



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

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 1, 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 5:05 pm.

Commissioners excused: Gloria Crowell.

Alternate Commissioners present: Daniel Chesmore, Bharat Singh.

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:

There were no public comments for this item.

3. Disclosure Requirements by Commissioners

Commissioner Diana Miller emailed Mayor Shaaf and requested the mail address of former Council member Anne Campbell Washington, Commissioner Miller's outreach to the former Council person was not responded to.

There were no public comments on this item.

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4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Commission reviewed the draft meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mary Velasco, seconded by Stephanie Goode, to approve the minutes for the meetings November 10, 2021 and November 15, 2021. The motion passed with 11 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and two excused (Crowell and Blackwell).

There were no public comments on this item.

5. Outreach Efforts Updates

Charisma Acey and Elena Serrano provided outreach updates to the Commission, including organizations that were contacted, previous and upcoming in-person events where the public can learn about redistricting. Commissioners discussed various outreach strategies including partnering with non-profit equity advocacy group Oakland Rising.

Public comments were provided by the following speakers:

Iris Merriouns
Jose Resulio
Marjorie Haskell

6. Ad Hoc Committee

Communications committee reported they had not met since the last Commission meeting. A Motion was made by Stephanie Goode, seconded by Tejal Shah to draft suggested messaging for outreach consultant regarding actions before and after December 13, 2021 and that the messaging is translated before it is sent out to the community. The motion passed with 12 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and one excused (Crowell).

7. Hills-only District Discussion

Several of the Commissioners expressed the importance of the topic and of receiving public testimony. Stephanie Goode read into the record that data derived from the on-line surveys suggested the public was evenly divided over the question of an all-hills district vs. a non-all-hills district.

Public comments were provided by the following speakers:

Peter Welch
Jose Resulio
Oscar Yassin

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Nick Pilch
Elizabeth Stage
Emily Wheeler
Kim Davis
Issac Kos Reed
Iris Merriouns
Marjorie Haskill
Ms. Joaniinha
Dana Mims
Otto
Chris Johnson

No action was taken on this item.

Motion to extend meeting to 9pm was made by Tracy Richmond Mcknight and seconded by Benji Achtenberg. The motion passed with 12 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and one excused (Crowell).

8. Public Testimony Regarding Redistricting & Draft Map Discussion

Commissioners discussed the draft district map proposals. Commissioner Shirley Gee proposed that Map D should be omitted and that she favored Maps B,E & F. Commission Jan Stevens also added that since Maps E, F, G &H are all derived from Maps A-D, the commission should focus on later maps. Commissioner Tracy Richmond McKnight added that among the maps to be further considered, one map should contain a majority hills district.

Commissioner Benji Achtenberg requested that the consultant add a map overlay of public schools to remaining maps under consideration.

Commissioner Stephanie Goode reminded the commissioners and the public that a number of maps were generated by the public and can be viewed on the City's website. She offered three maps that should be considered and added to the agenda of the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Gee offered that super majority and plurality should be tweaked so that all groups have equal representation in each of the remaining maps.

Chris Chaffee of Redistricting Partners provided a more accurate view of the Latin Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) and that five maps have a Latino above 28%.

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The following public speakers provided public testimony:

Jenny Gerard
Nick Pilch
Michael Loeb
Lisa Ray
Jose Resulio
Phil Dow
Otto
Susan Piper
Ms. Joaniniiha
Mary Vail
Susan Shaw
Karla Ordaz
Iris Merriouns
Liz Zuk
Issac Kos Reed

Motion to extend meeting to 10 pm was made by Shirley Gee and seconded by Diana Miller. The motion passed with 12 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and one excused (Crowell).

Written comments were submitted by the following individuals or groups:

Elijah Chhum, Mailsha Chesney, Kate Chaitin, Marguerite Fuller, Abe Ruelas, Lisa Zelman, Robert Lattuga, Kathryn Kasch, Jack Lucero Fleck, Lisa Courington, Debbie Bardon, Matthew Billoti, Mary Boergers, Lisa Rothman, Ian burns, Emily Hook, Laura Bernhard, Bill Kramer, Jenna Radosevich, Robin Walker, Oak Knoll Neighborhood Improvement Association, Jennifer Whitley, Mariah Castle, Peter Schoewe, Bob Bodnar, Robbie Neely, Viola Gonzalas, League of woman Voters, North Hills Community Association, Susan Piper, David Kessler, Marge Gibson, Peter Strauss, Howard Métis, Suki Dennis, Sally Park Rubin, Terry Mitchell, Bruce and Laura Bose, Steve Snider, Chris Johnson, Bruce Boyer, Thomas Slemmer, Penny Righthand, Aileen F, Kate Steel, Jodie Smith, Julie Segedy, Jack London Improvement District, Diamond Improvement Association, Jennie Gerard

A motion was made by Tracy Richmond McKnight, seconded by Stephanie Goode, to no longer consider Maps A-D. The motion passed with 12 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and one excused (Crowell).

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The Commissions further discussed adding an agenda item that would allow discussion of five publicly generated maps while considering only how they enhance the Maps E-K rather than creating new maps.

Benji Achtenberg asked how quickly Redistricting Partners could amend the maps to overlay school information. Chris Chaffee responded to confirm the maps with requested district and charter school overlays would be ready for distribution before the December 6th meeting.

Commissioner Masoud Hamidi and all other Commissions thanked Richard Luna for his hard work and dedication to the Commission's work.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.