

**City of Los Angeles
State of California**



**Empowerment Congress Southwest Area
Neighborhood Development Council**

Mark Ridley-Thomas Constituent Service Center

8475 S. Vermont Ave., Room #207

Los Angeles, CA 90044

www.southwestnc.org

November 05, 2021

From: Empowerment Congress Southwest Area Neighborhood Development Council
(ECSWANDC)

Re: CIS – Position on the Redistricting Plan for Council District 8
Council File #: CF# [20-0668 S7](#)

The Empowerment Congress Southwest Area Neighborhood Development Council (ECSWANDC) opposes any redistricting plans that would not include the return of the economic base of Council District 8 that was removed in the previous redistricting process. This includes the northern portion of the Baldwin Hills Mall, USC, and Exposition Park.

The 8th district has historically been a core of Los Angeles' Black community. Removing these vital assets from CD8 during the last redistricting thereby resulted in a systemic economic disadvantage to our South LA community -- a community already economically fragile. We ask that the assets mentioned above be restored to CD8 in order to improve equity and economic parity within our South Los Angeles CD8.

Notably, returning Baldwin Hills Mall, USC, and Exposition Park to CD8 would still leave the 9th District with significant assets, such as the L.A. Convention Center, Staples Center, and L.A. Live – all strong economic assets generating a significant tax base for CD9. These areas are population neutral, and the boundaries of CD8 would merely need to move to Figueroa St. (to the Eastern edge of Exposition Park and USC) and to Jefferson Blvd. (the North edge of USC).

Put simply, like other City Council Districts of Los Angeles, CD8 deserves to have a sound tax base and citywide relevance, both of which were severely undermined after removing these economic driving assets from CD8. Can we count on you to rectify this unfair disadvantage and improve equity and economic parity in CD8?

This statement has been voted on and unanimously approved by the Empowerment Congress Southwest Area Neighborhood Development Council (ECSWANDC).

Élice Hennessee
Empowerment Congress Southwest Area Neighborhood Development Council
(ECSWANDC)

Residential Representative (Area 5)

Chair, Planning, Land Use Management and Beautification (PLUMB) Committee