

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Smith, Jeff; 2021redistricting](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] D4 Santa Clara County Redistricting
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 6:00:09 PM
Attachments: [WGNA Redistricting Letter to County Supervisors 20211024.pdf](#)

2021 County of Santa Clara Redistricting Commission:

Please see attached letter from the Willow Glen Neighborhood Association regarding the proposed changes in boundaries to District 4. Please assure our letter is added to the public record and that we are noted as a community of interest.

Sincerely,

De Anna Mirzadegan
President
Willow Glen Neighborhood Association
www.wgna.net



October 24, 2021

To the 2021 County of Santa Clara Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of the Willow Glen Neighborhood Association (WGNA), we submit this letter regarding potential changes to the District 4 boundaries.

Willow Glen is one of Santa Clara County's oldest neighborhoods which until 1936 was its own incorporated town. Willow Glen residents have a long history of civic and cultural engagement, always striving to create a community built on friendship and kindness with their neighbors. Willow Glen is a welcoming and diverse community representing an inspiring number of ethnic and religious groups with origins from across the globe. Willow Glen is also home to a substantial LGBT population choosing Willow Glen for its sense of community and proximity to the LGBT community center in the same city council district.

Willow Glen also has the oldest population – 70 plus – living alone in San Jose and we are focused on assisting our fellow elderly neighbors.

Willow Glen is not only a geographic area but an established, genuine, and well documented community of interest. A community of interest with shared values and experiences including that of commerce, family, history, institutional, religious, schools (private and public), social, youth sports leagues, volunteerism, and civic pride. These are all attributes every neighborhood in the county would hope to develop within its business districts and neighborhoods.

The Willow Glen Neighborhood Association would prefer the entire Willow Glen neighborhood be in one county supervisor district. At a minimum, we recommend no changes to the present boundary lines in Willow Glen.

The current proposed maps appear gerrymandered and make little sense when it comes to history, neighborhoods, and compactness. The proposed maps lack natural boundaries, contains odd shapes, and divides neighborhoods.

AB849 states district boundaries should be easy to identify, understandable by residents, and utilize natural or artificial barriers. Furthermore, AB849 encourages maps to be drawn that encourage geographical compactness. Instead, the special interest maps proposed do the opposite and appear unrecognizable.

We leave one final question. Are boundary changes needed at all based on the actual 2020 census data?

Sincerely,

De Anna Mirzadegan
President
Willow Glen Neighborhood Association
www.wgna.net