From: <u>Ariana Marmolejo</u>

To: Fresno County 2021 Redistricting

Cc: Hatzune Aguilar; Pablo Rodriguez; Kaya Herron; Deep Singh; Dillon Savory; Tammy Vang; Oussama Mokeddem;

Pedro Navarro Cruz

Subject: Fresno Inclusive Families Map Justifications

Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 4:38:42 PM

Attachments: Fresno Inclusive Families Map 1 Justification.pdf

Fresno Inclusive Families Map 2 Justification.pdf

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

Dear Fresno County Board of Supervisors,

The attached documents are being submitted on behalf of a coalition comprised of the Central Labor Council (CLC), Communities for a New California Education Fund (CNC EF), the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce (FMBCC), Hmong Innovating Politics (HIP), and Jakara Movement (JM).

We've previously submitted the corresponding maps justification documents and are now re-submitting them to ensure that you have them while looking at maps as currently listed and numbered. Attached below you'll find the Fresno Inclusive Families Map 1 Justification, which belongs to map 117. The Fresno Inclusive Families Map 2 Justification belongs to map 118.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these maps.

Best,

Ariana Marmolejo Communications Associate Communities for a New California

# Fresno Inclusive Families Map 1 Justification

The Central Labor Council, Communities for a New California Education Fund, the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce, Hmong Innovating Politics (HIP), and Jakara Movement (JM) brought residents together to inform a revised map that would keep communities of interest whole, provide a more accurate balance of representation, and would ensure a smaller percentage of population deviation.

The Fresno Inclusive Families map changes the current North - South divide that currently gives greater advantage to District 2 and District 5. The North Fresno and North Clovis metro area is where the voting propensity is very high and voters do not vote in favor of uplifting working families. These two parts of Clovis and Fresno have more in common with each other than they do really with the rest of the county. District 2 and District 4 on the revised map balances the representation and gives more voice to the working families across the entire county.

Note: The map submitted was redrawn using Maptitude that accounts for 2020 Census data (PL 94-171 Redistricting Data).

# District 1

District 1 includes such a large amount of land, because it encompasses so many low density rural areas of the county. This Western region of the county is currently divided by Districts 1 and 4. This map would bring the West part of the county together and would give more voice to residents living in the West and developing part of Fresno. District 1 is consistently an agricultural district. It also uplifts Fresno's most historical black part of town (Southwest) by keeping it together with the rest of Southwest Fresno and West of the 99 together instead of being divided into Districts 1 and 3 as it is currently.

Areas included in this District:

- o Mendota
- Firebaugh
- San Joaquin
- Tranquility
- Kerman
- Huron
- Coalinga
- Five Points
- Lanare
- o Riverdale
- o Raisin City
- Caruthers
- o Biola
- City of Fresno COI Neighborhoods with similar interests
  - Highway City

- Herndon
- Central Unified
- Southwest Fresno (Westside)

## District 2

The Fresno Inclusive Families Map tells a more complete story of who is moving to Northwest Fresno and how there are complete 180-degree realities between neighborhoods in Northwest Fresno. In a quick Zillow search of sold homes in Figarden, Fresno, you will notice that some homes recently sold in the neighborhood Southeast of the Bullard & Marks intersection for an average of \$350k but in a bordering neighborhood closer to Van Ness Ave for an average of \$750k. Some even go above \$1 million. For example, families living in the neighborhood Southeast of the Bullard & Marks intersection work hard labor jobs, are more diverse, and overall live a completely different reality from the families more North of them and closer to or on Van Ness Ave.

Van Ness Ave is weirdly just East of Palm Ave, South of Shaw Ave and just East of Marks Ave, North of Shaw Ave. However, the same dichotomy previously mentioned exists South and North of Shaw Ave. This is why District 2 goes narrowly South until it meets the Herndon No. 39 Canal. The difference is most apparent when you drive through the part of Van Ness Ave that is commonly known as 'Christmas Tree Lane,' where it feels completely separated from the rest of the city.

Areas included in this district are:

- Old Figarden
- Figarden
- Woodward Park
- Clovis West High area
- Buchanan High area
- Clovis North High area
- All mountain and foothill communities

# District 3

The Fresno Inclusive Families Map brings rural towns together into District 3 that include Latino communities of interest and are in closer proximity to Highway 99. This is a coalition district in that it includes an intersection of multiple communities of interest such as Latino, Asian, and Black families.

