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NOV 8 2021

CITY OF IRVINE
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Memo

To: Marianna Marysheva, Interim City Manager
From: Sponsor: Larry Agran, Councilmember *LA*
Co-Sponsor: Tammy Kim, Vice Mayor *JK*
Date: November 8, 2021
Re: **Resolution- Request Contiguity in Irvine's State and Congressional Districts from the California Citizens Redistricting Commission**

Please place a resolution on the November 23 City Council agenda to Request Contiguity in Irvine's State and Congressional Districts from the California Redistricting Commission.

The California Redistricting Commission is in the midst of seeking community input for the State Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional district boundaries it will draw for 2021-2030 elections. I believe the City of Irvine should add its voice alongside its residents by asking the Commission to incorporate all of Irvine within one district for all these offices. Providing a public comment will help Irvine to continue to remain within one state senate and congressional district, plus include all of Irvine in one assembly district.

Irvine's incorporation on December 28, 1971 ushered in 50 years of master-planned design, national recognition, and cohesive governance for the City's residents. With one representative at the state and national level, Irvine residents will enjoy direct accountability from all their elected officials. Also, the City will gain a clear line of communication, partnership, and advocacy with its higher-level state and federal representatives.

Please place the attached resolution on the November 23 agenda so the City can promote Irvine as a "community of interest" and maximize effective representation for our residents.

cc: City Council
City Clerk
City Attorney

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, TO REQUEST CONTIGUOUS STATE AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATION FOR IRVINE FROM THE CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the mission of the City of Irvine is to maintain a community where people can live, work and play in an environment that is safe, vibrant, and aesthetically pleasing; and

WHEREAS, our City's thoroughly-integrated diversity, low crime rate, and high social progress indicators bind Irvine together as a community of interest, and keeping our communities of color intact is in accordance with the Voting Rights Act (VRA); and

WHEREAS, the City incorporated on December 28, 1971 to provide residents representation on questions of municipal affairs and direct accountability from City officials; and

WHEREAS, the City of Irvine's 307,000 residents all currently reside within California's 37th State Senate District and California's 45th Congressional District, but do not currently reside within one California Assembly District; and

WHEREAS, we believe Irvine receives fair and effective representation when its entire community falls under common jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Irvine shares social and economic interests with bordering cities in Orange County;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Irvine, California, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The California Citizens Redistricting Committee should create contiguous representation for all of the City of Irvine in each of the State Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional district boundaries it draws and approves.
2. The California Citizens Redistricting Committee should include the City in districts with neighboring Orange County communities.
3. To help the City state this desire, the letter below (Attachment 1) will be sent to the California Citizens Redistricting Committee.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Irvine at a regular meeting held on the ____ day of _____, 2021.

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

ATTEST:

INTERIM CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) SS
CITY OF IRVINE)

I, CARL PETERSEN, City Clerk of the City of Irvine, HEREBY DO CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Irvine, held on the ____ day of _____, 2021.

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS:

ATTACHMENT 1- LETTER TO THE CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING
COMMITTEE

[DATE]

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

We write to urge the Commission to incorporate the entire City of Irvine within all the legislative district maps it adopts. We also ask that the City be included in districts with neighboring Orange County communities that have affinities to Irvine residents.

Our City, which has blossomed into a thriving community of 307,000 residents, shares a number of socioeconomic characteristics. Its per-capita crime data has made it the #1 safest big city in America, and its master-planned design has ensured every neighborhood links to an interconnected set of roads, parks, and civic services. Irvine also earned the #1 ranking in 2019 as the best-run American city from 24/7 Wall Street,¹ and data from the Orange County Equity Map shows that every neighborhood in Irvine enjoys similar levels of social progress.² Having compact representation at the local, state, and national level has enabled the City to govern its economy, job market, and population welfare with consistency and thoughtfulness.

This year, Irvine is celebrating its 50th anniversary, and we believe that, for another 50 years of prosperity and safety, Irvine's residents need one representative at each of the Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional levels. We respectfully submit this comment so that the Commission integrates the community's voice into its final drawings of maps. Thank you for your consideration.

Cordially,

Mayor Farrah Khan
Vice Mayor Tammy Kim
Councilmember Anthony Kuo
Councilmember Mike Carroll
Councilmember Larry Agran

¹ Samuel Stebbins and Evan Comen, "America's Safest Cities," *24/7 Wall St*, *24/7 Wall Street*, January 15, 2020. <https://247wallst.com/special-report/2019/10/23/americas-safest-cities-3/11/>

² Advance OC. Orange County Equity Map [map]. "Advance OC." Last updated 2021. https://public.tableau.com/shared/4YQGQ2X8F?:display_count=y&:origin=viz_share_link&:embed=y (accessed October 21, 2021).