

From: [Linda Sell](#)
To: [2021redistricting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950 Map
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 1:18:34 PM
Attachments: [Support Equal and Equitable 2 ID 66950 Map Benefits Details..pdf](#)

Dear 2021 Redistricting Commissioners,

My name is Linda Sell. I am a resident of Sunnyvale and I have been active in the community in support of efforts that bring the community together for over a decade. These efforts included support for education, environment and unity efforts in Sunnyvale that resulted in Sunnyvale District city elections. These efforts were in support of students, families, workers and the whole community. I have attached my research on this redistricting issue and support for the Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950 Map.

I am involved with several community organizations but I am writing on my own behalf as an individual.

Thank you to all the commissioners for your work to engage and listen to the community.

Regards,
-Linda Sell



Support Equal & Equitable 2.0 (EE2), ID: 66950 Map Benefits

- Keeps the rural communities and mountains in one district for wildfire prevention preparedness focus in Santa Clara County District 1
- Joins communities with similar transportation systems
- Keeps most cities whole.
- Has similar racial voting percentages to maps such as the most recent labeled Unity Map

Rural and hillside communities protection from wildfires: Climate change is here today as observed by the record fires and record heat. The most concerning byproducts of wildfires are the smallest particles that have long been linked to increased risk of illness and death affecting both cardiovascular and respiratory systems. In the long run, if global greenhouse gas emissions are not brought under control, fire seasons will grow longer and more violent. The rural areas near the mountains should have more attention to wildfire prevention. Wildfires move much faster uphill. On a slope, air rushes in more easily from the downhill than the uphill side and can push the flames faster and farther. Some of the steps to take are regulated and planned cutting of trees, having firefighting tools nearby and handy; and emergency operations for similar areas. As shown in EE2 map, mountains, rural areas, Los Gatos, Almaden, Gilroy, Morgan Hill, Gilroy and San Martin in District 1 being in the same county district for wildfire prevention, preparedness, and emergency operations.

Joins communities with similar transportation systems and corridors: Transportation for example District 5 cities are Palo Alto, Mountain View, Los Altos Hills, Los Altos: The four cities of Santa Clara County's northwest generally work together as one. All 4 are represented as one bunch to the transit agency, water board, and to the open space board.

Keeps most cities whole: Equal & Equitable 2.0 map has all cities except for San Jose kept whole in one district: Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Saratoga, Santa Clara, San Martin, Sunnyvale, Stanford. The residents in the same city have similar interests so having the whole city in one district makes it effective for all the residents in a city to identify and communicate with their one county representative office.

Equitable: Equal & Equitable 2.0 (EE2 map) map has similar Citizen Hispanic Voting Age Population percentages (HVAP), Asian Voting Age Population percentages (AVAP), Black Voting Age Population percentages (BVAP) when the EE2 map is compared to the most recent map labeled Unity Map; ID: 67383(U map)(see table 1 to table 5 in the following pages). Of particular note in both EE2 map and U map the district 3 maps have an Asian minority majority population which is 50.2% and 50% AVAP respectively. Therefore, we believe this might meet the requirements for the Federal Voting Rights Act section 2 Gingles Preconditions #1 but the other preconditions requirements are also needed to meet the requirements for the Federal Voting Rights Act section 2 protections. In addition, EE2 map and U map have 39.4% and 40.7% HVAP respectively. As indicated in the reference, it appears when a district meets all the Gingles preconditions in which majority minority voting age population is the first criteria then the Federal Voting Rights Act (VRA) compliance protected district obtained. These VRA complaint districts are the "...only allowable reason for race to predominate in redistricting.

Where the VRA does not apply, race may still be considered but cannot be a predominating factor...”

“...Federal Voting Rights Act Basics U.S. Title 52, §10301 et seq. The goal of VRA compliance is to prevent minority vote dilution. Presently, only Section 2 of the VRA is operative...

...A Section 2 plaintiff must first prove the Gingles [“JING gulls”] preconditions apply...Gingles Preconditions #1 Minority population sufficiently large and compact enough to form a single district. Gingle #1 is measured using Citizens of Voting Age Population (CVAP). “Large” means over 50% of the CVAP. . “Compact” can include non-contiguous areas if they are in reasonable proximity and share similar interests.

