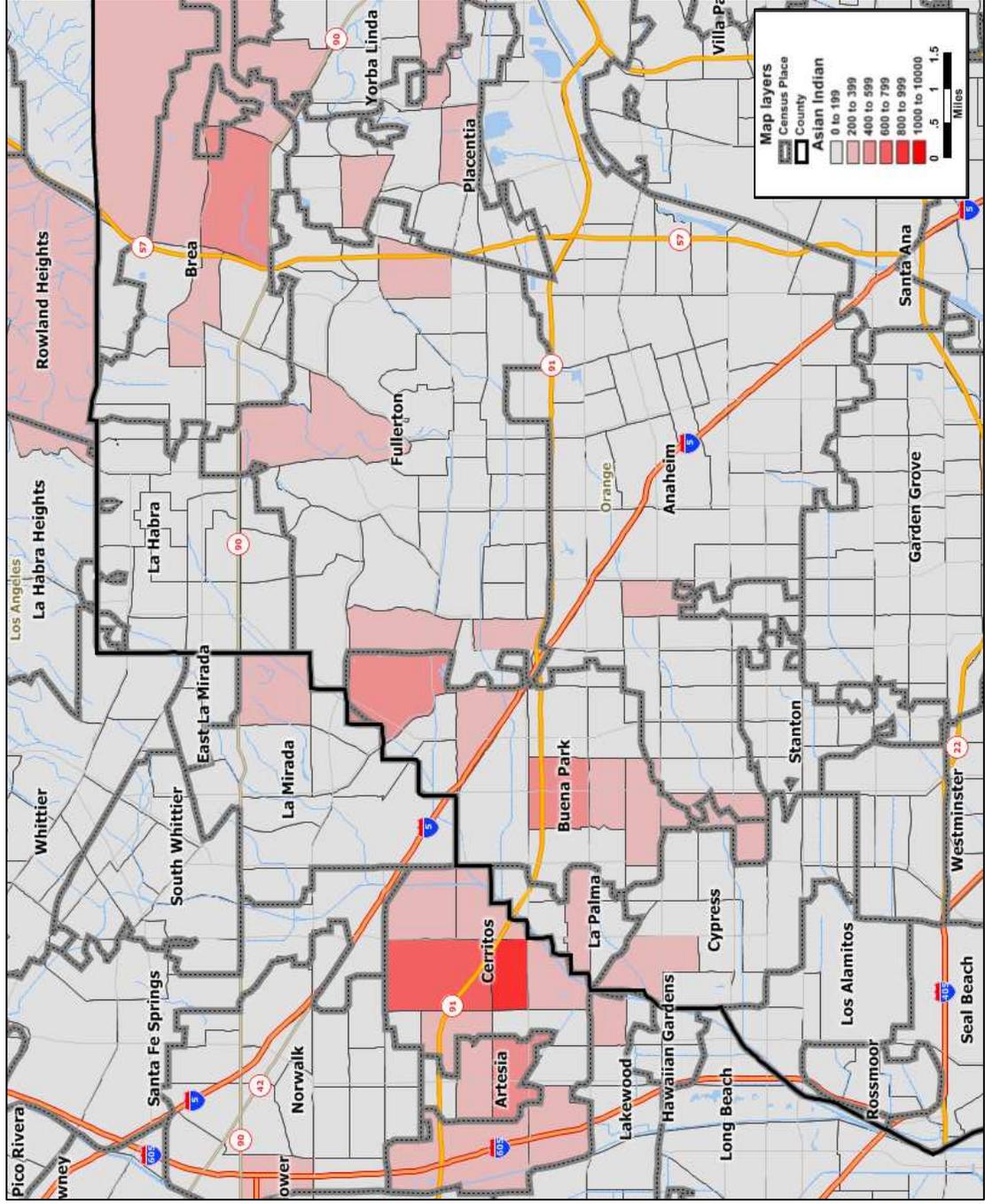
Since Artesia and Cerritos cannot by themselves constitute an entire legislative district, we suggest that they be paired with cities in north Orange County such as La Palma, Buena Park, northern Cypress and Fullerton. As shown on the attached map, there is a concentration of South Asians in La Palma and Buena Park. This population is growing and should be included with Artesia and Cerritos because of their shared concerns around state-provided social services.

We note that while as a general matter Los Angeles and Orange Counties are dissimilar in a number of aspects, the cities of Artesia and Cerritos have ties to north Orange County cities such as La Palma, Buena Park, Fullerton and northern Cypress. Additionally, we understand from the Asian Pacific American Legal Center that to draw assembly districts to achieve full compliance under the federal Voting Rights Act with respect to Latinos, at least one Latino Voting Rights Act district originating in Los Angeles County must take into some portion of Orange County. In solidarity with the Latino community, we support the notion that in some instances, Los Angeles County districts may need to take in portions of Orange County to satisfy legal requirements.

Thank you for your attention and the opportunity to testify today.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Samia Husain Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

Map of South Asian Community in North Orange County/South Los Angeles County<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone.

Lac Tan Nguyen, President  
Vietnamese American Community of Southern California

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

My name is Lac Tan Nguyen. I am President of the Vietnamese American Community of Southern California. We are a community organization here to serve the interests and retain the culture of the Vietnamese American community in Southern California, particularly in Orange County through social, educational, and cultural events. We also help identify resources to refer and provide to the Vietnamese community to assist in their integration as Vietnamese Americans.

I have received education about redistricting from the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR) and would like to provide information about my community.

Orange County is home to the largest Vietnamese American population outside of Vietnam. Most of this population is concentrated in Little Saigon. The core of Little Saigon is made up of Garden Grove and Westminster. Vietnamese Americans also live in Fountain Valley, parts of Santa Ana, Midway City and Stanton. The attached map shows the population density of Vietnamese Americans in this area.

Vietnamese Americans originally settled in Orange County as refugees. More recently, Vietnamese Americans have come to the U.S. as immigrants. Vietnamese American community members have an affinity to Little Saigon because of its cultural and social institutions. Every year, Little Saigon residents celebrate the lunar new year by participating in the Tết Festival of Southern California, which is the world's largest Tết Festival outside of Vietnam. The three-day festival has over 100,000 visitors annually and helps preserve Vietnamese culture and heritage.

Residents of this area have shared needs around language access. Many Vietnamese Americans have limited ability to speak English and rely on Vietnamese language newspapers and radio stations for their media services. The Vietnamese American community also has common social needs. While the area supports a strong commercial district, many residents are low-income and need representatives who can address their needs.

