

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment Letter
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 5:41:33 PM

Dear Chair Smith and Esteemed Redistricting Commissioners, please find the attached public comment from Sunnyvale Councilmembers Russ Melton and Alysa Cisneros. Thank you.

October 22, 2021

Dear 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission,

Thank you for conducting a robust outreach program as you prepare recommendations for the Board of Supervisors to consider regarding 2021 redistricting of the Supervisor Districts.

For decades, Sunnyvale has been placed into two districts, District 3 and District 5. And, to be clear, the policy of Sunnyvale City Council is to advocate for county representatives from at least two supervisorial districts (Council Policy 7.0 F.8). Speaking on our own behalf, however, we suggest that proper representation of Sunnyvale, as a community of interest, is best achieved by having the entirety of Sunnyvale in one district. The City of Sunnyvale, itself, is a community of interest and is most appropriately represented by one County Supervisor.

In fact, former Santa Clara County District 5 Supervisor Dianne McKenna has also endorsed the concept of one supervisor representing all of Sunnyvale. In a letter dated September 28, 2021, to Advisory Redistricting Commission Chair Nancy Smith, former Supervisor McKenna wrote, "For over half a century, the City of Sunnyvale has been split between two districts and sometimes divided between competing interests."

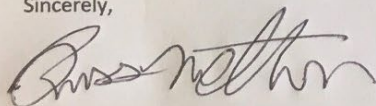
Supervisor McKenna also wrote, "The Community of Sunnyvale is split in two. Residents are unclear who represents them and find it frustrating when they are directed to the other office. Political and civic leaders in Sunnyvale feel a need to contact two Supervisors to gain support on issues." Just as important, she wrote, "... when an elected official resides within your community there is a greater sense that he/she understands the issues. When both of your representatives live outside your community that focus may be more difficult to achieve."

In conclusion, Supervisor McKenna wrote, "When districts cross city boundaries it may be difficult to keep communities of interest together. I recommend keeping the City of Sunnyvale within one district."

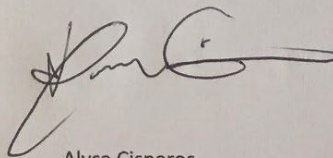
I support Supervisor McKenna's recommendation because it is time, after over half a century, that the interests of Sunnyvale no longer be divided and in competition with other cities represented by two supervisor districts. Please keep the Community of Sunnyvale together!

Thank you for your consideration and service to the community.

Sincerely,



Russ Melton
Sunnyvale City Councilmember, District 4



Alysa Cisneros
Sunnyvale City Councilmember, District 2