



CITY OF COSTA MESA

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From the Office of the City Council

November 9, 2021

The Honorable Andrew Do
Chairman, First District
County of Orange
333 W Santa Ana Blvd
Santa Ana, CA, 92701

The Honorable Donald P. Wagner
Supervisor, Third District
County of Orange
333 W Santa Ana Blvd
Santa Ana, CA, 92701

The Honorable Doug Chaffee
Vice Chairman, Fourth District
County of Orange
333 W Santa Ana Blvd
Santa Ana, CA, 92701

The Honorable Lisa A. Bartlett
Supervisor, Fifth District
County of Orange
333 W Santa Ana Blvd
Santa Ana, CA, 92701

The Honorable Katrina A. Foley
Supervisor, Second District
County of Orange
333 W Santa Ana Blvd
Santa Ana, CA, 92701

RE: County of Orange Re-Districting Proposals

Dear Chairman Do and Orange County Board of Supervisors,

As the County of Orange considers various proposals for redistricting, I write to respectfully request that the County reject proposals that will split the City of Costa Mesa into two supervisorial districts and instead adopt lines that keep Costa Mesa in one district. It is imperative that our communities maintain fair representation within this process.

On the county's website, there are currently eight redistricting map proposals that have been submitted for the County's consideration. Proposals one, two, three, and four would divide the City of Costa Mesa into two different supervisorial districts, which would dramatically shift voters to different election year cycles. Not only will the division of our city lead to fragmentation, but it will also make it more difficult to keep our community together.

MAYOR John Stephens <i>At Large</i>	COUNCIL MEMBER Don Harper <i>District 1</i>	COUNCIL MEMBER Loren Gameros <i>District 2</i>	MAYOR PRO TEM Andrea Marr <i>District 3</i>	COUNCIL MEMBER Manuel Chavez <i>District 4</i>	COUNCIL MEMBER Arlis Reynolds <i>District 5</i>	COUNCIL MEMBER Jeffrey Harlan <i>District 6</i>
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Keeping the City of Costa Mesa in one district will allow our county representatives to champion our issues, focus on funding priorities for our community, and provide a voice to our residents. To divide our city would be devastating to Costa Mesa.

According to the County's own redistricting criteria, it states that "...to the extent practicable, (2) the geographic integrity of local neighborhoods or communities shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division, and (3) geographic integrity of a city shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division." I ask that you and your colleagues on the Board of Supervisors adhere to this criterion and adopt lines that keep Costa Mesa wholly in one district, as it is currently.

Also, Costa Mesa should be included in the same district as our coastal neighbors, Newport Beach and Huntington Beach, because we not only share a border, but with Newport Beach we share a school district and our border with Huntington Beach touches county property such as Talbert Park and multiple flood channels.

Our city is a strong community with common interests that will only benefit from being represented in whole. It is critical that as we look ahead to the next 10 years, cities are kept together so that we can continue to work collaboratively with our county partners without being divided amongst multiple districts. I look forward to working with you on this important issue to ensure a favorable outcome for the City of Costa Mesa.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Harlan
Council Member
City of Costa Mesa

CC: Costa Mesa City Council
Lori Ann Farrell Harrison, City Manager, City of Costa Mesa
Kim Barlow, City Attorney, City of Costa Mesa