

# Summary of Comments Received about Redistricting after 2021 Final Maps Adopted

## Communities of interest:

- District 5 (Oxnard)
  - o Colonia Rd and Marquita St including Camino del Sol Park
  - o Saviors Rd and downtown Oxnard
  - o Santa Lucia Ave and Camino del Sol
  - o Camino del Sol Park
  - o Oxnard, Ventura Blvd, and Gonzales
  - o Plaza park and C street
  - o South Oxnard
  - o Gonzalez & Snow, Clove to Rio Lindo Park
  - o Ventura Rd. Hill St. J St. Cedar St.
  - o Ventura Rd, Hemlock St
  - o Lemonwood, Rose, Rice
  - o Gonzalez and Gallatin
  - o Rose and Rice
  - o 5<sup>th</sup> and Meta
  - o
- District 1
  - o Telephone and Victoria

## Community interests from District 1:

- Illegal dumping
- Support for youth
- Programs for child development and mental health

## Comments interests from District 5:

- A safe space for children to play and families to gather
- More recreation opportunities and cultural centers
  - o Dance classes, soccer programs, volunteering to clean the environment
  - o English classes
  - o Financial classes
- School Safety
- Pollution
- Homelessness
- Public safety, reduce crime
- Rent/bills are high
- Road maintenance
- Road lighting
- More public parks
  - o Need shade

- Housing affordability
- More sidewalks
- Overpopulation (crowding in schools and hospitals)
- Traffic is increasing
- Quality of schools (need renovation)
- Cleanliness
- Tree maintenance on roads / plant fruit trees on roads
- Community education around picking up dog waste
- Maintenance for bathrooms in Thompson Park



Correo Electrónico:

[redistricting@ventura.org](mailto:redistricting@ventura.org)



Teléfono: 805-654-2998



Dirección: Redistricting,

800 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura, CA 93009-1940



COUNTY of VENTURA

## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

Plantar en las calles arboles Frutales o  
autricos (Ayudan alimentar y proporcionan oxigeno)

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Camino del sol / Kohala

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Los Supervisores deberian darle prioridad a esta  
comunidad necesitada, la escuela la Rose Ave.  
está vieja, el parque

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Es una comunidad marginada por la sociedad

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

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Plantar mas Arboles

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Gonzales y Cabrillo

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Darle prioridad nesecita parques con juegos  
y proporcionarle ala gente bolsas para levantar la  
popo de los perritos

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

-

**El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.**

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted. *Que en la escuela tengan sombras para los niños y parques con juegos*
2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)  
*Gonzales, Cabrillo, Oneida*
3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.  
*porq' veo q en la escuela de mi comunidad lo necesita mucho para los niños*
4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

Arreglar las calles

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Gonzales y Azulea

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Se necesita q' las calles tengan luz

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

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Necesitamos que haya más programas para padres e hijos (educarlos)

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Rose Ave. Camino del Sol

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Porque ellos son los únicos que pueden dirigir la ayuda económica para escuelas (Rose Ave. school) Necesita remodelarse está muy vieja.

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

No solo en mi comunidad, sino en todo Oxnard hay mucho bagabundo en las calles.

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

Necesitamos que remodelen las escuelas (Rose Ave school) se am olvidado de esta.

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Rose Ave. / San Geronimo

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Porque esta comunidad está marginada, por lo olvidada que está de los políticos se olvidan de lo que prometen.

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Arreglar los baños del parque Thomson Park

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Calles Limpias, seguridad, escuelas renovadas

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Gonzalez / Patricia

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Necesitamos que nuestro parque (Cabrillo) tenga juegos para niños, la escuela Emelie Ritcher, tenga en el Area de juego sombra

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Somos una comunidad Al Norte de Oxnard, de Blancos, latinos y de otros países. (mixtos)

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Hay muchas personas sin hogar en las calles y veo que últimamente se vienen en carros para estas calles

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Gonzales / Patricia

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En mi comunidad veo que necesitamos que se arregle un parque para niños c/juegos

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Es una comunidad tranquila y hermosa, estoy muy Feliz de vivir aquí

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Nuestra escuela es muy importante, los niños son el Futuro, programas después de escuela

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Gonzalez / Juliet  
Cabrillo

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Que haya iluminación en las calles / Nuestra escuela

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

El parque por Cabrillo necesita remodelarse y agregar juegos p/ niños (no hay)

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Clases de Trabajo /Inglés y español.  
Ayuda económica por educación y programas  
para jóvenes

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

- Santa Lucia /Cordoba  
(Rose Ave) Rose Park

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Los Supervisores deberian de ayudar a esta  
comunidad que ha sido olvidada, implementar  
arreglar las casas que estan muy dañadas

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

Hay una calle que me gustaría que estuviera iluminada, La escuela que tuviera sombra en el área recreativa

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Oxford / Doris

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Implementar a las personas que limpien los desechos de sus perros. Poner bolsas en la calle para que levanten eso

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Mi comunidad es muy bonita, pero me gustaría que se arreglara lo de las personas sin hogar

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Parques y escuelas, las yardas de enfrente de sus casas arreglarlas, estan muy descuidadas  
Arboles en las calles (que sean criticos y frutales)

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Rose Park  
San José / Kohala

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Nuestra comunidad necesita mucha Ayuda por favor que sea prioridad para los Superisores

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Somos mas latinas, diría que centroamericanas y Mexicanas, necesitamos que nuestras calles esten limpias

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

Creo que mi comunidad está muy bien, solo me gustaría que pusieran en las calles bolsas p/que los dueños de perros limpien

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Juliet/Gonzalez

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura?

Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Los Supervisores de distrito saben bien que comunidades necesitan ayuda solo que salgan a las calles @ comunidades olvidadas por ellos

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Mi comunidad es muy hermosa, esta área es limpia (solo Gente que camina perros dejasaca)

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

La Escuela Emek Pitchen necesita en el area de recreo Sombra y mesas para comer al aire libre.

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Galletin / Oneida  
Cabrillo

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Me gustaria que los niños tubieran un buen lugar al aire libre para comer y jugar, necesitan mejorar el Area de recreacion

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Amo vivir en esta comunidad, no necesito tanto como otras lugares de Oxnard.

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

Correo Electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_

¿En qué distrito vive?

☐ Distrito 1 ☐ Distrito 2 ☐ Distrito 3 ☐ Distrito 4 ☒ Distrito 5

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Teléfono: 805-654-2998



Dirección: Redistricting,

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

Hay muchas personas sin hogar - Seguridad -  
limpieza

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

5th and Main

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

En esta comunidad hay mucha necesidad, las calles están sucias y hay muchas personas tiradas en la calle

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad? Hay latinos - blancos Africanos, no hay seguridad para salir tarde es muy peligroso

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¿En qué distrito vive?

☐

Distrito 1

☐

Distrito 2

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Distrito 3

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Distrito 4

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Distrito 5

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Support a la comunidad, lugar de juegos para niños - Arte (Musica - dance - canto)

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Galletin - Gonzalez

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Es muy importante involucrar a la juventud - niños, son el futuro para alejarlos de malas (cosa)

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad? predominan los asiaticos - latinos - Blancos pero cerca de la escuela necesitan volver para desechos de perro

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## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

LIMPIAR LAS CALLES

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

SAVIERS (DMV)

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

ES MUY IMPORTANTE, PUEDEN TOMAR LA DECISION DE LIMPIAR LAS CALLES

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

HAY MUCHOS HOMELESS EN LA CALLE  
ESE TAMBIEN SERIA UN BUEN PUNTO  
PARA SER ATENDIDO

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

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Seguridad limpieza — Personas sin hogar

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Saviers / Chanel Islands

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Los supervisores no necesitan mucho, solo tomar la decisión de limpiar las calles

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Muchas personas sin hogar durmiendo en la calle

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

contaminación, escuelas, personas sin hogar  
las rentas y su alto precio,

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Rose, y Rice

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

algunos distritos cuentan con mejores  
programas de apoyo y el nuestro no,  
hay sobre población en nuestro distrito

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

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### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted. *Que mejoren la calidad escolar, renovar las escuelas, poner sombras en el area de juego y poner areas de comedor afuera con sombra.*
2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)  
*Gonzalez y Galletin*
3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.  
*Para mi como dije anteriormente las escuelas son muy importantes, que haya más programas de arte para los niños*
4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad? *En la comunidad que yo vivo hay diferentes tipos de raza, pero habemos mas latinos.*

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Correo Electrónico: *covarrubiascontla@yahoo.com*

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

las escuelas los parques  
las calles centros culturales  
para nuestros hijos

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

ventura RD y Hemlock St  
oxnard

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4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

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**Correo Electrónico:** Fernanda.CAPUCHINO(a)Yahoo.com

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted. *\*Que hallan mas escuelas*  
*\*mas Centros culturales*  
*\*Seguras medicas mas Accesibles*
2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)  
*Savier Rd. - Elm st. - Giskr Ave.*
3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.
4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

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Correo Electrónico: nitzanitaryar@live.com

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

\*Las calles de la ciudad  
\*mas seguridad en nuestras Escuelas

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

(Lemonwood). Emerson, Rose, Rice y Oxnard Blv.

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4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

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Correo Electrónico: ch673395@gmail.com

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1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

Vivienda, Escuelas, Calles, cultura a nuestros niños Clases para adultos tecnología.

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Saviers Rd y Oxnard Blvd

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

las calles estan llenas de autos cada día hay mas niños actuando como Pandilleros

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

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**Correo Electrónico:** Naye - negra@hotmail.com

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### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

Escuelas, calles, centros culturales.  
Clinicas, a bajo costo

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Lemonwood, Rose. Rice.

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Nuestro distrito esta sobre poblado  
Cada dia hay mas personas Sin hogar y las  
Rentas super caras.

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Las calles son peligrosas para caminar  
mucho delincuencia,

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

Correo Electrónico: Nitzanityar3@gmail.com

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Centros culturales Para nuestros hijos  
nuestras Escuelas  
los Parques

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Ventura RD y Hemlock St  
Oxnard

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4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

Todo es muy importante  
nuestra calles  
la Seguridad y limpieza

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Correo Electrónico: RafaelMendoza79@yahoo.com

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Distrito 1



Distrito 2



Distrito 3



Distrito 4



Distrito 5

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ocupamos programas en nuestras  
escuelas sports  
nuestras escuelas

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Ventura Rd y  
Hemlock St  
Oxnard

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4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

ocupamos mas seguridad  
policias nuestros parques

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Correo Electrónico: Nancy Capuchino11(a)yahoo.com

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Distrito 3



Distrito 4



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nuestras calles  
nuestras escuelas  
los parques

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

ventura Rd y  
Hemlock St  
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disminuir la delincuencia en nuestra comunidad

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

Correo Electrónico: evygarcia25@yahoo.com

¿En qué distrito vive?

☐

Distrito 1

☐

Distrito 2

☐

Distrito 3

☐

Distrito 4

☒

Distrito 5

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Correo Electrónico:

[redistricting@ventura.org](mailto:redistricting@ventura.org)



Teléfono: 805-654-2998



Dirección: Redistricting,

800 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura, CA 93009-1940



COUNTY of VENTURA

## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

es muy importante por nuestros  
hijos nos importan nuestras  
Escuelas y centros culturales  
los parques

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

ventura rd y  
Hemlock St  
Oxnard

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

que disminuyan la delincuencia

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

Correo Electrónico: hesleygaonara@yahoo.com

¿En qué distrito vive?

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

*Son importantes para mí, porque yo veo en los niños de que aunque son de diferentes países en ellos no hay discriminación, ni diferencias, etc. simplemente igualdad*

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

*Distrito Zero, Telephone y Victoria.*

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

*\* La comunidad va creciendo  
\* Mas Tráfico, y mas riesgos alrededor de las escuelas  
\* Actividades con mas intereses para jóvenes y niños.*

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

*Es pacífica y algunas áreas riesgosas se necesita mas supervisión y actividades que ocurren a los jóvenes por otros caminos para servicio de la comunidad y venir de ellos*

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

*Necesitamos Tutores,  
programas para el desarrollo físico  
y mental de los niños*

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

*Telephone, and Hill st. Ventura.*

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

*Es bueno tratar todas las  
necesidades de la comunidad porque así  
nos hacemos responsables en las necesidades  
de la comunidad sea del país que sea.*

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

*Que aunque somos de distintos países  
tenemos las mismas necesidades en ntros  
niños, los mismos derechos y la misma atención.*

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

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Distrito 2



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Distrito 4



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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

los precios de las viviendas  
las escuelas ocupamos escuelas  
mas mejores mas maestros  
mas programas con arte

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Ventura RD Hemlock St

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

la delincuencia ocupamos ma seguridad  
mas Policias

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

Correo Electrónico: Cindy Rodriguez919@yahoo.com

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Formulario de Comentarios de la Comunidad

### Cuéntenos Acerca de su Comunidad

1. ¿Cuáles son los intereses comunes en su comunidad? Describa por qué son importantes para usted.

mas seguridad en nuestra calles  
combatir la delincuencia

2. ¿Dónde está su comunidad? ¿Cuáles son las calles que cruzan y/o puntos de referencia en su vecindario? (Por ejemplo, intersecciones, carreteras, ríos, etc.)

Ventura Rd. Hill St. J St. Cedar St.

3. ¿Por qué es importante que su comunidad sea incluida en el proceso de redistribución de distritos de la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Ventura? Por favor describa cómo los problemas que considera la Junta de Supervisores tienen un impacto en su comunidad.

Por que Queremos que no esten  
Sobrepoblados nuestras escuelas y Hospitales

4. ¿Qué más le gustaría contarnos sobre su comunidad?

El hecho de proporcionar la siguiente información es opcional. Si proporciona una dirección de correo electrónico, le enviaremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso.

Correo Electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Safety, it's important to me because I have property and a family.

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Harwood & main, Santa Paula

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Public Parks and schools

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Cabrillo / Gonzalez / Galletin

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

It's important that my community is to be included because the Board of Supervisors are the ones that will address the current present issues.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

I love living in the North side of Oxnard.

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

more side walks in the neighborhood. Some of the neighborhoods don't have side walks in the Northside for kids to walk on.

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

I live off Gonzalez & Snow. Close to Rio Lindo Park

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

More funds are needed in Oxnard, specifically with the homeless.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

I love living in the North Side of Oxnard, however, other parts of Oxnard need the help.

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Cleanliness - is an issue - Homeless in the area is very bad - Sept

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Yucca @ Cloyn

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

new more funding for issues like homeless

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community? The most population in the county with the least amount of funding and care

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

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## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Safety - Homeless in the area is very bad  
Cleanliness - Due to Homeless population, Cleanliness is an issue

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

South Oxnard  
North of Blackstock Irish  
Yucca & Cloyne

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

Need more funding for issues like homeless

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

Oxnard specifically South Oxnard needs help. The most population in the county with probably the least amount of funding and care.

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

homeless in the area is very Bad, Safety —  
Cleanliness

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

North of Blackstock

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

Because the board of supervisors are the ones  
that will address the current present issues.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community? My community  
gets needs help

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Community Support, Play grounds

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Oxnard Ventura Rd & Whalley

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Helping people in need. Help families with housing

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Oxnard, Plaza Park Cstreet

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

Keep housing affordable

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

also Keep housing affordable  
safety in our community

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Oxnard, Gonzales Rd.

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

I enjoy living in Ventura County.

**Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.**

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Which district do you live in?**

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

School's, Housing, Safe neighborhoods

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Oxnard, Ventura Blvd & Gonzales

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

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Which district do you live in?

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Public Parks are important to me because I enjoy exercising w/ my dogs in the outdoor environment.

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Camino Del Sol Park

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

It's important that my community is to be included because the Board of Supervisors are the one's that will address the current present issues. We should be seen as a priority.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

My community gets neglected. I would like the streets to be paved and for the landscape to be maintained properly.

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

The common interest in my community includes offering assistance programs to everyone in need. I don't feel we do enough to support those who truly need it from the govt itself. Also being able to spread more awareness and education to the programs available because we need to rise above our everyday hurdles.

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

My community is North Oxford which is directly near the hospital near Gonzalez Rd and Williams Dr.

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

This is a tough question to answer because I'm not sure why it would be important to me or why I would want to be informed in the redistricting process but my only assumption would be that it would be vital only because of the impact it can have either positively or negatively. I'm blessed to be able to live in a safe & quiet area which is one of the many reasons I personally love to live in North Ox. However I cannot say the same about other areas that require more law enforcement or may need more education and support.

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you. *Offering assistance programs to everyone in need, Also being able to spread more awareness and education to the programs available because we need to use above or everyday hoodies.*
2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)  
*Conzalez / Williams Dr.*
3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.
4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

☐ District 1 ☐ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☒ District 5

Unsure? Find which district you live in at [www.ventura.org/redistricting](http://www.ventura.org/redistricting)

Learn more at [www.ventura.org/redistricting](http://www.ventura.org/redistricting)



Email: [redistricting@ventura.org](mailto:redistricting@ventura.org)



Phone: 805-654-2998



Mail: Redistricting, 800 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura, CA 93009-1940



**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

*Public roads are important to me because due to our high taxes I would like to see them paved.*

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

*Santa Lucia Ave & Camino Del Sol*

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

*It's important that my community be included because the board of supervisors can help every community maintain best living conditions*

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

*I would like to see our public lighting upgraded with roads also maintained.*

**Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.**

Email:

*dontiveros12@gmail.com*

**Which district do you live in?**

☐ District 1 ☐ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☒ District 5

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

School Safety, pollution, homelessness and rent+ bills.  
these issues can have an impact on  
people from our community.

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

- Rose Avenue  
- Rice Avenue  
- Wooley Rd

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

It is important for my community to be included  
because there are many issues that also change  
other people's lives

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

I would like the board of supervisors to  
discuss action plans for homelessness  
especially in downtown Oxnard.

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

☐ District 1 ☐ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☒ District 5

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Dance, Music, and art. They are important to me

because I learn a lot about my culture and it helps with

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

My community is the whole city of Oxnard. Saviers Road is known by everyone in Oxnard and downtown Oxnard is an important landmark.

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

It is important because we have lots of amazing people and landmarks.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

Its vry beautiful and it has made me a better person

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: Jahir.trumpet@gmail.com

Which district do you live in?

☐ District 1 ☐ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☒ District 5

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you. *my interests are, I would like to see more dance class and more soccer and programs to help clean the ocean.*
2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)  
*we live in the north of Oxford*
3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.  
*we*  
*to know what people need*
4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?  
*it*

*my community is beautiful but we need more people to help clean our community*  
Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

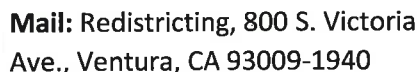
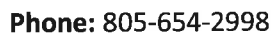
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

☐ District 1 ☐ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☒ District 5

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Learn more at [www.ventura.org/redistricting](http://www.ventura.org/redistricting)



**COUNTY of VENTURA**

# Community Input Form

## Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

- Illegal Dumping
- Attention towards youth

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

Telephone Rd and Hill Street, Ventura

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

if there's an even amount of population in each district there would be the same amount of attention towards each district. Issues like these could be ~~addressed~~ addressed.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

~~we're getting fixed~~ I see the necessity of attention in my own complex, split the location in half and the security, environment and appearance are also

**Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.**

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Which district do you live in?

☒ District 1   ☐ District 2   ☐ District 3   ☐ District 4   ☐ District 5

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## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

safety, to walk around and feel safe in our community

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

by the government center on telephone

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

to focus on all the small problems we have

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community? we are

stronger together

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

Some common interests in my community include having a safe space for our children to play and for our families to gather. These are important to me because having a safe space is necessary for communities to thrive.

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

My community is in district 1. Living near the government center means busy streets and lots of movement sometimes.

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

It's important for my community to be included in the redistricting process because our voices should be heard in determining changes in our own community.

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

We trust that the right decision will be made.

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

☒ District 1 ☐ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☐ District 5

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Learn more at [www.ventura.org/redistricting](http://www.ventura.org/redistricting)





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Phone: 805-654-2998



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COUNTY of VENTURA

## Community Input Form

### Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.

The most common interests in my community are safety and resources. They are important because many families are struggling for food, necessities and money during these holidays.

2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)

My community is in Colonia Rd. and Marquiza Street, including Camino del Sol park.

3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.

It's very important for my community to be included because our community is always growing yet it feels unnoticed / neglected from the rest of Foxnard. (i.e. police, road construction, trash/clean). The Board of Supervisors can help

4. What else would you like to tell us about your community? Improve the comm. make a difference.

My community has improved over the years, but

It's still not a place where people feel welcomed or safe, it's not a place of interest for the families there

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, and we will send you updates on the process. outsiders.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Which district do you live in?

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**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

Por favor, utilice este mapa como herramienta para dibujar su comunidad de interés. Es importante conocer las comunidades para que las líneas del distrito puedan ampliar las voces de los residentes.

Algunos ejemplos de comunidades pueden incluir vecindarios o zonas de planificación, áreas donde muchos residentes hablan el mismo idioma o incluso áreas donde los residentes usan las mismas instalaciones públicas de la ciudad.

Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

*Mi Raza*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

*Rose Park*

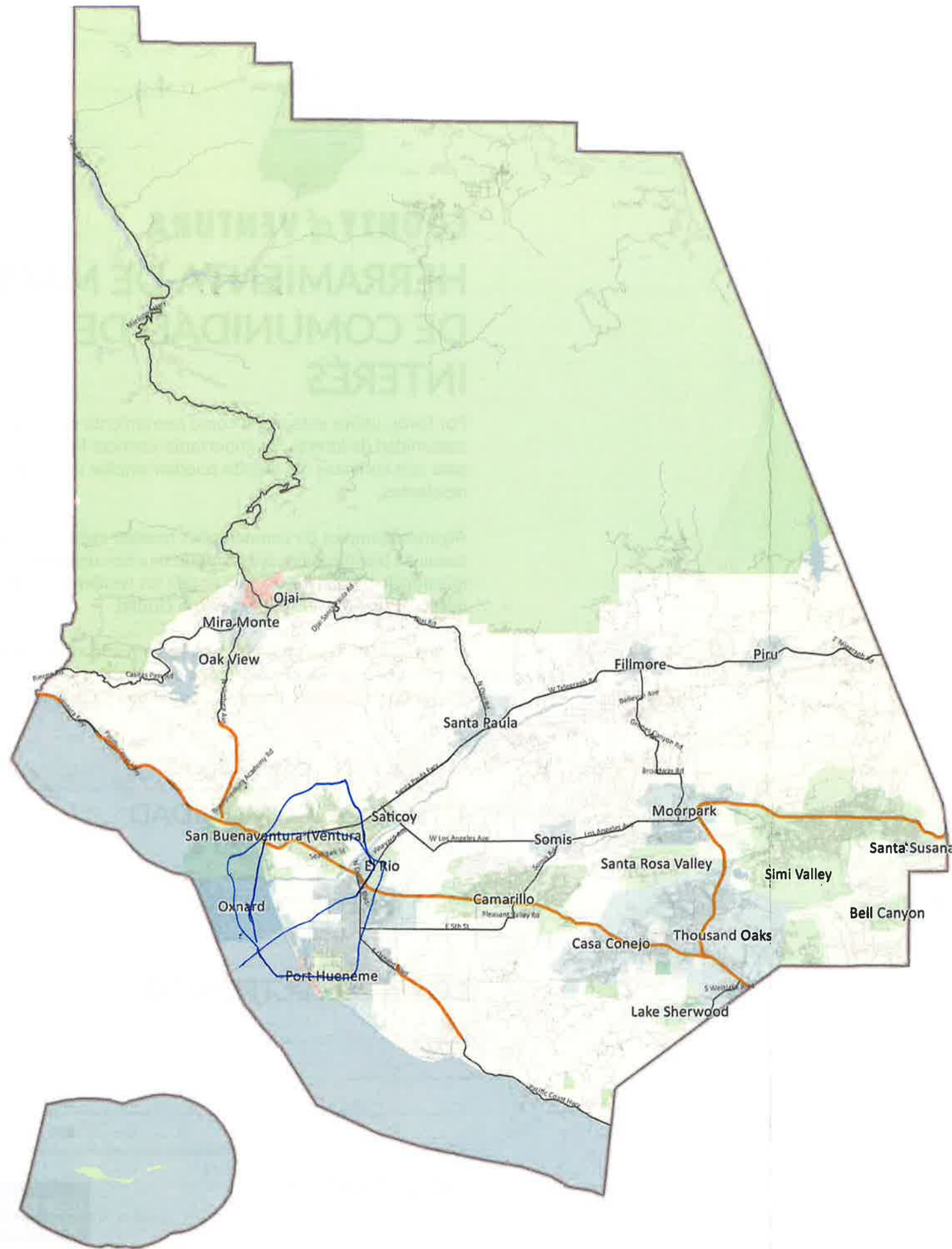
NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

DESCRIPCIÓN







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

Please use this map as a way to draw your community of interest. It is important to know about communities so that the district lines can amplify the voices of residents.

Examples of communities can include cities, towns or neighborhoods, areas where many residents speak the same language, work in the same industry, or where the residents use the same county facilities.

To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

MI GENTE

COMMUNITY NAME

LABRILLO

NAME

EMAIL

DESCRIPTION





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

Por favor, utilice este mapa como herramienta para dibujar su comunidad de interés. Es importante conocer las comunidades para que las líneas del distrito puedan ampliar las voces de los residentes.

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Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

MI GENTE  
TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

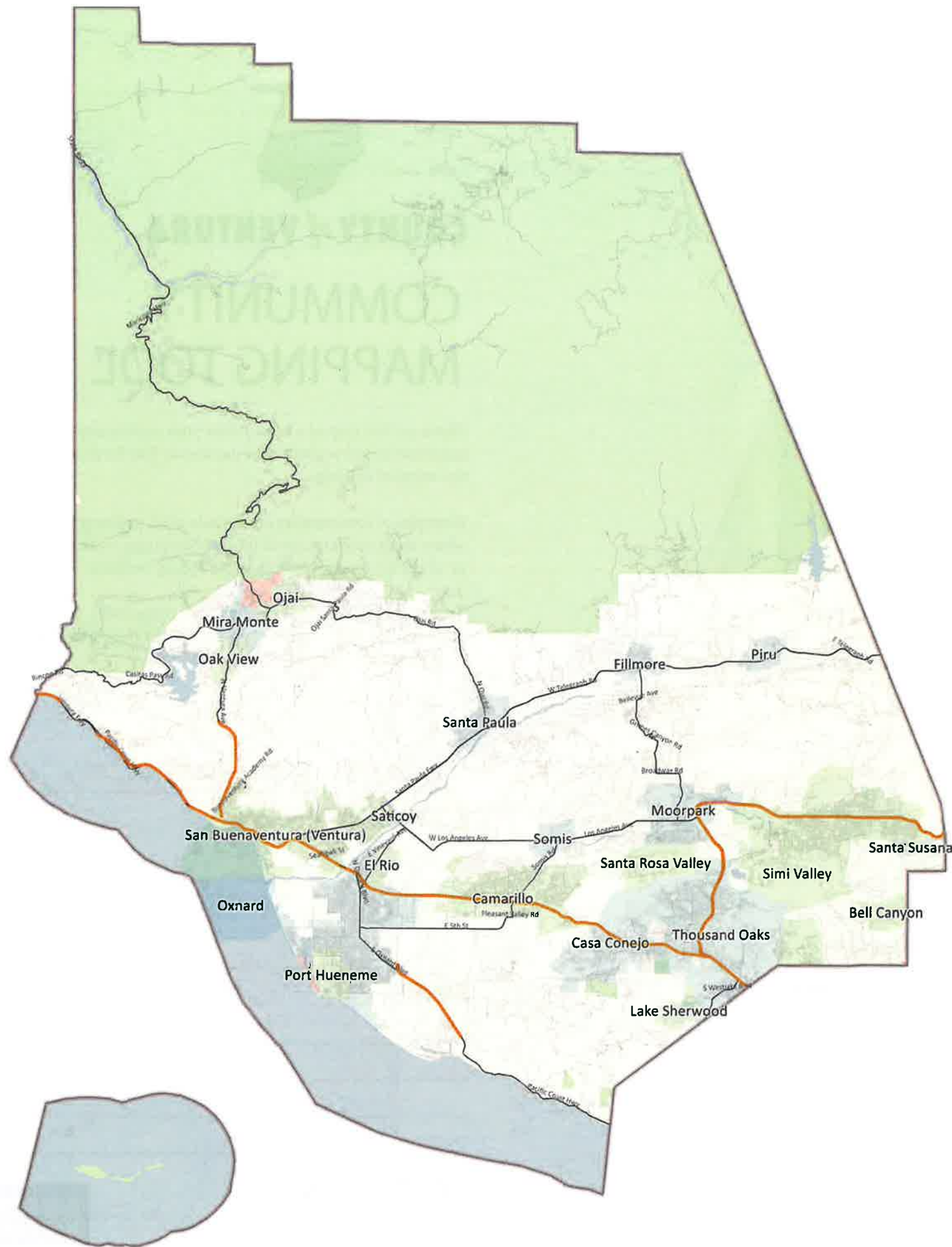
CABRILLO  
NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

DESCRIPCIÓN







**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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Algunos ejemplos de comunidades pueden incluir vecindarios o zonas de planificación, áreas donde muchos residentes hablan el mismo idioma o incluso áreas donde los residentes usan las mismas instalaciones públicas de la ciudad.

Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

MI RAZA

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

AZALEA

NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

DESCRIPCIÓN





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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Algunos ejemplos de comunidades pueden incluir vecindarios o zonas de planificación, áreas donde muchos residentes hablan el mismo idioma o incluso áreas donde los residentes usan las mismas instalaciones públicas de la ciudad.

Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

Latino

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

Rose Park

NOMBRE

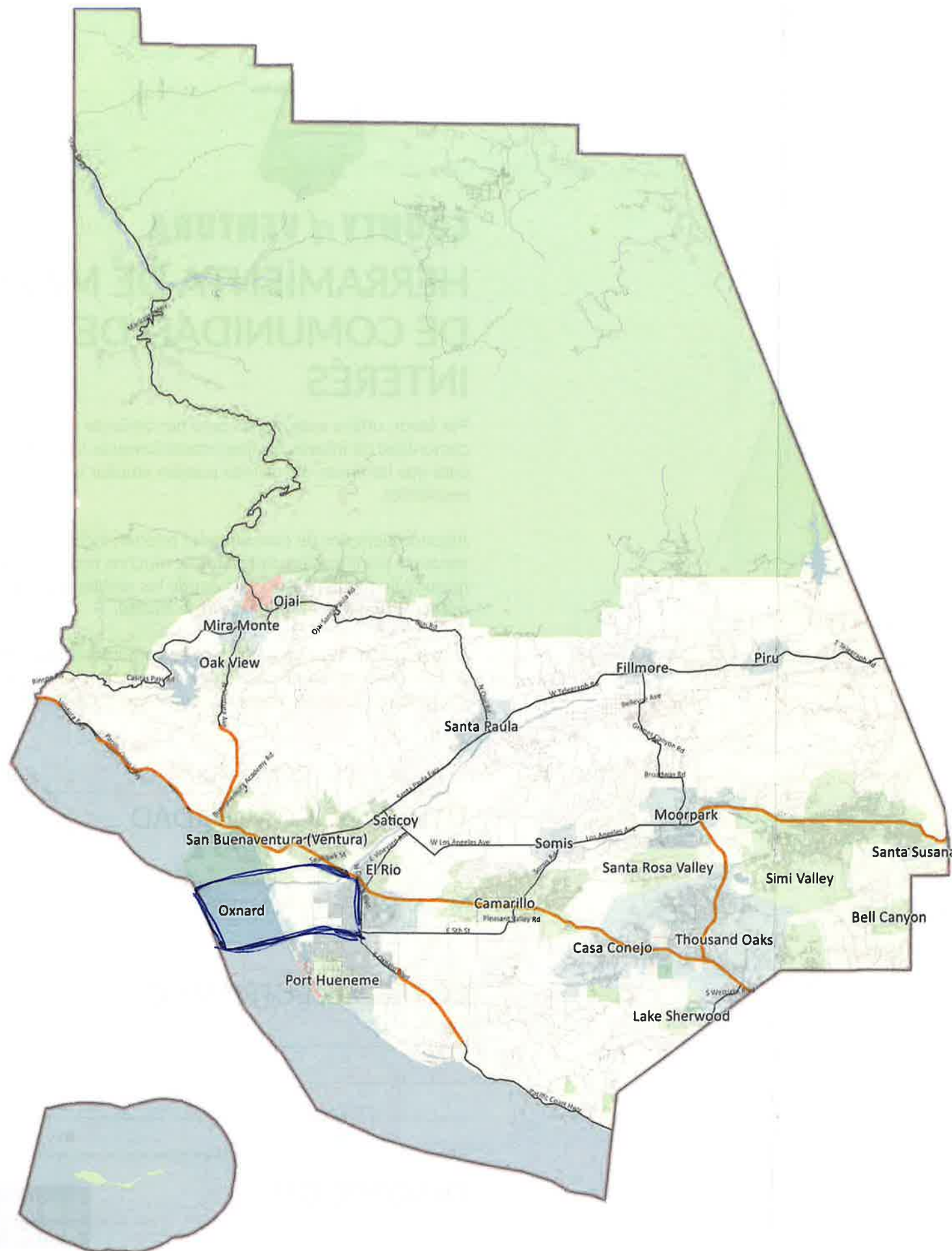
CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

mi comunidad es de Mexicanos  
Salvadoreños (centroamericanos)

DESCRIPCIÓN







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

My Community is mixed.  
COMMUNITY NAME

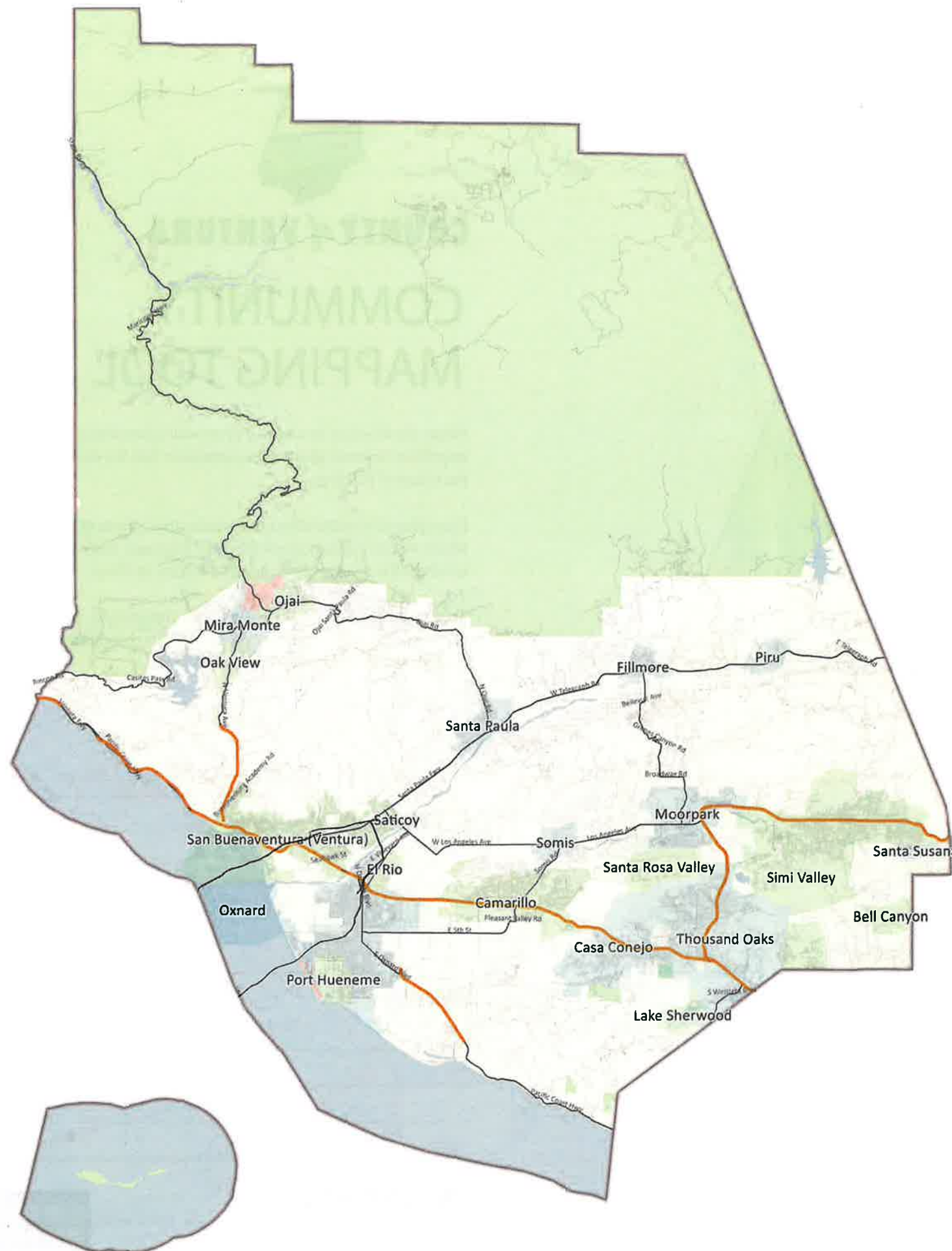
My Community is mixed.  
NAME

immigrant town.  
EMAIL

N/A  
in my community is made up of  
people with different nationalities.

DESCRIPTION





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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Algunos ejemplos de comunidades pueden incluir vecindarios o zonas de planificación, áreas donde muchos residentes hablan el mismo idioma o incluso áreas donde los residentes usan las mismas instalaciones públicas de la ciudad.

Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

*Mr. Coente*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

*Rose Park*

NOMBRE

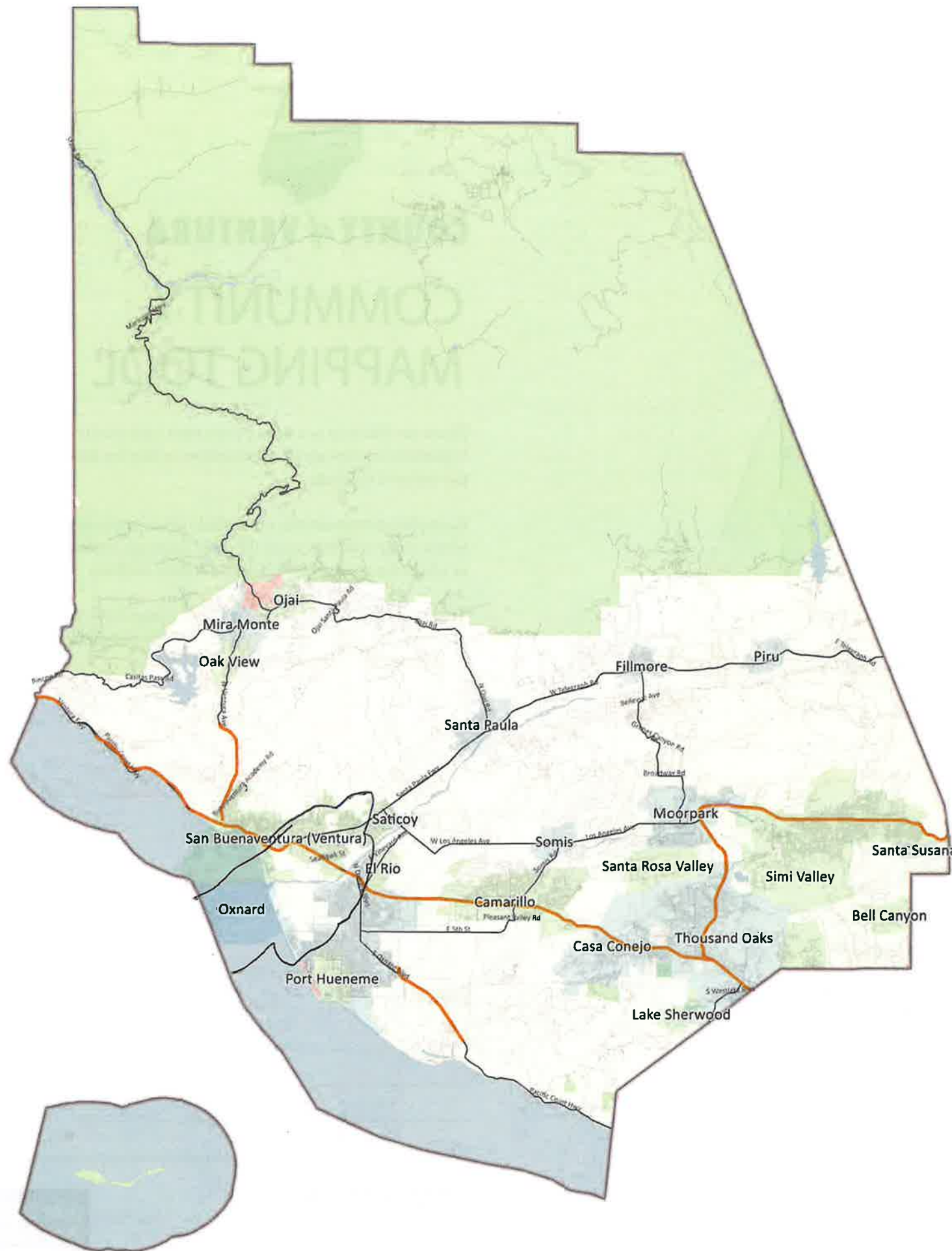
CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

*Centro Americanos/Latinos*

DESCRIPCIÓN







**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

Por favor, utilice este mapa como herramienta para dibujar su comunidad de interés. Es importante conocer las comunidades para que las líneas del distrito puedan ampliar las voces de los residentes.

Algunos ejemplos de comunidades pueden incluir vecindarios o zonas de planificación, áreas donde muchos residentes hablan el mismo idioma o incluso áreas donde los residentes usan las mismas instalaciones públicas de la ciudad.

Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

*Cabrillo*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

*Comunidad mixta*

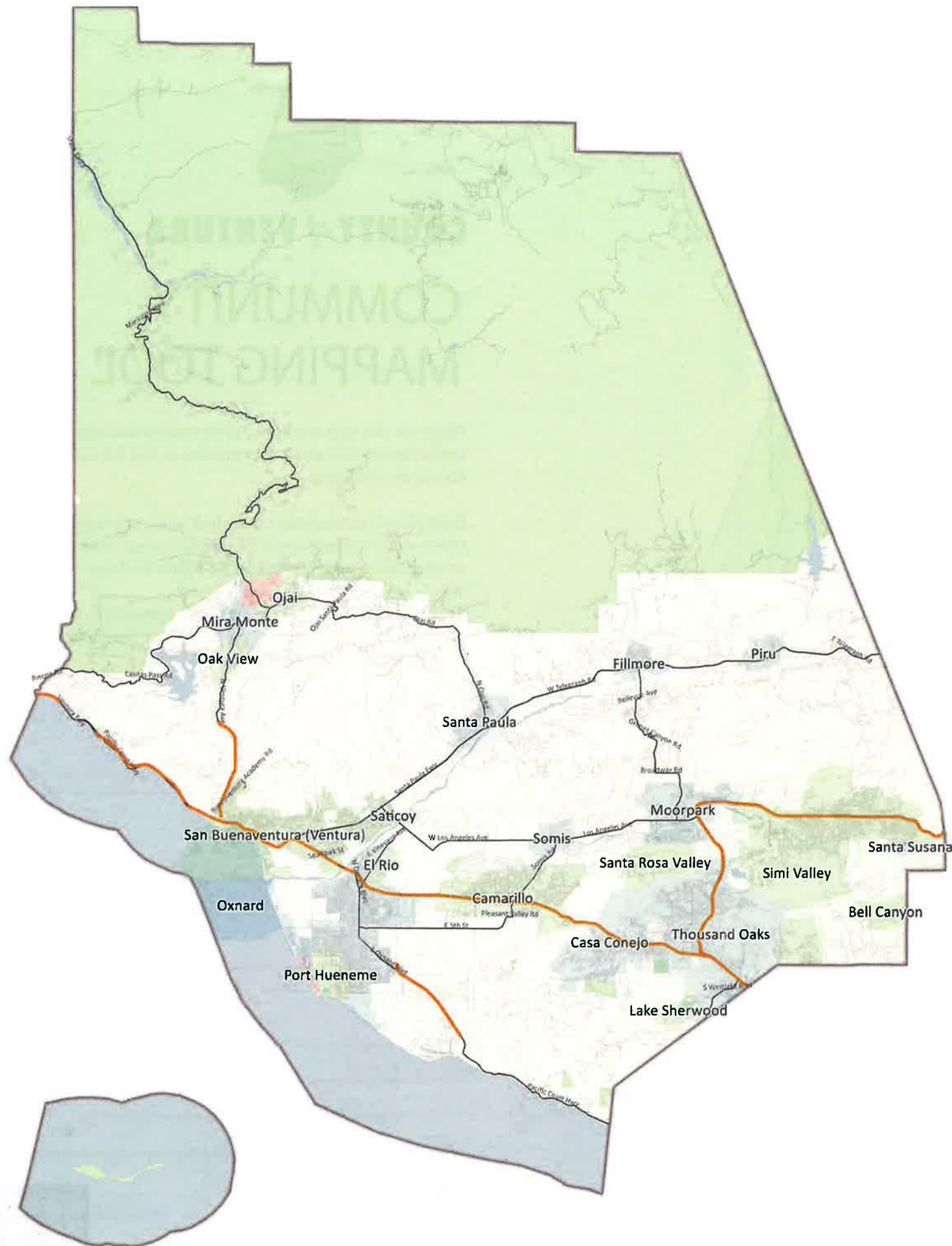
NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

*Latinos / Asiaticos / Blancos*

DESCRIPCIÓN





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

*Cabrillo comunidad*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

*Cabrillo*

NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

DESCRIPCIÓN







**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

Por favor, utilice este mapa como herramienta para dibujar su comunidad de interés. Es importante conocer las comunidades para que las líneas del distrito puedan ampliar las voces de los residentes.

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Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

*Mexico Americanos*  
TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

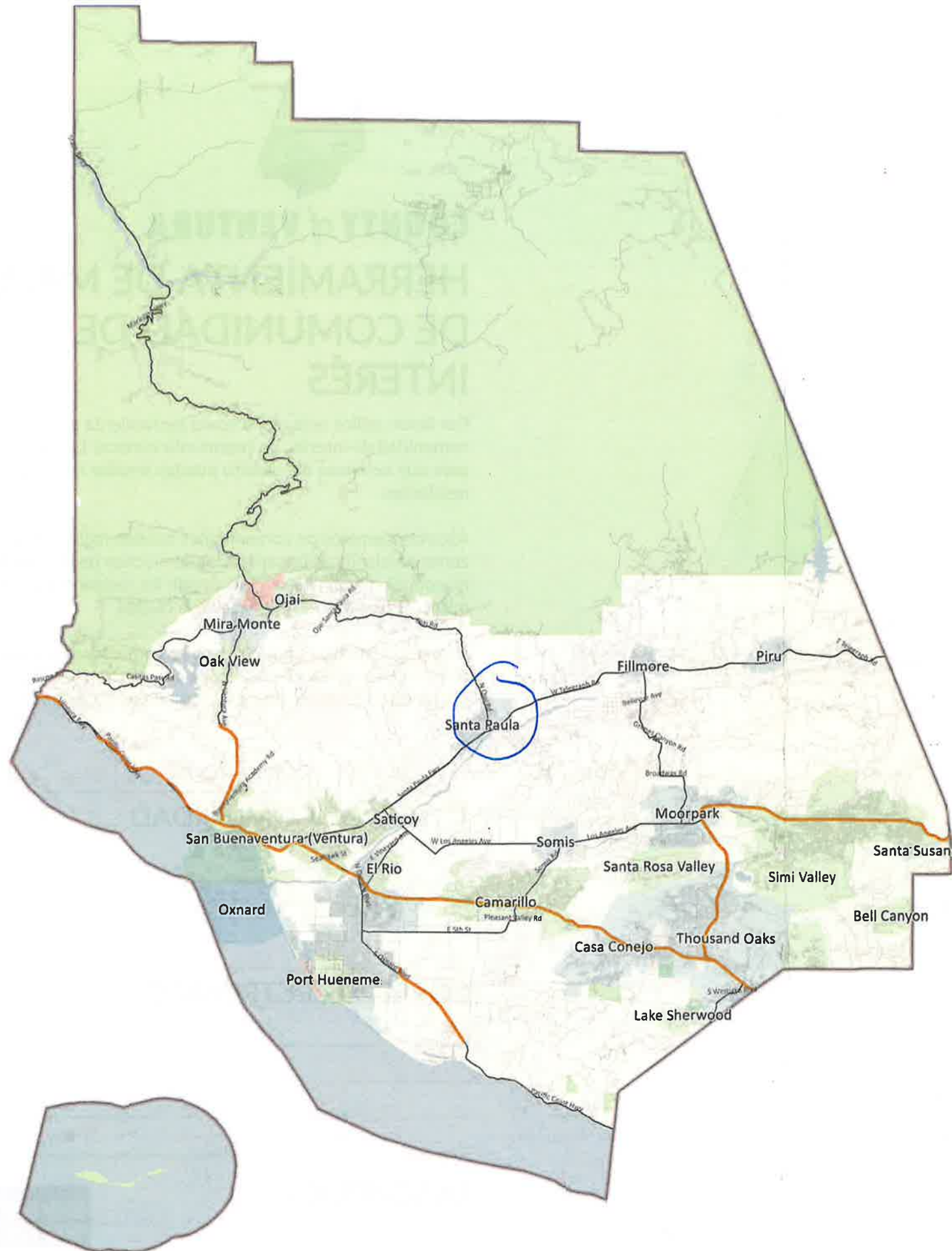
NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

*Latinos / Asiaticos*

DESCRIPCIÓN





COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

Please use this map as a way to draw your community of interest. It is important to know about communities so that the district lines can amplify the voices of residents.

Examples of communities can include cities, towns or neighborhoods, areas where many residents speak the same language, work in the same industry, or where the residents use the same county facilities.

To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

Santa Paula

COMMUNITY NAME

Linda Stevens

NAME

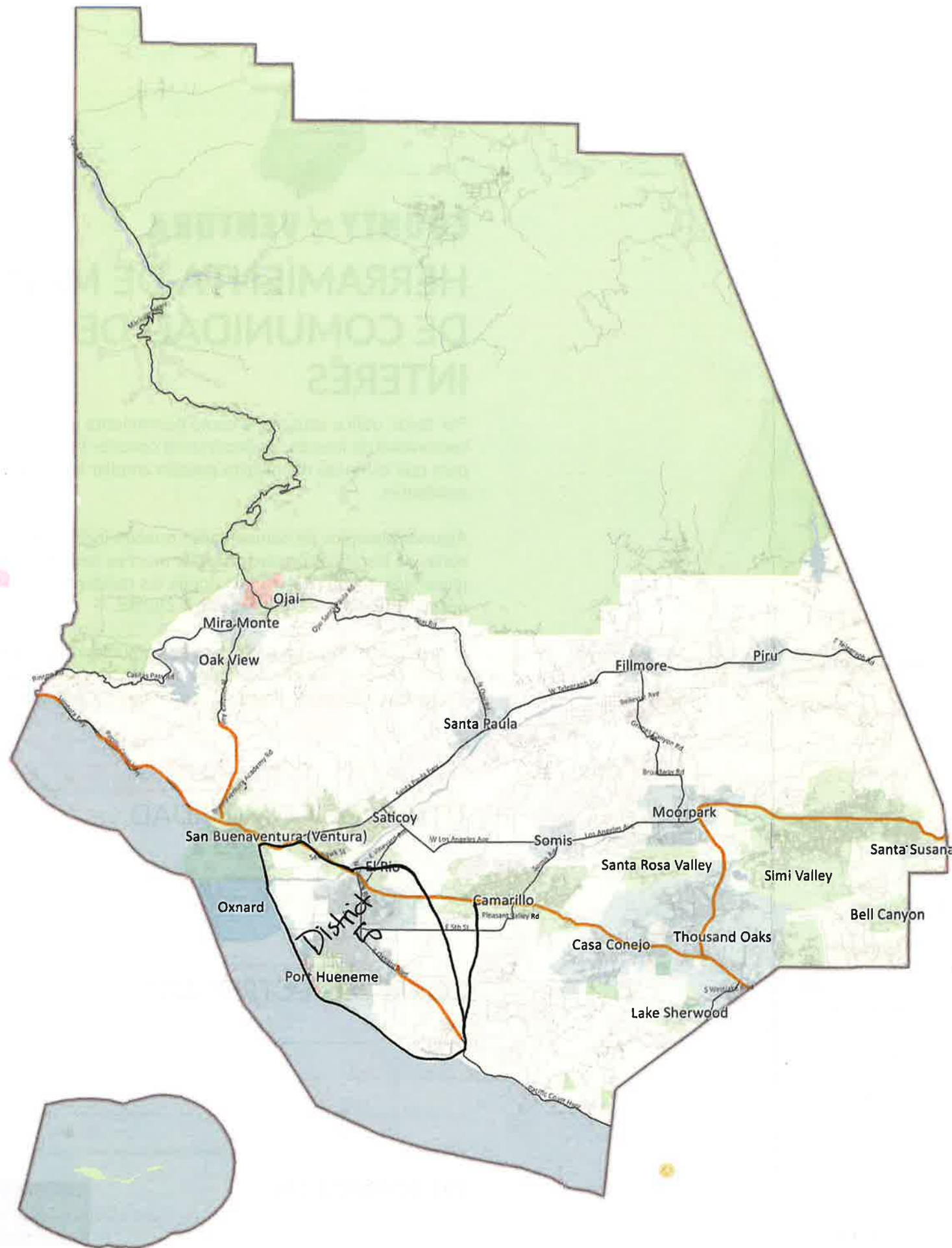
Linda.Stevens1709@gmail.com

EMAIL

DESCRIPTION







COUNTY of VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

Please use this map as a way to draw your community of interest. It is important to know about communities so that the district lines can amplify the voices of residents.

Examples of communities can include cities, towns or neighborhoods, areas where many residents speak the same language, work in the same industry, or where the residents use the same county facilities.

To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

District 5  
COMMUNITY NAME

NAME

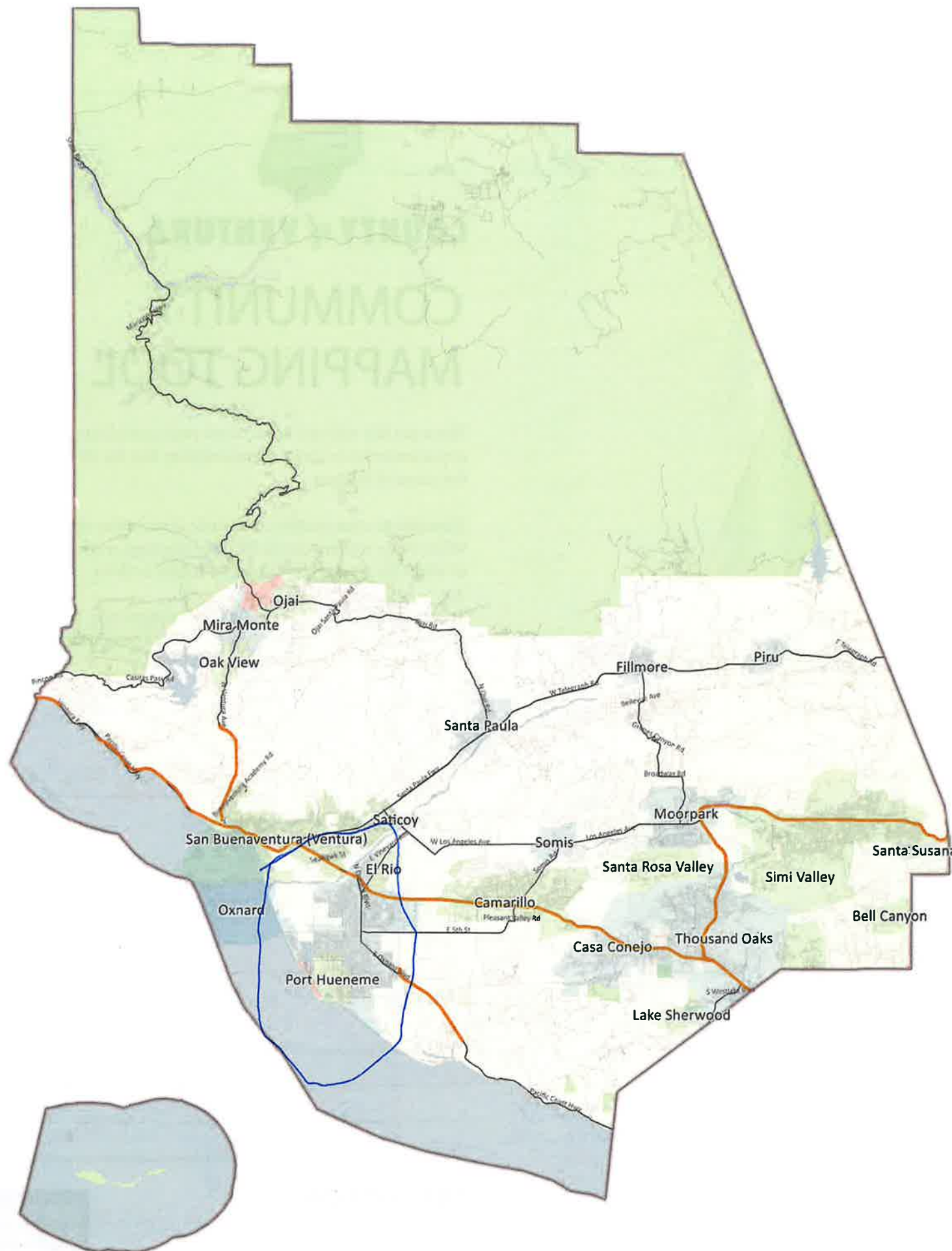
jossymoran@yahoo.com

EMAIL

Working class, English and Spanish speaking, Include Military families in area, growing with new housing, community need of more funding in educational & recreational programs for youth.

DESCRIPTION





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

Por favor, utilice este mapa como herramienta para dibujar su comunidad de interés. Es importante conocer las comunidades para que las líneas del distrito puedan ampliar las voces de los residentes.

Algunos ejemplos de comunidades pueden incluir vecindarios o zonas de planificación, áreas donde muchos residentes hablan el mismo idioma o incluso áreas donde los residentes usan las mismas instalaciones públicas de la ciudad.

Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

*Latino Community*

---

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

NOMBRE

---

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

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*Asiaticos - Ame Mexico Americanas  
centroamericanos*

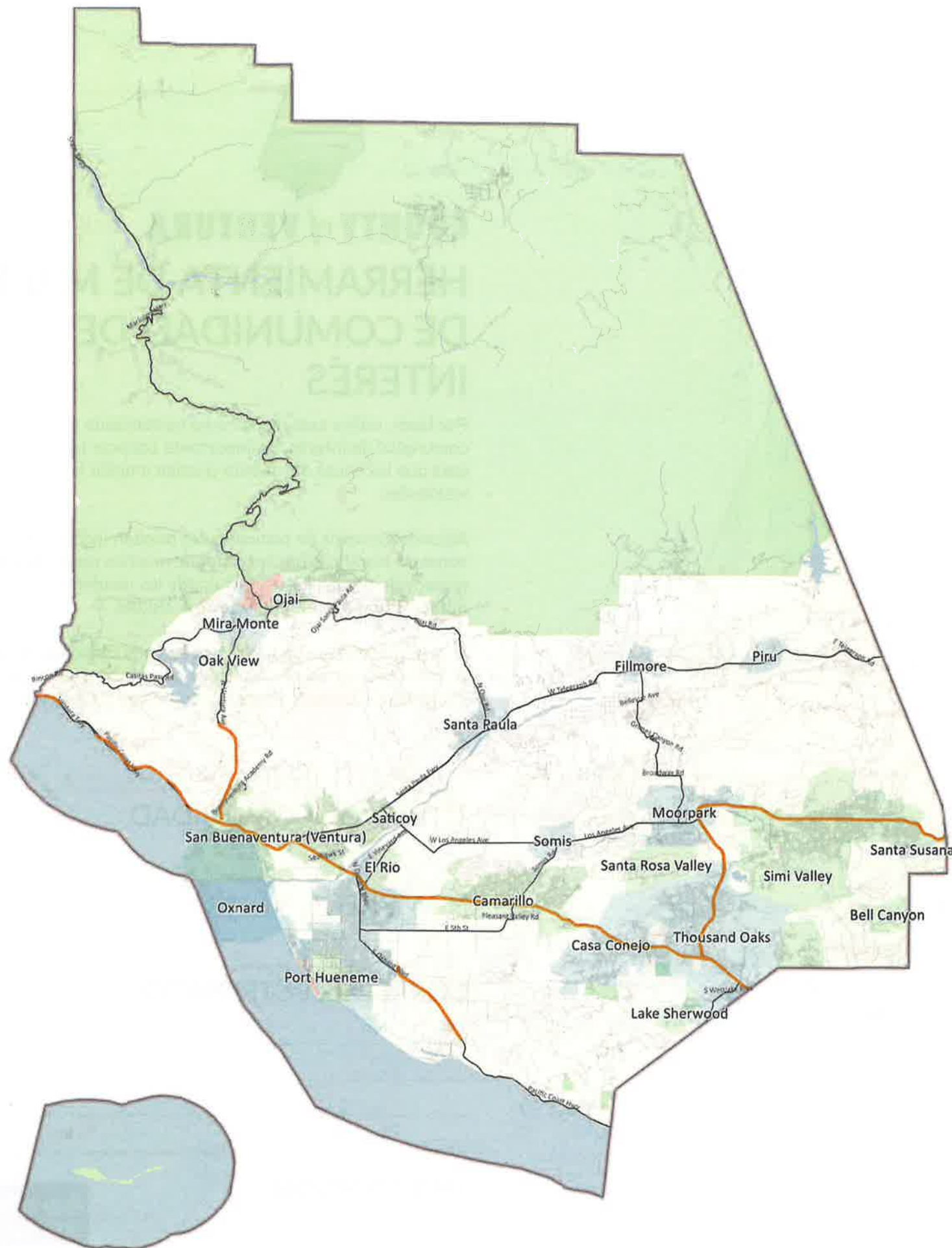
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DESCRIPCIÓN

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COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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Examples of communities can include cities, towns or neighborhoods, areas where many residents speak the same language, work in the same industry, or where the residents use the same county facilities.

To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

Happy Families

COMMUNITY NAME

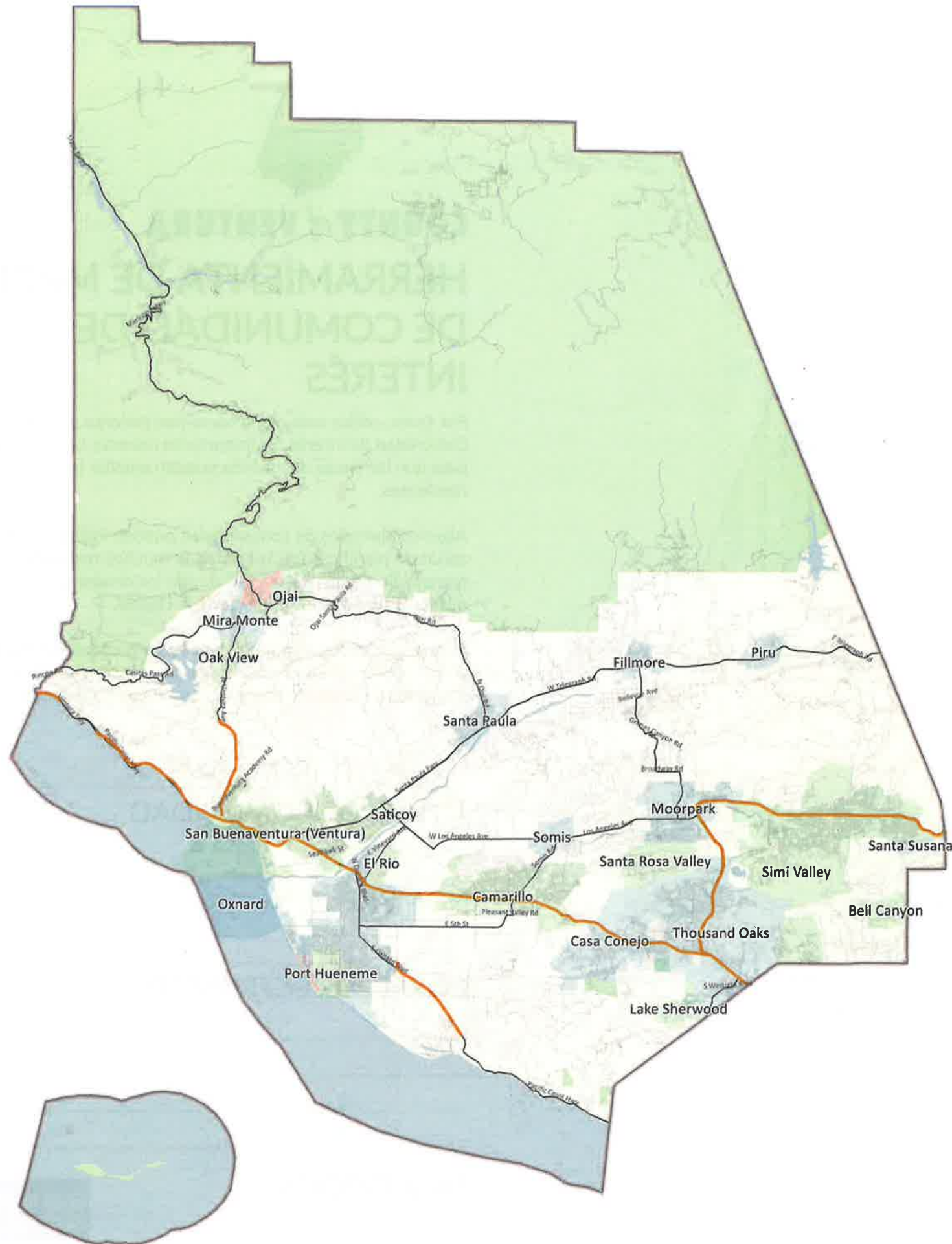
Cabrillo

NAME

EMAIL

DESCRIPTION





COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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Examples of communities can include cities, towns or neighborhoods, areas where many residents speak the same language, work in the same industry, or where the residents use the same county facilities.

To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

North Oxnard

COMMUNITY NAME

Stephanie Navarro

NAME

EMAIL

My community is pretty safe, quiet & friendly.

DESCRIPTION







**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

Por favor, utilice este mapa como herramienta para dibujar su comunidad de interés. Es importante conocer las comunidades para que las líneas del distrito puedan ampliar las voces de los residentes.

Algunos ejemplos de comunidades pueden incluir vecindarios o zonas de planificación, áreas donde muchos residentes hablan el mismo idioma o incluso áreas donde los residentes usan las mismas instalaciones públicas de la ciudad.

Para iniciar, incluya un título para su comunidad, su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico, y una descripción de su comunidad. Después dibuje su comunidad en el mapa.

*Felices Amigos*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

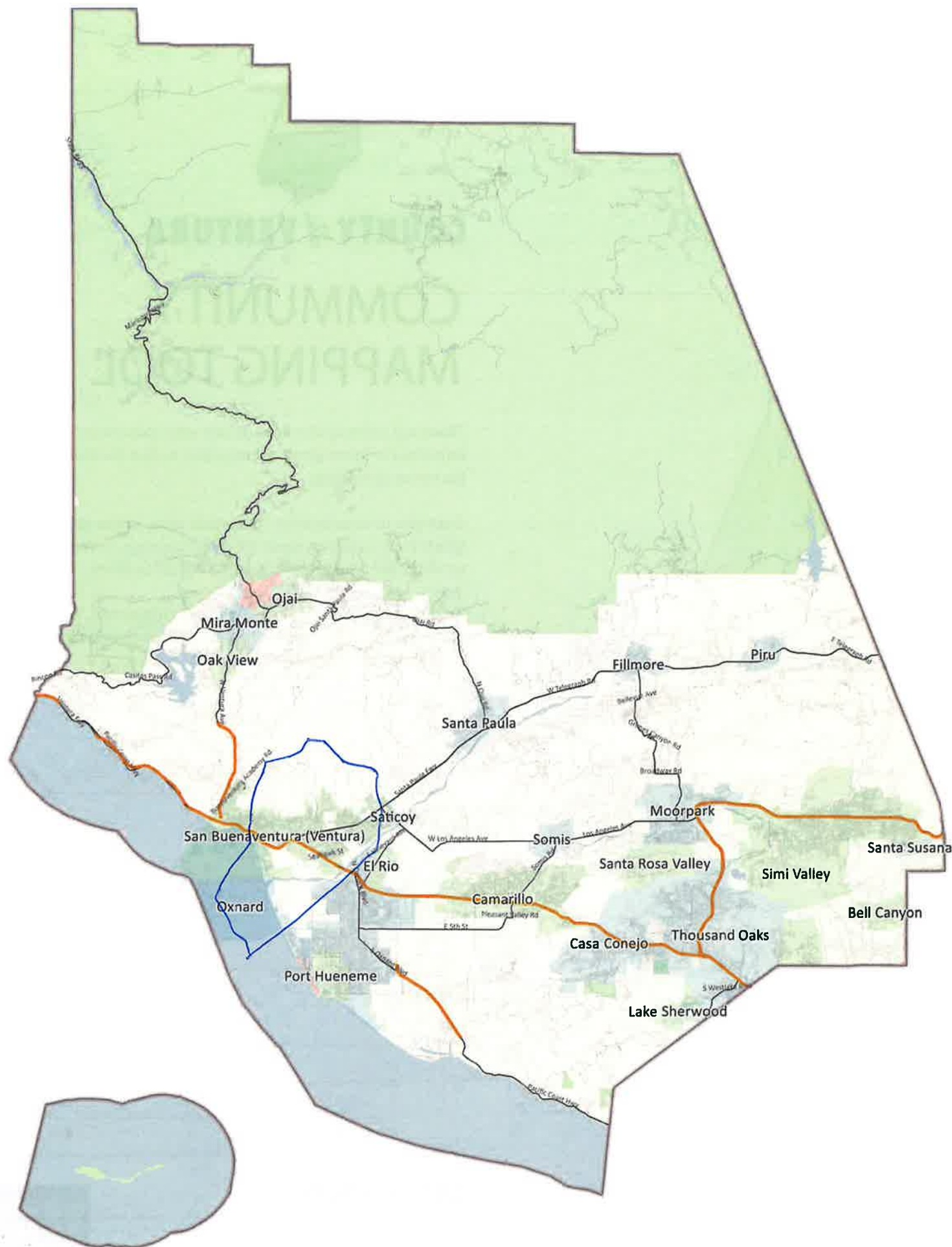
*Rose Park*

NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

DESCRIPCIÓN





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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*limpia y Feliz*  
TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

*Blancos / latinos / Africana*

DESCRIPCIÓN







**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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*Niños Felices*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

*Africanos / Blancos / latinos*

DESCRIPCIÓN







**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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*South Oxnard*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

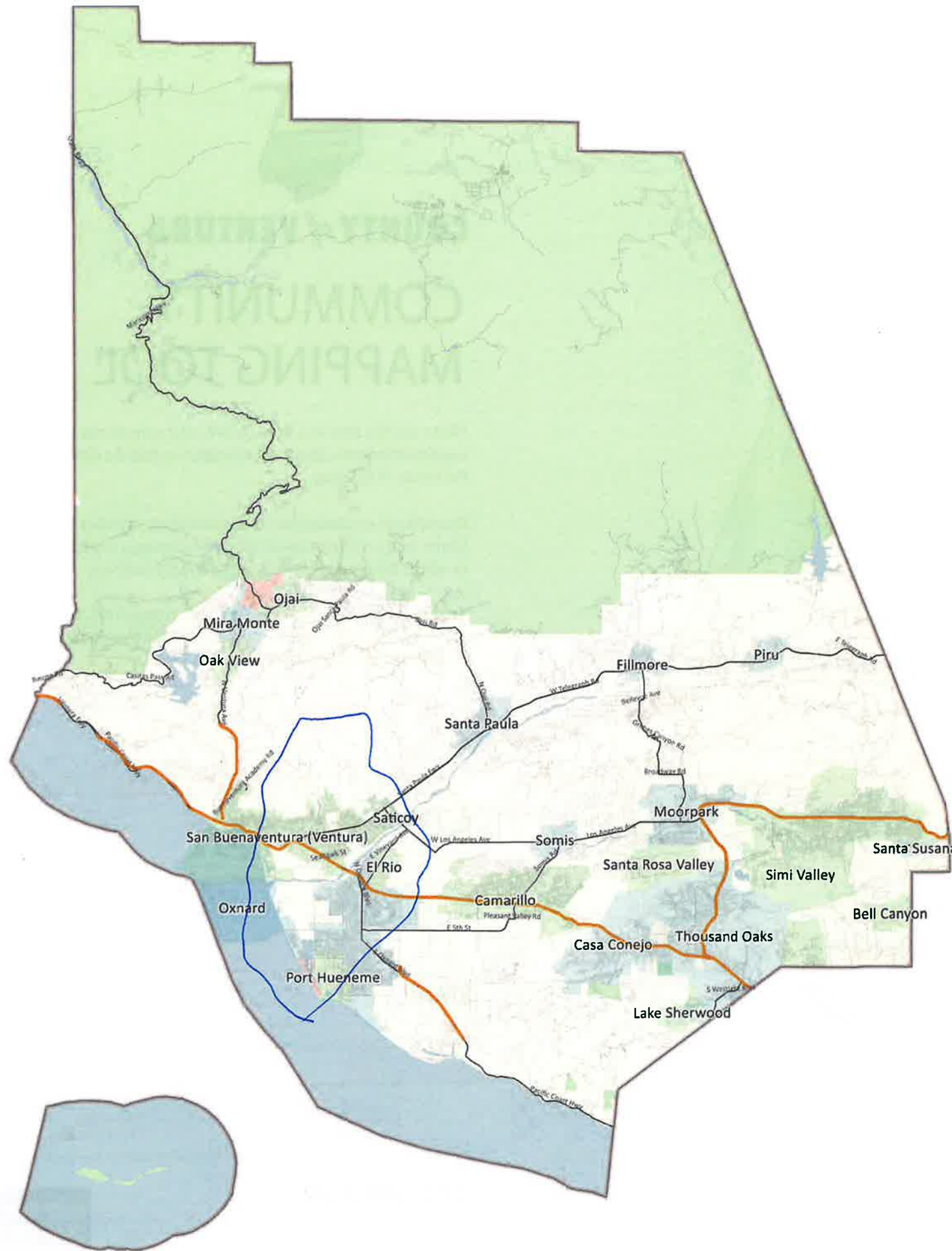
NOMBRE

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

*low income area - single family home  
with multiple families living in them.  
dense population*

DESCRIPCIÓN





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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*Meta st*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

NOMBRE

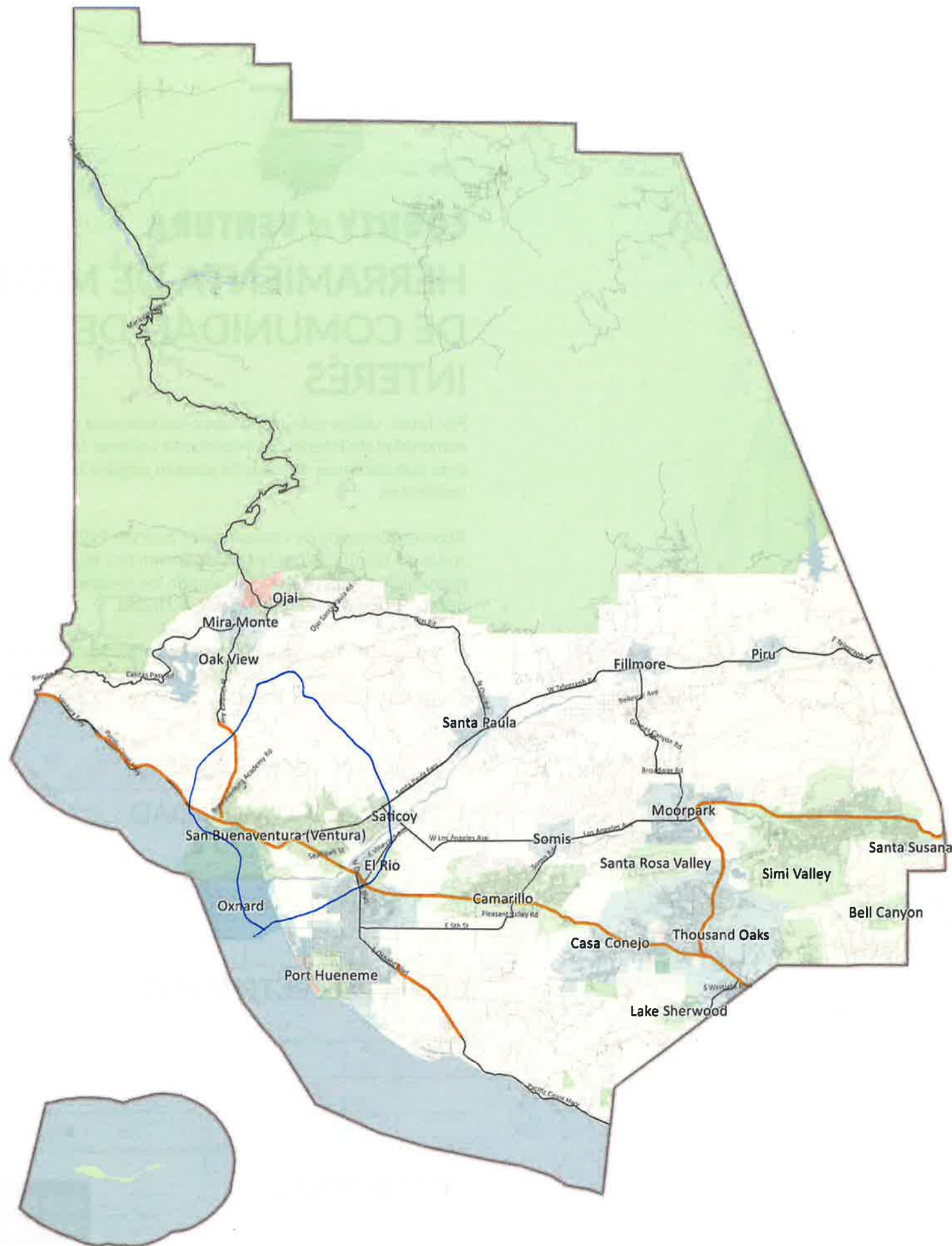
CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

*Africanos - Mexicanos - Mixto*

DESCRIPCIÓN







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

Please use this map as a way to draw your community of interest. It is important to know about communities so that the district lines can amplify the voices of residents.

Examples of communities can include cities, towns or neighborhoods, areas where many residents speak the same language, work in the same industry, or where the residents use the same county facilities.

To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

South Oxnard  
COMMUNITY NAME

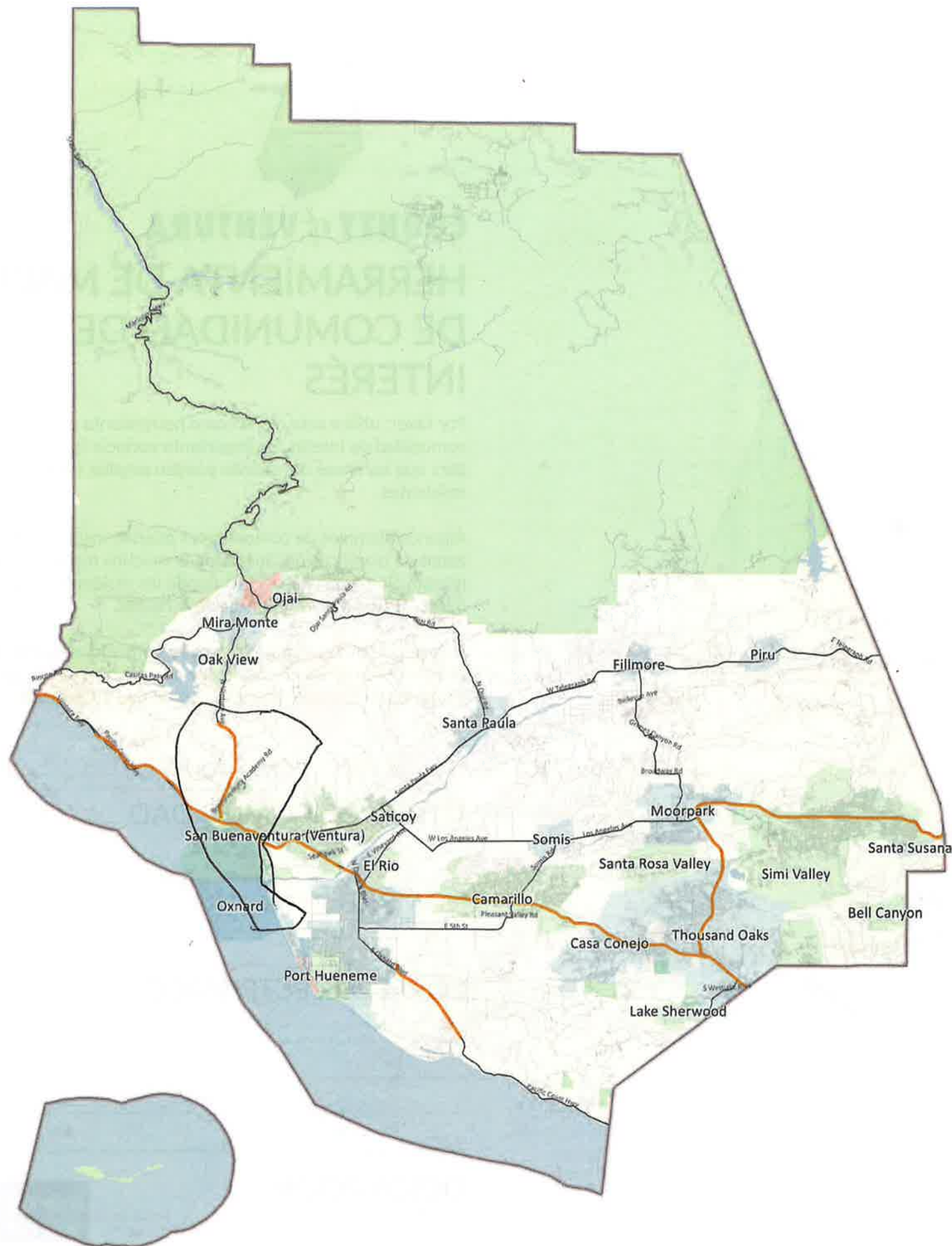
Christian Quirroz  
NAME

EMAIL  
Dense population, low income area. Single  
Family homes with multiple families living in them.  
Parking extremely limited due to volume of tenants.

