From: <u>fresnocountyca@enotify.visioninternet.com</u>

To: <u>jtilton@ndcresearch.com</u>; <u>Tataryan</u>, <u>David</u>; <u>Thompson</u>, <u>John R.</u>; <u>Eropkin</u>, <u>Rebekah</u>

**Subject:** County of Fresno: Redistricting Comment Submission

**Date:** Monday, October 18, 2021 8:10:15 PM

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

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: Submit Redistricting Comment

**Date & Time:** 10/18/2021 8:09 PM

Response #: 20

Submitter ID: 43446

**IP address:** 2601:201:8380:2140:d47:57c:bab9:3c4e

**Time to complete:** 47 min., 27 sec.

## **Survey Details**

## Page 1

To submit written comments residents may:

- 1.) complete the on-line form below
- 2.) mail comments to: County CAO's Office, Redistricting 2021 2281 Tulare Street, Room 304, Fresno, CA 93721
- 3.) hand delivery to: County CAO's Office at 2281 Tulare Street, Room 304, Fresno, CA 93721
- 4.) email comments to: FresnoCounty2021Redistricting@fresnocountyca.gov

Note: Submitted comments will be part of the public record.

#### 1. First Name

Patience

## 2. Last Name

Milrod

## 3. Agency/Organization (If Applicable)

n/a

#### 4. Email

pm@patiencemilrod.com

# 5. Address (Street Number and Name)

636 E. Floradora Ave.

#### 6. City

Fresno

#### 7. ZIP Code

93728

#### 8. Contact Phone #

559.246.7239

## 9. Supervisorial District

(Please refer to this district lookup tool if necessary)

(o) District 3 – Sal Quintero

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)

### 10. Hearing Date

10/21/2021

# 11. Agenda Item

Item #5

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

At the Commission's 10.5.21 hearing, Dr. Tilton informed the Commission that he did not know whether NDC would be submitting its own maps. He stated that would be a decision the firm principals would make, and he did not know on what basis they would make it. The minutes of that meeting record his response: "Based on data, input and public comments from hearings, workshops, and County staff (not the Board of Supervisors), NDC will determine if an additional map is needed."

The maps submitted \*by the public\* included 14 maps that met the population-variation and contiguity requirements of the pertinent statutes. Two of those maps achieved population variations of 0.02%. Nevertheless, NDC itself submitted \*three\* maps, with significantly less compliant population variations (between 2.06% and 3.33%). No information has yet been provided the Commission about the decision to submit additional maps, or the criteria NDC used to draw the maps they submitted.

The purpose of this public comment is to ask those questions. (As my fellow Commissioners are aware, my own Board of Directors is meeting the same night as this next Commission meeting and therefore I cannot be personally present to ask these questions of Dr. Tilton myself.)

A) Why NDC maps at all, and why three?

- --What were \*all\* the factors motivating NDC to create not just one, but three, alternative maps?
- --Did NDC identify deficiencies in the publicly-submitted maps which required three NDC alternative

versions?

- --What were those deficiencies, specifically applying the statutory criteria?
- --Did NDC work with submitters in an attempt to correct any deficiencies in publicly-submitted maps before creating its own?
- --Why did NDC submit \*three\* alternative maps?
- --What are the operative differences among/between NDC's Maps 120, 121, and 122?
- --In making the decision to create its own alternative maps, with which County-affiliated individuals did NDC communicate—and specifically, which people?
- --If there were such communications, who initiated each of them?
- --If there were such communications, what were the concerns raised?
- --Who at NDC made the decision to create additional maps?
- --When was that decision made?
- --Did NDC need authorization from any County actor to create additional maps prior to doing so?
- --How many hours did NDC spend in creating the additional maps?

Of particular concern--two of NDC's maps (120 and 121) seem to reflect the predictions by four of the five sitting Supervisors that the Fresno County district map would only "shift relatively slightly" because of some "border changes based on population growth." NDC should provide Commissioners and the public with a full understanding of NDC's process in drawing 2 of 3 maps that so closely follow the existing supervisorial district boundaries. We'd like to understand, criterion by criterion and map by map, how each of the NDC maps is more compliant with both federal and FAIR MAPS Act requirements than the other maps submitted--if they are.

- B) How did NDC in its own maps apply the Communities of Interest (CoI) information submitted in public hearings and workshops, and public comment?
- --John Thompson has advised me that NDC did not map the Cols.
- --Since the Cols were not mapped, how did NDC incorporate the public's input about the Cols into its map-drawing process?
- --Especially since NDC did not map the Cols, how exactly \*did\* they use them?
- --Did NDC weight the Cols in any way? Various important boundaries and identifiers were mentioned numerous times—were these given more weight than Col identifiers that were mentioned only once or twice?
- --To which boundaries/CoI identifiers did NDC itself give greatest weight in drawing the maps it has submitted?
- C) Apart from the map-viewing tool, Commissioners should be able to see comparisons among/between the maps:
- --As a Commissioner, I would appreciate seeing comparisons among/between all the maps that have a population deviation of 3% or less—specifically in terms of:
- --the CoIs the commission collected during meetings, workshops, public comment on the website, etc; and
- --both the ethnicity and the voter-registration-by-ethnicity comparisons among/between maps.

As I cannot be present at the October 21 hearing, and some of these questions are somewhat complex and so do not lend themselves to oral answers in a public hearing setting, I would appreciate having answers in writing. Thank you so much!

Very truly yours, Patience Milrod Thank you,

# **County of Fresno**

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