

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Harris <maryharris@charter.net>

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 5:45 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]DISTRICT 4 REDRAWING

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

I do not support the redrawing of SLO county District 4. We are fine as we currently exist considering census numbers, common interest and contiguity. Leave us as we are!

Mary L. Harris, 

Sent from my iPad

-----Original Message-----

From: gngreco@sbcglobal.net <gngreco@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 4:23 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]SLO County Redistricting

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Please see through the proposals to redistricting SLO County. Citizens should easily understand the boundaries of Districts. The proposals to change the map does not benefit them, and shows poor government. The map is currently compact and understandable. Tom Giangreco, Nipomo

From: Geo Magallon <geopegmag@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 4:21 PM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

After reviewing the proposed district boundaries, it is quite apparent that this is a blatant attempt at gerrymandering and yet another attempt to dilute the popular vote. Those who are behind these efforts have no interest in representing the constituents, only themselves. It is totally shameless, and any perceived gains will be short-lived.

Dr. & Mrs. George Magallon
Nipomo, California

From: Risa Kaiser <risakbass@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 2:38 PM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]Do not change boundaries of SLO County District 4

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors District 4 is a seamless south county area of rural life. The community of Hispanic farm workers is contiguous between Nipomo, Oceano, and Arroyo Grande. I worked in migrant Head Start for many years, and saw the same kinds of loving families in Nipomo, Oceano, and Arroyo Grande; they deserve to be represented by a united District 4.

The farms extend throughout the area without regard to town boundaries. We really are all one community with the unique commonality of sharing the southern border of San Luis Obispo County. Any attempt to change our boundaries, especially in light of the minimal change in population, will be seen by constituents as blatant gerrymandering in order to preserve a seat on the board. This is unacceptable. The State of California will not accept partisan gerrymandering. Keep our District 4 intact the way it is. Make no changes. Thank you!

Mary E "Risa" Kaiser, [REDACTED],
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

-----Original Message-----

From: John Texeira <tex@tcsn.net>

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 12:19 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Redistricting Comments

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

To Redistricting Committee,

Presently Cal Poly is in District 5, North County. It makes no sense to have Cal Poly thrown in with North County which is North of Cuesta Grade. Please consider placing Cal Poly with the rest of the City of San Luis Obispo where it belongs.

Sincerely,

John Texeira

Paso Robles

From: Linda Busek <l_busek@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 9:07 AM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]Do not redraw the SLO County District Lines

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

To SLO County Supervisors,

The current five divisions of the county are within the state's guidelines for margin of error and do not need to be redrawn.

Do not gerrymander the districts to suit your political agenda.

LEAVE THE DISTRICTS AS IS!

best,
Linda Busek
Arroyo Grande
District 4

From: Web Notifications <webnotifications@co.slo.ca.us>
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 5:25 PM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: Public Comment - ID 15

RedistrictingID 15
Form inserted 10/19/2021 5:24:48 PM
Form updated 10/19/2021 5:24:48 PM
First Name Marlys
Last Name McPherson
Email jeanminn1943@gmail.com
Phone [REDACTED]
Name of Organization Represented private citizen
City Morro Bay
Zip 93442

Comment Please keep the communities of interest together. On the North Coast where I live, this means keeping Supervisor Gibson's boundaries as they are and continue to include all of the coastal cities from Los Osos to Cambria together. As a former Morro Bay City Council Member, I know how often we have collaborated on issues of mutual interest.

Public Records Notice True
Security code 458043

From: Linda Reynolds <lreynolds151@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 4:19 PM
To: Jack Moyer <jack@jmoyer.net>
Cc: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]Re: Retention of Existing District 4

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Thank you!

On Tue, Oct 19, 2021 at 3:28 PM <jack@jmoyer.net> wrote:

Current census data, traditional redistricting principles, and recently enacted statutory criteria governing decisions about the rebalancing or redrawing of California supervisorial districts do not support a need for any significant changes to the 4th District's current boundaries. The politicization of the redistricting process, led by the "troika" of Compton, Arnold and Peschong seeks to remove this process from a non-partisan effort to one fully engulfed in political partisanship. The data, assembled by Citizens for Preserving District 4, is solid in definitively stating there is no basis for consideration of redistricting other than to enhance Ms. Compton's possibilities of being re-elected to her district. Her margin of victory in 2018 was so close, combined with the swinging demographics of the present District 4 presents her with a re-election conundrum she seeks to resolve by hijacking the redistricting process.