DESCRIPTION







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

---

COMMUNITY NAME

---

NAME

---

EMAIL

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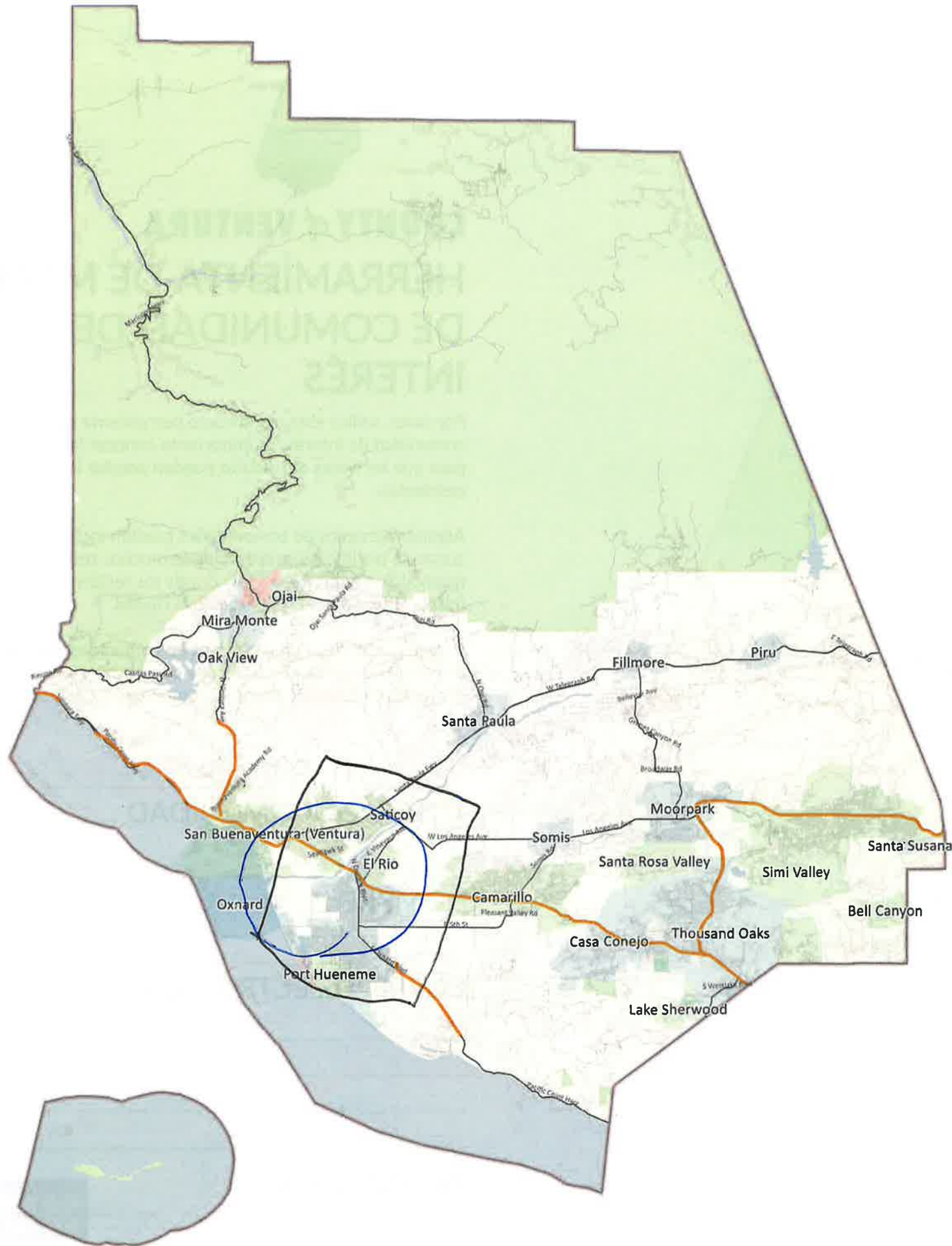
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---

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DESCRIPTION





COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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---

COMMUNITY NAME

---

NAME

---

EMAIL

---

---

---

---

DESCRIPTION







**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

Por favor, utilice este mapa como herramienta para dibujar su comunidad de interés. Es importante conocer las comunidades para que las líneas del distrito puedan ampliar las voces de los residentes.

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Comunidad mixta

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

NOMBRE

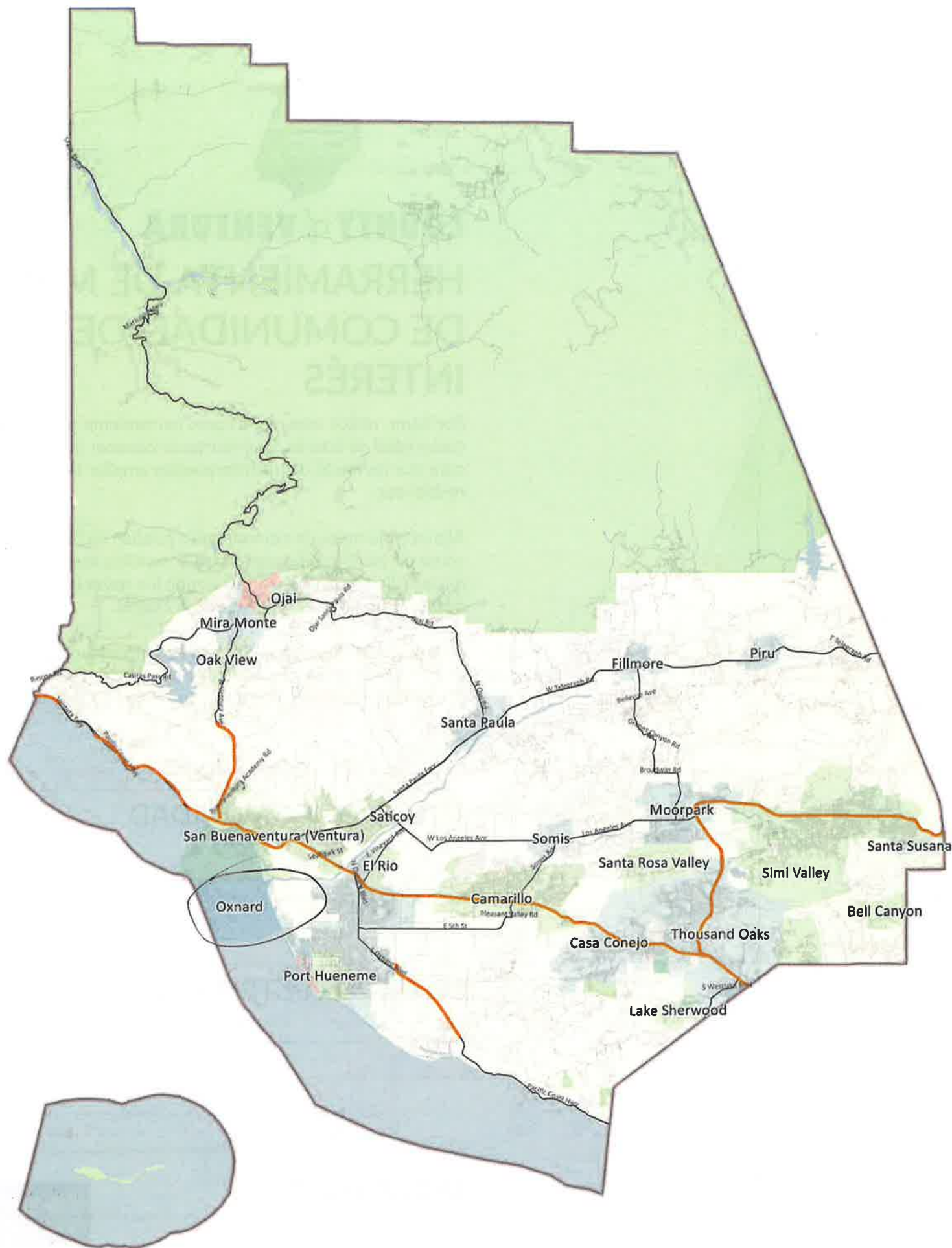
CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

Necesitamos para que la gente ponga  
las necesidades de sus perros en bolsa

DESCRIPCIÓN







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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Oxnard

COMMUNITY NAME

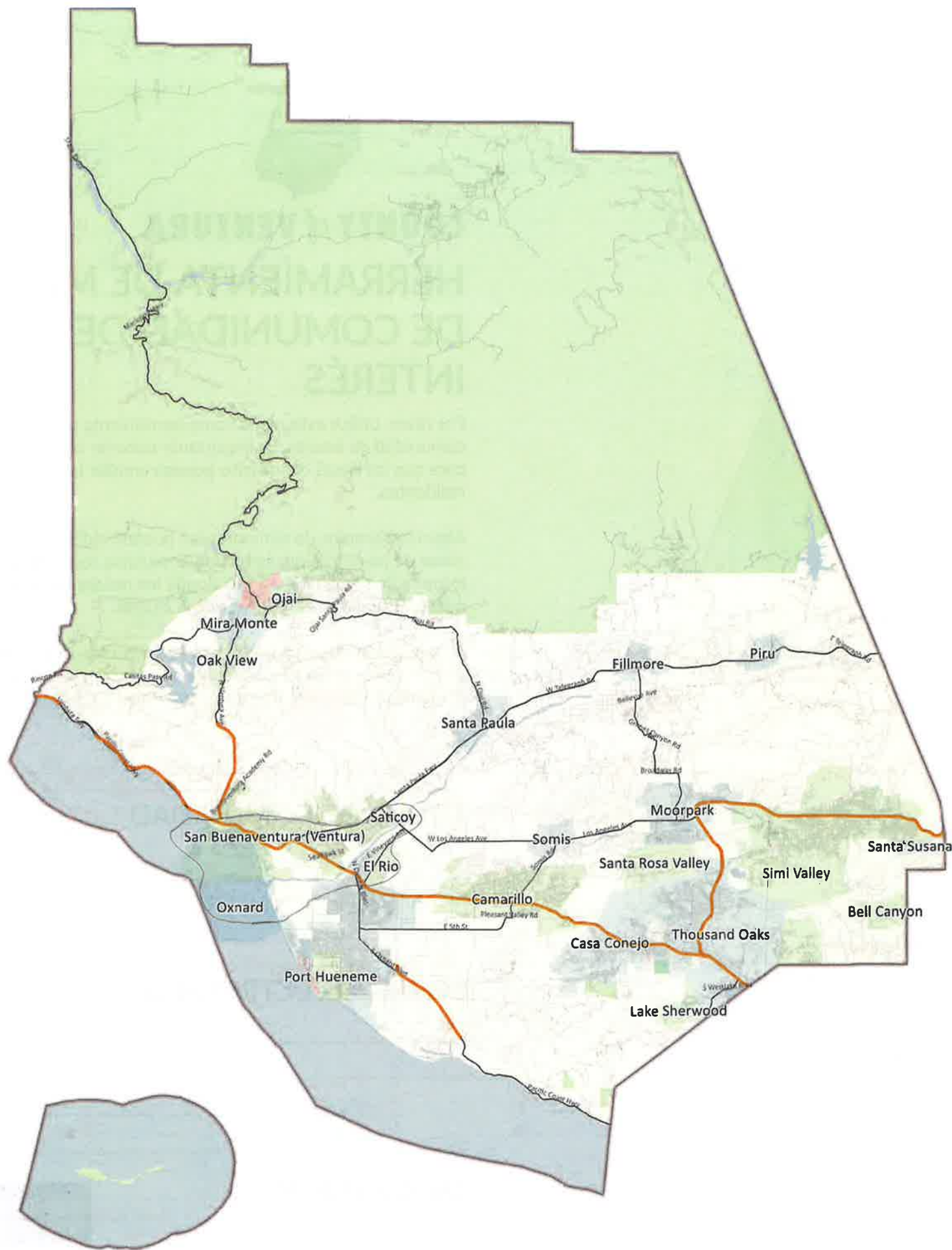
Irene Gomez

NAME

EMAIL

DESCRIPTION





COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

Oxnard

COMMUNITY NAME

Diego Ramirez

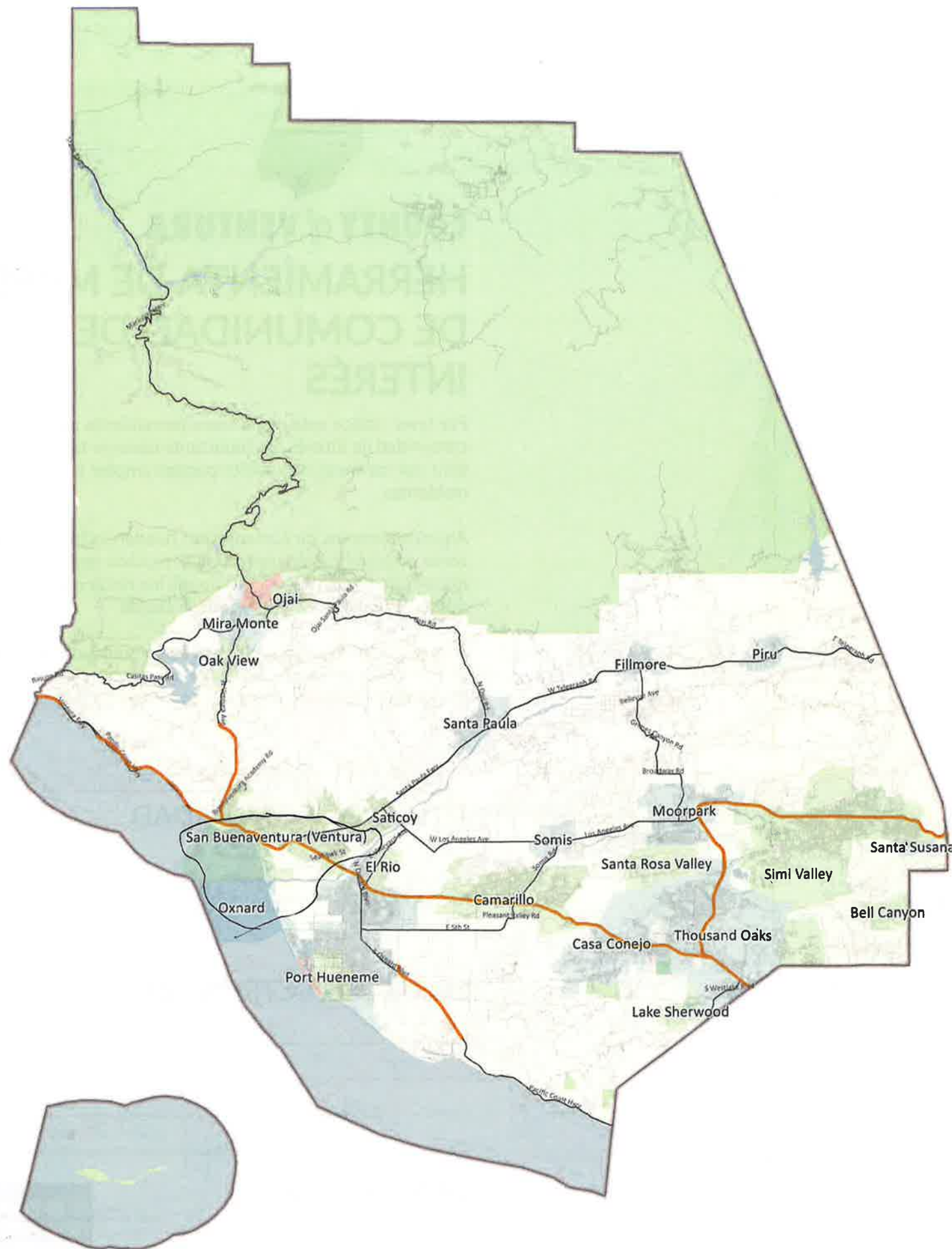
NAME

EMAIL

DESCRIPTION







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

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Oxnard

COMMUNITY NAME

Torran Ramirez

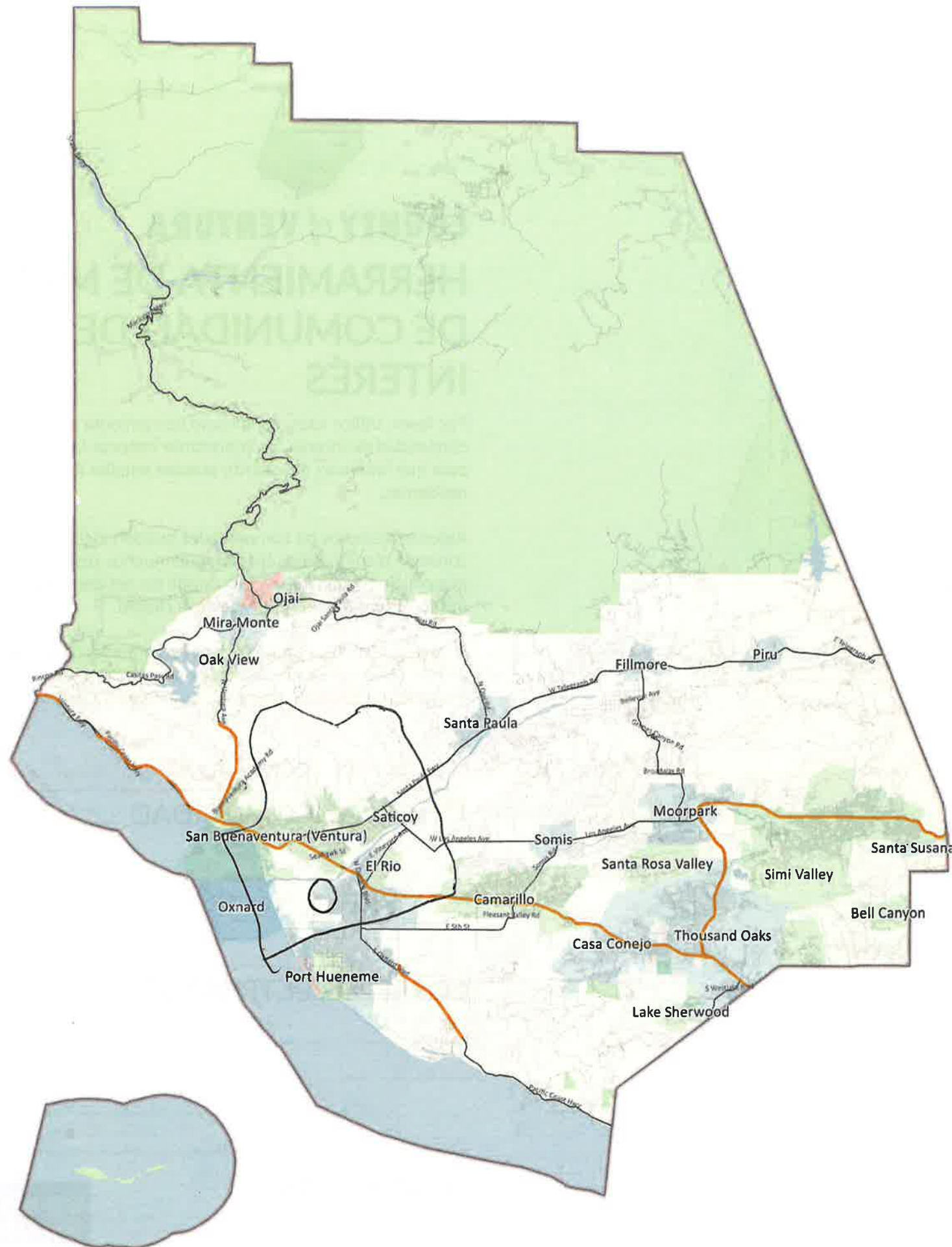
NAME

EMAIL

DESCRIPTION







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

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To start, please include a name for your community, your name and email address (optional), and a description of your community. Then draw your community on the map.

working class

COMMUNITY NAME

Crystal Ontiveros

NAME

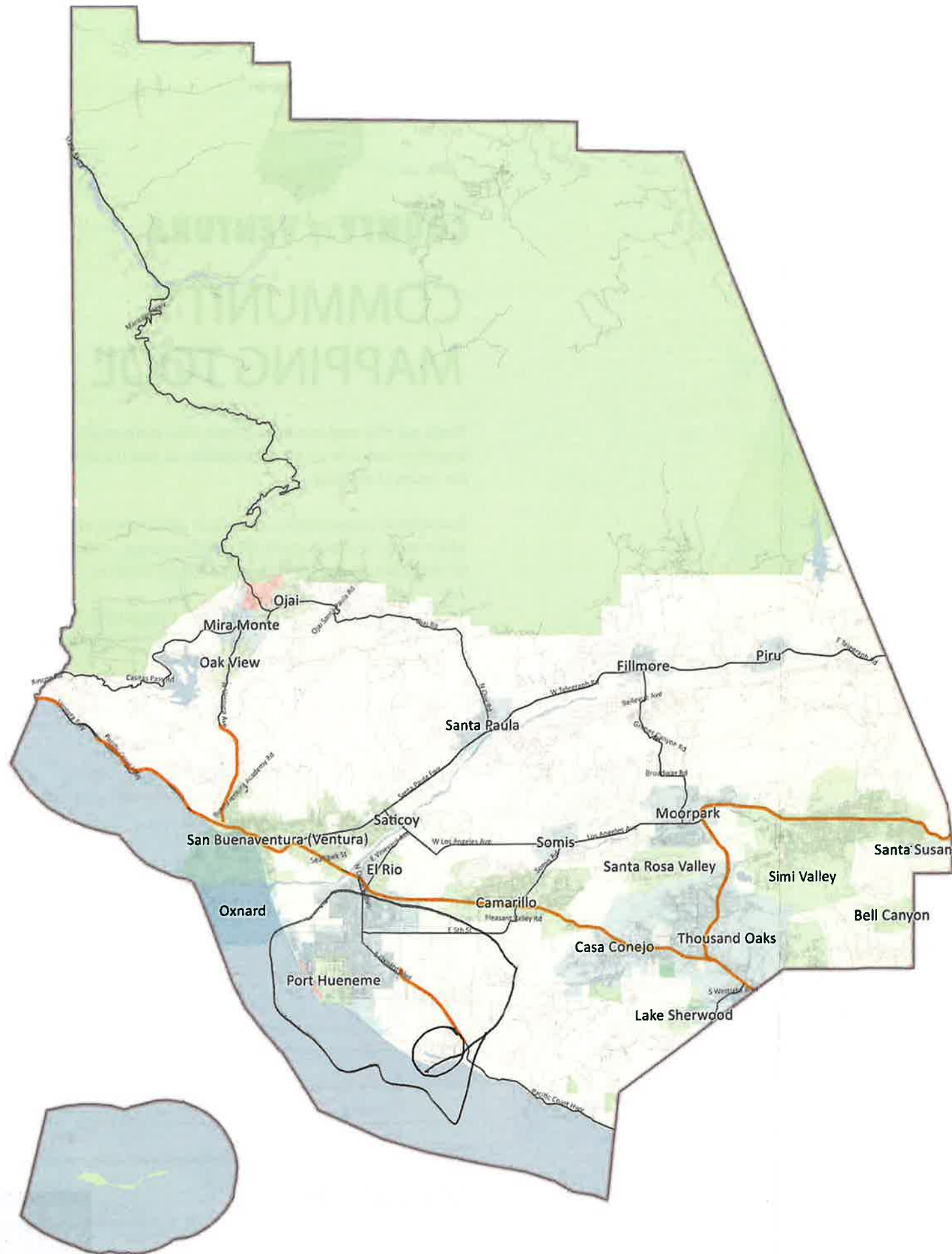
foitoi93@yahoo.com

EMAIL

My community is very close. We know are neighbors very well. Ocassionally I hear cars racing by.

DESCRIPTION





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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HISPANOS

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

FERNANDO HERMOSILLO

NOMBRE

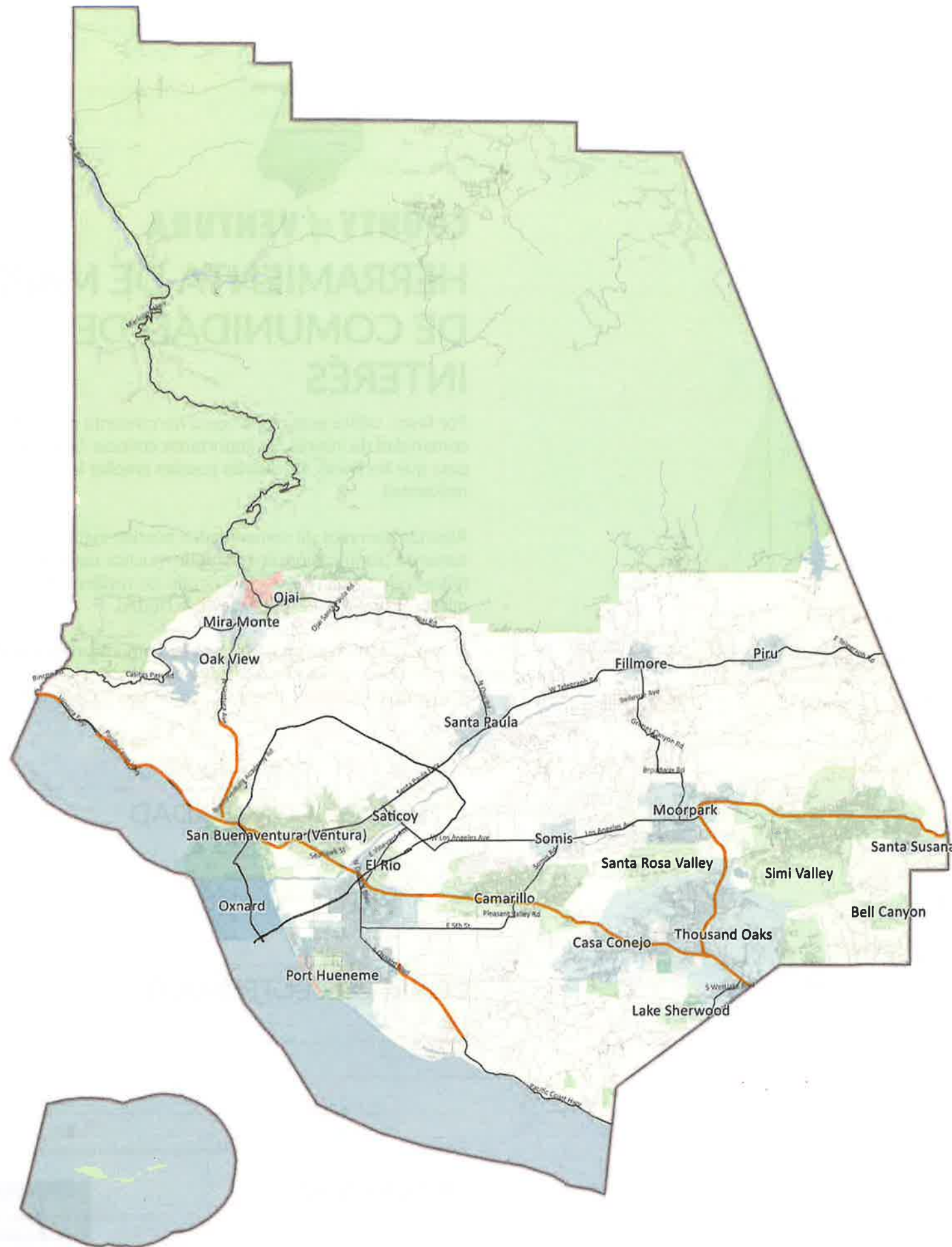
CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

MI COMUNIDAD ES TRANQUILA  
PERO UN POCO SUCIA CON  
HOMELESS.

DESCRIPCIÓN







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

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MI RAZA

COMMUNITY NAME

NAME

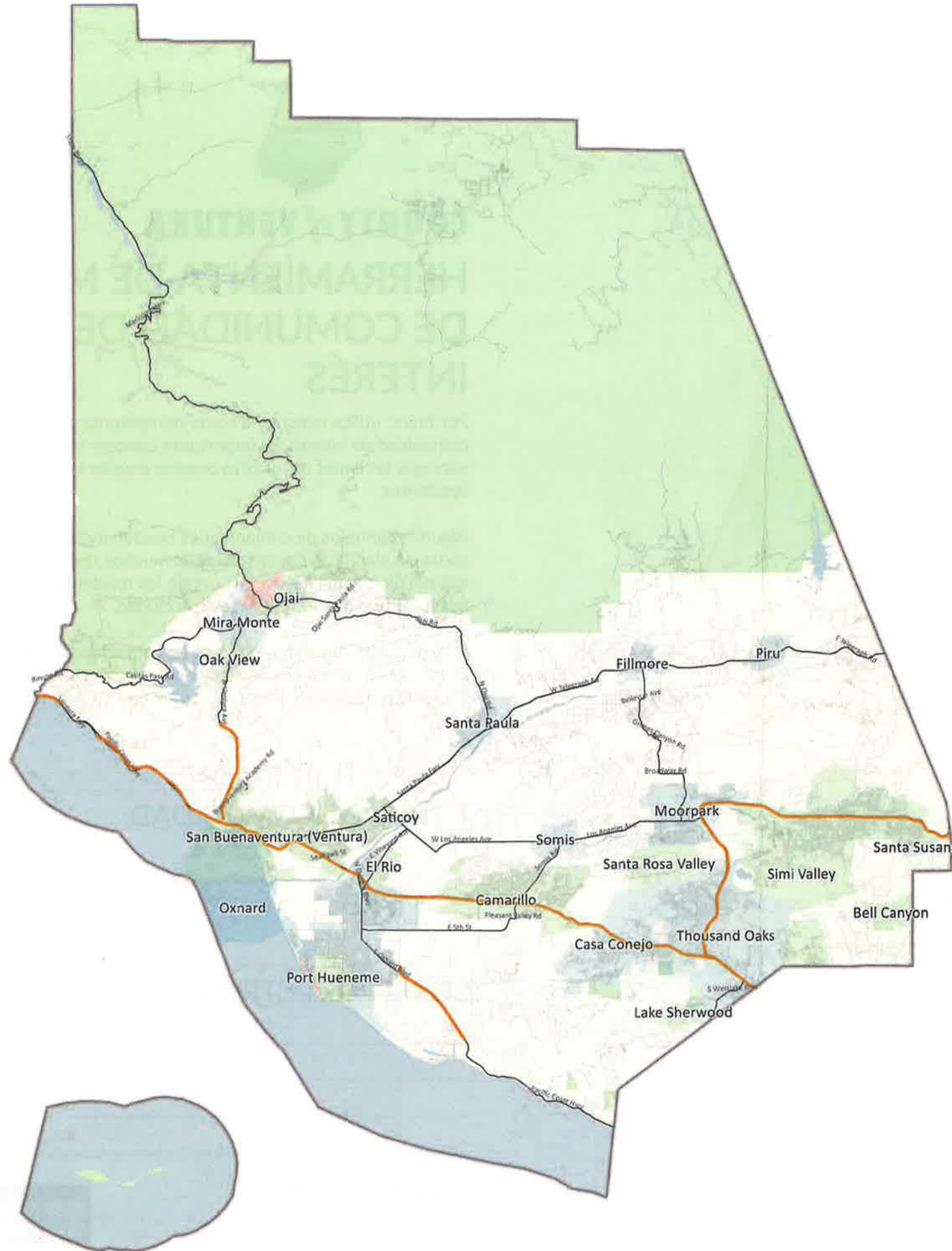
EMAIL

Dense population, Family Names with multiple families living w/ them

DESCRIPTION







COUNTY *of* VENTURA

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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*North Oxnard*

COMMUNITY NAME

*David Arroyo Jr.*

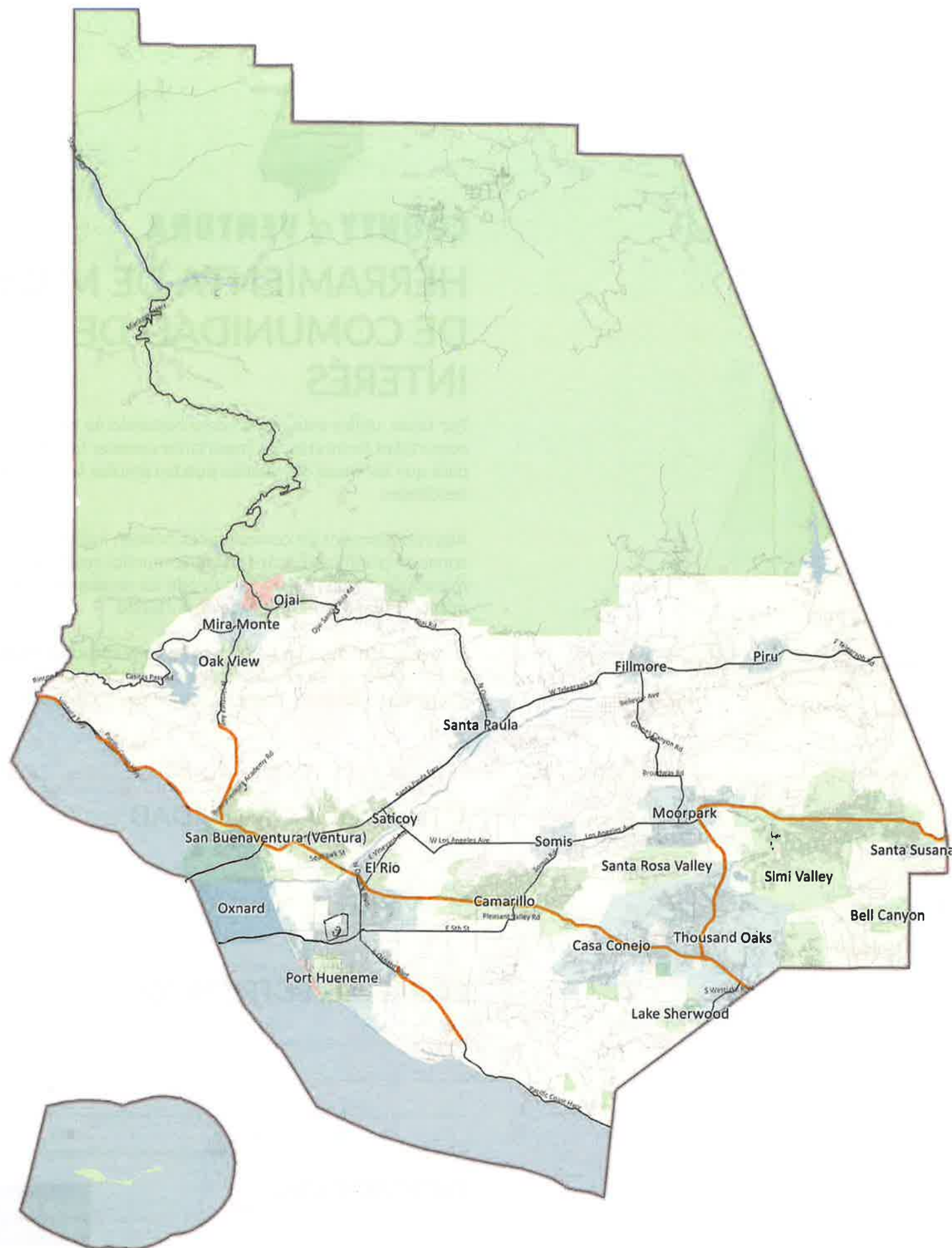
NAME

EMAIL

*safe and quiet*

DESCRIPTION





**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## COMMUNITY MAPPING TOOL

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Rose Park  
COMMUNITY NAME

Daniel Ontiveros  
NAME

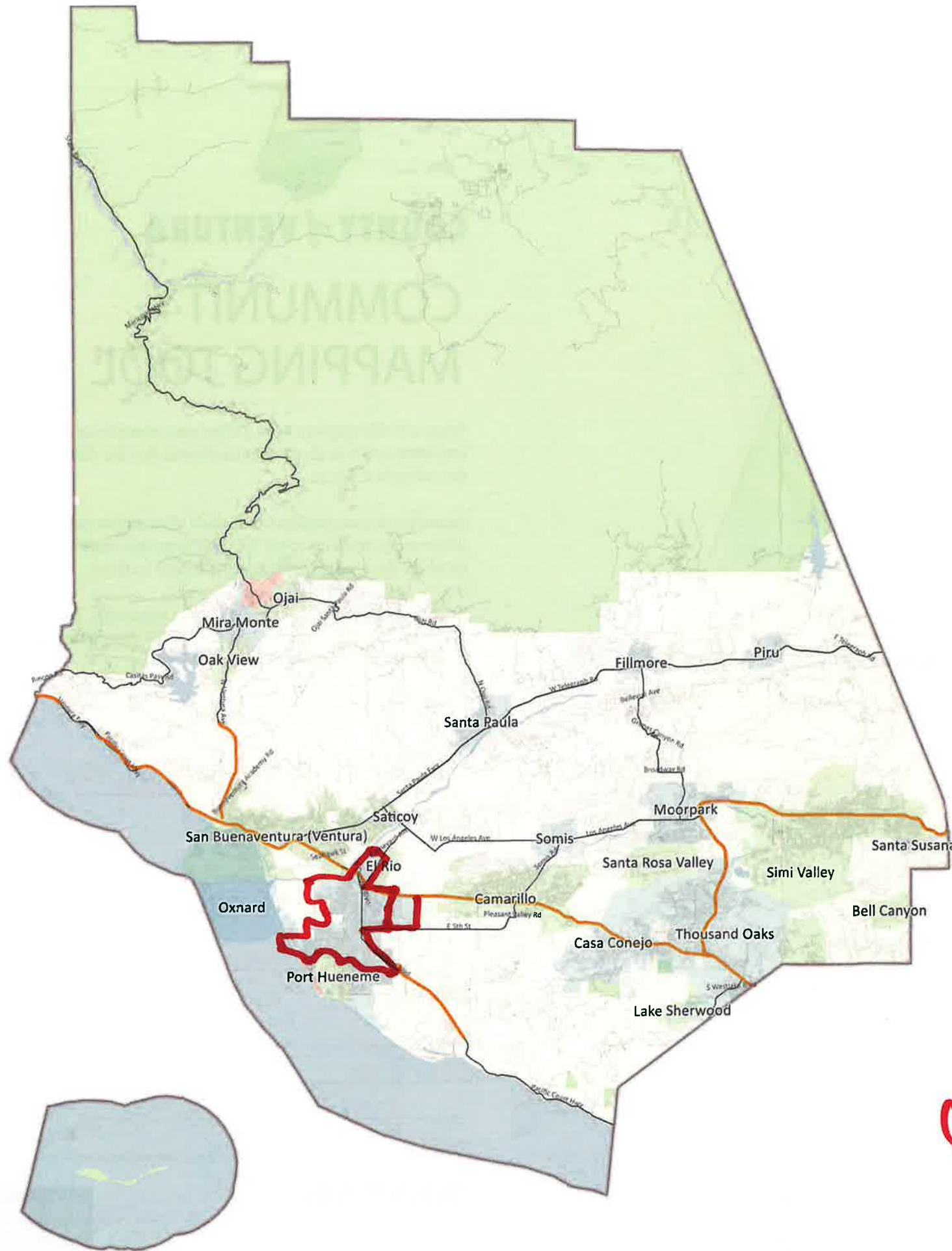
dontiveros12@gmail.com  
EMAIL

My community is very important to me and I hope the board treats every community the same no matter which district

DESCRIPTION







**COUNTY of VENTURA**

## HERRAMIENTA DE MAPEO DE COMUNIDAD DE INTERÉS

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*Oxnard Plain's*

TÍTULO DE COMUNIDAD

*Mr. G- Javier Gomez*

NOMBRE

*jgomez450@aol.com*

CORREO ELECTRÓNICO

*Created by  
The Inlakedu Familie*

DESCRIPCIÓN





**From:** [Dick Albright](#)  
**To:** [noreply@reply.vcstar.com](mailto:noreply@reply.vcstar.com); [Long, Kelly](#); [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [Clerkofboard](#); [David Couch](#)  
**Cc:** [Tom Warner](#); [Don & Bethel Billesbach](#); [Matt Hintlian](#); [Jeff S.](#); [Damon Allison](#); [sunnie@frazmtn.com](mailto:sunnie@frazmtn.com); [Sunnie](#); [Melinda Hersh](#); [Ali Tavako](#); [Scott McKenzie](#); [Paul Weiner](#); [Terry Weiner](#); [Patric Hedlund](#); [I.-Juliana Christy](#); [Redistricting](#); [Ventura County Taxpayers Association](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Daily Briefing: Supervisors poised to add 2nd majority Latino district  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 7, 2021 7:51:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [County Structure & Powers - California State Association of Counties.pdf](#)  
[UNINCORPORATED AREAS POLICY \(currently under revision\) MyLO.pdf](#)  
[CA UNINCORPORATED\\_FINAL.pdf](#)  
[CitizensGuideToLAFCO.pdf](#)  
[County Supervisor Citizens in unincorporated areas do have a voice - JournalAZ.com - Verde Valley News, Jobs, Classifieds.pdf](#)  
[Unincorporated Areas – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES.pdf](#)  
[3rd District Map--Plan C w-cities--VC dist map Los Padres--Mountain Zone per Ord 461.pdf](#)

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**CAUTION:** If this email looks suspicious, DO NOT click. Forward to  
[Spam.Manager@ventura.org](mailto:Spam.Manager@ventura.org)

Mountain Zone Residents:

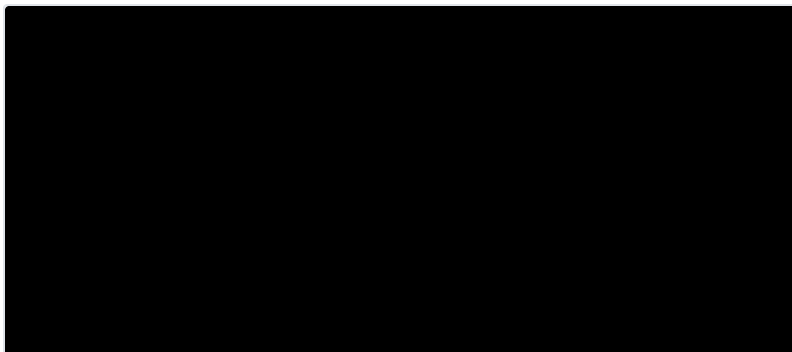
Aren't we all Americans . . . ? What's a "Majority District" . . . (if it's not those who share a common life-style in a wilderness survival domicile) . . . especially in the 'Unincorporated Non-Coastal Open-Space Zoning' (Lockwood/Ozena)?

<https://online.kidsdiscover.com/unit/mountains/topic/life-in-the-mountains>

Why does a member of the Board of Supervisors NOT share that 'Unincorporated Zone' by being required to have residence (property) in that UNINCORPORATED AREA (ZONE) for which they exercise so much authority? Do not cities have their own regulations and ordinances that supersede county and state authority . . . for which no UNINCORPORATED AREA RESIDENT has a voice?

