

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

THURSDAY JULY 28, 2011

**THURGOOD MARSHALL MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATER
9700 AVENUE OF NATIONS, SAN DIEGO, CA 92131**

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dalal at 6:10 p.m. 96 persons were observed to be in attendance. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dalal at 8:15 p.m.

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING:

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

ROLL CALL:

Chairperson Dalal called the roll:

(C) Chair Anisha Dalal – present
(M) Ani Mdivani-Morrow – present
(M) Frederick Kosmo – present
(M) Theresa Quiroz – present
(M) David Potter – present
(M) Arthur Nishioka – not 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 two minutes per speaker. Submit requests to speak to 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)

Comment 1: Daniel Beeman

Thank you. I'm not sure exactly what your purview of what the Committee can do, but I think one of the things that I saw here is that we no longer have a city-wide representation on the Council. The Mayor doesn't sit there, so there's no way for us to get anything done for city-wide. And that's why I think that if we could somehow recommend that if we ever consider to have any other seat, or we consider to maybe go back and look at the situation, we look at having an ombudsman City Council member that represents the whole city. Because we get all split up—fire, police, parks, streets, sidewalks, lighting, these are all, all city. These are issues that deal with the whole city. And I think that's what we really need, and I'm really saddened that we end up getting, that this district ended up to be a splitting up of all the districts to make another in-house fighting situation that we have on, that we already have on Council. I really think that really what we should have looked at, and somebody should have counseled us before this was even on the ballot, is that really we need a full representation with the new Council, the way we have it now. And it would have cost us a lot less money in the long run, but I think we still need that. We're still going to need that down the road because nobody's sitting there and playing for everybody, for every citizen in the city; it's all split up, these little compartmentalization according to who's within your district, and it causes a lot fighting and things like that, and confusion for our citizens, especially when you look at the new map, and the maps that we've had before. So, I hope that the Commission can some way look to see about how we can get representation for the full city and that some way can be considered. I hope we don't have to go to some type of going back to the ballot to do that, but that might be. Thank you very much.

(Transcript Ends)

CITY ATTORNEY AND STAFF ASIGNED TO REDISTRICTING COMMISSION COMMENT

There was no comment.

PUBLIC HEARING:

ITEM 1 – OVERVIEW OF PRELIMINARY REDISTRICTING PLAN

Ms. Midori Wong, Chief of Staff, Redistricting Commission, provided an overview of the preliminary redistricting plan and the materials included in the agenda packet, including maps, demographic tables, and filing statement prepared in compliance with the City Charter. She also explained how street level detail of the plan could be accessed online using the free redistricting mapping tool.

ITEM 2 – PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PRELIMINARY REDISTRICTING PLAN

(Transcript Begins)

Comment 1: Tom Hebrank

Hi, my name is Tom Hebrank. I'm a resident of Kensington and the former chair of the Kensington-Talmadge planning group. I'm going to keep my comments very brief tonight. I just wanted to apprise the Commission that we did meet with Tom McDowell today. We have prepared a revised map that is affecting Districts 3 and 9 and a small portion of District 8. These are all minor adjustments that we're proposing, it's involving small blocks of 5,000 or less people, and the goal for us is to return Kensington to District 3 where we're currently at. We are going to be submitting that map by Saturday. We're doing outreach right now with some of the other affected groups to try to get their tie-in and buy into this, and hopefully get their support as well. So, I just wanted to advise the Commission that we're doing that. So, thank you.

Comment 2: Don Taylor

Good evening. I am, actually I am the president of the Kensington/Normal Heights Friends of the Library Group, and they have asked me to come and speak to you and request that we be kept with Normal Heights and not put in another district. Our communities have a strong joint interest which is shown by the name of our library. Adams Avenue is the lifeblood of our community, and though we are in the planning group with Talmadge, Fairmount separates us and there is not near the length that we have to the other sister communities along Adams Avenue. I am also here as an older gay man who lives in Kensington, and we have a significant number of gay people that live in Kensington. I have spoken with several of them. Many of us have been around and have looked to have, you know, some political voice in the process over the years and we chose Kensington as a home because we were within the urban gay sphere, which includes Hillcrest and University Heights, and to an extent, Normal Heights. And quite honestly, for myself and those that I have spoken to, we are feeling kind of like we're being cut adrift. You know, there's a lot of wonderful parts of the city, but you know, we are there because we have had many years of being a minority without much of a voice. And we would far prefer, and we really hope that you will reconsider, make this minor adjustment to the edge of the boundary so that we can be under the sphere, and within the same political voice as the other communities that have a great number of gay people here in San Diego. So, if I say, for both reasons, I hope you will make that adjustment. Thank you.

Comment 3: Bob Coffin

Mr. Garrison is missing-in-action, so I assume he's stuck on the freeway. I'm Bob Coffin. I'm going to talk as Bob Coffin, and if John shows up, and you've got time, I hope you would hear him. I spoke Tuesday, and thank you for your attention, then and now. After the Tuesday hearing, I went back to my office and started to do some investigation as to how it is that we in Kensington got to this point. I'm the vice chair of the planning group in Kensington/Talmadge. I sit right next to Dave Moty in these meetings. He never once said to me or anybody else on the

Planning Group, or to the audience, that he was going to be appearing before this group and advocating that Kensington and Talmadge both be moved into District 9. He wasn't authorized to do that on our behalf, he took it upon himself, and to our surprise, he's been here apparently a number of times and has been writing letters to you. None of these have been run by us, and up to this point in time, I mean, we, I thought we had a pretty tight-knit system for doing public appearances and making public promotions. We have sub-committees; I'm on the underground, I chair the underground sub-committee, which is a big issue in Kensington. So, all this is going on without our involvement, without our knowing about this. He never came to us and said, you know, I think Kensington should go in District 9, and I'm going to come down here and I'm going to make that point with this Commission. We would have swarmed the place and said, hey, he's not speaking for us. We have 15 members on the planning group—ten are from Kensington, and five are from Talmadge. And, you know, this is becoming a bad marriage, when the Talmadge people are around here promoting something for Talmadge, and the Kensington people don't know they're doing that. So, I would, I would ask you to take that into consideration. Thank you.

