



## **Independent Redistricting Commission**

### **Public Comments**

**January 8, 2022**

Dear Chair and Commissioners  
Escondido Redistricting Commission  
Via Email

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for considering my public comment from the January 5, 2022 meeting. In this letter I hope to expand on my request and provide additional information and data for your consideration. I have been active in Escondido for the entire 30 years I have lived here. I am very involved in many health, environmental, and justice issues in Escondido.

I'm submitting this letter to share information I think is important to be reflected in the analysis and maps that you create.

### **Role of demographics in determination of districts.**

The new census data shows that Escondido is about 52% 'Hispanic' with 7% API and 2% African American. Around half of all residents are renters. Our median income is over \$30,000 a year lower than the County average.

As I mentioned, I also think that these facts about our demographics should also play an important role in your decisions.

To me, that means that two districts should be significant majority BIPOC residents who share some of the same housing, environmental, and health conditions. In addition, the needs of renters and low-income families should be factors in determining the future Districts.

My concern is that, in the past, although D1 was established to be a majority BIPOC due to the court order, much of the rest of the BIPOC population was dispersed into three other district. I hope that the Commission will be very aware of these issues and will create new Districts that restore our residents with common issues and challenges needing city support in your future maps.

Even though D3 currently has a majority CVAP of BIPOC of 53%, I think that should be much higher in the redistricting so that BIPOC residents are best able to elect a Councilmember responsive to their needs. The inclusion of the high-income suburban areas with the lower-income and heavily impacted communities of the urban area are not best for representation.

### **Current Districts have not resulted in adequate representation for some communities**

Some points that are relevant relate to the lack of both, historical and current, deliberate dilution of the Latino community in Escondido.

It is notable that currently:

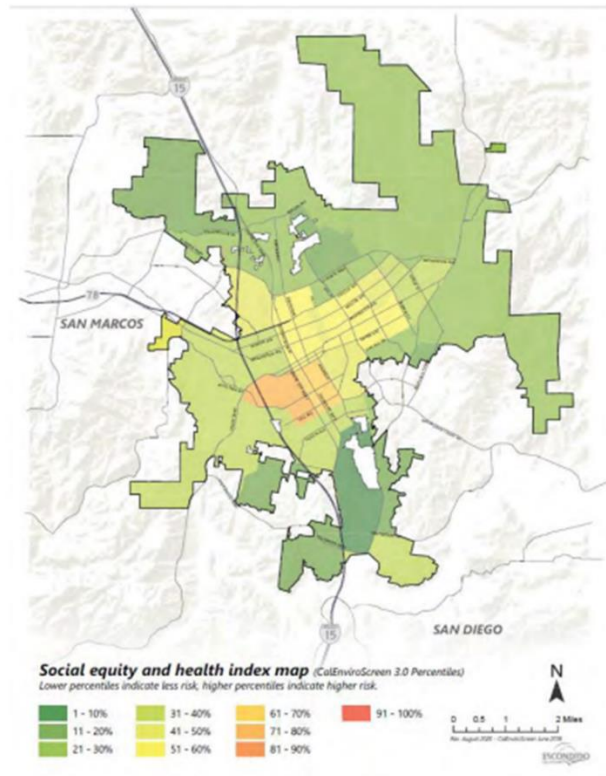
- A majority of the Council was elected with less than 50% of their voters in 2020. (D2-38%, D3- 39% and D4- 47%).
- Of almost 20 appointees to Boards and Commissions, just one is from D1.
- The first Latina **ever** appointed to the Planning Commission just happened last year.
- We have a serious lack of deed-restricted affordable housing, and yet Escondido has no policy ordinance to build affordable housing.
- In the entire County, only Escondido allowed ICE to keep an office and cooperate with the Police. While this practice has ended, the repercussions still remain in the Latino community.

The most impacted communities need representatives that truly represent their lived experience and can guide city policies and action to address them.

