

Item No. (XX) Education Committee, Reina Cerros McCaughey
(21-XXXX) Council File: 20-0668-S6

Opposition to LAUSD Redistricting Commission Recommended Map

Discussion and possible action:

The Woodland Hills – Warner Center Education Committee unanimously* moves that the full WHWCNC Board strongly oppose the LAUSD Redistricting Commission Final Recommendation Map sent to the LA City Council for ratification. Instead, the LA City Council should adopt the *original unrevised* LAUSD DRAFT Map 2 to establish the district boundaries for LAUSD District 3 for the West San Fernando Valley and District 6 for the East San Fernando Valley. Using the *original unrevised* Draft Map 2 boundaries will result in each district having school board members who can focus their attention and understanding on unique compact districts of numerous overlapping common communities of interest and concern.

The LA City Council should keep LAUSD District 4 on the south side of the Santa Monica Mountains to serve West Los Angeles and adjoining LAUSD beach communities. These recommendations are based on the following CIS statement-report and attached maps.

Motion Made By: Shelly Schwartz Seconded By: Heath Kline

* Roll Call Vote:
Reina Cerros McCaughey Yes
Mihran Kalaydjian Yes
Sam Evans Yes
Heath Kline Yes
Shelly Schwartz Yes

Case Report & Community Impact Statement

Community Impact Statement from the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council
Re: Council File: 20-0668-S6- LAUSD Redistricting Commission Recommended Map

To: Los Angeles City Council, Office of Mayor Garcetti
From: Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council (WHWCNC)
Re: Council File: 20-0668-S6- LAUSD Redistricting Commission Recommended Map

The Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council [WHWCNC] strongly opposes the Final Recommendation Map adopted by the LAUSD Redistricting Commission submitted on October 29, 2021, to the Los Angeles City Council.

Instead, the WHWCNC endorses and asks the LA City Council to adopt the original, unrevised LAUSD DRAFT Map 2 [see referenced maps below] to establish the district boundaries for

LAUSD District 3 for the West San Fernando Valley and District 6 for the East San Fernando Valley.

The Los Angeles City Charter frames several key criteria and standards applicable to redistricting; equal population and the consideration of traditional redistricting criteria such as communities of interest, existing boundaries and geographical compactness, compliance with the Voting Rights Act. Ignoring these requirements, the LAUSD Redistricting Commission placed a small section of the West San Fernando Valley (portions of Woodland Hills and Reseda, and Encino and Tarzana communities) into Board District 4 and not into the adjoining West San Fernando Valley Board District 3.

The currently proposed District 4 has the largest population of any district; 705,226. The presently proposed District 4 has the highest CVAP (Community Voting Age Population) percentage of white voters; 65.94%, and only 14.68% Latino and 5.64% Black.

The charter mandates that Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest should be preserved by drawing boundary lines to maintain communities that share common interests in a single district.

A community of interest is a population that shares common social and economic interests and should be kept together in a single district to provide fair and effective representation:

- shared housing patterns
- income levels
- cultural and language characteristics
- work opportunities
- crime related issues
- social infrastructure-neighborhood councils, community service organizations, feeder schools, sports leagues, recreational areas, religious institutions, and public infrastructures such as public transportation, fire, and police precincts.

The charter mandates that neighborhoods and communities should be kept intact and utilize natural boundaries and street lines and be geographically compact respecting:

- Contiguity; all parts of a district should connect
- Compactness; a district should be geographically compact
- Existing Boundaries; the redistricting commission should consider geographic, street, and natural boundaries.

The currently proposed District 4 map ignores all the above redistricting criteria:

- The New District 4 has the largest population in Los Angeles
- The new District 4 is the least diverse school board district
- The communities in the West San Fernando Valley were separated from their neighboring communities of interest. Carving off some schools and placing them as orphaned appendages to a district focused on the other side of the Santa Monica Mountains, where they share no common interests, social or public infrastructure, or

feeder schools. What does Woodland Hills share or have in common with Pacific Palisades, Westchester, or Larchmont?

- The New District 4 is the largest geographical district in the LAUSD, extending from north of Mulholland to as far south as Redondo Beach and Larchmont to the east. District 4 should use the natural boundary line of the Santa Monica Mountains, south of Mulholland, as its border and not isolate a small portion of the San Fernando Valley north of Mulholland from its adjoining neighbors.

The LAUSD Redistricting Commission ignored the community impact statements, emails, and public comments from the West San Fernando Valley. Therefore, the WHWCNC opposes the Final Recommendation Map adopted by the LAUSD Redistricting Commission that separates a small portion of our community and schools from the rest of the West San Fernando Valley, which is in District 3 and places part of our neighborhood and its schools incongruously in District 4.

We urge the Los Angeles City Council to reject the Final Recommendation Map and unite the entirety of Woodland Hills, Reseda, Tarzana, and Encino with their neighbors in LAUSD Board District 3 as drawn in the original unrevised Map 2. Please do not disenfranchise the needs and concerns of the West San Fernando Valley.

