



CITY *of* CALABASAS

Every ten years, elected representatives in local, state and federal office have their boundary lines redrawn to reflect shifts in population. This process is known as redistricting. Sometimes, political boundaries are left almost untouched and in other redistricting years they can change dramatically.

The Calabasas City Council has been very proactive in making sure that the five cities that make up the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (Calabasas, Malibu, Hidden Hills, Agoura Hills and Westlake Village) remain together in the same legislative districts. These cities share common interests and when combined, equal roughly 100,000 residents. Furthermore, the COG cities are all served by the same County Sheriff's station, the same fire department, and each is located at the foot of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. The five COG cities routinely work together to deal with the threat of wildfire and most of these cities are in designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

Yet, current political boundaries enveloping these five cities are a nightmarish mash-up of jagged lines that lump together communities with little or no commonalities or mutual interests.

Currently, the five COG cities are represented by three different members of Congress and three different state Assembly members. Calabasas itself (population 24,000) is divided into two separate Assembly districts. When cities share a common voice on so many issues, it is problematic to have so many different legislative representatives.

The five COG cities ARE represented by the same State Senator and the same County Supervisor and we strongly urge the Redistricting Commission to follow this concept and put all five cities in the same Assembly and Congressional Districts as well.

As a resident in this area, it is time for you to speak up and get involved in the process. The Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission (LACCRC) and the California Citizens Redistricting Commission (CCRC) are always looking for public input to help draw political boundaries and so often hear only from the largest and most powerful interests. There are many ways for you to weigh in – online or in person. For more information, you can go to <https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/> and/or www.wedrawthelinesca.org.

One distinct area should be represented by one distinct voice – whether that voice is in the halls of Congress, in Sacramento or downtown LA.