

My comments here focus on districts other than the 7<sup>th</sup>. However, I hope you will have opportunity to add them to your overall input and consider them at some point.

I have two primary goals: One is to preserve the sense of “neighborhood” exemplified in the March, 2015, City of Long Beach Neighborhoods map. This is because each neighborhood is likely to have its own history, values, and interests, including such factors as rent vs. own status and racial/ethnic status – and many neighborhoods have strong, proactive associations, to boot. My second goal concerns the current “whale with a tail” shape of District 4, a shape that makes no geographic sense. I thus posit altering the geographic axis separating Districts 4 and 5 from a north-south axis to an east-west axis. This result encompasses the following:

- ★ District 4 would comprise some eight neighborhoods: Lakewood Village, Plaza West, Los Altos North and South, Stearns Park, Traffic Circle, Park Estates, and Bryant.
- ★ District 5 would comprise a range of neighborhoods, some of which are very small: Plaza East, the four El Dorado (Park) areas, Rancho Estates, Palo Verde, College Parks Estates, Bixby Hill, CSULB (perhaps), University Park Estates, Alamitos Heights, Belmont Park, Naples, Peninsula, and the nine neighborhoods surrounding SEADIP.

Consequences of this redistribution:

- ✓ Both Districts 4 and 5 would have reasonable geographic shapes.
- ✓ As far as I can tell, the populations of the two districts would remain close to the 2010 Census results: District 4 adds to some 51,000, District 5 to some 48,000.
- ✓ Much of the area designated as “Cambodia Town” could form part of a newly redistributed District 6, comprising (for example) the SE Wrigley, Sunrise, Central, Zaferia, and Memorial Heights neighborhoods.
- ✓ The western boundary of District 3 would move to the east, as some of its “historical” neighborhoods would be redistributed into District 5. But this is only likely to decrease its population to a level closer to that of the redistributed Districts 4 and 5.
- ✓ Other current Districts could also be redistributed:
  - move Saint Francis from District 9 into District 8, while leaving existing neighborhoods in District 9 as current;
  - District 8 would then comprise Saint Francis, Dairy, Lindbergh, Paramount, Addams, Carmelitos, and Bixby Knolls;
  - District 7 would comprise California Heights, Wrigley Heights, Arlington, Upper Westside, North Wrigley, Sutter, Westside, and Los Cerritos.
  - District 3 would comprise Recreation Park, Bluff Heights, Belmont Shore, Belmont Heights, Rose Park, Carroll Park, and Bluff Park.
  - District 2 would comprise West and East Village, Downtown, Franklin, Bixby Park, and east part of Hellman.

- District 1 would comprise South Wrigley, Willmore, Saint Mary's, Lower Westside, Westside South, Magnolia District, Washington School, and the west part of Hellman.

Of course, the 2015 map of the city's neighborhoods might be relevant no longer. Moreover, I realize that redistricting is accomplished via Census Tracts, rather than by neighborhoods, so certainly fine-tuning would be mandatory. Also, I cannot forecast what the population results of the 2020 Census will bring; yet I posit the redistribution proposed here would result in a deviation from mean district population not greater than +/- 5%. What this redistribution does do is to obviate the "whale with a tail" shape of District 4's current geography while retaining neighborhood districts as much as possible – and these were my original goals.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit my two-cents worth and thank you for reading my remarks all the way through!

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