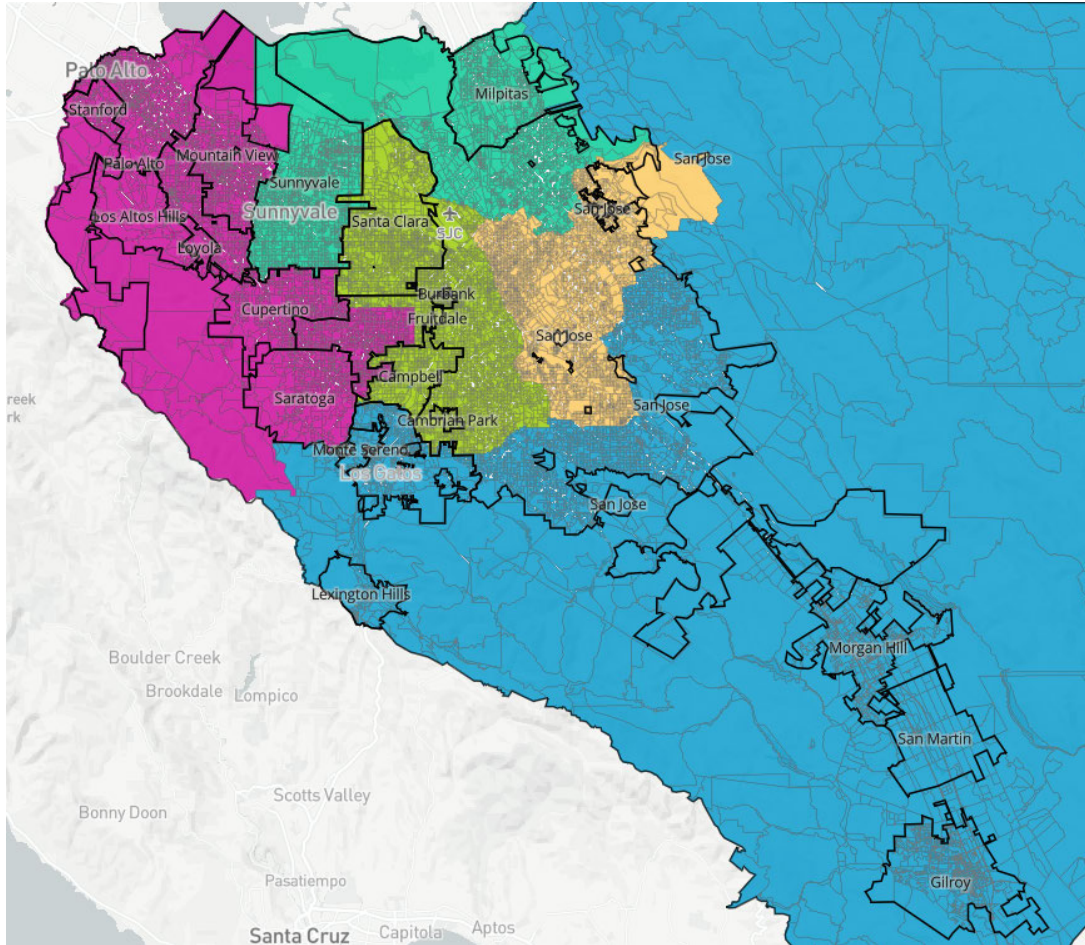
...VRA compliance is the only allowable reason for race to predominate in redistricting..Where the VRA does not apply, race may still be considered but cannot be a predominating factor...”¹

¹ “2020 CRC Ready Reference.” *Wedrawthelines.org*, 2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission, 20 Oct. 2021, page 11
https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/ccrc/pages/358/attachments/original/1634753404/CRC_Ready_Reference_-_updated_%281%29.pdf?1634753404.

