

**Fw: Public Comments**

Agendadesk &lt;Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov&gt;

Fri 12/10/2021 8:26 AM

To: Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas &lt;rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov&gt;

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**From:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Sent:** Thursday, December 9, 2021 5:41 PM**To:** Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** FW: Public Comments

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**From:** David Eisbach <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Thursday, December 9, 2021 5:24 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; Liccardo, Sam <sam.liccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Jones, Chappie <Chappie.Jones@sanjoseca.gov>; Esparza, Maya <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; Peralez, Raul <Raul.Peralez@sanjoseca.gov>; Carrasco, Magdalena <Magdalena.Carrasco@sanjoseca.gov>; Arenas, Sylvia <sylvia.arenas@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Morales-Ferrand, Jacky <Jacky.Morales-Ferrand@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Public Comments

[External Email]

Dear Council Members, City Clerk and Housing Director:

I attended the Council Redistricting Meeting on Tuesday December 7, 2021. I noticed something that I was once assured was not the case. I was astounded to find that indeed it was:

1. In the Public Comment letter on Redistricting, I noticed yellow bands with the words (paraphased) We do not download attached letters because they come from outside of City Hall. Perhaps, I may have seen the word "trusted" in the statement. It did not seem to stop the letters from the various groups, with multiple signors favoring the UNITY MAP. Unfortunately, a number of those effected did not voice their Map Selection in their email body, so the comments went unheard. I feel that this is a slap in the face, by City Hall. As citizens, we have done research, and due diligence, and written our reasoned thoughts as an attachment. This is a disgrace and it shows the value placed on concerned, thoughtful citizens. If it's too dangerous out of fear of hacking, then maybe it should be disclosed in the instructions. **IN BOLD PRINT!**

2. A second issue that is troublesome and irritating. Why do you insist on always refer 30% to 80% AMI without giving an actual number? I recognize that the numbers change, but you could put a footnote explanation and put actual earnings for a family of four.

The same may be stated for ordinance code, after giving the number, a brief statement of what is referenced.

3. I wonder how, citizens are chosen to speak? Those, there in person, who filled the yellow card should be chosen first, but how are on line selected. Exactly when is a citizen selected and in what order. The last two times, I attended, Commentary ended without my being called. I've asked: when the hand says raise the hand and you press it...The hand is raised? Yes? Once pressed the hand says lower the hand....I didn't press it!?! Perhaps someone might explain that.

David Eisbach

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**Blair Beekman. Saturday, December 11, 2021....Redistricting questions.**b. beekman <

Sat 12/11/2021 4:31 PM

[External Email]

Dear sj city council, and community,

I can understand, you may be receiving much input, on redistricting ideas, at this time. As a city council, I hope, it can be comfortable & acceptable, in exploring, creative options & choices, from initial maps, brought to you, by the redistricting commission.

To try to help, with a few simple ideas, towards creative imagination. Is there still time, to consider, how we can develop, some interesting ideas of racial equity, for the future of the Google village area, in the next decade. As we are beginning, a long term process. of how to better address, the serious redlining problems & history of San Jose.

I feel we should work, for District 7, to become a part of, the Willow St. and Vine St. areas. And to create, a 3 corners area - with District 3,6,& 7. All in a closer proximity, to the Horseshoe area, Google Village area, and Downtown San Jose.

From this, D7, can move along, Vine St, northward, and along the edges, of San Carlos Ave, eastward, to include, the Williams/Reed neighborhoods. And possibly, San Jose State Univ. and small parts, of the South 1st st, downtown area. This can be negotiable

District 7, possibly extending into, the south downtown area, and sharing 3 corners, with District 3 & 6, closer to Google Village, and the Horseshoe area, can be the ways, how people of low income areas, can have more of a voice, in the future of Google village, and the larger range, of overall, economic questions & plans, of D3 & D6.