Comment 4: Scott Hasson

Welcome Commissioners. My name is Scott Hasson. I'm the president of the Tierrasanta Community and Town Council. I've been in front of you a couple of times, and one thing I've not told you is thank you for your work. We've been so worried about the map, we didn't get a chance to say thank you. The work you've done has been rather, rather good. I'm going to read you a letter that I've handed in front of you, I'm going to put on the record that Tierrasanta Community and Town Council would like to clarify a comment made during public testimony on the July 16, 2011 Redistricting Commission Hearing, item one, development of a redistricting Plan. The Tierrasanta Community and Town Council would like to go on the record and state that the comments made regarding the relationship between the Tierrasanta Community Council and the Navajo community have been taken out of context and was not voiced by a Tierrasanta community resident. The vote that was referred during public testimony was an April 20th action that proposed a recommendation to the Commission to include the Tierrasanta community, with communities of Kearny Mesa, Serra Mesa, and Clairemont. In no way does this recommendation reflect Tierrasanta's relationship with the Navajo community, as the Tierrasanta community shares many similar interests with Navajo, including of course, Mission Trails Regional Park, which is the largest that we do. In fact, at our May 2011 meeting, we unanimously passed the motion reading: the TCC is not opposed to a new district including Tierrasanta whose boundaries would be I-8 to the south, I-15 to the west, Ted Williams Parkway to the north, and the City of San Diego limits to the east, should the Commission decide to do so. Furthermore, the Tierrasanta Community and Town Council has opened the dialogue with many Navajo community leaders to establish a group that addresses future civic issues. And we are going to be meeting after your final map. It's unfortunate that a resident of San Diego has publicly used the action of the Tierrasanta Community and Town Council to provide out-of-context testimony. As always, the Tierrasanta Community and Town Council believes in full public transparency and offers all meeting minutes for the public on our website and the City's website; our website is www.tierrasantacc.org.

So, in closing, we like this map. We approve of the district proposed by the Commission's preliminary map, and that we, the one thing that we want to make sure we're clear on is that we remain adamantly opposed to being linked in the same district to any of the, any of the neighborhoods south of the 8. That's something clear. One of the things that I, this is from me personally that I'd like you to consider on your map you've got USD moving out of Linda Vista, and Linda Vista's going to be one of our new neighbors in our new district, and we're looking forward to having them in our new district, and I really believe that that's a mistake. I really think that USD needs to be with Linda Vista. It seems that I've only been in San Diego 13 years, but that seems to be such a marriage that you're breaking up, moving USD out of Linda Vista. So, if anything, I would recommend that you move USD back into Linda Vista, and even think about not splitting Linda Vista up at all and trying to find population somewhere else. That's just, that's from the Tierrasanta community, and from myself. I think USD is a marvelous institution, and I've got many, many friends who have attended there, and asking one person who used to be on our community council, he told me it's, it seems like that's a terrible thing to do is to move USD out of our new district. So, in closing, our new district, District 7, is going to be a wonderful district. We are going to be with Navajo and Serra Mesa—you've made some changes to Serra Mesa, and we like those changes, including Aero Drive. And I thank you very much for your work, and I appreciate the maps that you've done. Thank you very much.

Comment 5: Tim Nguyen (Organized Presentation)

Commissioners and residents of San Diego, we are standing before you today for this historic time for our community. Welcome to Scripps Ranch, the community my wife and I call home. But tonight we are not fighting for Scripps Ranch, we're fighting for the city of San Diego. This evening we will present to you some of our work and what we've learned, as well as responding to some of your statements. Although we are lifelong residents of the city, many of us are new to this process. Being involved pushed us really hard to understand what this is all about. Part of the work included learning about other areas in our state. Northern California has a long and rich history of ethnic minorities contributing to the greater public. It started with the transcontinental railroads in the 1800s. More recently, Asian Americans have played an important role in the development of Silicon Valley. The API community have contributed a lot in both private and public sector. Within the last year, both the cities of San Francisco and Oakland were proud to support the first Asian Americans to lead their cities as mayors. In San Jose, they approved an Asian-American female to serve as mayor pro tem. Los Angeles is an international renowned city and have shown support toward minorities. Those groups have returned the favor in terms of investment, such as international commerce, which has benefited the greater region supporting thousands of high-quality jobs. Just east of the city, you go through San Gabriel Valley and you'll find one of the most diverse and thriving areas anywhere in America. Also, here you'll find one of the API role models in Judy Chu, who started out serving on the local city council and now represents her district in our country as U.S. Congresswoman. In Orange County, you'll find a vibrant politically active community where APIs are proud to serve on city council, school boards, as well as county supervisors, which has benefited the community for many aspects, such as tourism and economic development. It should be noted that since the year 2000, every governor's and U.S. presidential race have gone through this community seeking support. Irvine has consistently been ranked as one of the best places to raise a family, as well as being the business capital of Orange County. It also has a strong history of supporting Asian Americans,

and just two or three years ago, one of my classmates father was elected to serve as mayor. And here, in America's finest city, we have a good track record as well supporting underrepresented groups, with one exception. However, we urge you today to make the change and do what's right.

So, what does this all tell you? Why are Asian Americans in San Diego making so much noise? Because we get it. We know that political representation not only allows you to have better services, but also promote business and culture. More importantly, it empowers groups to contribute back to our communities and our city. Also, it's important—we saw how it can slowly bring awareness, then tolerance, and then eventual acceptance by minority groups by the general population. We also learned that local representation could spark, can make a spark that can lead to state and even national representation. In this process, we have witnessed the Commission literally analyzing demographics down to the neighborhood and census blocks, working to strengthen groups that have historically been underrepresented. And again, we apologize for that. But today, we feel that the API community have not received an equal treatment. This slide compares data between those communities of interest you have identified. And here was another exercise that we did, nothing scientific, but this slide shows the number of elected Asian Americans in California today. What we found—now, numbers can mean a lot of things, but the main number here is zero. The next question we have to ask is why? And then, what can you do to improve this? We really believe it is part of the role and responsibility that you have accepted. Yes, strong words, but this is what we feel. In this process, some statements made by Commissioners, as well as the consultant, try to divide our community, and your actions will be detrimental to what we have built. Your proposal put out, put our community at a disadvantage and will defer our voice for another ten years. This will disenfranchise the 200,000-strong Asian-American community in San Diego and will ultimately be a disservice to our city. I will now hand off to Cindy.

Comment 6: Cindy Chan (Organized Presentation)

Thanks, Tim. We just wanted to make some responses to the some of the Commissioner's statements that we've heard over the past few months. I want to first commend Commissioners Quiroz and Morrow for recognizing the injustice done to the API community and for taking a stand for what is right for all of San Diego, not just the API community, by voting not to approve the proposed map. And I also request that, please, that you do ensure our request, as presented by all of our members and supporters today, and for all the past months, be put on the table for deliberation. Do not let the entire Commissions' conversations move past our requests any longer—don't let them do that; put it on the table. I also wanted to respond to Commissioner Nishioka's statement about within RB there is a thriving Asian-American community. Throughout this process, we learned that his residence is in RB and appears that he is doing well for himself. He should indeed be proud of himself, as I am proud of my Marching Sun Devils at Mount Carmel in Peñasquitos. However, many people are not as fortunate and/or do not yet feel empowered politically and civically. You've heard testimonies from Asian Americans from City Heights as well as hundreds of signatories from Mira Mesa and Peñasquitos pleading you to strengthen the API community in the north, so that all San Diego APIs can have a voice in the city. We ask you to take a stand and discredit the notion that the API community is fractured, and

that what was proposed is good enough. Sorry to say, but RB is just not good enough for the entire city of San Diego—in terms of the API population.