The adopted Priority Investment Neighborhoods (PINs) in the Escondido Climate Action Plan is one effective measure of community of interest. This map was based on the State CalEnviroScreen which documents demographics, health hazards, equity measures, and health indicators. Residents in these most impacted areas need priority focus and have housing, health, economic, justice, climate, and environmental policy needs in common.

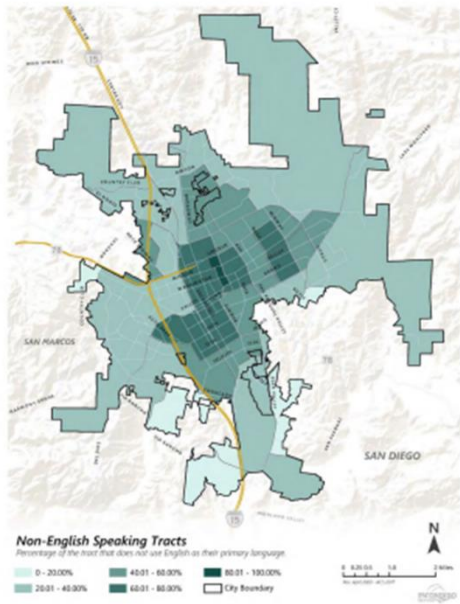
I recommend that a map be drawn that include all or most of the PINs (50% ranking in yellow or higher) into two Council Districts.

In addition, the non-English speaking and concentration of renting households should also be included in Council districts where they are a high concentration of the CVPA. This is necessary because the city has such a high involvement and responsibility in addressing economic, housing, health, and environmental issues in these areas—different from the outlying areas.



# Non-English Speaking

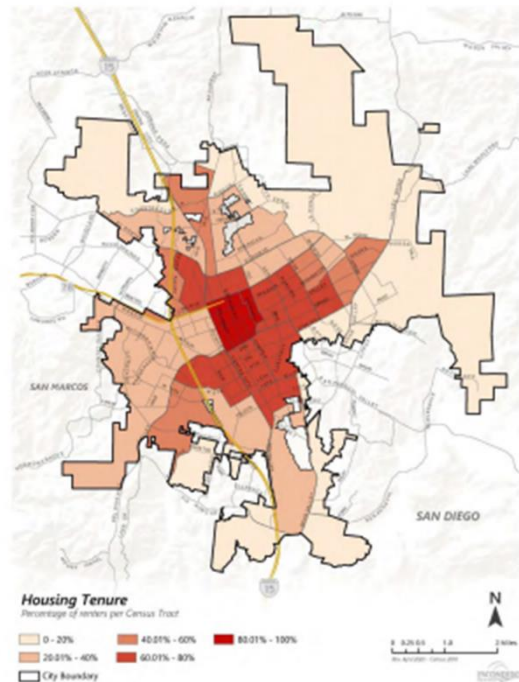
Resolution No. 2021-37  
Exhibit "A"  
Page 275 of 280



Map 5: Non-English Speaking Map

# Renters

Resolution No. 2021-37  
Exhibit "A"  
Page 273 of 280



Map 3: Renter Map

These maps are excerpted from the 2021 Escondido Climate Action Plan map exhibits. They are also attached for ease of viewing.

I request that draft maps be drawn for consideration to keep the highest levels of residents in these areas together into two Districts

Thank you very much for taking on this very important issue for our community and for considering this input.

Sincerely,

Christine Nava

Submitted on Saturday, January 8, 2022 - 12:09pm

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment Redistricting Commission

Email [palbergo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:palbergo@sbcglobal.net)

Council Meeting Date January 10, 2022

Item # Redistricting maps

Subject Redistricting maps

Position No Position

First and Last Name Pam Albergo

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

I would like the Commissioners to start fresh with a new map for our districts. We currently have an over 50% population of Latinos and a large number of renters in our core areas of Escondido and yet we only have one district that truly represent those populations. Please take the time to look at where these issues are most prevalent and turn them into two districts.