

**From:** [Fair Fresno](#)  
**To:** [Fresno County 2021 Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** Fair Fresno Coalition  
**Date:** Sunday, October 10, 2021 11:38:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [districtr-plan-f6daff6d.json](#)  
[Oct 7, Doc 1.pdf](#)

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**CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK**

Here to fight for fair Fresno. Attached is the json file with all the relevant information. Also attached is a letter refuting these interest groups trying to hurt the redistricting process. They have an agenda and is politicizing this process by overwhelming the boards and filibustering the process. We ask that their maps be thrown out with prejudice.

We ask for a Fair Fresno and true process.

Thank you

Fresno County's redistricting process has become controversial among some in our advocacy communities. They are claiming the process is unfair. They say the County's maps, as currently drawn, do not offer opportunities for those they represent.

They say Board of Supervisors' comments from April, hoping to keep their districts similar to the way they are now – six weeks before a Redistricting Commission was named and a month before a Redistricting Commission nomination period opened – was somehow an overt threat to the then nonexistent Redistricting Commission members.

Members of the Board of Supervisors also made those comments five months before census numbers for those districts were known because the numbers arrived late due to no fault of the County.

The advocacy groups are heard in redistricting meetings demanding three districts that are of a majority-minority population. They point to the Kern County case where the Mexican-American Legal Defense Foundation (MALDEF) successfully gained an additional majority-minority district going from one to two seats in Kern County.

They also point out that Kern County spent \$12 million fighting that lawsuit only to lose, a subtle warning that Fresno County will undergo a similar taxpayer expense only to suffer a similar fate.

But what they fail to mention is that among the County of Fresno's five supervisorial districts, three are majority-minority districts - between 59.4% and 72.7% Hispanic as of 2011 - and each of those districts are at a minimum 77% minority residents.

So, what's happened electorally since 2011, the date of the last redrawing of maps?

There have been five elections, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2020, with those three majority-minority districts from 2011 and two majority white districts. In those elections, members of the Board of Supervisors, ran unopposed seven times, and were elected or re-elected by overwhelming numbers.

The highest percentage of votes against a current Board member was 42% in his initial election. No other opposing candidate eclipsed 38%, also in a first electoral run. Other second-place opponents got between 21% and 34%.

In the minds of these advocacy groups, those results apparently reflect an urgent need for large-scale changes even with three overwhelmingly minority-majority seats.

It helps to know who the advocates represent. Most Redistricting Committee meeting speakers are incorporated city residents who blame individual supervisors about issues such as policing, street work, sewers, drainage, and drinking water. Do they know they are represented by City Councils? Do they know that City Councils are responsible to them for these quality-of-life issues, not the Board of Supervisors?

Maybe, maybe not. But their apparent lack of knowledge is muddling the process and emphasizes even more forcefully that the advocates' fight for Redistricting is a straw horse posing as a Trojan horse.

The Redistricting Commission should be able to see through this sleight of hand strategy and propose maps accurately reflecting changes in the County of Fresno where changes are most merited and forward those to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.