



City of San Diego Redistricting Commission

San Diego City Clerk
202 C Street, MS2A
San Diego, CA 92101.

March 1, 2021

Dear City of San Diego Redistricting Commissions,

Greetings. My name is Kate Glenn, president of the Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council, a non-profit organization comprised of 16 elected and appointed representatives from the community of Rancho Peñasquitos ("RP"). This communication herein is submitted on behalf of our RPTC Redistricting Committee Chair, Mr. Ralph Peters.

San Diego Redistricting Commissioners,

Most of RP is presently in District 5, along with Rancho Bernardo, Sabre Springs, Carmel Mountain Ranch, Black Mountain Ranch, Torrey Highlands, and Rancho Encantada (Scripps).

Unfortunately, in 2011, the southern section of RP, comprising the Park Village community and an area south of Adolphia Street (approximately 16% of total RP population), was split off from the rest of RP. As would be expected, having our community broken up this way has caused no end of community dissatisfaction, and we believe it is time to set this injustice right.

And it would be simple to do so. While we do not have the 2020 census data yet (and won't likely until late May or June), a community grouping of **all of** Rancho Peñasquitos, Rancho Bernardo, Sabre Springs ("SS"), Carmel Mountain Ranch ("CMR"), Black Mountain Ranch ("BMR"), and Torrey Highlands ("TH"), should put us population-wise within a whisker of the projected per-district population goal (161,000).

Our reasons are set forth below:

1. 'RP' is split and should not have been split. The statutory guidance provided the Redistricting Commission is that they are not **NOT DIVIDE** communities, if at all possible. It is time to cure this glaring defect in the 2011 plan.
2. Most owners in 'RP' live here because they want to be part of the Poway Unified School District
3. ("PUSD") and the diverse ethnic and cultural attractions of the constituent PUSD communities.
4. All of the communities listed above – RB, SS, CMR, Torrey Highlands - are part of PUSD. Importantly, Mira Mesa is part of the San Diego Unified School system, which has its own proud traditions and rivalries.
5. The local rivalries for the children of 'RP' involve the other communities in the PUSD core. Examples of these include: Football games; Wrestling matches Band competitions Cheerleading Basketball Science Olympiad Academic Bowl competitions Various travel teams in soccer, baseball, Pop Warner, etc.
6. Many 'RP' Boy and Girl Scout Troops have members from BMR, CMR, SR, TH, and/or RB.
7. Income levels in 'RP' are within a hairsbreadth of the other PUSD communities.
8. The PUSD communities are all contiguous and have no natural boundary separator. 'RP' is separated from MM by the in places half mile wide Peñasquitos Canyon.
9. Our crime statistics are similar – far less than Mira Mesa.

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10. Most 'RP'-ers do their shopping locally or in CMR, not Mira Mesa.
11. Many of us worship in RB.
12. It is a fact that a large number of 'RP' residents moved out of MM to be part of the PUSD, to move up to the newer housing in 'RP', and be part of the vibrant cultural and ethnic milieu that 'RP' shares with the PUSD communities. MM has (a) older and smaller (by square footage) housing stock; (b) their housing sells for far less than 'RP' (on average, 25% less); (c) MM has a far higher percentage of renters; (d) MM has more than 10,500 rental apartments - almost three times that of 'RP'. It is not only apartments that are being rented – it is important to point out that MM has far less Owner-occupied dwellings than 'RP'. In addition, MM has (e) a significantly lower per capita household income; (g) is far denser in terms of population, and (f) also has a higher crime rate.

Lastly, MM is an older, poorly planned community, with very few parks, horrible traffic flow, older infrastructure, and poor drainage. Aside from their absence from the PUSD school system, their markedly different demographics, housing stock, density, and high percentage of renters dictates that the MM community has other issues, problems, and priorities than the PUSD core communities. It needs a dedicated council representative and staff that can focus on MM's disparate and unique set of problems.

I thank you for your attention to the above. The RPTC Redistricting Committee will be providing additional correspondence and backup data supporting our community's position on redistricting.

Yours,

Ralph Peters

Ralph Peters, Chair, **RP Town Council Redistrict Committee**

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Kate Glenn

Kate Glenn, President, RP Town Council

cc: RPTC Redistricting Committee Secretary

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