

Beth Cleary

Subject: FW: District Elections Map

From: Kate Dudley
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 10:27 AM
To: Web-City Clerk <clerkweb@cityofsantamaria.org>
Subject: District Elections Map

Dear Santa Maria City Council and Elected Representatives,

Please let me start by introducing myself. My name is Katherine Dudley and I am the spouse of an active duty service member currently stationed at Vandenberg Air Force Base. In the short time we have lived in California's central coast, we have come to love the land and it's people and consider this place home. In fact we hope to make our home here after my husband completes his service with the United States Air Force. And when you consider a place home, you care deeply about it's people and community.

So as I became more involved in this community, I was compelled to respond to the issue of the Santa Maria District Elections Map. After reviewing each of the three remaining maps I fully support Map J-1. This map is the only fair and balanced option. Map J-1 is the only map that uses common sense in that it follows the existing neighborhoods of Santa Maria. These districts will pave the way for how Santa Maria is represented for generations, so we have a responsibility to lay aside thoughts of short term personal gain and look to our better natures to guide us to the choice that will best serve the whole of Santa Maria.

The other maps are obviously an attempt to gerrymander the city while hiding behind the veil of "continuity of governance". As a military spouse, it is especially appalling to witness the process of elected officials using their power, given to them by the people, to draw district lines for their own individual benefit while sacrificing the fair and equal representation of others in their home city. We have to end the practice of picking districts so that politicians can pick their voters instead of the other way around. United States citizens are tired of inside games as much at home as they are on a national level.

For these reasons, I ask you to support Map J-1 and lay a foundation for Santa Maria based on fairness and equality.

Respectfully,
Katherine Dudley