Dick Albright  
Lockwood Valley

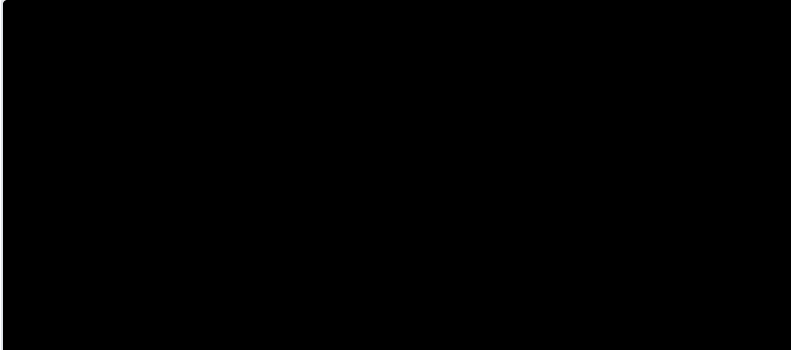
[Board of Supervisors Meeting - November 16, 2021](#)





## Board of Supervisors Meeting - November 16, 2021

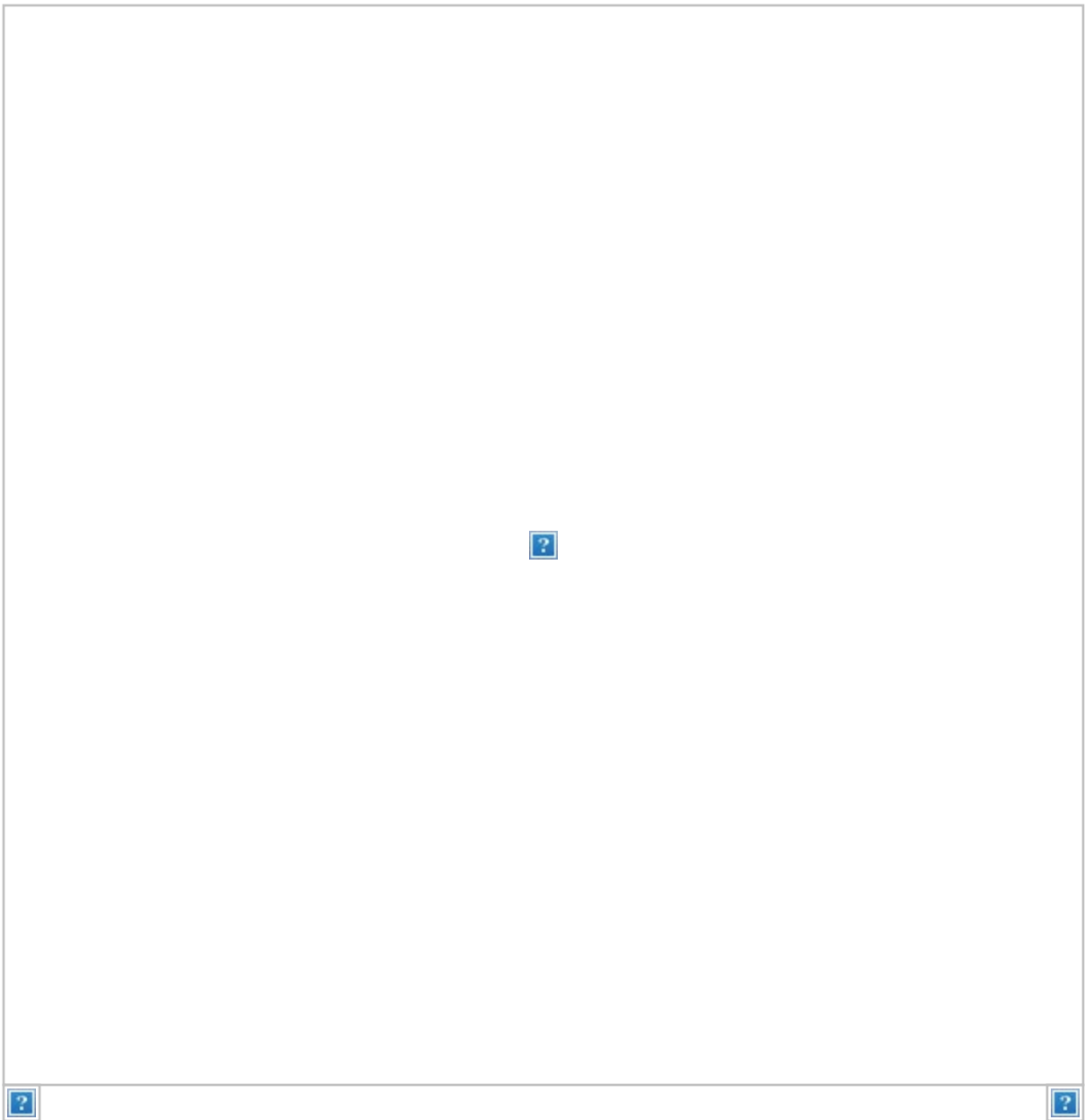
[Ventura County Redistricting--Lockwood/Ozena Mountain Zone -- Dist 3](#)



Ventura County Redistricting--Lockwood/Ozena  
Mountain Zone -- Dist 3

On Tuesday, December 7, 2021, 06:04:21 AM PST, noreply@reply.vcstar.com  
<noreply@reply.vcstar.com> wrote:





# Daily Briefing

YOUR MORNING NEWS ROUND-UP

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7**

**Access the e-Edition:** Exclusive, subscriber-only access to a digital replica of the newspaper.

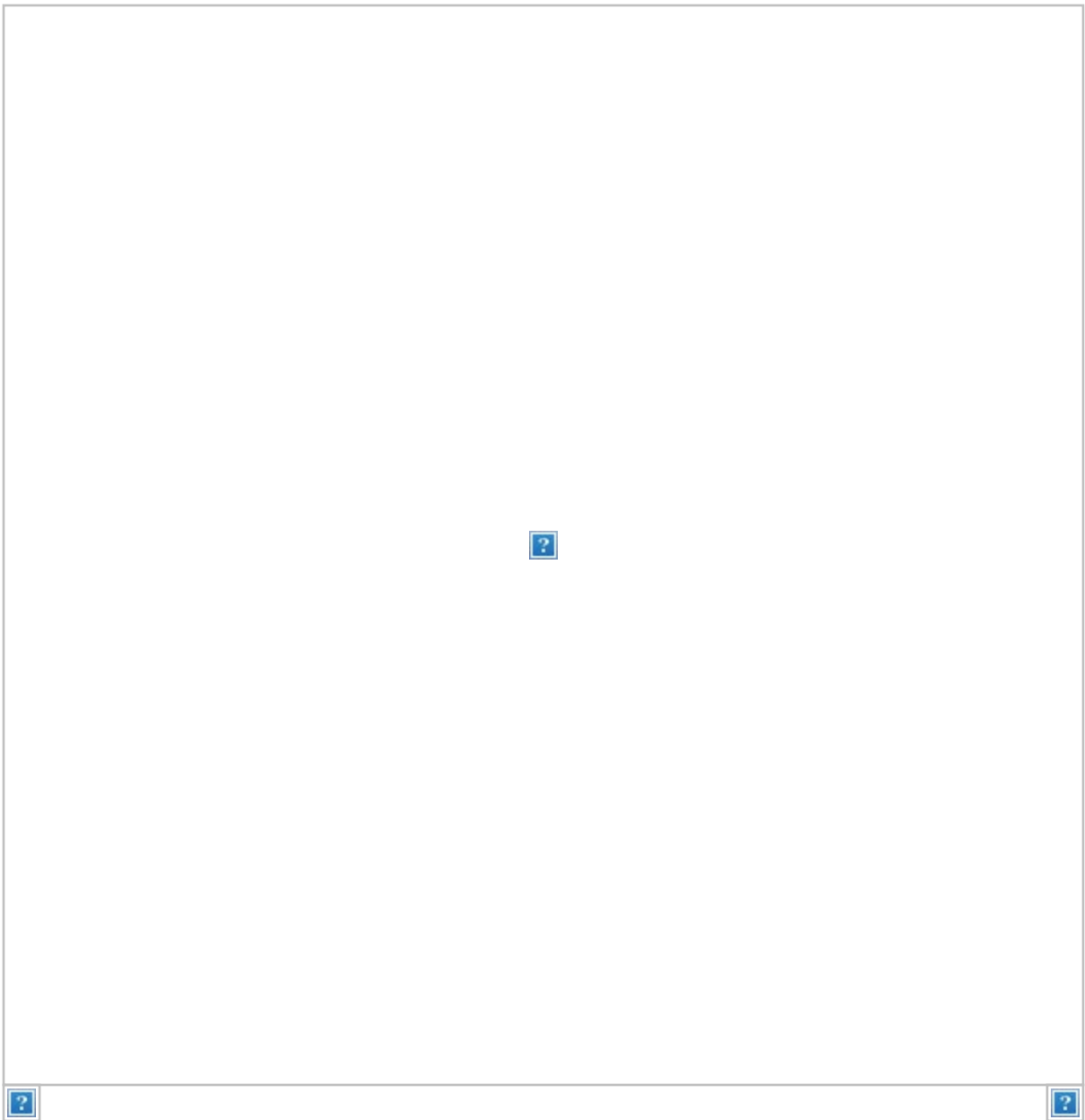




## **Supervisors poised to add 2nd majority Latino district**

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors is poised to wrap up its redistricting effort Tuesday.





**Once homeless, Ventura woman becomes role model for her grandchildren**



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**CSU Channel Islands business school gets \$10.5M donation**





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## San Bernardino man arrested in shooting of a 7-year-old



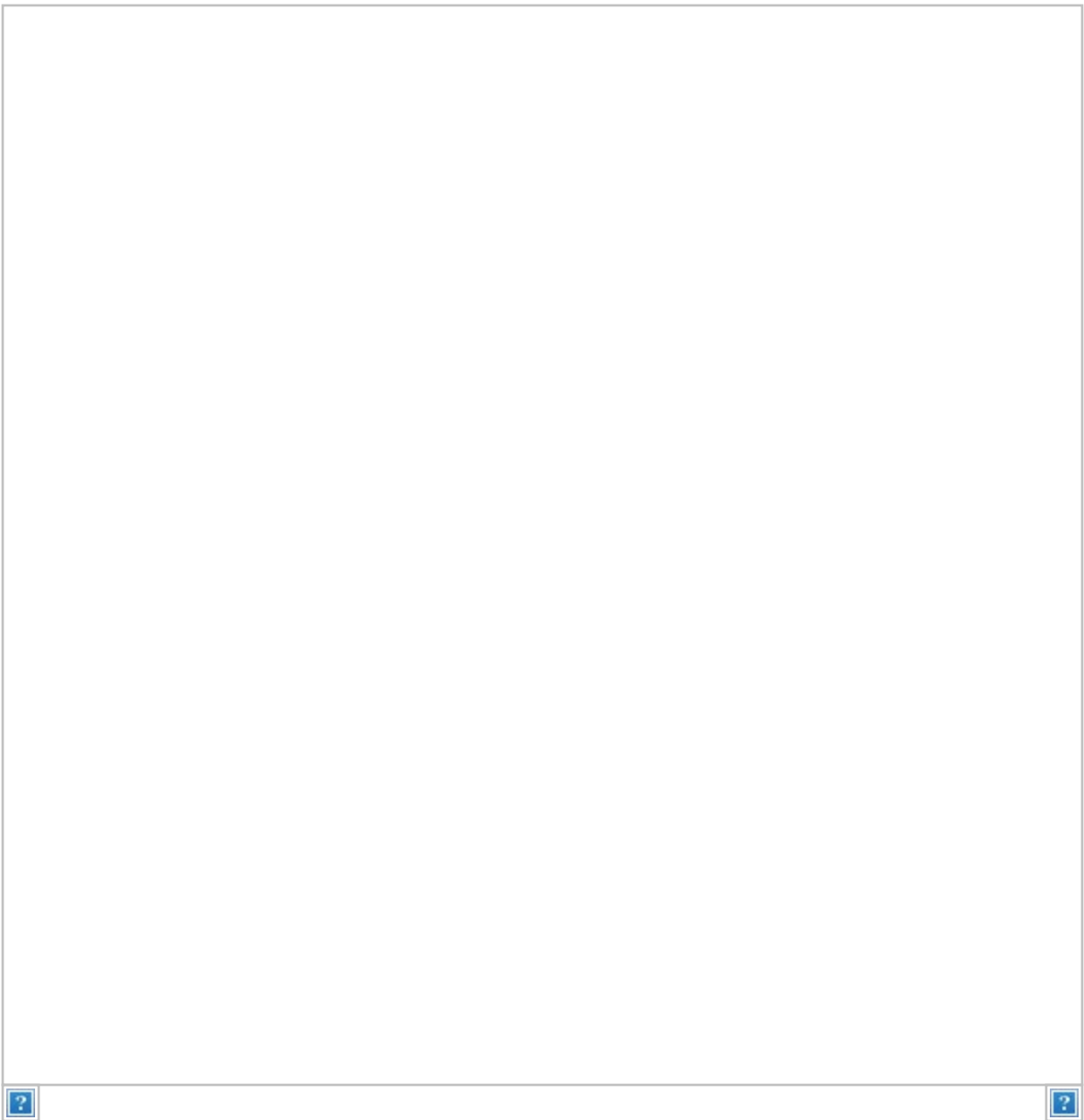
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## Camarillo City Council chooses Mulchay as mayor



**Support your local restaurants and businesses:** Buy a gift card and help your community through these challenging times.





## RECENT ARTICLES

**Oxnard man sentenced to 35 years to life for wife's slaying**

---

**Letters: Court isn't using common sense; don't wait to conserve water**

OPINION

---

**All-Pacific View League selections for the 2021 fall sports season**

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**Elias: Best gift for consumers this holiday season is to elect...**

OPINION

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## The Star's Athletes of the Week

### FOLLOW US

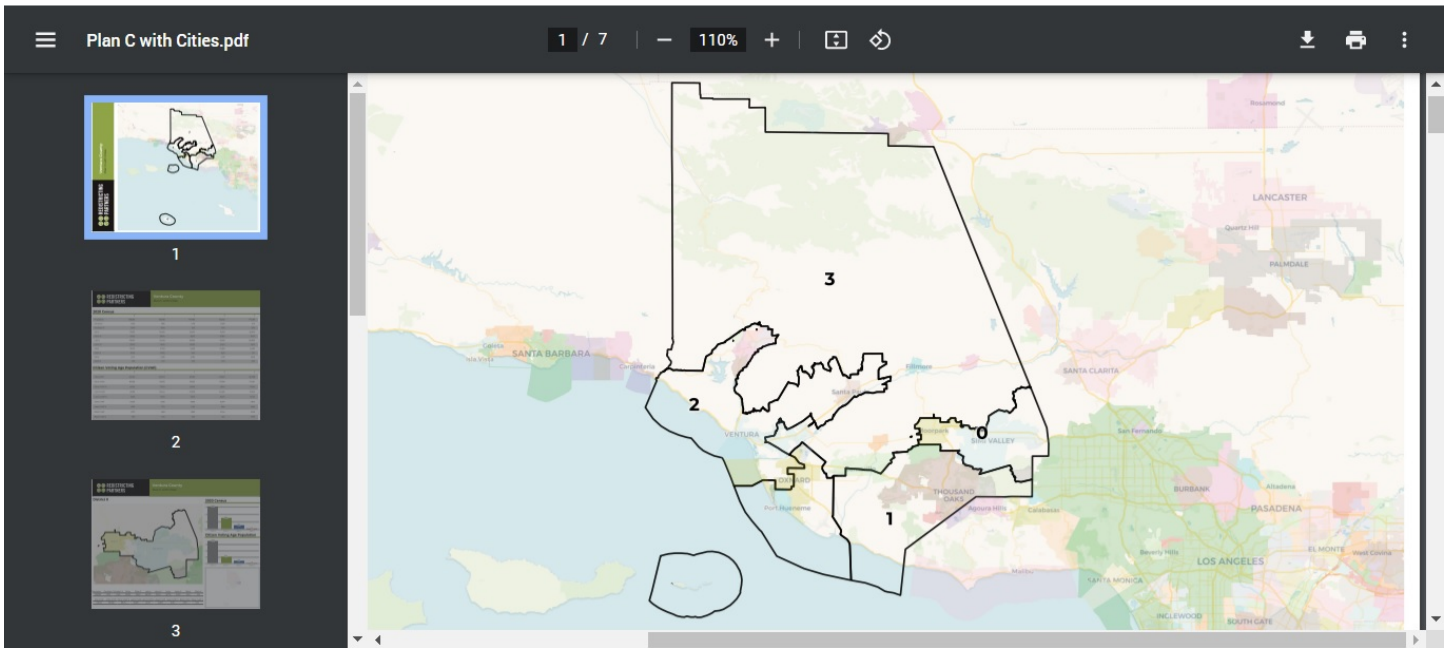


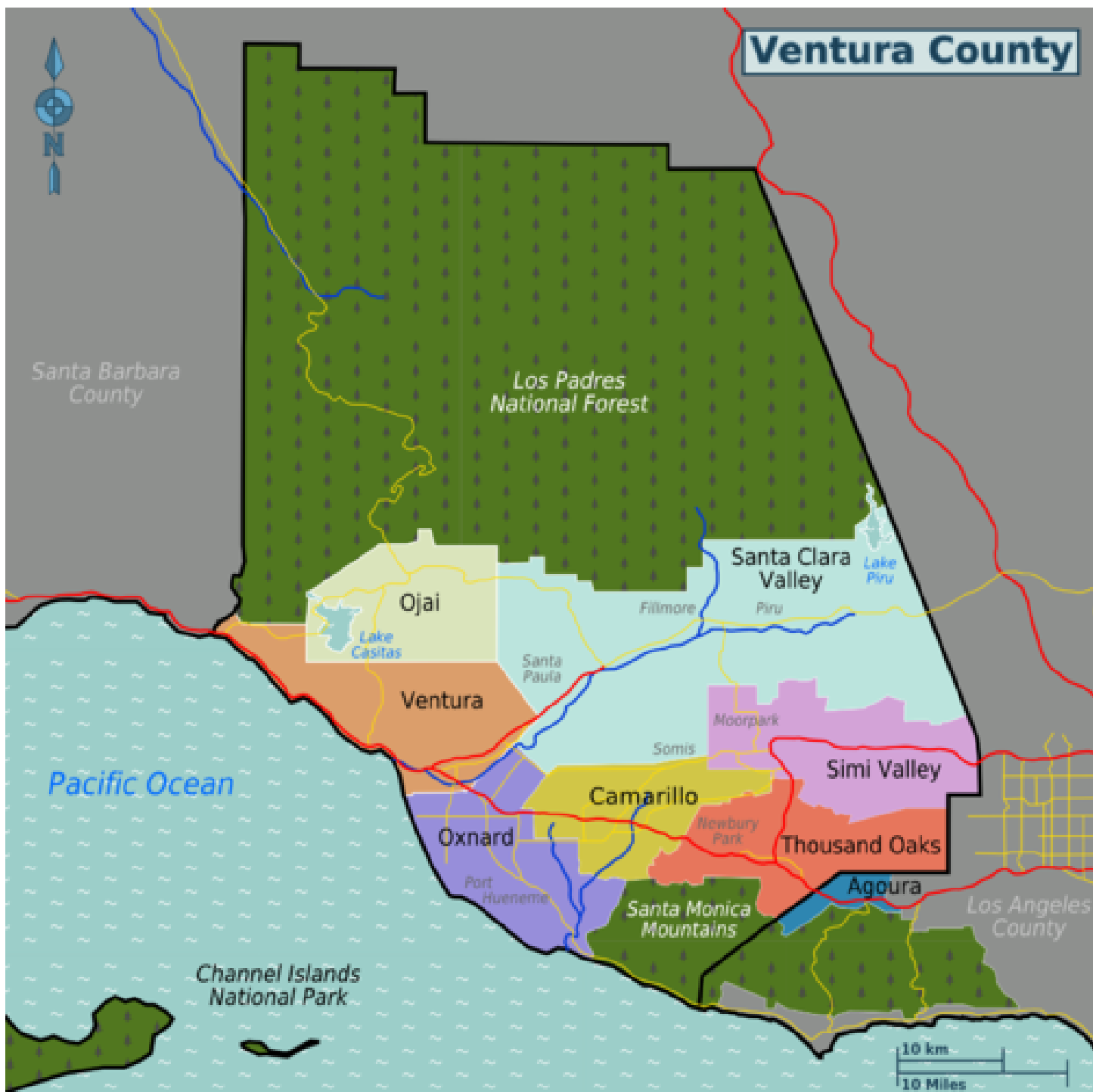
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771 E. Daily Drive, Suite 300, Camarillo, CA 93010









**ORDINANCE 461**

**ORDINANCE 461**  
**ADOPTING 1949 UBC VOLUMES I & II**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF**  
**ADOPTED FEBRUARY 20, 1951**  
**VENTURA**

**ADOPTING THE UNIFORM BUILDING CODE,**  
**VOLUMES I & II, 1949 EDITION.**

**ADOPTED FEBRUARY 20, 1951.**



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF VENTURA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Tuesday, February 27th, 1951, at 9:00 o'clock A. M.

PRESENT, SUPERVISORS, L. A. PRICE, CHAIRMAN, PRESIDING; EDWARD S. PIERCE, ROBERT W. LEFEVER,  
R. E. BARRETT AND RICHARD BARD. L. E. HALLOWELL, CLERK; JAMES W. POOL, DEPUTY

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ORD. NO. 461

APPROVING AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION FOR  
ORDINANCE NO. 461, ESTABLISHING UNIFORM  
BUILDING CODE FOR THE COUNTY OF VENTURA.

The Clerk presents the Affidavit of Publication of  
Ordinance No. 461, showing that said Ordinance was published  
in the Oxnard Press-Courier for the time and in the manner  
required by law, and upon motion of Supervisor Lefever, seconded  
by Supervisor Barrett, and duly carried, the Board finds and  
determines that said Ordinance No. 461 has been properly pub-  
lished in the manner and form required by law, and the pub-  
lication thereof is hereby approved.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

STATE OF CALIFORNIA }  
County of Ventura } ss.

I, L. E. HALLOWELL, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of  
Supervisors of the County of Ventura, State of California, do hereby certify the  
above and foregoing to be a true and correct copy of an excerpt from the min-  
utes of said Board of Supervisors for the meeting of the date first above indicated.  
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of  
said Board to be affixed this 28th day of February, 19 51.

ATTEST: L. E. HALLOWELL, Clerk  
By [Signature], Deputy

RECEIVED COPIES:

\_\_\_\_\_  
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File  
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ORDINANCE NO. 461

(Building Code)

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE ERECTION, CONSTRUCTION, ENLARGEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, MOVING, REMOVAL, CONVERSION, DEMOLITION, OCCUPANCY, EQUIPMENT, USE, HEIGHT, AREA AND MAINTENANCE OF BUILDING AND/OR STRUCTURES IN THE COUNTY OF VENTURA; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND COLLECTION OF FEES - THEREFOR; DESCRIBING AND FIXING ZONES AND EXCEPTIONS THERETO; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH.

-----oOo-----

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura, State of California, do ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. The "Uniform Building Code", Volumes I and II, 1949 Edition, published January 1, 1949 by the Pacific Coast Building Officials Conference, three copies of which have heretofore been placed on file in the office of the Clerk of the County of Ventura, is hereby adopted as the Building Code for the unincorporated area of the County of Ventura, and is incorporated herein by reference thereto as though set forth in full.

SECTION 2. Whenever any of the following names or terms are used in said Uniform Building Code, each such name or term shall be deemed and construed as follows, to-wit:

"City of . . . ." shall mean the County of Ventura or the unincorporated territory of the County of Ventura as the text may require.

"City Council" shall mean the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura.

SECTION 3. Section 103 of said Uniform Building Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 103 (a). New buildings and structures hereafter erected in the city, and buildings and structures moved into or within the city shall conform to the requirements of this Code.

Additions, alterations, repairs and changes of use or occupancy in all buildings and structures shall comply with

the provisions for new buildings and structures except as otherwise provided in Sections 104, 306 and 502 of this Code.

Where, in any specific case, different sections of this Code specify different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

(b) A permit shall be issued without fee and no inspection shall be required and the provisions of this Building Ordinance shall not apply to any building or structure on property held under one legal management having an area of two and one-half acres or more when such property is used primarily for agricultural purposes, and when such buildings or structures are to be used exclusively as dwellings by persons performing agricultural employment upon said property or other agricultural lands of the same owner, exclusive of the dwelling of the owner or managing operator of said property, nor does this ordinance apply to buildings and structures accessory to such dwellings or to the agricultural development or use of such property.

A permit shall be issued without fee and no inspection shall be required, and the provisions of this Building Ordinance shall not apply to any house court or residence court constructed for, and used exclusively as a labor camp, provided however, that the Ventura County Planning Commission shall have first approved the location and use of such camp before the Permit shall be issued.

"An owner or occupant of property mentioned in this section may obtain the services of the Building Inspector under the provisions of this ordinance upon the payment of the fees as required therein."

(c) In order to properly maintain and safeguard healthful living conditions, it is hereby declared unlawful to use any discarded, used, second-hand, salvaged, abandoned or replaced street cars, box cars, refrigerator cars, motor



bus bodies or similar means of conveyance, or structures of similar nature or construction, for places of habitation, residence, or business in this County; provided, however, that nothing herein shall prohibit the use of said structures for other than places of abode, habitation or business at points further than 150 feet from any public highway, street or thoroughfare.

(d) Said Uniform Building Code shall cover all building or structures coming within the scope and requirements of the "Riley Act", Part 3, Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code of the State of California and all buildings or structures being or to be used for human occupancy or places of abode, excepting detached dwelling accessory or agricultural accessory building where located 50 feet or more from center line of any street or highway. Accessory is defined as follows:

Secondary use incidental to the use of the main building or structure, and which term shall include but not be limited to the following structures: Any building having a floor area not greater than one thousand (1000) square feet located on a parcel of land upon which there is a dwelling, which contributes in some manner to the use of the dwelling but which is not indispensable to its use and in which there is no human habitation. The term shall include sheds, tool houses, private workshops or laboratories, or shelters for goods, produce, poultry or livestock, and similar buildings, intended only for the owner's use and not offered for sale, rent, or hire. The term shall not include private garages.

SECTION 4. For the purposes of this ordinance the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura does hereby create and establish a MOUNTAIN ZONE within the County of Ventura, as hereinafter

described, said zone being created on the basis of sparsity of population, size of land ownerships and land development. All private dwellings within said zone shall be exempt from all inspection and service fees as provided in Section 303 of said Uniform Building Code, as modified by Section 7 of this ordinance.

The Mountain Zone is described as follows:

All of that portion of Ventura County lying north of the following described line:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the line common to Ventura County and Santa Barbara County with the south lines of Section 31, Township 5 North, Range 24 West, San Bernardino Meridian, and running thence:

- (1) East along the section lines to the southeast corner of Section 34, Township 5 North, Range 24 West, San Bernardino Meridian; thence
- (2) North along the section lines to the Northwest corner of Section 23, same township and range; thence
- (3) East along the section lines to the range line common to Ranges 23 West and 24 West; thence
- (4) North along said range line to the northwest corner of Section 18, Township 5 North, Range 23 West, San Bernardino Meridian; thence
- (5) East along the section lines to the range line common to Ranges 22 West and 23 West; thence
- (6) South along said range line to the southwest corner of Section 19, Township 5 North, Range 22 West, San Bernardino Meridian; thence
- (7) East along the section lines to the northeast corner of Section 27, same township and range; thence
- (8) South along the section lines to the township line common to Township 4 North and 5 North, San Bernardino Meridian; thence
- (9) East along said township line to the northwesterly line of the Rancho Temescal; thence

(10) Northeasterly along the northwesterly line of the Rancho Temescal to the line common to Ventura County and Los Angeles County.

SECTION 5. Section 301 of said Uniform Building Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 301 (a) Permits Required. No person, firm or corporation shall erect, construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, improve, remove, convert or demolish any building or structure in the city, or cause the same to be done, without first obtaining a separate building permit for each such building or structure from the Building Official.

(b) Application. To obtain a permit the applicant shall first file an application therefor in writing on a form furnished for that purpose. Every such application shall:

1. Describe the land on which the proposed work is to be done, by lot, block, tract, and house and street address, or similar description that will readily identify and definitely locate the proposed building or work;
2. Show the use or occupancy of all parts of the building;
3. Be accompanied by plans and specifications as required in subsection (c) of this section;
4. State the valuation of the proposed work;
5. Give such other information as reasonably may be required by the Building Official.

(c) Plans and Specifications. Each application for a permit shall be accompanied by two sets of plans and specifications.

EXCEPTIONS: Plans and specifications need not be submitted for the following, although sufficient information or rough sketches may be required for a reasonable checking:



1. One-story dwelling with a valuation of less than \$6,000.00 and containing 5 rooms or less.

2. Minor work when authorized by the inspector.

(d) Information on Plans and Specifications. Plans and specifications shall be drawn to scale upon substantial paper or cloth and shall be of sufficient clarity to indicate the nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that it will conform to the provisions of this Code and all relevant laws, ordinances, rules and regulations. The first sheet of each set of plans shall give the house and street address of the work and the name and address of the owner and person who prepared them. Plans shall include a plot plan showing the location of the proposed building and of every existing building on the property. In lieu of detailed specifications, the Building Official may approve references on the plans to a specific section or part of this Code or other ordinances or laws.

Computations, stress diagrams, and other data sufficient to show the correctness of the plans, shall be submitted when required by the Building Official.

SECTION 6. Section 302 (a) of said Uniform Building Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 302 (a) Issuance. The application, plans and specifications filed by an applicant for a permit shall be checked by the Building Official. Such plans may be reviewed by other departments of the <sup>COUNTY</sup> ~~city~~ to check compliance with the laws and ordinances under their jurisdiction. If the Building Official is satisfied that the work described in an application for permit and the plans filed therewith conform to the requirements of this Code and other pertinent laws and ordinances, he shall issue a permit therefor to the applicant.

When the Building Official issues the permit, he shall endorse in writing or stamp on both sets of plans and specifications "APPROVED". Such approved plans and specifications shall not be changed, modified or altered without authorization from the Building Official, and all work shall be done in accordance with the approved plans.

Where an industry, processing plant, or other commercial enterprise has wastes, sewage or other effluent that is disposed of in or on the ground in other than a recognized sewage treatment plant, then the plans must be approved for such disposal by the County Health Officer prior to the issuance of any building permit.

SECTION 7. Section 303 (a) of said Uniform Building Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 303 (a) Building Permit Fees. Any persons desiring a building permit shall, at the time of filing an application therefor, as provided in Section 301 of this Code, pay to the building official a fee as required in this section:

\$1.00 for a total valuation of \$100.00 or more.

In addition to this permit fee, the applicant shall pay the following Inspection and Service fees:

\$2.00 for a total valuation from \$100.00 to \$1000.00, and an additional \$2.00 fee for each additional \$1000.00 or fraction thereof up to \$15,000.00.

\$1.00 for each additional \$1000.00 or fraction thereof between \$15,000.00 and \$50,000.00.

50¢ for each additional \$1000.00 or fraction thereof over \$50,000.00.

A permit shall be issued without fee and no inspection shall be required, and the provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to the construction of any building or structure by or for any city, county, state or federal government or agency.

Whenever any work for which a permit is required under

the provisions of this ordinance has been commenced without the authorization of such permit, a special investigation shall be made before a permit may be issued for such work. In addition to the permit fee, an investigation fee of \$10.00 shall be collected.

The payment of the investigation fee shall not exempt any person from compliance with the provisions of the Code nor from any penalty prescribed by law.

SECTION 8. Section 304 (a) of said Uniform Building Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 304 (a) Inspections Required. The Building Official shall inspect or cause to be inspected at various intervals during the erection, construction, enlarging, alteration, repairing, moving, demolition, conversion, occupancy and underpinning all buildings or structures referred to in this Code and located in the county, and a final inspection shall be made of such buildings or structures hereafter erected prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy as required in Section 306.

No building construction, alteration, repair or demolition requiring a building permit shall be commenced until the permit holder or his agent shall have posted the building permit card in a conspicuous place on the front premises and in such position as to permit the Building Official to conveniently make the required entries thereon respecting inspection of the work. This permit card shall be maintained in such position by the permit holder until the Certificate of Occupancy has been issued by the Building Official.

SECTION 9. Section 401 (h) of said Uniform Building Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 401 (h) Height of Building is the vertical distance from the "Grade" to the highest point of the coping of a flat roof or to the deck line of a mansard



roof or to the average height of the highest gable of a pitch or hip roof.

Hotel is any building containing six or more rooms intended or designed to be used, or which are used, rented or hired out to be occupied, or which are occupied for sleeping purposes by guests.

House Court or Residence Court is any two or more apartments or separate buildings on same or contiguous land under one legal management to be or being rented or leased as living quarters for two or more families.

SECTION 10. Section 1402 of said Uniform Building Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 1402. Buildings or parts of buildings classed in Group I because of the use or character of the occupancy shall not exceed, in area or height, the limits specified in Sections 505, 506, and 507.

California type, one-story dwellings, which are not more than nine hundred (900) square feet in area, may be constructed with concrete pier foundation and exterior walls of vertical board at least three-quarters ( $3/4$ ) of an inch in thickness or equivalent, full height of wall; such buildings shall comply with Chapter 23 of the Uniform Building Code.

SECTION 11. Section 1405 (c) of said Uniform Building Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 1405 (c) Sanitation. Sanitation facilities shall be provided as required by the local health authorities.

There shall be no opening from a room in which a water closet is located into a room in which food is prepared or stored.

Light, ventilation, and sanitation shall be provided as specified by any state laws intended to regulate such light, ventilation, and sanitation.

Every dwelling shall be provided with a water closet for each family living in such dwelling, provided, however, that other approved types of toilets may be substituted for water closets in areas where there is not sufficient running water available for the use of a sewage system, or where a water closet may contaminate any domestic water supply, in the judgment of the County Health Officer.

SECTION 12. Section 1410 is added to Chapter 14 of said Uniform Building Code, and shall read as follows:

Section 1410. House courts or residence courts as defined in this ordinance must comply with all provisions of this code and those prescribed by the California Health and Safety Code for motels, auto courts and resorts, and where the provisions of this ordinance are not clear, or do not specify requirements, then the said Health and Safety Code shall apply in all of its provisions.

SECTION 13. If any section, sub-section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance, nor its application to other persons or circumstances. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance, and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional.

SECTION 14. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punishable by fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period of not more than six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each such person, firm or corporation shall be deemed guilty of a separate offense for

each day, or portion thereof, during which any violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance is committed, continued or permitted by such person, firm or corporation, and shall be punishable therefor as herein provided.

SECTION 15. Ordinances 411 and 423 and all other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 16. This ordinance shall take effect thirty days after the date of its adoption, and prior to the expiration of fifteen days from the passage hereof shall be published once in the Exhamp Press ~~Ventura~~ Courier ~~County Star and Free Press~~, a newspaper printed and published in the County of Ventura, State of California, together with the names of the members of the Board of Supervisors voting for and against the same.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of February, 1951.

L. A. Price  
L. A. PRICE, Chairman of the Board  
of Supervisors of the County of  
Ventura, State of California

ATTEST:

L. E. HALLOWELL, County Clerk and  
ex-officio Clerk of the Board of  
Supervisors of the County of Ventura,  
State of California.

By [Signature]

Deputy Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA }

County of Ventura }

ss.

I, L. E. HALLOWELL, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 460, passed and adopted by said Board of Supervisors on the 20th, day of February, 1950, and that upon the passage of said ordinance the vote was as follows:

AYES: *Supervisors Crane, Lefever, Barrett and Price.*  
NOES: *None.*  
ABSENT: *Supervisor Bard.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed  
the seal of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura,  
State of California, this 20th day of February, 1951.

L. E. HALLOWELL  
County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk  
of the Board of Supervisors of the  
County of Ventura, State of  
California.

By

*James W. Hall*  
Deputy Clerk



## California Unincorporated: Mapping Disadvantaged Communities in the San Joaquin Valley



*In partnership with California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.  
and California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation*

*PolicyLink is a national research and action institute  
advancing economic and social equity by  
Lifting Up What Works®.*

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# **California Unincorporated:**

## Mapping Disadvantaged Communities in the San Joaquin Valley

*In partnership with California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.  
and California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation*

**Chione Flegal**  
**Solana Rice**  
**Jake Mann**  
**Jennifer Tran**  
POLICYLINK





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## Preface

**T**he Community Equity Initiative (CEI), a partnership of California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA, Inc.), and PolicyLink, is dedicated to advancing innovative solutions to address poor infrastructure quality and service delivery in communities with a particular focus on the unincorporated communities in California’s San Joaquin Valley and the Coachella Valley. The initiative aims to improve the conditions in some of California’s most underinvested communities, and provide models for forging new leadership and capacity within communities and developing effective policies to dismantle and overcome historical patterns of exclusion and neglect.

Early in the development of the Community Equity Initiative, the three partner organizations engaged a diverse set of stakeholders and advisors from within communities, universities, foundations, government, and the nonprofit sector to discuss how planning and infrastructure investment can build healthy, sustainable community change. As a result, the initiative pursues a four-pronged strategy that includes: increasing community capacity for political participation and advocacy, improving local and state policy, legal representation, and research.

As part of the research agenda, the initiative has developed a new methodology to shed light on and describe communities that have gone overlooked, ignored, and underinvested for decades. Using and analyzing 2000 census data and other publicly available data, the research has uncovered thousands of Californians who are living in these invisible com-

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**This document describes the new methods for identifying, measuring, and mapping disadvantaged unincorporated communities and a first account of the findings from applying these new methods to the San Joaquin Valley. For readers seeking the complete technical details of the data sources and methods, please see the [Technical Guide on the Community Equity Initiative website](#).**

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munities, what the CEI calls “Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities” or DUCs. Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities are disproportionately low-income places that are densely settled and not within city limits. For the legal definition, please visit [SB 244 Section 65302.10](#).

All charts, tables, and maps within this report are derived from an analysis of 2000 census data, and county parcel and boundary data. This methodology will also be applied to 2010 census data with research findings to come. Ultimately, it is hoped that this new mapping methodology will help improve policies and decision-making practices not only within California’s unincorporated communities but also in America’s unincorporated communities at large.

For more on the Community Equity Initiative, please click [here](#).



# Introduction

California's San Joaquin Valley is one of the most agriculturally rich regions in our nation, contributing over half of the state's total value in agricultural production.<sup>1</sup> It is also home to some of the nation's poorest communities. A 2010 study found the San Joaquin Valley's 20th congressional district ranked the lowest in the nation on resident well-being, based on an assessment of health, education, and income.<sup>2</sup> Among the poorest and most isolated of these communities are places outside of city limits that lack the most basic features of a safe, healthy, sustainable neighborhood—potable drinking water, sewer systems, safe housing, public transportation, parks, sidewalks, and streetlights. People of color make up 54 percent of those living in the San Joaquin Valley, and make up a disproportionate number of those living in underinvested neighborhoods. Historically, these communities have been home to mostly African American and Latinos, and a growing Southeast Asian population. Governed by counties, which were not set up to provide services to dense urban areas, and lacking the representation of a city council, they are systematically underserved in the overall allocation of public resources and are frequently left out of local decision-making processes. Concentrated poverty, institutional and individual racism, and California's systems of public finance and land use regulation exacerbate the plight of disadvantaged unincorporated communities.

To make matters worse, many decision makers and county officials do not know that these communities exist. A map delineates boundaries, records a name, facilitates (though does not guarantee) data collection by the United States Census Bureau and other data collection entities, and provides a basis

**Eight Counties of San Joaquin Valley**



Source: 2000 U.S. census.

for demographic and special analysis used to direct programs and services from the federal or state to local level. For residents and organizations living and working in these communities the lack of official recognition and the data that flow from it presents a huge barrier. It becomes very challenging to capture political attention, aggregate and provide a sense of scale to the challenges faced across communities, and readily access critical public resources that are distributed based on community-level data. Identifying the places and their particular challenges (drinking water, waste water systems, safe roads, etc.) is the first step in a longer process to develop strategies and priorities, and to organize, and mobilize to address these challenges.

<sup>1</sup> See Great Valley Center. ["Assessing the Region Via Indicators, The Economy."](#) 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Based on the Human Development Index of the Social Science Research Council: <http://www.measureofamerica.org/maps/>.

## Purpose of This Research

**T**he Community Equity Initiative developed this report, and the methodology discussed within it, as part of a larger effort to make visible the hundreds of communities that have gone neglected and ignored and are suffering critical challenges of livability as a result. Through this work, the initiative seeks to provide local and state officials, policymakers, advocates, and community organizations with a better sense of where underserved, unincorporated communities are located, and seeks to bring the

problems they face into the public view. The research presented here is the first step in quantifying and locating the number of places and people that have been left off the map in the eight-county San Joaquin Valley region. It brings attention to some of California's most forgotten and underinvested places, and starts to make the case for more coordinated long-range planning, targeted resources, and community capacity building for improved quality of life.

### This research aims to:

- **equip residents, community-based organizations, and policymakers** with more tools for organizing, case-making, and advocacy;
- **increase public awareness** of the breadth and scale of disadvantaged unincorporated communities and the challenges they face; and
- **support better research and data collection** of disadvantaged unincorporated communities through a new tool that can be used as a basis for future research about quality of services and infrastructure.

## Key Findings

*The following are key takeaways from the analysis of 2000 U.S. census data and other publicly available data for California.*

# 3.6 million

Californians found by the Census Bureau living in Census Designated Places in 2000

# 2.8 million

Additional number of Californians living in unincorporated neighborhoods not recognized by the 2000 census because their communities were not characterized as Census Designated Places

# 310,000

People living in low-income unincorporated communities in the San Joaquin Valley

This is 70,000 more than what the Census Bureau included in its low-income Census Designated Places in the San Joaquin Valley

People of color were disproportionately represented in Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities in comparison to cities, counties, and Census Designated Places.

# 65%

Percentage of the population living in disadvantaged unincorporated communities that were of color

# 57%

Percentage of the population living in cities that were of color

# 64%

Percentage of households in the San Joaquin Valley's disadvantaged unincorporated communities that were low income

This was a significantly higher percentage than in cities and counties in California where 48% of households were low income, and in Census Designated Places where 51% of the households were low income.

## Emerging Areas of Impact

**T**his research is helping to make the case for advocacy, build public awareness, and contribute to new knowledge around inequities that exist.

### Supporting Organizing, Case-Making, and Advocacy

There is power in being made visible. Once a community is visible, a shared collective identity can develop, which in turn serves as the foundation for residents' capacity to organize themselves and mobilize for change. Mapping equips residents with information about their communities and others', provides them with a tool in their advocacy, and facilitates recognition within the policymaking process. This work provides an important foundation for advocates, researchers, and policymakers to layer additional information and stories about the conditions and history of these communities.

**Tulare Lake Basin Study** – In 2008, [SB1xx and AB2356](#) appropriated millions of dollars to address drinking water quality and waste water services in the Tulare Lake Basin region. With the tremendous support of community advocates, these bills provide targeted funding for planning and construction of projects in disadvantaged areas. The CEI mapping of low-income unincorporated areas was one of the many data points considered when identifying disadvantaged communities for targeted inclusion in the planning process and in the outreach phase of the project. The CEI mapping helped identify some of the smaller communities that may not have shown up in an initial scan of disadvantaged communities through the census.

### Increasing Public Awareness

A community's needs cannot be properly addressed—or assets leveraged—if the community itself is not known to the larger world. Early work of the initiative indicated that many policymakers at the county and state level did not know of the existence of disadvantaged unincorporated communities generally, nor were they aware of the existence of such communities within their electoral districts. Many more continue to be unaware of the basic infrastructure deficits so many of these communities face. Once these communities are officially mapped, have a name to identify them, and are tracked and recorded by the U.S. Census Bureau or city or county agencies they stand a better chance of being well represented and well served.