It can also allow people, from the Spartan Keyes area, to feel more of a part of, the downtown area, as previously being, in District 3. And from this, make it easier, for many of the Spartan Keyes area, to continue to be a part of, the San Jose Unified School District. To also note, from this

redistricting, it may or may not, take some effort, to re-adjust, some San Jose Unified School district maps & issues. .

This redistricting, can continue to allow, District 3, to be an important, cohesive, economic engine, with - the S.J Airport; important, large corporate, and internet business, along N.First St.; the downtown Google Village/Diridon station area; the majority of downtown itself; one Bart Station, with the planning, of 2 others. All of this, in trying to respect, how D3. can continue to be, one of the important districts, of a Latin American voting population. With allowing, the Willow St. area, to become D7- this could possibly be made up, by D3, expanding into, the Little Portugal area, east of 101, and from Alum Rock to McKee, to about King Rd.

These are ideas, not meant as absolutes. These words are meant, as some imaginative ideas, that can help add to, creative good thinking, of future district lines. A good luck, to the ideas, of both, unity and community, in how we move forward, with redistricting, to address a redlining past, and what can be, a more hopeful, multicultural future.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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**Blair Beekman. Sunday, December 12, 2021....SJ Redistricting questions.**

b. beekman &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

Sun 12/12/2021 4:26 PM

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Dear city council, and community,

My hopeful, imaginative ideas of expanding D7, to include the Willow St. area, and Williams/Reed neighborhood area, would do much, toward equity issues, for D7. And I am learning, these can be very interesting ideas, how D7, can define an interesting future, of both, equality in redistricting & overall equity issues. It would work, to make the Latin American population, the same as the Asian population, in D7. And would also work, to create a more equal population percentage, for D3, as well.

These can be interesting, offset ideas, for the entire city. But I simply need to take more into account, that my recent redistricting ideas of D7, changes a long standing majority, for the Asian population, of D7. And that, has been established, for at least, a few decades, with the initial help and support, of federal govt. agencies. To help better define the rights, of a refugee Southeast asian population, that were moving into, current D7, San Jose neighborhoods, in the early 1980's.

It is also important to note, the years of previous redlining issues & mistrust, in San Jose. And that possibly, for the first time, since the incorporation of San Jose, a progressive Latin American segment of San Jose, has had, a more open, clear voice, and power, within the city govt.& community process.

So from all of this, the interesting questions, of equality in population, with redistricting, and the possible questions, of better equity, for a long time, lower income district D7 - This needs to be

balanced, with the ideas, of well-established, progressive, good practices, in districts having, 'a majority', of a racial/cultural/ethnic population.

Using, Cl. Cohen's maps for redistricting I think the current thinking, is that Districts 3 & 5, will be considered, a majority Latin American population. Districts, 4,7, & 8, will have Asian majorities. with an interesting Latin American influences. And Districts 6,9 &10, will be made up, in a majority, of the Caucasian/Northern European population. I hope, each district and racial group majority, can be made more clear, at council public meetings on redistricting.

I am better learning, it is the good understandings,& planning, of the racial groups, in each district, that can simply help insure, representation, can be better achieved. in a neighborhood, district, and city. These are standard, good, progressive practices, for over century now.

So, I have to learn to be, much more cautious, with my Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021, letter. Its can make for, interesting. important ideas, of both equity and equality, for the future of San Jose, And, for D7, in relation to the future of Google village, and with San Jose State Univ. neighborhood issues. And to note, the San Jose Unified School District, is different than current city redistricting questions, so it can still serve, the Spartan Keyes area, as previous.

In learning that D7, may be going through, much development, in the Spartan-Keyes area, and along the Monterey Highway, in the next 10 years, this could be an important help, in a more broad, available economy, for the D7. To also note, with the redevelopment plans, for the Spartan-Keyes area, with 28 story buildings, there has to be the ideas, of dialogue & compromise, in the obvious concerns, of the sj airport flight path.

Again, although it seems interesting work, I simply do not have the experience, or knowledge, how this can be a time, to better connect, how to work towards equity & equality issues, for San Jose redistricting issues, at this time.