Redistricting should be beholden to no political power; it is best left to a non-partisan committee made up of individuals with but one objective and that is fair and legitimate representation. There is no other criteria; don't let Compton and her partners eliminate fair government. Retain the current District 4.

Regards,

Jack Moyer



jack@jmoyer.net

From: Margie Gayley <msgayley@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 3:08 PM

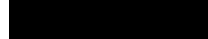
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]STRONG OPPOSITION

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

The Board of Supervisors should NOT be able to change the redistricting of District 4! This should be turned over to an independent commission to make any changes needed. This is entirely a conflict of interest and I can not believe this is even being considered! Please do the right thing and allow an independent commission to review and recommend any needed changes — IF be!

Marjorie Gayley



Arroyo Grande

Always believe there is hope ...

From: frank bayliss <f.bayliss1920@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 3:07 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Redistricting

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Put me down as opposed to the co. supps changing district 4.

Thank you.

Frank Bayliss



Arroyo Grande Ca. 93420

From: Mary Emrich <maryemrich1000@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 2:47 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Redistricting issue

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

We agree with the Position Paper from Citizens for Preserving District #4 and the importance of keeping District 4 as it is currently. Current census data, traditional redistricting principles, and recently enacted statutory criteria governing decisions about the rebalancing or redrawing of California supervisorial districts do not support a need for any significant changes to the 4th District's current boundaries.

Philip Emrich

Mary Emrich

Nipomo, Ca

From: Marcia Traversaro <marcia.hereforyou@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 2:11 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Cc: De Hampton <dcamham@aol.com>; Nancy Kraus <nancygkraus@gmail.com>;
lreynolds151@gmail.com

Subject: [EXT]redistricting

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

With regard to the SLO County Board Of Supervisors' idea to make decisions for the county's redistricting, rather than appoint an independent commission, we believe this attempt would be divisive and unfair for the communities of interest.

Regards,

John and Marcia Traversaro

-----Original Message-----

From: Deb Sherry <debsherry2016@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 2:00 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Redistricting Proposals

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

It is my belief that Redistricting should be handled by an independent, nonpartisan commission based on established principles and verifiable changes in population per census data. No elected official should be involved in this process.

Thank you for the opportunity for public comment on this issue.

Deb Sherry



Nipomo, CA 93444

Sent from my iPad

From: Lia Anisgard <lanisgard@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 1:13 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Comments Against Redrawing District 4 Boundaries

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

To Board of Supervisors:

The plain and irrefutable truth is that San Luis Obispo County has significant and recognizable communities of interest with strong ties to, and deep investment in, specific supervisorial districts – and this is especially true in the 4th District. The significance of these COIs should not be trivialized or messed with lightly, especially for the sake of redrawing or transforming district boundaries not warranted by applicable census data and statutory criteria. Preserving the integrity of existing cities and census designated places supports the conclusion that changes to the existing boundaries of the 4th District are not warranted. Let's avoid and reject what is suspect. Let's be transparent, let's be fact-based and fact-driven, let's be non-partisan, let's protect and preserve the 4th District's diversity and communities of interest, and let's be supportive of good government.

Lia Anisgard
Arroyo Grande, CA

From: Virginia Roof <vlr2@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]District #4

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Greeting to the staff working on redistricting for SLO County.

My name is Virginia Roof and I have been a resident of District 4 for 20 years, first in Oceano and currently in Arroyo Grande. I strongly urge staff to keep District 4 boundaries where they are now. Our population hasn't undergone enough change to warrant drastically redrawing our boundaries. We are a cohesive District with strong ties to our community and group identity.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Virginia Roof
District 4 resident

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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From: carolynbayliss0@gmail.com <carolynbayliss0@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 10:40 AM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]County Redistricting

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a resident of San Luis Obispo County. My address is [REDACTED]. Arroyo Grande, CA.