Please file this statement as a CIS attached to CF 20-0668-S6 and email copies to:

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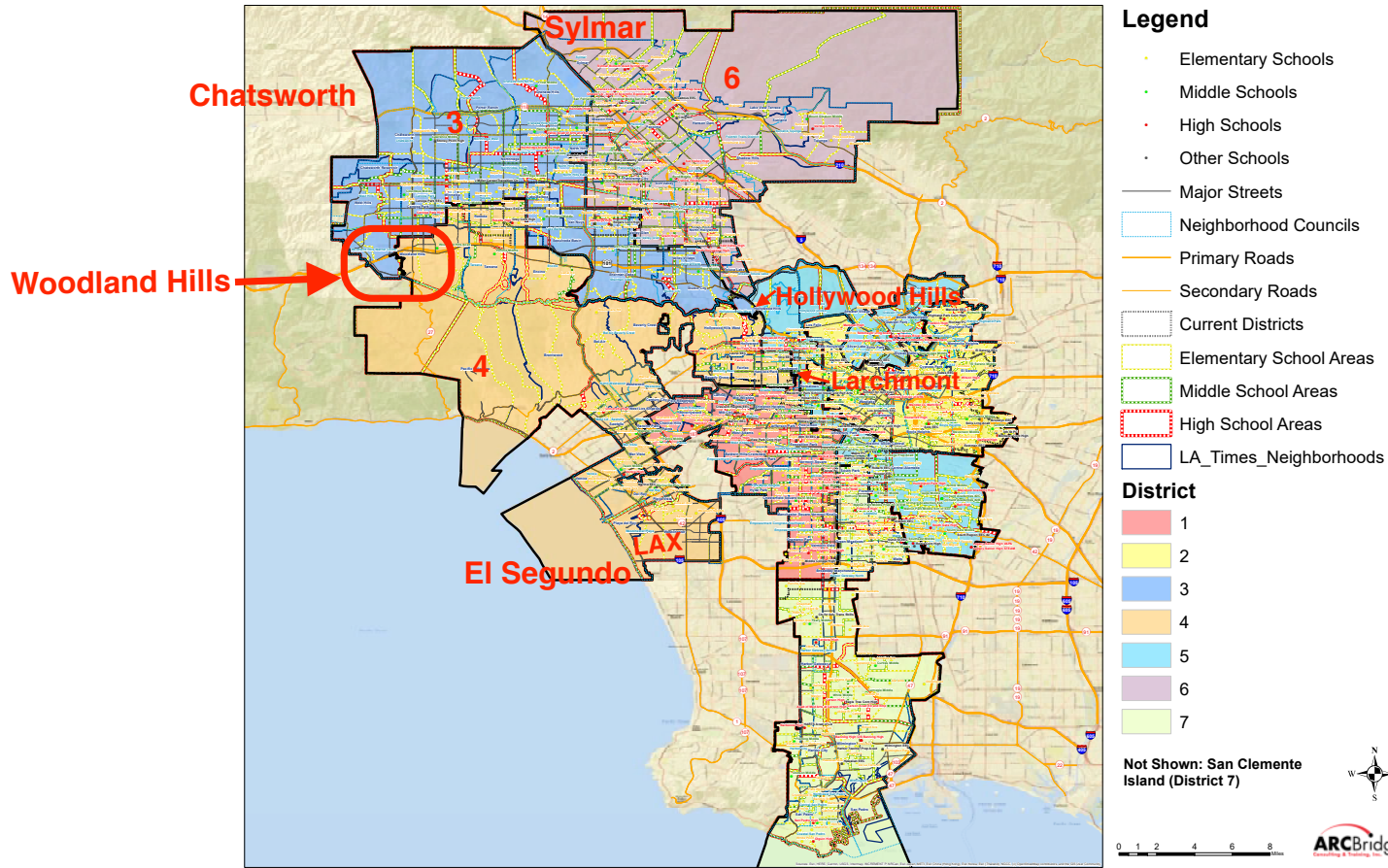
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See the **[LAUSD Redistricting CIS](#)** & report posted with this agenda to see the full CIS statement including the referenced maps and commentary.

The Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council strongly opposes this LAUSD Final Recommendation Map. It places some Woodland Hills and other South SFV schools in LAUSD Board District-4, drawn across the Santa Monica Mountains stretching as far south as El Segundo and as far east as Larchmont-Hancock Park! The remaining Woodland Hills schools are placed in what was (and should remain) a WSFV District-3 to a new district that goes from Chatsworth in the NW and Sylmar in the NE, cutting a swath through the SE SFV and then south into Hollywood! These diffuse districts going across mountains do a disservice to the schools, students, parents, and communities they are supposed to serve, with the most significant community of interest they share is they DON'T!

