

**MINUTES
FOR THE 2010 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PUBLIC HEARING**

**MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2011
QUALCOMM HEADQUARTERS
MAIN SERVICES BUILDING – MAIN LUNCH ROOM
5775 MOREHOUSE DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, 92121**

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dalal at 6:05 p.m. 115 persons were observed to be in attendance. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dalal at 7:50 p.m. to the next scheduled Pre-Map Public Hearing of the Redistricting Commission on Wednesday, April 27th in District 7 at the Tierrasanta Recreation Center at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING:

(C) Chair Anisha Dalal
(M) Ani Mdivani-Morrow
(M) Frederick Kosmo
(M) Arthur Nishioka
(M) David Potter
(M) Theresa Quiroz

ROLL CALL:

Chair Anisha Dalal called the roll:

(M) David Potter – present
(M) Arthur Nishioka – present
(M) Theresa Quiroz – present
(M) Frederick Kosmo – present
(M) Ani Mdivani-Morrow – present
(VC) Vice Chair Carlos Marquez – not present

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

This portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Redistricting Commission on items of interest within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Comments are limited to no more than three minutes per speaker. Submit requests to speak to the Midori Wong, Redistricting Commission Chief of Staff, before the item is called. Pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act, no discussion or action, other than a referral, shall be taken by the Redistricting Commission on any issue brought forth under Non-Agenda Comment. Spanish translation services are available for this meeting.

(Transcript Begins)

Non-agenda Comment 1 – Barrett Tetlow, San Diego County Republican Party

Barrett Tetlow, representing the San Diego County Republican Party. Again I bring to your attention the problems with the timeline. I actually went back into the archives and I have them verbatim now. On February 3, the Deputy City Attorney Sharon Spivak said: “You would have all year to do this. And it’s that complicated a process that it would be nice if we had all year. Unfortunately, we are on a short schedule.” That was true back in January.

A minute, forty-six (1:46) on February 3, Deputy City Attorney Sharon Spivak went on to say: “Because of the potential of an early date of a presidential state primary—this has happened before—California wants to have a greater voice in choosing the next president or keeping the one we have. If they move up the State primary, then we are moving up our City election. We have to have a certain amount of time for City Council members to know what districts they are, and they have to take out papers, and for candidates, you know, to be fully apprised of where the elections will be held. So, we are operating right now on a tentative deadline of August 15th, 2011. That deadline was given to me by County Registrar of Voters. Again, I am going to emphasize that it is tentative. We are still waiting to see what is going to happen, but we have to proceed as quickly as possible with that date as our target, and of course, it could be moved again. Of course, we will apprise you of anything new that we have learned.”

That’s taken exactly from the website on February 3rd. The situation has changed. The Legislature has passed AB 80 by Fong 75 to 0 – it was on consent calendar, nobody voted against it – moving the February election to June. In the 2000 redistricting, they didn’t have a preliminary map out until August, and they wrapped up in December. There is no reason why you can’t take the full time and why you would have to have the preliminary map wrapped up in May, and then have the whole thing completed by August. So, I brought this up last week. I thought you would hopefully take some action on it, but I call it to your attention again. I think it is important we have more meetings, more vetting, more community input, and take the time and do it right.

(Transcript Ends)

PUBLIC HEARING:

ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY REDISTRICTING COMMISSION CHAIR

(Transcript Begins)

Chair Dalal: I want to again welcome everyone and thank you for coming this evening. We are here today in District 5, and we have a commitment to you to make sure we have pre-map public hearings in each and every one of our districts. In addition, we will be having a Saturday meeting this Saturday, April 30th in Balboa Park for anyone who could not make it to any of our evening meetings. Today we are here at the District 5 beautiful Qualcomm facilities. On Wednesday, we will be at District 7 at the Tierrasanta Rec. Center. So again, I encourage as much participation as possible because we are here to serve you, we are here to hear what you have to say about redistricting. And we want to make sure we hear and gather all input to make this a very fair, open, transparent process. You'll find this evening very insightful. We have some information to share. And then the last part of the agenda, you'll have an opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas with each of us.

So moving on, our next item on the agenda is 2010 Redistricting and U.S. Census Data Overview by Ms. Wong, our Chief of Staff.

(Transcript Ends)

ITEM 2 – 2010 REDISTRICTING AND U.S. CENSUS DATA OVERVIEW BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF

Ms. Midori Wong, Chief of Staff, Redistricting Commission, provided an introduction to the 2010 redistricting process and an overview of the recently released Census data. There were no questions from the public.

ITEM 3 – REDISTRICTING CRITERIA OVERVIEW BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Ms. Sharon Spivak, Deputy City Attorney, provided an overview of legal criteria associated with the redistricting process. There were no questions from the public.

ITEM 4 – PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PREPARATION OF A PRELIMINARY REDISTRICTING PLAN

Comment 1: Tracy Nguyen, Mira Mesa resident

(Transcript Begins)

Thank you, Commissioners, for your efforts during this difficult but important task of redistricting. My name is Tracy Nguyen and I am a lifelong resident of San Diego. This is my first public hearing. I am thankful and appreciative that I live in a society that allows me the opportunity to speak on behalf of my family and help make an impact on the future of our community. I completed grade school through high school, and even some college courses right here in Mira Mesa. I recall walking home from Hage Elementary, crossing over a dirt road which would later be known as Black Mountain Road, connecting

Mira Mesa to Rancho Peñasquitos, neighborhoods that have significant meaning to my family. For example, I watched my brother play soccer and basketball at Canyonside Recreation Park which lies centrally between these two communities. Twenty or so of my cousins attend schools either in Mira Mesa or Rancho Peñasquitos, such as Mount Carmel and Westview High School. After graduating with a background in finance, I considered San Francisco, Chicago, and New York as options to live and advance my career. However my family and community were deciding factors for me wanting to stay and raising a family here. Having come here with practically nothing, my family has bought homes, earned degrees, raised families, worked for tech firms such as Qualcomm and built businesses such as supermarkets, salons, and restaurants throughout San Diego. Also, I got married here this past October in Kearny Mesa and had attendance of over 500 relatives and friends, the majority who reside here locally. As you can see, our roots are deep and San Diego is our home. I would like to end by sharing up with you while growing up here there was not a lot of encouragement for civic participation, unfortunately. This may be due to the experience my relatives endured. However, I started realizing the importance of involvement when I reached college. It was there that I felt a spark and valued the importance of community engagement. I recently learned about the process of redistricting and have been reaching out to various groups and organizations, educating my family, friends and community. I have witnessed much enthusiasm and received tremendous support. Today standing before you, I feel empowered. Thank you.

