Monterey County Board of Supervisors Referral Submittal Form

Referral No. 2021.26 Assignment Date:11/16/21

(Completed by CAO's Office)

SUBMITTAL - Completed by referring Board office and returned to CAO no later than <u>noon</u> on Thursday prior to Board meeting:

Date: 11/9/21	Submitted By: Supervisor Lopez	District #: 3	
Referral Title: Letter of Concern to California Citizens Redistricting Commission			

Referral Purpose: To send a letter of concern to California Citizens Redistricting Commission in regards to the proposed redistricting maps and their impact on the Salinas Valley.

Brief Referral Description (attach additional sheet as required): The maps being proposed by California Citizens Redistricting Commission divide the communities of the Salinas Valley, who share economic, political, and cultural backgrounds. The proposed maps appear to prioritize the needs of other communities while ignoring and willingly breaking up the political voice of the Salinas Valley. The communities along the 101 corridor, including Bradley, San Ardo, San Lucas, King City, Greenfield, Soledad, Gonzales, Salinas and the San Antonio Valley should be kept in a single district for Assembly, Senate, and Congressional districting purposes.

Supervisor Lopez requests urgent consideration per language in referral process "8. Occasionally, referrals may be made on urgent matters wherein the time necessary to provide the preliminary departmental analysis and referral completion outlined above will extend beyond the time relevant to the referral. For example, a referral to take a position on urgent State or Federal legislation with an anticipated date of adoption within twenty-one (21) days.

a) Urgent Referrals will be separately listed on the Board's Agenda under CAO Comments & Referrals for consideration. The CAO and/or a department representative may provide a summary of the referral including potential costs, challenges for completion and alternatives. The Board shall take an action on urgent referrals to:

i. Direct the referral be processed and completed as requested;

ii. Direct the referral be processed and completed with modifications; or,

iii. Reject the referral."

Classification - Implication	Mode of Response	
□ Ministerial / Minor	☐ Memo □ Board Report □ Presentation	
□ Land Use Policy	Requested Response Timeline	
Social Policy	\Box 2 weeks \Box 1 month \Box 6 weeks	
□ Budget Policy	□ Status reports until completed	
□ Other:	□ Other: _Urgent □ Specific Date: 11/16/21	

ASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO at Board Meeting. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s) Completed by CAO's Office:

Department(s):	Referral Lead:	Board Date:			
County Administrative Office	Annette D'Adamo	11/16/21			
REASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s). Completed by					
CAO's Office:					
Department(s):	Referral Lead:	Date:			

ANALYSIS - Completed by Department and copied to Board Offices and CAO:

Department analysis of resources required/impact on existing department priorities to complete referral:				
Analysis Completed By:	Department's Recommended Response Timeline			
□ By requested date				
Date:	□ 2 weeks □ 1 month □ 6 weeks □ 6 months □ 1 year □ Other/Specific Date:			

REFERRAL RESPONSE/COMPLETION - Provided by Department to Board Offices and CAO:

Referral Response Date:	Board Item No.:	Referrals List Deletion:

Note: Please cc Karina Bokanovich, Rocio Quezada and Maegan Ruiz-Ignacio on <u>all CAO correspondence</u> relating to referrals.

MONTEREY COUNTY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LUIS A. ALEJO, *District 1* JOHN M. PHILLIPS, *District 2* CHRIS M. LOPEZ, *District 3* WENDY ROOT ASKEW, *Chair, District 4* MARY ADAMS, *Vice Chair, District 5*

November 16, 2021

California Citizens Redistricting Commission 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Redistricting Impacts on the Salinas Valley

Dear 2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission Members:

The Monterey County Board of Supervisors wishes to express concerns associated with the visualizations that have been used to craft Congressional, Senate, and Assembly districts covering the Salinas Valley. It is our belief that the communities of Bradley, Lockwood, San Lucas, San Ardo, King City, Greenfield, Soledad, Gonzales, and Salinas should remain within shared districts for the three seats mentioned above. This region shares communities of interest, economic ties, historical representation and local government representation that would be negatively impacted if these lines are adopted.

The Congressional map dated November 7, 2021 shows a clearly gerrymandered grab of the community of Soledad. This line separates the communities of Soledad and Gonzales, who are so closely knit that until relatively recently they shared one high school district. Tying the community of Soledad to the coastal district, without any way of getting there but to drive North or South on Highway 101, through communities encompassed on either side by the neighboring congressional district is unacceptable.

The Senate visualization divides the community of King City from the unincorporated area known as Pine Canyon, if you ask any resident of Pine Canyon where they live the answer will undoubtedly be King City. There are no schools, grocery stores, clinics or resources in Pine Canyon. These communities are one and the same, yet in the November 7th iteration of the maps they are split and represented by different Senate districts.

The Assembly visualization too divides the community of King City in half, and perhaps more egregiously drops San Lucas, San Ardo, Bradley and Lockwood out of the district. All of these communities do their grocery shopping in King City, they share the same High School District, King City Joint Union High School District, and have a shared economic interest with a basis in Agriculture.

These communities share a single Supervisorial District within our County, Monterey County's Third District. Through the pandemic the Supervisor of the District met weekly with the Mayors of each of the incorporated jurisdictions listed in this letter to collaboratively address the challenges of the pandemic. The cities of the Salinas Valley have worked together and with their Supervisor to address issues exacerbated by the digital divide, access to healthcare, transportation issues on the only major corridor, Highway 101, amongst other challenges. To divide them through this process would be detrimental to their ability to collectively raise concerns about shared issues. The Voting Rights Act may no longer be the law of the land, but we must not ignore the lessons that necessitated its creation and implementation. The lines proposed divide a larger community, in every sense of the word, they are proud to share the moniker Southern Monterey County. We ask that you reconsider any recommendations that divides this region.

Sincerely,



Wendy Root Askew Chair, Monterey County Board of Supervisors