

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

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2011
POINT LOMA/HERVEY LIBRARY
COMMUNITY ROOM
3701 VOLTAIRE STREET, SAN DIEGO, 92107**

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dalal at 6:05 p.m. 45 persons were observed to be in attendance. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dalal at 7:22 p.m. to the next scheduled Pre-Map Public Hearing of the Redistricting Commission on Monday, May 9th at the Bayside Community Center.

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING:

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

ROLL CALL:

Chair Anisha Dalal called the roll:

(M) Frederick Kosmo – present
(M) Arthur Nishioka – present
(M) Theresa Quiroz – present
(VC) Vice Chair Carlos Marquez – present
(M) David Potter – present
(M) Ani Mdivani-Morrow – 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.

(Transcript Begins)

Chair Dalal: At this time, Ms. Wong, do we have any non-agenda public comment?

Chief of Staff Wong: No, we do not.

Chair Dalal: So, we move on to our agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING:

ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY REDISTRICTING COMMISSION CHAIR

Chair Dalal: Again, I want to welcome everyone to District 2. We are very excited to be here. This is one of a series of pre-map public hearings that we have scheduled, one in each City Council district. Plus, we also met on Saturday and had a special weekend hearing for those who could not attend our weekday hearings. We made it a point to schedule a meeting in each existing Council district because it's really important to us as a Commission that we come out to the communities where you the citizens live. We want to be accessible. We want this to be a very open and transparent process. We are very committed to hearing everything you have to share on how to redraw the boundaries for our City, for the final redistricting plan. We will also have— so we are winding down our final set of meetings. We will be meeting next week in District 6 on Monday, May 9th and also on May 11th in District 1, and we also have our regular Commission hearing tomorrow, May 5th in City Council chambers. So, I encourage everyone to come out to as many meetings as possible. It's very important for us to hear your ideas and make sure your voice is heard. The location for the Wednesday, May 11th meeting— it was originally scheduled at the La Jolla library; it is now at the La Jolla Women's Club. Is that right, Ms. Wong? So, we did. And that information is up on our website. We were able to find a more conducive location for District 1.

(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 four question from the public.

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

Comment 1: Barrett Tetlow

(Transcript Begins)

I think I heard some new information when the Chief of Staff was speaking regarding online software. And the reason I'd brought up that question about boundaries earlier was because you've seen a lot of

maps and they're all using these planning group lines, and every map has been using planning group lines because that's the available stuff that you go on SANDAG's website and a lot of different groups are using that stuff. If the law requires natural boundaries—freeways, mountains, rivers—to be used, any online software would be very helpful. And I think you might have some groups that would have the tools to come to a potential agreement if they were able to have that. So, if mapping proposal has online software, I think that would be very helpful at least for the 30 of us who always attend every meeting.

Comment 2: Barbara Obrzut

Hello, my name is Barbara Obrzut. I live in La Jolla and I wish to keep La Jolla all in one City Council district instead of splitting it like it is now between District 1 and District 2. Additionally, I know there is debate about whether to keep University City whole or to split it between two districts. I think it is really important to keep University City and UTC in the same district as La Jolla, as areas on both sides of the Interstate 5 freeway help define the UCSD community which has become a major piece of San Diego. I've learned about the synergy of this community as well as its concerns during my time as a volunteer on the SANDAG Midcoast Corridor Transit Working Group. It was during our study of the University City area that we examined some of the impacts of the university and the UTC development had on the entire Golden Triangle area. And specifically, we were responsible for recommending a new route for a new trolley line in the San Diego area. We heard testimony on the importance of the Rose Canyon Preserve and how the intensity of traffic due to new residential areas near the 805, the growth of the UCSD student population and research facilities, and the proposed extension of the UTC Shopping Center will have future of University City. It is apparent to me that the blueprint for success in this UCSD community is to keep it all accountable to one City Council district that includes La Jolla, La Jolla Village, UTC, and the other parts of University City in one district. The only map that I've seen that satisfies this concern is what is being called the Coast and Canyons map, which unifies La Jolla, University City, Torrey Pines, Del Mar Heights, and Carmel Valley. I am hoping you will adopt the Coast and Canyons map for District 1. I thank you for your time.