Comment 2: Joni Low

Good evening, Commissioners. My name is Joni Low and I represent the Asian Business Association. We are a member of APAC and you will hear from other individuals from APAC. We have not, however, endorsed any particular map. We believe that the Asian community is best served by a redistricting process that ultimately is equitable and representative of the contributions of the Asian communities. Any redistricting map must effectively promote the following: promote the growth of businesses including Asian-American businesses in San Diego; maximize the development and support of leaders that understand the needs of the Asian-American community; address the interests of the Asian American community; and allow the opportunity for economic growth. Thank you.

Comment 3: Ralph Peters, Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council

Thank you. My name is Ralph Peters. I am the Chair of the ad hoc committee for redistricting for the Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council. I am also a member of that board, the Town Council. Rancho Peñasquitos is a town of approx., of almost exactly 50,000 people in the north central, north inland area of San Diego County. It and Rancho Bernardo comprise the largest communities in that area. What the Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council has approved by a vote of 13 to 2, is a map that creates a new District 5, which includes the Poway Unified School District communities of Black Mountain Ranch, Torrey Highlands, Rancho Peñasquitos, Rancho Bernardo, Saber Springs and Carmel Mountain Ranch, in addition, to which we have included Scripps Ranch. Of the communities that are included in that, the Poway Unified School District communities comprise 83-84% of that total population. And you may wonder why I am focusing on the Poway Unified School District. That comprises the community of interest for this proposed new District 5. The school rivalries, the band rivalries, the scout organizations, the church organizations, all of those, tie, intertwine the 6 communities that I've mentioned together in such a way that they are virtually inseparable. Rancho Peñasquitos, Rancho Bernardo, Saber Springs, Carmel Mountain Ranch, Torrey Highlands, Black Mountain are for all intents and purposes one community, because of the school district. Again the sports rivalries, the cheerleading rivalries, the band and orchestra rivalries, all of which have every parent in that district going between each community,

day in and day out. These are the actual shared interests that the City Attorney mentioned earlier. They are not ephemeral or inventions. That is what unifies these communities. We have also as unifying factors, we are all part of the Palomar/Pomerado health district, which is the largest health district in California. It is also the proposed new District 5 creates a contiguous area that is all joined and easily accessible. We are bounded by natural boundaries: the Peñasquitos Canyon to the south and Lake Hodges on the north. Going on, we are also the unified communities that are part of the Urban/Wildland Interface High-Fire Hazard Zone. So, these are the unify factors: the school district, the health district, and the natural boundaries that define the proposed new district.

Comment 4: Jeff Stevens

My name is Jeff Stevens and I live in Mira Mesa. I am active in a number of community groups including a subcommittee of the Mira Mesa Town Council that is reviewing the redistricting process. I want to thank you for coming to our community to hold this hearing. I have a few comments based on our efforts to draw new council district maps and comments made at previous meetings of this commission. First, both we and the commission need to have the 2010 Census information for each community planning area in the city. We have that information by Census tracks, but it is difficult to associate those with community planning areas. We have SANDAG projected numbers by community planning area, but those numbers are not very good. In Mira Mesa, for example, the projected population was 78,366, and the actual population from the 2010 Census is 72,762, a difference of more than 5,000 residents. So, good current numbers are required as soon as possible, certainly for your work and for ours also.

Second, the reason we are having these hearings is because elected officials were using the redistricting process to gain political advantage. That was the reason for the ballot initiative that created this group. This process is better but now we are seeing one group after another asking you to give them some political advantage. You are, of course, supposed to ensure that no one is disenfranchised by the process but conferring political advantage is not what the process is about. So, I am going to suggest a straightforward and unbiased process that you can use. First of all, identify all the district maps that keep the community planning areas intact and contiguous within each council district, and meet the population requirements. Second, take those districts and list them in order of compactness. Compactness essentially means minimizing the ratio of the boundary length to the area in each district. A computer can do that for and it won't be a long list, and the community planning areas become the dominant community of interest. From that point, you can look at that list and look for characteristics that might lead to ineffective representation, but don't select from that list and select a map.

Finally, Mira Mesa is multi-cultural community and we proud of that. Distribution of race from the 2010 Census is Asian 46%, White 32%, Hispanic 13%, Black 4%, mixed race 5%. If we were to require that our City Council member match the racial makeup of the community we would have to find someone with that racial mix. And in Mira Mesa, we probably could, but it would be pointless to do that. What we really want is an effective council member who may be of any race or mix of races, but who can effectively represent all the races and mixes of races within the district. Thank you.

Comment 4: Andy Berg

Thank you, Ms. Wong, Commissioners. My name is Andy Berg. I am the president of the Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council. I have spoken to you a couple times before and I'll try not to be too repetitive. But our Town Council did put together a subcommittee, had numerous meetings coming up

with a concept. As you heard Ralph say, the concept was to keep the Poway Unified School District together as much as possible, at least have a majority community that was Poway Unified School District. And I'll go beyond. It's not that the school district is our community of interest. It's that our children are our community of interest. My life revolves around my kids' baseball games, or soccer games, or school plays, or whatever they are doing. And everyone in the surrounding communities is really all the same. That's really why we really all moved there and it is really all kind of together.

When we started this process—and I commend you for having so many meetings, because we've kind of needed them too—we put together a map to accomplish what we wanted. Then we started working around that and we published that map. And people came up with suggestions and we thought, "wow, those are good ideas," and we changed it; and again and again. We are now on the 9th version of that map. You haven't received that one yet, Chief of Staff, but you will shortly. We've done this right down to the Census block. I will tell you that you could publish that map and your job would be done. I don't expect you to do that, I wouldn't want you to do that, because I wouldn't feel like I got my money's worth out of your volunteer time if you did that, but we have done it right down to the block. And I tell you, when you talk about the numbers being equal our biggest district is 0.4% too large. Our smallest district is 0.37% too small. So, less than 1% from top to bottom. We have two districts that are less than 0.01% apart. I mean they are almost the exact number you need. So the work really has been done in that regard.

The council district that we drew for Rancho Peñasquitos is completely what you want; it's compact, contiguous; it's bordered on the north by the end of the City limits; it's bordered on the east by the City limits; the west, it's bordered because we just ran out of numbers, we can't take it all the way to the ocean, there's too many people; and it's bordered on the south by the Los Peñasquitos Preserve, which I think really important to note, that is a huge body which separates our community from everything south. In addition, when we drew our map, the Los Peñasquitos preserve will have three council members responsible for it. I think that is hugely important. That is a huge watershed, a huge environmental resource; the more council members responsible for that the better. I think that's really important.

I want to talk just about two other things. My friends in APAC, and I say that sincerely, I have many friends out here in the crowd. We worked really hard, it almost looks a little gerrymandered the way we actually drew a District 9—but I think there are a lot of good reasons for it – that is 32% API population. It's not that much smaller than the district that the APAC map has of their own, that combines Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos. That was a very important consideration for us. It's a population that is growing and growing and deserves representation on our City Council and throughout our governments, no question about that. But by way of comparison, District 4, which everyone refers to as the African-American district, is 18.8% African American. So we've created an API district that is 32%.

