

JOHN STUMP

2411 SHAMROCK STREET, CITY HEIGHTS, CALIFORNIA 92105 619
281-4663 mrjohnstump@cox.net

November 4, 2021

City of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission

c/o: Ms. Laura J. Fleming, Executive Director

Redistricting2020@sandiego.gov; LJFleming@sandiego.gov; JBerry@sandiego.gov 202 C Street
San Diego, California 92101

RE: Comments and Objections concerning adopted Preliminary Map for “Approval” as Agenda Item 1 for the Special Commission meeting of November 4, 2021.

Dear Honorable Chairman Hebrank, Honorable Vicechair Malbourgh, and Honorable Commissioners,

The San Diego Redistricting Commission is noticed to conduct a Special Meeting for Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.. Item 1 - Discuss the map approved by the Redistricting Commission on 10/29/2021 ([https:// portal.sandiego-mapping.org/submission/p6246](https://portal.sandiego-mapping.org/submission/p6246)) and Approve a Final Preliminary Map and the 2021 Preliminary Redistricting Plan to be Submitted to the City Clerk. The supporting documents for this meeting are posted on the Redistricting Commission Web Site ([2021 Redistricting Commission Meetings | Redistricting Commission | City of San Diego Official Website](#)) as follows:

Supporting Documents:

- [2021 Preliminary Redistricting Commission Plan](#)
- [Link to Map Approved by the Redistricting Commission on 10-29-2021](#)
- [HaystaqDNA's Report on Map Approved by the Commission on 10-29-2021](#)

The above Notice, the Supporting Documents, the comments submitted to the Commission by the public, and my previous letters, e-mails , and demands for Public Records disclosures, with Commission staff/ City responses are hereby incorporated into this letter by reference.

I again object to adoption of the Chairman’s Initiative Map, as modified, now the “map approved by the Redistricting Commission on 10/29/2021 ([https:// portal.sandiego-mapping.org/submission/p6246](https://portal.sandiego-mapping.org/submission/p6246))”. My objections to this map, in summary, follows:

1. The origin of the base Chairman’s Map came apparently sua sponte from the Commission’s Chairman and was docketed by him and assigned the Designation of Map 1, above all of the other pending maps developed by the Commission, Commission staff / consultants, and those independently submitted by coalitions of the public. The Chairman has advanced his own agenda in front of the Commission’s membership or the publics’ and thus violated the parliamentary principals, rules, and bylaws of this body and in general. The new Chairman’s Map should have been listed after the maps already before the Commission and considered after those maps. Further, the Chairman’s Map origins and development should be fully revealed as was the basic request and continuing request of my Public Records Request (PRA) of September 14, 2021 City of San Diego File number: **Request #21-4908**. This PRA for all records “Any correspondence, of any kind or nature, including texts, emails, and written documents are included and requested, without limitation between the Redistricting Commission members, Staff, Consultants, and

Attorneys, without limitation.” Is renewed and extended concerning this Chairman’s Map. I am yet to receive the City of San Diego’s status response on its overriding compliance with **Request #21-4908**.

2. My letter to the Commission of October 21, 2021 and related testimony raised issues concerning the Commission’s presentation and methods for determining COMPACTNESS. I objected to the unranked and seemingly deceptive presentation of compactness data, by the consultants, which grouped columns of disparate data on the outside and inside of the chart rather than placing the columns in consistent rank order, of compactness order.

My letter and testimony suggested alternatives to the Commission’s consultant’s chosen compactness tests. Suggesting that they use: “...the methodologies suggested in [Measuring the Compactness of Political Districting Plans, Roland G. Fryer Jr. and Richard Holden , July 16, 2009 - measuring the compactness of political districting plans.pdf \(harvard.edu\)](#) and [Measuring Compactness and the Role of a Compactness Standard in a Test for Partisan and Racial Gerrymandering, Richard G. Niemi, Bernard Grofman, Carl Carlucci, and Thomas Hofeller, The Journal of Politics: Vol 52, No 4 \(uchicago.edu\).](#)”

“Compactness is a widely valued but ill-defined normative criterion in the law for drawing legislative districts. The US Supreme Court is explicit about the ambiguity: “One need not use Justice Stewart’s classic definition of obscenity—‘I know it when I see it’—as an ultimate standard for judging the constitutionality of a gerrymander to recognize that dramatically irregular shapes may have sufficient probative force to call for an explanation” (Karcher v. Daggett, 462 U.S. 725, 755, 1983).” (How to Measure Legislative District Compactness If You Only Know it When You See it* Aaron Kaufman† Gary King‡ Mayya Komisarchik§ July 11, 2017, page 1, [How to Measure Legislative District Compactness If You Only Know it When You See it \(aaronkaufman.com\)](#)).

