

DISTRICT BOUNDARIES INCLUDING SUBMISSIONS OF COMMUNITY OF INTEREST INPUT FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Task Force conduct a public hearing and take the following action:

- (1) Find that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(3), the General Rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
- (2) Receive and file written and oral testimony on the City's redistricting process, composition of Council District boundaries, and communities of interest information.

Sandra Robles, Deputy City Clerk, opened the public hearing; reported that the public hearing notice was published in the Chinese L.A. Daily News, The Epoch Times, La Opinion, The Pasadena Journal, and The Pasadena Press on August 5, 2021; 24 letters/emails providing comments and recommendations (3 of those letters from Playhouse Village, and 8 from one member of the public) were received by the City Clerk's Office, which were distributed to the Task Force, posted on-line, and made part of the public record.

Mark Jomsky, City Clerk, presented a PowerPoint presentation providing an update on the City's 2021 Redistricting process, including information on redistricting outreach, and responded to questions.

Douglas Johnson, and Kristen Parks, representing National Demographics Corporation (Redistricting consultants), presented a PowerPoint presentation on the collection of submitted community of interests, public testimony and maps to date; and responded to questions.

Member McKenzie spoke on the need to inform the public that they have an opportunity to provide feedback to the Redistricting Task Force related to communities of interest up to the last Task Force meeting.

Member Baum stated the following for the record, "I'm grateful for the ideas and the communities that surfaced through this process. Things like the 710 corridor of renters are a definite community of interest, for the Playhouse District...definite a community of interest, but for the public sake, I want it to be represented that this is not the finite list of community of interests that represent the spectrum of interests across Pasadena and that I'm endeavor...excuse me, also make sure that others are represented and...across the spectrum. Not only the legal requirements, but also the various neighborhoods interests as well."

Nina Chomsky, representing the Linda Vista-Annandale Association (LVAA), applauded the transparency and public outreach of the process, spoke on two communities of interest (LVAA, West Pasadena distinctive neighborhoods, and the Arroyo Seco) within City Council District 6; and advocated to move City Council District 6 further into the Central Arroyo.

Gina Dance, expressed appreciation to the Task Force and staff for the transparency related to redistricting; and encouraged additional outreach to the community.

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Tornek, seconded by Member Chen, to close the public hearing:

AYES: Members, Baum, Chen, Coher, Lim, McKenzie, McAustin, Nanne, Tornek, Vannini, Yarbrough, Vice Chair Moreno, Chair Farhat

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Member McKenzie requested digital copies of collaborative outreach and materials in order for her to provide to individuals within her network.

Chair Farhat was excused and left the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

Following further discussion, it was moved by Member Tornek, seconded by Member Lim, to approve the staff recommendation:

AYES: Members, Baum, Chen, Coher, Lim, McKenzie, McAustin, Nanne, Tornek, Vannini, Yarbrough, Vice Chair Moreno

NOES: None

ABSENT: Chair Farhat

ABSTAIN: None

DISCUSSION REGARDING NEXT STEPS IN PASADENA'S REDISTRICTING PROCESS, INCLUDING:

- **Report from National Demographics Regarding US Census Data and Timing of Redistricting Data from State of California**
- **Opportunities for Additional Outreach by Members of the Task Force**
- **Remaining Schedule for Redistricting Task Force**

City Clerk Jomsky provided introductory comments, and Douglas Johnson, and Kristen Parks, representing National Demographics Corporation (Redistricting consultants), presented a PowerPoint presentation on the item, with all responding to questions.

Member Nanne requested that staff circulate the Population Estimates presented by Mr. Johnson to the Task Force. City Clerk Jomsky responded that staff received the information today and will forward the information and post to the City's website promptly.

Member Lim asked staff to review the neighbor associations list to confirm all the associations on the list are in Pasadena and not Unincorporated Pasadena, and to ensure all apartment and townhome associations are included in the list.

Theresa Fuentes, Assistant City Attorney, provided information on the Task Force's inability to consider potential populations, the legal criteria that mandate the strict use of census data only, and recommended that the Task Force not estimate future populations when it comes to future or anticipated growth; and responded to questions.

Lena Kennedy, Pasadena resident, spoke on the need to work with churches in Pasadena to distribute redistricting information.

City Clerk Jomsky provided an overview on the City's Redistricting schedule, and responded to questions.

Vice Chair Moreno spoke on the all-Spanish speaking redistricting community workshop held on Saturday, August 7, 2021, at Madison Elementary School.

Member Tornek expressed concerns with the Redistricting schedule, due to the Task Force not allowed to draw district maps until the census data from the state is provided; and spoke on the need to engage the public related to redistricting (i.e. community representation, neighborhoods) during the month of September. He also expressed concerns with the map making approach, which he finds hampering.

Member Vannini echoed Member Tornek's concerns related to the redistricting schedule, and recommended that the Task Force analyze the City's racial and voting demographics that apply to the Voting Rights Act during this period of time.

Member McKenzie stated that she believes that the Task Force charge (until the official census data is provided) is to ensure staff and Task Force members are disseminating the redistricting information to all communities within Pasadena to gather as much input as possible.

Gina Dance, recommended virtual meetings for the public to orally advocate for their community of interest, and for redistricting information booths to be provided during concerts at the Rose Bowl and other public events.

Following discussion, by consensus of the Redistricting Task Force, and on order of the Chair, the information was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT:

On the order of the Vice Chair, the special meeting of the Redistricting Task Force was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.



VINCE FARHAT, Chair
Redistricting Task Force

ATTEST:



Sandra S. Robles
Recording Secretary