

**From:** [Santillan, Maria de Socorro](#)  
**To:** [Fresno County 2021 Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Redistricting  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 05, 2021 1:05:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [PPMM\\_Oral Testimony EQUITY COALITION MAP\\_Oct5.pdf](#)

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<b>9.</b>	<b>Supervisorial District</b> <b>(Please refer to <a href="#">this district lookup tool</a> if necessary)</b>
(o) District 3 – Sal Quintero	
<b>If comment is specific to a Commissioner Hearing, please fill in Hearing date and Agenda # (please note comments specific to a hearing date, must be submitted by 5:00 pm one (1) day in advance of the meeting)</b>	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Hearing Date</b>
10/05/2021	

**11. Agenda Item**

Public Comment

**12. Comment (please note that all comments received will be part of the public record)**

Comments are in the attachment.

**13.**

**Socorro Santillan**

Director of Public Affairs - Fresno



*From the California Coast (Mar) to the Sierra Nevada (Monte)*

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**October 5, 2021**

**TO: Fresno County Redistricting Advisory Committee**

**FROM: Planned Parenthood Mar Monte**

**RE: Oral Testimony - SUPPORT EQUITY COALITION MAP FRESNO COUNTY BOS**

My name is Socorro Santillan, Regional Director of Public Affairs for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte (PPMM)

I'm here today to support the proposed Equity Coalition Map.

Planned Parenthood Mar Monte operates four service sites in Fresno County, 2 health centers, one Call Response Center and one Regional Administrative site. Combined they serve over 21,000 unique patients and employ 137 fulltime employees. These service sites are in Districts 2, 3 and 5.

Seventy-five percent of our patients live below 100% of the federal poverty level and 76% identify as people of color. These individuals are representative of ALL Board of Supervisor Districts and depending on where they live are also served at our Madera, Visalia, Merced & Gilroy Health Centers. Services provided to residents outside of the County is often due to geographical proximity to their homes, work or college. It is important to note that rural residents often face limited access to health care due to a lack of public transportation and/or broadband internet connection for Telehealth due to limited coverage.

We have reviewed maps proposed by the Equity Map Coalition and the Fresno Inclusive Families. We found both to be in compliance with the California Fair Map Act and thoughtfully drawn, however we feel strongly the Equity Coalition's Map makes more sense based on our experience with our patient population. The map makes sense with districts that are compact, easily understandable and best represents communities of interest and the Voting Rights Act.

We particularly endorse the grouping of communities of interest and the division of the rural areas on the Eastside and the Westside of the County, at Highway 41. There are significant differences between these two areas, and each deserves to have its own, dedicated representative. We feel it is notable that the entire Westside is kept whole for the first time, including the area served by Fresno County Rural Transit's Westside routes, West Hills College, and the Westlands Water District.

We strongly believe that including Southeast Fresno with the rural towns in District 4 makes perfect sense, since they are bound together by work, family, ethnicity and income levels, and collectively face similar economic challenges and living conditions.

We enthusiastically support Clovis having its own Supervisor, based on new growth in the foothill and mountain areas. We support the logical decision to establish Willow Avenue as the border between the cities of Fresno and Clovis, and also between Districts 2 and 5, respectively.

Finally, the proposed districts for Central Fresno and North Fresno group together communities of interest. Central District 3 is largely preserved, along with established neighborhoods of working class and low-income residents. And the North Fresno District 2 uses well understood boundaries like the San Joaquin River and Highway 99.

We know Fresno County, the sixth largest County by geography in California, is diverse in its residents, industry/business and geographical characteristics. This map will ensure our Board of Supervisors represents distinct regions of our County, and will result in policy, programmatic and funding decisions that will benefit all residents of Fresno County.

We believe the proposed Equity Coalition Map is compliant with the mandates of the California Fair Map Act, and best represents the demographic shifts that have happened over the last two decades. It is imperative that the Supervisor map in 2021 reflects these shifts and recognizes communities of interest.

For all of the aforementioned reasons, and many more, we strongly urge you to seriously consider the proposed Equity Coalition Map.

Respectfully,

Socorro Santillan  
Regional Director of Public Affairs  
Planned Parenthood Mar Monte  
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