



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

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 11, 2021
Via Teleconference

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

Commission website: www.oaklandca.gov/redistricting

1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Quorum was determined and the meeting started at 5:07 pm.

Commissioners present: Benjie Achtenberg, Amber Blackwell, Gloria Crowell (arrived at 5:20 pm), Lilibeth Gangas, Shirley Gee, Stephanie Goode, Paul Marshall, Diana Miller, Tejal Shah, and Jan Stevens.

Commissioners excused: Masoud Hamidi, Tracy Richmond McKnight, Mary Velasco.

Commissioners absent: none

Alternate Commissioners present: Daniel Chesmore, Bharat Singh

Alternate Commissioners absent: none

City staff present: Richard J. Luna, Corey Alvin.

City Attorney staff present: Mitesh Bhakta.

2. Open Forum

Public comments were provided by the following speakers:
Cathy Leonard

3. Disclosure Requirements by Commissioners

Co-Vice Chair Tejal Shah stated the organization she works for, EBALDC, received the Commission's outreach consultant request for proposal and decided against submitting a response due to a conflict of interest.

Commissioner Shirley Gee stated she sent emails to members of the School Board, City Council and multiple community groups encouraging them to share redistricting information.

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Commissioner Jan Stevens had a conversation about redistricting with a staff member from City Councilmember Dan Kalb's Office.

Commissioner Lilibeth Gangas stated a City Councilmember is in a regular working group she attends, and that the working group is non-redistricting related.

Alternate Commissioner Daniel Chesmore stated he communicated with Councilmember Loren Taylor about a non-redistricting related matter.

Commissioner Gloria Crowell stated she presented redistricting information to the Allen Temple Public Ministry Group.

There were no public comments on this item.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Commissioners reviewed the draft meeting minutes. A motion was made by Jan Stevens, seconded by Stephanie Goode, to approve the minutes for the meeting of July 28, 2021. The motion passed with 10 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Marshall, Miller, Shah, Stevens) and three excused (Hamidi, McKnight, Velasco).

There were no public comments on this item.

5. Outreach Consultant Update

Co-Vice Chair Tejal Shah stated the Commission received additional funding to engage with an outreach consultant and City staff issued the Commission's request for proposal (RFP) to existing on-call contractors. The RFP was issued on August 5, 2021, and is due on August 24, 2021. City staff stated evaluations on received submissions would take place at the end of the month with the hopes of recommending a consultant for approval at the September 8, 2021 meeting.

There was no action on this item.

Public comments were provided by the following speakers:
Jennifer Seibert

A motion was made by Shirley Gee, seconded by Gloria Crowell, to take item 7, Ad Hoc Committee Updates, out of order. The motion passed with 10 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Marshall, Miller, Shah, Stevens) and three excused (Hamidi, McKnight, Velasco).

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7. Ad Hoc Committee Updates

City staff member Richard J. Luna recommended Commissioners continue to volunteer for items listed on the Presentation Calendar and Outreach Tracker and encouraged Commissioners to add new activities to the document to track all efforts.

Commissioner Shirley Gee requested that the future outreach consultants work with the Commissioners to track past activities that have not been captured.

Commissioner Stephanie Goode requested Commissioners also add any informal outreach that they have conducted to the tracking document.

There were no public comments on this item.

A motion was made by Tejal Shah, seconded by Shirley Gee, to take item 8, Agenda Requests for Future Meetings, out of order. The motion passed with 10 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Marshall, Miller, Shah, Stevens) and three excused (Hamidi, McKnight, Velasco).

8. Agenda Requests for Future Meetings

City staff member Richard J. Luna stated the next meeting would have another training from Redistricting Partners, and that a consultant update or consultant approval would be added to the agenda.

Co-Vice Chair Lilibeth Gangas inquired about receiving preliminary Census reports, and Chris Chaffee from Redistricting Partners stated the consultant team would prepare a report based on the Census legacy file.

Commissioner Stephanie Goode requested an update on District-R, the public online mapping tool, and requested a budget update at the next meeting.

There were no public comments provided on this item.

The Commission recessed at 5:54 pm.

The Commissioner resumed meeting at 6:00 pm.

6. Communities of Interest & Redistricting Testimony

City staff member Richard J. Luna provided a brief overview of the redistricting process leading up to the Commission's first public hearing.

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Co-Vice Chair Lilibeth Gangas stated the Commission's commitment to engaging with the entire public in adopting the new district maps.

A motion was made by Lilibeth Gangas, seconded by Gloria Crowell, to open the public hearing. The motion passed with 10 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Marshall, Miller, Shah, Stevens) and three excused (Hamidi, McKnight, Velasco).

The following speakers provided public testimony:

Sylvia Arredondo
Larry Russ
Cynthia O'Malley
Jennifer Seibert
Ani Gupta
Reisa Jaffee
Michael Coleman

Written comments were submitted by the following individuals:
Michael Gabriel

Alternate Commissioner Bharat Singh was excused at 6:07 pm.

Commissioner Gloria Crowell was excused at 6:30 pm.

A second motion was made by Lilibeth Gangas, seconded by Shirley Gee, to close the public hearing. The motion passed with 9 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Marshall, Miller, Shah, Stevens) and four excused (Crowell, Hamidi, McKnight, Velasco).

There was no action on this item.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.