



March 1, 2022

City of National City
Mayor Alejandra Sotelo-Solis and Members of the City Council
1243 National City Blvd, National City, CA 91950

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

The Asian Pacific American Coalition (APAC) is a community-based, non-partisan, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation whose mission is to cultivate civic engagement to forward the voices of San Diego's Asian Pacific American community. Our goal is to ENGAGE, EDUCATE and EMPOWER San Diego's Asian Pacific American community.

We thank the National City Council for working with the community to both establish council districts and an API empowerment district for the first time in history. We are appreciative that the historically significant districts will be the basis for the next Council election and encourage you to retain the publicly noticed timeline. We have worked hard to meet the timeline that Council established at the beginning of this process.

As a part of this process, we respectfully request that the Council adopt a preliminary map at the March 5, 2022, hearing. This preliminary map should be chosen from the maps that were submitted and presented with evaluations as part of the February 22, 2022, agenda. For the Asian Empowerment District our goals are a Voting Age Population (VAP) target of 40% and a Citizen Voting Age Population 2019 (CVAP) target of 36%.

Of the five maps submitted for the hearing on February 22, 2022, the maps which come closest to achieving this objective are PS#1 and PS#2. Both of these maps were based upon the two maps we timely submitted labeled APAC#1 and APAC#2. These maps were created using the online mapping tool "Dave's Redistricting" and the demographic results come closest to meeting our criteria. Using the City provided online tool, APAC#1 and #2 provide an Asian Empowerment District (District 1) with an Asian population of 37.00%, a VAP of 38.95% and a CVAP of 35.5%. **Additionally, APAC #1 provides a Black Empowerment District (District 3) with a Black population of 5.2%, a VAP of 5.1% and a CVAP of 11.7%.** We are concerned because the evaluations presented by the consultant for PS#1 and PS#2 produced different values than those found in the APAC maps for both Asian and Black populations. We are curious as to what methodology or tools the consultant is using versus what is available to the public.

Our goals when we started this process were to create a Fil-Am/AAPI Empowerment District while respecting other demographic communities of interest and without diluting the Fil-Am/AAPI CVAP or VAP. We did that with the timely submitted APAC#1 which protects significant demographic Communities of Interest by creating a proposed API empowerment district with a CVAP of 35.5% **and a proposed Black empowerment district with a CVAP of 11.7%.**

We strongly recommend that the Council adopt APAC#1 as the preliminary districting map at the public hearing on March 5, 2022.

Sincerely,

MITZ LEE, Board Member & Co-Founder