

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Redistricting Task Force

**FROM:** Ad Hoc Committee

**DATE:** October 14, 2021

**RE: REPORT ON AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING TO REVIEW THE PROPOSED REDISTRICTING MAP BOUNDARY CHANGES AND RESULTING IMPACTS TO DISTRICTS 1, 2, 3, AND 5**

On October 11, 2021, the Ad Hoc Committee comprised of Vice Chair Rita Moreno, Member Adriana Lim, Member Patrice Marshall McKenzie, and Member Delano Yarbrough met with redistricting consultants David Ely and Kristen Parks, and City Clerk Mark Jomsky. David Ely led the group in a review of the proposed changes to district boundaries based on map variations discussed at the October 9, 2021 Redistricting Task Force meeting.

As part of the review, the consultants provided a breakdown that included the total number of people that would move districts, the demographic composition of those affected, the geographic details of each adjustment, the number of voters that would change voting cycles, and whether the proposed change in population fit within the character of the existing district.

The discussion of the Ad Hoc Committee is summarized as follows:

- The general discussion and consensus of the Ad Hoc Committee was to minimize changes to Districts 1, 3, and 5, and to a lesser extent District 2, given the apparent undercount in the 2020 census that disproportionately affected the Black and Latino communities.
- The 10% deviation map was reviewed with the committee appreciating the ability to focus in on geographic details of each boundary adjustment. At least one Ad Hoc Committee member agreed that that the 10% deviation minimal change map appears to be the most attractive given the minor adjustments in area and population throughout the City, while still meeting the legal requirements and criteria for redistricting. It was also noted that it was more important to consider and mitigate the impacts of redistricting on communities rather than achieving mathematically balanced districts.

- There were questions raised in the review of the 5% deviation map regarding the demographic data for some of the areas that would be added to northwest districts, particularly those showing a greater non-Hispanic white and/or Asian population adjustment (noted as examples were adjustments from District 6 to District 3 and District 2 to District 5).
- There was also concern regarding the 5% deviation map boundary change of District 3 to District 1 (Washington Blvd, 210 Freeway, Hammond St, and Sunset Ave), suggesting that this area would be disconnected from the rest of District 1, with the 210 Freeway and Washington Blvd creating noticeable separation between the new proposed area and the district.
- A similar concern was raised with the 1% deviation map, which shifted a larger area from District 3 to District 1 (Washington, 210 Fwy, Mountain St, and Sunset Ave), citing the same issue of disconnection with the rest of District 1.
- Regarding the proposed Central District in Options A and B, the Ad Hoc Committee was very concerned with the impacts these changes would have on communities of interest in Districts 1, 2, 3, and 5. There was also concerns raised regarding the shifting of large numbers of people into new districts (28,934 moving districts in Option A, and 38,621 moving districts in Option B). The Ad Hoc Committee found these proposals unacceptable in the way that neighborhoods were reconfigured, thus creating unduly significant changes to the northwest area of the City. There was discussion on the history of disenfranchisement and institutional racism that has occurred in Northwest Pasadena. As proposed, Downtown Options A and B would impact the Northwest Pasadena by splitting neighborhoods and communities of interest in an unfair manner and further burden the area north and east of the 210 freeway.
- The Ad Hoc Committee noted that any adjustments needed for a central/downtown district should be drawn in a way that minimizes the impacts to communities in the northwest area of the City. The consultants, hearing the discussion, suggested an alternative approach to drawing a central/downtown district by combining elements of the minimal change map with the central/downtown district approach. A rough sketch was drafted by the consultant to illustrate the combined minimal change and central/downtown district approach. In response, it was noted by the Ad

Hoc Committee that the consultant's "Option C" (attached for the full Task Force review) would still significantly affect other parts of the City, specifically Districts 6 and 7. Following discussion, it was determined that the consultant should share Option C with the full Task Force for consideration given the minimal impacts this would have on communities and neighborhoods in Districts 1, 2, 3, and 5.

- With regard to the footprint and historical demographics that lead to the shaping of Districts 3 and 5, it was explained by the consultant that District 3 was drawn in a way to retain pockets of the black community within one district as a community of interest. Since it was not the charge of the Ad Hoc Committee to draw a possible new footprint for these districts, it was simply noted that there may or may not be better options to address the history or current shape of these two districts.