Comment 3: Andy Berg, Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council

My name is Andy Berg. I'm the president of the Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council and I'd just like to take 30 seconds to correct the record from the last meeting. There was a young man from the Republican Party who came up here and I guess told you that I was a Democrat, Union-leader and planning to run for Council and that my map should be thrown out. Of those, I am a Democrat. Union-leader? I've never even been a Union member and some of the Union leaders in the room would definitely not take me as one of those and allow me to use that term, that's for sure. As for running for council, I'm not the sharpest tool in the shed, but I don't think as a registered Democrat I'd be up here pushing for a map that would put my house squarely in the middle of the most Republican district in San Diego, had I planned on running for council. I'm not that dumb.

So, back to the map we are pushing for, our north city inland map. We started out with this process, and decided it wouldn't be fair for us to just draw our district without being able to prove that it would work with the rest of the city as well. So, we drew all nine districts. We realized, though, that what we're really concerned about is what we are calling our D5, that's the main part of it. It's in the northeast corner of the city, and if you don't like the rest of it, our northeast corner doesn't affect any of that. You can keep what we like and do everything else with that. Our map has been endorsed by the Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council, of course, Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Board, the Rancho Bernardo Town Council, and with some nuance the Carmel Valley Planning Board. They're not real happy that a little

piece of La Jolla is out of that. But I will tell you that our numbers are so close, top to bottom, as we heard the attorney talk about, 0.75% that we have no problem, I would love you to put La Jolla back into District 1 and make it whole.

The other concern I have with our map, frankly, is that we split Scripps Ranch, same thing. I would love you to put Scripps Ranch back into our D5 and make it all part of that district. That's all up to you, we tried to make the numbers work as good as possible. D5 is made up of the communities, our D5, Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Highlands, Black Mountain Ranch, Sabre Springs, Carmel Mountain Ranch, Rancho Bernardo, San Pasqual and part of Scripps Ranch. Most of those communities are essentially interchangeable. I've told you that many times, I'm not going to go back into that. But that's where we live, that's where we play, that's where we do everything, in all those communities.

The beauty of our map is that it fits all of the criteria, doesn't affect the other district, the population is good, and it's bordered by natural boundaries. Bordered to north by the city limits, bordered to east by the city limits, to the west we just ran out but we stopped at a planning area and start with a new planning area, and to the south is the Los Peñasquitos Preserve. And we've talked about that a lot, but I don't know how to look at that big Peñasquitos Preserve as anything other than a natural boundary. And I think that if you endorse our map it'll also give us three council members, instead of two, that will be responsible for that most important ecological part of our city, probably the most important part of our ecological city. So, really what we are asking you to do is look mostly at the D5 part of our map. Please keep the communities we call home into one group and we'll be happy with whatever you do, because we're still going to live in San Diego and we're still going to live in Rancho Peñasquitos. Thank you.

Comment 4: Lou Cumming

Good evening. Thank you very much for the opportunity to spend three minutes with you. You have a tough job and I'm not so sure I envy you. A couple of thoughts I had, though, that I want to share with you. First of all this is an official meeting of a City entity and I'm surprised we didn't start with the Pledge of Allegiance, nor do I see a flag of the United States in this room, which I find disappointing. I'm here because of the article that appeared in the Union Tribune this past Sunday, and it gave information which I find kind of disturbing. And why is it disturbing? It's because I see so much emphasis on ethnicities. One man/one vote, doesn't take into consideration ethnicity. It doesn't take into consideration anything other than one man, one vote. What I see here is, and it looks like it could become—and I hope it doesn't—is a Balkanization of our city. Now, I looked up the definition of the word Balkanization in the dictionary and it says, "to separate into small dissenting political units." And as I look at the story that was on the paper on Sunday, that's exactly what this sounds like to me. And I hope that's not the case, because we're all Americans, number one. And we all have a vote. And we should be able to vote for what's in the best interest of our city, regardless of any of these other attributes that are attributable to individuals regardless of where they live. So, I look at this article and I say to myself, there's too much emphasis what party they belong to, what ethnicity they belong to, and not enough emphasis on what's going to be right for our city, regardless of what color you are, what language you speak, what sexual orientation you have, and where you live. And I hope that in your deliberations you will look past these small items to come up with a decision—and I'm not sure that I envy you having to do that—to come up with districts that will be in the best interest of all of us not, just some of us. Thank you.