LAUSD Final Recommendation Map

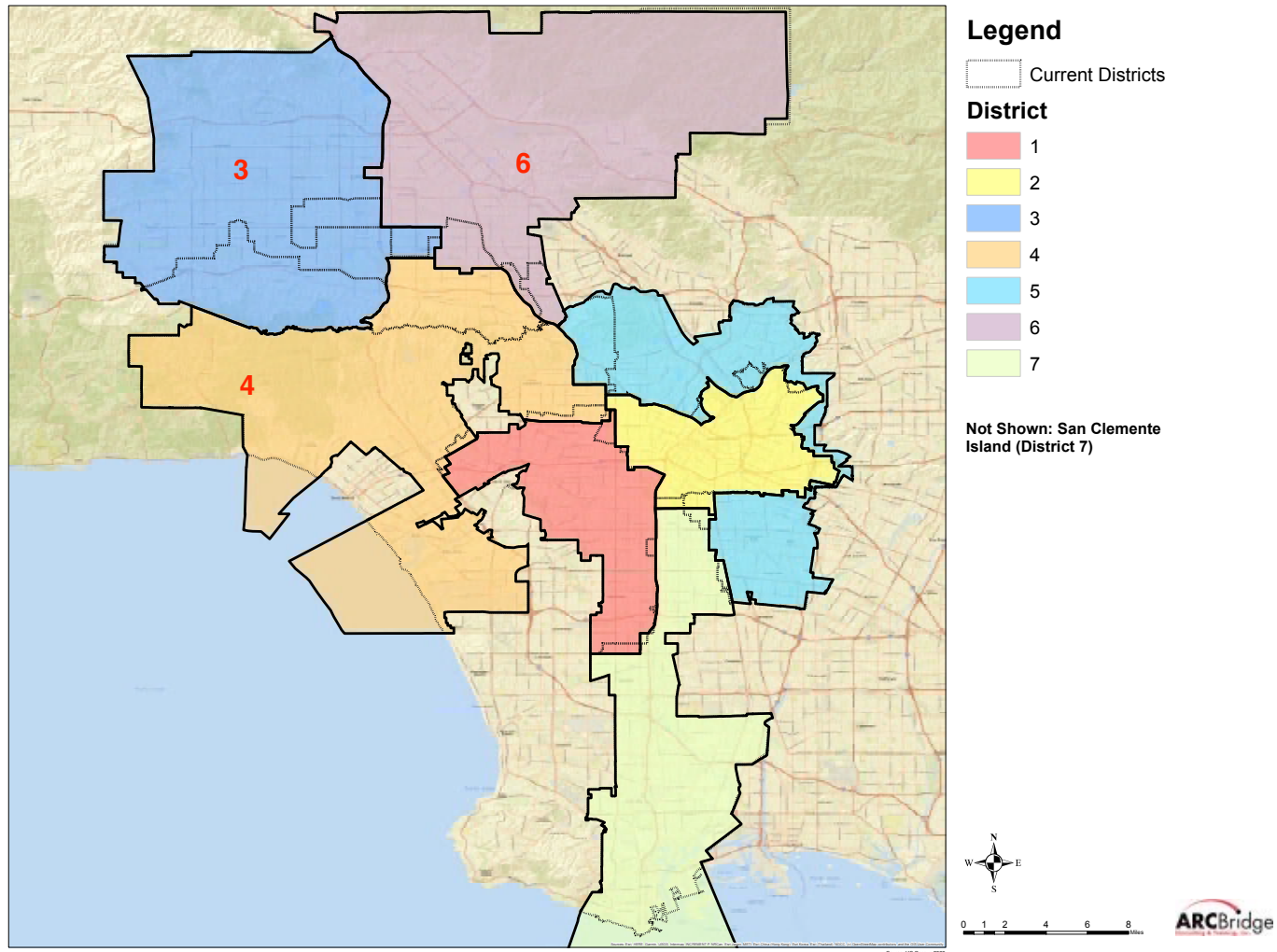


The Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council endorses the attached LAUSD Draft Map 2 to remedy the poorly drawn and considered LAUSD Final Recommendation Map (above) of districts in the San Fernando Valley [SFV]. It places all Woodland Hills and West Valley schools in LAUSD Board District 3, a West SFV-centric compact district of numerous overlapping common communities of interest. It benefits the East SFV in the same fashion placing all its schools in District 6. The map honors the natural Santa Monica Mountains district boundaries by keeping District 4 focused on the West Side of Los Angeles and servicing the adjoining beach communities in the LAUSD. Therefore, we ask the LA City Council to adopt the attached Draft Map 2 for LAUSD Districts 3, 4, and 6 assigning the schools within each district to it.

https://redistricting2021.lacity.org/LAUSDRC/maps/draft/Draft%20Map%202_website3.pdf

The Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council endorses this version of LAUSD Draft Map 2. It places all Woodland Hills and West Valley schools in LAUSD Board District 3, a West San Fernando Valley-centric compact district of numerous overlapping common communities of interest. We ask the LA City Council to adopt this map for LAUSD District-3 and its contained schools.

LAUSD Draft Map 2 *(original unrevised)*



https://redistricting2021.lacity.org/LAUSDRC/maps/draft/Draft%20Map%202_website3.pdf

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LAUSD Draft Map 2 (original unrevised)