The next response we wanted to give is to one made by Commissioner Potter. In your testimony for supporting the proposed plan, you indicated the statement shown here. We spent time to figure this out and have concluded that either someone is feeding you wrong information, or you have simply made things up—I hope that’s not the case. Either way, we find it very troubling that you’ve provided on record inaccurate information in order to solidify your position and discredit our community’s hard work. Your reasoning process has been questioned several times throughout this process and your words at times may be considered offensive, and at best, insensitive to our concerns and concerns of all minorities. We hope that you could at least clarify and provide backup data on the accusations you’ve presented. Once that this has been clarified you’ll find that our requests deserve to be put on the table for deliberation.

Commission Marquez—I don’t think he’s here—yes, he’s right, a lot of people are unhappy, mostly groups from the API community, for the Commission has disappointed us. The API community really believed that he would be here and be the one to stand up to the injustice done to our community. We supported him when others accused him of gaming the system. In the end, we still applaud him for being a strong voice, albeit it has been for the benefit of his community and interests. His verbal testimonies up to now have been very supportive of the API community. We ask you again to rethink your position and take real action by actually putting our requests on the table for deliberation.

And finally, a statement by Commissioner Dalal on behalf of the entire Commission—earlier you said that you’ve received a thousand letters and emails, nearly 200 telephone comments and 23 maps showing proposals for the districts. I want to thank you for finally acknowledging and recognizing the over 2,000 petition signatories that were submitted to the Commission, and we ask you to please step up and take a stand for what is right. You’re chosen to be Commissioners and Chairperson, so please put our requests on the table for deliberation, including our revised map that we will be submitting in the near future. I’ll pass it on to my colleague, Leon.

Comment 7: Leon Wu (Organized Presentation)

I want to address conflicting filing statements that we saw in regards to the quote that the community of interest that was formed in Poway Unified School District. You identify Poway Unified School District as a community of interest, but you split up Rancho Peñasquitos and included schools that are not in the Poway Unified School District like Scripps Ranch which is San Diego Unified School District. Bottom line is that school districts should not dictate Council Districts or representation. So finally, I just want to have a final statement. Commissioners and residents of San Diego—can somebody give me two minutes?

Comment 8: Jim Paterniti

First, again, I’ve testified before the Commission several times and I don’t think I’ve expressed enough thanks for the job that you’ve done. And I know that at the end of my first testimony I mentioned that it was easy to cast stones, but it was much harder to gather them up together and

build a structure that we can all live in. And your successful work will go a long way to doing that. We are here just to reinforce our message on behalf of the Scripps Ranch Planning Group that is consistent with the preliminary plan that you've adopted, but just to reinforce the three points. The first being keeping Scripps Ranch, Miramar Ranch North and Rancho Encantada together. And I've said it, but I haven't illustrated it, and I just wanted to beg your indulgence—I also got a pen, anybody? Alright—for a couple of examples of how the communities work together, and one of the best ones is kind of neat, the Scripps Ranch Community Center was originally developed by Corky, was originally the showcase for Miramar Ranch North planned residential community, that was a Corky McMillan residential community. When they sold out the lots, the Scripps Ranch Civic Association negotiated with the McMillan Company to get them to donate the pavilion that was the model center to become our community center and we moved it to a piece of parkland in Scripps Ranch, and it services Scripps Ranch, Miramar Ranch North, and the Rancho, well, hopefully, Rancho Encantada, when it's incorporated. But what's interesting about it was the city councilman wanted to have one-day-a-week office in that structure—being in one district is really handy in that way. The other thing that's kind of neat is the I-15 has a scissor lane from Miramar Way up to Spring Canyon, and that was negotiated through the Scripps Ranch Planning Group using money from the Rancho Encantada, or the Stonebridge settlement that McMillan paid the City, the facilities benefit that McMillan paid the community for the development. He paid three million dollars. We used that to leverage Caltrans to donate I believe an additional six million dollars, Gordon? For the scissor lanes? And build an additional lane from Miramar Way up to Carroll Canyon. So we got money from Rancho Encantada to benefit Scripps Ranch and Miramar Ranch North, as another example. One of the third, the third example is this building where we're sitting in Marshall Middle School was not on the original plan for Marshall Middle School. The Scripps Ranch Civic Association, under Gordon Boerner's leadership, and Bob Ilko's leadership, and with the help of many, many others, actually worked on the plans for the Marshall Middle School—of course, with the San Diego Unified School District, which is outside of the City Council—but clearly with the backing and the blessing of the City Council, and we were able to bring them on board. And, actually, as I've said, one of the plans, changes to the plans, was incorporating the building that we're sitting in.

So again, these are all examples of how the three communities are inextricably welded together, and how they help each other, these are tangible examples. The second thing you guys, oh, and, one last, one or two last examples, the three communities will now receive the newsletter. Right now it's an eighty-eight-page monthly newsletter, it's called the Scripps Ranch Newsletter, and it's distributed by hundreds of volunteers within the Scripps Ranch, Miramar Ranch and hopefully, the Rancho Encantada communities. It comes out once a month and we also now have a commercial magazine called, "92131" so there should be a message there in terms of how the commerce and the commercial community views Scripps Ranch, Miramar Ranch North, and Rancho Encantada. Keeping us in the same Council District, as the rest of the fire folks was a great idea. Clearly, we learned a lot in 2003 when Miramar, Scripps Ranch, and Miramar Ranch north burned, and when 2007 came, the Witch fire burned, came and burned, we were able to get a jump-start helping Rancho Bernardo, our neighbor to the north in District 5, jumpstart their recovery using the Project Phoenix model that Scripps Ranch had developed under the leadership and with the help of our City Councilman, Brian Maienschein, at the time.

So, where does that leave us? The last point is, you've chosen to put us in District 5, and we understand that that represents the logical application of the formula for numbering districts, and so we're fine with that. But I just wanted to reinforce the points that we made that were the drivers for us, in the redistricting process. Thank you for listening to our testimony and taking the points to heart. And letting you know that we'll be involved in the process until we wrestle it to the ground and we all have something we can live with. Thank you.