The well-intentioned Ideas of equality, often tend to marginalize, non-Northern European races & cultures. It is from these fears & worries, most people of San Jose, are trying to balance, the ideas of equality in redistricting, with more, established practices, of good racial understandings, within each district. And from this, how to define districts, in terms of different racial majorities, throughout San Jose.

I would like to be open, to all sides & ideas. But I no longer have, easy answers, in redistricting questions, I hope this letter can acknowledge, how I am learning, to better understand, the redistricting questions, that are being asked in San Jose, at this time.

sincerely,  
blair beekman



**Re: Blair Beekman. Sunday, December 12, 2021....SJ Redistricting questions.**

Chale Soto &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

Sun 12/12/2021 5:38 PM

To: b. beekman &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

Cc: IPA <ipa@sanjoseca.gov>; PRNS. J. Cicirelli <john.cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; Greene, Shasta <shasta.greene@sanjoseca.gov>; Harkness, Kip <Kip.Harkness@sanjoseca.gov>; San Jose Airport Customer Services <AirportCustomerServices@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; Rios, Angel <Angel.Rios@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughey, Rosalynn <Rosalynn.Hughey@sanjoseca.gov>; C.Auditor.si. Joe Rois <Joe.Rois@sanjoseca.gov>; Hansen, Russell <Russell.Hansen@sanjoseca.gov>; z. Lan Diep <[REDACTED]>; Riordan, Ray <ray.riordan@sanjoseca.gov>; Wilcox, Leland <Leland.Wilcox@sanjoseca.gov>; VanderVeen, Rachel <Rachel.VanderVeen@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Torres, Omar <Omar.Torres@sanjoseca.gov>; Ristow, John <John.Ristow@sanjoseca.gov>; Dwyer, Jason <JASON.DWYER@sanjoseca.gov>; Morales, Veronica (Posada) <Veronica.Morales@sanjoseca.gov>; Washburn, Ellen <ellen.washburn@sanjoseca.gov>

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This is great, thank you!

On Sun, Dec 12, 2021, 4:25 PM b. beekman &lt;[REDACTED]&gt; wrote:

Dear city council, and community,

My hopeful, imaginative ideas of expanding D7, to include the Willow St. area, and Williams/Reed neighborhood area, would do much, toward equity issues, for D7. And I am learning, these can be very interesting ideas, how D7, can define an interesting future, of both, equality in redistricting & overall equity issues. It would work, to make the Latin American population, the same as the Asian population, in D7. And would also work, to create a more equal population percentage, for D3, as well.

These can be interesting, offset ideas, for the entire city. But I simply need to take more into account, that my recent redistricting ideas of D7, changes a long standing majority, for the Asian population, of D7. And that, has been established, for at least, a few decades, with the initial help and support, of federal govt. agencies. To help better define the rights, of a refugee Southeast asian population, that were moving into, current D7, San Jose neighborhoods, in the early 1980's.

It is also important to note, the years of previous redlining issues & mistrust, in San Jose. And that possibly, for the first time, since the incorporation of San Jose, a progressive Latin American

segment of San Jose, has had, a more open, clear voice, and power, within the city govt.& community process.

So from all of this, the interesting questions, of equality in population, with redistricting, and the possible questions, of better equity, for a long time, lower income district D7 - This needs to be balanced, with the ideas, of well-established, progressive, good practices, in districts having, 'a majority', of a racial/cultural/ethnic population.

Using, Cl. Cohen's maps for redistricting I think the current thinking, is that Districts 3 & 5, will be considered, a majority Latin American population. Districts, 4,7, & 8, will have Asian majorities. with an interesting Latin American influences. And Districts 6,9 &10, will be made up, in a majority, of the Caucasian/Northern European population. I hope, each district and racial group majority, can be made more clear, at council public meetings on redistricting.

I am better learning, it is the good understandings,& planning, of the racial groups, in each district, that can simply help insure, representation, can be better achieved. in a neighborhood, district, and city. These are standard, good, progressive practices, for over century now.