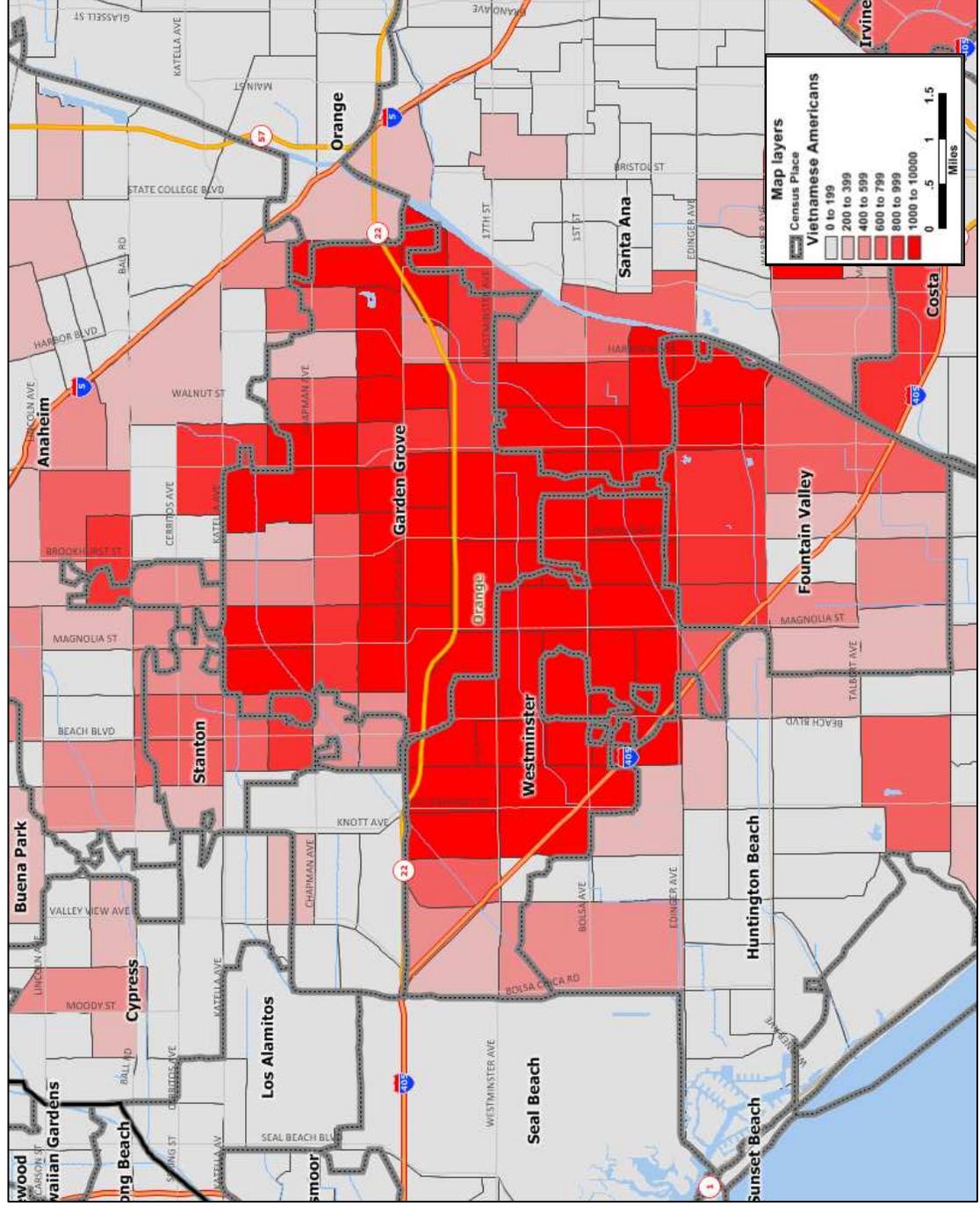
While the heart of Little Saigon lies in Garden Grove and Westminster, surrounding areas have concentrations of Vietnamese Americans and should be kept together with Garden Grove and Westminster. For example, areas in west Santa Ana have senior housing facilities where Vietnamese American seniors reside.

We recognize that Latinos have an interest in a Voting Rights Act district in Santa Ana, and we respect this interest. We do think it is still possible to maintain a Latino Voting Rights Act district in Santa Ana while also keeping the west part of Santa Ana in another district with Garden Grove.

Please do not dilute the voice of Vietnamese Americans in Orange County. Please keep our community whole. Thank you.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Lac Tan Nguyen Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

Map of Vietnamese Community In Garden Grove, Westminster, Stanton and Fountain Valley<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for Population Alone.

Troy Nguyen, Board Director  
Vietnamese American Chamber of Commerce

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

My name is Troy Nguyen. I am a Board Director of the Vietnamese American Chamber of Commerce (VACOC). VACOC is a nonprofit organization composed of local business owners and corporate representatives throughout Southern California. Our mission is to provide a strong network that allows businesses to advertise, build partnerships, and give back to the greater community.

VACOC has participated in meetings conducted by the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting (CAPAFR) to learn about redistricting. We ask the commission to keep together the Vietnamese American community in Garden Grove, Westminster and surrounding areas.

This area, known as Little Saigon, is a robust commercial district. The many Vietnamese American business owners in the area have similar economic concerns around business regulation and licensing.

A number of Vietnamese Americans live in Fountain Valley and own businesses in Garden Grove or Westminster. To ensure that these Vietnamese American business owners have representatives to turn to, Fountain Valley should be kept in the same district as Garden Grove and Westminster.

Lastly, the Vietnamese American community is an emerging political force. Within the past decade, we have seen Vietnamese American voters elect their preferred candidates to local and state office. Dividing our community would be a huge setback to our path to fair representation. Please keep our community whole.

I appreciate the chance to speak today. Thank you for holding this hearing.

Keddy Chen, Board Member  
South Coast Chinese Cultural Association

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

My name is Keddy Chen. I am a board member of the South Coast Chinese Cultural Association, located in Irvine. The South Coast Chinese Cultural Association is a nonprofit Chinese education and cultural institution that supports the Irvine Chinese School.

Irvine is a completely planned city with a wonderful school system. Much thought went into the planning of the city. Much care is devoted to maintaining the many assets of the city, including solid housing stock, low crime rates, and a strong job market.

Irvine is also home to a large Asian American population, including many Chinese and Korean Americans. The attached map shows the concentration of Asian Americans in Irvine. Asian Americans in Irvine are both engaged in public service, with an Asian American currently serving as the mayor of Irvine, and also involved in maintaining and increasing awareness of our cultural and language heritage.