Comment 9: Todd Philips

Thank you very much, Commissioners. My name is Todd Philips and I am the current Chair of the Scripps Miramar Ranch Planning Group, and I want to welcome you to our planning area, and thank you for taking the time to listen to all the comments you are hearing today. I also want to thank you for your time and effort through this process. I know you are going through a very thankless and woefully, let's just say the people are not really appreciating what you're going through and I do at least, one, because I've been on your side on several different boards that I serve on. I also want to thank you for listening to our comments from the Scripps Ranch community, by keeping the zip code 92131, but more specifically, the Scripps Ranch Planning Group, the Miramar Ranch North Planning Group, as well as Rancho Encantada into one contiguous area and into one Council District. By doing so you've ensured that the community of interest has been kept together and that you've also ensured that community-wide emergency situations can be addressed by one Council office in an efficient delivery of emergency services, like we saw in 2003 and 2007 with the fires. From Rancho Bernardo all the way down to Scripps Ranch, the communities most impacted by those emergencies, by keeping them in one Council District, obviously, we are in favor of that, and we appreciate your efforts to do that for us. We are encouraged by your efforts to date, we thank you again for everything you've done, and we, of course, we agree with keeping the Council as numbered, number 5, and thank you for everything you're going to do in the coming weeks.

Comment 10: Dustin Steiner

I'll be very brief, so, Dustin Steiner. I live at 10831 Caminito Arcada. I am the current Chair of the Miramar Ranch North Planning Committee. So, welcome to our neighborhood. I just want to echo some of what my colleagues have said, and thank you for your hard work. I know it's very difficult. I have worked in several political offices and I can tell you first-hand how important it is to be represented by one specific representative. It's very difficult being on my side when you get a phone call to get out a map and start to look and see, are you in our part, are you in another Council part, and so, I want to say how important that is, and to thank you for your hard work and your efforts and hope that you can continue to keep our community whole in 92131. Thank you very much.

Comment 11: Marc Sorensen

I'm Marc Sorensen, and I'm probably one of the reasons why you're here, because I was on the charter of your committee, so I kind of know what you're going through. It's not fun, but it's hard work. I'm Vice Chair of the Scripps Ranch Recreation Council. Our Recreation Council is the one City body that represents Rancho Encantada, Miramar Ranch North, and Scripps Ranch

North, Scripps Ranch already, because there's only one Recreation Council. We are the ones that planned Rancho Parks, we are the ones that planned the whole park usage in our whole community, and if you know Scripps Ranch, you know we are a very active park community. Having planned the parks between two Council Districts, gets, it can be a little tough, but we managed to get through it. But having Rancho Encantada back in with us makes the whole recreation focus work in the whole area, because there's only one Recreation Council, and we are pretty geographically isolated. I mean Scripps Ranch is—grew up the way it was because Miramar, Poway, and I-15 don't leave us much place to go, so we're kind of like stuck off on the end and we need a sense of community for us to survive. And we have survived, and I think we were always looking at why, how Encantada got in 7 and now it's back in 5, which is really a great thing to do. So, I really want to thank you for moving Stonebridge back in because it makes my job a little easier as Recreation Council Chair, and it makes the community feel more like a community, and our kids play in the same leagues and parks, and it works real well. We all know that redistricting is never easy. I was in here in 1990, I was in here in 2010. Especially now with all the new requirements you guys must meet, and there are a ton of them. However, one of the first principles of redistricting is to create concise, geographically-focused areas that have natural boundaries, like NAS Miramar, like Poway, like I-15, and in our community with those three boundaries, the only place we could connect realistically would be north, Sabre Springs, which you did a real good job of that. Your preliminary map does what we asked it to do, and we appreciate you doing it, and we understand how tough it is. Believe me, after my term on the Charter Committee, I know what you're going through, I know what you've heard, and I had to take some tough votes. So, I appreciate everything you've done, so thank you.

Comment 12: Bob Dingeman

Distinguished members of the Panel, I'm Colonel Bob Dingeman. I'm commonly called "Mr. Scripps Ranch." For thirty-four years I have been a community leader and planner. I also have a school named after me, and I'm not even dead yet. I want to tell you that I have participated in four previously redistricting, and I commend you for your patience, your understanding, your listening to people, because a lot of people get emotional about the redistricting, either before, after, or during. I'm here today to address my support of the plan that you have for my community of Scripps Ranch, and particularly as a part of District 5. I think over the last thirty-four years, we've developed an exceptionally strong, family-oriented community. We have terrific schools, terrific sports activities, we get things done, and if things have to be done, we ask for volunteers and we get it done. I think that is what you are charged with keeping intact. Unit integrity, vitality, the vitality of the unit, unit to make them, make America still, the greatest democracy in the world, and I think that's what this redistricting is supposed to be done. And I commend you for your efforts and so forth. And if there's anything that we can do to make it possible to make it better, I assure you we will gather together ourselves, we will get together and we will do the best we possibly can. As to other people not fearing representation, all I have to say to anyone is, if you want to be represented, and you want your voice to be heard, you've got to come to the meetings, and you've got to participate. And when you participate, you become part of the greatest country in the world, America, and that's what it's all about. That's been something that has been my credo for the last thirty-four years and after I end up with this, I have a characteristic sign-off, it basically says: enough said. Bob Dingeman.

Comment 13: Daniel Beeman

Hello. My name is Daniel Beeman. I reside in 6th District. I ran for City Council in the 3rd District. I'm surprised by both of the districts and what's going on in them. It just doesn't seem like really, what's representative of the people and their actions, from what I've recalled. When it comes to District 6, it's very surprising because I think in the last Commission we fought very hard to get into representation for the Bay—many of us go to the Bay. It's very easy to just drive down to 74, Balboa, or even the 52 and go down to the Bay. And it's very sad to see that the Bay is taken out. And the reason why it's sad to me to see the Bay is taken out, because it's represented by one district. Yet, so many people within the county of San Diego, and the city of San Diego use that major recreational area. And I think when we have more districts border lining those major areas, recreational areas and usage areas, then more said, more say can be put in by the different districts and communities. And that's the one thing that I'm a little bit fearful of, what's going on here. Sadly to say, for me, I really don't go too much above the 52, other than I'm a major hiker, and my hiking group, we go to two canyons every week; we either go to Rose Canyon, or to Marian Bear Canyon. And that's, Rose Canyon is north of the 52, and Marian Bear is south of the 52 there. And I do a lot of physical exercise and hiking that way, so I have a lot of concern about splitting up of things that way. I do not visit very much up to those northern regions, sometimes for some hiking, but I really don't know those people and their issues, and it's hard to understand that we're taking out of Mission Valley too. Thank you very much.

Comment 14: Lynette Williams

Thank you. I'm Lynette Williams and I live in Scripps Ranch. And I want to tell you that I live on the first street ever in Scripps Ranch; it's called Rookwood. And my neighbors, some of them bought their houses new in 1969, and they were told that Scripps Ranch will never have more than 200 homes. So you can see how Scripps Ranch has grown. And I also came to several other meetings, and I told you that no matter what you do, people are going to be upset. And I also spoke on behalf of uniting Rancho Encantada with the rest of Scripps Ranch because it would, it never made any sense for them to be in District 7, and the only way to enter Rancho Encantada/Stonebridge Estates is through District 5. And so I thank you for doing that. Because when Scripps Ranch started, it was everything without, then we had Miramar Ranch North, but that really is Scripps Ranch, and then Stonebridge is really Scripps Ranch. And from the bottom of my heart, I am the Neighborhood Watch captain, or block captain, in my area and we all are thrilled to be in one district instead of two, because we all have friends that live in Stonebridge. So thank you for doing that. But, just as I said you're going to have people that aren't happy, I have many friends who live in Clairemont, and I told them I would put a word in on behalf of them. They are really—I know they think that, just as Scripps Ranch considers Miramar Ranch North and Rancho Encantada/Stonebridge to be part of Scripps Ranch, they consider communities that are split apart to be part of Clairemont. And so I know that you've done a lot of work and you probably can't put a lot more time into tweaking the maps on behalf of Clairemont, but if you can do anything to help them get their community united, I know that they would appreciate it. And I thank you again for all of the hours and hours that you have worked. Thank you very much.

