

AUGUST 9, 2017

RESULTS OF A NEXTDOOR.COM
COVE NEIGHBORHOOD POLL ASKING:

"SHOULD THE COVE BE SPLIT
INTO TWO DISTRICTS OR REMAIN
AS ONE NEIGHBORHOOD?"

TO BE PLEASE ENTERED
INTO PUBLIC RECORD

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Post a message, event, poll or urgent alert

[Redacted], Cathedral City Cove

(/profile/10526796/)

Poll: Should the cove be split into two districts or remain as on neighborhood?

Currently we have two council members that reside in the cove, both are keen to split the cove into two districts. In order for both to keep their seats, they must divide the cove. If we remain our own neighborhood, as we already do, one member will have to move or step down. Do you prefer to keep the cove as one? Or do you prefer to be divided and incorporate other neighborhoods into the cove? Regardless of your choice, remember to write the council and let them know your opinion.

Choose one:

- ☒ No, I want the Cove to remain as one neighborhood. 89%
- ☐ I don't care either way. 8%
- ☐ Yes, I want to divide the cove. 3%

Voted

96 votes

2d ago · 48 neighborhoods in General

Thank Reply

6 Thanks · 72 Replies (/news_feed/?post=59625346)

[Redacted] (/profile/10526796/), Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I think that having 2 out of 5 voices on the council (40% of the vote needed to pass any issue) is an important consideration in this debate. I just don't think that a line drawn to split the Cove into two districts does anything to reduce the cohesiveness of the Cove. We are linked together because of shared interests. Rather, I think this increases our power and I don't think we're going to suddenly become a part of the neighborhoods north of the wash because of the significant land use and natural boundary that exists between us and them.

Thank 2 Thanks

[Redacted] (/profile/10526796/), Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I thought this question was already settled ... and that there were very good reasons to split the Cove.

—
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
<https://www.avast.com/antivirus> (<https://www.avast.com/antivirus>)

Thank

[Redacted] (/profile/10526796/), Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

No Craig, it is not settled. They are narrowing the maps down to 3 from 7 on Wed. night. What are your reasons for splitting up the neighborhood?

Thank 5 Thanks

[Redacted] (/profile/10526796/), Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I included other areas because if you look at the 7 remaining maps, they all include areas north of the 111. I want to know what everyone affected thinks, not just cove residents. Everyone should have a voice and a say in this, which is why I also encourage everyone to write to the council and let them know what they think. It's important that everyone gets full representation.

Thank 6 Thanks

[Redacted] (/profile/10526796/), Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I get an error message when trying to vote.?

Thank

[Redacted] (/profile/10526796/), Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I got an error message as well when I tried to vote

Thank

[Redacted] (/profile/10526796/), Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I also get an error.

Thank

/profile/0587634/Cathedral-City-Cove-2d-ago

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incumbents which may be considered a violation of the California Fair Political Practices Policies. How about studying all the maps and suggesting the ones we support that do offer better choices to represent the various areas of the city and that do not favor the incumbents?

Anyone think signs should be brought to the Council Meeting on Wednesday to reflect the unfairness of the variety of the maps selected for public input?

Thank 3 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

Great, I just went to look and accidentally voted to split the cove...grrr

Thank

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

Dean Keefer, I just went off ND and then back in again to the poll, and the button said that I voted. So maybe try that. Thanks for being interested. This is so important not just to the Cove but to other neighborhoods all over the city. Any attempt at gerrymandering to keep council seats will bring the Feds down on our fair city. Remember City of Bell, Beaumont, Palm Springs, etc. We do not want to be next. Everybody please just send at least an email to the city council members voicing your concerns before August 9th. That is the council session where they will narrow down the map submissions to the last 3 to be considered. Then in September the all important decision will be made. Stay alert and aware. And thank you.

Thank 4 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

It seems you can't vote from the email received but rather you have to log on to the ND website.