**Local Government Support** – Several local and state-level policymakers have looked to this mapping to understand the scale, location, and character of the issues in previously invisible unincorporated areas. Specifically, the mapping has supported the implementation of [SB 244](#) that requires local government agencies—specifically LAFCOs, cities, and counties—to plan for disadvantaged unincorporated areas. The [Local Agency Formation Commissions](#) (LAFCOs) of Fresno and Tulare Counties have requested the CEI mapping to help identify and prioritize underserved areas in their planning process.

### Contributing to Research

The U.S. Census Bureau is the most accessible source of periodic demographic data for unincorporated communities, yet it does not capture all unincorporated communities. Many unincorporated communities, including many low-income unincorporated communities, are too small, lack clear boundaries, or are simply not sufficiently known or recognized to be included in the census as a place. With the exception of surveying individual households, communities



are left without a reliable source of data to describe their neighborhood. As a result, their needs are often unaccounted for, they are not acknowledged in planning processes, and they cannot compete for infrastructure investments on a level playing field. This is particularly true when eligibility for these programs is tied to being able to demonstrate that community-level demographics meet specified criteria. This research begins to fill this gap. It creates a set of maps that will continue to evolve, and that identify hundreds of communities not previously mapped. These new maps can serve as the basis for layering additional information about demographics, infrastructure, and quality of life.

**Sharing with the U.S. Census Bureau** – Most recently, the data have served to inform the Census Bureau about additional places to consider including as 2010 Census Designated Places (CDPs) which are unincorporated places that are surveyed and tracked much like cities and towns. Typically, counties submit the names of communities that they recommend become Census Designated Places.<sup>3</sup> Having CDP status means that residents and local governments have more and better access to information about their communities and how they have changed over time. This is particularly important when applying for grants and loans for infrastructure and services. As a result of this new mapping, CEI staff recommended that the Census staff include 39 additional communities in their 2010 Census Designated Places survey. Nearly half of these recommended communities became CDPs in 2010. CEI staff is currently analyzing 2010 data and will continue to share findings with the Census Bureau staff.

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<sup>3</sup> Counties use a process called [Census Participant Statistical Area Program](#) to recommend Census Designated Places. Census Designated Places are defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as places that are closely settled, named, unincorporated communities that generally contain a mixture of residential, commercial, and retail areas similar to those found in incorporated places of similar sizes.

## U.S. Census Bureau: Current Definitions

The most accessible source of data about unincorporated communities comes from the U.S. Census Bureau, which calls these neighborhoods Census Designated Places (CDPs). In the year 2000, the U.S. Census Bureau identified 600 Census Designated Places across California that were home to 3.6 million people. Of the 600 CDPs in California in 2000, 250 (42 percent) of them were low income. For purposes of this research, low-income communities are defined as places where half of all households have a median household income of less than 80 percent of the state's median household income. Simply put, half of all households in these communities had annual incomes of \$38,000 or less. One million people lived in these low-income Census Designated Places.

**Census Designated Places** are areas that are closely settled, named, unincorporated communities that generally contain a mixture of residential, commercial, and retail areas similar to those found in incorporated places of similar sizes.

### COMPARING LOW-INCOME CENSUS DESIGNATED PLACES

|                                             | Number of<br>Communities Total | 2000 Population<br>(% of state population) |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Total California Population                 | N/A                            | 33,871,648                                 |
| Total CDPs in California*                   | 600                            | 3,669,329<br>(10.8%)                       |
| Total Low-Income CDPs in California         | 250                            | 1,069,778<br>(3.2%)                        |
| Total Low-Income CDPs in San Joaquin Valley | 80                             | 241,968<br>(0.7%)                          |

\*CDPs with population greater than zero.  
Source: 2000 U.S. census.

While low-income CDPs are found throughout California, they are most heavily concentrated in the San Joaquin Valley. This eight-county region is home to nearly one-third of all low-income CDPs in California. Eighty of the state's 256 low-income CDPs are located in the region. There are nearly a quarter million people living in these communities,

approximately 25 percent of all Californians living in low-income CDPs.

While the 2000 census tracked 3.6 million people in CDPs, in that same year nearly 2.8 million additional people lived in unincorporated areas that were not defined as CDPs. Upon launching the Community

Equity Initiative, staff at the partner organizations saw that many, if not the majority, of communities the initiative is concerned with are not captured by the Census Bureau's CDPs. CRLA, Inc. staff working in the communities found that these places were usually either not on maps, or were mapped incorrectly. PolicyLink staff working to develop a clear picture of the communities struggled with the same absent or inaccurate data. Subsequent mapping and resident interviews confirmed how widespread this phenomenon of exclusion was.

As a result of not being a CDP, these communities are not only usually left off of maps; they are rarely tracked in any systematic way, and are largely invisible to the larger public and policymakers. The mapping methodology, discussed in the next section, has established a way to identify these places using publicly available data, making it possible to begin to address their challenges and needs.



Source: 2000 U.S. census.



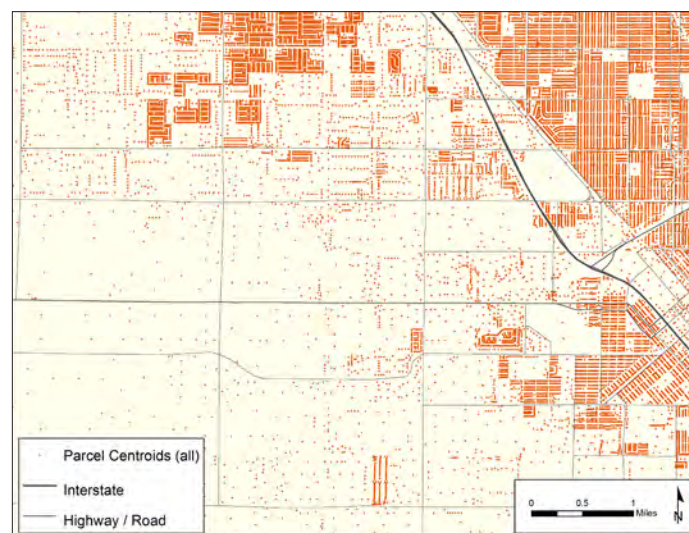
# Mapping Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities: The Methodology

This project used Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology<sup>4</sup> to identify unincorporated communities in the eight-county San Joaquin Valley region. The following abbreviated methodology describes the steps and results for this initial phase of identifying what the Community Equity Initiative has termed as disadvantaged unincorporated communities or DUCs—places that are densely settled, outside of city limits, and low income.<sup>5</sup> For a more detailed explanation of the data and methods used, please refer to the [Community Equity Initiative](#) website for technical appendixes. The technical appendixes provide step-by-step guidance on data sources and methods to replicating this mapping research.

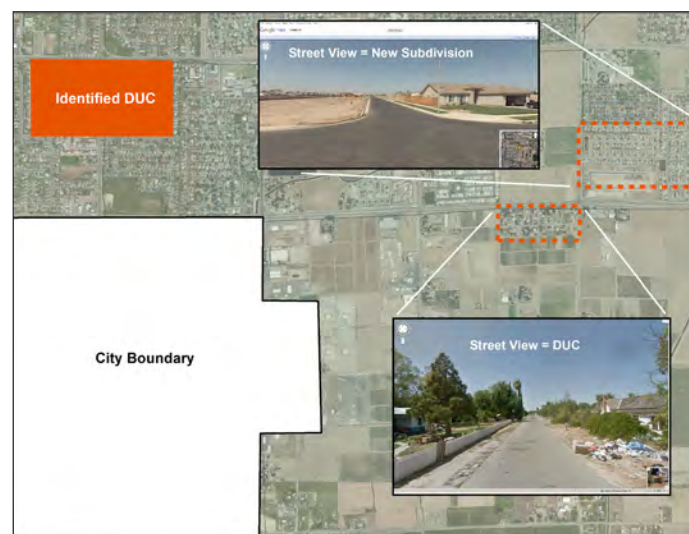
CEI used four basic types of data to identify these places:

**Unincorporated Status:** The project used boundary shape files from cities, counties, or from the U.S. Census Bureau to determine unincorporated status (all areas that are not within city limits).

**Parcel Density:** The project focused on identifying places that are closely settled with a large number of homes, rather than very spread out rural communities. From publicly available sources, the outlines of parcels (land that is subdivided into lots) were gathered. The areas with a density of at least 250 parcels per square mile were identified. This benchmark was chosen because it is comparable to the density of Census Designated Places (unincorporated communities tracked by the Census Bureau).



Sample map of parcels to determine density.



Sample map of visual inspection for each DUC.

<sup>4</sup> ESRI ArcView for ArcMap 9.3.1 with the Spatial Analyst 9.3 extension, Windows machine with an Intel Core 2 Quad CPU.

<sup>5</sup> This term was developed by CEI to describe low-income, densely settled, unincorporated communities.

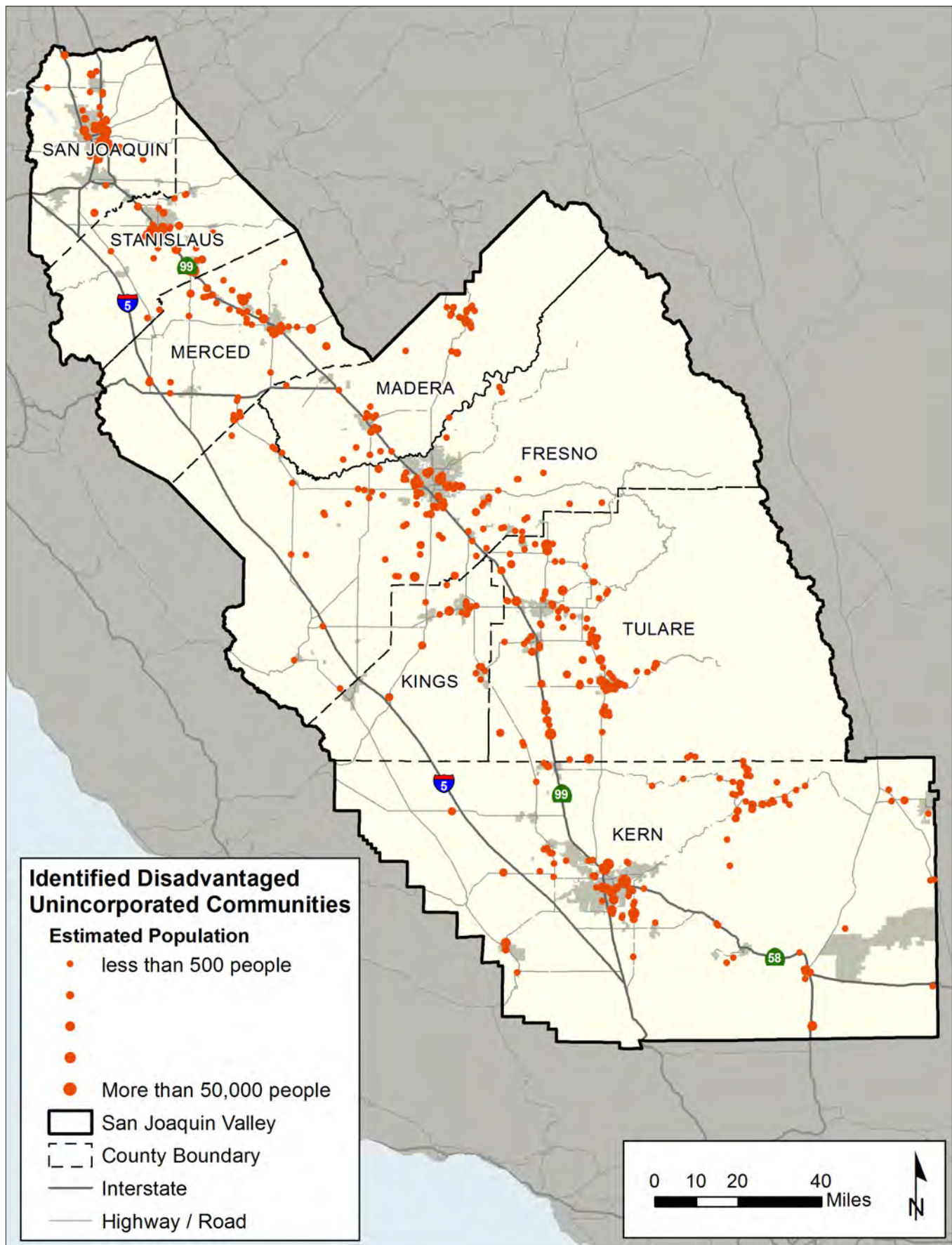
**Low-Income Neighborhoods:** In the work of the CEI, we have found that many low-income unincorporated communities also face infrastructure challenges. Because there is no single indicator, or discrete set of indicators, which allows us to assess infrastructure conditions, the initiative's work began by identifying low-income unincorporated communities. It used 2000 census<sup>6</sup> block group data to identify places of interest. Since the income status of households relative to those across the state is a frequently used criteria for state-funded programs, the initiative selected those block groups where the median household income was less than 80 percent of the median household income of the state. This is a benchmark used in several state-level infrastructure funding programs that target low-income communities, including the [Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#) and the [Storm Water Management program](#). In 2000, the median household income of the state of California was \$47,493, so any census block group with a median income of less than \$37,994 was included in our analysis.

This threshold is not a perfect metric for identifying disadvantaged unincorporated communities because there are many places, like resort communities, that may have low recorded incomes, but are not actually home to significant populations of low-income people.

**Visual Inspection & Additional Filters:** The project mapped land use to help filter out agricultural land, and used information from aerial photography and Google street view to verify that the places highlighted by our analysis were indeed underserved communities. Through this review it was found that some communities at the edge of cities had been "low-income" agricultural fields during the 1990 census but have since been developed. Communities that had been identified as less than three-quarters of an acre in size were also removed as they often contained only one or two houses, if any.

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<sup>6</sup> While dated, the 2000 census provided a more accurate depiction of income levels at the block group level than more recent American Community Survey data.



Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.



# 525 Communities: Findings and Analysis

Once the four types of data were overlaid on one another, 525 distinct, low-income, densely settled, unincorporated areas emerged that are home to over 300,000 people in the San Joaquin Valley. In 2000, the U.S. Census Bureau recorded only 80 unincorporated communities that were low income. This research identified many communities that are smaller communities than Census Designated Places. One hundred forty-nine of these disadvantaged unincorporated communities were located within existing Census Designated Places and 23 of these 149 DUCs were small communities that fell within larger, wealthier Census Designated Places that would not have been identified by solely relying on an analysis of low-income CDPs. For those low-income communities

community members to solicit their input on maps. Participants were asked if they recognized the identified places as neighborhoods with names and did some “ground-truthing” to verify that the places highlighted were indeed places with infrastructure challenges. A listing of named places is included in Appendix 2: County Map Gallery. Those places without names were assigned a number.

## Comparing Counties

The eight counties of the San Joaquin Valley vary significantly in terms of size and population distribution within incorporated and unincorporated areas. The research found that while Fresno is the most popu-

Comparing Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities in the San Joaquin Valley

|                                                          | Number of Communities | Population (% of San Joaquin Valley population) |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities in the Valley   | 525                   | 310,231 (9.3%)                                  |
| Disadvantaged Unincorporated Areas in CDPs in the Valley | 149                   | 187,180 (5.7%)                                  |
| Low-income CDPs in the Valley                            | 80                    | 242,216 (7.3%)                                  |

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

that depend on Census Bureau data to inform their grants, advocacy, and communications work, being located and lumped in with a wealthier CDP could very well mask the challenges of the communities.

Many of the communities (188 to be exact) were named places either because they were existing CDPs or were recognized by community members. As part of the process of verifying the methodology, CEI staff hosted several workshop sessions with

lated county, accounting for 24 percent of the valley’s population, only 9 percent of the population living in the region’s disadvantaged unincorporated communities are in Fresno County. On the other hand, Kern and Tulare Counties have disproportionately high percentages of their populations living in disadvantaged unincorporated communities. Kern is home to 20 percent of the region’s population, but 42 percent of the population living in disadvantaged unincorporated communities, and Tulare has 11 percent of the



total valley population but 18 percent of the valley's DUCs. This can largely be explained by the fact that a significant portion of the total population in Kern (46 percent) and Tulare (36 percent) Counties live in unincorporated areas. Tulare and Kern also have the highest percentages of their unincorporated populations living in low-income, densely settled communities, with 49 percent and 38 percent respectively.

Maps of each county are available in [Appendix 2: County Map Gallery](#). The Appendix includes a breakdown of each type of community (Island, Fringe, and Legacy discussed later) listed, as well as population summaries.

## Demographic Analysis

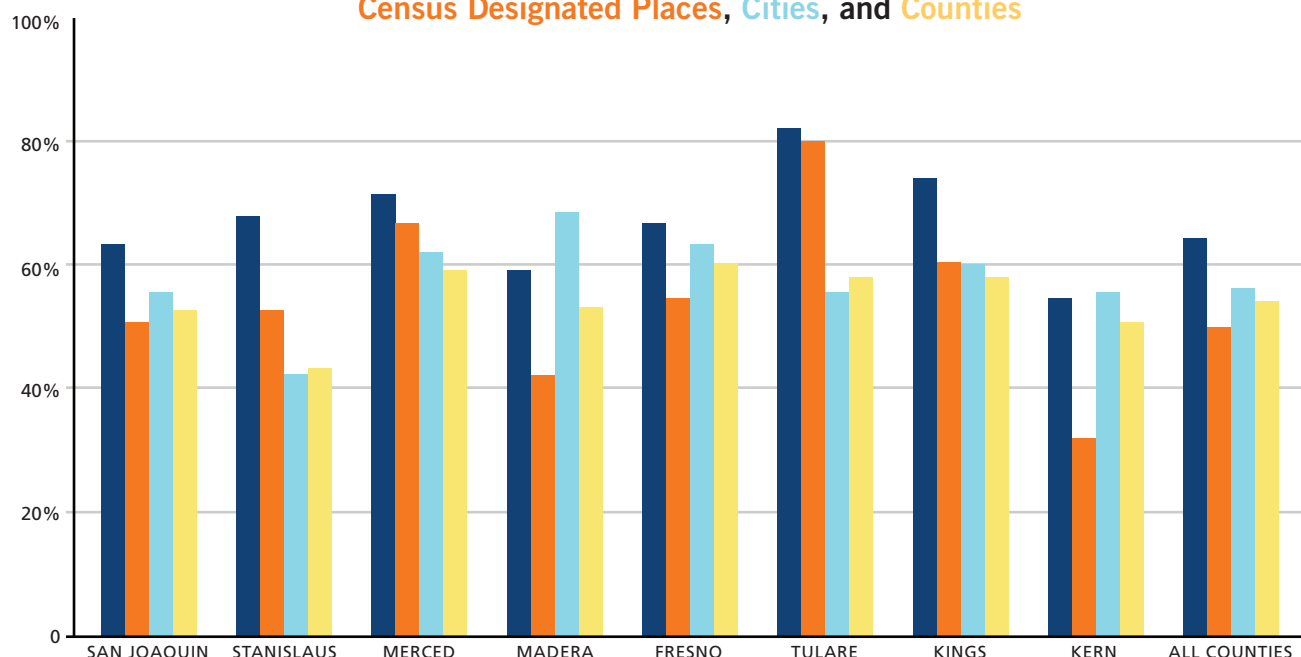
Examining the racial makeup and economic status of DUCs and comparing those to cities, other parts of unincorporated counties, and to counties, helps demonstrate whether or not underinvestment in infrastructure is correlated to race and class. The work of the CEI in large part stemmed from litigation against discriminatory practices in Stanislaus County and the

city of Modesto. This case revealed that the city of Modesto was excluding low-income neighborhoods and communities of color from its growth, development, and most basic infrastructure and services.

This current research looks to build from the evidence prepared for Modesto and other cases to better understand and describe the relationship between race, income, and infrastructure quality. The new mapping and analysis shows that disadvantaged unincorporated communities are largely home to people of color,<sup>7</sup> making up 65 percent of the population living in San Joaquin Valley's DUCs. This number is especially high compared to the fact that throughout all of the counties, people of color make up only 54 percent of the population.

The CEI compared the racial and ethnic makeup and number of low-income households in DUCs to Census Designated Places, cities, and counties. Since Census Designated Places are the only unincorporated communities that are tracked by the U.S. Census Bureau, this is an important scale of comparison. Comparing DUCs to cities is important for understanding how much incorporated status can influence and drive

**Percent People of Color in Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities, Census Designated Places, Cities, and Counties**



Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

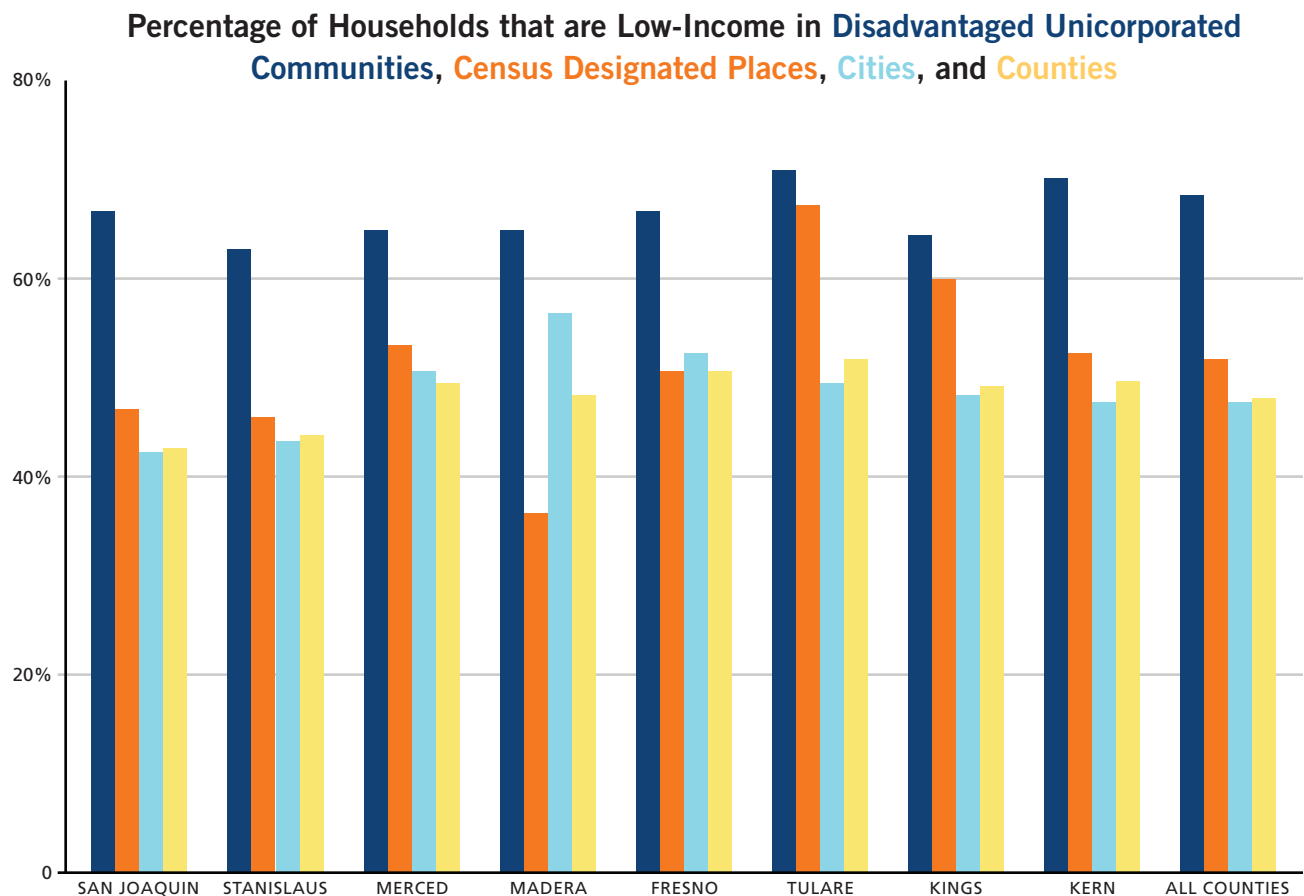
<sup>7</sup> "People of color" describes the sum of all racial/ethnic groups that are not white (or non-Hispanic white).

disparities. A comparison to counties provides the context in which DUCs reside. Ideally, the research should find that low-income households and people of color are equally represented in all three scales.

As the graph on the previous page illustrates, in every county people of color in DUCs are overrepresented in comparison to the percentage of people of color living in CDPs, cities, and the county population as a whole.

Although the people who live in DUCs are partly defined by the fact that they meet specified income criteria, the study also wanted to understand how their income characteristics compared to other incorporated and unincorporated population groups in the region. The research found that low-income

households are overrepresented in disadvantaged unincorporated communities in comparison to CDPs, cities, and counties. The results are conservative estimates due to the limitations of the census.<sup>8</sup> The graph below illustrates that the percentage of low-income households in DUCs across the San Joaquin Valley ranges between 11 and 20 percentage points higher than their respective counties. When compared to CDPs, DUCs generally have a much greater percentage of low-income households; the exception being in Tulare and Kings Counties where low-income households are proportionate in CDPs and DUCs. Across the entire San Joaquin Valley, it was estimated that 64 percent of households living in DUCs are low income compared to much lower rates in CDPs (51 percent), cities (48 percent), and counties (48 percent).



Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

<sup>8</sup> For purposes of this research, low income is defined as household income below 80 percent of state household median, which is \$37,994. The 2000 census only provides household income in ranges. These results include all households with income below \$34,999.

Please refer to [Appendix 1](#) (Demographic Analysis) for a detailed table comparing the demographics of DUCs to counties, cities, and Census Designated Places.

## Types of Communities

While documenting the number of communities is an important step in telling the story of the San Joaquin Valley's unincorporated communities, proximity to a neighboring community or city plays an important role in determining the opportunities that these places have to improve their infrastructure. A community that is, for example, 20 miles away from a city will have different concerns and opportunities for infrastructure investment than one that sits close or adjacent to a city, and different again from a neighborhood nearly or completely surrounded by the same city. Because of this, our work looked to further describe these communities based on their spatial relationship to incorporated areas.

## Island and Fringe Communities

During the agricultural and industrial boom of the early and mid-twentieth century, communities developed on the edges of cities where industry was concentrated and housing was more affordable. As the cities grew, they annexed land around the

unincorporated communities—avoiding and excluding communities of color and low-income communities. Decades of neglect and exclusion by cities and counties have been reinforced by the state's counter-productive system of taxation and land use policies. These communities find themselves stuck between the county and their neighboring city. The city does not want to invest in county territory, nor does the county wish to invest in a community that, once improved, will be more attractive for incorporation by a neighboring city.

Today there are unincorporated communities that are like an island, completely surrounded by incorporated city territory but are on county land and therefore do not receive city services. Fringe communities are neighborhoods that are adjacent to incorporated areas or within a city's sphere of influence<sup>9</sup> but are located on county land. The isolation faced by fringe and island communities is stark: their neighbors within city limits—across the street even—receive services that they do not. Some communities may literally have city infrastructure running under or through their community but are not linked into that infrastructure to receive its benefits. Seventy percent of the population of the disadvantaged unincorporated communities identified live in island or fringe communities. As the table below shows, this is over 200,000 people in 274 island and fringe communities. Distinguishing these communities in this way is important because

**Comparing Types of Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities**

|                                                       | Number     | Estimated Population<br>(% of DUCs) |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Total Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities</b> | <b>525</b> | <b>310,231</b>                      |
| <b>Island communities</b>                             | <b>44</b>  | <b>45,501<br/>(14.7%)</b>           |
| <b>Fringe communities</b>                             | <b>230</b> | <b>172,237<br/>(55.5%)</b>          |
| <b>Legacy communities</b>                             | <b>231</b> | <b>92,358<br/>(29.8%)</b>           |

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

<sup>9</sup> According to the [California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions](#), a sphere of influence is a planning boundary typically beyond a city or special district that ensures the provision of efficient services while discouraging urban sprawl and the premature conversion of agricultural or open space lands.

the potential strategies for addressing infrastructure deficits vary depending on the proximity to cities and other communities. For example, several fringe communities have worked out agreements with neighboring cities or townships for sharing service provision or infrastructure investments like water resources.

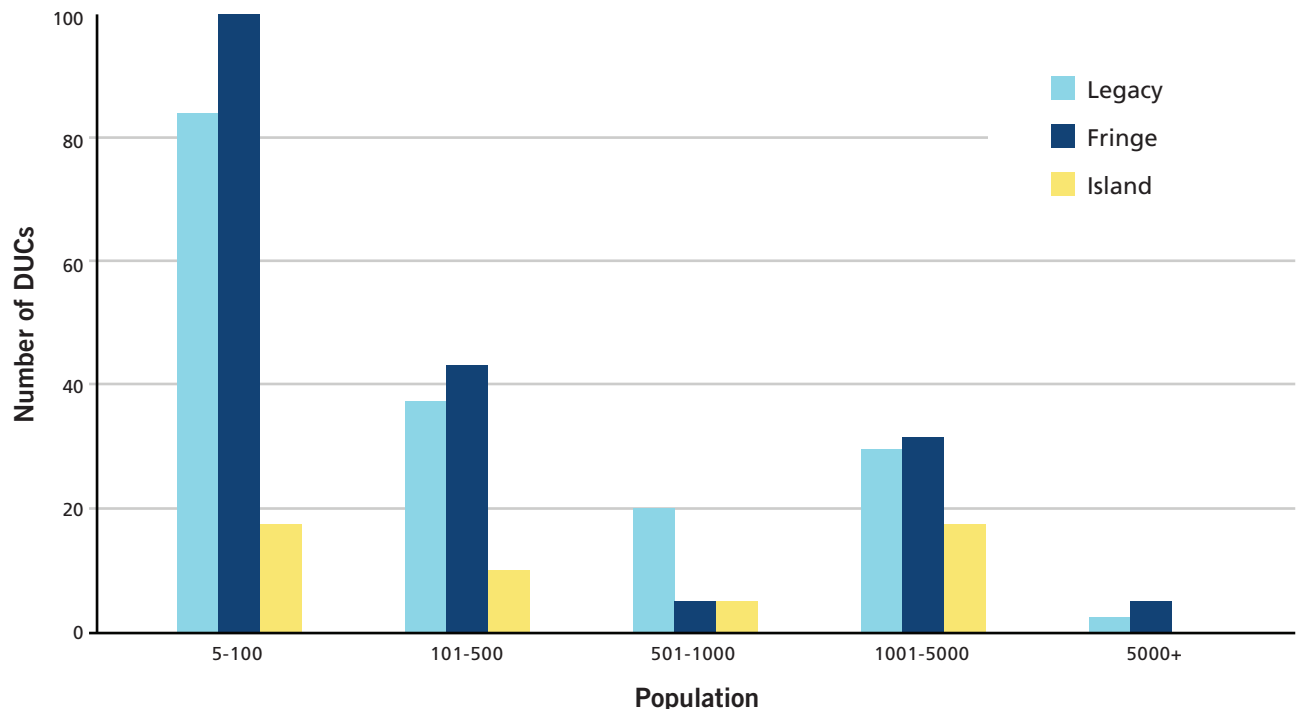
## Legacy Communities

A third type—legacy communities—are more remote. These communities lie beyond the growth boundaries of incorporated cities, and have been in existence at least 50 years.<sup>10</sup> Legacy communities started growing in the early to mid 20th century, principally due to the advent of industrialized agriculture. As demand for low-wage agricultural labor increased, these communities became home to workers from the American South, the Depression-era Dustbowl, and Mexico seeking work as farm laborers. Legacy communities grew close to the farms where workers labored, and over time, these com-

munities have become stable, year-round residential areas, but without the investment to make them healthy and sustainable. Nearly 100,000 people live in legacy communities. The geographic isolation of these places means that they cannot as readily rely on shared service provisions and the typically small population size means that privately funded infrastructure investment is cost prohibitive because of a lack of economies of scale. Leveraging targeted public funding is a necessity in legacy communities.

The graph below illustrates the distribution of disadvantaged unincorporated communities by population range, number of communities in each population range, and their spatial relationship to incorporated areas (Island / Fringe / Legacy). A majority (81 percent) of these communities are small—fewer than 500 residents. While only 12 communities have populations greater than 5,000, these 12 communities make up 45 percent of the total DUC population across the valley.

**Number of Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities by Type and Population**



The methods tended to underestimate population size in very small rural communities. One hundred and thirty-five of the 525 communities have an estimated population of less than five people and are not displayed here.

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

<sup>10</sup> Definition in part from the [Senate Bill No. 244](#).



## Next Steps

Cities and counties cannot plan for, and serve, communities that they do not even know exist. Administrators and elected officials must understand the scale and scope of issues within their jurisdiction. This research will help build their understanding of the scope of the issues impacting unincorporated communities and will support local and regional efforts to plan for infrastructure improvements and more coherent, sustainable land uses. The Community Equity Initiative will continue hosting sessions where community members and organizations can help verify and name places on maps identified by this methodology.

The data used for this first run of the model are limited because the census has historically undercounted minority and rural populations. Also, the income data are from 2000, which are dated and do not reflect changes brought by the most recent recession. The CEI will be updating its research with more recent American Community Survey data and 2010 U.S. census data. It is also adding demographic data such as median age, length and type of housing tenure, education, and more. We are in the process of undertaking additional investigation to better understand the breadth and depth of challenges that these communities face.

The next phase of mapping will include additional “ground-truthing” with residents, further exploration of the demographics of these communities, and gathering and analysis of information about the quality of infrastructure, amenities, and services. This foundational mapping will allow us to better describe potential infrastructure challenges, disparities in investments, and trends in population over time beyond the race and income data included here. The next phase of this work, for example, may draw closer parallels between race and income and infrastructure investment per capita.

The initiative will continue to share this information with community organizations and groups who find

it useful. For example, it is currently sharing its findings with community organizations and researchers who are studying how nitrate contamination in groundwater is affecting communities in the San Joaquin Valley and across California. The pairing of these data sets will add dimension to both the water quality data and the mapping of disadvantaged communities. A clearer picture should emerge of the types of communities that do not have healthy drinking water, along with increased understanding about the water quality in underserved communities. This dual approach will inform the decision-making process around setting priorities for allocating resources to areas in need.

This mapping has also sparked interest in collecting and sharing data about unincorporated areas more broadly, including access to parks, air quality data, and environmental hazards. Ultimately, the Community Equity Initiative is committed to using the information that is gathered to empower residents in California and elsewhere as advocates for better, healthier communities.

For more information about the work of the Community Equity Initiative, our successes, and our research, visit: [www.PolicyLink.org/communityequityinitiative](http://www.PolicyLink.org/communityequityinitiative) or [www.crla.org/node/30](http://www.crla.org/node/30). You may also contact Chione Flegat at PolicyLink by email at [chione@policylink.org](mailto:chione@policylink.org) or Phoebe Seaton at California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. by email at [pseaton@crla.org](mailto:pseaton@crla.org).

## Appendix 1: Detailed Table of Demographic Analysis

The following tables compare demographics for counties, cities, Census Designated Places, and disadvantaged unincorporated communities by county. The data have been summarized in preceding charts but are presented here more comprehensively and include:

- **Total population and number** of households
- **Population and percentage** of people of color (people of color defined as the sum of all racial and ethnic groups that are not white or non-Hispanic white)
- **Total and percentage** of low-income households (households with income less than \$34,999 annually)

### Countywide Estimates

| COUNTY      | County Population | Unincorporated Population | Percentage of County Population Living in Unincorporated Areas |
|-------------|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| FRESNO      | 799,407           | 170,191                   | 21%                                                            |
| KERN        | 661,645           | 266,821                   | 40%                                                            |
| KINGS       | 129,461           | 37,369                    | 29%                                                            |
| MADERA      | 123,109           | 69,074                    | 56%                                                            |
| MERCED      | 210,554           | 78,738                    | 37%                                                            |
| SAN JOAQUIN | 563,598           | 129,891                   | 23%                                                            |
| STANISLAUS  | 446,997           | 122,107                   | 27%                                                            |
| TULARE      | 368,021           | 142,510                   | 39%                                                            |
| COUNTIES    | 3,302,792         | 1,016,701                 | 31%                                                            |

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

## Countywide Estimates

| COUNTY      | Population<br>People of Color | Percentage<br>of Countywide<br>Population that are<br>People of Color | Total People<br>of Color Living in<br>Unincorporated Areas | Percentage of<br>Unincorporated<br>Population that are<br>People of Color |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FRESNO      | 481,885                       | 60%                                                                   | 85,749                                                     | 50%                                                                       |
| KERN        | 334,455                       | 51%                                                                   | 114,373                                                    | 43%                                                                       |
| KINGS       | 75,644                        | 58%                                                                   | 20,498                                                     | 55%                                                                       |
| MADERA      | 65,718                        | 53%                                                                   | 28,676                                                     | 42%                                                                       |
| MERCED      | 124,969                       | 59%                                                                   | 43,032                                                     | 55%                                                                       |
| SAN JOAQUIN | 296,596                       | 53%                                                                   | 56,544                                                     | 44%                                                                       |
| STANISLAUS  | 190,996                       | 43%                                                                   | 54,617                                                     | 45%                                                                       |
| TULARE      | 214,105                       | 58%                                                                   | 87,786                                                     | 62%                                                                       |
| COUNTIES    | 1,784,368                     | 54%                                                                   | 491,275                                                    | 48%                                                                       |

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

## Countywide Estimates

| COUNTY      | Total Households in County | Households in Unincorporated Areas | Total Low-Income Households in County (Earning <\$34,999) | Percentage of Households in Counties that are Low Income |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| FRESNO      | 253,304                    | 72,329                             | 127,527                                                   | 50%                                                      |
| KERN        | 208,786                    | 92,571                             | 103,134                                                   | 49%                                                      |
| KINGS       | 34,429                     | 10,851                             | 16,810                                                    | 49%                                                      |
| MADERA      | 36,207                     | 24,862                             | 17,373                                                    | 48%                                                      |
| MERCED      | 63,933                     | 28,399                             | 31,485                                                    | 49%                                                      |
| SAN JOAQUIN | 181,612                    | 50,273                             | 77,225                                                    | 43%                                                      |
| STANISLAUS  | 145,253                    | 42,784                             | 63,291                                                    | 44%                                                      |
| TULARE      | 110,356                    | 50,336                             | 56,563                                                    | 51%                                                      |
| COUNTIES    | 1,033,880                  | 372,405                            | 493,408                                                   | 48%                                                      |

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.