Comment 5: Waskah Whelan

Hi, I'm Waskah Whelan. I live here in Point Loma since, I don't know, 1975. And I was thinking about what you put up here on the screen today, you know the plan that you have. If you follow this, everything is going to be great. Because the plan says that you are going to divide us up by natural boundaries, that you're going to keep us geographically compact, you're going to have us have shared interest. Well, Point Loma/Ocean Beach peninsula, there isn't any place that's more compact than that; I mean, we're surrounded on three sides by water. So, if you want to cut us down the middle or something like that, it wouldn't work for us. We have a lot of things in common and I know that District 2 can't just be the Point Loma peninsula, there wouldn't be enough people. So I was thinking, what could we put with this group. Pacific Beach, Mission Beach, Ocean Beach, the Bay Ho community. All these communities have a lot in common; we're west of 5, we're have a lot of tourism in our area; we have a lot of traffic in our area; and if you remember at one time we had the methane gas problem out here at the end of the peninsula. They were going to start selling the methane gas and trucking it out of Point Loma from the waste, whatever that was called. Anyway, it was a problem. And if we had been cut up into little pieces, I'm don't know that we could have come together and got the solution that we did so quickly.

If you did take the communities that I talked about it would be obviously a politically good idea, because it would be equal. There wouldn't be more Democrats, more Republicans, it would be balanced. In fact, I think for me personally, that would be a good idea because then everybody would have a chance– and I know this isn't something that you consider in your redistricting, but come on; we know that gerrymandering is a word, it's in the dictionary. So, I hope you won't gerrymander. I hope that you do what you say you're going to do. And if we end up with a community that's balanced and everybody has a chance to win, politically speaking, we're going to come up with new ideas and I think it would just be the best for everyone. And I would hope that some of the other communities that you're talking about, you could balance them as well because everybody should have a chance. But Point Loma, Ocean Beach, the peninsula, we don't want to be cut up into little pieces and sold off to other areas. So, I thank you for your time. I know this is probably a long process, and hearing these people, week after week, your brains are probably full, but I hope that you will listen. And if you look at the map up there, you will see Point Loma and Ocean Beach, we're all one little group there. Are there any questions for me? I guess not. Thank you very much.

Comment 6: Susan Orlofsky

Hello, my name is Susan Orlofsky and I live on Brighton Ave in the 92107 zip code. And I live in what is technically Point Loma, at least as defined as the City of San Diego, but I really do identify as being a resident of Ocean Beach. And I believe there is world of difference between the two. Ocean Beach has been known to be a state of mind as well as an address. We are a laid back beach town with a small town feel and in a way we are like a community that time forgot. We have a rich history of political activism for social justice, whether its saving our Ocean Beach library, or protecting our coastline from having great big condos put into our neighborhoods. Our neighborhood has a combination of different kinds of people. We have low-income people, as well as middle class families. Many of our residents are younger, like in other beach communities, whereas Point Loma caters to wealthy, more established families and naval officers. Point Loma has more in common with Coronado across San Diego bay than it has with Ocean Beach. We have fewer chain stores and restaurants than Point Loma. In fact, we fought to keep a Starbucks out, about ten years ago, out of Ocean Beach. Instead, our community is better defined by Ocean Beach People's Food Co-op, Cal Records, the Green Store, antique stores, surf

shops. Ocean Beach has been a hotbed of activism and demonstrations to end the wars, while Point Loma is very identifiable with San Diego's military and with its Navy Base, and Naval Training Center, and MCRD. We are a community that cares a lot about our environment, social justice, and keeping our small beach town feel. Thank you for your time tonight and please respect the wishes of our community.

