

From: [Cassandra Little](#)
To: [Fresno County 2021 Redistricting](#)
Subject: Redistricting in the County of Fresno
Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 4:58:15 PM

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Re: Redistricting in the County of Fresno

As the city and county center has moved progressively North East over the last 40 years, Black families and communities have moved North into the 99 corridors and Central Unified School District areas near Bullard High. The county's current district boundaries disadvantage Black communities that live along the 99 corridor and in Southwest Fresno. We are split into multiple districts despite having unified interests and a limited presence in the Far Western part of the county, diluting our voice and voting power.

These communities along the 99 and in the Western part of the City of Fresno have seen significant growth in the last 10 years due to the unavailability of affordable housing in other parts of the city and county for multigenerational middle-income families. Our neighbors are primarily low-middle income, diverse Hmong, Sikh, MENA, and Latino multigenerational households. We live in the most diverse part of the county and that diversity should be represented on the board of supervisors.

Our shared interests include access to living wage jobs, health care, quality K-12 education, and opportunities for homeownership in our neighborhoods. Black community residents shouldn't have to move to the Northeast to live in new and quality homes simply because the County has directed significant investment for building new homes in those areas only.

West Fresno and Central Fresno along the 99 are different from Kerman, Mendota, Firebaugh, Coalinga, Huron, and Caruthers and we should not be a district that is over 90 percent rural and does not share the same diversity as they are primarily Latino/Latinx.

The district lines from over 20 years ago no longer reflect our communities. We have changed significantly and will continue to do so in the future. Respect all of our communities and do not simply equalize the current districts solely for population, with no respect to communities of interest, neighborhoods, and changing demographics. Doing so is immoral and illegal under the FAIR MAPs Act of 2019 and the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.

We hope that the voices of our communities will be heard in the redistricting process as it is our right following the census and your responsibility as our current

representatives.

Respectfully,

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Cassandra D. Little Ph.D.

Interim President & CEO

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