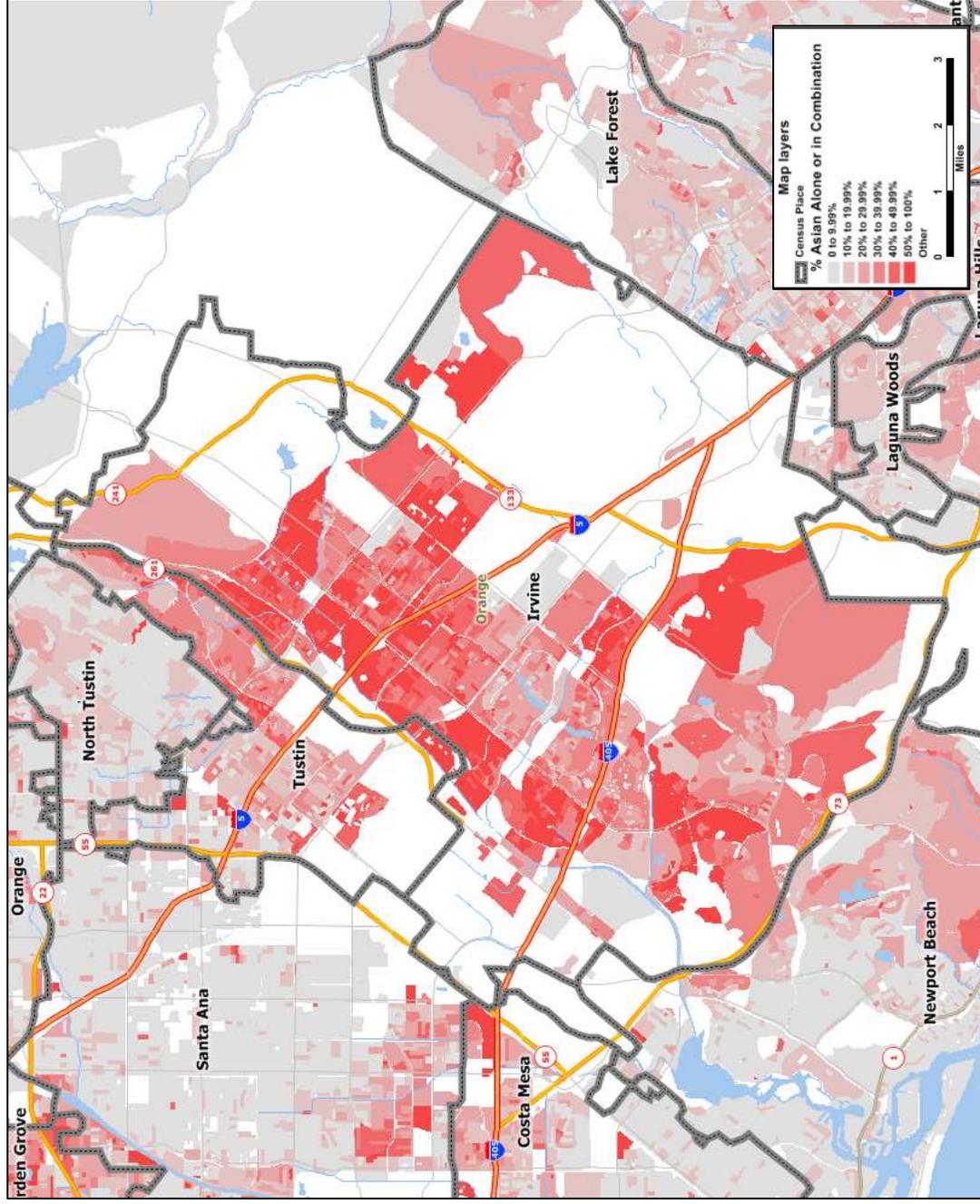
Please do not divide Irvine as you draw new district lines. Irvine deserves unified representation at the state and federal levels.

Since Irvine cannot make up a district by itself, we suggest that Irvine be drawn in the same districts with Tustin and North Tustin. Several schools in Irvine are administered by the Tustin Unified School District.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

*Map Submitted in Support of Testimony by Keddy Chen Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

Map of Asian American Population in Irvine<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census PL 94-171. Race Category includes both single race and multiracial individuals.

Sundaram Rama, Executive Director  
The Cambodian Family

*Written Testimony to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

My name is Sundaram Rama. I am the Executive Director of The Cambodian Family, which is a nonprofit organization located here in Santa Ana. The Cambodian Family is a multi-ethnic human services agency that serves immigrants and refugees.

There are close to 2,000 Cambodian Americans living in Santa Ana, concentrated in the heart of Santa Ana. Cambodian Americans face many challenges such as low level of education, language barrier, poverty, and health issues, particularly related to diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and mental health.

Cambodian Americans share similar levels of income with the many Latinos residing in Santa Ana. Cambodian Americans and Latinos also have similar levels of educational attainment. Indeed, my agency provides social services to both Cambodian Americans and Latinos in Santa Ana.

Because of common needs, Cambodian Americans would be best served by being placed in a district drawn to protect the Voting Rights Act interests of Latinos in Santa Ana. I wholeheartedly support the drawing of such a district.

Thank you for your attention.

*Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: May 6, 2011 in Santa Ana, CA*

My name is Joanna Lee and I am the Senior Research Analyst in the Demographic Research Project and Census Information Center, or CIC, at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. I am here to present data supporting the testimony you’ve just heard.

Asian American and Pacific Islanders comprise over one-fifth of Orange County’s total population. The AAPI population has increased 40% in the past decade countywide.<sup>1</sup> Table 1 shows AAPI population figures for cities in northern Orange County as well as two neighboring cities in Los Angeles County.

Table 1: Asian American and Pacific Islander Population in Select Northern Orange County and Los Angeles Cities, 2010<sup>1</sup>

County	City	Asian American <sup>1</sup>		Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup>	
		#	%	#	%
Orange	La Palma	7,896	51%	132	<1%
	Cypress	16,239	34%	483	1.01%
	Buena Park	23,063	29%	814	1.01%
	Fullerton	33,256	25%	790	<1%
	Brea	7,966	20%	213	<1%
	Westminster	44,192	49%	695	<1%
	Garden Grove	65,923	39%	1,673	1%
	Fountain Valley	19,755	36%	435	<1%
	Stanton	9,404	25%	403	1.06%
	Santa Ana	36,324	11%	1,576	<1%
Los Angeles	Cerritos	31,691	65%	366	<1%
	Artesia	6,408	39%	73	<1%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

The northern cities of Orange County as well as cities in southern Los Angeles County – Fullerton, Buena Park, Brea, Cypress, La Palma, Cerritos and Artesia – make up overlapping communities of interest as you have heard from the testimony of AAPI community members. These cities share similar social and economic characteristics, bolstering the community members’ testimony about communities of interest, and also suggesting that these cities be drawn together in the same district. Table 2 shows per capita income, percent foreign born, percent limited English proficient and median Academic Performance Index score for schools in those cities.

Table Orange 2: Social and Economic Characteristics of North Orange County/South Los Angeles County Cities

City	Per Capita Income <sup>1</sup>	% Foreign Born <sup>2</sup>	% Limited English Proficient <sup>3</sup>	Median API Score <sup>4</sup>
Fullerton	30,321	30%	21%	830
Buena Park	23,164	36%	27%	801
Brea	36,004	21%	11%	875
La Palma	32,935	33%	21%	872
Cypress	31,398	29%	18%	885
Cerritos	32,198	45%	26%	872
Artesia	19,265	45%	34%	805

<sup>1</sup> Per capita income is the aggregate income of all residents in the city divided by the total population in the city.

<sup>2</sup> Percent of individuals born outside of the United States, not including individuals born in Puerto Rico, U.S. island areas or born abroad to American parent(s). United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, Table B05002.

<sup>3</sup> Percent of individuals 5 years-of-age or older who speak English less than 'very well'. United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, Table B16004.

<sup>4</sup> Median Academic Performance Index (API) score for K-12 schools in city. California Department of Education, 2009 Base API Report.

Among counties, Orange County has the largest Vietnamese community in the nation. Table 3 shows counties in the United States with the highest number of Vietnamese Americans, according to U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2009 five-year estimates. Within Orange County, two-thirds of Vietnamese Americans reside in the cities of Garden Grove, Westminster, Fountain Valley, Stanton, and Santa Ana.<sup>ii</sup>

Table Orange 3: United States Counties with the Highest Number of Vietnamese Americans<sup>1</sup>

U.S. County	# of Vietnamese Americans <sup>2</sup>
Orange County, California	154,398
Santa Clara County, California	114,918
Los Angeles County, California	89,577
Harris County, Texas	68,296
San Diego County, California	40,884

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.