## Citywide Estimates

| COUNTY      | Total City Population | Total Population People of Color in Cities | Percentage of City Population that are People of Color | Total Household in Cities | Estimated Total Households in Cities that are Low Income | Percentage of Households in Cities that are Low Income |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| FRESNO      | 629,216               | 396,136                                    | 63%                                                    | 200,517                   | 104,841                                                  | 52%                                                    |
| KERN        | 394,817               | 220,079                                    | 56%                                                    | 122,530                   | 57,754                                                   | 47%                                                    |
| KINGS       | 92,092                | 55,146                                     | 60%                                                    | 25,032                    | 11,928                                                   | 48%                                                    |
| MADERA      | 54,035                | 37,042                                     | 69%                                                    | 14,558                    | 8,146                                                    | 56%                                                    |
| MERCED      | 131,816               | 81,937                                     | 62%                                                    | 40,999                    | 20,673                                                   | 50%                                                    |
| SAN JOAQUIN | 433,707               | 240,052                                    | 55%                                                    | 141,336                   | 60,062                                                   | 43%                                                    |
| STANISLAUS  | 324,890               | 136,379                                    | 42%                                                    | 112,620                   | 48,395                                                   | 43%                                                    |
| TULARE      | 225,511               | 126,319                                    | 56%                                                    | 70,442                    | 34,491                                                   | 49%                                                    |
| COUNTIES    | 2,286,084             | 1,293,090                                  | 57%                                                    | 728,034                   | 346,290                                                  | 48%                                                    |

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

## Census Designated Places (CDPs)

| COUNTY      | Total CDP population | Population People of Color in CDPs | Percentage of CDP Population that are People of Color | Total Households in CDPs | Total Low-income Households in CDPs (Earning < \$34,999) | Percentage of Households in CDPs that are Low Income |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| FRESNO      | 18,793               | 10,270                             | 55%                                                   | 5,956                    | 3,005                                                    | 51%                                                  |
| KERN        | 128,136              | 40,877                             | 32%                                                   | 45,380                   | 23,758                                                   | 52%                                                  |
| KINGS       | 13,453               | 8,159                              | 61%                                                   | 3,334                    | 1,992                                                    | 60%                                                  |
| MADERA      | 26,657               | 11,229                             | 42%                                                   | 8,466                    | 3,034                                                    | 36%                                                  |
| MERCED      | 29,175               | 19,533                             | 67%                                                   | 8,042                    | 4,259                                                    | 53%                                                  |
| SAN JOAQUIN | 52,430               | 26,410                             | 50%                                                   | 16,350                   | 7,602                                                    | 47%                                                  |
| STANISLAUS  | 52,430               | 27,794                             | 53%                                                   | 14,900                   | 6,801                                                    | 46%                                                  |
| TULARE      | 56,125               | 45,154                             | 80%                                                   | 14,161                   | 9,482                                                    | 67%                                                  |
| COUNTIES    | 377,144              | 189,426                            | 50%                                                   | 116,589                  | 59,933                                                   | 51%                                                  |

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

## Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs)

| COUNTY      | Number of Disadvantaged Unincorporated Areas (DUCs) | Estimated Population in DUCs | Percentage of Countywide Population Living in DUCs | Percentage of Population in Unincorporated Areas Living in DUCs |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| FRESNO      | 93                                                  | 27,704                       | 2%                                                 | 9%                                                              |
| KERN        | 105                                                 | 130,388                      | 2%                                                 | 5%                                                              |
| KINGS       | 24                                                  | 7,494                        | 11%                                                | 39%                                                             |
| MADERA      | 44                                                  | 8,558                        | 12%                                                | 21%                                                             |
| MERCED      | 47                                                  | 20,861                       | 15%                                                | 21%                                                             |
| SAN JOAQUIN | 51                                                  | 29,203                       | 14%                                                | 61%                                                             |
| STANISLAUS  | 47                                                  | 31,127                       | 7%                                                 | 26%                                                             |
| TULARE      | 114                                                 | 54,775                       | 4%                                                 | 10%                                                             |
| COUNTIES    | 525                                                 | 310,230                      | 9%                                                 | 1%                                                              |

Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

### Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs)

| COUNTY      | People of Color in DUCs | Percentage People of Color Countywide Living in DUCs | Percentage of DUC Population that are People of Color | Estimated Total households in DUCs | Estimated Total Low-Income Households in DUCs (Earning < \$34,999) | Percentage of Households in DUCs that are Low Income |
|-------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| FRESNO      | 18,439                  | 6%                                                   | 67%                                                   | 7,457                              | 4,648                                                              | 62%                                                  |
| KERN        | 71,561                  | 39%                                                  | 55%                                                   | 28,820                             | 17,715                                                             | 66%                                                  |
| KINGS       | 5,561                   | 10%                                                  | 74%                                                   | 458                                | 276                                                                | 60%                                                  |
| MADERA      | 5,106                   | 13%                                                  | 60%                                                   | 983                                | 598                                                                | 61%                                                  |
| MERCED      | 14,926                  | 17%                                                  | 72%                                                   | 3,001                              | 1,814                                                              | 60%                                                  |
| SAN JOAQUIN | 18,433                  | 10%                                                  | 63%                                                   | 7,456                              | 4,627                                                              | 62%                                                  |
| STANISLAUS  | 21,249                  | 16%                                                  | 68%                                                   | 6,240                              | 3,622                                                              | 58%                                                  |
| TULARE      | 45,080                  | 26%                                                  | 82%                                                   | 5,701                              | 3,815                                                              | 67%                                                  |
| COUNTIES    | 200,355                 | 17%                                                  | 65%                                                   | 58,117                             | 37,113                                                             | 64%                                                  |

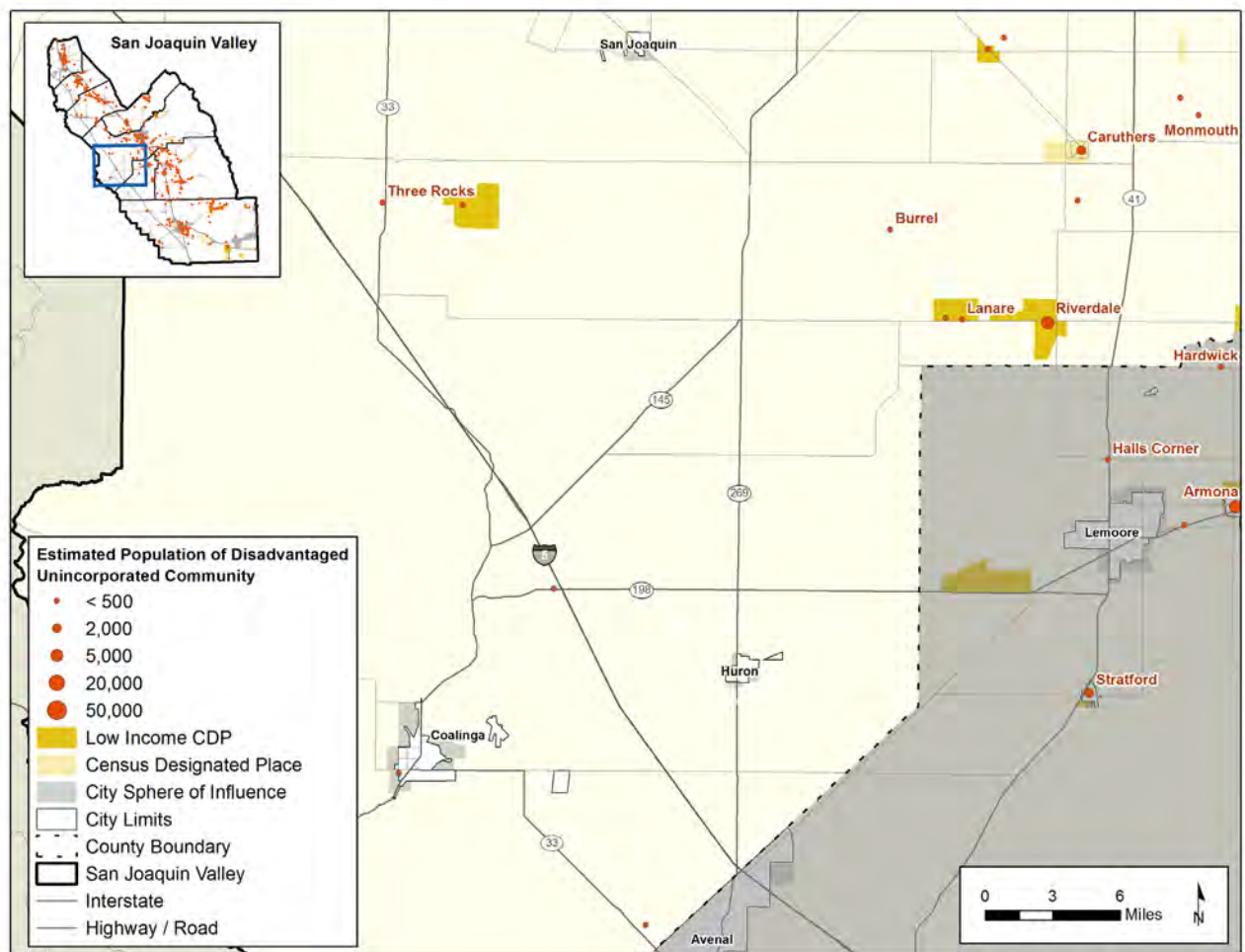
Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.



## Appendix 2: County Map Gallery

The following maps illustrate the location and approximate population of disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUCs) in each of the eight counties of the San Joaquin Valley. Tables associated with the maps show the estimated population by type of community (island, legacy, or fringe). Each county is accompanied by a list of the names of some DUCs.

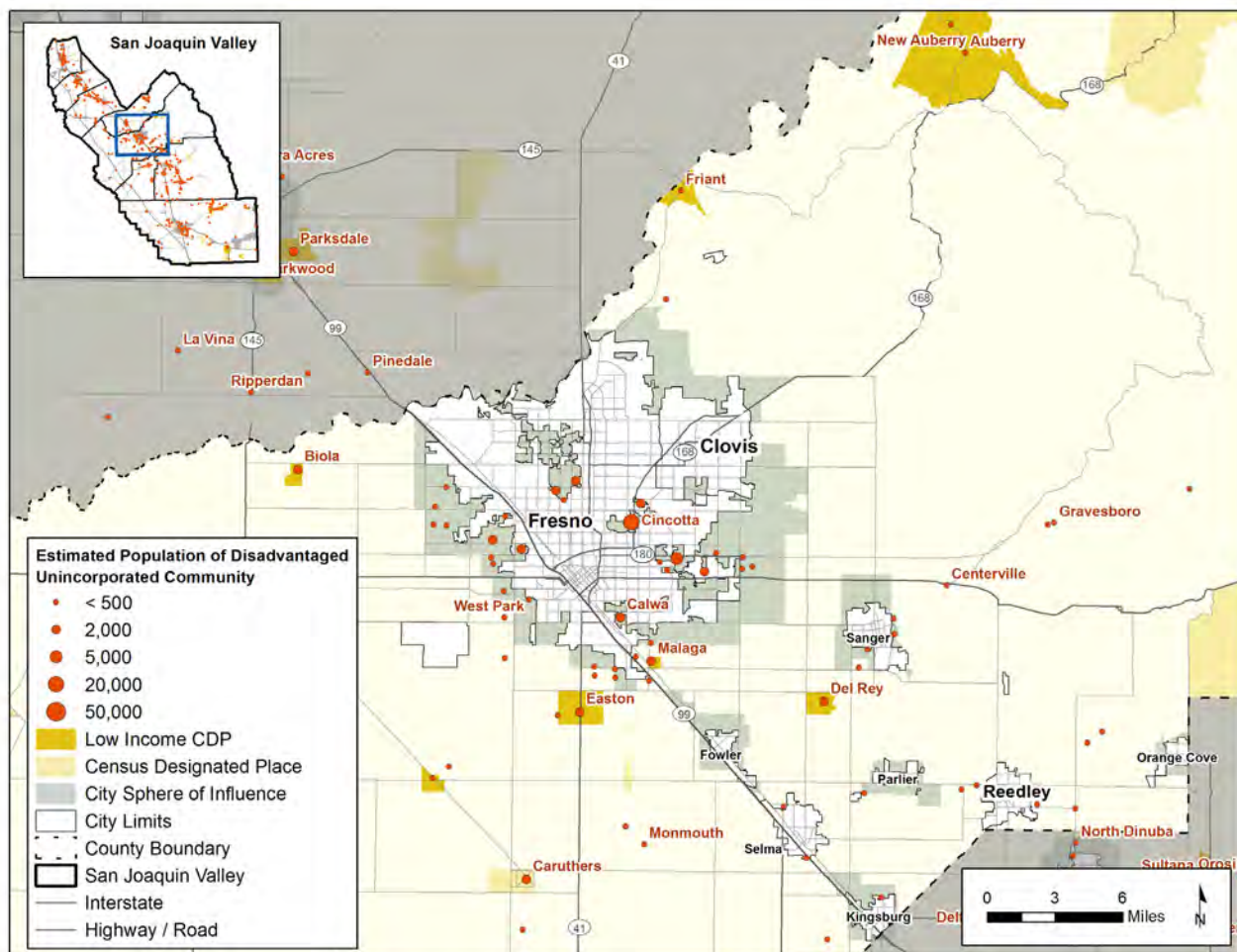
## Fresno County (West)



Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

| FRESNO COUNTY | Number of DUCs | Estimated Total Population |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>93</b>      | <b>27,704</b>              |
| Fringe        | 34             | 3,616                      |
| Legacy        | 49             | 8,156                      |
| Island        | 10             | 15,932                     |

## Fresno County (Central)

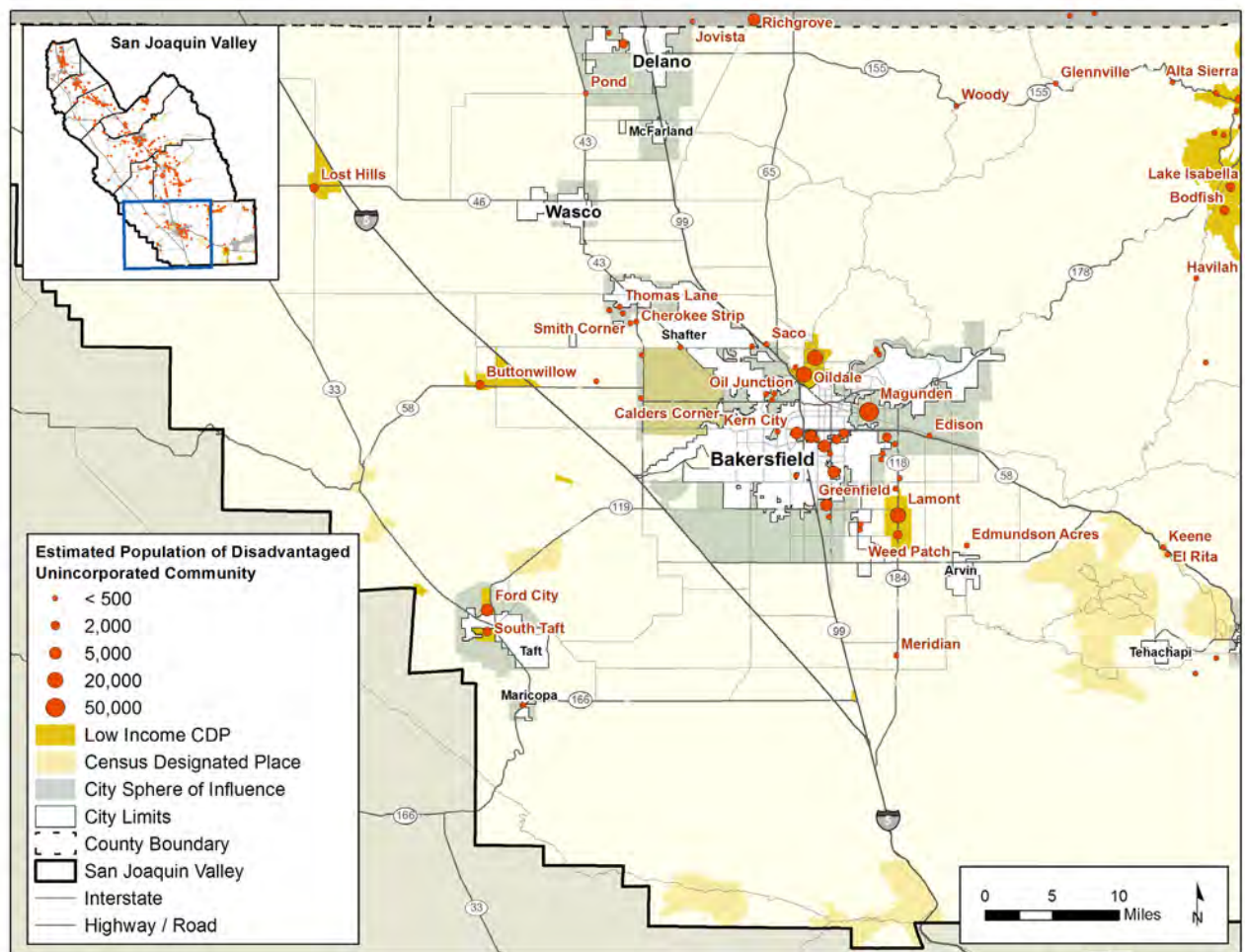


Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

### DUCs with commonly recognized names in Fresno County:

|             |                    |             |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Auberry     | Del Rey            | Laton       |
| Biola       | Del Rio            | Malaga      |
| Burrel      | Dos Palos          | Miramonte   |
| Calwa       | Easton             | Monmouth    |
| Caruthers   | Friant             | New Auberry |
| Centerville | Granz (historical) | Riverdale   |
| Cincotta    | Gravesboro         | Three Rocks |
| Date Street | Lanare             | West Park   |

## Kern County (West)

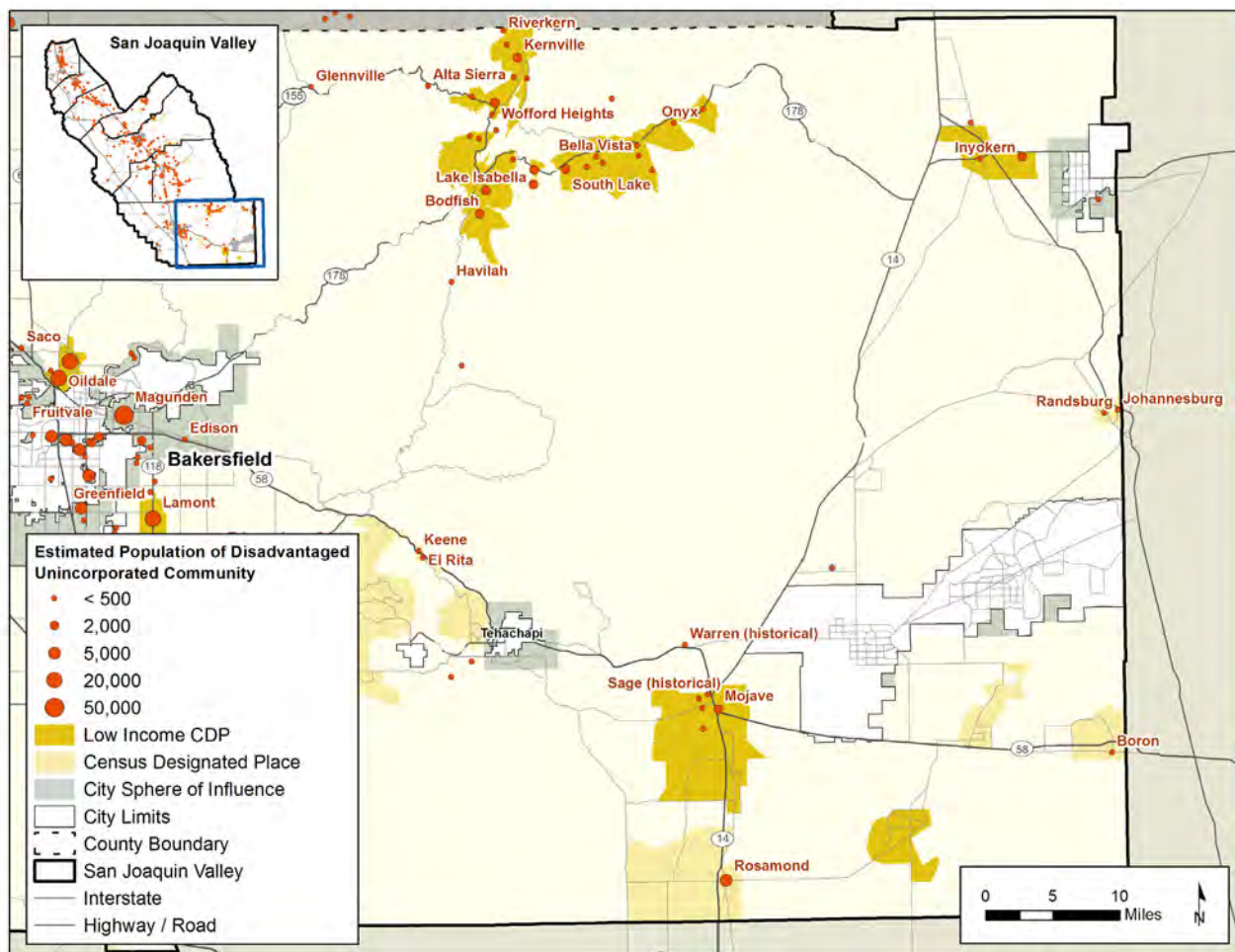


Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

| KERN COUNTY  | Number of DUCs | Estimated Total Population |
|--------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b> | <b>105</b>     | <b>130,388</b>             |
| Fringe       | 31             | 79,302                     |
| Legacy       | 64             | 33,083                     |
| Island       | 10             | 18,003                     |



## Kern County (East)

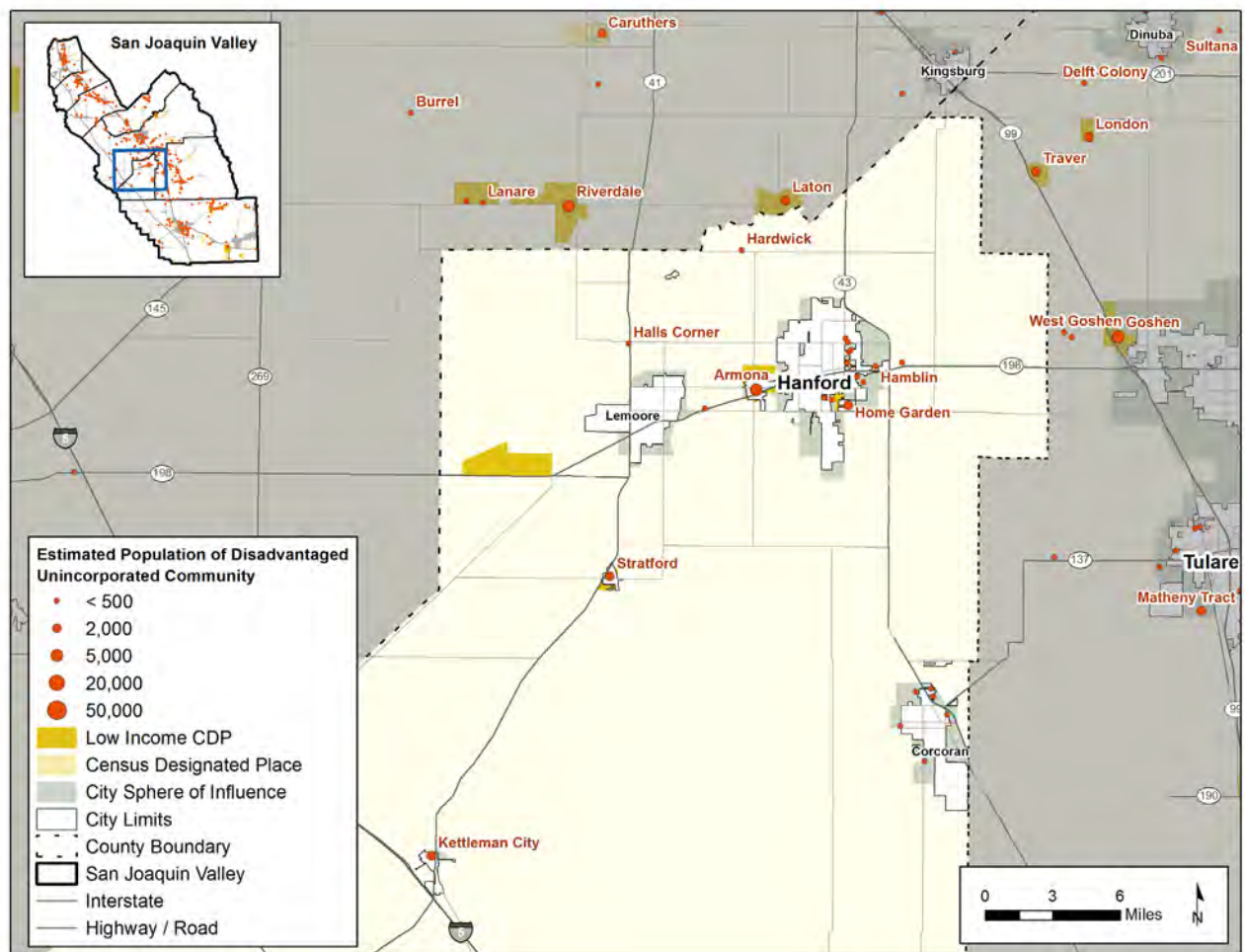


Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

### DUCs with commonly recognized names in Kern County:

|                      |               |                |                          |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Alta Sierra          | Fuller Acres  | Magunden       | Saco                     |
| Bella Vista          | Glennville    | Mayfair        | Sage (historical)        |
| Bodfish              | Greenfield    | Meridian       | Smith Corner             |
| Boron                | Havilah       | Mexican Colony | South Lake               |
| Buttonwillow         | Inyokern      | Mojave         | South Taft               |
| Calders Corner       | Johannesburg  | Mountain Mesa  | Squirrel Mountain Valley |
| Cherokee Strip       | Keene         | Oil Junction   | Thomas Lane              |
| Crome-Heights Corner | Kern City     | Oildale        | Warren (historical)      |
| Edison               | Kernville     | Onyx           | Weed Patch               |
| Edmundson Acres      | Lake Isabella | Pond           | Weed Patch Highway       |
| El Rita              | Lamont        | Randsburg      | Wofford Heights          |
| Ford City            | Lonsmith      | Riverkern      | Woody                    |
| Fruitvale            | Lost Hills    | Rosamond       |                          |

## Kings County



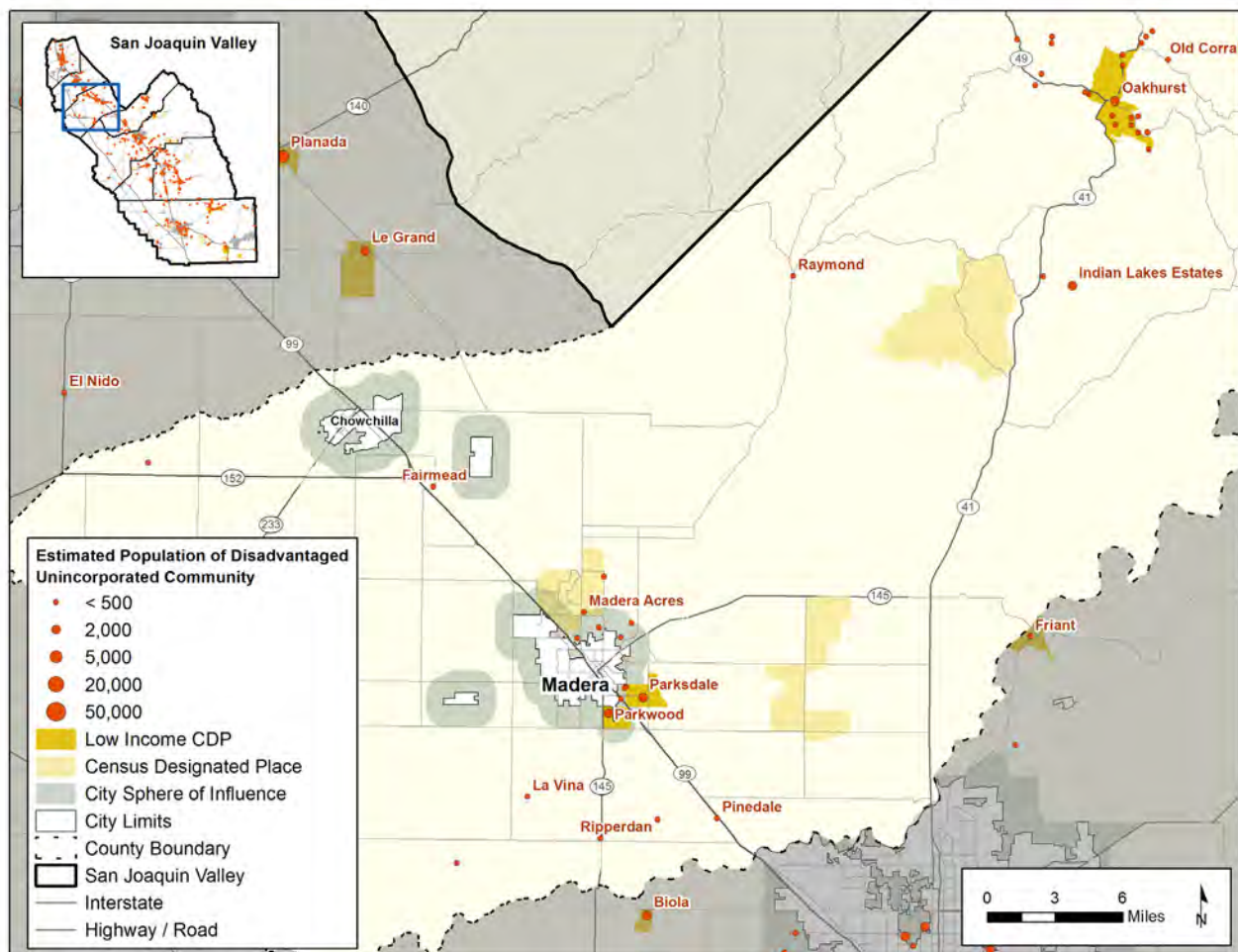
Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

| KINGS COUNTY | Number of DUCs | Estimated Total Population |
|--------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b> | <b>24</b>      | <b>7,494</b>               |
| Fringe       | 20             | 7,428                      |
| Legacy       | 4              | 66                         |
| Island       | 0              | 0                          |

### DUCs with commonly recognized names in Kings County:

Armona      Hamblin      Home Garden      Stratford  
Halls Corner      Hardwick      Kettleman City

## Madera County



Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

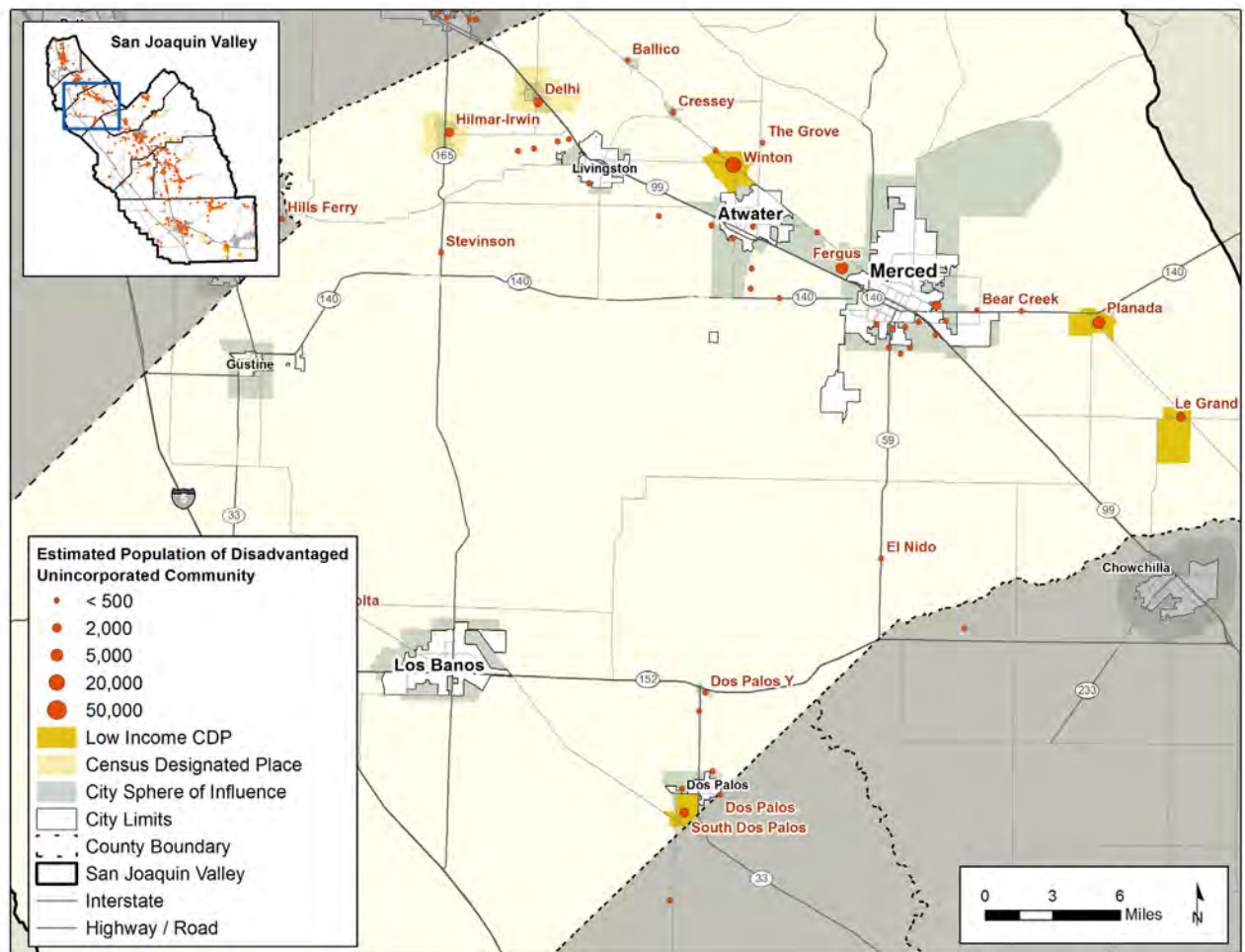
| MADERA COUNTY | Number of DUCs | Estimated Total Population |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>44</b>      | <b>8,558</b>               |
| Fringe        | 10             | 3,074                      |
| Legacy        | 54             | 5,484                      |
| Island        | 0              | 0                          |

### DUCs with commonly recognized names in Madera County:

|                      |              |           |           |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Fairmead             | Madera Acres | Parksdale | Raymond   |
| Indian Lakes Estates | Oakhurst     | Parkwood  | Ripperdan |
| La Vina              | Old Corral   | Pinedale  |           |



## Merced County



Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

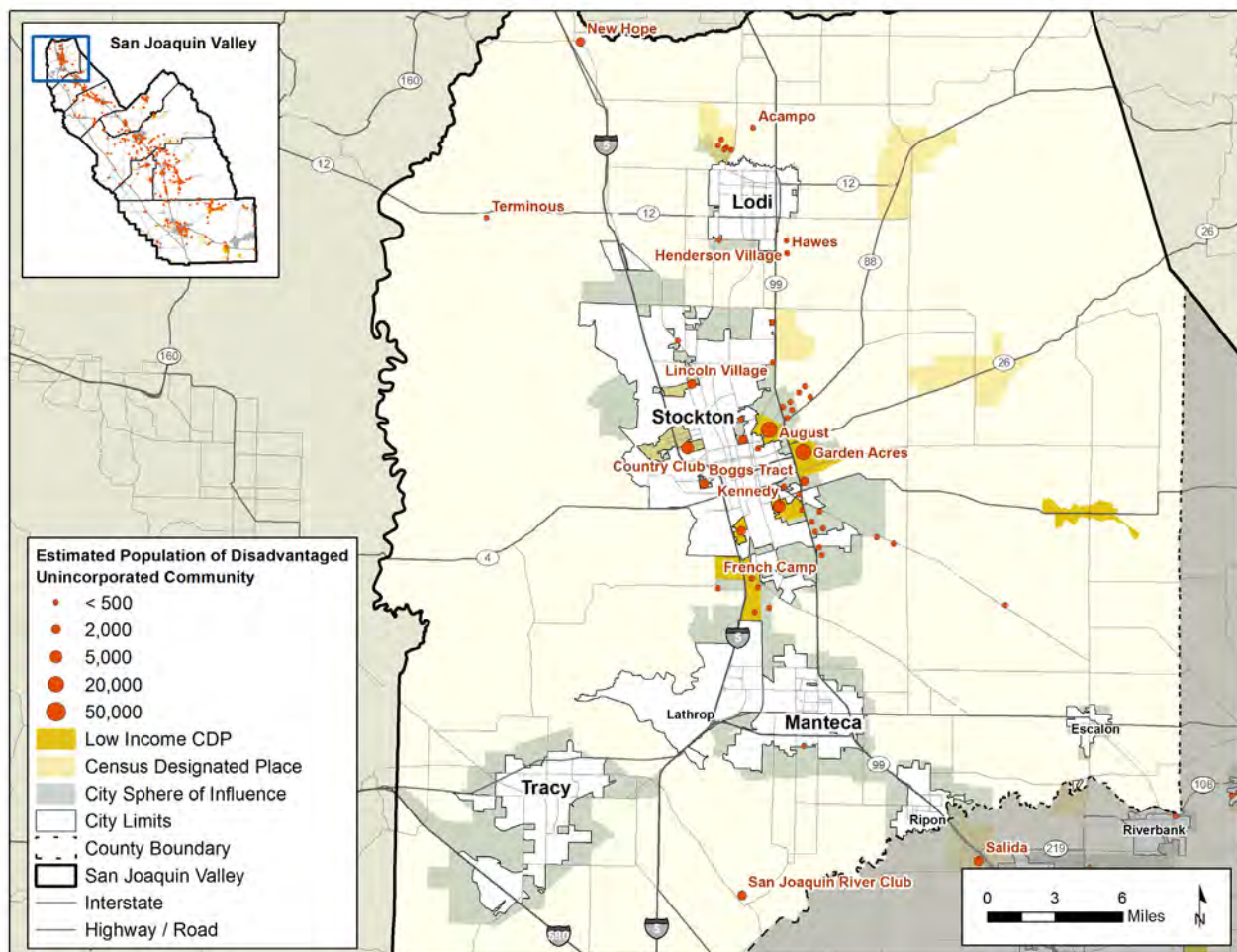
| MERCED COUNTY | Number of DUCs | Estimated Total Population |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>47</b>      | <b>20,861</b>              |
| Fringe        | 29             | 20,537                     |
| Legacy        | 17             | 251                        |
| Island        | 1              | 73                         |

### DUCs with commonly recognized names in Merced County:

|            |             |              |                     |                 |        |
|------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Ballico    | Delhi       | Fergus       | Planada             | South Dos Palos | Volta  |
| Bear Creek | Dos Palos Y | Hilmar-Irwin | Santa Nella Village | Stevinson       | Winton |
| Cressey    | El Nido     | Le Grand     | Snelling            | The Grove       |        |



## San Joaquin County



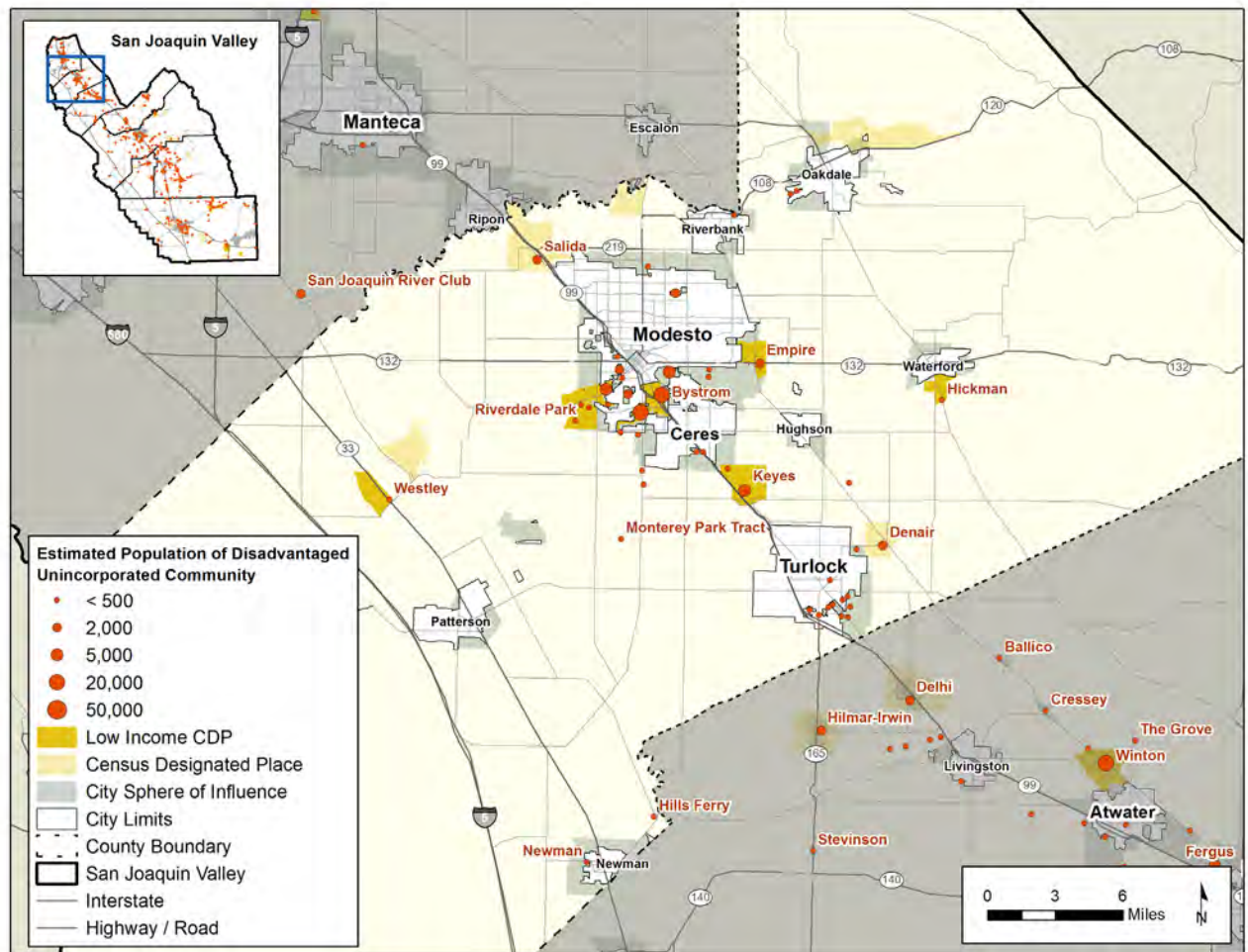
Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

| SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY | Number of DUCs | Estimated Total Population |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>51</b>      | <b>29,203</b>              |
| Fringe             | 26             | 21,678                     |
| Legacy             | 17             | 1,705                      |
| Island             | 8              | 5,820                      |

### DUCs with commonly recognized names in San Joaquin County:

|              |              |                   |                        |
|--------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Acampo       | El Pinal     | Henderson Village | San Joaquin River Club |
| August       | French Camp  | Kennedy           | Terminous              |
| Boggs Tract  | Garden Acres | Lincoln Village   |                        |
| Country Club | Hawes        | New Hope          |                        |

## Stanislaus County



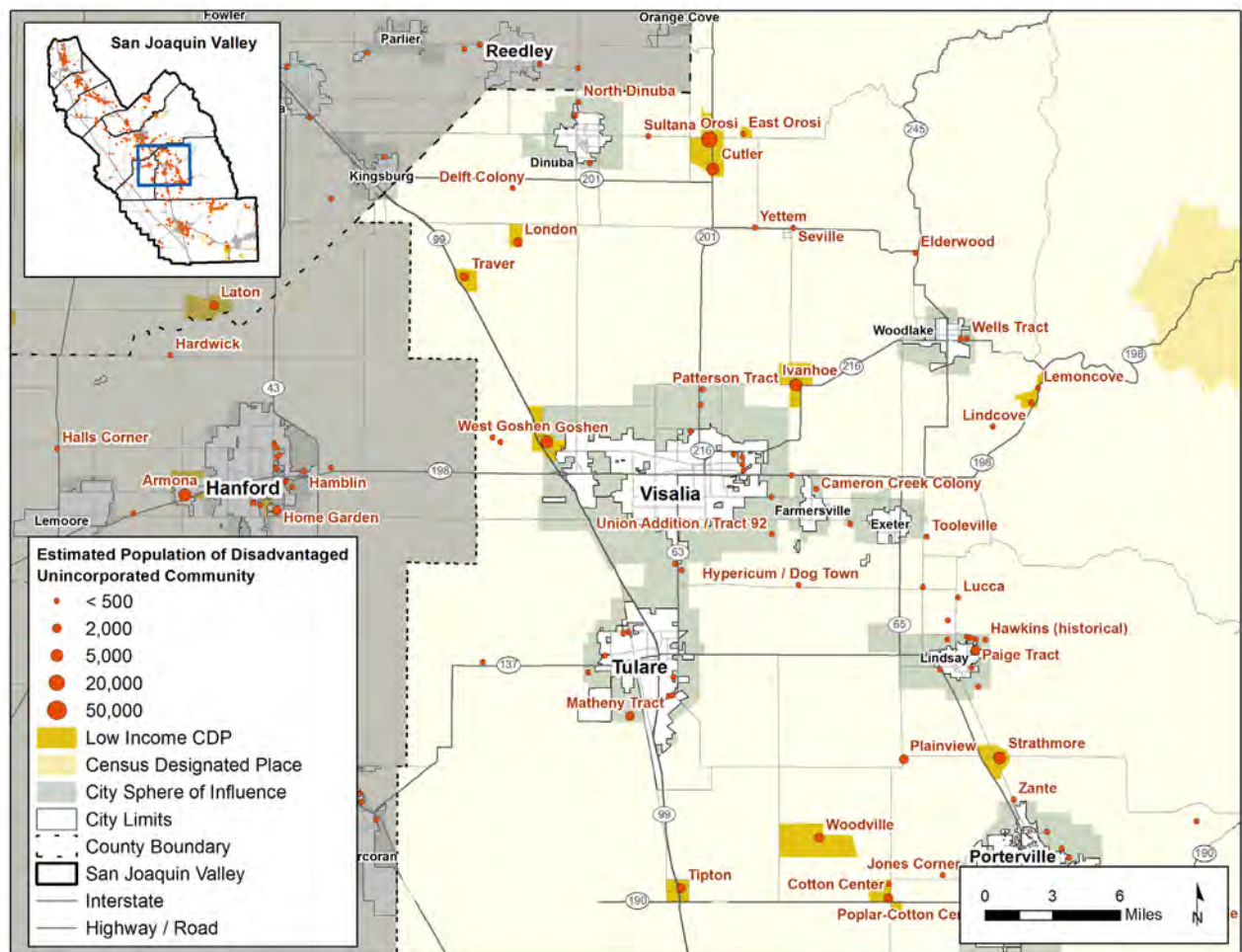
Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

| STANISLAUS COUNTY | Number of DUCs | Estimated Total Population |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>47</b>      | <b>31,247</b>              |
| Fringe            | 27             | 24,569                     |
| Legacy            | 13             | 4,768                      |
| Island            | 7              | 1,910                      |

**DUCs with commonly recognized names in Stanislaus County:**

|                |             |                     |             |
|----------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Bystrom        | Garden      | Monterey Park Tract | Salida      |
| Denair         | Hickman     | Newman              | Shackelford |
| Don Pedro area | Hills Ferry | Riverdale Park      | Westley     |
| Empire         | Keyes       | Riverside           |             |

## Tulare County (North)

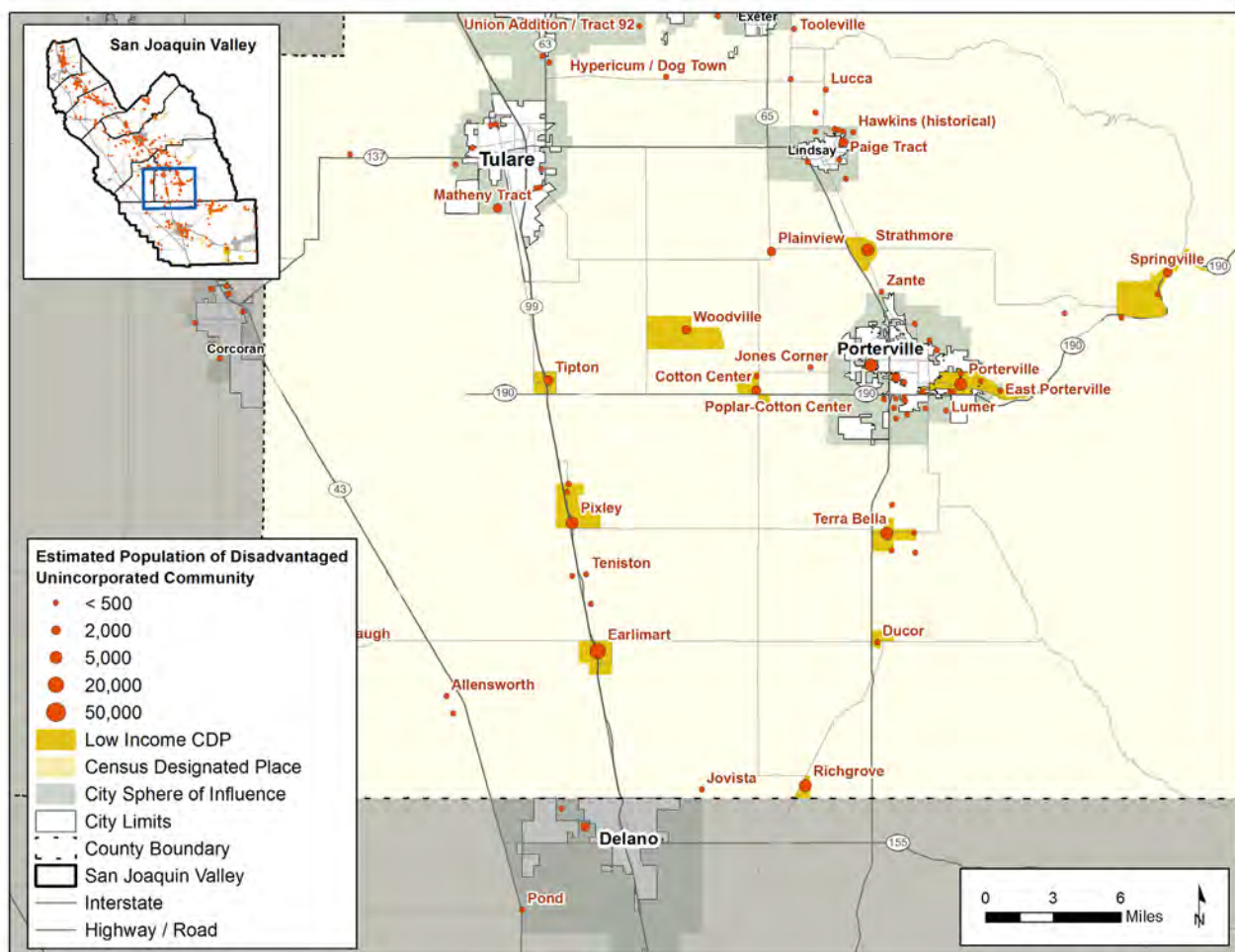


Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

| TULARE COUNTY | Number of DUCs | Estimated Total Population |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>114</b>     | <b>54,775</b>              |
| Fringe        | 53             | 12,168                     |
| Legacy        | 53             | 38,846                     |
| Island        | 8              | 3,761                      |



## Tulare County (South)



Source: PolicyLink analysis of 2000 U.S. census and county parcel and boundary data.

