

City of Pomona

505 S. Garey Ave
Pomona, CA 91766

Special Meeting Minutes

INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION



*Commissioner Aldo Yañez-Ruiz
Vice-Chair Leticia Casillas-Sanchez
Commissioner Natalie Chaidez
Commissioner Timmy Luong
Commissioner Ruth Alvarez
Commissioner Nancy Diaz
Commissioner John Mendoza*

VISION STATEMENT

*Pomona will be recognized as a vibrant, safe, beautiful
community that is a fun and exciting destination and the home of
arts and artists, students and scholars, business and industry.*

Saturday, November 13, 2021

10:00 A.M.

Teleconference via Zoom

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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Yañez Ruiz called the Independent Redistricting Commission Meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Yañez Ruiz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present via Zoom: Chair Aldo Yañez Ruiz
Vice-Chair Leticia Casillas-Sanchez (arrived at 10:15 am)
Commissioner Natalie Chaidez
Commissioner Ruth Alvarez
Commissioner Nancy Diaz
Commissioner John Mendoza

Absent: Commissioner Timmy Luong

STAFF PRESENT via Zoom

Rosalia Butler, City Clerk
Mark Gluba, Deputy City Manager
Alison Glynn, Deputy City Clerk/Commission Secretary

Maria Arellano, Administrative Clerk, City Clerk's Office
Karla Shipman, Deputy City Clerk II

Hilda Estrada, contracted by the City to provide translation services via Zoom.

Staff from Tripepi Smith, an organization contracted by the City to provide marketing and outreach for the redistricting process.

Staff from National Demographics Corporation (NDC), an organization contracted by the City to provide demography services for the redistricting process.

Nine members of the public attended the meeting.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

1. **Consultant led Discussion and Workshop on Online Mapping Tools, Communities of Interest, and Overview of the Redistricting Process**
 - A. Overview of Goals, Timeline and Redistricting Process
 - B. Discussion on Legislative Process, Requirements for Redistricting, and Communities of Interest
 - C. Overview and Demonstration of Online Mapping Tools

Commission Secretary Glynn explained the process for public participation in the workshop setting.

Chair Yañez Ruiz introduced the workshop and turned the meeting over to staff from Tripepi Smith and NDC.

Victor Manolo from Tripepi Smith facilitated the workshop and encouraged the community to get involved.

Jeff Simonetti from NDC gave an overview of goals, timeline and redistricting process.

Mr. Simonetti asked if there were questions about the new 2020 demographic data.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if the public had access to this information. Mr. Simonetti said he anticipated the data would be uploaded to the District R website the following week.

Commissioner Mendoza pointed out the Hispanic population disparity between Districts 5 & 6, and asked if it was mandatory that the population increase be Hispanic in District 5.

Mr. Simonetti said if there was a way to draw the districts with six majority Hispanic seats, then it was something that had to take place.

Chair Yañez Ruiz said he disagreed with the interpretation of the Voting Rights Act and case law on the topic. He cautioned against relying too much on race and ethnicity data when creating the maps.

Jeff Simonetti continued the presentation on defining neighborhoods and communities of interest.

Deputy City Manager Gluba pointed out there were multiple historic districts and that it would be impossible to contain all of them within one district.

Victor Manolo facilitated the discussion on communities of interest.

Eunice Russell asked for clarity on how creating six majority Hispanic districts would play in with communities of interest. She asked if that factor would have to be considered with the public draft map submissions.

Mr. Simonetti said that there was a possibility of some communities of interest being split up if there are Federal Voting Rights Act or other legal concerns.

Eunice Russell asked for some clarity about timelines and confusion for the public regarding the new data and the drafting of maps. She asked how other cities with sooner deadlines were able to draw maps with the delay in processing the 2020 data.

Mr. Simonetti said the mapping tool with the full 2020 data should be available the following week. He said some cities would only have a short time to submit draft maps.

A discussion on communities of interest ensued between the Commission and staff.

Jeff Simonetti demonstrated the online mapping tools.

Victor Manolo led the discussion on the online mapping tools.

Commissioner Diaz asked about instruction materials for the public to understand how to use the mapping tool.

Jeff Simonetti gave an overview of the public participation kit.

Eunice Russell reiterated comments by Commissioner Alvarez stating that two different websites for the public to submit maps was confusing. She indicated she initially drew her map on the Draw Pomona website and asked Mr. Simonetti to explain why there were two different websites.

Chair Yañez Ruiz explained the Draw Pomona website was the home page for the Pomona redistricting process and that you could find the link to the District R tool there.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In the Q&A section, the following questions were asked:

John Clifford:

"Note the slide mentioned Pomona Historic District. There are actually three different historic districts. The main thing is that each historic district is its own community of interest. Will the mapping tool identify those areas as specific communities of interest?"

(This question was answered live in the meeting)

Eunice Russell:

"Ganesha Hills is an important community and should not be split up. If you have to split the district, then go all the way up and include the Fairplex."

(This question was answered live in the meeting)

Paula Lantz:

"How many members of the public are "attending" this morning?"

Deputy City Manager Gluba indicated he saw six non-staff in the attendees.

John Clifford:

"The three historic districts are Lincoln Park, Wilton Heights, and Hacienda Park."

"Sorry, forgot our newest historic district (just designated last month) The Pomona Civic Center Historic District. We also have a National Register Historic District, the Edison Historic District, on 2nd St. in Downtown."

Paula Lantz:

"There needs to be a serious conversation about outreach."

John Clifford:

"Hmm. Are business/industrial districts voters who need to be taken into account for districting? WHY? Is there a concern that business neighbors will be unfairly represented?"

(This question was answered by Clare Burgess from Tripepi Smith)

Anonymous Attendee:

"How is the Commission going to look at hundreds possibly thousands of maps?"

(This question was answered by Clare Burgess from Tripepi Smith)

Eunice Russell:

"Why would you want to waste the consultants and commissions time reviewing maps with incorrect data? Some of the changes between 2010 and 2020 are major. The idea is for the commission to look at new and relevant data to make an informative decision. If the consultants are wasting time and money to review maps with old information is just plain silly. So that's why I asked them to explain how they were going to review the data and present it to the Commission."

(This question was answered by Clare Burgess from Tripepi Smith)

Maria Zepeda:

"Why city help no district 1 its very bad a lot accidents people no respect speed orange grove dudley holt is really bad."

"Security in school how City implementation for make school more secure and safe."

John Clifford:

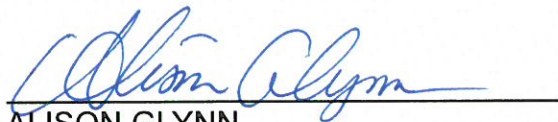
"Are there residents and voters in the mission/71 business park? Isn't redistricting talking about residents and voters?"

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Yañez Ruiz adjourned the meeting at 12:08 pm to the next Special Meeting/Workshop on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:



ALISON GLYNN
Deputy City Clerk /Commission
Secretary to the Independent
Redistricting Commission



ALDO YAÑEZ RUIZ
Chair of the Independent Redistricting
Commission