<sup>2</sup> Number determined for population alone.

Cities that have the largest Vietnamese population also have similar characteristics, as shown in Table 4. Cities on the coast such as Huntington Beach are higher income and have fewer immigrants compared to the cities that comprise the heart of the Vietnamese community in Orange County.

Table Orange 4: Social and Economic Characteristics of Select Orange County Cities

City	Per Capita Income <sup>1</sup>	% Foreign Born <sup>2</sup>	% Limited English Proficient <sup>3</sup>	Median API Score <sup>4</sup>
Garden Grove	20,965	44%	36%	792
Westminster	22,881	44%	36%	817
Stanton	20,300	43%	40%	745
Fountain Valley	34,902	28%	17%	879
Santa Ana	16,521	50%	50%	752
Huntington Beach	41,346	16%	9%	851

<sup>1</sup> Per capita income is the aggregate income of all residents in the city divided by the total population in the city.

<sup>2</sup> Percent of individuals born outside of the United States, not including individuals born in Puerto Rico, U.S. island areas or born abroad to American parent(s). United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, Table B05002.

<sup>3</sup> Percent of individuals 5 years-of-age or older who speak English less than 'very well'. United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, Table B16004.

<sup>4</sup> Median Academic Performance Index (API) score for K-12 schools in city. California Department of Education, 2009 Base API Report.

There is also a large Asian American community in the city of Irvine. Table 5 shows the number of Asians in Irvine compared to other adjacent cities. Over 43% of the city’s population is Asian American while many of the cities around Irvine do not have a large Asian population.

Table Orange 5: Asian American Population in Irvine and Surrounding Cities<sup>1</sup>

City	Asian American <sup>1</sup>		Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup>	
	#	%	#	%
Irvine	91,896	43%	1,067	<1%
Tustin	16,973	22%	530	<1%
Lake Forest	12,091	16%	509	<1%
Newport	7,587	9%	327	<1%
Laguna Hills	4,714	16%	149	<1%

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.  
<sup>2</sup> Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

In summary, AAPI community members have asked the commission to (1) keep Westminster, Garden Grove, Fountain Valley, Midway City, Stanton and the west part of Santa Ana together in one district as a community of interest, (2) keep the south L.A. County cities of Artesia and Cerritos together as a community of interest and placed with La Palma, Buena Park and northern Cypress, (3) keep the north Orange County cities of Fullerton, Buena Park and Brea as a community of interest and placed with La Palma, northern Cypress and Cerritos, (4) keep these north Orange County and south L.A. County cities together because of their commonalities, and (5) keep Irvine whole in one district.

<sup>i</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL 94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

<sup>ii</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Number determined for population alone.

**TESTIMONY FROM  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

- Palma Hooper  
- submitted May 14, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Diego, speaker #17
- Ofelia Dirige  
- submitted May 14, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Diego, speaker #18
- Edward Aparis  
- submitted May 14, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Diego, speaker #20
- Charles Kim  
- submitted May 14, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Diego, speaker #21
- Patricia Guevarra  
- submitted May 14, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Diego, speaker #22
- Kim-Thoa Hoang  
- submitted May 14, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Diego, speaker #23
- Daniel Ichinose  
- submitted May 14, 2011 together with oral testimony in San Diego, speaker #27

TESTIMONY OF PALMA HOOPER  
At Public Hearing Held By  
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
For The State of California  
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

My name is Palma Cesar Hooper. I have been living in San Diego County for over 30 years.

I am the President of the SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LAW (also known as SCAPAL). SCAPAL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, providing pro bono educational programs on various topics of the law including redistricting to underserved communities in San Diego County.

In San Diego County there are over 431,800 Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPIs), representing about 14% of the County's population.

The attached map shows areas of AAPI population density in San Diego County. There are three main geographical areas for AAPIs.

In South Bay, there is a concentration of AAPIs in National City, Chula Vista, Paradise Hills, Bonita and Bay Terrace.

In the City of San Diego to the north, there is a second concentration of AAPIs located in Mira Mesa, Kearny Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sorrento Valley, Carmel Valley, Poway and Rancho Bernardo.

In Mid-City of San Diego, there is a third concentration of AAPIs, primarily Southeast Asians, in Linda Vista and in City Heights.

These communities in which AAPIs live have shared needs for language access, similar immigrant backgrounds, common social and cultural interests, and similar economic needs. AAPIs have common policy concerns around these needs and interests that would be best-served if the areas in which they live are kept intact within districts.

Thank you for your dedicated service to insure democracy for all.



TESTIMONY OF DR. OFELIA DIRIGE  
At Public Hearing Held By  
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
For The State of California  
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

I am Dr. Ofelia Dirige, faculty member in the Center for Asian Studies and Graduate School of Public Health, San Diego State University. I am also President and CEO of Kalusugan's Filipino American Wellness Center, a nonprofit organization based in east National City. The Center aims to improve the health of FilAms and underserved groups primarily in east National City, Paradise Hills and Bay Terrace as well as throughout the County. I work in National City, live in east Chula Vista, and have been a long time community activist.

We respect the interests of Latinos in San Diego, including the drawing of a Latino Voting Rights Act (VRA) district that takes in parts of National City, Chula Vista and Paradise Hills. Doing this would require splitting the three areas.

We ask the Commission to draw a second district to the east that keeps together the API population in these three areas including Bonita and Bay Terrace and their community institutions.

