

**Sacramento**  
**API REGIONAL**  
**NETWORK**

HMONG  
INNOVATING  
POLITICS



SACRAMENTO FILIPINO LGBTQIA



November 6, 2021

Dear Supervisors,

We write to you with urgency and deep concern for the direction the County dialogue is going in regards to redistricting. After Tuesday evening's meeting, we are very disappointed with the lack of consideration for the diverse Asian American Community, which constitutes a large and influential political, economic and social bloc of Sacramento County. We appreciated the brave comments from Cha Vang and Amar Shergill, but with the maps being advanced, it seems the Supervisors did not consider the vast Asian American population in Sacramento County of any interest. We are urging you to reconsider.

According to data from the 2020 Census, the city of Elk Grove increased its diversity exponentially, with Asian Americans now the largest racial group in the city.<sup>1</sup> Many of us who live in the city of Elk Grove have roots in South Sacramento, where the largest Asian population in the Capital city resides. We were born in the region, attended school at the border of Sacramento, and when we were able to, we bought homes in Elk Grove's booming home market in the last ten years. Between the two regions, we share family, community, and business ties. The Asian American community is inextricably linked with each other between Elk Grove and South Sacramento, traveling between the regions for family, commerce, dining, college, work and other purposes.

Elk Grove and South Sacramento also have ties between school districts as the Elk Grove Unified School District overlaps with south Sacramento city limits. The 63,000+ students in the EGUSD are made up of both South Sacramento and Elk Grove city youth and their families.<sup>2</sup> There is very little representation in the EGUSD from the city of Rancho Cordova, which has its own school district.

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.egcitizen.com/news/2020-census-elk-grove-s-diversity-grows/article\\_7c28eb3a-0763-11ec-834c-6717ff416d08.html](http://www.egcitizen.com/news/2020-census-elk-grove-s-diversity-grows/article_7c28eb3a-0763-11ec-834c-6717ff416d08.html)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.egusd.net/schools/>

Furthermore, for a large constituency of us who identify not only as Asian American community members, but also residents of Elk Grove, we must underscore that we share much more in common with South Sacramento than we do with any other region in the County, including areas like Rancho Murrietta and Rancho Cordova. It is a rarity for us, and other Elk Grove community members, to share commonalities with these areas, including roads, commerce or community ties. It is our opinion these areas would be better represented linked with regions such as Folsom, Carmichael, Fair Oaks, Gold River, and Orangevale.

**In all, we strongly encourage the County Board of Supervisors to place Elk Grove city, in its entirety, and South Sacramento, including up to Florin and across to Vineyard, together under one district, as drafted in Public Map 102.<sup>3</sup> Failure to do so would be devastating to the voice and needs of our community as we already struggle with equitable representation, capacity, and power.** This also underscores a concern with the evident limitations in accessing public comment and input on these processes. It doesn't seem appropriate that the County Meetings do not have transparent public call-in times, better accessibility measures, and other ways for community members to be involved in such a determinative process. It is too tough on our community to wait on an hours-long meeting for an opening for public input. And our leaders just don't have the capacity as we remain strapped to the work of repairing our communities from the devastating impacts this pandemic has had on us, addressing racial inequities and racial violence, and advancing the continued fight for visibility and resources. Nonetheless, we did not work as hard as we did to get our toughest-to-reach communities counted during the census only to be methodically left out and stifled for the next ten years. Poor maps could have devastating impacts to our community.

**The focus of the undersigned community-based organizations and leaders has been to build and empower a diverse Asian American community in an effort to improve our health, economic and political access in the region. Please help us by ensuring that our communities are kept together in the redrawing of the County political maps.**

Thank you for your careful consideration. If you have additional questions, you can reach Megan Sapigao at [megan.sapigao@gmail.com](mailto:megan.sapigao@gmail.com) or Nancy Xiong at [Nancy.Xiong@hipcalifornia.com](mailto:Nancy.Xiong@hipcalifornia.com).

Regards,

The Undersigned Asian American Serving Organizations, Leaders, Community Members and Residents:

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<sup>3</sup> Although Public Map 102 is most ideal, Public Maps [107](#) or [103](#) are also considerations as they include parts of the referenced regions.

*AAPIs for Civic Empowerment Education Fund*

*Hmong Innovating Politics*

*Hmong Youth & Parents United*

*Iu Mien Community Services*

*Jakara Movement*

*Sacramento A/PI Regional Network*

*Sacramento Filipinx LGBTQIA*

*Amar Singh Shergill, Community Member & Elk Grove Resident*

*Angelica Moua, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Apollross Reyes, Florin Resident & Community Member*

*AsiaLyn Lee, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Bobby Dalton G. Roy, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Cha Vang, Community Member & Vineyard Resident*

*Christina Chun Moslen, Elk Grove Resident & Community Member*

*Cynthia Bonta, Community Member*

*Gordon Lum, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Jaron Dumag, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Jeffery Ogata, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Jonathan Tran, Pocket-Meadowview Resident*

*Josie Patria, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Kao Ye Thao, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Maria Renee Zapata, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*May O Lee, Community Activist*

*Megan Sapigao, Community Member & Elk Grove Resident*

*Mona Tawatao, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Mykhou Vue, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Nancy Xiong, Greenhaven-Pocket Resident*

*Nathaniel Roque, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Nkauj Iab Yang, Community Advocate*

*Ren Lum, Sacramento County Resident & Community Member*

*Dr. Robyn Rodriguez, Elk Grove Resident & Chair of The Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies*

*Vince Andrade-Sales, Chair of the Board of Directors, Pacific Rim Heritage Foundation*

*Yumi Sera, Community Member*