The last thing I want to say before Ms. Wong raises her hand and tells me that I'm out of time, is if you look at the map where Ranch Peñasquitos, Torrey Highlands, Black Mountain Ranch, Carmel Mountain, all the things Ralph said went together, I want to give you two quick examples of that, and point out unfortunately one of the other maps that's around kind of carves Rancho Peñasquitos out of that middle and leaves Black Mountain Ranch with Carmel Mountain Ranch and Rancho Bernardo, etc. My daughter goes to Westview High, you heard that name mentioned before. It's technically in Torrey Highlands. It's a Rancho Peñasquitos high school, it's listed as Rancho Peñasquitos; it's technically in Torrey Highlands. My kids play soccer at one of the biggest soccer fields we have for youth soccer. It's technically in Black Mountain Ranch. Those communities are one community: Carmel Mountain Ranch,

Black Mountain Ranch, Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Highlands, Sabre Springs. I defy anyone to go up there and tell me where the boundaries between those communities are or where the kids start and stop from different communities. We are one area up there. I hope you can find a way to keep us together. Thank you.

Comment 5: Barbara Decker

Good evening. Thank you for letting me speak and thank you for volunteering your time for this important decision. I saw the KUSI report the other night and I am very concerned that it is going to be important to demonstrate over and over again that the members of the commission are not able to serve impartially in a non-partisan role. I will be coming and following the different maps as they are redrawn and I hope that the plan will provide, as you say, the legal requirements. That it will provide a fair and effective representation for all the citizens of the City, including racial, ethnic, language minorities, and be in conformance with the requirements of the Constitution and the Federal statutes. Thank you.

Comment 6: Pat Washington

Good evening, everyone. My name is Pat Washington. I stand before you first and foremost as a black woman and as a lesbian, who in both of those communities understand the impact of not being represented politically. I've been in San Diego since 1996. One of the most miraculous things I have seen in my time here, is that the API community has not had equal, fair, decent representation in our City government. So I urge you— I'm standing here today because I believe with all my heart and soul that the API community, particularly the Filipino-American community is more than just an ethnic group. It's about culture, it's about all the things this community contributes to the vibrancy of San Diego. It's next to the largest community in San Diego County. And so it's one of things you have before you: an opportunity to correct an injustice in San Diego history. I believe the API community long ago should've had voting strength in our City government and beyond. And it has not happened yet. Clearly the numbers are there, clearly the fact that they represent more than just an ethnic group is there. All of those things, all of the things that they do, in terms of contributing to the work force, in terms of contributing to the culture and the richness that is San Diego, in terms of bringing together the fabric of San Diego County, clearly they have given and often stepped back so that other groups, even groups of my own could have visible representation in City government. It's time now for us to stop asking this important segment of our population to sit back and step back. They have worked very hard to put together a map that represents the best interests of the communities they represent. They have worked together in community, in meetings, in organizations. They have looked at where their populations are; they have looked at where they are contributing to the libraries, the hospitals, and the schools. They've looked at where they are and they said, this is where we deserve to have a voice and a place in City government and beyond. I urge you to think about who has successfully in the past advocated for visibility and voice and power in our political government and who has not yet had that opportunity. It is your opportunity to change that. And so I'm really excited that in the midst of all this baloney about not talking about race ethnicity, we would lose our minds if we truly ignored the race ethnicity that is part of San Diego, that has been underrepresented, undervalued, and undercounted for all of these previous Census changes. And now we have an opportunity to change our City's history and to move our City forward in a positive way that gives weight and value to one of the biggest parts of our population. We owe it to ourselves, to our children, to our grandchildren to correct the flaw that has been there in the past and move us forward. You can't ignore race. What you can remember is that Filipinos and the API are far more than a racial ethnic group.

Comment 7: Joe LaCava

Hello, I am Joe LaCava. I spoke to you last week, so I'm going to be brief. I just want to make sure I come at least once a week and talk to you until you show up at our council district meeting on May 11th. First I'd like to thank you all for the service you're giving to the City and for the volunteering of your time, and your community outreach. Clearly, the turnout last week at the two meetings and tonight really shows that your public outreach effort is working. And personally, it just really excites me how much people understand how important this is in their daily lives, and they are turning out to speak themselves. I am representing Council District 1. As I mention, the plan that I turned in last week, the Coast & Canyons plan, I'm not going to waste more paper by printing out more copies. But it really is kind of consolidating what was already established as communities of interest, back in the 2000 Redistricting. The past ten years have really proven that these communities really belong together. We are really looking to preserve the connection between Pacific Highlands Ranch, Carmel Valley, Del Mar Mesa, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, University City, and La Jolla. We respect all the other groups coming out and speaking on their behalf to create their communities of their interests, but we think the western part of Council District 1 has proven time and time again it is the right combination to serve those particular constituents, and we hope that when you start drawing your maps that you use our Coast and Canyons map as the basis for the new coastal District 1. Thank you very much for your time.

Comment 8: Deven Patel, APAC

Good evening, Commissioners. My name is Deven Patel, and I am the president of Asian Pacific American Coalition, APAC, representing Asian communities including, but not limited to, Chinese, Philippine, Thai, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Vietnamese, Cambodian, and many more. I'm also the president of the Federation of India Association, which is an umbrella organization of all Indian organizations, again, Indian from Asia, in the San Diego area. APAC is supported by many Asian local community organizations, such as the Asian Business Association; Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association; Council of Filipino-American Organization of San Diego County; Filipino-American Community Empowerment; Hong Kong Association of Southern California, San Diego; Korean-American Association; Federation of India Association; Korean-American Coalition; Lao-American Coalition; San Diego Asian Film Foundation; Thai-American Association; Vietnamese-American Voter Alliance; and many more organizations. And most importantly, on behalf of the Asian community of San Diego, I'd like to extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to each one of you for devoting a substantial amount of time from your personal lives for the betterment of our beautiful city, which I call City Heaven on Earth. It speaks very loudly of each one of your commitment to make our city a better city than yesterday by having a fair representation of its citizens. After taking a lot of careful consideration and taking many other district members views, our team member will present to you today a new proposed 9th District City Council map based on 2010 Census data to include Torrey Pines, Torrey Highlands, Rancho Peñasquitos, Mira Mesa, North University, West Miramar base, and West Kearny Mesa. These are the communities that happen to have about 39% of Asian American residents. These are true communities of interest in my opinion as we live, work, shop, school our children, have special language schools for our children, our places of worship, recreational activity, everything takes place in these communities. Also, I would like to make a point that the Federal Voting Act has to be upheld firmly during the redistricting process so that the voices of nearly 39% of the residents in this district whom happen to be Asian American will no longer be ignored and their voting block would not be split again into different districts for another ten years for betterment of people in this proposed 9th District and the City of San Diego. And as an American citizen, I am honored to have been a part of this process myself. I also wanted to thank the citizens and volunteers who give many hours and time to

APAC and I personally request them all to stand up. Just to show their support of APAC. As you can see, it's almost 80% of the room. Thank you so much for your time.