### DUCs with commonly recognized names in Tulare County:

|                      |                      |                      |                           |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Allensworth          | Hypericum / Dog Town | Paige Tract          | Terra Bella               |
| Alpaugh              | Idlewild             | Patterson Tract      | Tipton                    |
| Cameron Creek Colony | Ivanhoe              | Pixley               | Tooleville                |
| Cotton Center        | Jones Corner         | Plainview            | Traver                    |
| Cutler               | Jovista              | Plano                | Union Addition / Tract 92 |
| Delft Colony         | Lemoncove            | Poplar-Cotton Center | Wells Tract               |
| Ducor                | Lindcove             | Porterville          | West Goshen               |
| Earlimart            | London               | Richgrove            | Woodville                 |
| East Orosi           | Lucca                | Seville              | Yettem                    |
| East Porterville     | Lumer                | Springville          | Zante                     |
| Elderwood            | Matheny Tract        | Strathmore           |                           |
| Goshen               | North Dinuba         | Sultana              |                           |
| Hawkins (historical) | Orosi                | Teniston             |                           |

## Authors' Biographies

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# **IT'S TIME TO DRAW THE LINE**

A Citizen's Guide to LAFCOs

California's Local Agency Formation Commissions

Second Edition

Tami Bui & Bill Ihrke

May 2003

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## **INTRODUCTION**

No state is as geographically and demographically diverse as California. From the Siskiyou Mountains to San Diego Bay, California's over 5,000 local governments serve more than 35 million residents. With so many governments, many people wonder whether anybody actually oversees their numbers, powers, and jurisdictions. Rest assured, local agencies can't change their boundaries on a whim. Cities and special districts need permission from Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs).

Most Californians, however, don't know much about LAFCOs. Most of us don't know:

- What they are (independent regulatory commissions)
- How many exist (58)
- Who serves on them (your county supervisor, city council member, or you!)
- What they cost (\$11.5 million a year)

This Citizen's Guide to Local Agency Formation Commissions answers many of your questions about LAFCOs. In plain language, this guide explains what LAFCOs are, where they came from, their legal powers, and how to understand them. This guide also tells you where to get more information about LAFCOs, and how you can become more involved with their decisions.

Democracy works best when people are informed about the governments that serve them. This citizen's guide will make you more aware about the unique and influential governmental entities known as LAFCOs.

## WHAT'S A LAFCO?

LAFCOs are the Legislature's watchdog over the boundaries of cities and special districts.

**LAFCO stands for Local Agency Formation Commission.** LAFCOs are independent regulatory commissions created by the California Legislature to control the boundaries of cities and most special districts.

The **Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act** directs LAFCOs to achieve two main purposes:

1. Discourage sprawl.
2. Encourage orderly government.

Boundaries are important because they assign physical space and define the identities of local governments. LAFCOs have both planning and regulatory powers. LAFCOs plan by adopting and revising "spheres of influence," which are planning documents that show a city or special district's future boundary and service areas. They regulate by reviewing and acting on proposals to change boundaries. LAFCOs control nine types of boundary changes: annexations, detachments, disincorporations, dissolutions, formations, incorporations, mergers, consolidations, subsidiary districts, and reorganizations.

### **Controlling boundaries means LAFCOs control the timing and location of development.**

For instance, LAFCOs regulate boundaries for the following services:

- Water, sewer, fire protection, flood control (*growth inducing* facilities and services).
- Parks, libraries, airports (*growth supporting* facilities and services).
- Hospitals, cemeteries, pest abatement (*non-growth related* facilities and services).

The power of LAFCOs to determine these lines comes from the United States Constitution. The Tenth Amendment says, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution... are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people." In other words, the federal constitution allows each state to determine how to organize its local governments.

The California Constitution requires the Legislature to "prescribe [a] uniform procedure for city formation and provide for city powers" (Article XI, §2 [a]). The Legislature has the complete authority to create, dissolve, or change the governing jurisdiction of special districts because they receive their powers only through state statutes. The Legislature prescribed this "uniform procedure" for boundary changes through a series of state laws, starting as early as 1850.

In 2000, then-Assembly Speaker Robert M. Hertzberg authored the most important LAFCO reforms since the Legislature created LAFCOs in 1963. The revisions resulting from AB 2838 are reflected in the Act's new title: "The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000." The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act delegates the Legislature's boundary powers to LAFCOs.



The Legislature has the exclusive power to regulate local boundaries. This constitutional provision means that no local government has the right to change its own boundary without state approval. Further, voters can't use an initiative or referendum to vote upon a boundary change as an attempt to get around LAFCO approval.

The Legislature divided the state into counties that serve as the local administrators of state services. All of California's 58 counties, even San Francisco, have LAFCOs. For example, Santa Barbara County has the Santa Barbara LAFCO and Yuba County has the Yuba LAFCO.

LAFCOs regulate all city and most special district boundaries, including:

- Airport districts
- California water districts
- Community services districts
- County sanitation districts
- County service areas
- County water districts
- County waterworks districts
- Fire protection districts
- Harbor and port districts
- Healthcare districts
- Irrigation districts
- Library districts
- Mosquito abatement districts
- Municipal utility districts
- Municipal water districts
- Pest control districts
- Police protection districts
- Public cemetery districts
- Public utility districts
- Reclamation districts
- Recreation and park districts
- Resource conservation districts
- Sanitary districts
- Sewer districts
- Sewer maintenance districts
- Vector control districts

LAFCOs *do not* regulate boundaries for counties and the following local governments:

- Air pollution control districts
- Air quality management districts
- Bridge or highway districts
- Community college districts
- Community facilities districts (Mello-Roos districts)
- Improvement districts
- Joint power agencies
- Joint highway districts
- Metropolitan water districts
- Unified or union high school library districts
- Permanent road divisions
- Redevelopment agencies
- School districts
- Separation of grade districts
- Service zones of special districts
- Special assessment districts
- Transit or rapid transit districts

Instead of using LAFCOs, the Legislature has passed alternative procedures to create and dissolve these agencies, and to change their boundaries.

**LAFCOs are Local Agency Formation Commissions.** Although the Legislature has the constitutional power to control city and special district boundaries by itself, it prefers to have these county-level commissions regulate local boundaries because they are closer to the people. Counties have vastly different people, geography, and governing institutions. Regulating local boundaries at the local level recognizes this diversity. Therefore, the Legislature authorizes a LAFCO in each county to determine the boundaries of the cities and special districts in that county.

## **WHAT A LAFCO IS NOT**

Local governments in California are divided into five categories: counties, cities, special districts, school districts, and miscellaneous. Each category has certain powers and duties.

| <b>Entity</b>     | <b>Power</b>                                            |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Counties          | Police, Corporate, Tax                                  |
| Cities            | Police, Corporate, Tax                                  |
| Special Districts | Corporate, Tax                                          |
| School Districts  | Corporate, Tax                                          |
| Miscellaneous     | Police, Corporate, or Tax depending on their functions. |

***Police powers:*** ability to regulate private behavior to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.

***Corporate powers:*** ability to deliver public services and programs and build public works projects.

***Tax powers:*** ability to raise public revenue with taxes, assessments, or fees.

**A LAFCO is not a county agency.** The state's 58 counties are governmental entities that administer state programs and provide additional services. The governing body for every county is an elected board of supervisors, usually with five members. No county has a "Department of LAFCO" or "LAFCO agency." To contrast, Riverside County has the Department of Building and Safety, which answers to the county board of supervisors. The Department inspects buildings to make sure that they are seismically safe and that they comply with state and local building codes. Riverside LAFCO, however, does not fall under the jurisdiction of the board of supervisors, and it is not a subsidiary of the county.

**A LAFCO is not a city department or city agency.** California's 478 cities are municipal corporations that regulate and serve relatively small territories. The governing body for a city is a city council, which has five or more elected members. Although city officials sit on LAFCOs, no city or group of cities has direct authority over a LAFCO.

**A LAFCO is not a special district.** California's 3,400 special districts are government entities that provide specific services in defined locations. The governing body for a special district is a board of directors, sometimes called a board of trustees. Special districts deliver diverse services, including irrigation water, closed captioned television, and fire protection. Districts' service areas range from a single city block to a multi-county region. For example, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California serves 16 million people in over 5,200 square miles of six counties, while County Service Area #2 in Los Angeles County serves only 25 acres. To learn more about Special Districts, the Senate Local Government Committee has another Citizen's Guide called What's So Special About Special Districts.



**A word about school districts.** California has about 1,100 school districts (including community college districts) that provide just one service: public education. Though schools share similar characteristics with special districts, they differ in that the state government has a long history of ensuring public education at a state-wide level. Further, the state government primarily finances schools, whereas special districts receive their primary funding from taxes, fees, and assessments. LAFCOs do not regulate boundaries for school districts.

**Other miscellaneous local governments that may sound familiar include:**

- Joint powers authorities (JPAs) are formed by any two or more governmental entities (federal, state, or local) to provide a common service. Many are financing tools that let governmental agencies pool their scarce resources. Some run programs jointly. Councils of government (COGs) are JPAs.
- Special financing districts, such as Mello-Roos Act community facilities districts and benefit assessment districts, raise revenue from specific areas. Counties, cities, special districts, and schools districts use these financing districts to pay for public works and some public services.
- Redevelopment agencies are state agencies run by cities and counties to eliminate blight by promoting affordable housing and economic development.
- Regional agencies and state commissions that focus on a defined public topic in a specific regional area. Examples include air quality management districts and the California Coastal Commission.
- LAFCOs are not any of these.

LAFCOs fall into this category of ***miscellaneous*** local governments because they don't fit anywhere else. They have a specific purpose to regulate boundaries, but they are *not* counties, cities, or special districts.

## POWERS OF LAFCOs

LAFCOs have both **regulatory** and **planning** powers. They do not have corporate powers.

- LAFCOs use their regulatory powers to control city and special district boundaries.
- LAFCOs use their planning powers to influence land use.

**State law forbids LAFCOs from making direct land use decisions.** They cannot regulate the use of land, property development, or subdivisions design. For instance, Mendocino LAFCO cannot force the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors to zone land in the unincorporated Anderson Valley for agricultural use nor can the LAFCO overturn a subdivision decision made by the Fort Bragg city council.

**State law, however, requires LAFCOs to make indirect land use decisions.** When LAFCOs approve or deny proposed boundary changes, they influence land use. In other words, LAFCOs control the timing and location of land use because they control the boundaries of those local governments that make land use decisions and provide services for development. For example, if Tulare LAFCO approves the annexation of farmland to Lemon Cove Sanitary District, it indirectly promotes the conversion of agricultural land to urban uses by giving the landowner access to a public sewer service that is necessary for development.

LAFCOs engage in indirect land use decisions by controlling access to three types of public facilities and services:

1. **Growth inducing.** Growth inducing land use decisions provide infrastructure and services are essential to suburban and urban development: sewers, domestic water, structural fire protection, and flood control facilities. Without these growth inducing services and facilities, urban and suburban development is not feasible. By controlling where and when these services and facilities are available, LAFCOs influence development patterns.
2. **Growth supporting.** Growth supporting facilities and services affect the quality of life in developed areas. Where growth inducing decisions help and uninhabited area to develop, growth supporting decisions make development more attractive. Parks, libraries, harbors, and airports are a few of these nice amenities that improve the quality of life in developed areas. LAFCOs oversee the boundaries of cities and special districts that provide these growth supporting services.
3. **Non-growth related.** Non-growth related facilities and services do not influence patterns of suburban, urban, and rural growth. Hospital, mosquito abatement, and public cemetery districts all fall under this category. Again, LAFCO has the ability to regulate the boundary lines of cities and special districts that operate these facilities.

LAFCOs' planning activities include adopting and revising planning documents called **spheres of influence** for every city and for those special districts under the commissions' jurisdiction.

### ***What's a Sphere of Influence?***

A Sphere of Influence designates an agency's probable future physical boundary and service area. It is territory that a city or special district will annex in the future. It's also the area where the local government will build facilities and deliver services sometime in the future. A sphere of influence is often bigger than a local government's current jurisdiction.

LAFCOs must consider these factors when determining spheres of influence:

- Present and planned land uses.
- Present and probable need for public facilities and services.
- Present and probable future capacity of public facilities and services.
- Existence of any social or economic communities of interest, if relevant.

LAFCOs may recommend boundary changes based on spheres of influence. Any person or local government may also request an amendment to a sphere of influence. The request reserves a chance to be heard at a public hearing, and the commissioners have the final vote on whether or not to amend the sphere of influence.

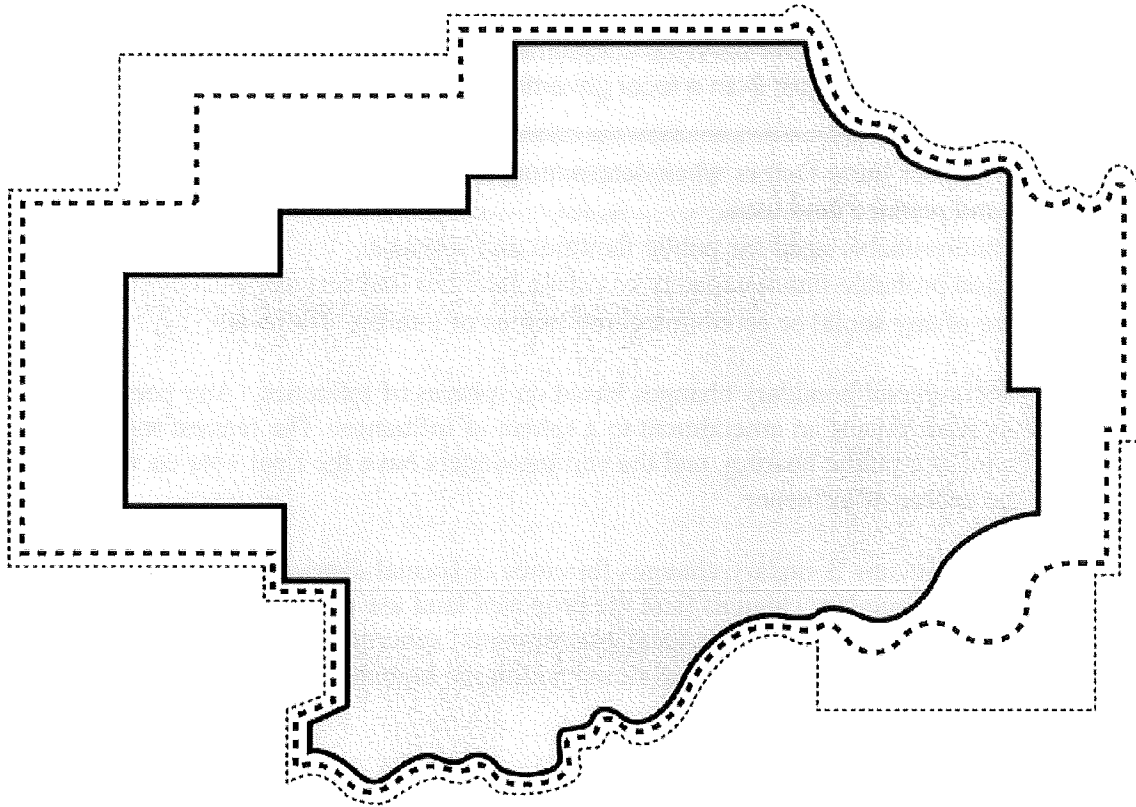
Whenever LAFCOs review boundary changes for cities or special districts, the commissioners consider whether the boundary changes (and the proposed land use decisions that would result from the change) are consistent with the local governments' spheres of influence. Moreover, LAFCOs can recommend and suggest conditional additional boundary changes, based upon the spheres of influence.

Before a commission revises cities and special districts' sphere of influence, a municipal service review (MSR) is prepared. In conducting an MSR, LAFCOs must review all of the agencies that provide the public services within the study area.

The Hertzberg bill required LAFCOs to revise the *spheres of influence* every five years. Logically, LAFCOs must also revise the MSRs every five years – some time before revising a *sphere of influence*.

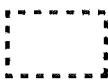
A diagram showing the relationship between a city's existing boundary and its sphere of influence appears on page 9.

## Theoretical Relationship Between a City's Planning Area and Sphere of Influence



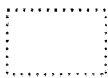
**Current City Limits:**

Encompasses incorporated territory where land use is controlled by the city.



**City's Sphere of Influence:**

Adopted by the LAFCO, encompasses the incorporated and unincorporated territory that is the city's ultimate service area.



**City's Planning Area:**

Encompasses incorporated and unincorporated territory bearing a relation to the city's planning. Where desirable, the planning area may extend beyond the sphere of influence.



## **THE REASONS FOR BOUNDARIES**

Why should LAFCOs regulate boundaries in the first place?

Boundary lines have importance because they:

- Assign physical space.
- Designate land use authority.
- Define taxing powers.
- Establish corporate powers.

**LAFCOs assign *physical space* to local governments and thereby define a city's or special district's identity.**

For example, the City of Redding lies along the Sacramento River and the foothills of the Coastal and the Cascade Ranges surround the city. The eastern side of the city is relatively flat while the western edge has hills as tall as 1,200 feet and ravines as deep as 200 feet. Redding's geography and physical space play a role in policy decisions that its city council must make.

***Land use in California is mutually exclusive.***

That's legalese for "what's my turf is on my turf, and what's on your turf is your turf." Mutual exclusivity explains why the Redding City Council can approve a new subdivision in its jurisdiction but not in the unincorporated territory of Shasta County.

**Boundaries define which local governments have *taxing powers* over a certain area.**

For example, the City of Sausalito is located in the County of Marin. Both the city and the county charge a 10% transient occupancy tax, commonly known as a "hotel tax." If a tourist stays at a hotel in Sausalito, the City receives the revenue from the tax. If, however, someone stays at a hotel in the unincorporated part of Marin County, the County gets the tax revenue. These "site-specific taxes" are known as *situs* taxes because local governments impose and collect them within their defined boundaries.

**Boundary lines decide which local governments have *corporate powers*, or the authority to "do things," in a certain area.**

For example, the Richvale Irrigation District (Butte County) has the corporate power to build and maintain water facilities for agricultural irrigation. The District, however, cannot provide water to farmers outside its jurisdiction.

## TYPES OF BOUNDARY CHANGES

Sometimes, local officials want to change their boundaries so they can serve additional areas, gain taxing powers, or encourage new development. Before a boundary change can occur, a person, group, or local government must submit a proposal to LAFCO. The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act calls a single boundary change in one proposal a *change of organization*. State law defines all nine changes of organization.

### **1. Annexation**

An annexation occurs when a city or district *attaches* additional territory to its boundary.

The City of Laguna Hills (Orange County) annexed territory because the property owners benefited from an increase in municipal services while the City gained more revenues through situs-based taxes.

### **2. Detachment**

A detachment happens when territory *leaves* a city or district. If property owners become dissatisfied with their current provider of services, they may wish to separate themselves from their local government.

In 2002, the proposed detachments of the San Fernando Valley and Hollywood from the City of Los Angeles failed when the ballot measures didn't get enough votes. Detachments of inhabited areas from cities are pretty rare.

### **3. Incorporation**

Incorporation means the *formation* of a new city. Most cities incorporate for two reasons: to control land use decisions and to receive local revenue. At least 500 people must live in the area to be incorporated.

Some of California's oldest cities existed before the state joined the union; San Diego was founded in 1769. Others incorporated as recently as 2002, such as Rancho Cordova in Sacramento County. Today the state has 478 incorporated cities, and 90% of all Californians live in cities.

### **4. Disincorporation**

Disincorporation *terminates* a city's official existence. This rarely occurs because people generally identify with their cities and prefer keeping land use decisions at the local level.

The last disincorporation was the City of Cabazon in Riverside County in the early 1970s.

### **5. Formation**

Formation of a special district is analogous to a *city incorporation*. Special districts come into existence because people want a specific service and decide that a special district would be the most effective provider.

In 1887, a group of farmers in Stanislaus County formed the state's first special district, the Turlock Irrigation District, to meet their agricultural needs. The number of special districts increased dramatically over the last 115 years because of population growth and service demands.

## Dissolution

The dissolution of a special district parallels the *disincorporation of a city*. A district gets the axe and no longer has corporate powers.

The Fallbrook Sanitary District used to provide sewer services in San Diego County. When the District dissolved in 1994, the Fallbrook Public Utilities District took over the former District's services.

## 7. Consolidation

A consolidation occurs either when two or more cities join together into a single city, or when two or more special districts of the same type unite into a single district. A consolidation may not occur with two districts formed under different principal acts.

The Fire Protection District Law of 1987 is the principal act for most fire districts. Because the Freedom Fire Protection District and the Salsipuedes Fire Protection District (Santa Cruz County) share the same principal act, they could consolidate. Although the Ventura Fire Protection District and the Simi Valley Cemetery District are both in Ventura County, Ventura LAFCO can't approve a consolidation of these districts because they have different principal acts. The last cities to consolidate were Alviso and San Jose in the early 1970s.

## 8. Merger

A merger happens when a special district loses its autonomy and a city takes over its service operations. A city may establish a separate department to maintain the former special district's services, or the district's services may be absorbed into a current agency or department.

The Encinitas Fire Protection District (San Diego County) merged with the City of Encinitas in 1995. The District disappeared and the City now runs its own fire department.

## 9. Subsidiary District

Cities can also establish subsidiary districts, where the city council serves as the district's board of directors. The city council becomes the *ex officio* board of directors. Although the subsidiary district has the same governing body as the city, the district remains a separate governmental entity with its own corporate powers.

The Oceanside Small Craft Harbor District is a subsidiary district of the City of Oceanside (San Diego County). The members of the Oceanside City Council serve as the District's board of directors.

Merging a district into a city occurs only when the district's territory is entirely within city limits. A city can establish a subsidiary district if at least 70% of the district's territory is within the city's limits.

### ***A final note:***

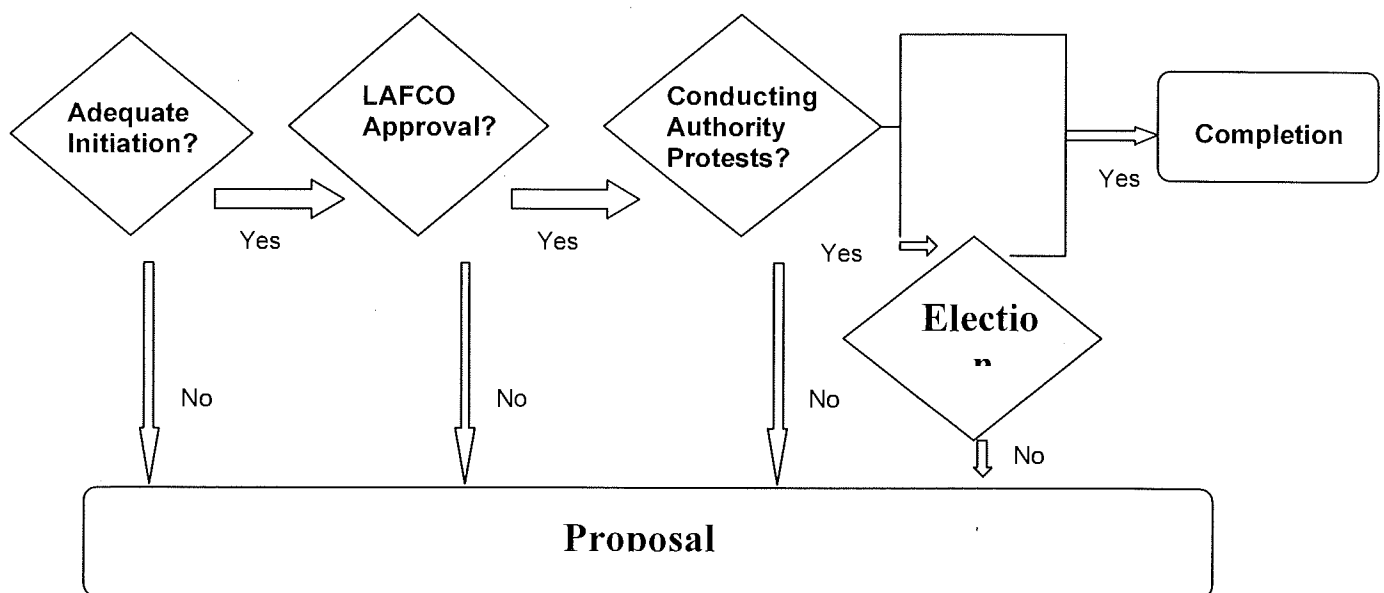
Combining two or more boundary changes in one proposal is a **reorganization**. If the City of Bishop (Inyo County) wanted to annex an acre of unincorporated land, and simultaneously detaches that acre from the fire district and the flood control district, the Inyo LAFCO would collect all three boundary changes into a single reorganization. In other words, a reorganization is merely a way to package several related changes of organization into a single proceeding.

## PROCEDURES OF LAFCO

Every change of organization or reorganization requires four, sometimes five, steps:

- Initiation
- LAFCO Review
- Conducting Authority Actions
- Possible Election
- Completion

### Simple LAFCO Procedure





## **Initiation**

Initiation begins the process for a change of organization or reorganization. An initiation may begin in one of three ways: *by petition, by resolution, or by LAFCO.*

### **Initiation by petition:**

Occurs when either registered voters or landowners in the affected territory request a boundary change. Usually registered voters sign a petition circulated in an inhabited area while landowners do so in uninhabited areas. However, for landowner-voter special districts only landowners sign the petitions, even if the area is inhabited.

Before a LAFCO reviews any proposal, anywhere from 5% to 25% of the affected voters or landowners, depending upon the type of boundary change, must sign a petition. For example, a city annexation requires at least 5% of the registered voters who live within the annexation area to sign the petition, and an incorporation needs at least 25% of the voters within the proposed incorporated area to sign a petition.

Petitioners for a reorganization must get the required number of signatures to satisfy all voter requirements. For example, a petition for a reorganization that involve both a district annexation (5%) and a city incorporation (25%) requires signatures from both affected areas. In practical terms, the higher minimum requirement, or 25%, applies.

### **Initiation by resolution:**

Occurs when the governing body of an affected local agency proposes a change of organization or reorganization. Any city or special district that overlaps the affected territory is an affected local agency. A county is always an affected agency because its boundaries include all of the cities and special districts in that county. Therefore, the county board of supervisors can initiate any boundary change in its county.

### **Initiation by LAFCO:**

May occur for special district consolidations, dissolutions, mergers, subsidiary districts, or related reorganizations. LAFCOs can't initiate district annexations or detachments, and can't initiate any city boundary changes. Originally, LAFCOs had only a reactive role regarding boundary changes because the commissions acted on proposals submitted by other agencies or voters. During the recession in the early 1990s, however, the Legislature decided that reducing the number of special districts could save scarce revenues. Few LAFCOs have used this power.

## **LAFCO Review**

Once a group of voters, an affected local agency, or LAFCO submits a proposal, the commission reviews it. LAFCO review has three stages: *staff report and recommendation, a public hearing, and a final decision.*

**Staff Report:**

Every LAFCO has an executive officer (chief staff person) who prepares reports and recommendations for the commissioners. LAFCOs support their own executive officer; most LAFCOs appoint their own staff, but some contract with their county governments for these staff services.

Before LAFCO can consider a proposal, its staff must determine two things:

- If initiated by petition, whether the proposal obtained the required number of signatures.
- If the affected local governments have agreed to an exchange of property taxes.

When LAFCO reviews a proposed city incorporation, it must look at the fiscal effect on the county government. Under the state's *situs* laws, a newly incorporated city receives local taxes instead of the county (including property taxes, transient occupancy taxes, and others). If LAFCO determines that an incorporation is *revenue neutral*, meaning a county would not substantially suffer from revenue losses, the incorporation may proceed. If LAFCO determines an incorporation would substantially cut a county's tax base, LAFCO must deny the proposal and the city cannot incorporate. However, LAFCO can approve a city incorporation if it imposes terms and conditions that achieve revenue neutrality.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires LAFCOs to review the environmental effects of proposed boundary changes. Depending upon the change of organization, LAFCO might require an environmental impact report (EIR).

Within 30 days of receiving of a proposal, LAFCO staff decides that an application is either:

- Not complete, and sends the proposal back to the proponents.
- Complete, and issues a certificate of filing, and set a LAFCO hearing within 90 days.

Before the LAFCO hearing, the executive officer prepares a written report and recommendation for the commission. The report goes to all LAFCO commissioners, all affected local agencies, and other persons named in the application to receive a report. LAFCO's staff must give public notice at least 15 days before a public hearing.

**Public Hearing:**

At the public hearing, the LAFCO commissioners listen to testimony and debate the proposed boundary change. The LAFCO can approve or deny the application. If LAFCO approves, it can attach *terms and conditions*. Terms and conditions spell out the boundary changes, details, such as property tax transfers, water use priorities, and other necessary details. Terms and conditions cannot directly regulate land use, property development, or subdivision requirements, but they can indirectly regulate land use, as explained on pages 7 and 8.

LAFCO doesn't need to hold a public hearing for annexations, detachments, or reorganizations consisting of annexations and detachments if all of the affected landowners consent to the boundary change.

**Final Decision:**

The commission must make its final decision within 35 days of the hearing's conclusion. The commissioners have three choices:

- Approve the proposal.
- Approve the proposal with conditions.
- Deny the proposal.

If LAFCO denies a proposal, it fails and all proceedings cease. If LAFCO approves a proposal or approves with conditions, the commission adopts a resolution that spells out the terms and conditions for the boundary change. The proposal moves to the next stage, a hearing by the conducting authority to measure protests.

**Conducting Authority Actions**

Once LAFCO approves a boundary change, it acts as the conducting authority and holds another public hearing to measure protests. LAFCO can either hold this hearing or allow its executive officer to run the hearing.

LAFCO can waive this additional public hearing if all three conditions are met:

- The affected territory is uninhabited.
- All of the landowners in the affected territory give their written consent.
- All affected local agencies give their written consent.

At the conducting authority's public hearing, any registered voter or landowner within the affected territory can protest the proposed boundary change. When the hearing ends, the conducting authority counts the protests and adopts a formal resolution that does one of the following:

- Orders the boundary change without an election.
- Orders the boundary change, subject to voter approval.
- Stops the boundary change because of the protests.

The number of protests determines whether or not the boundary change requires voter approval. The level of protest required for an election follows the "0-25-50% rule."

- If less than 25% of the registered voters or landowners protest, the conducting authority orders the boundary change without an election.
- If the protests are between 25% and 50%, the conducting authority must approve the boundary change, but the proposal must also go to an election for voter approval.
- If 50% or more of the registered voters or landowners protest, the conducting authority must terminate the boundary change and the proposal fails.

### **Possible Election**

Although the courts say that there is no constitutional right to vote on local boundary changes, state law requires an election in some cases. City incorporations, disincorporations, and consolidations always require voter approval. Annexations, detachments, district consolidations, dissolutions, mergers, and subsidiary districts may require elections, if enough voters protest at the conducting authority's public hearing. District formations may require an election depending on the district's principal act. A vote to confirm a boundary change may occur at a primary, general, or special election.

If there was enough protest, the conducting authority calls for an election and the voters decide the fate of a proposed boundary change. If a majority (50% or more) of voters approve, the proposal passes and the boundary change occurs. If less than a majority (less than 50%) of voters confirm, the proposal fails and no boundary change occurs. Only voters in the affected territory vote. For a proposed city annexation, only the registered voters in the area proposed to be annexed to the city can vote. If a proposal is a reorganization that affects several local agencies, the registered voters in each of the affected areas participate.

### **Completion**

Completion of a boundary change happens only if LAFCO, the conducting authority, and, if necessary, the voters, approve. Most of the completion process involves paperwork. The executive officer makes sure that the conducting authority's resolution complies with LAFCO's resolution. If it is in compliance, the executive officer issues a certificate of completion, which the County Recorder then files. The affected local agencies recognize completion of the jurisdictional changes, which includes property and sales tax transfers, police and fire protection responsibilities, planning and inspection controls, and other terms and conditions.

For any change of organization or reorganization to occur, four, or sometimes, five steps must occur:

- Initiation
- LAFCO Review
- Conducting Authority Actions
- Possible Election
- Completion

Several LAFCOs offer guidebooks that contain useful information about local practices and additional requirements. LAFCOs are required to post their policies, procedures, and forms on Internet websites. One way to find a specific LAFCO's website is to search the website maintained by the California Association of LAFCOs at [www.calafco.org](http://www.calafco.org).

## **WHO SERVES ON LAFCOs?**

Because LAFCOs control local boundaries, they indirectly influence the state's political and the physical landscape. Yet, very few Californians actually know who governs LAFCOs. Fortunately, the membership of most LAFCOs is easy to understand.

### **Standard Membership**

LAFCO members are called *commissioners*. LAFCO commissioners are not directly elected to serve on these commissions, but most of them are locally elected officials. When the Legislature created LAFCOs in the 1960s, the standard membership was five commissioners: two county supervisors, two city council members or mayors, and one public member. In the 1970s, state law made it possible for LAFCOs to expand this membership by adding two representatives of independent special districts. Now, about half of the LAFCOs have commissioners representing special districts.

Each county's board of supervisors appoints two of its members to serve on LAFCO. The county supervisors also select a third supervisor as an alternate.

In counties with two or more cities, there is a "city selection committee" composed of the cities' mayors. The city selection committee appoints two elected city officials (city council members or mayors) and one alternate to serve on LAFCO.

In 28 counties, the LAFCOs also have special district members. An "independent special district selection committee" composed of the presiding officers of each independent district appoints two district board members and one alternative to serve on LAFCOs.

The four (or six) appointed LAFCO commissioners choose the fifth (or seventh) commissioner, a public member, and one alternate. Professors, civic activists, and former elected officials often serve as public members on LAFCOs.

### **Special Membership**

Rules always have exceptions. Some LAFCOs have special membership formulas. Three counties, Alpine, Mariposa, and Trinity have no incorporated cities, so their LAFCOs consist of three county supervisors and two public members. The three supervisors appoint the other two commissioners and one alternate.

Some counties, such as Sierra County, have only one incorporated city. Their LAFCOs have two county supervisors, one city council member, and two public members. The three elected officials appoint the two members of the public and one alternate.



Sparsely populated counties sometimes combine these special formulas. Trinity LAFCO, for example, has seven commissioners even though Trinity County has no incorporated cities. Three commissioners come from the board of supervisors, two commissioners come from special districts, and two commissioners, appointed by the other five, come from the public at large.

### **Specified Membership**

Of course, exceptions also have exceptions. For reasons relating to local politics, geography, and population, some LAFCOs have unique membership formulas. For example:

*Santa Clara* LAFCO has five members, with one of the city seats reserved for the City of San José. *Sacramento* LAFCO has seven commissioners, with one of the city seats reserved for the City of Sacramento. *San Diego* LAFCO has eight members, with an extra city seat for the City of San Diego. *Los Angeles* LAFCO has nine commissioners, with an extra city seat for the City of Los Angeles and an extra public member from the San Fernando Valley.

Most LAFCOs have five or seven commissioners. Most commissioners are locally elected officials, who are appointed to serve on LAFCO.

- Two LAFCO commissioners come from a county's board of supervisors.
- Two LAFCO members are mayors or council members of cities within the county.
- In about half of the LAFCOs, two commissioners come from the independent special districts in the county.
- One member comes from the public at large.

LAFCO membership changes. The best way to find out the composition of your LAFCO is to call the commission's executive officer. Or, check the CALAFCO website.

## WHO PAYS FOR LAFCOs?

Until 2000, state law required the county governments to pay for LAFCOs. Based on the recommendations of the Commission on Local Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the Legislature required cities and independent special districts to share the counties' fiscal burden. Each sector (county, city, district) pays one-third of a LAFCO's budget. Where there is no independent special district representation on the LAFCO, the county and cities split the funding; fifty-fifty. Statutory formulas allocate the cities' share among the cities and the independent special districts' share among the districts. Local officials can negotiate alternative formulas.

State law allows a LAFCO to charge *fees* to recover its costs of reviewing boundary changes. Most LAFCOs require the proponents to pay these fees when they apply for the boundary change, regardless if the applicants are voters, property owners, or local agencies.

Fees vary depending upon the change of organization involved and the size of the affected area, but they can't exceed the reasonable cost of providing the service. For example, the Orange County LAFCO charges \$1,150 for a simple, small annexation, but \$7,900 for annexations of 100 acres or more.

- LAFCOs can charge fees.
- Fees can't exceed the reasonable cost of the service.

To find out what your LAFCO charges, contact the executive officer or check the website.

## THE HISTORY OF LAFCOs

California's population exploded during and after World War II. With the increased number of people, an increased demand for government services naturally followed. Unfortunately, the rapid growth led to poorly planned or hastily formed cities and special districts. Agricultural land quickly converted to urban use without proper research and review. The poor planning resulted in inefficient and expensive systems for delivering public services by too many small units of local government.

