

My name is Kathryn Burton. I live in Torrey Hills at the coastal base of Los Penasquitos Lagoon overlooking the Torrey Pines State Reserve bluffs in District 1. I have been a member and chair of the Torrey Hills planning board since the year 2000 with some breaks in service. I am also a former San Diego Assistant City Attorney.

I worked on Redistricting in 2011 in order to keep Torrey Hills in District 1 rather than District 6 which had been proposed at the time. Thankfully, the 2011 Commissioners were astute enough to see that Torrey Hills is inseparable from the rest of District 1, in particular our neighbors in Carmel Valley, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Pines and Del Mar Mesa, and also La Jolla and University City.

Several proposals in front of you would divide up District 1. One would move parts into District 6, another would cut it in three.

These proposals are more misguided than those considered in 2011 and would sever major communities of interest that have bound District 1 together for over 30 years.

Communities of like interest should take precedence over slight adjustments of population as criteria in redistricting and should trump any other considerations. Of all the criteria, communities of interest is the most important. The Commission should be mindful that a deviation from the 1/9 population criteria is allowable and legally defensible according to the City Attorney's presentation dated April 15, 2021.

And so, Carmel Valley, Del Mar Mesa, Torrey Pines and Torrey Hills continue to be unwilling pawns in efforts to divide District 1 which also include the communities of La Jolla and University City.

Former planning commissioner Frisco White from Carmel Valley recently commented that "Splitting our functioning planning areas is like separating twins at birth." That is certainly true of our area.

District 1 is a coastal district; we're bound by beaches and canyons. The current District 1 consists of communities of interest that strongly respect environmental preservation. The district's natural boundaries are Marion Bear Park to the south; San Dieguito River Valley to the north; Del Mar Mesa and Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserves to the east; and Torrey

Pines State Park, La Jolla Shores, La Jolla Marine Reserve and Wind and Sea Beach to the west. Many of these areas are connected by important wildlife corridors.

District 1 United believes we have demonstrated that the district has many strong communities of interest which should be preserved including its defining natural and manmade boundaries, shared infrastructure, schools and transportation corridors. Our strong communities of interest consist of planning groups, neighborhoods, schools, community activities, shared parks, open space and recreational facilities, common environmental concerns and activism related to some of the most environmentally sensitive coast and canyons in the country.

Please preserve District 1 as it is.