

TO: Redistricting Commissioners
RE: Draft Instructions

It is disappointing that the instructions leave out any mention of our connected protected open spaces and coastline when drawing district lines. I testified in multiple meetings and to this effect, apparently ignored. These environmentally sensitive areas deserve consistent legislative representation.

District 1 is an obvious case because much its development over the past 30 years has been guided by the City's Multiple Species Habitat Plan map.

The City's Multiple Species Habitat Plan is a Federal Permit that streamlines development approvals by eliminating lengthy federal agency permitting. It is based on habitat areas connected by viable wildlife corridors.

Individuals and groups District 1 were instrumental in creating the connected canyon, mesa and coastal preserves that the entire region enjoys.

In the north, Torrey Pines State Park on the west to Del Mar Mesa Preserve on the east through Los Penasquitos Lagoon, Carmel Mountain, Shaw Valley and Los Penasquitos Canyon is one example of such a system.

On the south, SR 52 was carefully planned to preserve San Clemente Canyon. And Rose Canyon is one of the districts hard fought for jewels.

On the Pacific Ocean lies La Jolla Marine Reserve and the famous Windansea and La Jolla Shores beaches.

These natural areas benefit naturalists and recreational users and have been shepherded by the planning boards, community groups, and elected City Council members of District 1.

Defining boundaries of all districts should keep environmental considerations in mind.

Our protected Natural spaces deserve consistent steady representation in City Council with knowledgeable planning and environmental group support. They deserve consideration as a Community of Interest in the Redistricting process.

Lisa Ross