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Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 7:50 AM

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Subject: [EXTERNAL] City of Morgan Hill Redistricting

Importance: High

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Dear Mayor Constantine and members of the Morgan Hill City Council:

I wrote to you in December 2021 with our concerns about the "cracking" of current District B and Public Map 103. In our view, Public Map 103 does not violate the contiguity requirement of the Fair Maps Act. In fact, Public Map 103 is the only map that will keep the communities of interest in current District B together. As you well know, when the Election Code was amended, those amendments were intended to protect minority communities. We disagree with the City Attorney's opinion that districts must be 100% contiguous. The code clearly states that "to the extent practicable". We agree with the analysis by Armando Benevides in his February 8, 2022 email. He states in that email, ". . . as long as there is the ability for people to freely travel between separated areas, the boundary is contiguous. In District D, the two areas are connected by a vast network of county roads and highway 101 so people can easily travel to and from the area."

We agree with Mr. Benevides that Public Map 103 must be considered and adopted because it is the only map that increases the chances that marginalized communities will be able to elect candidates of their choice for the next 10 years.

Sincerely,

Richard Konda

Executive Director

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