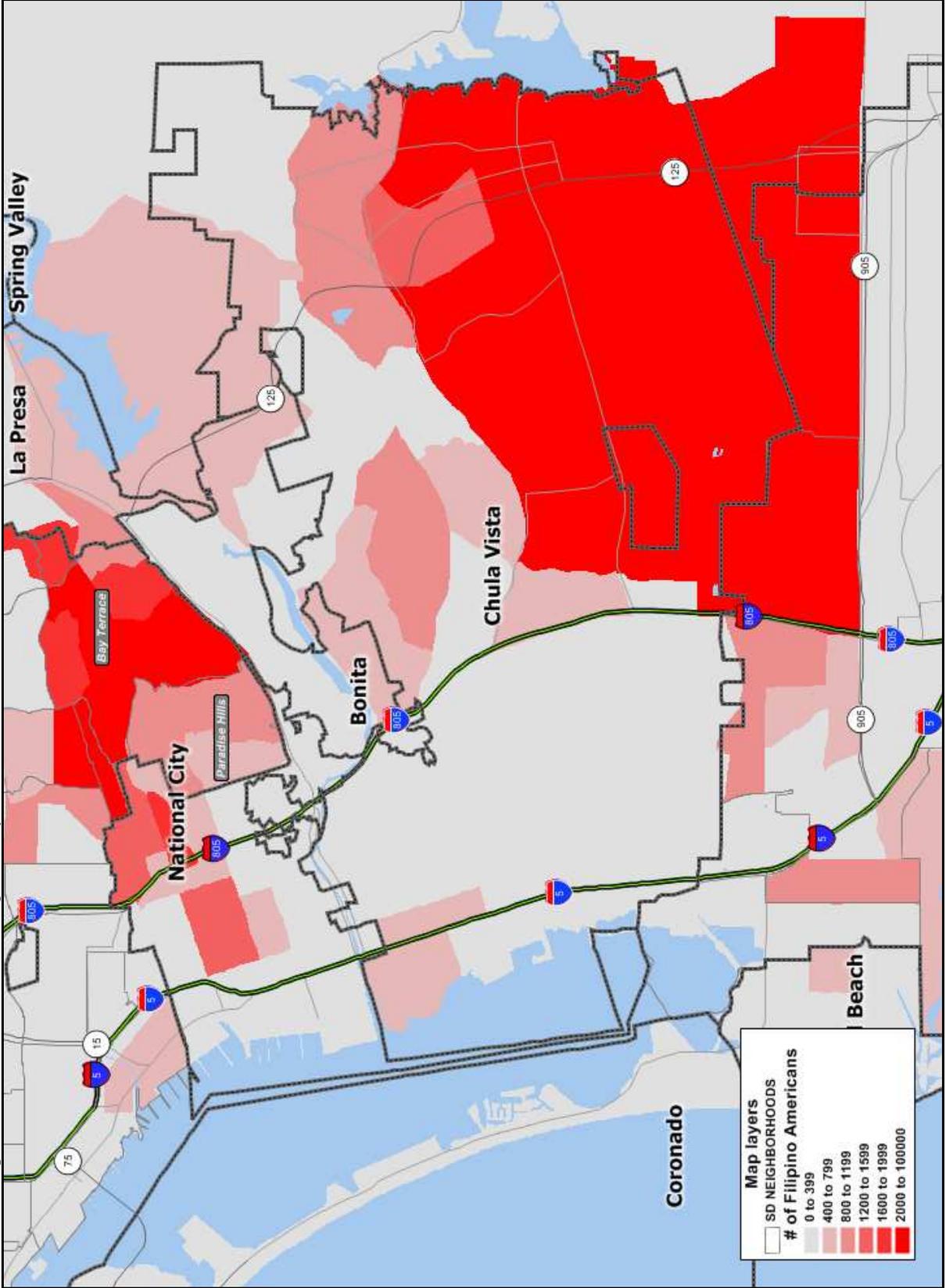
The reason is that many FilAms are part of this community of interest. The attached map shows Filipino population density in these areas (National City, Chula Vista, Paradise Hills, Bonita and Bay Terrace).

National City is the center of FilAm economic, cultural, and political events. The areas being considered rely on more than 20 FilAm institutions in National City to maintain family & business ties and access to social and health services. The attached map shows these community institutions. Examples are: Seafood City supermarket, Filipino Press and Asian Journal newspapers, and Manila Sunset and Villa Manila restaurants. Every year, the Wellness Center sponsors a Cultural & Arts Festival in Paradise Hills that draws over 15,000 mostly young people.

Thank you for considering our request.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Dr. Ofelia Dirige  
Public Input Hearing: May 14, 2011 in San Diego, CA*

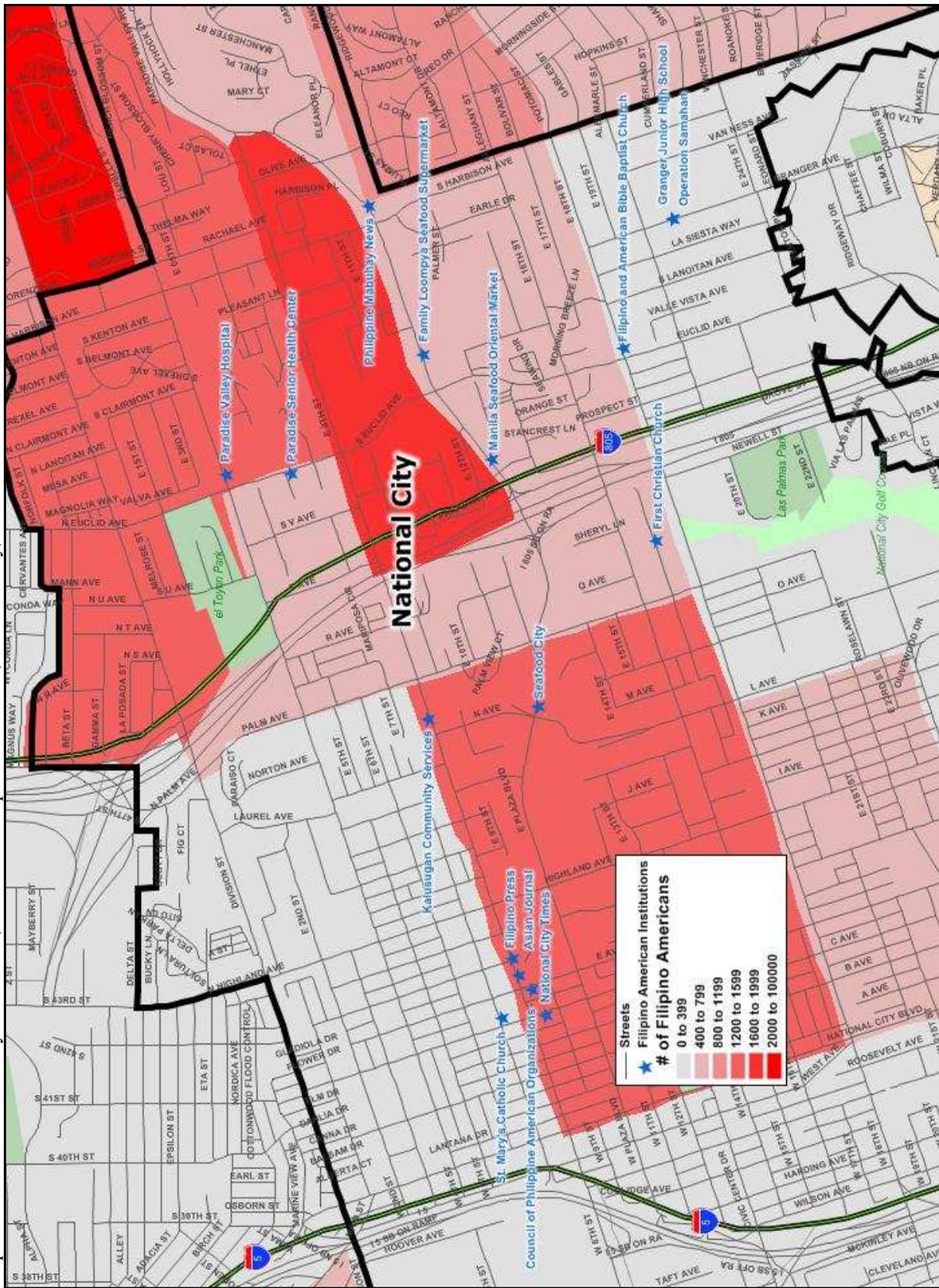
Number of Filipino Americans, South San Diego County, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Race categories include single race individuals only.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Dr. Ofelia Dirige  
Public Input Hearing: May 14, 2011 in San Diego, CA*

Filipino American Community Institutions, Number of Filipino Americans, National City, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Race categories include single race individuals only.