Comment 15: Charles Johnson, Sr.

Thank you Madame Chairman. Fellow Commissioners, good afternoon. My name is Charles Johnson. I'm a resident of the community of Linda Vista. I've lived there since 1965. I'm a retired Navy Master Chief. The Navy brought me to San Diego, and like most of you, I got stuck here and I'm not going to leave. Also, I'm a member of the Linda Vista... Ok, I'm sorry, please excuse me. I just want to, my name, again, my name is Charles Johnson. I'm a member of the Linda Vista Civic Association. I'm also the founder of that group and I'm also a previous member of the 2010 Redistricting Commission. I brought my book with me. So, I know what you're going through. I want to say, it's not easy, and I thank you for the work that you have done. The reason that I'm here this afternoon ladies and gentlemen, I want to talk just a little bit about split districts, especially District 6 and District 7. I want to thank the gentleman who spoke earlier from Tierrasanta and said he welcomed Linda Vista into that district. And we appreciate that remark from him, it's very kind and very generous, and it looks like we're going to have a good marriage. My concern is—can we, is the map, show Linda Vista up there? There is USD, I'm very strongly, USD I feel should be put back into the Linda Vista community. As you enter the community of Linda Vista, you'll see some beautiful entryway signs that says, "Welcome to Linda Vista, Home of the University of San Diego." And over the years, we have worked extremely hard with the community of the University. We had entryway signs, banners, we worked with them on building permits. If you notice, they have extended tremendously in the last several years. Ok, so we'd like to have that back. We really would. And also, so that's a split Census district, Census tract. So I think we really need to look at that because that is something in the Voting Rights Act in 1965 that talks about split Census tracts, so we really need to take another look at that, ok? Also, I think the Morena area should come back. And there's a little tip that comes down from District 6, hooks into Linda Vista, that bothers me a lot too, so will you please take a look at that and see if you can square that off? It's on the area of Genesee, I believe.

Comment 16: Doug Beckham

My name is Doug Beckham. I'm going to be a Lieutenant Governor for Kiwanis, but Kiwanis is more of a service organization; we have more interest in doing things for the children of the world. But I've also been a planner for 18 years. Between me and Mr. Johnson, we served ten years as Community Association President of the old Civic Association, which is now the Town Council. And my concerns are right in the same with Charles Johnson. I just feel like we're getting sliced up like a piece of pie, you know. And being a planner as many years as I have, we have 20 distinct neighborhoods in Linda Vista, the Morena District being one of them, Overlook Heights, Silver Terrace being another one, and I live in the core of Linda Vista, but I was born where the Navy housing is now. And that was federal land, and the federal government built Linda Vista. I could tell you, I could quote you the history of the Lanham Act, exactly what happened when they built Kearny High School, how many houses they've built, how long it took, etc. So, we have a rich history in Linda Vista and we'd like to be kept together. We worked very hard when Mr. Johnson was on the Redistricting Commission and we had several meetings in Linda Vista explaining why we wanted to be all in one district. Now, if we have to live in two districts we'll do that. I had a good relationship with Barbara Warden and Brian Maienschein when they were District 5 and representing a portion of Linda Vista, and we were a split district for a long time, but our community, along with the community of Clairemont decided we want to

be in one district, so we worked very hard. So I would appreciate it if you could figure out a way to make that happen. And that's all I got. Thank you.

Comment 17: Janet Kaye

Hello. I'm shouting. Madame Chair and Commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to speak and thank you for your service. I'm here representing the Linda Vista Town Council, as well as the Linda Vista CDC. We request that there not be a three-way division of the Linda Vista community. If we refer to the City Charter, Section 5.1, Requirements, the current redistricting map, including Linda Vista, is not geographically compact, it dilutes our voter strength easily because we're portioned out with small two-point here, and three-point there percentages, so it dilutes our voter strength. And it will not ensure a fair and effective political representation. And we're very concerned about that. We implore you to please retain USD in District 6 and not 2. Having a three-way division could result with our Council members, think about it if you're a Council member, and you're one of three for one area—are we really worth their time? When you take into consideration our lower voter strength—it's all about votes, guys, we know that. Our job to engage with City Hall, which is our job as community planners, triples—we have to go three ways. Redundancy reports at our many community group meetings by three different Council representatives would be an unacceptable result—it's just redundant. And I again refer you to the redistricting map that was drawn up after a lot of time by the Linda Vista Town Council. Thank you very much.

Comment 18: Linda Perine

Thank you. My name is Linda Perine. I'm with the LGBT Redistricting Taskforce. As always, I would like to thank the Commissioners for your exemplary service to our city, and the staff, and the City Attorney as well. I'd like to express my appreciation, both personally, and on behalf of the LGBT Redistricting Taskforce for listening to our input and our testimony over these last several months. We are deeply appreciative. The map that you have drawn is truly reflective of the information that we provided you. It's an excellent map; we love the map that you have provided us of District 3. I'd also like to express my appreciation for the work that you've done on creating the Latino Empowerment District in District 9, and respecting the African American and Latino Voting Rights Act Districts in 8 and 4. I'd like to express my ongoing support on behalf of the LGBT community, and personally, for an API district that reflects their ten years of work towards being recognized as a community of interest. And finally, and most importantly, I want to extend my sincerest best wishes to Mitz Lee for speedy and complete recovery; she has been a tireless advocate on behalf of the API community and I want to wish her the very best. Thank you.