In 1959, Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown appointed the Commission on Metropolitan Area Problems. The Governor's commission studied the complexities of local government boundaries and recommended ways to solve the misuse of land resources. In 1963, the Legislature translated the commission's recommendations into the Knox-Nisbet Act, creating LAFCOs.

Three laws previously governed cities and special districts boundaries:

- ***The Knox-Nisbet Act of 1963***, which established LAFCOs with regulatory authority over local agency boundary changes.
- ***The District Reorganization Act of 1965 (DRA)***, which combined separate laws governing special district boundaries into a single law.
- ***The Municipal Organization Act of 1977 (MORGA)***, which consolidated various laws on city incorporation and annexation into one law.

Acknowledging that the three acts were not always consistent, the Legislature repealed them and enacted the ***Cortese-Knox Local Government Reorganization Act of 1985*** in their place. The Cortese-Knox Act brought the state's boundary laws for cities and districts together in a single, unified statute.

In 1997, the Legislature set up the Commission on Local Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The legislation directed the Commission to review current statutes, and recommend revisions to the laws that govern city, county, and special district boundary changes. In 2000, the Commission released its recommendations in a report entitled Growth Within Bounds.

The Legislature responded to Growth Within Bounds by passing the most important boundary reform bill since creating LAFCOs. Authored by Assembly Speaker Robert M. Hertzberg, AB 2838 (2000) incorporated many of the Commission's recommendations. A summary of the key changes appears in Appendix A on pages 28 and 29.

## **LAFCOs AND THE COURTS**

Because LAFCOs are the Legislature's agents with control over local boundaries, overturning a LAFCO's decision is not easy. There is no statewide boundary commission or appeals board. The main way to challenge a LAFCO decision is through the courts.

Before filing a lawsuit, however, any person or affected agency can ask a LAFCO to reconsider its boundary change decision. The commission hears the reconsideration request at a public meeting, and then decides to approve or deny the appeal. If LAFCO denies the appeal, the decision stands and the conducting authority's actions begin. If LAFCO approves the appeal, the commissions' new decision supersedes the old one. The new decision can completely terminate the proposed boundary change. Once LAFCO decides, there is no second appeal to the commission. A person or an agency then needs to go to the courts.

Property owners, voters, and public agencies can sue LAFCOs if they think the commissioners have violated state law. Some lawsuits have challenged the way that LAFCOs have followed the statutory procedures. Other suits challenged LAFCOs' compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Another way to attack a boundary change is through a "validation action," which asks a judge to rule on the validity of an annexation or other boundary change. In unusual cases, the California Attorney General can file a "quo warranto" lawsuit. Overruling a LAFCO decision in court is rarely easy.

The complex legal terms involved with court review can be confusing. The main thing to remember is that LAFCO decisions are very difficult to overrule because the courts often defer to a LAFCO because it's the Legislature's creation. The courts do not consider benefits, pitfalls, or alternatives (evidence) to a particular boundary change when someone sues a LAFCO.

## **COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT LAFCOs**

### **1. What's a LAFCO?**

LAFCOs are independent regulatory commissions that receive their powers directly from the California Legislature. LAFCOs regulate the boundaries of cities and most special districts. LAFCOs oversee local boundaries on behalf of the state government because they are closer to the people and because they are more efficient than having multiple local agencies controlling their own boundaries.

### **2. What do LAFCOs do?**

They regulate and they plan.

#### *Regulate.*

LAFCOs are the Legislature's "watchdogs" over boundary changes to encourage and provide well-ordered urban development. Whenever there's a proposal for a change of organization or reorganization (see "TYPES OF BOUNDARY CHANGES," page 11), LAFCO must review the proposal. The commission holds a public hearing and either approves or denies the proposal. LAFCO may attach additional terms and conditions. If LAFCO approves a proposal, there is another public hearing to measure protests and a possible election (see "PROCEDURES OF LAFCOs," page 13).

#### *Plan.*

LAFCOs adopt "spheres of influence" for cities and special districts, identifying those local agencies' future service areas and boundaries. Before LAFCOs adopt these spheres of influences they conduct "municipal service reviews." LAFCOs' regulatory decisions on boundary changes must be consistent with the adopted spheres of influence.

### **3. What's a "sphere of influence?"**

A sphere of influence is a planning document adopted by LAFCO that shows a city or special district's future boundary and service area (see "POWERS OF LAFCOs," page 7). In effect, a sphere of influence tells landowners, residents, and public officials where the LAFCO thinks a city or district will annex in the future. All boundary changes must be consistent with spheres of influence.

### **4. What's a "municipal service review?"**

A municipal service review (MSR) is a LAFCO study prepared before a commission revises cities and special districts' sphere of influence. In conducting an MSR, LAFCOs must review all of the agencies that provide the public services within the study area.

The Hertzberg bill required LAFCOs to revise the *spheres of influence*<sup>1</sup> every five years. Logically, LAFCOs must also revise the MSRs every five years --- some time before revising a *sphere of influence*.



The website [www.opr.ca.gov](http://www.opr.ca.gov) contains the Office of Planning and Research's (OPR) advisory "Service Review Guidelines."

## **5. Why are boundary changes important?**

Boundaries assign physical space and define the identities of local governments. For example, community leaders proposed to incorporate the City of Rancho Cordova (Sacramento County) partially because the new city limits help to define the community's identity.

Boundaries also determine which local government can tax an area. If a city's boundaries change by annexing more territory, the city's sales tax applies to the stores in that area.

Local governments have corporate powers, or the powers to "do stuff," within their defined boundaries. Local residents may ask LAFCO to annex their neighborhood to a mosquito abatement district so the district's programs can protect them from the West Nile virus (see "THE REASONS FOR BOUNDARIES," page 9).

## **6. Who controls the local boundaries that LAFCO doesn't?**

The state government has the ultimate control over the boundaries of all local governments and regional agencies. The Legislature has delegated to LAFCOs its power over city and district boundaries. For counties, however, the rules are different. County boards of supervisors can adjust their boundaries by agreeing to minor boundary changes. Forming a new county is more complicated because it involves a special County Boundary Review Commission appointed by the Governor.

For school districts, there is a committee on school district organization in every county that regulates their dividing lines.

State law allows counties, cities, school districts, and special districts to form their own internal financing district boundaries, such as Mello-Roos Act districts and benefit assessment districts.

Regional governments and commissions are established by statute to respond to a defined public policy interest. The Legislature creates these governments and can dissolve them or alter their boundaries.

## **7. Who runs LAFCOs?**

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act spells out LAFCO's membership. The standard membership for a LAFCO is two county supervisors, two city council members, and one public member. Half of the LAFCOs have two special district commissioners. Every LAFCO has an executive officer who prepares reports for the commissioners. To find out who serves on your LAFCO and who does the staff work, contact your commission.

## **8. Can I be on a LAFCO?**

Yes, in several ways. Any registered voter may run for county supervisor and city residents may run for the city council. Special districts also have elected governing boards. These local officials sit on LAFCO. If you don't wish to run for elected office, every LAFCO has at least one public member chosen by the other members. The commissioners probably won't pick a name out of a hat, so your best bet is to be politically involved in local affairs.

#### **9. What if I don't like a proposed boundary change? Can I protest or appeal?**

When voters, landowners, or some local government proposes a boundary change, LAFCO conducts an open and public hearing. If LAFCO approves the proposal, there is another public hearing to measure protests. You can oppose the proposal at both hearings. Some boundary changes require elections while others don't need voter confirmation unless there is a lot of protest (see "PROCEDURES OF LAFCOs," page 12). If LAFCO approves a boundary change, you can ask LAFCO to reconsider its decision (see "LAFCOs AND THE COURTS," page 24).

If there's an election on the boundary change, you can campaign and vote against the ballot measure. If there's no election or if the measure passes, it is possible to sue and challenge the boundary change in court (see "LAFCOs AND THE COURTS," page 24). To find out the details for filing a lawsuit, you will probably want to consult an experienced attorney.

#### **10. Does CEQA affect LAFCO?**

Yes. Though LAFCOs do not directly regulate land use, their decisions strongly influence land use. As a result, city annexations, certain detachments, and revisions to a local agency's sphere of influence are all subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

#### **11. Where can I get a copy of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act?**

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act starts with Section 56000 of the California Government Code. You can get the code at your county law library or over the internet at [www.sen.ca.gov](http://www.sen.ca.gov) under "Legislation." The California Assembly Local Government Committee publishes the Guide to Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000. A copy costs about \$10 and you can order one from Assembly Publications by calling (916) 319-3997.

#### **12. What did the Hertzberg bill do?**

Assembly Bill 2838 (Hertzberg, 2000) was the most important LAFCO reform bill in 40 years. The Hertzberg bill amended the statutes that give LAFCOs power over the boundaries of cities and special districts. Once known as the Cortese-Knox Act, the statute is now the "Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000." For a review of the bill's key changes, see Appendix A on pages 28 and 29.

### **13. Where can I get more information about LAFCOs?**

The best place to start is with your LAFCO's executive officer or staff. You can usually find LAFCO's number in the government pages of your telephone book. The commissions' office is generally in the county civic center or in close proximity, and most LAFCOs have a public hearing at least once a month. Another place to get good information is from the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO). The directory on CALAFCO's website lists the names and phone numbers of the commission's executive officers: [www.calafco.org](http://www.calafco.org).

## **IT'S TIME TO DRAW THE LINE**

A Citizen's Guide to LAFCOs

California's Local Agency Formation Commissions in California

### **APPENDICES**

## Appendix A

### **Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 AB 2838 (Hertzberg, 2000)**

AB 2838 contained the most important revisions to the state's law for local boundaries in 40 years. Here are the 10 most significant changes in AB 2838:

1. **Written Policies.** The Growth Within Bounds report recommended that legislators enact new statutory priorities to give more direction to LAFCOs. AB 2838 enacted more explicit statewide policies to guide LAFCOs (Government Code §56001). LAFCOs had until January 1, 2002 to adopt written policies and procedures to implement those statutory policies (Government Code §56300 [a]). Because many LAFCOs had already adopted written policies before the Hertzberg bill passed in 2000, some of them did not need to adopt new policies. Some LAFCOs with older policies decided to revise their written statements in light of AB 2838.
2. **Special District Representation.** When the Legislature created LAFCOs in 1963, the standard membership consisted of five members: two county supervisors, two city councilmembers or mayors, and one public member. In the early 1970s, the Legislature made it possible for LAFCOs to expand their membership by adding two representatives of independent special districts. The Commission on Local Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century recommended that special districts have an automatic option to add representatives. AB 2838 made it easier for special districts to gain LAFCO representation (Government Code §56332.5).
3. **Contribution Disclosure.** When the Commission on Local Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century learned that proponents of the San Fernando Valley secession attempt did not have to disclose the identity of their financial backers, it recommended that the Legislature require proponents to report campaign contributions. Instead, AB 2838 required each LAFCO to hold a public hearing to discuss the adoption of rules for the disclosure of contributions. LAFCOs with active boundary change proposals had until March 31, 2001, to hold their public hearings; the other LAFCOs had to hold their hearings within 90 days of receiving a proposal (Government Code §56100.1 and §56300 [b]).
4. **Lobbying Disclosure.** The Commission's Growth Within Bounds report also recommended that LAFCOs should follow uniform regulations regarding the disclosure of lobbying activities, similar to the regulations that apply to state appointed boards. AB 2838 authorized – but did not require – LAFCOs to adopt local lobbying disclosure and reporting requirements. LAFCOs with active boundary change proposals had until March 31, 2001, to hold their public hearings; the other LAFCOs had to hold their hearings within 90 days of receiving a proposal (Government Code §56300 [c]).
5. **Independent Executive Officer.** Before AB 2838, state law allowed each LAFCO to appoint its own Executive Officer. If LAFCO did not appoint an independent Executive



Officer, the former state law required the county administrator or county clerk to serve as the LAFCO Executive Officer. In Growth Within Bounds the Commission on Local Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century declared that independent staffing would “allay any perceived bias.” AB 2838 required each LAFCO to appoint its own Executive Officer (Government Code §56384 [a]). A LAFCO may appoint a county official to serve as its Executive Officer.

6. **Independent Legal Counsel.** Before AB 2838, state law allowed each LAFCO to appoint its own legal counsel. If the LAFCO did not appoint its own legal counsel, the former state law required the County Counsel to act as the LAFCO’s legal counsel. In Growth Within Bounds the Commission on Local Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century declared that independent staffing would “allay any perceived bias.” AB 2838 required each LAFCO to appoint its own legal counsel (Government Code §56384 [b]). A LAFCO may appoint the County Counsel to serve as its legal counsel.
7. **Spheres of Influence.** For more than 30 years, state law required LAFCOs to adopt a *sphere of influence* for each city and special district in its county. A sphere of influence designates the city or district’s future service area and boundaries. LAFCOs’ boundary decisions must be consistent with the adopted spheres of influence. The Commission on Local Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century noted that while the law required LAFCOs to periodically review and update their spheres of influence, there was no specific statutory schedule for these revisions. AB 2838 requires LAFCOs to update the spheres of influence for all cities and special districts every five years. The first deadline is January 1, 2006 (Government Code §56425 [f]).
8. **Municipal Service Reviews.** The Growth Within Bounds report also recommended that LAFCOs undertake periodic service reviews as they prepare to adopt and amend their spheres of influence. AB 2838 required LAFCOs to conduct service reviews of the municipal services provided by cities and special districts (Government Code §56430).
9. **Sharing LAFCOs’ Budgets.** Until AB 2838, state law required the county governments to finance LAFCOs’ budgets. Based on the recommendations of the Commission on Local Governance in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, AB 2838 required cities and independent special districts to share this fiscal burden with the county governments. Under the standard statutory formula, each sector (county, city, district) pays one-third; where there is no independent special district representation on LAFCO, the county and the cities split the funding. Statutory formulas allocate the cities’ share among the cities and the independent special districts’ share among the districts. Local officials can negotiate alternative formulas (Government Code §56381).
10. **Processing Fees.** Even before AB 2838, state law allowed a LAFCO to charge processing fees to recover its costs. AB 2838 clarified a LAFCO’s ability to charge fees to offset the costs of appointing its own Executive Officer and legal counsel (Government Code §56383 and §56384).

## **Appendix B: Web Resources on LAFCOs**

The World Wide Web delivers a lot of information if you know where to look. Here are some useful websites if you want to learn more about LAFCOs:

*California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions*  
[www.calafco.org](http://www.calafco.org)

This website contains a directory that provides contact information for CALAFCO's 58 member LAFCOs. It also has useful documents and links under "Resources."

### **California State Legislature**

[www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)

The Legislature's official and nonpartisan website gives you free access to legislative records and a full set of state statutes, including the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act

### **California Senate Local Government Committee**

[www.sen.ca.gov/locgov](http://www.sen.ca.gov/locgov)

The Committee's website contains the text of this Citizen's Guide, plus a wide variety of useful information about local governments: counties, cities, special districts, redevelopment agencies, and joint powers agencies.

### **Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR)**

[www.opr.ca.gov](http://www.opr.ca.gov)

The Office of Planning and Research (OPR) is a part of the Governor's Office. Among other things, it assists the Governor and the Administration in land use planning, research, and liaison with local governments.

For information on LAFCO Reform, start by locating "Publications and Forms." After clicking on this link, select "LAFCO Reform." This section is divided into the following subheadings: LAFCO Reform General Background, LAFCO Service Review Guidelines, LAFCO Incorporation Guidelines. From there, select the appropriate document you wish to view.

## References to Questions

The section entitled “Common Questions about LAFCOs” on pages 23-26 tries to anticipate many of your questions about LAFCOs. Here is a list of the references used to answer the questions.

Statutes are listed by code, followed by section. For example, “Government Code §56001” means that you can find the statute under Section 56001 of the Government Code. When reading the code, start by looking at the back of the book in the “pocket part.” The pocket part has the latest versions of the statutes, including recent amendments and deletions.

### Question #1:

Government Code §56001.  
Government Code §56325.

### Question #2:

Government Code §56300.  
Government Code §56426.  
Government Code §56841.  
Government Code §56843.  
Government Code §56844.  
Government Code §56852.  
Timberidge Enterprises, Inc. v. City of Santa Rosa, 86 Cal. App. 3d  
873 (1978).  
City of Ceres v. City of Modesto, 274 Cal. App. 2d 545 (1969).

### Question #3:

Education Code §35500.  
Government Code §23200.  
Government Code §23202.  
Government Code §23233.  
Government Code §23248.

### Question #4:

Government Code §56325.  
Government Code §56384.

### Question #5:

Government Code §56325.  
Government Code §56337.

### Question #6:

Civil Procedure Code §860.  
Civil Procedure Code §863.  
Government Code §56840.  
Government Code §57050.

Government Code §57051.  
Government Code §57075.  
Government Code §57077.  
Government Code §57078.  
Government Code §57081.

Question #7:

Government Code §56425.  
Government Code §56428.

Question #8:

Public Resources Code §21000, et seq.  
Bozung v. Local Agency Formation Com, 13 Cal. 3d 263 (1975).  
Pistoresi v. City of Madera, 138 Cal. App. 3d 284 (1982).  
People ex rel. Younger v. Local Agency Formation Com, 81 Cal. App. 3d 464 (1978).  
Simi Valley Recreation & Park Dist. v. Local Agency Formation Com, 51 Cal. App. 3d 648 (1975).

Question #10:

Government Code §56000 et seq.

Question #11:

Government Code §56425  
Government Code §56430

Question #12:

Government Code §56076

Question #13:

[www.calafco.org](http://www.calafco.org)

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# County Structure & Powers

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There is a fundamental distinction between a county and a city. Counties lack broad powers of self-government that California cities have (e.g., cities have broad revenue generating authority and counties do not). In addition, legislative control over counties is more complete than it is over cities. Unless restricted by a specific provision of the state Constitution, the Legislature may delegate to the counties any of the functions which belong to the state itself. Conversely, the state may take back to itself and resume the functions which it has delegated to counties (e.g., state funding of trial courts).

## Types of Counties

The California Constitution recognizes two types of counties: general law counties and charter counties. General law counties adhere to state law as to the number and duties of county elected officials. Charter counties, on the other hand, have a limited degree of "home rule" authority that may provide for the election, compensation, terms, removal, and salary of the governing board; for the election or appointment (except the sheriff, district attorney, and assessor who must be elected), compensation, terms, and removal of all county officers; for the powers and duties of all officers; and for consolidation and segregation of county offices. A charter does not give county officials extra authority over local regulations, revenue-raising abilities, budgetary decisions, or intergovernmental relations.

A county may adopt, amend, or repeal a charter with majority vote approval. A new charter or the amendment or repeal of an existing charter may be proposed by the Board of Supervisors, a charter commission, or an initiative petition. The provisions of a charter are the law of the state and have the force and effect of legislative enactments. There are currently 44 general law counties and 14 charter counties. They are as follows:

**General Law Counties:** Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Plumas, Riverside, San Benito, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Ventura, Yolo, Yuba

**Charter Counties:** Alameda, Butte, El Dorado, Fresno, Los Angeles, Orange, Placer, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Tehama

## County Powers

The California Constitution authorizes a county to make and enforce local ordinances that do not conflict with general laws. A county also has the power to sue and be sued, purchase and hold land, manage or dispose of its properties, and levy and collect taxes authorized by law. Many additional powers have been granted to counties by the Legislature. The powers of a county can only be exercised by the Board of Supervisors or through officers acting under the authority of the Board or authority conferred by law. In addition, the Board must follow the procedural requirements in the statutes or its actions will not be valid. For example, if the Legislature has provided a method by which a county may abandon a road, that method must be followed. Also, where state law requires land use zoning by an ordinance, this statutorily prescribed method is binding on the county. On the other hand, where the law does not specifically prescribe a method for accomplishing a task, the county may adopt any reasonably suitable means.

## The Board of Supervisors

Unlike the separation of powers that characterizes the federal and state governments, the Board of Supervisors is both the legislative and the executive authority of the county. It also has quasi-judicial authorities.

## Board Structure

Government Code Section 25000 requires each county to have a Board of Supervisors consisting of five members. The section applies to general law counties and to charter counties, except where the charter provides otherwise (e.g., San Francisco City and County has eleven members and one mayor). A board member must be a registered voter of, and reside in, the district from which the member is elected. A county charter can provide a local method for filling vacancies on the Board of Supervisors. In the absence of such a provision, the Governor appoints a successor.

A majority of the members of the Board constitutes a quorum for conducting business. A majority of all the members must concur on any act of the Board. A Board may enact rules governing how abstentions are counted. Some extraordinary actions, like passing emergency ordinances, require four votes.

An official act of the Board of Supervisors can only be performed in a regularly or specially convened meeting. The individual members have no power to act for the county merely because they are members of the Board of Supervisors. Meetings of the Board of Supervisors are subject to the restrictions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950 et. seq.). With limited exceptions, the Brown Act requires that all Board of Supervisors meetings be open and public. The county clerk, whose duty it is to record all proceedings of the Board of Supervisors, is the ex officio clerk of the Board, unless the Board appoints its own separate clerk. The Board must keep a record of its decisions and the proceedings of all regular and special meetings.

## **Board of Supervisor Powers**

The Board of Supervisors exercises its power and authority by undertaking the following roles: executive, legislative, and quasi-judicial.

### **Executive Role**

The Board performs its executive role when it sets priorities for the county. The Board oversees most county departments and programs and annually approves their budgets; supervises the official conduct of county officers and employees; controls all county property; and appropriates and spends money on programs that meet county residents' needs.

### **Supervision of County Officials**

The Board of Supervisors may supervise the official conduct of county officers and require them faithfully to discharge their duties, but the Board cannot add to those duties or relieve the officers from these obligations. The Board may not direct or control the day-to-day operations of a county department, or otherwise limit the exercise of discretion vested by law in a particular officer.

The supervision of elected officers by the Board of Supervisors is somewhat more limited. The district attorney, as public prosecutor, is a state or quasi-state officer and is under the direct supervision of the attorney general. Consequently, the Board of Supervisors does not have supervisory authority over the district attorney's prosecutorial duties. On the other hand, the Board has general supervisory authority over the district attorney to the extent that the district attorney functions as a county officer.

The Board of Supervisors may supervise the sheriff to the extent that the sheriff acts as a county officer, and may investigate the officer's performance of county duties. However, in enforcing state law, the sheriff is acting as a peace officer of the state and is under the direct supervision of the attorney general. In addition to being an officer of the county, the sheriff is also an officer of the courts. While acting in that capacity, the sheriff is not under the supervision of the Board, and the Board may not investigate the sheriff in connection with such duties. The assessor is also under state control in many respects, but not to the same degree as are the district attorney and sheriff.

The Board of Supervisors has a unique relationship with the courts. The Board shares funding responsibility for the courts with the state and cannot fully control their budget or operations. As a court of record (i.e., maintain records of proceedings), the court has all powers (i.e., inherent powers as defined in the law) reasonably required to enable it to perform its judicial functions efficiently, to protect its dignity, independence, and integrity, and to make its lawful actions effective. But inherent powers have limits. The court may not exercise its powers in such a manner as to thwart, nullify, or frustrate legitimate legislative bodies. To this end, there are some conditions on the court's ability to order the Board of Supervisors to provide funding.

## County Litigation

The Board of Supervisors also has the power to direct and control the conduct of litigation in which the county or any public entity which the Board governs is a party, and by a two-thirds vote, it may employ outside attorneys to assist the county counsel in conducting such litigation. The decision to hire special counsel is up to the supervisors.

## Relationship of the Board of Supervisors to the Civil Grand Jury

The Civil Grand Jury, when working in concert with the Board of Supervisors and the county executive, can prove to be a valuable tool to audit county programs and provide constructive recommendations for the improved operation of local government.

Basically, the Civil Grand Jury in California serves two basic purposes: "(1) to weigh the allegations of misconduct against public officials and determine whether to present formal accusations requesting their removal from office and (2) to act as the public's watchdog by investigating and reporting upon the affairs of local government. Of these functions, the watchdog role is by far the one most often played by the modern grand jury in California." (McClatchy Newspapers v. Superior Court (1988) 44 Cal.3d 1162, 1170.)

Statutory authority of the grand jury:

- To investigate all branches of county, city and special district governments to ensure they are being run in an efficient and honest manner, in the best interest of citizens it serves. Reports may be issued anytime during the year.
- To investigate and report on the operational and financial aspects of all offices within its jurisdiction, including an audit. This authorization extends to any incorporated city or joint powers agency. The grand jury may also report on county officials' records and accounts as ex-officio officers of any district.
- To investigate, at its option, any case of an inmate in the county jail on a criminal charge and not indicted. To investigate the condition and management of detention facilities within its jurisdiction.
- To investigate the willful or corrupt misconduct of public officers within its jurisdiction.
- To investigate all sales and transfers of land and matters of land ownership.
- To address the need for salary increases or decreases for county elected officials.

Responsibility of the Board of Supervisors: No later than 90 days after the report is submitted, the Board of Supervisors must comment to the presiding judge of the Superior Court on the findings and recommendations. An elected official or agency head with responsibility pertaining to an area addressed in the report shall respond in writing to the presiding judge, with a copy sent to the Board of Supervisors within 60 days. The subject of the grand jury report must respond to the findings in the following ways:

- The respondent agrees with the finding.
- The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reason(s).
- The respondent is taking the following action(s) to address the findings and recommendations of the grand jury report.

## Joint Powers Agreement/Joint Powers Agency-Authority

A Board of Supervisors may also establish a joint powers agreement and/or joint powers agency with another public agency. A joint powers agreement (JPA) is created where two or more local governments enter into a cooperative agreement to provide any service which either of them could provide on their own. A joint powers agreement involves mutually agreeing to specific conditions and terms which may limit each agency's ability to act independently, but it does not alter the basic structure of each agency's decision-making processes. These JPAs are fairly common; a sheriff's department may provide police services to a city, or a county and a city may form a JPA to jointly run an emergency dispatching center. A joint powers agency takes the concept of agreement and cooperation to a new level. Under California Government Code Section 6500, counties, cities, special districts, and other public agencies are allowed to enter into agreements which create new and distinct authorities. The new authorities have a separate operating board of directors which has the powers inherent in all of the participating agencies.



The powers of the authority can be general or specific, the term of the authority must be established, and other administrative decisions must be made (e.g., how the board meets and conducts its business). For example, two parties may agree to create a joint transit authority, where both parties contribute the necessary resources and the capital assets. Personnel may become employees of the new authority, and with a new operating board, policies may be independently set to create transportation services for both jurisdictions.

### **Legislative Role**

As the legislative body of the county, the Board of Supervisors may act by resolution, by board order, or by ordinance. A resolution of a Board is ordinarily not equivalent to an ordinance; it is usually a declaration about future purposes or proceedings of the Board or a policy statement by the Board. Resolutions are often used when specific findings are made by the Board of Supervisors. A board order is usually a directive from the Board of Supervisors to its subordinate county officers.

An ordinance is a local law adopted with all the legal formality of a statute. The California Constitution allows a county or city to make and enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary, and other ordinances and regulations that do not conflict with the state's own general laws. Most legislative acts, including using the police power, are adopted by ordinance. There are, however, numerous exceptions and specific state laws sometimes indicate whether the action requires an ordinance or resolution.

California Government Code Section 25120 et seq. specifies the form, content, and adoption process for county ordinances. For example, there are urgency ordinances (i.e., those required for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety) and ordinances which are statutorily required to have a noticed public hearing in order to be adopted (e.g., land use zoning or new fees).

### **County Revenue Authority**

Boards of Supervisors can raise local revenue by imposing or increasing a tax, an assessment, or a fee. Each of these local revenue sources has its own constitutional and statutory authority and unique laws governing its use. A county can only impose those taxes, assessments, and fees which the Legislature or the Constitution allow the county to impose and which are approved by either a simple or two-thirds majority of local voters per Propositions 13 and 62.

There are important differences between taxes, assessments, and fees. A tax is an involuntary charge against an individual or landowner which pays for public services regardless of the taxpayer's benefit. An assessment is an involuntary charge on land which pays for public improvements or services which directly benefits the taxpayer. All revenue generated by an assessment must be used for the improvements or services specified. A fee is a voluntary charge on an individual which cannot exceed the reasonable cost of providing the service.

After the California Supreme Court ruled in *Guardino* (12/95), a Board of Supervisors may not impose new taxes without a vote of the people. Subject to a vote, a Board may impose a utility users tax, a business license tax, and a transient occupancy tax (hotel or bed tax). If the proceeds from these taxes are designated for general purposes, majority voter approval is required. If the tax proceeds are restricted to special purposes, two-thirds voter approval is required. The Board has authority to impose taxes only within the unincorporated area. Proposition 218, passed in November, 1996, applies additional constraints to county taxing authority, as well as fees and assessments.

If a Board of Supervisors decides to impose or increase a specific tax, assessment, or fee, it must follow proper notice and hearing requirements. There are different posting and disclosure requirements for each of these types of local revenue sources. The Board asks both the clerk of the Board and the county counsel at the beginning of the process to ensure that it follows all public hearing and disclosure requirements.

### **Quasi-Judicial Role**

In its quasi-judicial role, the Board of Supervisors may settle claims made against the county and may examine and audit the accounts of all county officers as they relate to the management and disbursement of funds. The latter authority may be exercised with a subpoena to the county officer to bring all requested files to the Board. The Board may delegate the

subpoena power to a committee of its own members, but pursuant to state law, the Board may not otherwise delegate that power.

The Board of Supervisors also sits as a quasi-judicial body in the case of appeals of land use decisions and tax issues (i.e., may sit as assessment appeals board to decide questions regarding the value of property).

### **Other Duties – Intergovernmental Relations**

A county supervisor may serve in other capacities on various boards, commissions, or special districts. State statute authorizes, and in some cases mandates, that various services or functions be carried out by entities other than the Board of Supervisors. These entities, in addition to including locally elected officials, seek public participation and technical expertise:

- Councils of Government (COG)
- Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO)
- Special Districts
- Air Quality Management Districts (AQMD)
- Airport Land Use Commissions (ALUC)
- Joint Powers Authorities (JPA)

The roles and functions of these entities primarily relate to planning for future development and the associated service needs (e.g., water, sewer) and impacts (e.g., air quality, airport safety). Board members serving on one of these entities may find themselves making decisions on a variety of issues from regional planning to establishing spheres of influence for new cities or special districts within the county.

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## County Supervisor: Citizens in unincorporated areas do have a voice

KELCIE GREGA / 08 FEBRUARY 2018



### PREVIOUS ARTICLE

◀ Tax season phone scams return to the Verde Valley (/news/yavapai-county/21753-tax-season-phone-scams-return-to-the-verde-valley.html)

### NEXT ARTICLE

YCSO: Officials investigate apparent murder-suicide (/news/yavapai-county/21088-ycso-officials-investigate-apparent-murder-suicide.html) ▶

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Although residents of unincorporated areas in the Verde Valley are not governed by a local municipal operation, they still have a voice, said Yavapai County District 3 Supervisor Randy Garrison.

"They may not have a direct voice, but they still have a voice," he said. "If I have a constituent in an outside area who has a concern about their relationship with the city, we can get into the conversation and lobby for that citizen based on our partnerships and cooperative arrangement we have with the governmental entities [in the county]."

The county board has final approval for all zoning and use permits in unincorporated areas. Garrison represents Bridgeport, Village of Oak Creek, Verde Santa Fe and Verde Village. Yavapai County District 2 Supervisor Thomas Thurman represents Beaver Creek, Cornville, Lake Montezuma, Page Springs and Rimrock.

Unincorporated areas may not have their own municipal government, but many of them do have their own appointed representatives.

Cornville, for example, has the Cornville Community Association, and the Beaver Creek Community Association represents the unincorporated communities of Lake Montezuma and Rimrock. These organizations generally meet monthly and address community issues like neighborhood watch or planning and zoning.

Garrison describes the Village of Oak Creek's Big Park Regional Coordinating Council as having strong representation.

"They are representative of the needs and wants of that community," he said. "They have invested interest. They see a path to getting it done, so they participate."

Assistant County Administrator Jack Fields said the culture in the VOC is the reason for active community engagement.

Right or wrongly, they feel that they live in a unique environment and place in terms of scenery and development," Fields said. "They are driven together in that common belief."

## Current Lawyer Difficult To Deal With? Are You Being Mistreated?

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that they are part of Cottonwood and have to go along with whatever happens and don't have a voice in making it different," he said. "If you don't see a pathway of having a positive impact, then you don't participate. Just like we can't get people to vote."

Garrison said a lot of people also have a hard time differentiating between Verde Village and Cottonwood.

"The only time some of these people even come to realize there's a difference is when they look at their tax bill or they try to sign up at the [Cottonwood] Recreation Center or get a water bill."

One of the issues that often comes up in Verde Village is talk of annexation into Cottonwood. Recently, rumors of a "city takeover" has caused a stir within the community, and Garrison hopes to address these concerns at a public meeting with the Verde Village Property Association on Thursday, Feb. 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Garrison said annexation is something that a city can't do on its own and members of the unincorporated area have to be on board.

"Annexation can't sneak up," he said. "It has to be fostered by the city or the area."

Garrison said for citizens of unincorporated communities, participation and taking an invested role in the community is the key to having a voice.

"It's easy to speak up when you're mad, but the time to do it is as it's happening," he said. "Don't wait until it's a problem."

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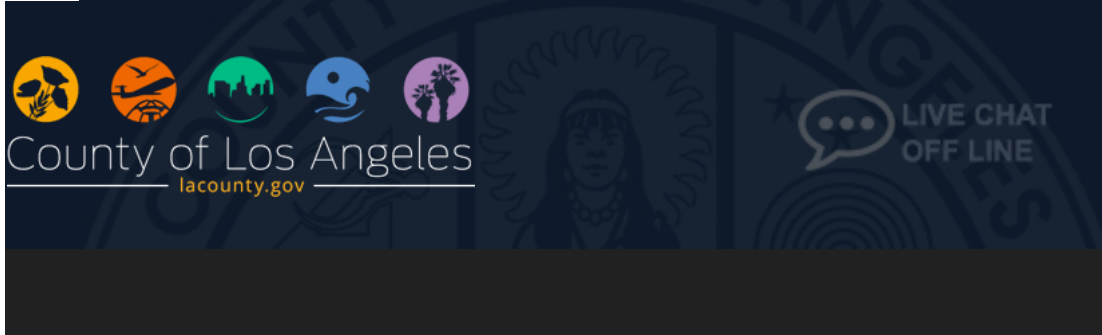
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## Unincorporated Areas



More than 65 percent of the County -- 2,653.5 square miles -- is unincorporated. For the 1 million people living in those areas, the Board of Supervisors is their "city council" and the supervisor representing the area the "mayor." County departments provide the municipal services. There are approximately 120-125 unincorporated areas (depending on how you define them), with the largest number located in the northern part of the County.

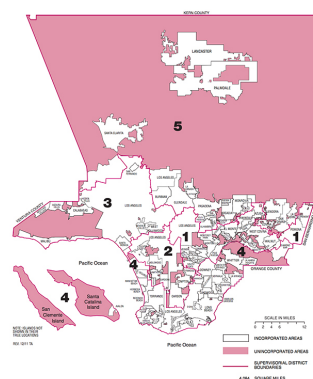
The listings below are intended to help those living and working in the unincorporated areas locate the municipal services available to them and their elected representatives.

### Alphabetical Listing of Unincorporated Areas

[<https://ceo.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Unincorp-Alpha-Web.pdf>]

## County Map

[[http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/lac/1043452\\_BasicColorMap.pdf](http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/lac/1043452_BasicColorMap.pdf)]  
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## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF THE EDEN AREA (/CALIFORNIA/EDEN-AREA)



Because Democracy Is Not A Spectator Sport

# UNINCORPORATED AREAS POLICY (currently under revision)



The League of Women Voters of the Eden Area supports the policy that residents in all urbanized unincorporated areas within Eden Township are best served by having their own locally elected representatives, and that the preferred form of governance is as an incorporated municipality.

### Position In Brief:

The League of Women Voters of the Eden Area supports the policy that residents in all urbanized unincorporated areas within Eden Township are best served by having their own locally elected representatives, and that the preferred form of governance is as an incorporated municipality. The LWVEA believes that incorporation as a city improves citizen access to local government. It also enables communities to have self-determination and local control related to the taxes they pay and the land-use decisions they make.

Recognizing that incorporation may not be always possible, then residents in urbanized unincorporated areas of Eden should be enabled to choose the type of governance best suited for their particular area. In addition to incorporation, those choices could be municipal annexation, special district formation and informal government organization.

### Position History:

Adopted: 1979 (H) Consensus: 1990 (EA)

## UNINCORPORATED AREAS POLICY

A. The League of Women Voters of the Eden Area supports the policy that residents in all urbanized unincorporated areas within Eden Township are best served by having their own locally elected representatives, and that the preferred form of governance is as an incorporated municipality. The LWVEA believes that incorporation as a city improves citizen access to local government. It also enables communities to have self-determination and local control related to the taxes they pay and the land-use decisions they make.

Recognizing that incorporation may not be always possible, then residents in urbanized unincorporated areas of Eden should be enabled to choose the type of governance best suited for their particular area. In addition to incorporation, those choices could be municipal annexation, special district formation and informal government organization.

1. Municipal incorporation: Incorporated community with its own government that meets requirements of California law
2. Municipal annexation--the process by which an incorporated local government may extend its legal control over surrounding areas. Within the legislation, the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is given the sole and exclusive authority for the annexation of additional territory to a city.
3. Special district formation: Special districts are a form of local government created by a local community to meet a specific need.
  - a. Independent districts-- which have their own separate boards of directors elected by the districts' own voters. Larger independent districts (H.A.R.D) have a professional manager, similar to county administrator, to assist the governing officials. The governing boards adopt policies that the general managers carry out.
  - b. Dependent districts (all County Service Areas, like Flood control and mosquito abatement) are governed by legislative bodies like board of supervisors
4. Informal government organization: Unincorporated community with a Community Planning Organization, such as Castro Valley's MAC that reacts to land use proposals. They may also engage in long-range planning and advocate for community interests. Advisory boards may be elected, appointed, or chosen by residents. The League recommends that members be elected.

B. Before an urbanized unincorporated area changes its governance model, there needs to be evidence that:

1. change would be fiscally viable to sustain the new entity.
2. residents have been informed and have participated in the action to make the change in governance model
3. no significant negative impact to the County.
4. no significant negative impact to adjoining incorporated areas.
5. the new model meets all legal standards for governance.
6. there is leadership to implement the new model.

C. When the residents have made the choice for change in governance for their unincorporated area, there should be assurance that payment for property-related services shall be equitable to those of similar governance types in the county, and there shall be active participation by residents of the unincorporated areas in development of policies which will affect them.

## **Policies to promote:**

1. Ensure that urban unincorporated areas should incorporate or annex to an existing municipality. This policy does not assume automatic dissolution of special districts have the opportunity to explore the various types of governance models that may be suitable for their community.
2. Support governance models that residents feel would improve the livability and sustainability of their community.
3. Support the equitable payment for property-related services by service users in incorporated or unincorporated areas. - These services include sanitary, water, parks, and fire services not provided by city or county. (Parks are considered as property-related; their recreational programs are not.)
4. Include maintenance, operations, and capital development costs in the definition of equitable payment.
5. Evaluate existing property-related services for effectiveness when unincorporated areas incorporate or annex to ensure adequate information to be used in decision-making.



6. Support special policies by Alameda County and the Local Agency formation Commission (LAFCO) for the heavily urbanized unincorporated areas of Eden Township with respect to special districts.

7. Support more continued broad representation for unincorporated areas on the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).

8. Support the greatest possible citizen participation by people in unincorporated areas in all questions of incorporation and annexation changing governance models for their community.

D. Study appropriate means for local residents in the unincorporated areas to take an active part in the decision-making process. The overriding consensus of the League is that there is a particular need at this time of economic crises and changing governmental relations to reiterate League unerring support for resident participation at all levels of government if the democratic nature of that government is to be preserved in any real sense. Therefore, in relation to the particular problems facing residents in unincorporated areas, the League supports the following institutional and attitudinal changes:

1. An institutional change from unincorporated to incorporated another governance model. This would minimize the excessive fragmentation which exists because the government of the unincorporated areas now consists of uncoordinated special functions. This change would allow for greater resident participation, and in turn, would create a more effective governmental structure.

2. In order to bring about the kind of institutional change which is needed, the League supports the organization of community-based groups. Such organizations create mechanisms through which individual residents may band together to more effectively:

a. Promote annexation and incorporation efforts suitable governance models to replace unincorporated areas.

b. Lobby to obtain quasi-governmental groups for their areas, such as Municipal Advisory Councils (MACs)

c. Coordinate the other ordinary means of being heard, such as letter- writing campaigns, testifying, writing position papers, getting a member appointed or elected to advisory or elected positions, or, if necessary, bringing suit.

3. Because the institutional change is a long-range goal, the League supports the improvement of current governmental practices. The Board of Supervisors and special districts should promote cooperation among these fragmented governmental entities for greater efficiency and accessibility.

a. Boards must be both intellectually and financially committed to resident participation with a recognition of the importance of readily available information such as:

- (1) meeting times and places
- (2) agendas which are understandable by the layman
- (3) minutes which are accessible without undue cost
- (4) procedures for testifying
- (5) procedures for following through on particular concerns
- (6) budget
- (7) use of electronic mail and Internet

b. Board decisions, both in the pre- and post- deliberative stages, should be open to public process. There is a special need for decisions made at one level to be communicated to other affected levels in order to provide for coordinated planning.

## **E. The following actions are recommended:**

1. Monitor the activities of boards and commissions, especially the Board of Supervisors, the Local Agency Formation Commission, and other boards and commissions that affect services in the Unincorporated Area.
2. Encourage increased and more effective media coverage in the local press and cable television.
3. Heighten the awareness of residents who make decisions in their areas on how to approach and influence decision-makers by:
  - a. Encouraging the Board of Supervisors to continue to meet on a regular basis in the Unincorporated Area, and to continue the Unincorporated Services Committee.
  - b. Continuing the League telephone hot line to help residents gain information on voting and cutting through red tape. The hot line could provide information on whom to call, when, and how to do it.
4. Monitor for possible study the problems of unincorporated areas, including effect on land use planning, delivery of services and costs, function of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and specific budget information on county expenses and income for each unincorporated area.

## Issues:

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