TESTIMONY OF EDWARD APARIS  
At Public Hearing Held By  
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
For The State of California  
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

My name is Edward Aparis. I have lived in East National City for 16 years. I have been living in East Chula Vista for the past 9 years.

I have been active in the Filipino American community volunteering with Kalusugan Community Services, Council of Philippine American Organizations, and Operation Samahan in National City

I have also worked at the MAAC Project (Maximizing Access to Advance our Communities) which is a social service organization focusing on low and moderate income Latino and African American families. Through MAAC I have had contact with various Latino and African American individuals and organizations over the years.

I ask that the Commission draw districts that respect the interests of AAPI, Latino and African American communities in San Diego County. These populations, particularly in the southern portion of the County, have similar social service needs.

First, I ask the Commission to respect the Voting Rights Act interests of Latinos in the western portion of San Diego. I understand that the drawing of this Voting Rights district would require the splitting of National City, Chula Vista, and Paradise Hills.

Second, I ask that in splitting National City, Chula Vista and Paradise Hills, the Commission preserve as much of the AAPI population in National City, Chula Vista and Paradise Hills as possible and keep them with Bonita and Bay Terrace. This area is home to significant numbers of AAPIs, including many Filipinos, as well as Latinos and some African Americans.

The community in National City, Chula Vista, Paradise Hills, Bonita and Bay Terrace tends to be low to moderate income, has high rates of limited English proficiency, and many of its members are immigrants or children of immigrants.

This community needs a strong voice at the state and federal levels to advocate for its underserved needs and should be kept together so that they have that strong voice.

Since the areas I mentioned do not make up an entire district, I suggest that areas such as Valencia Park, Encanto, Skyline and La Presa be added to the same district.

We should not be included in the foothill areas of East County because they do not share similar social and economic interests of South County. Thank you.

TESTIMONY OF CHARLES W. KIM, JR.  
At Public Hearing Held By  
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
For The State of California  
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

Good afternoon. My name is Charles Wesley Kim, Jr. I have lived in San Diego since 1985 and presently live in Carmel Valley. I am an attorney and formerly had my law practice in the Convoy area in Kearny Mesa.

I am active in civics at the City, County and State level, including through various Asian bar associations, the Asian Business Association, and the San Diego Police Chief's API Advisory Board.

Through my service in the American Asian Pacific Islander community, I am familiar with the community-of-interest consisting of Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sorrento Valley, Carmel Valley, Rancho Bernardo, and parts of Kearny Mesa.

AAPIs make up a significant portion of this community of interest, and like other members of this community, have shared needs and interests. The attached map shows AAPI population within the geographical areas of this community of interest.

Kearny Mesa includes the Convoy area, bounded by Highway 52 to the north, I-805 to the west and Highway 163 to the east. The area has a large concentration of Korean-owned businesses, including a Korean newspaper, TV station, supermarket, restaurants and family-owned businesses. The area also has many other Asian restaurants and family-owned businesses, including 99 Ranch, an Asian market, Mitsuwa Market, a Japanese supermarket, and Marukai San Diego, a Japanese specialty store. These restaurants and businesses are patronized by residents of Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sorrento Valley, Carmel Valley and Kearny Mesa.

Similarly, the Mira Mesa area draws AAPIs from the surrounding areas to shop at Seafood City, a Filipino and Asian supermarket, Indian Food and Grocery store, and Vinh Hung Supermarket, a Vietnamese grocery store.

This area cannot comprise an entire Assembly district, so the Commission should combine it with Scripps Ranch, University City, and Poway. These areas are socio-economically similar and have a strong AAPI presence.

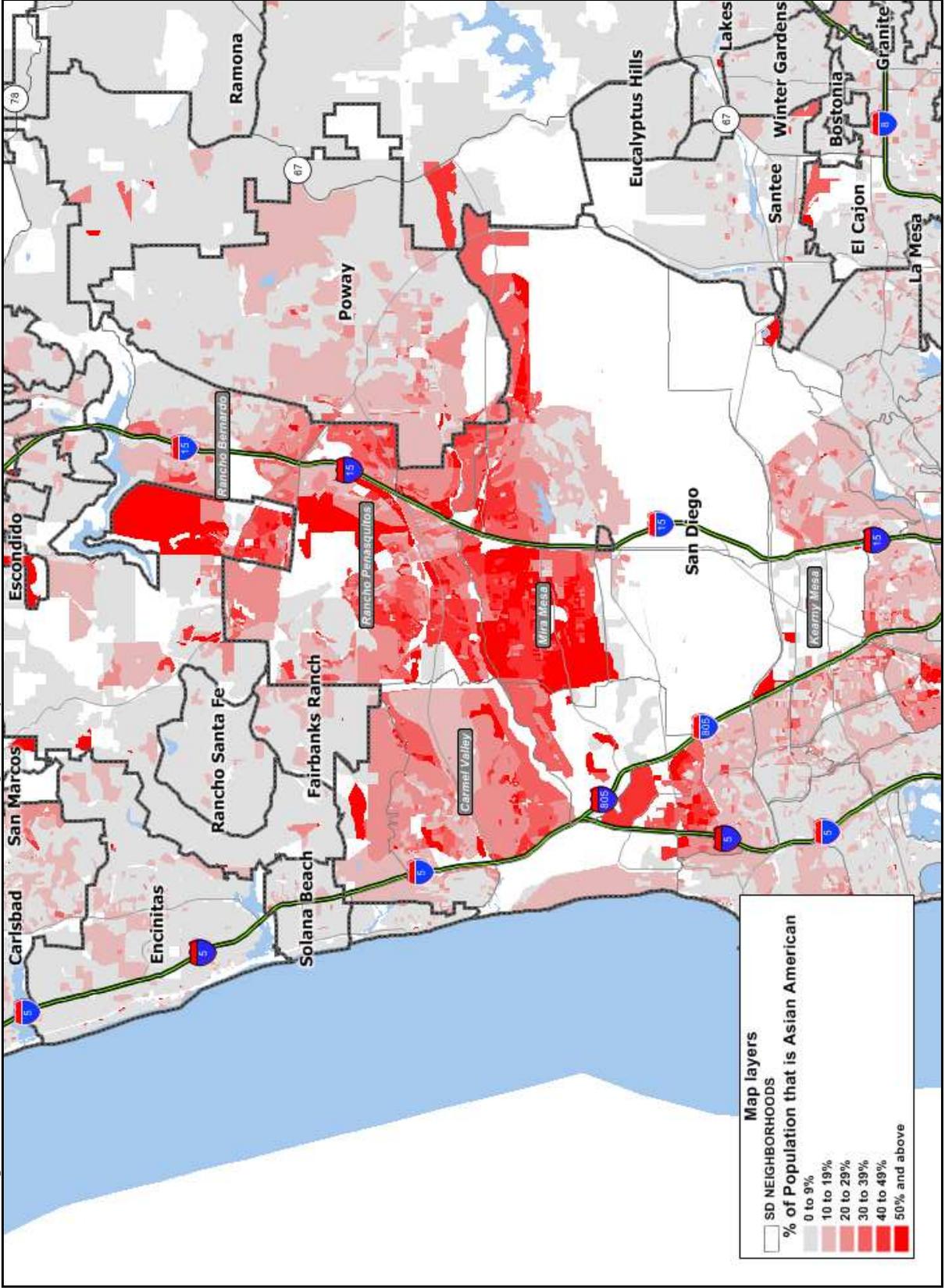
In contrast, the communities of Fairbanks Ranch, Del Mar and Rancho Santa Fe should be in a separate district. Their demographics differ significantly from the communities of Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos and Sorrento Valley.

