



November 22, 2021

Dear Alameda County Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of My Eden Voice, we are submitting our answers regarding the County Redistricting efforts this year. My Eden Voice is a community initiative that brings together community leaders from grassroots organizations across Ashland, Cherryland, San Lorenzo, and Hayward Acres (Eden Area).

Our community

In the Eden Area, 80% of residents are working families and essential workers: people of color, including 47% Latinx, 20% API, 11% Black and a large undocumented population. Our families have many systemic barriers to poverty and have the poorest health countywide. We come together to develop power and collective action across our EMAC communities through leadership development and advocacy efforts to address the historic inequities that have left communities of color behind.

My Eden Voice is building a multiracial community-led organization to fight for our communities as we struggle to survive in an increasingly expensive Bay Area. My Eden Voice is committed to ensuring that Alameda County represents our communities fairly and that there are clear processes in place for guiding investment in our communities. The COVID-19 pandemic shed light on the tremendous disparities facing our residents.

Our Demands

The Eden Municipal Advisory Council (EMAC) communities of Alameda County -- Ashland, Cherryland, San Lorenzo and Hayward Acres want to continue to remain together represented by *a minimum* of two Board of Supervisors. During our community engagement on this topic, My Eden Voice members expressed that Castro Valley and Fairview feel different from the Eden Area and do not necessarily have to be included in our district. The community is interested in being represented by an additional Supervisor as that would increase the county's responsibility to the Eden area. Having *three* supervisors will bring more diversity and representation for our areas.

My Eden Voice does not want to decrease the power of the EMAC communities; therefore, we endorse Map A as it is the only map option that keeps our current representation level. All other



map options would decrease our level of representation, which is unacceptable and inequitable. Putting the urban unincorporated area all in one single district would have significant impacts on our ability to advocate for our needs and best interest. Please consider the unique needs and dynamics of the unincorporated area when drawing the final lines of our districts.

We look forward to seeing a more equitable district representation and continuing these conversations. For any follow-up discussions, please contact Alina Farooq at coordinator@myedenvoice.org.

Thank you,
My Eden Voice