So, I have to learn to be, much more cautious, with my Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021, letter. Its can make for, interesting. important ideas, of both equity and equality, for the future of San Jose, And, for D7, in relation to the future of Google village, and with San Jose State Univ. neighborhood issues. And to note, the San Jose Unified School District, is different than current city redistricting questions, so it can still serve, the Spartan Keyes area, as previous.

In learning that D7, may be going through, much development, in the Spartan-Keyes area, and along the Monterey Highway, in the next 10 years, this could be an important help, in a more broad, available economy, for the D7. To also note, with the redevelopment plans, for the Spartan-Keyes area, with 28 story buildings, there has to be the ideas, of dialogue & compromise, in the obvious concerns, of the sj airport flight path.

Again, although it seems interesting work, I simply do not have the experience, or knowledge, how this can be a time, to better connect, how to work towards equity & equality issues, for San Jose redistricting issues, at this time.

The well-intentioned Ideas of equality, often tend to marginalize, non-Northern European races & cultures. It is from these fears & worries, most people of San Jose, are trying to balance, the ideas of equality in redistricting, with more, established practices, of good racial understandings, within each district. And from this, how to define districts, in terms of different racial majorities, throughout San Jose.

I would like to be open, to all sides & ideas. But I no longer have, easy answers, in redistricting questions, I hope this letter can acknowledge, how I am learning, to better understand, the redistricting questions, that are being asked in San Jose, at this time.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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## Redistricting Process Improvement - 1/11/22 City Council Agenda Item 2.2

David Noel [REDACTED]

Mon 1/10/2022 11:31 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; Liccardo, Sam <sam.liccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Jones, Chappie <Chappie.Jones@sanjoseca.gov>; Esparza, Maya <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; Peralez, Raul <Raul.Peralez@sanjoseca.gov>; Carrasco, Magdalena <Magdalena.Carrasco@sanjoseca.gov>; Arenas, Sylvia <sylvia.arenas@sanjoseca.gov>

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Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers,

At the December 14th City Council meeting, a motion was unanimously approved to agendize a redistricting process discussion at the January 11th council meeting. I don't see that discussion listed on the January 11th agenda, but I wanted to submit these recommendations for whenever that discussion is held:

### 1. IMPROVE INITIAL REDISTRICTING OUTREACH:

Require that the City Clerk's office coordinate closely with each council office when publicizing the initial outreach meetings for each district. Ensure the district meetings are publicized to everyone on the respective council office's mailing list and included in the councilmember's newsletter, and ensure that all active neighborhood and business associations in the district are notified. In addition to utilizing each district office's mailing lists, also publicize the outreach meetings city-wide via Nextdoor and/or any relevant social media used for community outreach at the time. Finally, clearly communicate with residents what communication is allowed and disallowed with the Redistricting Commissioners.

### 2. PROVIDE CLEARER DIRECTION TO THE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION:

The city council was distressed to receive three maps from the Redistricting Commission instead of one map. This should not have been a surprise since city council Resolution No. 79867 which formed the commission was not specific in what the commission was to provide back to the council. See the excerpt below in blue text. This may have been exacerbated by the Santa Clara County Redistricting Advisory Commission setting a precedent of providing the Board of Supervisors multiple maps shortly before the city Redistricting Commission was to provide its final report.

For future, I recommend the council request a single final map, \*plus\* a table of key neighborhoods with brief explanations of why they should be kept together and/or in specific districts.

I further recommend the council provide exceptionally clear instructions when adding any new considerations to those listed in the governing documents (City Charter, State and Federal Law). The Resolution should provide a single consolidated, prioritized list of considerations, merging those in the governing documents with the new considerations added by the council. (For example: equal population, contiguity, etc.)

[Excerpt from Resolution No. 79867:](#)

### [SECTION 2. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.](#)

A. The Redistricting Commission shall submit its report and recommendations regarding Council District boundaries within one hundred twenty (120) days from the date the redistricting counts are delivered to the States.