I strongly oppose the SLO County Board of Supervisors attempt to make the county redistricting decisions. It undermines our democracy which is fundamental to our Country and our freedoms. I support the appointment of an independent commission to make these critical decisions. An independent commission would be more representative and help preserve our democracy and voting rights.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Bayliss

-----Original Message-----

From: Bob Nelson <rnelson1109@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 6:52 PM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]No 4th district boundary changes

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

The existing boundaries of the 4th district should be left essentially intact and not be modified for politically expedient or political party purposes.

Any decision to modify district boundaries must adhere to the statutory criteria currently defined and in place.

OUR POSITION

Current census data, traditional redistricting principles, and recently enacted statutory criteria governing decisions about the rebalancing or redrawing of California supervisorial districts do not support a need for any significant changes to the 4th District's current boundaries.

Diane MacWilliams

Bob Nelson



Nipomo, CA 93444

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen Morgan <k.morgan@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 6:29 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Redistricting in California


ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

We agree with the position statement of the coalition of citizens concerned with preserving the Fourth District of San Luis Obispo County as currently drawn. We do not agree the Board of Supervisors should, themselves, make decisions in regard to districting. That is NOT in accordance with California state guidelines for redistricting.

Current data, gleaned from the 2020 Census, continues to be within guidelines. Significantly altering or redrawing the Fourth District will be divisive and will dilute communities of interest.

Karen S. Morgan
Robert C. Wagoner
San Luis Obispo, CA

From: Web Notifications <webnotifications@co.slo.ca.us>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:14 PM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: Public Comment - ID 14

RedistrictingID 14
Form inserted 10/18/2021 5:13:19 PM
Form updated 10/18/2021 5:13:19 PM
First Name Nancy
Last Name Clark
Email nancy.l.clark@gmail.com
Phone 
Name of Organization Represented
City PISMO BEACH
Zip 93449

Comment The Supervisors should be very careful NOT to redraw district lines to suit their political ambitions. The SLO neighborhood should be one contiguous district #3, and the part that is stuck into district 5 should be removed. And the rural part of District 4 should be incorporated into District 5. The rural and coastal parts of the county have NOTHING IN COMMON, so you need to separate them.

Public Records Notice True
Security code 557445

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave Warren <dpwarren@warrenarb.com>

Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:24 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Redistricting

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

I am a resident of Trilogy in Nipomo. I understand that there some discussion about removing Oceano from District 4. That should not definitely not occur. There is a community of interest that Oceano and Nipomo (and all of south county) share. This includes ATV access and resultant air quality affectation that endangers residents. Our entire community, which is ever-growing, is affected greatly by the dunes, access and ATV riding. There is a serious and extensive battle surrounding air quality as we live in a beautiful place that often has some of the worst air in the County—we get daily updates on dust blowing on the dunes. To remove Oceano from District 4 given the many issues in common with the other cities that are a part of this district would serve no positive purpose and is simply political gamesmanship. I strongly oppose redistricting attempts aimed at the District 4 supervisor's to secure reelection by eliminating voters in Oceano from the district because they did not support her in the last election. Appropriate districting is supposed to be about serving the residents with such a commonality of interest and not one more gerrymandering effort intended to allow a politician to keep a grip on power at the expense of the people who are supposed to be served.

Sincerely,

David P. Warren



Nipomo, CA

From: Charles Armiger <csarmiger@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 3:07 PM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]District 4

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

We believe and acknowledge that, under the new 2020 census data, the 4th District statistically continues to be well within acceptable "deviation" guidelines. Any attempt to significantly alter or redraw the district would be unnecessarily divisive and would be a dilution to our existing communities of interest.

We support the following position statement:

"Current census data, traditional redistricting principles, and recently enacted statutory criteria governing decisions about the re-balancing or redrawing of California supervisorial districts do not support a need for any significant changes to the 4th District's current boundaries."

Sincerely,

Charles and Stephanie Armiger


Nipomo, CA 93444

From: Tracy Koon <tracy.koon@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 11:22 AM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]District #4 redistricting

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

To the SLO County Board of Supervisors:
California has an independent commission of citizens that makes redistricting decisions at the state level and for national congressional seats. In SLO county, the Board of Supervisors decided that *it* would make decisions for redistricting in the county, instead of appointing an independent commission to address the issue.

