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November 19, 2021

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Los Angeles County
Citizens Redistricting Commission
P.O. Box 56447
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

Sent via email

RE: SBCCOG Comments on Los Angeles County Redistricting 2021 Map Options

Dear Dr. Hartsough,

On behalf of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG), thank you and the Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission) for your work throughout the redistricting process. As the Commission begins to evaluate proposed map options, the SBCCOG offers two general comments for all map options being considered.

The SBCCOG supports map options that do not divide cities between multiple Supervisorial Districts. We strongly feel that most cities, particularly smaller ones, should be within one district. We understand that for a large city like Los Angeles, it must be split among multiple districts. Smaller cities throughout the South Bay should be kept whole as they are their own communities of common interest.

Although the SBCCOG supports individual cities being included within one district, the SBCCOG jurisdictions have been within two districts. This has worked well for us and therefore we support map options that provide the South Bay subregion with two Supervisors. There is some concern about being split into three districts because the needs of the area may be marginalized by being absorbed in other communities of interest. While councils of governments are informal groupings of cities, they have created communities of shared interests. For this reason, we would request that these jurisdictional groupings be considered and instances should be avoided where only one or two cities from a subregion are in a district with the remainder of the cities in the group in a different district.

Again, we thank you and the Commissioners for your dedication and service in this vital aspect of democracy that will help ensure fair representation at the Board of Supervisors. Should you have any questions, please contact SBCCOG Executive Director, Jacki Bacharach, at (310) 371-7222.

Sincerely,

Drew Boyles, SBCCOG Chair
Mayor, City of El Segundo

cc. Commissioners, Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission
SBCCOG Board of Directors

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