B. In addition to any requirements under the City Charter and State and federal law, the Redistricting Commission, to the extent practicable, should recommend Districts to the Council that provide racial minorities with an equal opportunity to participate in the political process and do not dilute or diminish their ability to elect candidates of choice whether alone or in coalitions with others.

### 3. CONSIDER A CHARTER UPDATE FOR ANY NEW REDISTRICTING CONSIDERATIONS:

Should the council seek a ballot measure to update the city charter to change the number of districts, consider concurrently updating the charter's list of redistricting considerations to simplify the task of future Redistricting Commissions. The current considerations are excerpted below in green text.

Excerpt from City Charter:

#### SECTION 403. Elections by Districts.

In any redistricting, the Council shall make the Districts as nearly equal in population as may be practicable, and may, in establishing the boundaries of the Districts, give consideration to (a) natural boundaries, street lines and/or City boundaries; (b) geography; (c) cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity and compactness of territory; and (d) community of interests within each District.

### 4. CONSIDER MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT RULES:

It was very common to have large groups of public speakers repeating the same script, while their leaders had difficulty expressing highly-researched positions in one minute comment periods. Consider allowing topic leaders a longer comment period such as 5 minutes to discuss their position in detail, to be followed by their supporters, who would each be given a shorter time such as 30 seconds to list their name, district, neighborhood, and anything specific to their neighborhood. I realize this could be hard to manage, but it could potentially speed up the meeting and allow well-researched commenters to fully express their testimony.

### 5. IMPROVE MAP AVAILABILITY AND NAMING:

Here are some recommendations regarding maps:

- a) Any map to be discussed in a Redistricting Commission or City Council meeting should be published on the city's website 72 hours before the meeting, and should include a link to a common interactive mapping tool (e.g. districtr). This way all stakeholders can view the detailed boundaries and population statistics for all maps under consideration at least 72 hours before the relevant meeting.
- b) Map naming convention should be established early in the process and adhered to throughout the process.
- c) The name of every new map should include a higher date, number and/or letter than all prior maps.
- d) Avoid using confusing names, for example avoid any map names starting with the letter "D" which can be confused with "District".
- c) Separate old maps from current maps so it is exceptionally clear to anyone viewing the city website which maps are currently under consideration.

Regards,

David Noel, President  
Erikson Neighborhood Association  
District 9 Resident

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**January 11 Agenda item 2.2 (21-2655)**

Greg Peck &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

Tue 1/11/2022 1:13 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Sandoval, Vanessa <vanessa.sandoval@sanjoseca.gov>; Karen Lattin [REDACTED] Barbara Canup [REDACTED]; Lynne Steele [REDACTED] Alan Chan [REDACTED] Herb Bowen [REDACTED] City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

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Honorable Mayor Sam Liccardo and Council Members:

We are writing this letter in case item 2.2, 21-2655, is pulled from the Consent agenda and further discussion or modifications need to be made to the final redistricting map. If the item is not pulled from the Consent agenda, we support the current final draft map as proposed on the agenda and shown here.

If the item is pulled from the consent calendar, we want to make sure Los Paseos neighborhood remains intact in a single district if any adjustments are made to the final map. The map previous to the current final draft had Los Paseos split and 370 homes out of approximately 1500 homes were placed in District 2, with the remaining homes in District 10. However, those 370 homes were very isolated from District 2 by barriers such as the UP railroad tracks, Monterey Road and Tulare Hill. This would not be good for our neighborhood. The entire Los Paseos neighborhood shares common interests and it would be detrimental to our residents and neighborhood association to be split into two districts.

We've attached a map showing an overview of the Los Paseos neighborhood for your reference.

Thank you,

Greg Peck, President, Los Paseos Neighborhood Association (LPNA)

Karen Lattin, Vice President, LPNA

Barbara Canup, Treasurer, LPNA

Lynne Steele, Secretary, LPNA

Alan Chan, Member at Large, LPNA

Herb Bowen, Member at Large, LPNA

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