



August 31, 2021

My name is Claire Fitaliausi and I am here today representing Valley Voices.

My colleague has hand delivered paper copies of our proposed Board of Supervisors map.

While the population of Kings County decreased by just under 500 from 152,982 in 2010 to 152,486 in 2020, the ethnic makeup of the county changed significantly with the percentage of the Latino population growing from 51 percent to 57 percent.

Not accounting for changes to come from the reallocation of the prisoner population:

- The Latino population grew by 8,741 people to 86,607

- The white non-Latino population decreased by 9,518 people to 44,361.

- The Black non-Latino population decreased by 2,014 to 8,300

- The population of two races or more grew by 1,717 people, up to 4,973 or 3.3%

Given these changes in population, Valley Voices has conducted an analysis of Board of Supervisor Districts (excluding prisoner population) and has determined that it is possible to create two Latino majority districts: Number 2 and Number 4.

Kings County has historically disenfranchised Latinos. Now, according to the Voting Rights Act, Kings County will be required to create two Latino Majority Districts.

The map we are presenting here follows the criteria established by the Voting Rights Act and the FAIR MAPS Act. This map does not take into consideration the location of any Board of Supervisor residences, but rather uses indicators such as

- The residential clustering of groups of voters with common interests

- The locations of municipal boundaries or physical geographic features

- And the desire to keep a district relatively close together

Ultimately, it is up to the Board of Supervisors to determine the actual lines of each district. We do know that if the law isn't followed, there are interested parties willing to participate in litigation to make sure that everyone in Kings County is represented and the letter of the law is followed. The taxpayers of Kings County do not deserve to be subjected to millions of dollars in fines (similar to what happened in Kern County) due to mistakes made by hired entities under contract with the County.

We look forward to working together towards creating a fair and equitable map for the residents of Kings County. We are confident the Board of Supervisors will follow not only the letter of the law, but the spirit of the law.

Thank you.