Comment 9: Dr. Allen Chan, APAC

Good evening. My name is Dr. Allen Chan. Thank you again, Commissioners, for your sacrifice and spending so much time on this process. First of all, I want to thank America for giving an ordinary citizen like myself the opportunity to have a say so in this process. I'm sure quite a few of us, like myself, are from another country or their parents are from another country, and we did not have that chance where we are from. As demonstrated by the newly released 2010 Census data, most of the population growth in San Diego has been in the north city part during the last ten years. And based on that Census data and taking in consideration and respecting the concerns of neighboring communities, as well as the desires of other minority communities, our talented and devoted APAC volunteers have diligently prepared a new proposed map of District 9, and with possible boundaries for the rest of the districts. And we will present that map a little bit later. The new proposed map unites the communities of Torrey Highlands, Rancho Peñasquitos, Mira Mesa, north University City, west Miramar Marine base, and the west half of Kearny Mesa. The district is contiguous and geographically compact. It has a population of 145,427 people; with 38.7% of the residents happen to be of Asian Pacific descent. The district has been carefully crafted following all the districting guidelines of the City Charter, Article 2, Section 5 and 5.1, which specifically stated that each redistricting plan shall provide fair and effective representation for all the citizens of the City, including racial, ethnic, and language minorities, and be in conformance with the requirements of the United States Constitution and federal statutes.

The communities of the proposed District 9 are truly communities of interest for the following reasons: Number 1: The major bedrooms of District 9 are in Rancho Peñasquitos and Mira Mesa, with Los Peñasquitos Preserve as our common backyard, where we go hiking, horseback riding, picnicking, and where our children conduct their scouting activities. The communities share the same infrastructures and City services: I-15, I-8, Highway 163, Highway 56, Highway 52, Black Mountain Rd., Mira Mesa Blvd., Miramar Road are our key common transportation corridors. We share the same City drinking water and wastewater distribution systems. The safety of the vast majority of residents in the district are protected by the same Northeastern Police Division station in Rancho Peñasquitos.

As said by Deven, all these communities and all the residents including the Asian Pacific Americans, they have tremendous common interest and common cultural and civic and religious and business ties in this district and that is why we are proposing this map. And Ms. Lee, you are next. Thank you.

Comment 10: Mitz Lee, APAC

Good evening. Thank you so much. Since in the interest of time, I'd like to share most of my time with Vince Vasquez. He is the Senior Policy Analyst for National University System Institute for Policy Research. But we have given you the folder, and in that is the proposed 9th District, and the proposed Districts 1 through 9. And also the population by community planning groups, by neighborhoods, and the breakdown of those neighborhoods by ethnicities, you have all that in your folder. And Dr. Chan's community of interest document is also in that folder. And later on, Dr. Aurora Cudal is going to close the organized presentation. But let me tell you that it took a lot of process, and it took a total process to come up with this proposal map. And I really thank the team, our technical support of APAC members, and with the support of Vince Vasquez and with the guidance of the APAC members and leadership, we

really looked at and studied the Article 2, Section 5 and 5.1. So, I hope Vince will capture that hard work that we have dedicated for almost a year in this process. Thank you.

Comment 11: Vince Vasquez, APAC

Like Mitz said, my name is Vince Vasquez. I am the Senior Policy Analyst for National University System Institute for Policy Research. I have a little bit more information today. We gave sort of a broad overview as of to where we are in terms of the Asian community and Asian empowerment and Asian voter registration here in San Diego. So, from my analysis of the data, and of course you folks already have information available through the Redistricting Commission, but there is currently 203,957 Asian residents in the City of San Diego, overall making about 15.6% of the total population. In terms of redistricting, and in terms of Asian empowerment, we already have benchmarks. And that's the two largest Asian population City Council districts, District 1 and District 5. District 1, as you can see, 25.1% and 31.5% in a part of District 5. So clearly, we have a great turn out.

This has been a collaborative process for over a year. And I know the folks at APAC, as well myself, are not interested in the status quo. We are definitely interested in looking to see what's possible through the Redistricting Commission. And I just actually have some information from the Brennan Center for Justice on redistricting and race. And they say that, "The courts spend a lot of time discussing the extent to which governments can take race into account in redistricting, as in other areas. Those who are drawing district lines can include race in their decision making about where the lines should be placed. Under Federal law, without a constitutionally compelling reason, race may not be the predominant reason for a district's shape, but considering race as a part of an overall mix certainly is proper."

With the data that's available from the census, we are able to take a look at the largest Asian neighborhoods in the City of San Diego, and the top ten here are available to you. You can see very prominently Mira Mesa more than doubles the next neighborhood which is University City, which includes both south University City as well as UTC. You see Bay Terraces, which is in the southeast portion of the City. Rancho Peñasquitos come in fourth. Carmel Valley is fifth and Rancho Bernardo is sixth. And the numbers from there drop pretty dramatically actually. So, fair concentration we can see in the north.

And this is the boundaries by community planning area. And for those of you familiar with the difference between neighborhood boundaries and community planning area boundaries, there is significant overlap but it is not complete. The boundaries actually vary. As you can see, again, Mira Mesa comes top as the largest Asian CPA. And to give you a visual reference, this is kind of what we are looking.

This interest has good synergy with the community of interest Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos, which has been outlaid by APAC in previous discussions and presentations. So I went ahead and took a look – nobody has done this to my knowledge. That is – we know about the Asian population, but what about registered voters. The Asian population, very similar to the Latino population, has a large number of folks who were born outside of the United States. Compared to the overall population of San Diego, as well the U.S., it has a very young population. That means that the actual voting age population is smaller than the overall population, as you can see. If you look at the census and the 50 largest most common last names amongst different ethnicities, you can look at the Registrar of Voters voter files, you can actually make some pretty scientific estimates, and I actually estimated that at least 63,000 registered Asian voters in the City of San Diego. You can look there up in darker colors is a darker

concentration of Asian voters, as you can see very predominately up in the north you can see Mira Mesa. You can see some white, which is actually the Peñasquitos Canyon and Peñasquitos. The largest precinct is actually UCSD, which you can see there, left of University City. Overall making about 10.2 of the registered voters, which is actually about the statewide average. Actually it was a historic feat when the Asian population reached double digit voter registration. So, from the proposal which you have in detail, commissioners, we are looking at 38.7% of Asian population in District 9 in the APAC proposal and I have again as benchmarks, and for reference, District 1 and District 5, their populations considerably larger, certainly not the status quo. This information, I can provide it later. But to give you an overview as to the neighborhoods we are looking at, Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Highlands, Mira Mesa, the northern half of University City, Miramar, and the important Asian corridor of Kearny Mesa. Certainly compact, and we have more information available and I can answer more questions later.