Comment 7: Jerry Tomaszewicz

Good afternoon, my name is Jerry Tomaszewicz. I moved to San Diego about five years ago from Massachusetts. About a year before I moved here I came to visit and friends brought me to Ocean Beach. It's where I first saw the Pacific Ocean and I fell in love with the area. So about a year later I moved to San Diego and after a few stops along the way, I ended up becoming a resident of Ocean Beach and I'm very happy to be here. Ocean beach is like a lot of other beach communities in the area. It caters to a younger demographic, many of whom are transplants like me. The beach is our space for recreation and we patronize the businesses, the restaurants and the bars of Newport Avenue and the areas around there. The atmosphere here is very laid back. We don't have the busy clubs and restaurants of the Gaslamp district, instead we have nice homey dive bars, locally owned coffee shops that I frequent. This speaks of our love of the easy life and our sleepy beach town, instead of the fast-paced happenings of other part of our District 2. As someone without a car, I'm pretty happy that I can get to pretty much anywhere in OB by walking. I know a lot of my neighbors do that as well. Pretty much everyone in Ocean Beach owns a bike. I love being able to get anywhere I need to go in Ocean Beach by walking. Please include Ocean Beach with other communities that respect our beach lifestyle and commitment to small, local, independent businesses and our interest in protecting the coast. Thanks for your time.

Comment 8: Virginia Cobb

Hello, my name is Virginia Cobb. I currently reside at 3644 Zola Street. I am a graduate of Point Loma High School, class of 1960. To the contrary of the previous speaker, I have to tell you that I previously resided on Longbranch Street in Ocean Beach. That's when I had a nice little body and just out of high school. And the way it went was, when we got older we moved up the hill. That's the way it was. So, that there wasn't a distinction. Our offspring now would be living at the beach, sowing their wild oats and some of them when they got older, they moved up the hill. But it's a family community. We have many nieces, nephews, cousins and I have Portuguese in the family, we have military. Yes, Point Loma has military. We have 100-year-old homes and we have a lot of tradition that goes with the Portuguese community, the Italian fishermen; I have Italian fishermen, I have Portuguese fishermen in the family, cuz that was our joke at Point Loma High – what kind of geese don't fly? Portuguese. And those were the words, and we all get along. We're all just a family. We have our boundaries. You heard it said before. Nobody drives through Point Loma to go anywhere. You're going to drop off in the ocean. But now we have Point Loma... we've got the airport and the Shelter Island on one side, the lighthouse at the end, the Nazarene University sitting on that side, we got the Sports Arena and the Getty. And this is like our community, this is our life. I mean for a while, going to Hillcrest was taking a field trip, you know? What our community of interest is Lindberg Field. When I was first going to Point Loma High, we had little prop jobs. A little jet was a thrill. It's not a thrill now, when I got 600 planes going over, when I got soot all over my house, when you don't know if one of them is going to crash into the High School.

When you drive down Laurel Street, down by that airport, Mission Hills, Banker's Hill and those planes coming in, we saw a neighborhood in the 70s totally wiped out. So if we talked about a shared interest,

whether we are poor at the beach with our children, or at the top of the hill, whether we're living at the beach and going to Point Loma High School, we have a major shared interest in that airport, the traffic it brings in, the danger, the potential hazard it has, the noise pollution it brings to all of us in a community that should include all of us old timers – that we are not just re-transplants out here, that have lived here, that have enjoyed this, that want to see our children enjoy it, from Mission Hill, Banker Hill, Downtown, and Little Italy. This is our home, please keep our home. Our home. We are truly Point Lomans, and I have 17 family members that all live within 17 blocks of this place. Thank you.

Comment 9: Ed Harris

Hi, my name is Ed Harris. I want to thank you for your service, taking on this hard task you have before you. I'm a lifeguard, I'm a lifeguard sergeant, and I also represent the lifeguards. And like some of the people here, I am here to speak to you about the beach community. I live here above Famosa Sloughs, in an area some call Point Loma Heights, and its area all to itself. Everybody uses the beaches. Everybody that comes to San Diego comes to San Diego to go to the beaches. They go to SeaWorld in between, but they come here for the beaches, and something is lacking that I want to make you aware of. What's lacking is full support focused on the beaches, and beach safety. Beach lifeguards make over 6,000 water rescues a year. We make over 50 cliff rescues. Most of you think probably that we sit by the pool or we sit by our stands, you don't realize we do the river rescues. We made 50 just at the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley this year. We do the cliff rescues; we do the scuba diving and recovery of body evidence; we do law enforcement at Mission Bay; we do all boat fires on Mission Bay; we have full fire fighters or peace officers; there's only 80 of us. We are in the media 3-5 times a week. And there are only 80 of us. That's the about the same as fire and police, that have 1,000 and 1,800 members.