Thank 2 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

Dear Neighbors:

Everyone needs to understand how the district formations are going to work. Understand I'm not saying how the districts should be split but these are the facts about the process:

1. There will be five districts and they need to have about 10,200 residents each.
2. The Cove has only about 2,500 residents that means it's less about one quarter of the population that's needed to fill out an entire district.
3. The other 7,000++ people will have to come from some other place in Cathedral City...who knows where....it could stretch all the way through and including the Dream Homes area.
4. There is no way to keep the Cove as a single voting district all by itself. THERE IS NOT ENOUGH POPULATION HERE!!! As noted above, another approx. 7,700 people will be in the mix of those voting for the representative for the Cove.
5. The Cove won't be "bringing other neighborhoods into it" the Cove will be absorbed by other neighborhoods....that's the fact!

OTHER THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

-No neighborhood wants to be split but some are going to have to be...where should the split be? The Square Mile? Panorama? Dream Homes? Serenity? Rio Vista? Rio Del Sol? One of the mobile estates country clubs? OH and in the 2020 election we could have to redraw the lines again if CC incorporates Thousand Palms (still 5 districts, just new lines).

-There's a lot of misconception built into this poll. Whether the cove is split down the middle or stays as a whole it's still going to be absorbed into other neighborhoods. That means when the election for "THIS DISTRICT" happens in either 2018 or 2020 it's likely, just because of the odds, that it won't be a Cove resident who wins the seat. I've heard of a lot of people in CC Country Club who are thinking of running. I know of at least 3 people in Panorama who plan to run. Face it with only having to try and persuade one fifth of the population of Cathedral City to vote for you it's going to open the flood gates for people who want to run. The last election it cost over \$30K to run for election and win. Not many people have that kind of money or can raise that kind of money. But if you're only have to put out a few lawn signs and go walking door to door in YOUR DISTRICT it's going to be a lot easier and cheaper ...maybe only \$3 to \$5K to run. Many people can pull that kind of money together.

-Don't be fooled by this talk about "protecting seats" because if the Cove is split in half that means there's 1,250 residents and that means some 9,000 other people will be in the voting mix. Just what do you think are the odds of a Cove resident winning a seat with only about 15% of the population?

-It's also been shown in other places in the country where districts are formed that voter registration skyrockets in areas that traditionally have had low voter registration or voter turn out. That's because people are more likely to register to vote because they feel there's more of a chance their voice will be heard.

-It's too bad that some people are trying to "rile up" the citizens of the Cove because frankly it's all much ado about nothing. With the Cove being absorbed into other voting neighborhoods it's HIGHLY UNLIKELY that a Cove resident will be our next council representative when our district is up for election in either 2018 or 2020.

-NOW...Do you all understand that it's not certain the Cove will be electing someone in 2018. Even if there is an election for this new district in 2018, one of the incumbents, Greg Pettis, will still retain his seat whether or not he runs because he was elected in 2014 for a four year seat. That doesn't change, he would just be "at large" until the 2020. If the Cove isn't one of the districts holding elections in 2018 then Greg would have to run in 2020 to keep his seat. The same for John Aguilar. However, Star Henry's term will be up in 2018.

-Has everyone got it now? As the saying goes: Keep Calm and Carry On!

Thank 3 Thanks

Rio Del Sol · 2d ago

My "NO" vote resulted in an error and I can't fix that. The Cove has been a recognized community since it began. Don't split it up just to gerrymander a district for some ambitious politician.

Thank 6 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

It won't let me vote no either. I want to keep the Cove as the single neighborhood it is.

Thank 3 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

This really is blatant gerrymandering by the 2 council people... thought they were above that.... The Cove is an entity — has been since I grew up here 60 years ago... It is the original Cathedral City and should be preserved....

Thank 10 Thanks

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only offensive but really poor social politics. We should all be on the same side, at least as far as the issues that affect us here in the Cove. I do not mean that we should all agree on every issue; far from it. But artificially creating a construct that sets us up as divided to start with only creates more room for divisiveness and less room for discussion and compromise in this current, toxic, political climate.

Thank 11 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

Thank you Robby! It is nice to see an Arts Commissioner that is a free-thinker. Just a reminder to all, Council is voting this Wed., choosing 3 maps from the seven already chosen. Please let them know via email you want your neighborhood to be in one district. We elected council to do what is right, not what is right for them.