Additionally, a major element of this map is keeping as much of the historic Sunnyside community whole as a community of interest. Sunnyside High School is the largest high school in Fresno Unified and the most diverse in terms of its robust Hispanic/Latinx, Hmong, and Punjabi communities. The Sunnyside area also importantly includes both the Hmong and Punjabi communities, keeping them whole. It is important to understand that this area has become a vibrant and growing area for Hmong and Punjabi families and businesses as well.

### District 3 areas include:

- Orange Cove
- Sanger
- o Parlier
- Selma
- Fowler
- Reedley
- Kingsburg
- Easton
- Laton
- Unincorporated Areas of Fresno
  - Calwa
  - Another note of interest is that in Malaga, students in this region go to Fowler Unified schools. In the current map, they are not in the same district and are unincorporated areas of the County. This revised map brings the communities of interest together.

## District 4

This district brings together neighborhoods in both Clovis and Fresno that have more in common with each other than the more affluent parts of Clovis and the City of Fresno.

- City of Fresno Neighborhoods:
  - Pinedale
  - Central Fresno along the Blackstone corridor and East of Van Ness Ave.
     Ends south on Dakota
  - Mayfair District (County Island)
  - Apartments surrounding Fresno State
  - The more working class part of the Hoover High area
  - County Islands of East Central Fresno that are predominantly working class families of color
- Clovis Neighborhoods:
  - Tarpey Village
  - Clovis High area

## District 5

In this map, District 5 includes more working families in the Northwestern part of Fresno and extends into the more urban center of the all Fresno district (currently District 3). The Hmong community of interest is included in District 5.

District 5 areas include:

- Apartments between San Jose Ave and Barstow Ave and Brawley and Valentine.
- Lawless Elementary neighborhood
- Apartments Southeast of Marty Ave and Bullard Ave
- Neighborhood southeast of Bullard and Marks Ave
- Keeps Fresno City limits and Southeast Fresno together

# Fresno Inclusive Families Map Version 2 Justification

The Central Labor Council, Communities for a New California Education Fund, the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce (FMBCC), Hmong Innovating Politics (HIP), and Jakara Movement (JM) brought residents together to inform a revised map that would keep communities of interest whole, provide a more accurate balance of representation, and would ensure a smaller percentage of population deviation.

The Fresno Inclusive Families map changes the North-South divide that gives a more significant advantage to District 2 and District 5. The North Fresno and North Clovis metro area disproportionately votes at higher rates, the propensity is very high, and voters do not vote in favor of uplifting working families. These parts of Clovis and Fresno have more in common than with the rest of the county and should be treated as one community. On the revised map, district 2 and District 4 balance the representation and give more voice to the working families across the entire county.

Additionally, this map more accurately reflects the diversity and dispersion of our communities. There are approximately 5-8.5% Black/African Americans in each district, 9-12% Asian/AAPI, 40-60% Hispanic/Latino, and 30% White, except for District 2, which encompasses Clovis and the Foothill communities at 65% White. This distribution allows more community voices to be heard in the election of representatives from and for our diverse communities.

The current board of supervisors is 80 percent White and does not accurately represent our multicultural, multigenerational, and multi-industry county residents and interests. This map seeks to address that issue.

Note: The map submitted was redrawn using Maptitude which accounts for 2020 Census data (PL 94-171 Redistricting Data).

There are five priority concerns that unite our communities of interest and need for more accurate representation which drove the decision-making behind this map:

- 1. Access to affordable housing and economic opportunities
- 2. Community resources: such as parks and grocery stores
- 3. Infrastructure: including sidewalks, complete streets, water, and broadband access
- **4.** Environmental pollution: not limited to water and air quality
- **5.** Public safety: over-policing in certain neighborhoods and under-enforcement of specific activities like street racing, school zone speeding, etc.

These concerns are experienced differently in each district and the changing of boundaries will affect representation to move our shared concerns forward. For instance, public safety concerns are quite different west of Peach in the southern part of the county in comparison to the North East. However, more dollars have been spent in the last 10 years in the East on safety than anywhere else in the County.

# District 1

The Fresno Inclusive Families Map Version 2 brings rural towns together into District 1 that include diverse Asian, Black and Latino communities of interest and are in closer proximity to Highway 99. This is a coalition district in that it includes an intersection of multiple communities of interest such as Latino, Asian, and Black low-middle income, multigenerational families working in the City of Fresno.