From a policy perspective and in practical terms, the residents of Mira Mesa, Kearny Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sorrento Valley, Carmel Valley, and Rancho Bernardo will receive much more responsive representation if they did not have to compete with their wealthier neighbors to the northwest for their representative's attention.

Thank you again for hearing our concerns. I am confident that the Commission will preserve the integrity of this north county AAPI community-of-interest.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Charles W. Kim  
Public Input Hearing: May 14, 2011 in San Diego, CA*

Percent of Population that is Asian American, North San Diego County, 2010<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL 94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

TESTIMONY OF PATRICIA GUEVARRA  
At Public Hearing Held By  
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
For The State of California  
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

My name is Patricia Guevarra. I have lived in Rancho Penasquitos for 12 years. I am a Program Associate for a national non-profit organization. I also volunteer my time on behalf of several local Asian Pacific Islander (API) community organizations.

There is a community of interest located in North County including Rancho Penasquitos, Mira Mesa, Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Valley, Poway, and the new development near Camino del Sur. These communities have a significant population of APIs centered on family, culture, education, and upward mobility.

Rancho Penasquitos is a quiet, well-established suburban community that was developed in the 1960s and 1970s. It attracts young API families with kids to live because the local schools are part of the Poway Unified School District, one of the highest scoring districts in San Diego County. Young API families are also migrating to areas such as Carmel Valley with its new town center and family oriented activities. Cultural values of API families are so strong that no matter what part of San Diego one may move to APIs always return to the communities where they were raised.

Young adults from all over North County go to Mira Mesa's recent development of Marketplace where there's a theater, several commercialized businesses, and late night coffee shops. It has become a central location for social gatherings for North County residents.

Most young APIs of my generation are college educated and working in our community. We are interested in improving our own socio-economic status but are also interested in improving the way of life for all APIs. We recognize that our voices can be heard if we stay together and speak out about fairness and equality for all. We vote and believe that we can make a difference in the future if we can elect representatives who are responsive to our communities' needs.

I ask the Commission to draw a district that keeps Rancho Penasquitos, Mira Mesa, Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Valley, and Poway together. By combining our APIA neighborhoods, we will have a stronger voice to have fair representation over the next ten years.

TESTIMONY OF KIM-THOA HOANG  
At Public Hearing Held By  
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
For The State of California  
DATE: MAY 14, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO

My name is Kim-Thoa Hoang. I have resided for thirty years in San Diego County. I have been a long time advocate in the Asian Pacific Islander community, active in community outreach and student educational programs, through professional affiliations as well as personal volunteer commitment. As a staunch advocate for voter participation and community building, I have been active on the San Diego County Registrar of Voter's Language Assistance Advisory Board and frequently serve as mistress of ceremonies for festivals and community events in the Vietnamese community in San Diego.

I speak today about two areas in San Diego. The first area is Linda Vista, which is west of the 163 highway and a bit north of the 8 highway. This is an older, lower-income community with a sizable population of Southeast Asians, including Vietnamese and Hmong. The attached map shows the Vietnamese population in Linda Vista.

The residents of Linda Vista have several common interests. It is an older, established residential area of lower-income residents. Former military housing has been converted into low income apartments for residents. There is accessible public transportation. Public schools are within walking distance from many of the surrounding apartments and homes. There is a Vietnamese shopping center featuring Vietnamese-owned businesses and retail stores including a large Vietnamese supermarket.

Although Linda Vista is not geographically adjacent to other areas with concentrated AAPI populations and probably cannot be connected to those areas in a district, I ask that the Commission keep Linda Vista intact and not divided.

The second area is an area consisting of parts of City Heights, El Cerrito, Redwood Village (formerly Darnall) and Oak Park. This area is east of the Freeway 15 along El Cajon Boulevard to the north and areas to the north east of Freeway 805 where it intersects Freeway 94.

Some community members have engaged in attempts to have the area along El Cajon Boulevard between Highland Avenue and Euclid Avenue designated as Little Saigon.

This area is racially diverse and is home to a large population of new immigrants, including Southeast Asians. The attached map shows the Vietnamese population in City Heights, El Cerrito, Redwood Village/Darnall and Oak Park.

The residents in this area have access to numerous Vietnamese owned businesses. They primarily speak Vietnamese as their first language and understand very little English. They shop at Vietnamese grocery and retail stores, patronize health, dental, and other professional businesses, and attend churches and temples in the area where Vietnamese is spoken.

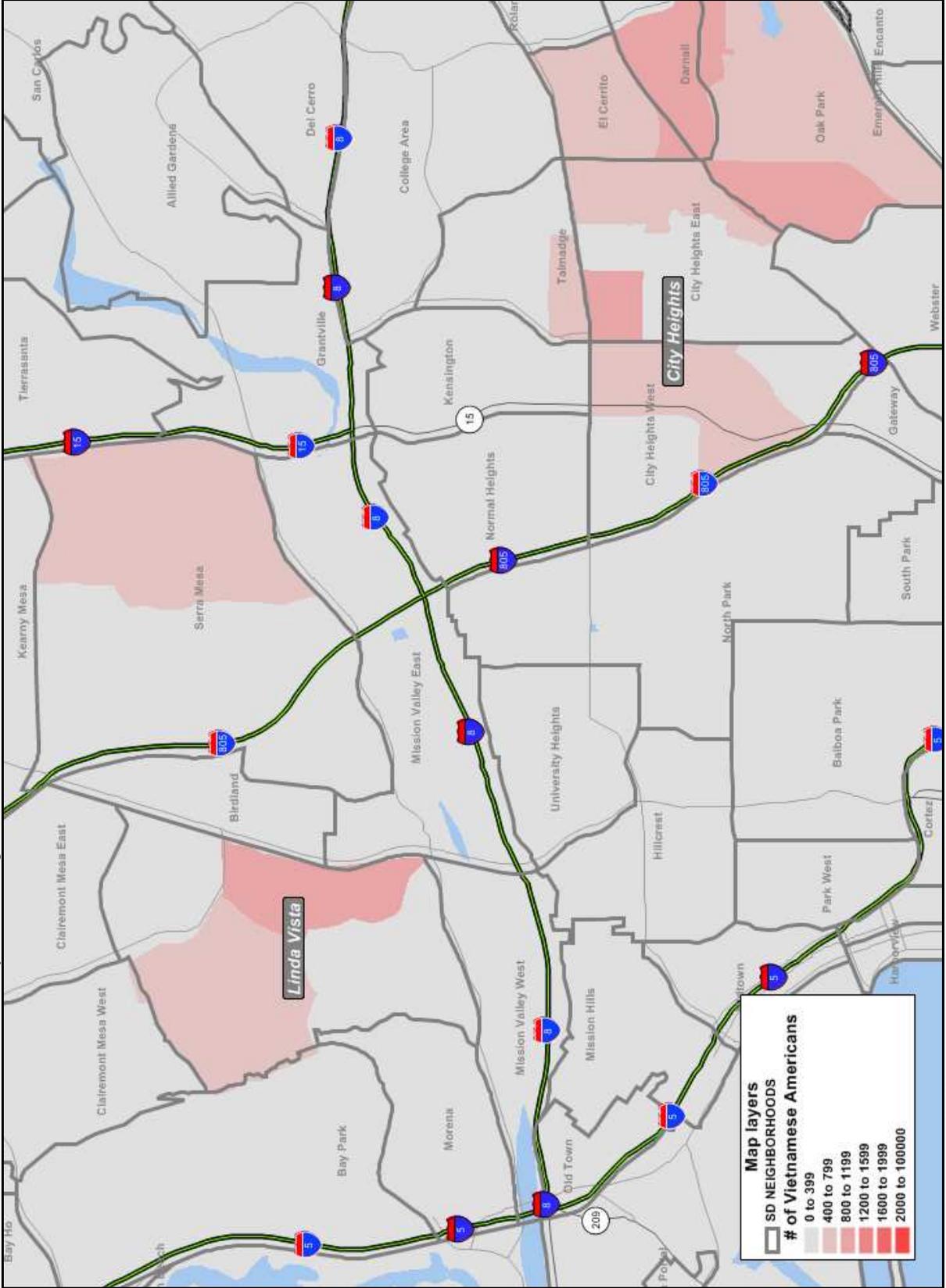
TESTIMONY OF KIM-THOA HOANG  
At Public Hearing Held By  
COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
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I respect the interests that Latinos in City Heights have in being drawn into a Voting Rights Act district.