As a resident of District #4, I am troubled by this decision and support fair and just representation. I agree with the issues raised by the Citizens for Preserving District #4 and their conclusion that the existing boundaries of the 4th District should be maintained as they serve the residents. Other efforts to alter/redraw the district would be unnecessary and divisive.

Tracy Koon



Nipomo, CA 93444

From: Jeanne Marlow <JMarlow@hflp.com>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>
Subject: [EXT]Redistricting district 4

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Please do not significantly change the district 4 boundaries. I realize creating new boundaries could benefit individual supervisors re-election campaigns but appears to me to be violation of state law. It also shows complete disregard for democratic practice, which although I must acknowledge seems in the vogue in extreme right wing political camps, is pretty scuzzy.

Jeanne Marlow
District 4 Voter
[REDACTED]
Nipomo, CA. 93444

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-----Original Message-----

From: Janine Peck <orendain@comcast.net>

Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 10:03 AM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Redistricting 

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

What can we do to keep this from happening?

This is inappropriate and has to be for self serving purposes or it would not have deviated from the established protocol.

Please let's stop this.

Thank You

Janine Peck

Resident of SLO County

Sent from my iPhone

From: Valerie Benveniste <valbenveniste@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2021 4:25 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]We support the position paper of Citizens for Preserving District 4

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

To whom it concerns,

My husband and I support the position of Citizens for Preserving District 4.

Norman Miller and Valerie Benveniste

[REDACTED]
Nipomo, CA 93444

The following 7 pages are the file attached to this email

**TO: County of San Luis Obispo
Board of Supervisors**

FROM: Citizens for Preserving District #4

RE: Redistricting and SLO County Supervisorial District #4 (“4th District”)

These comments on the potential redistricting of the County’s Supervisorial District #4 (4th District) are offered on behalf of Citizens for Preserving District #4. We are an association of citizens residing in the 4th District who are concerned about the prospect of having historical, established, identifiable, and integrated communities of interest unnecessarily altered, divided, or diluted for purely political purposes. We wish to articulate the reasons, facts, and data that support the conclusion that applying new census data to governing legal requirements should not warrant a significant alteration of 4th District boundaries. We will also seek the endorsement and support of community-based organizations and other individuals who share our concern and our message.

OUR SHARED POSITION

Current census data, traditional redistricting principles, and recently enacted statutory criteria governing decisions about the rebalancing or redrawing of California supervisorial districts do not support a need for any significant changes to the 4th District’s current boundaries.

OVERVIEW OF 4th DISTRICT

The 4th District is a contiguous and large geographical area of rich diversity in terms of economy, ethnicity, and environment. It has existed in this form for many decades, and during that time has evolved into a set of more complex, diverse, and economically integrated communities of interest. The population size has not changed appreciably since 2010, and less than districts to the north. In essence, the 4th District meets every criterion for a functional and fair collection of communities of interest, supporting continuation rather than radical change to existing district boundaries.

Other than the incorporated City/Village of Arroyo Grande, the entire 4th District, as currently constituted, is unincorporated and governed by the County Board of Supervisors (BOS). The Oceano and Nipomo Community Services Districts, with elected boards of directors, oversee water, sewer, and fire services within their service area. Three advisory councils – two in Oceano and one in Nipomo provide a vehicle for communicating to the Board of Supervisors on local land use planning and other issues of concern within the advisory councils’ boundaries.

The 4th District is urban, rural, and coastal with the city of Arroyo Grande (entirely within the 4th District) constituting approximately one-third (18,000) of the district’s total population (about 57,000). The community of Oceano with approximately 7,000

residents and Nipomo with approximately 18,000, are mostly concentrated in the western section of the 4th District.