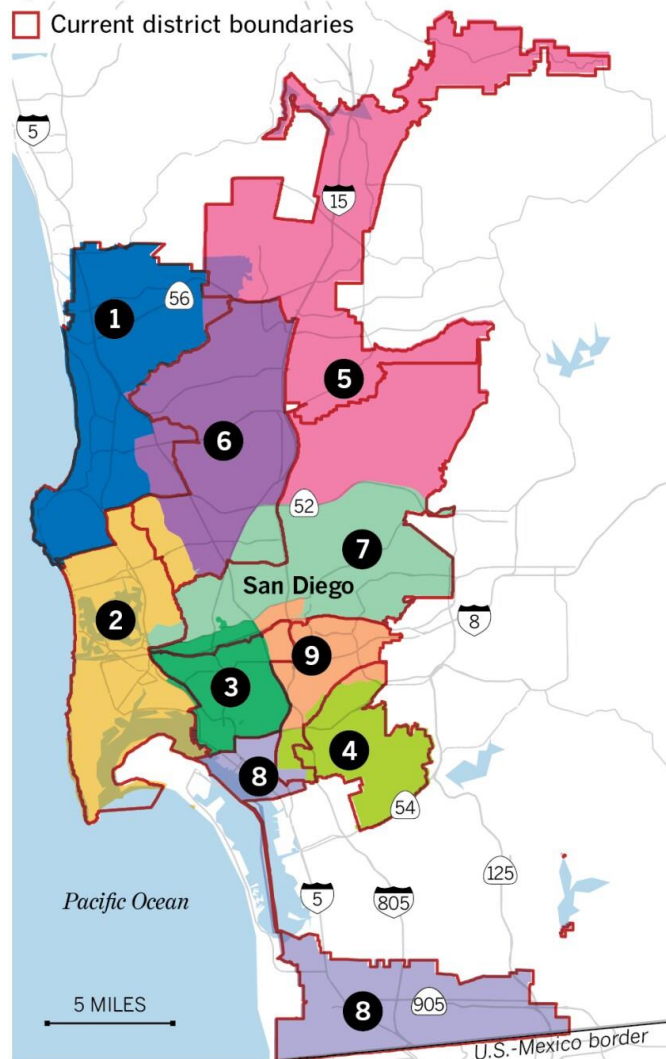
My compactness object objection to adoption of the Chairman’s Initiative Map, as modified, now the “map approved by the Redistricting Commission on 10/29/2021 ([https:// portal.sandiego-mapping.org/submission/p6246](https://portal.sandiego-mapping.org/submission/p6246)) goes beyond the methods used. The gerrymandering against compactness becomes obvious

The San Diego union Tribune newspaper, in its article: “Proposed San Diego council boundary map chops University City in half but keeps UCSD tied to La Jolla” published a map which overlaid the new Preliminary Chairman’s Map over the existing current Council district map. This map visually makes clear how the shape and compactness of current Districts D3, D4, and D9 have been gerrymandered to dilute the Hispanic vote, the Black vote, and the LGBTQ vote.

Look at the size and shape of the parts of Council District Nine (D 9) cut out of this existing Hispanic Voting District to meet the Chairman’s Preliminary Map objectives of dilution of the voting rights interests of Hispanics, Blacks and the LGBTQ community. Territory completely outside these historic traditional voting communities have been added and change by gerrymandering the voting power from common community interests to big money campaign interests. The new Map forces community candidates to raise money to outreach into a whole new area outside their community and planning area to the disadvantage of persons know to the existing community, by years of local service. The pieces of the puzzle cut out are similar in shape and size to the pieces added to dilute the existing voting rights groups. SEE BELOW:

New San Diego boundary proposal keeps UCSD tied to La Jolla

Volunteer panel says map approved Friday is likely close to what final version will look like in city's once-a-decade redistricting effort.



Sources: City of San Diego; OpenStreetMap

MICHELLE GUERRERO U-T

SOURCE: [Proposed San Diego council boundary map chops University City in half but keeps UCSD tied to La Jolla - The San Diego Union-Tribune \(sandiegouniontribune.com\)](https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com)

3. The Chairman's modified Preliminary map, now docketed, by the Chairman, for an "Approve" action; violates the redistricting principal set out to prevent gerrymandering. Districts are to have natural boundaries but the new map does not. The creates boundaries that are not natural.

The new map for District Three (D 3) and District Nine (D 9) crosses into a new major geographical area, extends to the other bank of a new watershed, and crosses one of the largest California freeways to capture new unrelated territories. Council Districts D3 and D9 currently are restricted to the oldest and most established neighborhoods of San Diego and were fully contained South of the I-8 Kumeyaay Freeway. D3 was a Bay Coastal watershed District. D9 was a Chollas Creek watershed district, draining to San Diego Bay. Now D3 and D9 are Mission Valley districts!