Comment 12 – Sandy Spackman

Good evening, commissioners. I am Sandy Spackman, representing the Laotian community. I am here to support the map proposed by APAC as the new 9th seat of council district. I ask that you also adopt this map. These communities are communities of interest, as they patronize at the same restaurants, grocery stores, special events, education and recreation. So let's keep them together. If these boundaries are adopted, Asians will have the opportunity to be properly represented in City government. It has been 43 years since an Asian has been elected in the San Diego City Council. And it's about time for us to have a voice. We are business owners and public servants. We own homes, apartments, and other buildings and we celebrate in various festivals throughout San Diego. We add to the diversity and uniqueness of this wonderful city. We'd like to have the opportunity to fully participate in the American dream and to serve our city. Thank you.

Comment 13 – Adam Manhbaoboua

Good evening, commissioners. I am Adam Manhbaoboua. I am here representing APAC. Again, Commissioners, thank you for your hard work and commitment. Ten years ago, the Asian and Pacific Islander community advocated for an API influenced district, but failed. This time around, it must be different. We cannot afford to not be fairly represented any longer. This is why the Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Indian, Cambodian, Filipino, Thai, and Laotian community has come together and have worked tirelessly towards this effort. We have been attending these hearings since day one. And we will continue to fight because there is just too much at stake. This proposed map that we have submitted is the result of careful consideration about how it would affect other communities. We support and respect the communities of interest of the LGBT, African Americans, Hispanic and Latinos, as well as others. We support these communities because this is who are. Culturally, we are taught to be courteous and respectful of others. This is why we did our best to make sure our proposed map has the least impact on these different communities of interest. In fact, the Hispanic/Latino and LGBT communities have publicly expressed their support for an API influence community. In many ways, we are following the footsteps of the LGBT, African American, and Hispanic/Latino communities. Because at one time they too were a community that didn't have a sense of belonging, a council district they could call home, a voice that seemed to matter. At one point, they too were not fairly represented. Their needs and interests were ignored, but that changed. They organized, they were vocal, they continued to fight for equality. These communities are now stronger than ever and they are able to contribute more to our city. Our city is better than ever because of them. Now, it is our turn. The API community needs a district we can call home. We need a district that represents the needs and interests of the API community – a community of interest that represents 16% of the population, a community of interest that represents over 200,000 San

Diegans. Imagine how much more we would be able to contribute to our city, imagine how much stronger our city will be. Imagine the positive and lasting impact it would have on the future our city. As of now, our district lines and City government does not reflect our city's true and rich diversity, its true personality, its true make up. It's time to make it right. Our voices, needs and interests must no longer be ignored. Commissioners, please protect and uphold the meaning of a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. If our city is to become better, the API community must be fairly represented. This must be done for the best interest of our city, now and for the future. Again, commissioners, thank you for your hard work.

Comment 14 – Khamp Thangrivong.

Good evening, Commissioners. Thank you for your service to our city. My name is Khamp Thangrivong <phonetically spelled>. I'm here to represent the Lao community, and on behalf of the Lao community we are here to support the 9th council district map as submitted by Asian Pacific American Coalition. I believe this map will preserve the communities of interest, particularly the Asian and Pacific American community to remain a vibrant part of San Diego communities.

As you may know, there is a long history of Asian Pacific American communities present here in San Diego. In the late 1800s, about 200 Chinese immigrants settled along the San Diego waterfront where the Convention Center and the Gaslamp district are located. Prior to World War II, Japanese Americans tended to their farms that spanned San Diego County. However, during World War II – and we know what happened to the Japanese-Americans – they were rounded up and sent to internment camps across the United States. They lost most of their farms here in San Diego. At the same time, Asians, including Japanese-Americans and Pacific Americans, helped with the war efforts from Asia to Europe. In the 1970s, the gateway to America for many Vietnamese refugees was the tent city at Camp Pendleton just to the north of us. And finally, in the 1980s the first Laotian Buddhist temple—imagine, the first Laotian Buddhist temple in America was here in San Diego. So, for more the 100 years, Asians and Pacific Americans continue to make their homes here in San Diego. Mira Mesa, Miramar, Kearny Mesa currently serve as an anchor for the Asian and Pacific American communities, much like Logan Heights and San Ysidro to the Hispanic community, Southeast San Diego for the African American community, Hillcrest for the LGBT community, and Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach, and La Jolla to European American communities. The rich cultural diversity is what makes San Diego such a great city to work and live in. I believe the commissioners have the duty to conserve the community of interests of San Diego, particularly the Asian and Pacific American community. Your decision will reflect the voices of San Diegans that support the proposed the 9th District map as proposed by APAC. Thank you.

Comment 15 – Aurora Cudal

I am Aurora Cudal, representing the National Federation of Filipino-American Associations and the Council of Filipino-American Organizations of San Diego. And our president, Mrs. Merly Ferir, is here with us today.

I would like to bring to your attention the minutes of the 2000 Redistricting Commission meeting, and I think it is in your folder. In our review of the 2000 Redistricting Commission, we found out that the commission received 800 letters and faxes from the Asian Pacific American community. We also found out that the members of the Commission were sympathetic to Asian Pacific American's cause. And that it is principally to put together Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos into one district. It was observed by one of the Commissioners that “efforts of the Commission to unite the API Community was limited by

the constraints of the process.” The Commissioners encouraged the Asian Pacific American community to stay involved and voice their concern and needs. Mindful of the advice of the commissioners back then, the Asian Pacific American community came together early enough to make all these presentations. They put so many efforts into it and they studied hard and worked with technical people in order to come out with this map. Now, we came together early enough to stand as one in making our voices heard. You have heard us tonight and you have seen us tonight, and so we appeal to the Commission to please consider our proposal.