Thank 4 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I've just been told by a council member that the council will be reducing the seven maps on Wed. to three or MAYBE LESS

Thank 2 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I may be looking at this too simplistically as I see our definition as a neighborhood (The Cove) and our voting district alignment as separate. Regardless of how the voting districts are drawn, we will always be The CC Cove.

Thank 2 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

I'm not advocating one way or the other on how to split the districts. I just want to make sure everyone understands that the Cove only has about 2,500 people. A voting district is 10,200 people. So, the Cove, whether split or not, is unlikely to be represented by someone who lives in the cove. If you don't understand that please just ask! :-)

Thank

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

Thank you to everyone who has posted comments regarding the maps. Please send your comments to the city clerk and the council members so the comments can also be part of the public record.

Thank 4 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 2d ago

First and foremost I ask myself why is this being done in the first place. It is plain to see it is being done to keep certain people in charge of our city. I say keep their hands off of it totally and let anyone in any district run for any open seat available.

Thank

Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

6 out of the 7 maps proposed group at least 2 current council members in the same district, some put 4 all in the cove/south of dinah shore district...only 2 split the cove and as rumor has it one of our cove council members isn't planning on running next election...the only map submitted by a council member is Mayor Stan Henry and his map is the one that lumps 4 members into one district. I hardly suspect gerrymandering is an issue here

Thank 3 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

BTW I don't want the cove split and the cove doesn't have enough people to have it's own district. go here to see the 7 maps...<http://www.cathedralcity.gov/government/electoral-districts> (<http://www.cathedralcity.gov/government/electoral-districts>)

Thank 4 Thanks

Date Palm SE · 1d ago

It makes far more sense to group the entire Cove, with its local businesses, similar neighborhoods, and as one group. OF COURSE it will have to be grouped for population, all of us know that.

However does the Cove have more in common with Cathedral Canyon Country Club, Perez district, Canyon Canyon Shores, etc., or with empty sand dunes, a mine and a few gas stations? And WHY OH WHY does the Cove need 3 representatives, leaving other neighborhoods and similar areas broken up to limit the attention of only 1 Council Person they share with 8 - 10 other communities?

With the New Casino slated to be installed on 111, with Grow facilities encroaching on our residential neighborhoods, with their Neighborhood nestled up into and against the mountains, the Cove will have a unique set of problems that cannot effectively be addressed by Councilmen who have to meet constituents from Panorama and Desert Sands, or Thousand Palms and Dream Homes.

Let's not confuse this issue with regurgitated poli-spin. This is completely about keeping Council seats. If the Cove is split, 2 - 3 Councilmen automatically keep their seats, depending on whether the districts are set for a 2018 or 2020 election cycle. So there is no question of incumbency for at least 2 of the already-seated Councilmen.

What's more, the seated Council already have war chests mounted, name recognition, and networking in place, whereas someone from ANYWHERE else in the City would have to start from scratch to attempt introducing themselves to the City. That would severely limit the chances of anyone else getting a chance to run until 2022! The obvious advantage goes to (to use an old phrase) "The Devil we know."

Let the 3 Current Cove Councilmen duke it out for who stays with serving in the Cove, and let the residents and Voters there make that choice for themselves. Let the rest of the City have a chance to elect someone to Council, someone who lives in their area, understands the neighborhood problems from a personal vantage point, someone who has been a Neighbor from that area for years, and advocated from their local meeting place, rather than from Jalisco, Thailand, OR the Cove.

Thank 6 Thanks

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Thank 3 Thanks

AND... Date Palm SE · 1d ago

AND...

<<Face it with only having to try and persuade one fifth of the population of Cathedral City to vote for you it's going to open the flood gates for people who want to run. The last election it cost over \$30K to run for election and win. Not many people have that kind of money or can raise that kind of money. But if you're only have to put out a few lawn signs and go walking door to door in YOUR DISTRICT it's going to be a lot easier and cheaper ...maybe only \$3 to \$5K to run. Many people can pull that kind of money together. >>

1) Do you really think that someone from Dream Homes or the Square Mile can mount the same size campaign as Kaplan or Pettis? They just don't have the money, nor the network to do so. and while the minimum cost MIGHT be reduced, there is no MAXIMUM, so the rich incumbents still have a huge advantage in spending. So instead, those areas get stuck with an unresponsive minimally engaged Council person, who is busy meeting with 2 other Cove reps to deal with the Casino, The Grow Projects, the traffic on 111, the new venues downtown, and 4 trips to Mexico to promote one event per year? That is not what Districting was supposed to accomplish! It is SUPPOSED to bring more local representation to areas already underrepresented. Your statement is therefore irrelevant.