What's missing is that I can't get what I need to keep your beaches safe right now. Right now, I have fire boats that don't run. I have taken that up, but there's conflict between the needs of downtown in this district, and the needs of the beaches, and those aren't getting the proper address that they need. This is a huge economic engine for the city. Everybody in all the districts come to the beaches to recreate. They have a right for their kids and their neighbors to come to the beach and have a great chance, and now that they are going to come home safely. It's getting very difficult for me to do that. This last weekend I'm putting Level Zeros at the boats, because my whole training has been plummeted and there is no voice out there saying, the lifeguards need to have their training budget back. I get it from <unintelligible>, I get it from Marti Emerald, but I'm not getting it where I need it from. I need it from here. Mr. Faulconer, I need it from you. Ok? That's where I need it from.

And this beach here – we need to be focused on the beaches; we need to create a beach district that is focused on the beach. I'm a former Marine; I understand all the Point Loma vs. this... but we need someone– Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach, Mission Beach, these main beaches that draw huge amounts of tourism, that everybody in the City uses, huge traffic– the Mission Bay community, the hotel owners, they need to know they got a fire boat that is going to put out a fire in their marina. It's 50/50 right now. Boat's been down for six months and there is still no plan to fix it. I need that stuff; the lifeguards need that stuff to keep you guys safe. There was– Rich Snapper was the old personnel director, and he stated quite emphatically, "Lifeguards in one year will make more rescues than fire and police combined in a decade." So remember that. We need your support. I would ask all of you to call the council offices and let them know that you support your lifeguards. And please, when you do your redistricting take that into consideration, the beaches are huge economic engines. There is no other community of interest greater shared than the beaches. Thank you.

Comment 10: Council President Pro Tem Kevin Faulconer

Good evening. Thank you for meeting tonight in Point Loma and in District 2. And Ms. Quiroz, I agree with you that this is one of the best branch libraries that we have in the entire city. And too I do not envy your task, as a Councilmember who sits and gets to work on a lot of these issues, as you are here. You are going to hear a lot of different voices and different positions, not only in this meeting but in other meetings that you've already done and ones you will continue to do. And I think what I wanted to do, was just echo some of the comments that you've already heard not only here tonight but I'm sure in some of your other areas, which is the importance of keeping communities of interest together. And so you've heard from some of our District 2 neighbors here tonight, not only on the importance of keeping Point Loma together, but our beaches and bay communities together. They are communities of interest. They are communities with a longstanding history not only in this particular council district, but for decades and decades and decades in the City of San Diego, based on our geographic location. So, I'm looking forward to the progress of this group and this Commission, when you come up with ultimately some maps for everyone to look at; I know that's on your list. But I do appreciate the fact that you've come out here tonight to Point Loma and District 2 and listen to our constituents, and if there is anything I can leave you with is that focus of communities of interest, communities and neighborhoods that have been together, are longstanding and have rich histories, traditions. And I think when you look at District 2 in particular, our beaches and bays, you'll see that fits the bill and that's something that should continue for a long time to come. So, thank you for the opportunity to speak and I look forward to addressing this group in the future. Thank you.

Comment 11: Leo Terhune-Loomis

Hello. My name is Leo Loomis. Been in OB since 1978, grew up surfing and watching the community grow. It went from being a small, independent community to... I'd like to still think it is; it is still growing a little bit. Anyway, like to see the district with more independent thinking people. Maybe keeping the bigger business communities out of the district and keeping the tight knit freethinking spirit of OB. That's pretty much it. Thank you.