Support Map - Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950

https://districtr.org/edit/66950?event=santa_clara_county

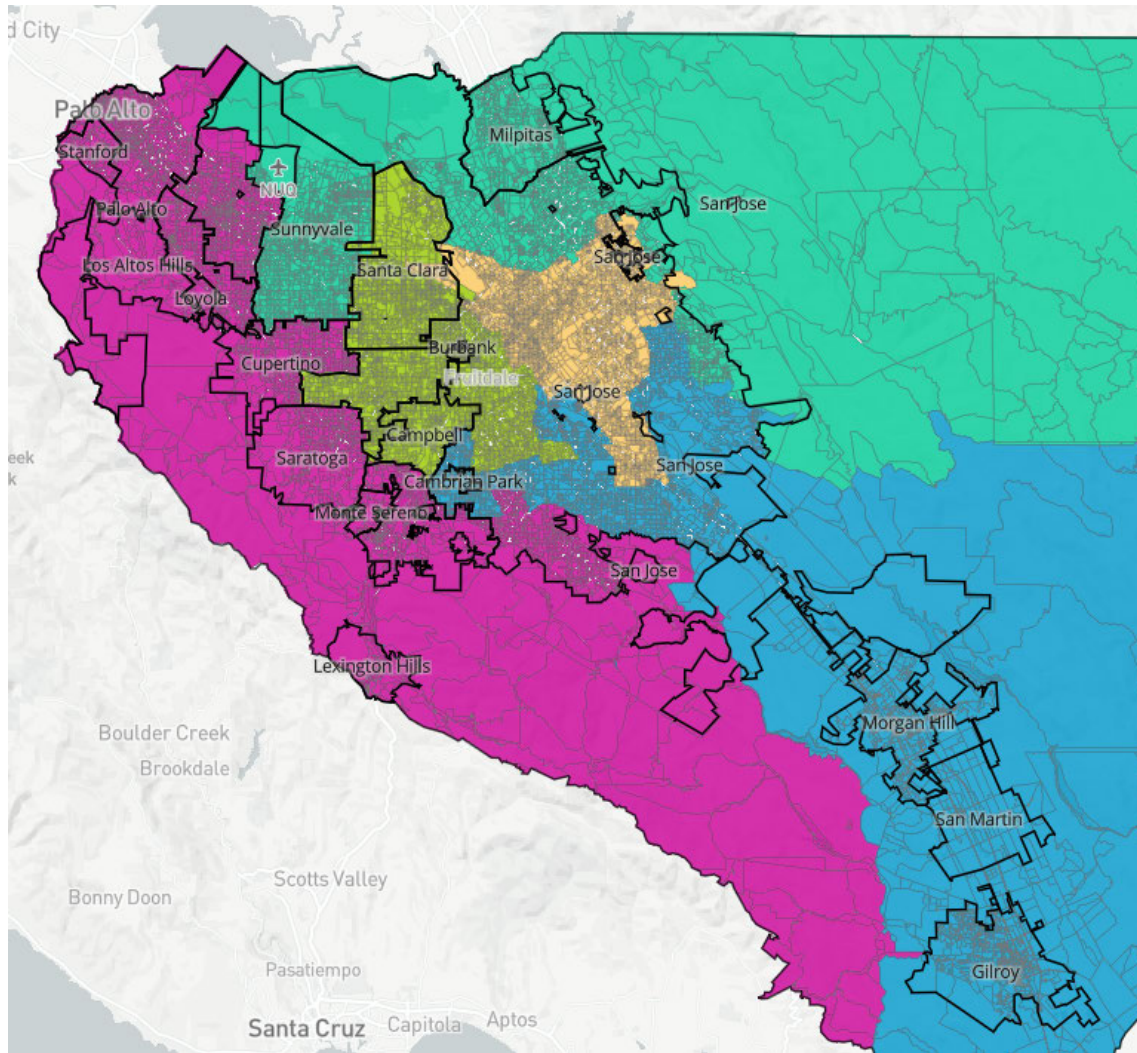
[#102](https://countyexec.sccgov.org/2021-redistricting-process/communities-interest)



Not Support Unity Map; ID: 67383

<https://districtr.org/plan/63279>

[#109](https://countyexec.sccgov.org/2021-redistricting-process/communities-interest)



Citizen Voting Age Population

Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950

<https://countyexec.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb621/files/2021-10/102%20Map%20of%20Equal%20%26%20Equitable%202.0.pdf>

Unity Map, ID: 63279

[:https://countyexec.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb621/files/2021-10/109%20Updated%20Unity%20Map.pdf](https://countyexec.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb621/files/2021-10/109%20Updated%20Unity%20Map.pdf)

Table 1: District 1

	Hispanic	Asian	Black
Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950	21.4%	25.5%	1.9%
Unity Map, ID: 63279	25.1%	23.5%	2.7%

