



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

October 29, 2021

California State Redistricting Commission

Via submission to public comment portal at www.wedrawthelinesca.org

Re: Draft plan to divide Pacific Palisades into two Congressional and Assembly Districts (north of Sunset Blvd. and south of Sunset Blvd.) – OBJECT to draft plan.

Dear Commissioners:

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) for 48 years has been the most broad-based community organization and voice of Pacific Palisades – a community with a population of about 25,000 residents located between the Santa Monica Mountains and the ocean in the City of Los Angeles. Pacific Palisades is situated entirely within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ).

We strongly object to the proposal to divide Pacific Palisades into different Congressional and Assembly districts, with Sunset Blvd. as the dividing line.

Pacific Palisades was founded almost 100 years ago; our residents will be proudly celebrating the community's centennial in January 2022. We are a unified community that for the past 100 years has included *all neighborhoods to the north and south of Sunset Blvd.* -- the main artery for ingress and egress for almost all Palisades neighborhoods. Our topography of canyons, mountains and mesas defines the isolation and unity of our small town's geography. The entire community (again, neighborhoods north and south of Sunset Blvd.) has long been represented by one Congressman (the Hon. Ted Lieu and his predecessor, the Hon. Henry Waxman, who held the seat for 40 years) and one Assemblymember (the Hon. Richard Bloom and his predecessor in a prior iteration of the district, the Hon. Fran Pavley).

Simply put: Dividing Pacific Palisades between areas north and south of Sunset for purposes of representation in Congress and the State Assembly **makes no sense and is contrary to the interests of Palisades residents.**

We respectfully call your attention to the "Community of Interest Statement" which PPCC submitted in August 2021 on behalf of the community in connection with the City of Los Angeles redistricting process: <http://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/PPCC-Community-Interest-Statement-8-12-21.pdf>.

As detailed in this Statement, Pacific Palisades has no relationship to communities in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles; we are too distant and different from these communities -- most of which are not in the VHFHSZ or in hillside or coastal areas; there is not even a street directly connecting the Palisades (on the south slope of the Santa Monica Mountains) to any communities in the Valley. The top ridge of the Santa Monica Mountains range (Mulholland Drive) has long been our logical and traditional dividing line.

We are aligned with the community of Brentwood (to our east) with whom we share the Brentwood-Pacific Palisades Community Plan (the BPCP). The BPCP encompasses all of our neighborhoods, north and south of

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Sunset Blvd. We also share topography and concerns related to wildfire evacuations; Sunset Blvd. is also a main evacuation route for both Brentwood and Pacific Palisades.

Further, Pacific Palisades is aligned with the beach communities of Westside Los Angeles to our south (Venice and Playa del Rey), as well as the City of Santa Monica, with whom we share common interests and concerns.

For all of these reasons, we respectfully urge the State Redistricting Commission to redraw the proposed lines for the Congressional and Assembly districts representing Pacific Palisades, so that our community will not be divided in its representation.

Thank you for your anticipated courtesy and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Executive Committee, Pacific Palisades Community Council

David Card, Chair

David Kaplan, Vice-Chair

Richard Cohen, Treasurer

Christina Spitz, Secretary

John Padden, Organization Representative, P.R.I.D.E.

Joanna Spak, Area 1 Representative (Castellammare, Paseo Miramar)

cc:

Hon. Ted Lieu (via Janet Turner, Field Supervisor)

Hon. Richard Bloom, Assemblymember (AD 50)

Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember (CD11)

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