Comment 12: Anne Shillam

Good evening to the Commission. I'm Anne Shillam and I'm a member of the Asian Pacific American Coalition. You've heard our presentation and proposal for a new district 9. I am here this evening listening to the comments of people who live in an older and more settled part of the city and I'm hearing very valid concerns being expressed to you. And I don't envy your volunteer assignment. But in speaking for our proposed District 9 for the north part of the city, we do speak to establish communities, not as old as Point Loma/Ocean Beach, not with the history of La Jolla yet, but where the most significant growth of our city has been for the past decade, in the north side. And we do speak to the Asian and Pacific community that is established in that area. And it's not- I don't like to hear the word "race" come up - I get a little sensitive about it, I think we all do. It's not about identifying race so much as people of shared interest and values, people with historical threads... you know, that's what it is. But I'm enjoying the comments that are coming from people here that I share, because I've lived in San Diego since the 1960s, since I was a young teenager and I've watched it grow. And it's true, we have to safeguard our beaches. It would be a tragedy to break a council district along the coast line; our lifeguard sergeant expressed it well. I am a ocean swimmer and a pool swimmer and I heard him clearly. You know, we have one of the best lifeguard systems in the country, maybe in the world, but without

funding they are not. And what is the main attraction for San Diego County? It's not buildings, it's the beach. So keep that in mind. And thank you very much again for your time.

Comment 13: Kaye Hobson

Hi, I'm Kaye Hobson from 3141 Seville Street. I've lived in Loma Portal for over 30 years now. And my request would be a very simple one, which would be to keep the peninsula communities together, the ones that are described on the map here as Ocean Beach, Loma Portal, Point Loma Heights and La Playa. They are natural— it's a natural geographic boundary, we are a community of interest; we play with each other; we do business with each other; we travel from one side of the peninsula to the other and shop with each other. The dogs go on dog beach; the dogs come to Liberty Station. And our concerns are the same. As one lady said, the airport, the traffic, the density. So that's my request. Thank you very much.

Comment 14: Gerald Hosenkamp

Thank you for your time. My name is Gerald Hosenkamp. I was at your meeting at Tierrasanta and heard a number of comments there. As you know, one of the stated reasons for this Commission's existence is to combat gerrymandering, a practice that has been used by those in government to ensure safe districts on party lines. In recent hearings I have heard speakers asking you to, in effect, create districts for Latinos, African Americans, Asians, and the LGBT community. Undoubtedly, you have heard comments and rumors in the media that this process is somehow fixed to create safe districts for other groups. Gerrymandering, whether to favor groups based on race, sexual orientation, political affiliation or influence, is still gerrymandering and it's all equally reprehensible.

The fight against gerrymandering is based on a desire to have real competition for political office in order to produce office holders who are responsive to all their constituents and not just those who fund them. So, within the limits of your guidelines, please ignore race, sexual orientation and political pressures, and for the good of all your fellow citizens do your best to produce districts that are truly politically competitive and not the province of any particular group. Many of us are watching this process and quite rightly expect you to act first and foremost in the interests of San Diegans who want and deserve good government.

Comment 15: Jeanne Brown

Good evening, I'm Jeanne Brown, and for the last couple years I have been very active with the League of Women Voters and California Common Cause, working to get that passed – the state's citizen redistricting Commission. And during that time I was going all over the county talking about how important it was and how we have this wonderful redistricting Commission in San Diego that the State is using as a guideline. And during that time, I asked what is a community of interest, "What do you mean?" and I would use examples of the farmer's in Fresno or the loggers in Humboldt, and now tonight I realize that this is my community and it really brings it home, what a community of interest is. I've lived in Ocean Beach since 1971. I came here from State College area and we are all in San Diego, but it was a big difference when I came here. For one thing, you don't need air conditioners. That's the number one thing you look for when you live out in State college. Ocean Beach is laid back, we are comfortable. Ocean Beach is a beach community, along with Pacific Beach, Mission Beach. We care about the environment, the water, our whole coastal Commission. We care about the traffic during the summer. It's different. What do we have in common with downtown? Very little, very little. And its

been tough being in the same district as downtown. Their priorities are different than our priorities. And if there is anything you can do to keep us with the other beach communities, as many other people have talked about. Again, it's just a natural thing. We belong with the other beach communities. And there's a big difference between how we look at our traffic, our surf, our whole environment. We have very little.... The priorities for downtown are not our priorities. So I hope you keep us in mind. Thank you.