Table 2: District 2

	Hispanic	Asian	Black
Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950	39.4%	32.6%	3.3%
Unity Map, ID: 63279	40.7%	33.7%	3.1%

Table 3: District 3

	Hispanic	Asian	Black
Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950	15.4%	50.2%	2.5%
Unity Map, ID: 63279	15.1%	50%	2.4%

Table 4: District 4

	Hispanic	Asian	Black
Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950	17.5%	19.6%	3.1%
Unity Map, ID: 63279	16%	23.5%	2.9%

Table 5: District 5

	Hispanic	Asian	Black
Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950	7.1%	34%	1.5%
Unity Map, ID: 63279	6.1%	29.8%	1.3%

Wildfire Prevention and Preparedness Focus in County District 1

The Equal & Equitable 2.0, ID: 66950 make sense from a wildfires prevention and preparedness perspective and from a reduction of greenhouse gas perspective which was discussed previous with the more efficient transit systems.

Climate change is here today as observed by the record fires, record heat, and record storms. Studies have indicated that "Climate Change Will Give Rise to More Cancers: [UCSF Study Focuses on Global Impact for Major Cancers and Steps Needed to Lessen Risks](#)" "...The impacts of climate change on health are large and are expected to continue growing without rapid action. High temperatures, poor air quality and wildfires cause higher rates of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases..." and "There is a lot we can be doing to mitigate climate change..." said co-author Naomi Beyeler, MPH, co-director of the Evidence to Policy Initiative and Lead for Climate and Health at the UCSF Institute for Global Health Sciences." With this county redistricting, we have an opportunity to mitigate impacts of climate change by keeping the hillsides and rural regions together so there is a focus on wildfire prevention and emergency operations if needed and to have the district lines to follow transportation corridors for more effective planning for transit systems to be planned for reduction of greenhouse gases.

A recent article in the Santa Clara County Medical Association Magazine's The Bulletin¹, "Silent calamity: The health impacts of wildfire smoke" was also published in the Yale Climate Connections which is an initiative of the Yale Center for Environmental Communication (YCEC). This article provides an overview of studies showing the deadly impacts of wildfire smoke and its links to climate change.

The article highlights an October 2020 policy brief in the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research², "Managing the growing cost of wildfire," by Marshal Burke, et al. which describes the health burden brought on by these fires because of the massive production of PM_{2.5} (particulate matter with a diameter of <2.5 um). The article discusses several ominous trends:

- The most concerning byproducts of wildfires are the smallest particles that have long been linked to increased risk of illness and death affecting both cardiovascular and respiratory systems.
- In the long run, if global greenhouse gas emissions are not brought under control, fire seasons will grow longer and more violent. Therefore, we must reduce the impacts on climate that are also an important underlying driver of intensifying wildfires in California and the West.

The article also states

A recent Nature Communications study led by Rosana Aguilera, a postdoctoral researcher at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, examined 14 years of Southern California fires. The authors found up to a 10% increase in respiratory hospitalizations for every 10 µg/m³ increase

in wildfire-specific PM2.5, compared to a 1.3% increase for non-wildfire PM2.5. Similarly, a 2020 study led by Daniel Kiser of the Desert Research Institute found that asthma-related visits to urgent care centers and emergency rooms in the Reno area were boosted by an additional 6.1% for every 5 µg/m³ increase in PM2.5 for cases when wildfire smoke was present compared to when it was not present.

In summary, global greenhouse gas emissions will make the wildfire more violent and more frequent leading to serious health-hazards to the community. We ask that the redistricting commission do everything it can to draw lines for our county district which are critical to protect our community.

1. Henson, Bob, "Silent calamity: The health impacts of wildfire smoke," The Bulletin which is Official Magazine of the Santa Clara County Medical Association, Vol. 27 | No. 2, Second Quarter 2021, page 26 https://issuu.com/18621/docs/sccma_bulletin_q2_2021_web and the Yale Climate Connections which is an initiative of the Yale Center for Environmental Communication (YCEC) <https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2021/05/silent-calamity-the-health-impacts-of-wildfire-smoke/>
2. Burke, Marshall, "Managing the growing cost of wildfire," Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research <https://siepr.stanford.edu/research/publications/managing-growing-cost-wildfire>