Comment 16 – Deborah Knight

Thank you, Commissioners, for volunteering your time. My name is Deborah Knight. I’m a resident of South University City, and I say South University City because many people – University City is often referred to as North and South University City, with the dividing line being Rose Canyon. And UCSD is located in North University City, as are many of the high tech and biotech, it’s really a national center for biotechnology, all the research institutions. UCSD is actually the heart of University City and you cannot really divide University City in half. South University City has street names such as Radcliffe, Villanova. It was built in the 1960s when UCSD was founded to be a place where people who worked and taught at UCSD could reside. And that is still very much the case today, only now of course, we have all the medical facilities, the biotech research, all of those. University City and La Jolla are sort of a compact beating heart. With UCSD at the middle, and all these other academic and medical institutions around them you cannot carve three units apart, in terms of north and south University City and La Jolla. Parts of UCSD are in La Jolla. University City has one community plan and I brought you a map of that. North and south University City have for decades been united in a community plan. It’s one of the most dynamic development areas in the city, if not the most, with UCSD expanding and many other businesses and institutions expanding. What happens in north UC, integrally affects south University City. What happens at the university affects all of us, and there is a very social and collegial network. Maybe of my neighbors in south University City, work at the medical, or academic, or research institutions. North and south University City share a single high school, a single middle school, so that the parents work very closely together. And it’s a geographically compact area. It’s a few minutes on I-5, or some of the other highways, from one part of the community to the other. I’ve been attending the University community planning groups for ten year, although I’m not on it, I attend regularly. And I have seen the large number of community plan amendments and development issues that come before that community. They affect all of us. And to tear those two apart, would not make any sense at all. We need to be represented by one City council member because of the intensity of what’s happening in that community. I did see Mr. LaCava’s map. I support that, I think that’s great. But my main point is that you have to keep north and south University City together, and together with La Jolla, that is sort of the beating heart of that part of District 1.

Comment 17 – Anne Shillam, APAC

To the Commission, I am Anne Shillam. And I thank you for all your time you have put in as volunteer citizens in our city. I am a member of APAC. APAC will not determine District 9, we know that. But I want you to know that in my role with APAC, since last fall, working with immigrant Americans and first-generation Americans, I’ve very proud of them, because they have stepped into a political process, in an area that was very foreign ground, very uncomfortable. With a lot of encouragement I see them speaking tonight and speaking very well. I’m very proud that they are American citizens and that they are San Diego citizens.

Comment 18 – Lynette Williams, Scripps Ranch resident

My name is Lynette Williams and I am a resident of Scripps Ranch. I want to thank all of you for the thankless job you are doing, working on this Commission, working hundreds of hours. Thank you. And I know no matter what you do, you are going to be criticized, but I still thank you ahead of time. And I know there are a lot of controversies, and I'm just praying that all of the things you have said are your goals are the goals we all have. And that's why we are all here, because we share those goals.

My main concern is: not dividing communities, as this woman just said, keeping University City together, keeping Mira Mesa. When communities are divided into two or more districts, it's not advantageous for their citizens. All communities need to be together in one district as much as possible. Places like Scripps Ranch are currently divided. Scripps Ranch is currently in mostly District 5, but we have an area called Stonebridge that is in District 7. And they are completely divided by the entire part of eastern Miramar. Vacant land separates them from the rest of District 7. And that kind of gerrymandering is what we hope we will not see. On the map, it looks beautiful, because you don't realize its vacant land and part of Miramar. And when you use boundaries such as I-15, you would divide a community such as Rancho Bernardo, because it's on both sides of the freeway. So, using a freeway as a boundary is not always a good point. As far as large canyons, like Peñasquitos, using that as dividing point between Mira Mesa and Peñasquitos, which it is now– they have never been in – I've lived in San Diego 35 years and I don't believe they've ever been in the same district, Peñasquitos and Mira Mesa. And I want you to tell you that I am not a member of APAC but I support all the hard work they put in and I support – when I saw it on there, I support the map that APAC has drawn and I urge you as a non-Filipino – I'm Polish and Hungarian – I will tell you, I support what they did. I think they've done a lot of the work for you, and you should use a lot of their ideas.

Anyway, I wrote things down but I always get off track. But my main concern is to keep communities together. And allow the input from the communities to be heard and really take into consideration the things that they say. Such as APAC has shown that all those communities decided that they want to be together, please do your best to put them together. And living in Stonebridge, I would love to see Stonebridge but back into Scripps Ranch. And their map has done that, they have put Stonebridge back into District 5. So, thank you APAC, you did a lot of hard work. Let's applaud them. Thank you.

Comment 18 – Sal Magalcanez

Good evening, everyone. Thank you for letting me speak. I want to say thanks to the commission for all the time they've put into this, I know I couldn't do it. At the District 4 meeting, there was a little bit of animosity because one party decided they were going to be outspoken about how impartial the board was going to be and they mentioned people by name. I thought it was cynical way to try to prove their point. And so, I'm here to continue the cynicism.

So, what I did is I went and researched the members of the board and I actually found a person who I felt was partial towards the other direction. And in this case, I'm referring to Ani Morrow. Just doing a little research on the internet– now, you have to understand, I have my beliefs, and everyone has their beliefs. I'm not here to say that one belief is wrong or one belief is right. But when somebody says that they are not going to be impartial because they belong to one party, then I'm going to say that another party can't be impartial either. And in this case, just doing a little research, I found some pictures on the internet with Ani Morrow representing a lot of Republican candidates. Not only just governor Meg Whitman and Carly Fiorina, but we are also talking about Tea Party candidates like Nick Popaditch, we

are also looking at some of the links on her website—this in fact I took off of her Facebook page. We are looking at sites like RightChange, Revere American, Conservative Freedom Works, Liberty Institute, Doctor's Tea Party, Americans for Prosperity, Remember November, Smart Reform for Bankruptcy, Californians Against Illegal Immigration, Being Conservative, Better Courts Now. She also has links to prominent Republican candidates and elected officials. Among them, you're going to recognize some of these names, George Bush, Mitt Romney, John McCain, John Thune, Scott Brown, Eric Canter, along with Meg Whitman, Nathan Fletcher, Assemblywoman Diane Harkey, Brian Henry, and Carl DeMaio. Now, I don't have a problem because I have my beliefs, they have their beliefs. But I just want to know, is this person here to represent the public or is she here to represent the Republican Party? That is my question to the member. Now, I want to make sure that that person, being on this board is going to be representing herself as a member of the public. I want to make sure that person is going to come here and act as impartially as she has been assigned to do. Thank you, I appreciate the time to let me speak.

Comment 19 – Janay Kruger, University City Planning Group

Hi, I trust all of you to be fair and balanced, hopefully. My name is Janay Kruger and I am the chairman of the University City Planning Group. I want to thank Midori. She came to our group. So we have taken a position that we want to stay together as one community and we'd like to stay with La Jolla because we share UCSD. Our area is primarily an employment center for jobs, education. We have easy access from three freeways 805, 5, and 52. We share safety, fire station and police station, parks, libraries and schools. We are adamant that we do not want to split the north from the south. We work together on landscape medians, bicycle safety, fire protection because we have a lot canyons, there are a lot of reasons. We share UCSD with La Jolla, a portion of UCSD is in La Jolla, a portion is in our community. Within 20 minutes from the campus, there are 504 biomedes and they are all built around the university so they can collaborate and solve health problems, and whatever. We are trying to be the new MD Anderson of the west. We have Scripps, Salt, UCSD, and the Moores Cancer Center, and the new Sanford Stem Cell Research, and they are all collaborating. And one of the things that all the doctors in the area say is that – and many of them live in Torrey Hills, and south UC, and La Jolla; they live in the area so they can get to their jobs easily. But they tell you, the reason we are going to beat the Boston and the San Francisco and whoever, is because we are congenial and our doctors like to collaborate. So it's important that they live in the area and work in the area. We have about 50,000 residents. It's strange, because when I was looking at the new District 9 map that was presented, our community swells in school year. And if you look at where they had the Asians in the north UC, it's the campus. So it changes. They are not permanent residents. It swells in the school year and then reduces and I think we all need to think about that.