2) If one's district is 10+ miles long, even if it is only 3 miles wide, that still places a burden on candidates who would have to work or take time off to personally walk a district to meet people. ESPECIALLY when they have no City funded Fuel allowance, Credit Card, or monthly stipend. The 3 soon-to-be-unseatable Councilmen have all of that and more. LONG SLIM Districts will exacerbate that, not remedy it. If instead Districts are more compact, with the Residents and Voters closer together it becomes easier for a Candidate to meet the Voters all at once in one location, makes it easier to distribute campaign materials, and if the district is concentrated the Elected representative can meet with more constituents more often and more in depth.

Thank 5 Thanks

Date Palm SE · 1d ago

Councilman Kaplan also submitted a Map which splits the Cove into 3.

Thank 4 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

I just want to clarify a few things.

1 - Obviously the cove is too small to be its own district and I never suggested that. What I am asking/saying is should the cove be split up, west side and an east side, or something like that? Or should the cove remain one area in a district, along with neighboring areas?

2 - The idea behind districting is to ensure that all neighborhoods in a city have a council member that represents their neighborhood and the residents needs. The cove is a perfect example of this, we are a community in itself up here and it doesn't make sense to split us up and merge us with different neighbors stretching north.

3 - Which brings me to people running for the council, I would love to see a variety of people run for the council! Currently we have 5 men, most living in or near the cove, I'd like to see some women running, along with people from all areas, and different backgrounds. I would like a council that wants to explore different ideas for growth and wants to find ways to make our city appealing to everyone.

Lastly, I didn't create this poll to rile anybody up. I did this poll so that people could see what they and their neighbors think, let people know what's going on and give them a chance to have a voice.

Thanks to everyone lending their voice.

Thank 7 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Councilman Kaplan map is not one of the 7 finalists.

Thank 1 Thank

Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Good ideas. Right on.

Thank 2 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

No Chris, Kaplan's map is not one of the finalist. However Council Member Shelley Kaplan submitted one of the first maps splitting the Cove (right down Bel Air Dr.)....So my close neighbors across the street from me will be in a different district than me. That is not unifying. Planning Commissioner Barnes submitted an almost identical map to Shelley's. I wonder why Shelley didn't vote for his own map. He voted for Stan Barnes' map. Maybe he wants to take the heat off his own map. To not suspect gerrymandering, is naive.

Thank 4 Thanks

Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Miriam there are ONLY 2 cm in the Cove, Pettis and Kaplan.

Mayor Henry and CM Camavale live off Gerald Ford.

John Augliar lives just north of Gerald Ford.

6 of the 7 final maps are going to pit some of these against each other or not run. We will have new cm no matter what.

Thank 1 Thank

Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

In other words this is not a power grab, if anything the opposite is true.

I came from a city that implemented districts and the council finally got new blood and women and minority's

Thank 2 Thanks

Canyon Shores · 1d ago

That's the idea, new blood. 2 councilmen will remain no matter what. Let's spread our representatives out into other areas of the city. Maybe one from Dream Homes.

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Thank 4 Thanks

[REDACTED], Date Palm SE · 1d ago

Chris. When I was looking at Kaplan's map, it divided the Cove into 3 districts with one housing Kaplan, one Pettis and the third gerrymandered to retain Aguilar's seat. I have not had a chance to look at the final details of Commissioner Barnes' map, so I am not sure how HE handled that area. And is this all you got out of my posts... that there are only 2 not 3 guaranteed seats? There is much more to this issue than that.

Thank 3 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

I don't advocate splitting the cove at all. Barnes map is the one of 7 that splits the districts by council men's homes...my least favorite. I like PC Hagedorn's map the best...it puts everything below Dinah Shore into one district...which means 4 of our cm are in that district, ensuring lots of new blood. I think the cove and the homes and condominiums along Cathedral Canyon and Gerald Ford have more in common with each other than the rest of the city.

