

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2011

**CITY METRO OPERATIONS CENTER (MOC II) - AUDITORIUM
9191 TOPAZ WAY, SAN DIEGO, CA 92123**

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dalal at 6:00 p.m. 43 persons were observed to be in attendance. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dalal at 7:55 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting of the Redistricting Commission on Thursday, June 16, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in Auditorium at MOC II.

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING:

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

ROLL CALL:

Chair Anisha Dalal called the roll:

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

Comment 1 – Graham Forbes spoke against contracting National Demographics as the Commission’s mapping services consultant.

Comment 2 – Tony Krvaric on behalf of the Republican Party of San Diego spoke to the Commission about Commissioner Quiroz’s affiliation with Empower San Diego. He referenced Empower San Diego’s website and supporters of Commissioner Quiroz’s application.

Comment 3 – Eric Robles spoke against contracting National Demographics as the Commission’s mapping services consultant. He referenced Doug Johnson’s affiliation with the Rose Institute and his previously submitted redistricting maps that were rejected as unconstitutional.

Comment 4 – Kevin Gorman spoke against contracting National Demographics as the Commission’s mapping services consultant. He referenced their track record of drawing gerrymandered district maps.

Comment 5 – Mateo Camarillo with the Latino Redistricting Committee spoke against the potential hiring of National Demographics. He referenced the Rose Institute and Doug Johnson’s track record towards the Voting Rights Act.

Comment 6 – Jeanne Brown with California Common Cause stated that although the Rose Institute has a history of gerrymandering, Mr. Johnson is capable of drawing fair lines if given proper direction. She asked the Commission to direct National Demographics, if hired, to draw lines that respect Voting Rights Act and communities of interest, without partisan influence.

Comment 7 – Alex Wais with the Latino Redistricting Commission spoke against the hiring of National Demographics. He referred to the Arizona and Florida redistricting efforts where Rose Institutes maps were disallowed by the Department of Justice and the Florida Court.

Comment 8 – James Hauser with San Diego County Taxpayers Association spoke regarding their upcoming submittal to the Commission of additional options in redistricting, using neighborhoods as the building blocks.

Comment 9 – Deborah Knight with Friends of Rose Canyon spoke in favor of keeping University City and La Jolla whole and united in one district.

Comment 10 – Paul Webster on behalf the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce listed their redistricting priorities and endorsed the San Diego Neighborhood Plan map submitted by the Taxpayers Association.

Comment 11 – Jeff Marston voiced his support of the San Diego Neighborhood Plan map.

Comment 12 – Joe LaCava advocated for his map, the Coast and Canyons Plan. He spoke in opposition of the Taxpayers Association plan because it splits five communities. He urged the Commission to focus more on communities of interests, planning areas and neighborhoods and less on deviation of population.

Comment 13 – Bari Vaz with Mira Mesa Town Council spoke against the division of Mira Mesa proposed in the Taxpayers Association map. She asked the Commission to keep the Mira Mesa Community Plan together.

Comment 14 – Don Azul with San Diego Veteran’s Coalition spoke against the Community of Unity map because it divides and disenfranchises many veterans, especially Asian American veterans.

Comment 15 – Mathew Kostrinsky urged the Commission to solicit SANDAG or San Diego State to provide mapping consultant services. Hiring them would eliminate any partisan influence or conflicts of interest.

Comment 16 – Ben Rivera on behalf of the Logan, Sherman, and Stockton Neighborhood Councils spoke against the hiring of National Demographics because of their contributors and their history of redistricting in Arizona. He also voiced opposition to the San Diego Taxpayers Association map because it divides the current District 8.

Comment 17 – Liliana Garcia-Rivera speaking on behalf of the Historic Barrio District communities voiced opposition to hiring the Rose Consulting Group, stating that they have previously worked to disenfranchised minority groups. The Sherman Heights and Logan Heights Neighborhood Councils adamantly oppose the Taxpayers Association map because it divides the current District 8.

Comment 18 – Remigia Bermudez spoke against the selection of the Rose Institute as the mapping consultant. She referenced their previous redistricting efforts and undisclosed funding.

Comment 19 – Andrea Carter spoke against the Taxpayers Association’s redistricting plan, saying it doesn’t comply with redistricting law and splits communities of interest. She also expressed opposition to hiring the Rose Institute because of their partisan ties.

COMMISSION COMMENT:

Commissioner Kosmo thanked all the speakers and the public. He acknowledged the public complaints about the meeting location and mentioned the logistical problems in finding meeting places.

CITY ATTORNEY AND CITY STAFF ASSIGNED TO REDISTRICTING COMMISSION COMMENT:

Ms. Wong noted that the printed copy of the agenda included one incorrect item and asked that the Commission and members of the public follow the agenda posted on the screen in the meeting room.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 1: DEMONSTRATION OF MAPPING SOFTWARE

Ms. Wong introduced Mr. Ray Hardy, product engineer with ESRI. Mr. Hardy gave mapping software demonstration. He fielded questions from the Commissioners and the public.

Ms. Wong stated that ESRI will have the mapping system up and running by close of business on Friday, June 17, 2011. A link will be available on the Redistricting Commission website on that date, as well as a list of requirements. The link and information will also be distributed electronically to the email distribution list. She also noted that the Commission's contract with ESRI allows for public training and a facility with several workstations can be made available for training. Ms. Wong stated that the facility is pending but most likely will be located at a City College campus and will be accessible via transit.

ITEM 2: DEVELOPMENT OF PRELIMINARY REDISTRICTING PLAN.

Ms. Wong stated that the neighborhood maps and an additional Community Planning Area map that were requested at the previous meeting have been provided.

Public Comment: Gary Rotto asked the Commission to redistrict according to people, neighborhoods, and services provided by the City; and to keep the residents and the public services/facilities they use together in a district.

Commissioner Quiroz spoke in favor of using Community Planning Areas, neighborhood plans, and neighborhood areas to greatest extent possible to create districts, based on all the public testimony. She mentioned that based on public testimony, she believes there are certain points all commissioners can agree on, including keeping South Bay United.

At the request of Commissioner Morrow, Chair Dalal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Dalal adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Julie Corrales, Executive Secretary
2010 Redistricting Commission