Comment 16: Deborah Knight

Alright, thank you very much. My name is Deborah Knight. I live in south University City and I've come and talked to you before about how critical it is to keep University City, all of University City, intact and the most disturbing– it's very disturbing to me to see a proposal that would just kind of carve out just a chunk, just take a bite of out of it. And partly because our community plan is very complex– we have residential areas; we have probably some of the greatest development in the city; we have UCSD, which is really driver – it and the surrounding bio-tech and high-tech, and research institutions are the driver of this economy. We have a unique biotech center here, the regenerative medicine institute that is being built here and all of these things are both in University City and La Jolla. It's interesting to see that I have– one of my concerns is that you would chop UCSD in half on the east campus, which would– is proposed to go into the new district. You have the UCSD Medical Center La Jolla listed on their plan. Most of the streets are called La Jolla something, all the way over to the 805. Many of the places in University City call themselves La Jolla this and La Jolla that; UCSD also has Scripps Research Institute actually in La Jolla, that's in the La Jolla community plan. So our community plans and our communities are all really combined and inextricable.

To try to have two different council members, one just take just a small piece of that and then what if they didn't agree? What if they all had to learn all the others– there are so many interrelated relationships there. If Scripps Institute is in the area that is proposed to be taken out– I'm sorry, Scripps Hospital– they are undergoing a massive expansion over the next ten years. Now, if they were suddenly taken out and a new council member had to vote on their expansion, but it affects everything all around it, the traffic, everything like that, it would just be untenable. I've attended every planning group meeting for last ten years, believe me, you don't want to make it any more complex than it already is. The other thing is, as a community activist I moved here in 1998, to my surprise became a community activist, and I have come to know people all over University City, north and south. North is generally more high-density, south, more single-family homes. It is truly an education-focused community. You just see the UCSD influence and all those research institutes and high-tech and biotech, just infusing all of the community and that includes both older residents who knew that before UCSD was even built and it was nothing but mesa tops a few years ago. And then the young people who come there to our community and live there because it's accessible. So please keep University City and La Jolla together. We are really one community. Thank you.

Comment 17: Tom Lemmon

Hi. Tom Lemmon. Long-time San Diego resident and very lucky to be a long time beach resident. Moved to Pacific Beach in 1976 with my parents. We moved out of affordable housing and moved into military housing and it was a big change for me to have grass and a lawn and experience the beach community. Turned 18 and moved to OB and it's kind of a little bit blurry right now to remember way back then. They say if you lived in OB and remember it, you didn't really live there. So, I feel that part, but now I am a lucky home owner in Crown Point. I love my beach community and I love all it provides for me. I've got to kind of chuckle – I was sharing with Mr. Berg about that number 144,000. That

seems like Garnet Ave. on a Saturday night. It should have its own district. What I see when I look at the map and I've heard a lot of people talking about it today, and I feel the same thing. We are... beach people are a little bit different and I think we should be all tied together. But I look at the map and I see some of my beach folks that I've known for a long time that aren't part of it, I mean you start looking at Bay Park. And clearly, Clairemont community that lots of folks drive down and spend time at the beach, and I don't know a lot of people driving down and spending time in downtown San Diego. And I got a little issue with downtown San Diego being part of the beach community. It just doesn't seem right. If Kevin was here, Councilman Faulconer, I'd say it to his face; you know we need more concentration for our council member in the beach community. I still have a green light and I'm going to leave it that way. Thank you.

Comment 18: Janay Kruger

Hello, I'm Janay Kruger, chairman of the University City Planning Group and I was here once before at Qualcomm at District 5 just thought we should come back after we saw the Asian, uh, APAC map. I took the north half of University City from our community, so instead of being one community, we would be two, two or three communities. We basically share UCSD with La Jolla. A portion of UCSD is in La Jolla, a portion is in our community. And within 20 minutes of the campus are 504 biomed; we have five hospitals, two more on the drawing board. We have nine schools, elementary, junior, and senior high, other than the campus. And so, we're basically a job community, 2/3 of all the new jobs – good jobs – are happening in our area. So we need to stay together to keep the energy and the momentum going for the jobs. We have 41,200 people on the campus and it swells at different times of the year, summer and winter, and their semesters. And we all live together and we're happy. We have the Torrey Pines Glider Park, Rose Canyon, our open space parks; we got the Marines, which we work with all the time, to the east. And we would like to become the MD Anderson of the west. So we need to stay together with La Jolla, Sulk, Scripps, UCSD and the John Moore's Cancer Center. We need to keep those together with the stem cell research and everything that's going on there. So, we are asking you very respectfully to keep our community as one with La Jolla, so we keep the energy of the campus and the jobs together.