Comment 19: Gordon Boerner

Thank you. My name is Gordon Boerner. I've been a member of the Scripps Ranch/Scripps Miramar Ranch Planning Group for the last 21 consecutive years, including eight years as Vice Chair, which I currently serve as Vice Chair still today. I've also been a board member and officer of the Scripps Ranch Civic Association for the last 12 years, including three years as President of the Civic Association, and I currently serve on the Executive Committee as the past

President of the Civic Association. I'm here for just a couple of quick comments. First off, thank you very much. I've not had the opportunity to speak to this group. The last time I've spoken in front of this was ten years ago, and I know what a, again, thankless job it is and the number of volunteer hours you put in, not only in front of the public through these late nights, but also all of the reading material and analysis that goes into the time when you're not sitting at this table as well. Thank you again, so much. Welcome again to Scripps Ranch. And, all I really want to do is reinforce the comments that you already heard from the organized presentation, as well as the comments from esteemed Colonel Dingeman, "Mr. Scripps Ranch" himself. In emphasizing the symbiotic relationship between the Scripps Ranch community as it's developed, as Lynette said, since December of 1969 when the first street was built, you've got the Scripps Miramar Ranch Planning Group footprint area where Colonel Dingeman lives, you've got the Miramar Ranch North Planning Committee footprint where Colonel Dingeman's school is, already a cross of symbiosis that doesn't exist anywhere else in the entire region. The Scripps Ranch Rec Council situation that doesn't exist anywhere else in the entire region, where, as Mark Sorenson indicated, we already handle both of the planning footprint areas, as well as the future urbanizing area that became Rancho Encantada and the Stonebridge development. And that Stonebridge development, in addition to that, as you may know, the City of San Diego Planning Commission defers for advisory to the Scripps Miramar Ranch Planning Committee because there is no sitting, as it sits today in its current evolution, Planning Committee out in the 947 homes that are planned for the Stonebridge development.

And then last, but not least in the symbiosis, is the overarching organization, again, the Scripps Ranch Civic Association. As you heard from Dr. Paterniti, it has been instrumental in what was Mayor Golding's Community Service Center that was in the Miramar Ranch area and has now been moved to what is now Scripps Ranch Community Service Center, that when the City was ready to shut her because of the budget situation, the Civic Association stepped up, took responsibility for it, and works now with the City Real Estate Assets, services 24 homeowner associations that cover the footprint of all three of these areas, including the Stonebridge Master Association that meets in there on a monthly basis. As it relates to the Civic Association, you've already heard about our community newsletter, and I know several of you are very familiar with the 88-page newsletter that's delivered by 150-plus volunteers every 30 days throughout this entire community to 31,000 people. In addition to that, we've got 20 sitting districts in an organized map with infrastructure that allows for the ability to do things like react to things like the Cedar fire, as you've heard, from an evacuation standpoint. And we've already got infrastructure as it relates to a trails map that gives every community member that moves here an ability to understand how the trails interface, again, symbiotically between the two planning areas. Again, last but not least, thank you for coming to Scripps Ranch; we appreciate it and we thank you for the hard work you've done and the map that you've created that allows for that symbiosis to continue inside of District 5, where we currently sit. Thank you.

Comment 20: Connie McCullen

Good evening. I'm Connie McCullen and I'm a resident of Scripps Ranch. First, I want to thank all the Commissioners for the very hard work you've done, and I appreciate you grouping neighborhoods together that suffered from the wildfires. I was a newcomer in 2003, and fortunately, my home was spared. But the Cedar fire ravaged Scripps Ranch and many homes

were destroyed. In some ways, I think that made us a stronger community—I've been very impressed with our community here. Our Councilman at that time, Brian Maienschein, set up a one-stop shop for our community where we could get information and resources about what to do next. The community greatly appreciated that. Now, I would suggest one change to the proposed map and that is to connect the neighbors to Miramar east—there aren't many people there, but the land has more of an impact on Scripps Ranch than any other neighborhood. In addition, the Mission Trails Park will be expanding north of 52 to our area. And because the park will service our neighborhood, I'd like to see it included in the City Council District. That way our Council member will make their expansion to Scripps Ranch a priority. Thank you again for all your work, and thank you folks in Scripps Ranch, I've been very proud to be a resident here.

Comment 21: Mark Wilson

Good evening. I live in Mira Mesa, and I was looking at the map here and I'm trying to figure out what Clairemont and Mira Mesa have in common. And, being raised in Clairemont years ago, back in the '50s and '60s, there's no relationship to them anywhere I can see on this. You've basically taken Clairemont and whacked it in half, in threes. I mean, where you have 52 coming down along the 5, that's northwest Clairemont. Bay Ho wasn't even there until 1960, until the mid-1960s, there was just all canyon down through there. And Bay Park has always been part, actually it's been considered part of Clairemont, I mean Clairemont's been considered part of it because the, I mean the high school, Clairemont, junior high, Mira Mesa, I mean, excuse me, Marston Junior High School, that was considered part of Clairemont, and you guys have split this. I mean, if somebody tells me it's easy access down the 15 and down the 805 to get to Clairemont, I think you guys are kidding yourself, or you don't know your history in this city. In Kearny Mesa, north of Genesee, I mean, I just, in this little dip down into Serra Mesa. I just, I mean, I don't know, I just, I mean, I don't know, I just, it seems like a fire drill to me, this is just my personal opinion. But, I mean there's no common, there's no, nothing between Mira Mesa and Clairemont, doesn't happen. You've taken Bay Ho, which should be part of Clairemont and you, you even chopped up the beach here, it seems like District 1, or 2, should be going up this way, the end of the coastal area. Clairemont, I mean, La Jolla, I can't say anymore, you guys, I don't know what you were doing.

Comment 22: Charles Sellers

My name is Charles Sellers. I'm here representing the Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Board. I'm the past Chair and current Vice Chair. I also serve on the City of San Diego Audit Committee. We review the City's financial statements and various other things, so I'm very familiar with public expectation and how that doesn't necessarily jive with your mission sometimes. I'm here to praise you, not to bury you. I want to thank you for all the work you've done. I think you've done an excellent job, not perfect, but I think even you didn't expect to do a perfect job. We're very happy with the map that you've drawn for us in Rancho Peñasquitos. We have a lost a small, not small, but a significant portion of it in Park Village, but I'm not here to ask you to restore that, because I think at this point it would be impossible and probably impracticable, which is what I feel about what APAC is asking you to do as well, is that, I think at this point, what they're asking, I think what they were asking to begin with was unreasonable, and I think that what they're asking you to do now is certainly impracticable, it would impact too many

people in too many districts to, to alter the map in the way that they're asking you to do it. The only request that we've had in Rancho Peñasquitos is, you've heard previously that the line is at Salmon River Road currently. We'd like it moved to the west to Black Mountain Road. It would impact about 2,000 residents. Salmon River Road is a road that most people in PQ don't even drive on or know where it is. Black Mountain Road is the main northwest artery in Rancho Peñasquitos, it's also been used as a border in the past for Assembly Districts, so we're, we're familiar with having it split that way. But other than using Black Mountain Road as the divider, I think you've done a very good job. The community that you've cut out for inclusion in District 6 instead of District 5 is Park Village. We hate to see it go, but it is, it is a large separate community, they have their own Landscape Maintenance District, and they can certainly stand on their own two feet when it comes to making their voice heard in District 6 because I serve with a lot of people on the Planning Board from that part of the community. So, I think you have done the best you could with regard to that. I also appreciate you making the districts numbered consecutively so that I don't cross the road and go from District 5 to District 9, which I thought might happen.