We are currently in two districts. We have 80 acres in District 7 and the City is proposing to do a natural gas plan there, 250 to 300 megawatts. We are horrified because it's the end of Miramar Marine Corps Station's runway. So, we need to be one district with La Jolla. We actually support, I believe the Coast and Canyons map. But it's really important, because we are one of the engines driving San Diego jobs. So please keep us together so we can all keep working together. Thank you.

Comment 20 – Roberto Shim

Thank you, commissioners, for coming. My name is Roberto Shim and I am representing APAC, representing the Korean community, and also the Human Relations Commission for the City of San Diego. Let me tell you a story in three minutes. I was born in Korea in 1972 and in 1980 my family decided to move to Argentina where we stayed for about 10 years. Then in 1989, my family moved

again to the United States, to New York City. I loved living in New York, but after getting a job opportunity here in San Diego, my recently married wife and I moved here. And today we have three beautiful kids: Kalie, she's four; Naomi she's two; and we added another member into our family, Eli; he is 41 days old. So we are very happy. Thank you so much.

Besides being a Commissioner with the Human Relations Commission, with APAC, I'm also an assistant pastor for Harbor Presbyterian Church here in City Heights, and I'm also a board member for the Linda Vista Multi-Cultural Fair. You're probably asking, Roberto, why are you so involved in all these organizations? The reason why is because I firmly believe that in order to create a truly great society you have to be its servant, not its master. And as a Christian, this is one of the core values that I try to live by every single day. And I hope that my family members and extended families will do the same.

Every ten years we have the privilege of doing something very special. We are drawing the boundary lines so that all the communities are fairly represented. As a Korean-born man, and now an American citizen, I know how hardworking Korean people are, and some of you may attest to that. Being around many Koreans in years past, we want basically three things: good schools for our kids to attend, a safe place to live, and a great place to have gainful employment. Also as Asians we have been taught not to question authority, to submit to its leaders, but sometimes that becomes our downfall. Our silence can mean that someone else is living our dream. That is why I am serving this great city of San Diego and it is my hope that many others will join me.

As Redistricting Commissioners, you have the power with you, in your hands, to change the course of San Diego by drawing the lines that will be finally be fair and equitable to all my fellow Asian Pacific Islanders. Let me finish with this quote from Mr. Robert Kennedy who once said, "Some men see things as they are and ask why. Others dream things that never were and ask why not." And today, this night we are asking, "Why not us?"

Comment 21 – Phal Chourp, Victoria House Corporation

My name is Phal Chourp. I'm representing the Cambodian community. I live and grow and do business in City Heights. I went to High School at Hoover and all that time I watched my community grow and add more communities and it was excited. But I didn't really pay attention until last year when I became a full-time volunteer for Victoria House Corporation and was involved in outreach for the census. That's when I realized that the Cambodian community was about 30% unrepresented or uncounted in the 2000 census. That caused me to be involved in the 2010. It's just the beginning to more things to come. And finding out that Cambodians were not fairly represented and that's how I see that my community was losing out on funding, on services that were rightfully ours. And also lately, I've realized that our district, our population was concentrated in City Heights which falls into three different districts. And that is just another way of diluting our vote. Today I am not here to complain but to see where we can go from here. And I'm asking that you support or adopt the APAC proposed map, because gives us a voice, that gives us a ground, a playing field in the governmental policy making. Thank you.

Comment 22 – Linda Perine, LGBT Redistricting Task Force

Good evening. My name is Linda Perine. I represent the LGBT Redistricting Task Force. I want to thank the Commissioner for their service to our city. I say it every time I speak to you and I feel like I don't do it enough.

I'm here to speak in favor of the API community of interest. I am so impressed by their organization and dignity and presentation and by of all the hard work APAC has done for their community. In an environment where disrespect has become a substitute for actual ideas and constructive suggestions, I applaud their hard work and quiet efficiency.

A final thought: if an API district is created, and the voters of that district showed the same attention detail and thoughtful dialogue that APAC has shown so far in the process, I look forward to substantial elevation of the dialogue of our city. Thank you.

Comment 23 – Mateo Camarillo, San Diego Latino Redistricting Committee

Buenas noches. Good evening. My name is Mateo Camarillo. I want to, I promised you that we would deliver you two maps. I represent the San Diego Latino Redistricting Committee. At your last meeting, we presented you a map of District 8. Tonight I am presenting you with a map of District 9, which is a 57% Latino Empowerment District, in full compliance with the Voting Rights Act. Those two districts that we've propose were done with speaking with our neighbors and our leaders in the African American community, because they are impacted—contiguous with District 4 is District 9; with folks in District 3, where I live; I live in District 3. The heart of the map I'll leave with you is based on the 60,000 Latinos that live in District 3. We've also spoken to and met with leaders of the Gay and Lesbian community and the task force. We support their slimmed down district. Everybody has to give up a population and the population that is Latino in District 3 would be the heart of District 9. All this is done in collaboration and speaking and meeting with leaders of the impacted neighboring districts and community leaders. We've spent a lot of time meeting with folks, especially communities of interest. Subsequently, not tonight, we'll submit a map that will show the schools, the location of schools, overlaid on District 9, for example, that identify the public schools where over 50% of the students entering school are Latino. And they are spread out all over District 9, which is an <unintelligible> of the communities of interest; that's where the kids get their education in the neighborhoods. Also the churches – we've tried to incorporate the churches where they provide masses, services in Spanish and bilingually, and the various other resources used by this community of interest.

Beyond the districts that we are presenting, we support the unification of communities like the Bay, Mission Bay communities, the north city, the unification of the interests of the Asian communities for maximizing their voting power. I know my time is up, but I want to thank you for that. Do I leave the maps with you, ma'am? Thank you for your time.

