

Iraheta, Alba

From: Jonah Kanner
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 4:22 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Redistricting Public Comment - Downtown Pasadena is a unique 'Community of Interest'

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Hi,

As a person who works, shops, and commutes in Pasadena, I recognize our growing downtown as a vibrant and unique 'Community of Interest'. I am commenting in strong support of the creation of a downtown Council District.

For our city to continue to grow and prosper in the 21st century, we need to recognize that residents of downtown Pasadena have unique needs that revolve around multi-modal transportation, including public transit, walking, and biking. The current status quo of splitting this area among different districts fails to recognize this, and so is harmful for both the livability and business growth of our city.

The residents of the Central District constitute a unique Community of Interest based on the following characteristics (among others):

* Downtown Pasadenans continue to thrive on the growth of mixed-use planning and neighborhood vitality and, more than ever, they are less likely to be auto dependent. As a result, they generate less Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMTs) than residents in other parts of Pasadena.

* Downtown Pasadenans own fewer cars per household.

* The City's 2012 Downtown survey shows that 49% of the Central District population do not drive a car alone to get to work.

Please create a downtown Pasadena council district, to represent this important Community of Interest. Thank you for your time and support.

Best,
Jonah Kanner

10/14/2021
Correspondence

Iraheta, Alba

From: Wesley Reutimann ·
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 5:17 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: [Redistricting Public Comment] Downtown Pasadena is a Unique 'Community of Interest'

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Dear Redistricting Task Force Members,

As a Pasadena resident who has lived or worked in downtown Pasadena for over a decade, I strongly support the development of a downtown Council District, recognizing its unique characteristics and interests.

The residents of the Central District constitute a unique Community of Interest based on several key characteristics. These include but are not limited to:

1. **Downtown residents embrace the walkable, transit-friendly nature of the City's downtown Pasadena and are less auto dependent than their peers in more suburban Pasadena neighborhoods.** They drive less (if at all) and generate fewer Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMTs). This has been documented for over a decade. For example, the City's 2012 Downtown survey shows that 49% of the Central District population do not drive a car alone to get to work.
2. **Downtown residents own fewer cars per household than their peers in more suburban neighborhoods of the City.** Downtown residents walk, bike, and use public transit and other multi-modal/alternative forms of transportation more.
3. **Colorado Blvd is not a logical or well established dividing line within the City.** It is not like the 210 Freeway, a massive barrier between neighborhoods only crossed via a handful of bridges, or the Arroyo Seco, a natural physical barrier between homes. Continuing to separate the North side of Colorado Blvd from the South side of Colorado Blvd is not only arbitrary, it is dividing a growing and well-established community with a well defined sense of place, especially within the Old Pasadena and Playhouse Districts. Furthermore, the legal requirements for district-drawing are to: 1) maintain geographic contiguity; 2) minimize division of Communities of Interest; 3) create easily identifiable boundaries; and 4) maintain compactness. The "Colorado-Blvd-is-the-Dividing-Line" is a dated, arbitrary relic that ignores the reality that downtown Pasadena is a well established (and growing) community of interest.

Based on these core characteristics, downtown residents have unique needs and priorities compared to residents of other parts of Pasadena. Please respect this growing community by codifying it in the new maps. Maintaining a status quo that splits Downtown Pasadena across four Council Districts is an untenable arrangement that is harmful to residents of this walkable urban village.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Wes Reutimann
Pasadena 91103

10/14/2021
Correspondence