



**CITY OF OAKLAND  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
(REGULAR MEETING)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 9, 2020**  
Via Teleconference

Redistricting Commissioners: Benjie Achtenberg, Amber Blackwell, Daniel Chesmore (Alternate), Gloria Crowell, Lilibeth Gangas, Shirley Gee, Stephanie Goode, Masoud Hamidi (Alternate), Martha Hernandez, Paul Marshall, Tracy Richmond McKnight, Diana Miller, Tejal Shah, Jan Stevens, and Mary Velasco.

Commission website: [www.oaklandca.gov/redistricting](http://www.oaklandca.gov/redistricting)

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**1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**

Quorum was determined and the meeting started at 5:01 pm.

Commissioners present: Benjie Achtenberg, Amber Blackwell (arrived at 5:47 pm), Gloria Crowell, Lilibeth Gangas, Shirley Gee, Stephanie Goode, Martha Hernandez (arrived at 5:21 pm), Paul Marshall, Tracy Richmond McKnight, Diana Miller, Tejal Shah, Jan Stevens, and Mary Velasco.

Commissioners absent: None.

Alternate Commissioners present: Daniel Chesmore, Masoud Hamidi.

Alternate Commissioners absent: None.

City staff present: Richard J. Luna.

City Attorney staff present: Mitesh Bhakta.

**2. Open Forum**

There were no public comments on this item.

**3. Disclosure Requirements by Commissioners**

Alternate Commissioner Chesmore disclosed that during a conversation with City Councilmember Dan Kalb, the boundaries of Koreatown were discussed. Primarily, the issue discussed is that Koreatown resides in both Districts 1 and 3.

There were no public comments on this item.

**CITY OF OAKLAND  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
(REGULAR MEETING)**

**Meeting Minutes (Continued)**

**Wednesday, December 9, 2020**  
Via Teleconference

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**4. Race & Equity Training**

Darlene Flynn, Director of Race & Equity, provided a training to the Commissioners on the City's efforts to address racial equity issues in Oakland and how that work applies to the redistricting process. Commissioners asked clarifying questions on how to address inequities as the Commission advances its work.

Public comments were provided by:  
Helen Hutchison  
Liz Suk

There was no action on this item.

**5. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The Commission reviewed the draft meeting minutes. A motion was made by Gloria Crowell, seconded by Benjie Achtenberg, to approve the minutes for the meeting of November 12, 2020. The motion passed with 13 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hernandez, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco).

There were no public comments for this item.

**6. Ad Hoc Committee Updates**

On behalf of the Communications Ad Hoc Committee, Commissioner Stephanie Goode presented and requested feedback on a draft talking points document that was included in the agenda packet. Members of the Communications Ad Hoc Committee also stated a need to clearly define the roles of the Communications and Outreach Ad Hoc Committees. City staff stated Commission meetings were the best opportunity to exchange ideas between Ad Hoc Committees and define work, and that any proposals or recommendations developed by the Committees would return to the Commission for final adoption.

Commissioners also offered questions and input on how to conduct outreach and engagement, and what City resources and external partners the Commission can leverage in conducting its work. Chair Shirley Gee and Commissioner Stephanie Goode recommended the Ad Hoc Committees focus on developing its plans to be presented to the entire Commission.

City staff requested that the Commission formally assign the duty of developing the Chair and Vice Chair rotation schedule, as stated in the Rules of Procedure, to the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee.

**CITY OF OAKLAND  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
(REGULAR MEETING)**

**Meeting Minutes (Continued)**

**Wednesday, December 9, 2020**  
Via Teleconference

---

A motion was made by Jan Stevens, seconded by Gloria Crowell, for the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee to develop and propose the Chair and Vice Chair rotation schedule at the January meeting. The motion passed with 13 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hernandez, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco).

There were no public comments for this item.

**7. Agenda Requests for Future Meetings**

Alternate Commissioner Daniel Chesmore requested an issues and concerns standing item be added to future agendas for Commissioners to address new topics for the Commission. Deputy City Attorney Mitesh Bhakta stated that agenda noticing regulations would require specific topics be listed on the agenda and should the Commission want to add new topics to a future meeting for discussion, the Commission could do so under the current item. Alternate Commissioner Daniel Chesmore requested that the Ad Hoc Committee research Koreatown and the historical reasons for why it is located in two City Council Districts.

A motion was made by Lilibeth Gangas, seconded by Diana Miller, for the Outreach Ad Hoc Committee to research why Koreatown resides in two City Council Districts.

After discussion, an amendment to the first motion was made by Tracy Richmond McKnight, seconded by Tejal Shah, for the Outreach Ad Hoc Committee to start with Koreatown but include all communities of interest that span across two City Council Districts in their research.

After further discussion, the amendment by Tracy Richmond McKnight was withdrawn.

The first motion made by Lilibeth Gangas failed by a vote of five ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Hernandez, Miller) and eight noes (Crowell, Gee, Goode, Marshall, McKnight, Shah, Stevens, Velasco).

A second motion was made by Gloria Crowell, seconded by Tracy Richmond McKnight, to extend the meeting beyond 8:00 pm. The motion passed with 13 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hernandez, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco).

Commissioners made the following requests to add agenda items to the January meeting: Commissioner Stephanie Goode requested that the Ad Hoc Committees present drafts of their scope of work for review; Commissioner Gloria Crowell requested an update from the Consultant Selection Process Ad Hoc Committee; Alternate Commissioner Daniel

**CITY OF OAKLAND  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
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Chesmore requested a study session on why Koreatown resides in two City Council Districts.

There were no public comments on this item.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.