Comment 23 – Christiane Hoffman

Hello, Commissioners. I am Christiane Hoffman. I am a member, tax payer, citizen, home owner of Mira Mesa. I also work here at Qualcomm, but I am not speaking for the company – we know that. I want to just leave a few thoughts. I was not able to see in detail the map proposed by APAC, so I don't know if this does or does not include... so, I don't want any of the people here to hate me. I just want to state that Mira Mesa extends from the 805 to the 15. It is not one or the other side; we do not crouch around one freeway or the other. So please do keep that in mind. I was making a note – I like to speak in metaphor. If Mira Mesa is a dish, Sorrento Valley would be cinnamon. You would never eat it by itself, but it's an important ingredient. Please that in mind as you are looking at the maps you are being presented and as you're drawing what will be the ultimate map. And this would go the same for all the other communities. Turns out I've lived in Districts 3, 5, 7 – no offense to the even numbers. So, keep

the communities together, that's an important element. I want to remind you about Mira Mesa. I want to thank Midori for coming to the Mira Mesa Town Council meeting. We have a bit of a burgeoning semi-conductor valley here in Mira Mesa and we'd like to keep it together in one piece and not fractured elements divided by random industrial roads. So we just ask you to keep that in mind. Thank you.

Comment 24 – Dr. James Paterniti, Scripps Ranch Civic Association

Hello, my name is Dr. James Paterniti and I am standing between you and a burger and a beer. I'm Executive Vice President of the Scripps Ranch Civic Association. I am again, like others, thank the Commission for their timeless, thankless efforts on behalf of our representative democracy. I'd like to offer the following preps as guidance for the commission as they go forward with their difficult tasks. We in Scripps Ranch have followed the process with keen interest for the purpose of considering the district boundaries.

A couple of points I'd like to make: Scripps Ranch and Miramar Ranch are indicated as separate communities on the map. They are both in district 5 and they are inseparable. They share everything in common. The two planning communities, which Miramar North and Scripps Ranch comprise, collaborate actively and the communities share cultural interests. The Civic Association is the umbrella organization for both Miramar Ranch North and Scripps Ranch. We have a newsletter that is published monthly and just to the northeast of Miramar Ranch North and Scripps Ranch is Rancho Encantada on the map – a little bit of history on that. It's now called Stonebridge Estates, but what it was, was part of the future urbanizing area of the City of San Diego. It was not in a council district. So the City of San Diego asked Scripps Ranch's planning group and Miramar North planning group to take responsibility for the planning of Rancho Encantada and negotiations with the developer, which was McMillan at the time. As a result, we worked very, very closely over a period of probably 5 years to develop Rancho Encantada as a developing community. And the facilities benefit assessments that were gained by the developer for that community went into the Scripps Ranch Planning Group coffers. It turns out that the 7th Council District absorbed Rancho Encantada but it was really, it didn't make sense historically. So I ask the commission to consider incorporating Rancho Encantada into whatever district Scripps Ranch, Miramar Ranch, Miramar Ranch North are incorporated into because of the natural affinities A and B. We continue to have planning responsibility and land use planning responsibility for Rancho Encantada, and it sort of antithetical to have the responsibility but not be empowered by its council representative. That's the first point.

A couple of other more knotty issues in terms of what Scripps Ranch wants. Again, I'm a <unintelligible>-American, my father was first generation. They worked in a sweatshop; they came through Ellis Island. But again, we have to remember that if you take "I want an Asian district," and you substitute "I want a White district," it's racist. It's blatantly racist. And that makes it unconstitutional. I mean the Supreme Court and Justice Kennedy was very clear in speaking for the majority of the court in Miller Vs. Johnson, when he said race cannot be the predominant consideration for forming a districting entity. It's a real bad idea to use race as a criterion, because of the discord and disharmony it creates. Not to discourage the work of APAC, not to put a crimp in anybody's plan, but you need to have another rational that would transcend race as the basis for forming a community.

My time is up but I'd just like to say that we are in District 5. It's a comfortable place to be. We have friends in Mira Mesa; we embrace those people. We wish them the best and we hope that the commission goes forward with an intelligent plan that picks up the stones that have been cast and builds a home that we can all live in.

Comment 25 – Alexander Nguyen

My name is Alexander Nguyen. I am with the Vietnamese-American Youth Alliance. I am also a part of APAC and a bunch of other organizations. The reason I'm here is to – not to skim over the point, I think APAC drove home the point – but also to invite you guys out to this coming Sunday, which is May 1st, in Point Loma. We are having the Asian Cultural Festival and I think the commission should see vibrant Asian communities out and about, and also share about our culture. Also, to drive home the point, just as Kennedy had said that race cannot be the predominant factor, he did not say that race cannot be a factor, in consideration with all the other factors that create a new council district. Thank you.

Comment 26 – De Le

Hello, everyone my name is De. I'm going to reserve this question for the Chief of Staff sitting in the front there. I'm sure this question has been brought up before. And as a reply to gentleman asking Ms. Ani Morrow as her status as a standing Republican member, I along with many members of my party, we question are you truly bi-partisan in this whole process? And how is it that someone as young as yourself, as you know, a very early age – 24 years old– end up with a position like this? Would you please if possible answer those two questions – your age and really if you're truly bi-partisan in this whole political-making process of a new district?

(Transcript Ends)

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dalal adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Julie Corrales, Executive Secretary
2010 Redistricting Commission

Written Comments Received at the April 25, 2011 Redistricting Commission Public Hearing

Comment 1 – Hong Bin Li

I support APAC plan to build #9 District.

Comment 2 – Renato Mateo

I support redistricting Mira Mesa/Peñasquitos/Kearny Mesa/Miramar West.

Comment 3 – Belen Mateo

I support redistricting 9th - Mira Mesa/Kearny Mesa/Peñasquitos/Miramar West.

Comment 4 – Wesley Quach

I support APAC's proposed District 9 plan that extends from Black Mountain Ranch down to the Convoy (Kearny Mesa) area. I think it is important for Asian and Pacific Islander voters in San Diego to have a voice! I think our proposed plan is beneficial because all the incumbents stay in the place and other minorities, such as LGBT, Latino, and African-American communities will also be strengthened.

Comment 5 – Nancy Dow

I support proposal by Ranch Peñasquitos Town Council. District 5 = Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Highlands, Carmel Mt., Sabre Springs, Black Mt. Ranch.

Comment 6 – David Su, APAC

I support the proposed District 9 initiative.

Comment 7 – James Dow

It took me 32 minutes to drive the 9 miles to this meeting. This traffic issue is unique to Mira Mesa and not Rancho Peñasquitos (RP). Poway Unified School District is why I and many of my neighbors moved to RP and not Mira Mesa. If I go to Home Depot, Best Buy, AT&T store, I go to Carmel Mt. For Target I travel to Poway. For Soup Plantation, I find myself going to Rancho Bernardo (RB) or Del Mar, and not Mira Mesa. As a citizen of RP, I do not associate my interests with Mira Mesa. I do not have common interest or actual shared interests with Mira Mesa. I am against defining my district by race. This must not be part of the redistricting plan.

I support the redistricting plan as proposed by the Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council. This would include RB, Torrey Highlands, Carmel Mt., Sabre Springs, Black Mt. Ranch. I am against proposed by the Asian Pacific community group.

Support District 5 to include Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Highlands, Carmel Mt., Sabre Springs, Black Mt. Ranch.