Comment 19: Joe LaCava

Joe LaCava, I've spoken many times. Again, thank you to the Commissioners for your service to the city. I want to dovetail the comments on the Coast and Canyons plan that you've already heard to some of the comments that were said tonight. We call our plan the Coast and Canyons very, very deliberately. And it really dovetails with the discussion you've heard from others tonight where they refer to themselves as the beach communities or the beach and bay communities. And they really are a different set of demographics and a different set of issues from those starting with La Jolla and going north through University City and Torrey Pines and Carmel Valley. They have more of a beach orientation, the crowds that come out to the beaches, the younger demographic, the traffic associated with that. Whereas the communities to the north are really more oriented towards a coastline orientation and also major open space preserves as was mentioned by one of the others. And that's really one of the reasons we gave it a different name, because it really is a different demographic, a different communities of interest.

As such, the dividing line between the La Jolla Community Plan and the Pacific Beach Community Plan provides a good demarcation to differentiate between those two areas and those two communities of interest. The other thing I wanted to respond to was, as you know I've been a pretty strong advocate at these meetings about using the community planning areas as your building blocks when creating the

districts. I understand the comment that was made earlier, you will certainly note if you delve into it that many of the community planning areas were chosen originally because there is some kind of identifiable demarcation, whether it is a canyon system, or freeways, or other natural boundaries, especially north of 8, and to somewhat lesser degree, south of 8. And I think you've heard so much from other speakers, is because that's how they think of themselves, based on their community planning areas. It's something that is fairly unique in the City of San Diego as opposed to other jurisdictions, in terms of how they orientate themselves. And, again, I think that is how people bundle themselves, their particular neighborhoods, then their communities, then they're San Diegans. So, I would continue to urge you to use the community planning areas as the building blocks to get your council districts, then use the other aspects— culture, demographics, ethnic— as kind of the glue to figure out how to bundle those blocks together in different districts. And so, I think that's my point. Thank you.

Comment 20: Pete Nystrom

My name is Pete Nystrom and I'm a member of the Peninsula Community Planning Board. I would like to support the lady that was talking about how the young people live in Ocean Beach and then move up the hill. I want to point out that the students in both areas go to Point Loma High. And it's true that Ocean Beach is a little bit funky, but when you're living in the rest of Point Loma and you want to go out and do some funky things, that's where we go, Ocean Beach. Ocean Beach is the beach community part of Point Loma. If you think about it, there are no other beaches near Point Loma. When we go swimming in the ocean we go swimming at Ocean Beach. When there's a protest over there and everybody's acting a little bit different, well those people aren't all from Ocean Beach. Some are from Point Loma; they go over and get involved with the people from Ocean Beach. So, that's our beach if you will. I live in Loma Portal by the way. And the lifeguard was talking about keeping the beach communities together. Well if you look at the district now, you have the beaches together. You got Pacific Beach, Mission Beach and Ocean Beach all together in District 2. And all I'd like to advocate is that you keep Point Loma with the beach communities. And we're probably not so together with the downtown people, with the Gaslamp and that area. That's probably a little different culture than we are out here. But Point Loma, let's face it, we are more affluent than Ocean Beach and the idea of moving from Ocean Beach up the hill is probably valid. But we are all the same community, the same people. And what I'd like to see is that the Point Loma area be kept together with the beach communities. If you want to put Old Town and Little Italy with it that's fine, too. You know, the restaurants, the tourist area and so forth, that's part of the community too. I don't know how far that stretches but when you go downtown, that is really a different community. And I noticed that the top of the district, we go up into La Jolla. If you want to pare some area off, maybe up at the northern end also. They may be more continuous with La Jolla. Thank you.

(Transcript Ends)

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dalal adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Written Comments Received at the May 4, 2011 Redistricting Commission Public Hearing

Comment 1: Barbara Decker

Please keep the beach communities together. La Jolla, UCSD, University City, and then Pacific Beach, Mission Beach, Ocean Beach and Point Loma. They all share water and canyons.

Comment 2: James Whalen

Redistrict fairly – Please do not gerrymander our city to pander to special interests.