At the same time, I ask the Commission to draw a second district to the east that preserves as much of the Vietnamese American community in City Heights East, El Cerrito, Redwood Village/Darnall and Oak Park. This would include, but not limited to, east of Freeway 15 and north of Freeway 94, parts of El Cajon Boulevard, University Avenue, Orange Avenue. The interests of the Vietnamese American community would be served best by keeping their community together and joining other Asian Pacific Islanders in an adjoining district other than a Voting Rights Act Latino district.

*Map Submitted in Support of the Testimony of Kim-Thoa Hoang  
Public Input Hearing: May 14, 2011 in San Diego, CA*

Number of Vietnamese Americans, City of San Diego, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Race categories include single race individuals only.

Daniel Kikuo Ichinose, Demographic Research Project  
 Asian Pacific American Legal Center

*Testimony Presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
 Public Input Hearing: May 14, 2011 in San Diego, CA*

My name is Dan Ichinose and I direct the Demographic Research Project and Census Information Center at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. I am here to present data supporting the testimony of stakeholders you've heard from this afternoon about two communities of interest in San Diego County.

Over one-third of Asian Americans and one-fifth of Pacific Islanders who live in San Diego County live in either the northern part of the city of San Diego around the neighborhood of Mira Mesa or in the southern part of the county near National City and Chula Vista. Table San Diego 1 shows the size and concentration of Asian American and Pacific Islander population in 11 cities and neighborhoods in these two areas.

*Table San Diego 1: Asian American, Pacific Islander Population  
 in San Diego County Cities / Neighborhoods, 2010<sup>1</sup>*

Region	City / Neighborhood	2010 Population			
		Asian American		Pacific Islander	
		#	%	#	%
North	San Diego / Carmel Valley	12,468	28%	162	0%
	San Diego / Kearny Mesa	674	26%	60	2%
	San Diego / Mira Mesa	35,624	51%	994	1%
	San Diego / Rancho Bernardo	7,830	19%	261	1%
	San Diego / Rancho Penasquitos	18,691	33%	439	1%
	San Diego / Sorrento Valley	1,001	34%	9	0%
South	Bonita	1,510	12%	140	1%
	Chula Vista	41,840	17%	2,746	1%
	National City	11,771	20%	777	1%
	San Diego / Bay Terrace	16,029	51%	586	2%
	San Diego / Paradise Hills	4,289	26%	433	3%
<b>SAN DIEGO COUNTY</b>		<b>407,984</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>30,626</b>	<b>1%</b>

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census PL94-171. Race categories include both single race and multiracial individuals.

In the northern part of the city of San Diego, one community of interest includes the neighborhoods of Carmel Valley, Sorrento Valley, Mira Mesa, Kearny Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, and Rancho Bernardo. In the southern part of San Diego County, another community of interest includes National City, Paradise Hills, Bay Terrace, Bonita, and Chula Vista.

In each of these two areas, cities and neighborhoods have much in common. Table San Diego 2 shows the per capita income, percent of population that is foreign-born, and percent of population that is limited-English proficient in each city or neighborhood.

*Table San Diego 2: Social and Economic Characteristics of San Diego County Cities / Neighborhoods, 2005-2009<sup>1</sup>*

Region	City / Neighborhood	Per Capita Income <sup>2</sup>	% Foreign Born <sup>3</sup>	% Limited-English Proficient <sup>4</sup>
North	San Diego / Carmel Valley	\$54,499	27%	11%
	San Diego / Kearny Mesa	\$30,090	26%	14%
	San Diego / Mira Mesa	\$29,640	39%	21%
	San Diego / Rancho Bernardo	\$44,100	27%	7%
	San Diego / Rancho Penasquitos	\$29,020	26%	13%
	San Diego / Sorrento Valley	\$41,395	39%	18%
	<i>Fairbanks Ranch</i>	<i>\$62,542</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>8%</i>
	<i>Rancho Santa Fe</i>	<i>\$107,263</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>2%</i>
	South	Bonita	\$38,665	26%
Chula Vista		\$24,697	31%	21%
National City		\$15,840	42%	37%
San Diego / Bay Terrace		\$21,197	45%	27%
San Diego / Paradise Hills		\$20,093	32%	22%
<b>SAN DIEGO COUNTY</b>		<b>\$30,705</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>16%</b>

1 United States Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.

2 Per Capita Income is the aggregate income of all residents in the city divided by the total population in the city.

3 Percent of individuals born outside of the United States, not including individuals born in Puerto Rico, U.S. island areas or born abroad to American parent(s).

4 Percent of individuals 5 years-of-age or older who speak English less than 'very well'.

In the northern part of the city of San Diego, neighborhoods share similar income levels and their residents are disproportionately immigrant and limited-English proficient. In contrast, the unincorporated areas of Fairbanks Ranch and Rancho Santa Fe to the north are much higher income and far less immigrant.

In the southern part of San Diego County around National City and Chula Vista, these five areas also share similar income levels and a common immigrant character. With high rates of limited-English proficiency, they share similar barriers to language access.

In summary, CAPAFR – San Diego asks the Commission to (1) respect the integrity of the community of interest outlined in the northern part of the city of San Diego, including the neighborhoods of Carmel Valley, Sorrento Valley, Mira Mesa, Kearny Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, and Rancho Bernardo, (2) recognize the divergent interests between this area and areas north of it, including Fairbanks Ranch and Rancho Santa Fe, and (3) because drawing the county's Latino Voting Rights Act seats will likely require the division of National City and Chula Vista, please respect the integrity of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and community institutions in eastern National City, Paradise Hills, Bay Terrace, Bonita, and eastern Chula Vista by drawing these communities together in an adjacent district.

Thank you.