

**Andrea Hetheru ♦ 311 Santa Rosalia Drive ♦ San Diego, CA 92114**

September 28, 2021

**Redistricting Commission  
City of San Diego  
Mail 202 C Street, MS8A, San Diego, CA 92101  
Emailed to : Redistricting2020@sandiego.gov**

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2021**

My name is Andrea Hetheru and I reside in the community of Valencia Park in District 4.

I am writing in support of the "Community Unity Map" as presented by Trinh Le of *Mid-City CAN*. In doing so, I urge the Commissioners to affirm their duty to prioritize the requests of the various expressed Communities of Interest in a manner consistent with the federal legislative intent of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Currently, it is common to read or hear that neighborhood personality or traditions, business interests, architectural styles, geological features, and boundaries of highways & thoroughfares constitute "Communities of Interest." While such COIs are not *necessarily* illegitimate, they should not be conflated with, i.e., put on the same level of priority with those originally specified in federal re-districting law passed to effect the original intent of the Voting Rights act of 1965. That act had the clear legislative intent to protect the right to a meaningful vote for Black Americans, specifically, and for racial and ethnic minorities generally. The public comment and proposed maps at these Commission hearings leave much doubt that this correct prioritization is in the awareness and/or intent of some residents participating in this process.

Finally, in making decisions about district boundaries, I urge the commissioners to apply the following definition of justice: Mistreating no one and delivering the most help to those who most need help--- if any help is given. I submit that a demographic's rate of homelessness is one excellent measure of need and ask that you incorporate that data in your decision-making process.

Andrea K. Hetheru

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "AK Hetheru". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.