The other thing that I want to encourage you to do, and again, this comes from my background of serving on, on the Audit Committee, and understanding what city-wide expectations are, and the fact that people don't always understand how those jive with your mission, which is that, I would encourage you to, of course, grant as many of these, these minor adjustments as you can, but to think of the, think of the groups as their own individual constituency, I would ignore the size of the group for purposes of considering the merits of their argument, especially since the groups claim to speak with one voice, so as a practical matter, they're just one person. And so, I would think that if you were to, if you were able to grant these small minor requests, like ours, and the ones that the people in Kensington are asking for, and various other groups that have come forth and asked you, can you move it just a little bit this way, just a little bit this way. If I were in your seat, I'd consider it success if I could grant as many of those as possible, ignoring the number of people that are involved. Because, as I said, APAC claims to speak with one group, with one voice, so in essence, they're just one person. Their request doesn't carry any more weight than mine, or the guy from Kensington, or anybody else, and so at the end of the day, if you could look at your slate and say, you know, we had fifteen groups ask for changes, we were able to grant ten of them, I would consider that success, no matter the size of the five who didn't get their requests granted. Thank you.

Comment 23: Jimmy Nguyen

Hello. My name is Jimmy Nguyen and I've been a long-time resident of Mira Mesa. Before I went to college, I never thought about politics because it didn't seem to matter to me who I, who was making the rules. I guess my perception at the time, like my parents, and many other Asian families, is that our vote doesn't count, so there's no reason to participate. However, I am now more aware of the importance of politics and how it will affect me one way or another, either directly or indirectly. I have witnessed so many changes to the city, especially the API community. I'm seeing the API community moving from once a quiet and tolerable citizen of this city, to now a concerned citizen and active member of the community. Things are beginning to be more transparent to me, why the API community in San Diego has always been put out of loop in the past, because there was no one looking after our interest. San Diego has a large

number of small business owners and a significant percent of them are of Asian-Pacific descendents. I have many friends who own their own business and even in the midst of this bad economy, struggle to maintain their business and provide jobs to people. While big corporations are laying people off, the sole proprietors, the ones providing jobs to help the community stay afloat. But who's looking after them? Many came to this country in pursuit of the American dream. And many, like my parents, and other Asian families, came here to work hard to get where we are today. So it bothers me that the Commissioners can support a map that still dilutes the votes of the API community, and state that it is good enough. It is not good enough. The API community deserves the same zealous attention that was given to other interest groups in the city. Is it because you believe that in the past the API community will not speak up and settle for whatever cards you hand us? I can say that today, we are a product of a new generation, we are involved, we are united, we are educated, we do have common interests, and we want what is fair. Commissioners, each of you were picked for this job because someone believed in you. Someone believed that you have the capacity to correct the past, and make sure that the future will open up equality for citizens of the city. I know your work has been exhausting, but please don't stop short on the API community. I speak for all the API of San Diego when I ask you to hear our cries for equality and fair representation. We come before you today as Asian American, and importantly, as fellow San Diegans, and we deserve to have our interests protected too. Thank you.

Comment 24: Chris Nepacena

Good afternoon. My name is Christopher Nepacena, and I'd like to thank you in advance for allowing me to voice out my opinions today. Not too long ago, I moved out of the Bay Area to attend law school here in San Diego. Growing up in San Jose, and going to college and working in San Francisco, I was surrounded, not only by a wide array of cultures, but was exposed to an immense display of cultural recognition. In the Bay Area, Asian, the Asian-American community is widely recognized through the existence of places like Japantown, Chinatown, Filipinotown, etc. Ironically, when I moved out here to San Diego, which is known to be one of the most culturally-diverse and culturally-accepting cities in the country, the same cultural recognition for Asian Americans is nowhere to be found. According to a recent study by CNBC, San Diego was voted 5th for the most culturally diverse cities in the U.S., beating San Francisco, which was voted 9th. How is it that a city like San Francisco, which is rich in Asian, or which is rich of Asian, rich of Asian culture, business, and political participation, have more cultural recognition for Asian Americans than a city voted more culturally diverse? By this new plan, cities like Rancho Peñasquitos and Mira Mesa, both rich in Asian culture, business, political interests, needs, and involvement combine perfectly for the opportunity to have their voice heard, as I do today. Considering that the Asian-American community was the first to present their case to the Commission with the loudest voice, by providing 2,300 petitions, or petition signatures, to the Commission, I see no reason why they should be, they should be overlooked. Who says they have enough representation? Certainly not them. Otherwise, why would I be standing here today? If you think that the API community is fine with how things are presently, then what does that say? That local politics remains active and fully representative? Or, that your methods are based on the methodical reasoning of, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. On behalf of my community, I respectfully request that you consider the proposed map. Thank you for your time.

Comment 25: Geoffrey Chan

Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is Geoffrey Chan. I live in Peñasquitos. First, I have to commend Commissioner Quiroz and Commissioner Morrow for your bravery, for your, things you did last Thursday on July 21st. But one thing I also have to tell you, Commissioner Quiroz, when you spend three minutes on your statement, and I notice your colleagues not that patient with you, when you address your statement, is later on Commissioner Dalal brought up the voting and I saw Mr. Potter was the first to raise his hand and motion the voting, and then Mr. Kosmo couldn't wait in a second, and then Commissioner Nishioka lost the chance and didn't get a second. But I can tell your statement was not interested by your colleagues. And, last week I heard some comments that I found, Mr. Kosmo, and have to mention how much sacrifice he made and, for losing time with his family by serving this Commission, and that kind of sacrifice, and I think, all the members in the Commission have decided to donate to our community. And then, Mr., Commissioner Nishioka, he should, he should be here to hear the praises from Scripps Ranch. Because he, over the past few months had mentioned three or four times to be the advocate for Scripps Ranch. Last Thursday he even read the statement for about three minutes, how he decided to form the District 5, with detail, in length. And I think your community at rest to have an advocate in this Commission, and that helped a lot. And, besides the District 5, Rancho Bernardo, he forgot to mention how they help other districts, because there are eight other districts it has helped. And I, he gave a comment to a lady who came here late, kind of late, representing College, and he just told her that UCSD came here several times and College had no representative. So that's why that line was drawn right at the intersect 8. And, and then, Commissioner Marquez, he encouraged us to come here for the next five meetings. He would see things tweaked, a little bit, and exactly what he said. But I think this map needs a major overhaul, not just tweaked a little bit. And I think at this point it's impractical to do the overhaul, but I think our community have to live with it. Thank you.

