



League of United Latin American Citizens

California District 17

November 5, 2021

Supervisor Bob Huber
Supervisor Matt LaVere
Supervisor Kelly Long
Supervisor Linda Parks
Supervisor Carmen Ramirez

RE: LULAC Map

Dear Members of the Board:

Greetings from California LULAC Ventura County District 17. As an affiliate of our national organization, we are dedicated to the equitable treatment of all citizens and residents of the community, particularly people of Latino descent.

Our Mission is to advance the *educational attainment, economic condition, health, civil rights, and political empowerment* of the Hispanic population of the United States through community-based programs operating in over 1200 membership chapters throughout the United States.

A group of community stakeholders including local LULAC councils and labor organizations have created a credible and equitable map that also takes into account community of interest public feedback as well as California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) legal considerations. Our partner organization, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) provided technical assistance and data for our recommended map.

The LULAC map takes into account three guiding principles:

1. Separate the Santa Clara Valley and Camarillo. Residents of the Santa Clara Valley have complained for years that their choice in electing representatives has been impacted due to the dilution of communities of interest. There is community consensus around this principle, not just from those living in the Santa Clara Valley.
2. Ensure that the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of choice or its ability to influence the outcome of elections is protected under CVRA.

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Letter Ventura County Board of Supervisors
November 5, 2021

3. LULAC's goal is to ensure city-level splits do not result in the dilution of the vote power of protected classes. The LULAC map accomplishes this by drawing lines that respect communities of interest and neighborhood-level boundaries.
4. Meeting legal mandates, fulfilling community feedback, and balancing population variation makes the process incredibly difficult to keep cities intact. The LULAC map keeps Santa Paula, Fillmore, Ojai, Ventura, and Simi Valley whole. Moorpark can be made whole with minor modifications. It also keeps the unincorporated areas of El Rio, beach communities, and Oak Park whole as well. Camarillo is only divided two ways with much of Central Camarillo and Mission Oaks included in a new district with Thousand Oaks. The area around North Ranch, Lang Ranch, and areas east of Olsen Rd are included in the new district with Simi Valley.

This map represents the expressed will of our membership and community partners. We respectfully urge you to consider LULAC's vision for an equitable map that meets CVRA requirements by respecting the voting power of protected classes while being sensitive to community of interest public feedback.

Sincerely,

LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS



David M. Rodriguez, Interim Officer-Ventura County
Chair - California LULAC Committee on Civil Rights and Advocacy
www.lulac.org