Thank 4 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

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Thank 1 Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Miriam why do you respond to my posts in such a negative way every time? You state you haven't even looked at all of the 7 remaining maps, so why are you arguing with me, just an ordinary working class guy. I have no game in this just stating some facts. There are only 2 cm in the Cove, Kaplan and Pettis. Aguilar lives near the high school...he is the furthest from the Cove.

Thank 1 Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Barnes map shows where each councilman lives and is gerrymandering that way.

Thank 2 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Kaplan's map is out of the running anyhow so why bring it up and BTW I didn't like it.

Thank 2 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Divide the Cove for the sake of these 2 council members???

Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Chris, how do we know that Kaplan's map or any other map that splits the Cove is out of the running? If the council members are voting on the maps then of course they will vote on the maps that serve themselves the best.

Thank 2 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

You asked why I brought Kaplan's map. Because I wanted to know why Kaplan wanted to divide the Cove. I wanted to know why he did not vote for his own map. And I brought it up because the dividing line goes right up and down my street, separating my neighbors across the street and me. We would live in different districts. I wanted to point out that that is not a unifying map. Yes, it is out of the running but it is still posted in the City's website and it is still pertinent as it parallels almost perfectly PC Barnes' map, which is still in the running. It is very relevant to this discussion.

Thank 1 Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Here are the remaining 7 maps..read them for yourselves
<http://www.cathedralcity.gov/government/electoral-districts> (<http://www.cathedralcity.gov/government/electoral-districts>)

Thanked! 2 Thanks

[REDACTED], Canyon Shores · 1d ago

May be it is they choose Barnes map and say they chose a map that was presented by a resident this way they have no responsibility for it. This gives them political cover and the blame, if that's what you call it, will be Stan Barnes. Just my opinion

Thank 4 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

I am so heartened to see this poll. BTW, even if one gets an error message, refresh and you can see your vote was tabulated. Now, seriously, nowhere was Heather tiling anyone up. Or anyone else. In fact, this small, local grassroots poll on Next door should be a keen guide and eye opener for our current elected officials. Please do vote responsibly. Kind regards, Mel Webster

Thank 4 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

I hope you are proven wrong, Kathy. It's interesting why Planning Commissioner Barnes submitted a map that is nearly identical to Shelley's map. He had submitted a first map that kept the Cove as one before the one in question. I heard his reasoning was to keep some experience on the council but that will happen know

matter what man is chosen. It is all very interesting.

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Thank 3 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

My advice, show up wed night, email or call the council

Thank 4 Thanks

[REDACTED], Canyon Shores · 1d ago

You are correct Randy. We'll have at least 2 current councilmen keep their seats until at least 2018 when they will stand for re-election. Councilman Pettis and councilman Aguilar are safe

Thank 1 Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

If they are bent on splitting the cove then it needs to be put on an election ballot. Also the two council members who will be effected must not be allowed to vote as it is a conflict of interest.

Thank 1 Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

One neighborhood plz!!

Thank 3 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Carol, If the Cove districting comes up on a ballot, you cannot exclude the affected members from casting their own ballots since they have to be citizens of the city to serve on the council. That would be like disallowing presidential candidates from voting in primary or general elections.

I believe that keeping the Cove as one district would be in the best interest of the neighborhood. Also, will it be a requirement of the districting process that the council member live in the area that they represent?

Thank 1 Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Palm Springs should just take over Cathedral City. And call it all Palm Springs!! That be cool!

Thank 2 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Judith,

Yes, when districting is done, the council members representing them need to live in the district, hence the issue with the cove. As far as expecting our council members to recuse themselves if they have a conflict of interest, I wouldn't hold my breath. Shelley Kaplan refused to recuse himself when voting for his husband being a commissioner on PAC, even though residents formally requested he do so. Greg Pettis didn't feel the need to recuse himself when it came to many votes that ultimately he financially gained from, when they rezoned Perez and he was the dissenting vote when people wanted have a referendum on the increase of permits being handed out for the marijuana grows.