Now, for the first time the proposal is to override these natural boundaries, enter a new watershed and cross freeways to the northern bank of the San Diego River. This sort of impermissible gerrymandering to dilute the Hispanic vote and the LGBTQ interested must not be permitted.

4. The way that the new map was formulated applied inconsistent analysis and standards to the Coastal areas, for changing current District One (D 1) and District Six (D 6) . In that case there was extensive investigation of the residential populations for Colleges/Universities in that area. The student body for the University of California at San Diego was considered.

I and others requested that the same level of analysis be applied to the other three (3) residential colleges and universities – Point Loma Nazarene, University of San Diego, and San Diego State University (SDSU). Analysis of San Diego State University’s Black and Hispanic populations are of particular interest as the boundaries for the South of 8 freeway. District Four (D 4) could be drawn to include the Black students at SDSU. Black voting rights could have been preserved with the inclusion of this colleges / university analysis; but it was not fairly and consistently done.

Similarly, the high School attendance characteristics for Mid-City High schools was requested; but not done. This analysis was particularly important as the border communities of Rolando and Redwood were being considered for removal from current D 4 to be dilute Hispanic D9. Crawford High School has a very large and growing Black population from the large number of African American immigrants that attend at Crawford HS. There were more than racial undertones of discrimination in several comments made concerning Crawford students, as the new student / family populations are primarily Muslim.

I again ask that the Black population in the potential D4 district be analyzed to consider College and school attendance for Black students in the residence at SDSU and the San Diego Unified School District schools along the western border of the City from the current D4 to San Diego State University, with Euclid / 54th being the spine. This analysis would demonstrate that a school based D4 would enhance the Black voting participation in D 4 rather than the current proposal to dilute it from the current condition.

5. I want to express an ugly and constitutionally prohibited undertone and hidden motivation for diluting the Black voting population of District 4. There is a palpable anti-religious effort to diminish the participation of Black religious leaders in D 4 . The efforts to remove the Muslim population of Blacks from D4 and isolate them, as a minor population in the new D 9 fosters this suppression of free exercise of religion by gerrymandering them apart. This discriminatory gerrymandering must not be permitted.
6. The Chairman’s modified preliminary map pushes into a whole new Mission Valley North of the Interstate 8 Freeway D3 and D9. These new horizons new development communities have no

relationship with the current D3 and D9 neighborhoods. During the Commission's discussion they talked speculatively about new developments and populations that might be coming to these new D3 and D9 expansion areas. They speculated about SDSU expansions and new residential areas. Redistricting based on speculation is a questionable practice, at best.

If the Commission is going to engage in speculation about future development and populations then that speculation should have been equally applied to the known development occurring in the existing D3, D4, and D9 current 2010 areas. This speculative redistricting raises the need for application of some of the analysis required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and its federal counterpart NEPA. The Chairman's Initiative Map appears to reshuffle the San Diego political map back to the 1970's when there a single racial district for each race group but the majority of Districts are again White and upper class.

7. I believe that the additions being added to D3 and D9 changes, by gerrymandering the economic and class make ups of these diluted districts. I believe that a form of weaponized gerrymandering will result that will change the nature of local City Elections for these two diluted districts. Following this dilution redistricting big money political contributions will be required to prevail in future Council races because the total area of D3 and D9 has significantly increased and whole new distant neighborhoods and communities have been added to foster this big money gerrymandering. Gerrymandering to dilute existing communing politics to benefit a political change is the very evil that makes such practices not permitted.

SUMMARY AND REQUEST

I request that the Commission not adopt, as final or "Approve" this preliminary map. Some analysis of pre and post mapping conditions must be presented to the Commission before it is up for approval.

I further continue to request that some real comparative analysis be presented to the Commission by its Lawyer and Consultants. The analysis must compare the current conditions and voting rights populations in the 2010 Council Districts versus the conditions that would exist if the new 2020 Census Districts were adopted.

I ask again that the school and college attendance in D4 and D9 be analyzed to determine if, in fact, that the way that the new D9 boundaries are being proposed dilute the Black voting population along University and El Cajon Blvd from SDSU to National City along the Euclid 54th corridor or spine. It appears that gerrymandering is splitting up the D4 Black population. It also appears that gerrymandering is diluting the D9 Hispanic population by adding more White upper class voters from remote areas outside of the existing natural boundaries.

Please publish all of my correspondence directed to the Commission, including this letter in the Commission's record.

All the best,
John Stump 619 281 4663

Copy: San Diego City Attorney Mara Elliot and San Diego City Clerk