**PURPOSE:**  Give your input to the County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) on keeping the BAMEMSA community together! On **August 26th starting at 5:30pm**, the IRC will have a public hearing before they redraw the County’s supervisorial districts: We must make our voices heard to ensure that our community is not split up into different districts.

**WHEN:** Thursday, August 26th at 5:30pm

**WHERE:** In-person: Ronald Reagan Community Center 195 E Douglas Ave, El Cajon, CA 92020

Remotely: Zoom, Dial-In or E-Comment

**ACTIONS:**

1. **Comment during the live Public Hearing (public comment begins at 5:30pm)**
   * Sign up to speak: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/redistricting/IRCrequest-to-speak.html>
     1. Agenda Item: 5
     2. Agenda Item Title/Subject: Pre-Mapping Public Hearing
   * How: via Zoom or Dial-in through phone
     1. If joining by Zoom: you will enter as a webinar participant, unable to unmute yourself, turn camera on, or see chat comments. When it’s your turn to speak, they will display a timer on the screen, call your name, and give you permission to unmute. After you’ve made your comment, they will mute you and change you back to participant.
     2. Zoom link: [**https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95985013113**](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95985013113)
        1. Meeting Passcode: 905422
     3. If you dial-in and have signed up to speak ahead of time, they will call you by your name when it is time to speak. If you call in without signing up to speak they will say the last 4 digits of your phone number to indicate it’s your turn to speak.
     4. Dial-In: (669) 900-6833 or (408) 638-0968
        1. Webinar ID: 959 8501 3113#
        2. Participant ID: not applicable, dial #
        3. Meeting Passcode: 905422#
        4. You will be entered into a queue to speak!
   * Use the suggested template below for your public comment
2. **Submit an E-Comment (does not require participation in the live meeting)**
   * Sign-up link: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/redistricting/IRCecomment.html>
   * Use the suggested template below for your E-Comment

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**GOAL:** After participating in a mapping workshop, this hearing is an opportunity to confirm the geography of your community and shared characteristics to describe your community to the commission.

**OUTLINE:**

* Introduction:
  + First and Last Name
  + I participated in the community mapping session hosted by PANA…
* Where do you live in San Diego?
  + Example: City Heights, El Cajon, Clairemont
  + Be specific list the boundaries of your COI, major streets, landmarks, schools, community centers
* How long you’ve been living there
* Describe the characteristics of your community
  + Religion, ethnicity, shared language, socio-economic status, holidays, if you live in a walking community, rely on public transportation, live in multifamily housing, are renters, etc.
* WHY: Why are you uplifting your community/ Why do you care/ Why is it vital to you/Why now?
* **How you see yourself and your community in alignment with the Refugee and new immigrant community in San Diego**
* Closing: Restate how important it is to protect our community and why it is important to keep this community together at the county district level (the “why”)
  + Increase in critical resources for the growing refugee and new immigrant communities, such as an increase in affordable housing and renters relief, unemployment, access to mental health care and in-language health care services, educational services, etc.
* Say, “Thank you”

**SAMPLE SCRIPT (3 Minutes)**

* Hello, thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I have been a resident of [your neighborhood] for \_\_\_ years. I live on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ street and my children attend \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ school.
* I participated in the community mapping session posted by PANA. We are immigrants, refugees, or children of immigrants refugees. We define [your neighborhood] by these boundaries:
  + Boundaries of the COI - streets to the north, south, east, and west
    - East County Example: Broadway to the north, Rancho San Diego to the south, Granite Hills to the east, and then 8 highway to the west
  + List major landmarks (examples)
    - Bill Wells Park
    - El Cajon Promenade
    - ICSD East County
    - El Cajon High School
    - Vahalla High School
* Our community has shared languages, cultural practices, food, and common goals for our children and families
  + **(Provide personal stories and characteristics of your community)**
  + **As a large refugee and new immigrant community, we see ourselves in alignment with each other, and have community support networks throughout our cities. We are in need of critical resources.**
* For many years, our communities have paid taxes, and have contributed to the economic and cultural vibrancy of [your neighborhood] as entrepreneurs, however, we lacked representation due to the ways in which lines were drawn.
  + The refugee community of interest in San Diego must be maintained in a single district to ensure representation and the distribution of critical resources back to our community
* We hope that you don’t ignore our community and the months of participation and feedback we’ve provided engaging xx of people
* (CLOSING) Thank you for the opportunity to testify and make our voices heard as a community. We look forward to working with you throughout the county’s redistricting process to ensure our community is represented. We’ll see you at the next hearing!

**ORGANIZATIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

**OUTLINE:**

* First and Last Name
* Organization Intro (Orgs). Flex. Humbly brag about the reach/ depth of your organization. E.g. how many residents you serve, Process for engaging community in COI sessions: how many sessions, number of people, some description of community engaged
* WHY: Why are you uplifting your community/ Why do you care/ Why is it vital to you (or your orgs. mision?)/Why now?
* Making the Case: (Organization) Share Trends, data to support trends found and reinforce with data/visual maps if possible.
* **How you see your community in alignment with the Refugee and new immigrant community in San Diego**
  + **Why are refugees an important COI in San Diego and need representation?**
* Closing: Restate how important it is to protect our community and why it is important to keep this community together at the county district level (the “why”)
* Say, “Thank you

النص للقراءة

مرحباً، انا اسمي \_\_\_\_\_ مسلمة عربية لاجئة من سوريا و اعيش في مدينة الكاهون، شارع \_\_\_\_\_\_. انا مع مركز العربي في الكاهون، مركز مجدل على شارع Main Street. اولادي يذهبوا لمدرسة \_\_\_\_\_ و انا اذهب لمسجد ICSD East County.

انا عايشة في الكاهون من \_\_\_\_ سنوات و مهم جداً انه مجتمعنا العربي ما ينفصل عن بعضه في عملية التقسيم الآن. انا اطلب ان تبقى مدينة الكاهون جزء واحد و و تنضم للمجتمعات الاجئين و المهاجرين الاخرى مثل City Heights حتى نزيد الموارد و الفرص المتوفرة لمجتمعاتنا، مثل زيادة السكنات الميسورة التكلفة و الحصول على خدمات باللغة العربية و فرص عمل. شكراً و فرصة سعيدة