Both men are in the cove and neither wants to relinquish their seats, I have no doubt that they are putting themselves first.

Personally, I'd like to see a new and diverse council, one that represents everyone all around.

Thank 2 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Chuck,

Nooooo! We should be better than PS!!!

Thank 1 Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

Tim, I apologize for not paying close attention to this whole districting matter from the outset. Without boring everyone else in the Cove, could you send me a private message telling me 1) How did this whole districting idea get ramrodded down all our throats to begin with? 2) Did I miss a vote by the electorate to put such a structuring in place? 3) Who is making and what exactly are the bases for the final decisions as to the mapping of districts in the City? 4) Who decided what the size of each district will be? 5) What will be the determination and basis for absorbing a socio-economic section of the City such as the Cove into a much larger section with little interests in common, such as the Panorama or Dream Homes? 6) what makes the City think that by absorbing the Cove into a much larger section will EVER result in the residents of the Cove having fair representation on the City Council OR, for that matter, ANY ability to get things done in this City which would specifically benefit the Cove? 7) on ALL elections, where would my vote have ANY effect on ANYTHING this City proposes or ability to influence change when needed, including those who sit on the Council and need to be removed either by election, or other. 8) and FINALLY, who has decided that the number of members on the City Council is etched in concrete? Why cannot a member be added to exclusively represent the Cove needs and concerns about this City? We pay taxes like anyone else and therefore expect full and fair representation in our local government. There is NO fairness in the decision to "throw" 2500 voters into a basket of 5200 (or whatever) other voters who have nothing in common with them and expect the 2500 to EVER have the say or the ability to see things are done by the City that benefit the Cove.

To Cove Residents debating the splitting up of the Cove:

I ask....why the heck does the Cove need to be split at all? Councilman Kaplan's proposals are all off the wall. Why? Because he offers NO plausible reasons to make them stick to it. Don't listen to him. If anyone thinks the people in Dream Homes or the Panorama care about the people in the Cove, they are sorely mistaken. When was the last time you thought of their best interests - over yours? You will never see again, yourself being fairly represented by an advocate in City government for the Cove; once this redistricting, as presently proposed, is finally put in place. The numbers just won't work.

Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 1d ago

If anyone would like to better understand what gerrymandering means, how it came about and where it was adopted, please go to: www.com/c992224.com/

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3 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 21h ago

Heather, Thank you for the info, it is very helpful. As to self-interest of the council members, absolutely true. Some, I believe, see it as a life-long job even long after they have ceased being effective. It is why I believe in term limits.

And Chuck, merging CC with PS has been proposed more than once, but seriously at least three times that I can recall. PS doesn't want CC.

😊 Thanked! 2 Thanks

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 20h ago

Thank you Dale for outlining Gerrymandering. Unfortunately, this "split cove" does not meet the definition by a long ways. For the "split cove" to be gerrymandering the southern boundary would have to be at the top of the cove at Foothill and the northern boundary would have to be Hwy 111. That would be Gerrymandering. However, in this case, the northern boundary goes well beyond 111 and through enough housing areas to add about another 9,000 people to each of the potential districts.

Gerrymandering is when the lines are drawn so that the incumbent or one party is very likely to retain or win their seat. That's hardly the case here. The Cove actually loses influence and thus the incumbents lose influence and probably reelection because there would be such a much larger voting group voting for these two positions than in the Cove. You can try and define it any way you want but this is for sure not Gerrymandering. In fact, it would be considered anti-Gerrymandering because so many more people of different beliefs, ethnicity and party affiliations are now part of the voting district than exists in the Cove.

The only good news about having two voting districts in the Cove is that the Cove would then have two council people to watch over the activities and issues.

Here's the Math (using rough numbers of residents)

Cove Population - 2,500 persons

Cove Split - 1,250 persons

Total Population of ONE proposed voting district - 10,200

Subtract 1,250 persons in the Cove and you get 8,950 non-Cove-residents.

Doesn't it seem like someone running from another part of the district would have an equal or better chance of winning over a Cove incumbent?

My question is, if it's less likely that an incumbent would win a seat in the new district how is that self-serving? How is that seeing this as a life long job? It's not and you guys should wake up and smell the stench of the "hate politics" that's going on in the Cove.