Being largely rural and semi-rural, there is a diverse and complex array of agricultural and livestock production, ranging from a truck farmer of a few acres to large-scale agribusiness involving hundreds if not thousands of acres. Crops range from field grown vegetables, grapes, citrus and avocados to small-and-large scale greenhouse operations featuring berries, flowers, interior scape plants, cannabis, and other crops. Animal husbandry is also extensive in the 4th District. These, in turn, provide the “feedstock” for wineries, grocery stores, restaurants, agricultural/nursery supply stores and manufacturers, product packaging and shipping, tourism, and many other generators of the 4th District economy—with major ripple impact across the county. Ultimately, this results in thousands of jobs for 4th District residents. For example, in the unincorporated community of Oceano, 29% of residents are employed in either building service and maintenance, food service, or agriculture.

Across the entire 4th District 29% of the population are Latino, second only to the 1st District’s 31% Latino population. The Oceano community is 50% Latino, and the unincorporated area of Nipomo is 45% Latino. These two concentrations of Latino residents constitute a very significant community of interest within the 4th District which should remain intact so as not to dilute meaningful opportunities for political representation.

The entire 4th District overlays the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin. This basin provides the great majority of urban, rural, and agriculture water consumed in the district, augmented by supplies from Lopez Dam and from imported State Water Project supplies, when available. After more than a decade of litigation, the entire basin (including the part in Santa Barbara County) was adjudicated and put under the control of a court-appointed Water Master. The appropriate and efficient management of groundwater resources is facilitated by this arrangement, and will be even more important as we cope with climate change induced droughts and paradoxical heavy rainfall and flooding that impact 4th District communities and farms alike. Keeping this community of water interest intact is essential for effective groundwater management.

Lopez Lake (dam and reservoir) also provides water to the communities of Arroyo Grande and Oceano, as well as releases of water for downstream groundwater recharge used by agricultural and municipal consumers.

DISCUSSION

California Elections Code Section 21500 presents five (5) criteria – in order of priority -- to be applied in decisions about supervisorial redistricting. These criteria must be applied regardless of whether the ultimate decision about redistricting is made by a sitting board of supervisors or by an independent commission of citizens.

Application of Section 21500 Criteria:

1. To the extent practicable, supervisorial districts shall be geographically contiguous. Section 21500(c)(1).

Although the existing geographic boundary of the 4th District is larger than it was in 2011 (as a result of enlargement into lightly populated areas in the southeastern portion of the County), it’s still contiguous. There are no disconnected areas, and there are no areas meeting only at points of adjoining corners. There are no “hops or jumps,” a phrase used by the county’s redistricting consultant, Redistricting Partners. More importantly, the existing district has both “literal contiguity” (i.e., it’s one whole piece) and “functional contiguity” (an area representing how the population functions or how people are connected); again, helpful phrases supplied by the consultant.

4th District boundaries flow from west to east and south, including one incorporated city (Arroyo Grande) in the north/northwest and mainly semi-rural and rural areas in and surrounding the unincorporated communities of Oceano and Nipomo. The Guadalupe-Nipomo-Oceano Dunes Complex spans the western boundary of the district, including the entire Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA). The whole of the southern boundary of the district is coterminous with the boundary separating San Luis Obispo County and Santa Barbara County, lending to the strong orientation that many 4th District residents have to stores and services in Santa Maria.

Existing contiguity supports redistricting that does not materially change boundaries for the district.

2. To the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division. Section 21500(c)(2).

Existing communities of interest (COIs) in the 4th District have a long history of shared cultural values and common characteristics, promoting and preserving community familiarity and connectivity.

The 4th District’s multiple interconnected COIs share a strong relationship to existing and potential agency (aka county) policies relating to issues impacting the district in unique ways: air quality, groundwater basin, water sourcing, South County land planning and land development; economic development, housing and education; health access; tribal justice; environmental justice; Coastal Act enforcement; Oceano redevelopment and rejuvenation; issues relating to the repurposing of the Phillips 66 property; employment opportunity; agriculture sustainability; and issues that impact a significant portion of the county’s Latino population.

The plain and irrefutable truth is that San Luis Obispo County has significant and recognizable communities of interest with strong ties to, and deep investment in, specific supervisorial districts – and this is especially true in the 4th District. The

significance of these COIs should not be trivialized or messed with lightly, especially for the sake of redrawing or transforming district boundaries not warranted by applicable census data and statutory criteria.

