

March 3, 2022

2020 Census: Redistricting Task Force rdtf@sfgov.org
Rev. Arnold Townsend, Chair revtword@hotmail.com

Re: HVNA position on Redistricting D5

Dear Reverend Townsend and Redistricting Task Force Committee,

This letter is in broad support of the attached map put together by the Van Ness Corridor Neighborhood Council, with a focus on the southeast quadrant that affects Hayes Valley. There are three areas that HVNA is most interested in including in the D5 redistricting, as detailed below.

55 Laguna & surrounding area

The southern boundaries of HVNA around Buchanan-Page-Laguna-Waller, including the 55 Laguna complex at Laguna and Hermann, and surrounding area, were excluded in the last redistricting. (See Figure 2, HVNA boundaries, and Figure 3 and 3A showing the existing D5 boundary vis a vis this area, attached). This area houses many tenants including legacy rent-controlled LGBT tenants, who are historically within HVNA and part of its founding, and comprise a significant community of interest. Additionally, the traffic patterns north of Market are congested and complicated, and cutting out parts of Haight and Buchanan from D5 makes this more challenging to manage, and impacts all the residents in this sector. We think it is extremely important to keep this entire section north of Market united in D5 under one supervisor.

Arts/Cultural District and new residential buildings east of Van Ness/Civic Center

HVNA's membership already includes some of the new residential buildings, such as 100 and 150 Van Ness and SFCM's Bowes Center. These developments are within our association boundaries, but are not part of D5; they are in D6, which has the biggest growth (+30%). HVNA believes it would be a natural fit for D5 to include these new residences.

Additionally, D5 currently includes major performing arts venues, such as the Jazz Center, the Sidney Goldstein Theater, as well as the San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, one of the largest performing arts centers in the US, comprised of the Opera house, Herbst Theater, the SFAC gallery, and Davies Symphony Hall. Extending D5 east of Van Ness to include Bill Graham Auditorium, SFPL, the Asian Art Museum, City Hall, and other smaller cultural entities makes sense, since the majority of the large performance venues are already within D5 and HVNA boundaries. Civic Center CBD already extends into Hayes Valley, to Gough Street. All of these Civic Center institutions and locations have a large impact on HVNA's residential and commercial district, impacting traffic and other aspects of the neighborhood which a single District supervisor could more easily oversee.

The Hub

The Hub is a future community of interest, as residents will comprise dense population in a small congested geographic area, and as a part of the Market/Octavia Plan, it is of particular interest to HVNA. The Hub currently falls into three separate supervisorial districts, which makes it difficult to ensure that this important area gets the supervisorial focus that such major housing developments deserve. District 5 in its current configuration already has two of the large development corners within its boundaries; it makes sense to include the entire Hub in D5. Traffic from development of the HUB will have a major impact on the main arteries of Hayes Valley. Future HUB residents will certainly become part of the Hayes Valley community, enjoying shopping, dining, and cultural events in our neighborhood, so it is of particular interest to HVNA to see it included in its totality within our supervisorial district.

We appreciate all the work the Redistricting Task Force is doing, and we appreciate your considering our views about how this proposed map would impact us in Hayes Valley.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Laska, President
The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association

cc: Mats Anderson, HVNA Vice President
Barbara Early, HVNA Corresponding Secretary
HVNA Board

Attachments below

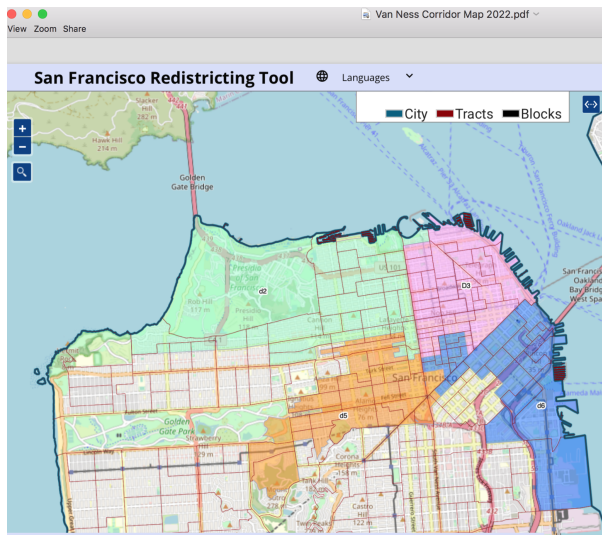


Figure 1: Proposed Redistricting Map prepared by the Van Ness Corridor Neighborhood Council

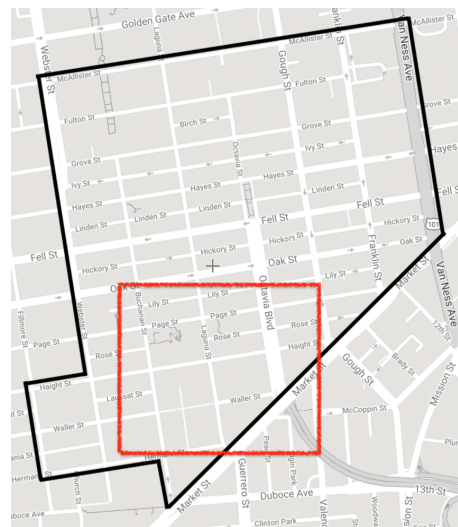


Figure 2: HVNA boundaries

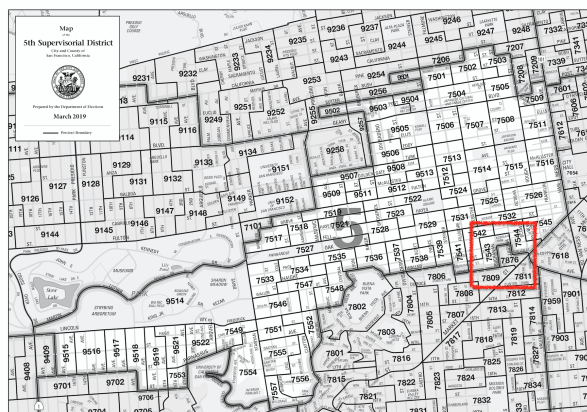


Figure 3: Existing D5 Map (Dept of Elections)



Figure 3A: Existing D5 Closeup around 55 Laguna