



Redistricting Commission City of San José MINUTES

<https://sanjoseca.zoom.us/j/92742607814>

7:00 PM

Thursday, October 7, 2021

Present: Sylvia Alvarez (7:02 p.m.), Enedina Cardenas, Gloria Collins, Andrew Ditlevsen, B J Fadem (7:25 p.m.), Freddie W. Sidbury Jr., Lenka Wright

Absent: Jonathan Bruns, Ramon Martinez

Staff: Megan Roche, Legislative Secretary; Toni J. Taber, City Clerk; Mark Vanni, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Kimi Shigetani and Chris Chaffee, Redistricting Partners

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Ditlevsen, the Commission moved to accept the Orders of the Day. (6-0-3; Absent: Bruns, Fadem, Martinez)

II. Public Record- None

III. Consent Calendar

a) Approve Redistricting Commission Minutes.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Ditlevsen and seconded by Commissioner Sidbury, the Commission moved to adopt the Redistricting Commission minutes from September 16, 2021. (6-0-3; Absent: Bruns, Fadem, Martinez)

Public Comment: Jeffrey Buchanan, on behalf of Working Partnerships USA, hoped for draft maps to be available in a format that is usable on the DistrictR website.

IV. Reports & Information

a. Report from Chair- None

b. Report from Clerk- None

c. Report from Consultant- None

V. Public Hearing

a. Review Draft Maps

Kimi Shigetani, on behalf of Redistricting Partners, reviewed the community of interest testimony that the Commission has received. Ms. Shigetani reviewed draft plans A, B, and C and commissioners provided feedback.

Public Comment: Jeffrey Buchanan, on behalf of Silicon Valley Rising Action, shared concerns about the format of draft maps, division of communities of interest within draft maps, and the timing of the release of draft maps. Greg Ripa wished to see draft plans with more compact districts that do not divide communities of interest, which, if necessary, have more population variance. Gabriela Garzon Gupta requested that the redistricting process become more public-facing and for the timeline of the map-drafting process to be made clearer.

Chris Chaffee, on behalf of Redistricting Partners, reviewed and compared the draft map plans within the Maptitude program and received commissioner input.

Public Comment: Tam Nguyen, on behalf of VIVO, described VIVO's outreach to the Vietnamese American community, noted that this community lies well within the boundaries of Districts 4, 7, and 8, identified key landmarks for this community, and wished for the Commission to draw district lines in a way that would allow Vietnamese American voters to elect a Councilmember. Jeffrey Buchanan advised the Commission to strengthen existing pluralities within the AAPI and Latinx populations, and in doing so, the Commission will be able to preserve some of the existing groupings of neighborhoods. Blair Beekman thanked the Commission for holding the meeting.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Ditlevsen and seconded by Commissioner Alvarez, the Commission moved to direct Redistricting Partners to provide new draft map draft plans which better align with community of interest testimony, which are accessible within the DistrictR program, with districts labeled by numbers, and with minimal population-based adjustments to the current district lines. (7-0-2; Absent: Bruns, Martinez)

VI. Old Business- None

VII. New Business

a) Communities of Interest.

Members of the public were invited to provide community of interest testimony.

Public Comment: None

VIII. Public Comment/Open Forum

Public Comment: Gabriela Garzon Gupta, on behalf of the Asian Law Alliance, reiterated

the need to make the redistricting process more public-facing and asked for an explanation of both the 2020 Census data and how draft maps were drawn. Blair Beekman encouraged the Commission to follow the Charter Review Commission's lead of promoting democratic community involvement through the implementation of election ideas. Jeffrey Buchanan requested explanation of how total deviation is calculated and also wished for deviation statistics to be listed on draft maps.

VIII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting of the Redistricting Commission is scheduled for October 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

X. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 8:16 p.m.



Email: megan.roche@sanjoseca.gov

Prepared by:
Megan Roche, Deputy City Clerk



Email: [REDACTED]

Enedina Cardenas
Vice Chair, Redistricting Commission