



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Toni J. Taber, CMC
City Clerk

**SUBJECT: REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS
APPOINTMENTS**

DATE: January 4, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

(a) Provisionally appoint the following Commissioners designated by the Mayor and City Council and, to permit the public to submit comment on the Commissioners, return on January 26, 2021 for final appointment:

- (1) District 1 Seat: Appoint Jonathan Brun,
- (2) District 2 Seat: Appoint Enedina Cardenas,
- (3) District 3 Seat: Appoint Daisy Castro,
- (4) District 4 Seat: Appoint Kaitlyn Tran,
- (5) District 5 Seat: Appoint Ramon Martinez,
- (6) District 6 Seat: Appoint Andrew Ditlevsen,
- (7) District 7 Seat: Appoint Fred Sidbury,
- (8) District 8 Seat: Appoint Sylvia Alvarez,
- (9) District 9 Seat: Appoint BJ Fadem,
- (10) District 10 Seat: Appoint Lenka Wright,
- (11) Citywide Chair: Appoint Teresa Alvarado.

OUTCOME

Approval of these appointments will begin process to seat the Redistricting Commission by February 1, 2021.

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the City Charter section 403: Elections by Districts:

By no later than February 1 in the year following the decennial census, the Council shall appoint an Advisory Commission whose purpose shall be to study and make appropriate recommendations with respect to such redistricting. This Advisory Commission shall consist of one (1) member from each District, who shall be appointed by the Council member from that District, and a Chairperson chosen from the City at large, who shall be appointed by the Mayor. The membership of the Commission shall be representative of the ethnic make-up of the City at large, to the extent practicable.

On October 27, 2020, the City Council directed the City Clerk to create a website which will allow members of the public to review and comment on Redistricting Commission applications. Those [applications were posted and linked on December 21, 2020](#). No comments were received at the time of this writing. Additional direction called for a provisional appointment of two weeks during which the City Clerk or City Attorney can provide an evaluation of whether the proposed appointees as a whole would compose a commission that is in fact racially/ethnically representative of the City. Require that the final appointments be made together at a noticed council meeting so that councilmembers can deliberate and make adjustments as needed to ensure diversity. 4. Enable public input on commissioner selections before they are final: Permit the public to comment on the proposed commissioners during this provisional period.

Because the nominated applicants did not provide information on ethnicity or gender, the City Clerk is unable to provide an analysis if the current nominations are ethnically representative of the City. Using information from the [Community Profile Fact Sheet](#), the chart, below, generally shows the ethnic makeup of the City:

Ethnicity	% of Population
African American	2.8%
Asian	34.2%
Hispanic	32.8%
White	26.7%
Other	3.5%

In addition, on October 27, 2020, the Council approved a memorandum from Mayor Liccardo, dated October 9, 2020, establishing parameters for the conduct of the Commission once appointed. These parameters are:

- Adopt the provisions for California’s Citizens Redistricting Commission in Government Code section 8253(a)(3), which states: “Commission members and staff may not communicate with or receive communications about redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public hearing. This paragraph does not prohibit communication between commission members, staff, legal counsel and consultants retained by the commission.”
- Require all communication with commissioners concerning redistricting from elected officials to be made orally during public comment at a commission meeting or in written comment submitted to the commission and published online.
- Permit removal of a commissioner by the appointing elected official for good cause only (e.g. health problems or moving out of San Jose) and with confirmation via a majority vote of the redistricting commission.

Finally, Measure G amended Charter Section 403 to allow the Council to prescribe the time for the Redistricting Commission to submit its report and recommendations, instead of the previous Charter requirement of 120 days following appointment of the Commission.

ANALYSIS

The redacted applications of all candidates are attached for provisional appointment. Final appointment is scheduled for January 26, 2021. At that time, a Resolution will be recommended for Council adoption to establish the Redistricting Commission in accordance with prior Council direction as well as prescribing the time for the Redistricting Commission to submit its report and recommendations to the Council.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

A duty of the Office of the City Clerk is to minimize vacancies on the Boards and Commissions.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The Office of the City Clerk notified all Council Districts of the vacancies, and created an advertisement for Council offices to run in their newsletters. The recruitment ended on December 13 and was extended to December 24th.

The memorandum has been posted on the City Clerk's website as part of the January 12, 2021 City Council Meeting Agenda.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the Office of the City Attorney.

CEQA

Not a Project, File No. PP17-010, City Administrative Activities, resulting in no changes to the physical environment.



TONI J. TABER, CMC
City Clerk

For questions, please contact Toni Taber, City Clerk, at (408) 535-1260.