Incumbents may choose to run, but powerful voting blocs are out there to give them a good run for their money.

Gerrymandering this is NOT!

😊 Thank

[REDACTED], Cathedral City Cove · 19h ago

Tim, who exactly are, quote, You Guys? I see no hatred, I do read concern about the upcoming districting of our city. Your admonishments are inappropriate. The views and voices of City residents have a right to be aired, and hopefully listened to. By both fellow residents and critically, elected council members who will be voting on this.

😊 Thanked! 7 Thanks

[REDACTED], Date Palm SE · 19h ago

Actually this is a PERFECT example of Gerrymandering.

"1) To manipulate the boundaries of (an electoral constituency) so as to favor one party, class or candidate.

2) To achieve (a result) by manipulating the boundaries of an electoral constituency.

3) In addition to its use achieving desired electoral results for a particular party, gerrymandering may be used to help or hinder a particular demographic, such as a political, ethnic, racial, linguistic, religious, or class group, such as in U.S. federal voting district boundaries that produce a majority of constituents representative of African-American or other racial minorities, known as "majority-minority districts".

4) Gerrymandering can also be used to protect incumbents."

In this case It both protects the incumbents, and waters down the voices of several demographics. With the districts drawn as Mr. Barnes proposes, every area/ neighborhood is broken up, thereby denying them any voice in their government. It also dilutes any demographic voice OTHER than Hispanic. While they are the "majority demographic, they comprise approximately 66% of the population, Hispanics are not the ONLY voice that needs to be represented. By splitting the districts in the north-south districts, the Non-Hispanic voices of Caucasian, Asian, and Black Residents is completely diluted.

I DO NOT BELIEVE that is the original purpose of this distribution, however it is an ancillary effect of trying to protect 4 of the 5 seated Council members.

As to your claim that someone from another part of the city would win an election better if the (Barnes) districts are used, that is complete malarkey.

Pettis and Kaplan especially gain several HUGE HUGE YUUUUGGGGEE advantages:

A) They do not have to run against each other

B) They both have hefty war-chests of money which most of the people from other areas of Cathedral City do not have access to

C) Being already on Council, they both have name recognition, as well as contacts in the business and real estate communities.

Being on Council, they have access to information on the State of the City that many others might not yet have.

Being on the Current Council, these Cove Councilmen have placed relatives, friends and lovers into positions of power and notoriety, forming a seeming unbreakable wall between the City Government, and themselves.

D) The current Councilmen from the Cove have a voting block formed that they carefully protect with quid-pro-quo favors and support, it is doubtful that anyone else running from the rest of the city has such a "We-Fit-In" clique established.

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[Redacted] Cathedral City Cove · 19h ago

Tim, too bad you didn't bother to look at the video on gerrymandering. When all the "Like" (blue dots) were gathered together and all the "other like" (red dots) were gathered together that was the perfect way to district. When you split them up just right, you can make a majority out of the minority. Therefore, as an example, the cove does not have a problem with blow sand. Neither Date Palm Country Club nor most other areas South of Dinah Shore. But if you add the few way to the north in the same district, the people in the north with the blow sand problems would be ignored. 2/3 of the district would not have blow sand problems and the 1/3 would loose. It's not right. None of the neighborhoods should be split. Most neighborhoods are "Like minded" people. By looking at one of the maps with all the council members listed on the map, it's obvious why those squiggly lines were set up. So they can run again.

6 Thanks

[Redacted] Cathedral City Cove · 19h ago

And might I add, I genuinely am not shooting the messenger here. Tim, you might rethink being the messenger though, it is not dignified. Let council members come onto this thread and speak for themselves. Kind regards, as always, Mel Webster

😊 Thanked! 4 Thanks

[Redacted] Cathedral City Cove · 18h ago

Mel, last I looked I'm a full time voting resident of the USA. I happen to know a lot about politics and especially the concept of Gerrymandering having been on a local committee about it and researched and worked with it all during the time that California was redrawing the voting lines a few years back. I'm confident in my concepts and I believe I'm free, as a voter in the city, to speak my piece. I have put down no one and I hope I have enlightened everyone.

