

PETITION FOR TRANSFER OF TERRITORY

COPY

To the Superintendent of Schools of Orange County:

Pursuant to Education Code Section 35700, subdivision (a), the undersigned, constituting at least 25 percent of the registered electors residing in the territory proposed to be transferred, now within the boundaries of the Saddleback Valley Unified School District (SVUSD), Orange County, petition that the boundaries of the Saddleback Valley Unified School District be changed to eliminate from it the territory hereinafter described. The undersigned persons petition that the territory be transferred to and included within the Capistrano Unified School District (CUSD) of Orange County.

The property to be transferred is described as follows:

The Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association comprising of 185 residences bounded by Alicia Parkway, Moulton Parkway, Louisa Street, and the Aliso Viejo City (Orange County) border located in the City of Laguna Hills (Orange County). Including the following streets: Ramona Street, Yolanda Street, Carmel Street, Amelia Street, Eva Street, Lupita Street, Andrea Street, Patricia Street, Rosa Street, and 24292-24252 Louisa Street. See attached vicinity map for details of this territory.

The undersigned request the changes in the respective boundaries of the school districts for the following reasons:

1. Unification with Aliso Viejo Community

- a. The Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association has a 92656 Aliso Viejo Zip Code unlike the balance of Laguna Hills (having a 92653 Zip Code) and is physically located in closer proximity to public and private institutions in Aliso Viejo than Laguna Hills.
- b. Residents of the Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association frequently walk, play, and bike to the nearby Aliso Viejo Middle School. Residents also shop, dine and spend considerable recreation time in the Aliso Viejo and Laguna Niguel areas immediately backing (touching) the Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association.
- c. Many children, including in previous years, already attend CUSD schools as SVUSD allows inter-district transfers to CUSD upon request. Note though that inter-district transfer permits are granted year-to-year depending on enrollment and are not guaranteed for continuing students.

2. Significant Reduction in Burden of Travel Time to Schools

- a. Children of residents of Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association are currently placed in the Linda Vista Elementary School and La Paz Intermediate School both located approximately four (4) miles east in the City of Mission Viejo on the other side of the 5 Freeway. A majority of Lomas Laguna residents work in locations north of the Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association however, in areas such as North Orange County or Los Angeles County. This results in significant hardship for parents to drop off their children to these assigned schools on weekday mornings and then proceed to commute to work in destinations north of Mission Viejo. This route to assigned schools prevents many working parents from utilizing the 73 Freeway and adds at least 40 minutes in total commute time to their schedule creating a large burden. In contrast, there are 4 Elementary Schools within 3 miles in the nearby Capistrano Unified School District all located in areas with easy access to the 73 Freeway that will reduce commute times of working parents.
- b. Regardless of occupational circumstances for parents in the Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association, there is still a significant amount of time required to drop off and pick up students at the assigned Linda Vista Elementary School and La Paz Intermediate School due to lack of free public school bus service and significant traffic delays in excess of 30 minutes added to total travel time to and from their child's assigned schools located in Mission Viejo. In contrast, there are 4 Elementary Schools in the nearby Capistrano Unified School District all located less than 3 miles from the Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association with significantly less traffic delays in mornings and afternoons for parents.
- c. The transfer of territory will result in significant reduction in vehicle miles traveled and a net reduction in greenhouse gases due to less vehicle traffic congestion and associated vehicle idle time. Parents and students may also have the option of walking to the nearby Aliso Viejo Middle School if granted the transfer of territory.

3. The petition meets the Nine Criteria To Change School Districts Per Education Code Section 35753 as follows:

- a. Criteria #1: The reorganized districts will meet the adequate enrollment condition. Less than 5% of Lomas Laguna residents utilize the SVUSD.
- b. Criteria #2: The school districts are each organized on the basis of a substantial community identity. Lomas Laguna residents identify with the Aliso Viejo community through sports programs, recreation, community events, commerce and certain public facilities such as the Aliso Viejo public library.
- c. Criteria #3: The transfer of territory will result in an equitable division of property and facilities of the original districts. The transfer of the small percentage of students that currently attend SVUSD schools will not require any division of property and facilities within the district.
- d. Criteria #4: The transfer of territory will not promote racial or ethnic discrimination or segregation is substantially met. The current Lomas Laguna students are less than 1% of the SVUSD current enrollment. Statistically, these numbers are insignificant, and will have no effect on demographic composition of either school district.
- e. Criteria #5: The transfer of territory will not result in any substantial increase in costs to the state. The Lomas Laguna Homeowners Association is a small neighborhood comprising of only 185 residences with a small student population and clearly defined boundaries. The transfer of territory will form a contiguous territory with the existing CUSD territory.
- f. Criteria #6: The transfer of territory will not significantly disrupt the educational programs in the school districts and the school districts affected by the transfer of territory will continue sound educational performance is substantially met. The current Lomas Laguna students are less than 1% of the SVUSD current enrollment. Statistically, these numbers are insignificant, and will have no effect on educational programs of either school district.
- g. Criteria #7: The transfer of territory will not result in a significant increase in school facilities costs is substantially met. The transfer will require no new facilities costs.
- h. Criteria #8: The transfer of territory is not primarily designed to result in a significant increase in property values. The purpose of the transfer is to unify the Lomas Laguna neighborhood with nearby residential communities in Aliso Viejo and reduce significant travel and commute burdens on Lomas Laguna families with students.
- i. Criteria #9: The transfer of territory will not negatively affect the fiscal management or fiscal status of either school district affected by the transfer of territory. The current Lomas Laguna students are less than 1% of the SVUSD current enrollment. Statistically, these numbers are insignificant, and will have no effect on fiscal status of either school district.

Area of Election:

In the event that the County Committee approves the transfer, but Saddleback Valley Unified School District does not consent to the transfer, we, the petitioners, believe the election area should be limited to the Lomas Laguna Community.

The Chief Petitioners for the purpose of receiving notices and so forth are:

<i>Name (print or type)</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>
1. Neel Patel			
2. Hang Nguyen Mac			

Addendum:

Exhibit A – Vicinity Map

PETITION FOR TRANSFER OF TERRITORY – Containing Signatures of the Registered Voters

Exhibit A - Vicinity Map



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VICINITY MAP - LOMAS LAGUNA NEIGHBORHOOD