If one is looking for one microcosm COI example for the 4th District, one need not look any further than the overarching, particularized, and localized community of interest relating to the future of the ODSVRA and the impacts of its future on 4th District residents.

Based upon the decisions made and confirmed in Coastal Commission meetings in March and August 2021, vehicular/OHV riding within the ODSVRA is scheduled to be eliminated by 2024. The impact of this transition is expected to be significant within the contiguous 4th District, and requires a comprehensive, inclusive, and transparent planning process within the district's localized COIs. Within the 4th District's existing configuration, these communities are presently working hard toward a successful and vibrant economic transition, are focused on resolving air quality and associated public health issues, and are committed to plans that integrate sustainable recreation opportunities, preservation and stewardship of precious coastal resources that incorporate smart, creative land use and development options.

3. To the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of a city or census designated places shall be respected in a manner that minimizes division. Section 21500(c)(3).

As previously stated, the 4th District includes the incorporated city of Arroyo Grande, as well as the entirety of the unincorporated areas of Oceano and Nipomo, both of which are separate "census designated places." It also includes the unincorporated communities of Callender, Halcyon, Los Berros, and Huasna. This is critically important, because for each of these communities, statistics are kept that are critical to a supervisor's understanding of how constituent needs can be identified and addressed. It would make no sense to divide population in any of these established COIs between different supervisorial districts.

Also previously referenced, the 4th District includes the entirety of the land and population covered by the Oceano Community Services District (OCSD) and the Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD), with each having a governing board and an official, definable, and mapped land area. Residents look to these service districts to address, plan for, coordinate, and provide essential public services related to water, storm water control, sewer, solid waste and recycling, street lighting, fire services, and in some cases parks and recreation.

The 4th District includes a significant portion of the area and population found within the Lucia Mar Unified School District (LMUSD). In addition to its nurturing and education of children, the LMUSD provides cultural experiences for the district's residents through the Clark Center, and hosts the Oceano Family Resource Center. This center represents a significant COI with interacting components that span community,

education, business, athletic, and social activities. Further, the incorporated city of Arroyo Grande provides central health services and access for 4th District residents.

In sum, preserving the integrity of existing cities and census designated places supports the conclusion that changes to the existing boundaries of the 4th District are not warranted.

4. District boundaries should be easily identifiable and understandable by residents. To the extent possible, supervisorial districts shall be bounded by natural and artificial barriers, by streets, or by boundaries of the county. Section 21500(c)(4).

As currently drawn, the 4th District is the only supervisorial district bounded by county boundaries on three sides. For ten (10) years, 4th District residents living at or near the northern boundary have come to know which district they live in and which supervisor they should be contacting regarding issues about things taking place within the district. Overall, the district 's boundaries are identifiable and perhaps the most understandable of all. There is no reason to make district boundaries less easily identifiable or less understandable unless census data mandates a change – which is not the case for this district.

5. To the extent practicable, and where it does not conflict with the preceding criteria, supervisorial districts shall be drawn to encourage geographical compactness in a manner that nearby areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations. Section 21500(c)(5).

Compactness is measured in different ways. As described by the county's redistricting consultant, there's the ratio of circumference of a district to the area of a district. There's the measuring of district straight lines and the number of kinks and bends, and there are outlier situations where shapes are plainly tortured and contorted. That's not the case with existing 4th District boundaries.

Redistricting Partners presents it this way: "California has a rather elegant/simple definition [for compactness]: "Not bypassing nearby populated areas in favor of more distant populated areas." Using this standard, the current 4th District boundaries meet the compactness test with flying colors.

6. The board shall not adopt supervisorial district boundaries for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against a political party. Section 21500(d).

Core principles of the California Fair Maps Act are such that, regardless of who is making the final decisions about redistricting, the process should be open and transparent; numerous and meaningful opportunities are to be made available for public participation (all races, ethnic and linguistic groups); information about the process must be available and accessible; and the process shall not be manipulated in a way that focuses on or favors incumbents or particular candidates, nor draws districts to the advantage or disadvantage of a political party.

7. 2020 Census data does not require or support a need for a significant redrawing of 4th District boundaries.