These district boundaries restore wholeness to the historic Sunnyside community of interest which is currently split into three districts. Sunnyside High School is the largest high school in Fresno Unified and the most diverse in terms of its robust Hispanic/Latinx, Hmong, and Punjabi communities. This area has become a vibrant and growing area for Hmong and Punjabi families and encompasses their farming and transportation businesses, in close proximity to their cultural centers.

### District 1 areas include:

- Sunnyside
- o Tarpey Village
- o Orange Cove
- Sanger
- Parlier
- Selma
- Fowler
- Reedley
- Easton
- o Laton
- Unincorporated Areas of Fresno
  - Calwa
  - Another note of interest is that in Malaga, students in this region go to Fowler Unified schools. In the current map, they are not in the same district and are unincorporated areas of the County. This revised map brings the communities of interest together.

### District 2

The Fresno Inclusive Families Map tells a more complete story of who is moving to Northwest Fresno and how there are complete 180-degree realities between neighborhoods in Northwest Fresno. In a quick Zillow search of sold homes in Figarden, Fresno, you will notice that some homes recently sold in the neighborhood Southeast of the Bullard & Marks intersection for an average of \$350k but in a bordering neighborhood closer to Van Ness Ave for an average of \$750k. Some even go above \$1 million. Families living in the neighborhood Southeast of the Bullard & Marks intersection work hard labor jobs, are more diverse, and overall live a completely different reality from the families more North of them and closer to or on Van Ness Ave.

Van Ness Ave is just East of Palm Ave, South of Shaw Ave, and just East of Marks Ave, North of Shaw Ave. However, the same dichotomy previously mentioned exists South and North of Shaw Ave. This is why District 2 goes narrowly South until it meets the Herndon No. 39 Canal. The difference is most apparent when you drive through the part of Van Ness Ave that is commonly known as 'Christmas Tree Lane,' where it feels completely separated from the rest of the city.

Areas included in this district are:

- Old Figarden near the Sierra Sky Port
- Fresno Heart and Surgical Center
- Clovis High
- Reagan Education Center
- Woodward Park
- Clovis West High area
- Buchanan High area
- Clovis North High area
- All mountain and foothill communities

## District 3

This district brings together neighborhoods in both Clovis and Fresno that have more in common with each other than the more affluent parts of Clovis and the City of Fresno.

- Neighborhoods:
  - Pinedale
  - Central Fresno along the Blackstone corridor and East of Van Ness Ave.
     Ends south on Dakota
  - Mayfair District (County Island)
  - Apartments surrounding Fresno State
  - The more working-class part of the Hoover High area
  - County Islands of East Central Fresno that are predominantly working-class families of color
  - Clovis High

### District 4

District 4 includes the largest and lowest-density rural areas of the county. The Western region of the county is currently divided into Districts 1 and 4. This map would bring them together and give more voice to residents living in the West and developing parts of Fresno. District 1 is consistently an agricultural district. It also uplifts Fresno's most historical Black part of town (Southwest) by changing the dividing line between current Districts 1 and 3, to keep Southwest Fresno whole.

Areas included in this District:

- o Bowles
- Easton
- Laton

- Mendota
- Firebaugh
- San Joaquin
- Tranquility
- Kerman
- Huron
- Coalinga
- Five Points
- Lanare
- o Riverdale
- Raisin City
- Caruthers
- o Biola
- City of Fresno COI Neighborhoods with similar interests
  - Highway City
  - Herndon
  - Central Unified
  - Southwest Fresno (Westside)

## District 5

In this map, District 5 includes more working families in the Central and Southwestern part of Fresno and extends into the more urban center of the all Fresno district (currently District 3). The Black community of interest is included in District 5.

- Gives voice to residents living in the Southwestern portion of the City of Fresno. A
  distinct historically Black community with different concerns from the more Western parts
  of the county.
- The district has a high concentration of multigenerational households, with the majority being low-income renters, and a notable cluster of generational homeowners.
- It keeps the California Avenue, Ivy center and Annadale neighborhoods whole and in one district with areas further north with similar interests.
- District 5 areas include:
  - o Apartments between San Jose Ave and Barstow Ave and Brawley and Valentine.
  - Lawless Elementary neighborhood
  - Apartments Southeast of Marty Ave and Bullard Ave
  - Neighborhood southeast of Bullard and Marks Ave
  - o Keeps Fresno City limits and Southeast Fresno together
  - The following neighborhoods and elementary school clusters in the City of Fresno are kept together:
    - Sunset, Bethune, King and Kirk, Polk, McKinley and Tilley
  - o Chandler Airport
  - o Fresno Chaffee Zoo
  - Tower District