😊 Thank

[Redacted], Cathedral City Cove · 18h ago

Tim, do knock it off with the sly dig about you being a voting resident of the USA. For neighbour's who do not know, I am an immigrant and resident alien. While paying taxes, I do not get to vote Federally, State or locally. It also precludes me from running for council, being on a commission etc. I love this country and our city, hence why I post from time to time. While you, Tim, profess to know a lot about politics, which I do not doubt, you fail to listen to opposing views. I also agree your posts on districts on this thread are indeed enlightening, if not illuminating.

😊 Thank 6 Thanks

[Redacted] Cathedral City Cove · 17h ago

Dale, actually I did watch the video and watched it several times and I don't know how this relates to Cathedral City at all. If you're wondering about the squiggly lines on the maps outlining the voting districts, they're squiggly because one of the requirements is that the district lines must follow the already set voting precinct lines. Those lines are drawn by the County and have nothing to do with ethnicity, race, religion or party affiliation. They're drawn so that there is an approximately equal number of voters in each precinct. What that has to do with blow sand I don't know, but I do know VERY CLEARLY, splitting the Cove in two is absolutely, 100% NOT a version of Gerrymandering.

Gerrymandering would really only apply if this were a race between Democrats and Republicans (that's what your video showed). It's not that kind of a race. The MOST important thing in drawing the lines is how it impacts our minority voters and it seems most people on here have ignored that fact. Some of the maps that have been drawn give us three minority majority voting districts and one gives just one minority majority voting district. This is what any lawsuit would have to do with...not blow sand. Voting districts can be "packed" where they put all the minorities in one voting district to lessen their ability to win seats or they can be "cracked" again, that spreads out the minority population more so they have less of a chance of winning a seat in a district. I've never read anything about "blow sand" for example being a reason to disqualify how a voting district map is drawn. When I sat on the Line Drawing Commission for the CVWD the major issue was voting districts that were either "cracked" or "packed." The CVWD was able to avoid a major lawsuit by moving district lines a block or two one way or the other so that minorities could be more equally represented.

😊 Thank 1 Thank

[Redacted] Cathedral City Cove · 17h ago

Tim, #1, when the city handed us the crayons and paper to play with, there were not many guidelines. #2, you talk about voting districts and I believe the cove has 2. Basically, upper and lower not left and right.

2 Thanks

[Redacted] Date Palm SE · 17h ago

Sorry to break it to you Tim, but you are absolutely 100% Wrong... it is indeed gerrymandering. Despite your list of training and involvement, you seem to have missed the core truth about gerrymandering. And it has less to do with party than with minority voice. Only on the mega scale of national politics does party even enter the equation.

If you had read the spread sheet that was available at the Council meeting, you could have seen the Council's priority list for the consideration of maps. Above several other criteria was Protect Incumbent Seat. They justified that with the suggestion that it is more important to have experience on the Council than that neighborhoods be kept whole.

The residents seem to disagree with that evaluation.

And again, drawing the Districts along the north-south grain, disenfranchises a huge portion of the City and its Residents. THAT ALONE, makes it gerrymandering.

😊 Thanked! 3 Thanks

[Redacted] Cathedral City Cove · 17h ago

Mel, no offense was meant...I'm sorry if you took any. There's a wonderful quote from the TV Show: Bluebloods where Police Commissioner Reagan is called out for not "listening." His reply seems perfect here:

"I'm listening just fine and I'm hearing every word. I'm just not agreeing."

Just because someone listens to me or anyone else does not mean we have to agree. But as another quote I'm fond of says: You're welcome to your own opinion but not your own facts! (this is a direct quote not a directed comment).

😊 Thanked! 3 Thanks

[Redacted] Cathedral City Cove · 16h ago

Tim, no offense taken, but we both know what the inference was with your post. I have always liked the chestnut you cited, it did not originate from a TV show. But I hear you. Disagreeing is healthy, that I very much subscribe to, albeit civilly. Thank you for the note. I do hope and trust our elected council are looking at the grassroots poll on this thread. Residents are voicing their opinion, let us hope they are listening. Cheers, Tim.