Population equality is based on the total population of residents in the County as determined by the most recent decennial census. Each supervisorial district shall be reasonably and relatively equal in total resident population to the other districts, except where deviation is required to comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 or allowable by law. The equality metric applied in local elections is a total deviation, from all districts, of not more than 10%.

As has been stated by Redistricting Partners: “Equality is Required” but “Strict adherence to a numerical goal for equality beyond what is required is not necessarily better.”

In 2010 San Luis Obispo County had a population of 264,208. That figure divided equally among five districts yielded 52,841 per district. The population included in the 4th District was 54,842.

According to information provided by the County’ Administrative Office (Redistricting), the 2020 population (for purposes of determining deviation) is 279,207. That figure divided equally among five (5) supervisorial districts yields a figure of 55,841 per district. The reported population for the 4th District is 57,646, with a reported 3.20% deviation.

Based on 2020 census data, the largest deviation difference between districts (i.e., 9.3%) appears to be between District #1 and District #2. According to a SLO Tribune article dated August 16, 2021, the largest percentage of an otherwise small increase in county population (i.e., a 12,700 overall increase or an average of 2,540 per district if spread equally) is in the North County area.

When new census data does not suggest or support the need for significant changes to district boundaries, it would seem self-evident that boundaries should be maintained to the maximum extent possible to protect the integrity of existing population diversity and communities of interest.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

Objective application of (a) new census-reporting data and metrics and (b) governing redistricting criteria and other recognized legal restraints offer no indication of a need to make any significant changes to the 4th District’s current boundaries.

Let’s avoid and reject what is suspect. Let’s be transparent, let’s be fact-based and fact-driven, let’s be non-partisan, let’s protect and preserve the 4th District’s diversity and communities of interest, and let’s be supportive of good government.

Links are referenced here that support the redistricting process:

PDF guiding people in effective map drawing / COI identification:

<https://districtr.org/assets/the-rules-for-districtr.pdf>

Public Comment Tool (also includes COI Definitions):

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Administrative-Office/Countywide-Projects-Programs/Redistricting/Submit-Community-of-Interest-Public-Comments-and-M.aspx>

Upload a Map File (supported files listed)

<https://districtr.org/import-export>

BOS Schedule / Agendas:

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Administrative-Office/Countywide-Projects-Programs/Redistricting/Redistricting-Board-Hearings-and-Public-Workshops.aspx>

COI Mapping / Submission tool (this tool is distinct from drawing supervisorial district lines):

https://districtr.org/tag/slo_county

(Select SLO County) --> Supervisorial District Mapping / Submission Tool:

<https://districtr.org/california>

(Preliminary Census Data + population shifts)

<https://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/local/article253453859.html>

(Previous District Maps + Variance: 1990, 2000, 2010)

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Administrative-Office/Forms-Documents/Maps.aspx>

Precinct Maps (no population data):

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Clerk-Recorder/All-Services/Elections-and-Voting/Precinct-Maps.aspx>

Other mapped data points (including water basins and abatement districts):

<https://opendata.slocounty.ca.gov/>

(Various census data points and latest updates--most ca. 2019)

Population (matches Tribune numbers):

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=oceano&tid=DECENNIALPL2020.P1>

Languages spoken:

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=oceano&tid=ACSST5Y2019.S1601>

From: judith stern <judyinlongbeach@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2021 1:02 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Decline the new redistricting

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Please do not allow the BOS to determine what the redistricting of 4th District will be like. This is something I am very much against. And I ask myself, "What's going on here?" It doesn't sound or look good.

Please leave things the way they are, it appears to be working just fine for us folks!!!!

Judith Stern
Resident since 2007

From: Laurance Shindeman <donlorenzo42@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2021 12:03 PM

To: Redistricting <Redistricting@co.slo.ca.us>

Subject: [EXT]Keep the district as it is

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

This is a brazen attempt by Lynn compton to cleave out those voters who have found her representation lacking.

In a democracy the voters chose their representatives. Lynn would have it the other way around with Lynn choosing her voters.

This is the antithesis of democracy...

“Those who can make you believe absurdities, can make you commit atrocities.”...Voltaire