Comment 26: Joe LaCava

Hello. Joe LaCava. I haven't spoken to you all in awhile. I want to thank you for your service. Thank you for literally the hundreds of hours you each have put into this process. I want to thank you in particular for the drawing of the boundaries of Council District 1. Your deliberations on District 1 have been clear, consistent and compelling all the way through. And I would hope that you would stick with that through this, final steps in the process. And I want to thank you for listening to the testimony and reading the emails and the letters, and for listening to the community organizations that all have been unanimous in speaking to Council District 1. And those voices have come from La Jolla, and University City, and Torrey Hills, and Del Mar Mesa, and Carmel Valley, and Torrey Pines. From every nook and corner of this Council District people have spoken out in unanimity about keeping that, so, I appreciate your consistency, your early adoption of that, and I hope we stick with that. But now, you're now hearing compelling and very assertive testimony from the API community, and I don't blame them, I encourage every stakeholder to participate in this process to do what they feel is right. And if you find that testimony compelling, I know you will think about it carefully, and you will do the right thing for the right reasons. I do want to address one of the comments made by Commissioner Quiroz last meeting, where she passionately talked about the importance of keeping the University City community whole, and keeping the area surrounding UCSD whole, and I want to add to that by

talking about numbers. If you look at the numbers in the area that the API maps show in terms of north of La Jolla Village, they don't bear out any reason to make any changes. The current District 6 has 33.9% API, if you add that little piece of University City, it will bump it to 34.0, .1, is .1 really worth splitting a community, splitting UCSD, splitting a vibrant commercial core? I don't think so. Listen carefully to their testimony. Do the right thing for the right reasons, but keep district 1 as it's currently drawn. Thank you.

Comment 27: Laura Riebau

Well, I'm jealous of everybody here tonight because there's so many happy people. And so many people who've had a lot of consideration, because I'm from the San Diego State University area, and I've been before you many times. First time was in Tierrasanta, and many times since then. And, so if anybody says that we haven't been before you, lots of other members in my community too have been here. We have been telling you what we want, what we need in the representation, and what our community of interest is, and instead of considering San Diego State University, which is the largest university in the city of San Diego, and is the oldest, you've split up our neighborhoods completely. We've gotten none of the consideration of any of the communities of interest, and we need to be together. I am, I'm here to tell you your map is terrible right now the way it is. If you were really doing a good job—I work in the legal field, and they say when you have a good solution, it's when everybody's a little bit unhappy. So maybe you have too many happy districts because you've got a lot of very unhappy ones that need work. And you need, it needs major work, unfortunately. District 9 is not compact in any way, shape, or form—it meanders all the way, all over the place. It has so many different socio-economic groups and communities of interest, it's not even funny. You need to get College Area with the—all back together, and you need to get those communities with their communities of interest. That would include Del Cerro, that would include Serra Mesa, and quite frankly, that's Grantville. Grantville isn't separated by 5, we have a road under 5 that goes right into Grantville. We do lots of shopping there, we're there all the time. I'm happy for everybody who's happy, but I think you need to put more time into this. We've been challenged with presenting you a map, and we are working on one, so we should have that to you in a few days. I want more consideration for San Diego State University area. Thank you.

Comment 28: Suzette Nguyen

Good evening. My name is Suzette Nguyen. I am here on behalf of myself as a long time resident of Mira Mesa and a San Diego native. And also, I'm here as well on behalf of APAC. I understand that each of one of you, your job and your duty as Redistricting Commissioner is not an easy one, to try and accommodate all these requests in the last couple of months, so I applaud for your patience, and your time today. However, I strongly feel that the proposed map in regards to Districts 5 and District 6 is afterthought, dangerously close to disenfranchising the largest, the second largest minority group in San Diego for at least another six years, and deserves to be revisited so that all communities of interest in the city of San Diego have equal opportunity and access to fair and responsive political leadership. As a concerned citizen, I'm here today to ask the Commission to reassess and reconsider, reconsider the proposed preliminary map. Again, as I said in regards to District 5 and District 6, I'm especially concerned with the rationale used to, in determining how 50% of Mira Mesa residents will now be moved into a whole new district, into

District 6, which a rough estimate is 37,000 residents. And as some other people have spoken tonight, Clairemont and Mira Mesa, I don't see as a long-time resident, the marriage, I don't, that's a weird combination for me. This proposed map is negligent, and, I feel, dismissive of the culture and the lifestyle of hundreds of Mira Mesa families, and of how we live and where we spend our time. My family and I have deep roots in Mira Mesa. My siblings and I grew up these areas, attended both Mira Mesa High School, and Scripps Ranch High School. I work in Sabre Springs, my mother has been a resident of Rancho Peñasquitos for the last eight years. Some of the places where my, oh, well, thank you.

Comment 29: Justin Ruthenbeck

So, first, thank you. Thank you for allowing me to speak. I'd like to thank the Commission for all the work that you've done, and especially for your focus on the communities of interest, and trying to keep communities together, I really do applaud that. I live in San Diego because it is vibrant and because it is diverse and I think that is one of the strongest things that we have. I'm speaking today as a resident of North Peñasquitos, the part of Peñasquitos which is in District, which is not in District 6. And, I've been following the proceedings as an observer by looking at all of the testimony and the information that's been posted online. I'm here today for the first time. I'm particularly impressed by the back two-thirds of this room today, I think it's incredible that there is so many people here speaking for APAC as well. I do think that it's remarkable that a community of interest which represents 16% of the population of San Diego still is not getting at the—that the proposed map does not give much of an increase to their density at all. I think it's clear to me that the proposed map does not support the significant API community, which is, as I said, 16% of the, San Diego's population. And even though I'm not API myself, clearly perhaps, or perhaps not, I do implore the Commission to give the API community the same respectful, practical consideration that you've given Hispanic, the African American, LGBT, and the other communities of interest. I certainly don't envy your job for the next couple months, but I do greatly appreciate all of the effort and the consideration, and the wisdom that you're going to put into the final map. Thank you.

Comment 30: Jorge Riquelme

Good afternoon. Jorge Riquelme, Bayside Community Center, Linda Vista. At your July 21st meeting, you approved a preliminary map that would split the Linda Vista community into three different Council districts. Although the proposed splitting of our community contributes very little to the overall numbers of residents in other districts, it represents a significant decline in the voting power of Linda Vista in local elections. This is not just about numbers. Although the size of the populations residing in Morena area, or the area northeast of Genesee Ave. are not large, the removal of these areas from our political community is significant because they include the more affluent sections of our community, the University of San Diego, the commercial district of Morena, the military families of Chesterton, and our local high school, Kearny High. The proposed plan moves the core of Linda Vista to a new district with other communities with whom we share very little in common. Linda Vista's closely tied to Clairemont in District 6, not only will you move us into a new district, but you would do so with diluted political power. Last, but not least, there is deep concern that this opens the way for the eventual dismemberment of our community beyond the City Council redistricting process. Please do not use Linda Vista as a

sacrificial lamb to achieve the Commission's magic number for population equality of districts. Please note that the population equality requirement, the San Diego Charter stipulates districts shall each contain as nearly as practicable, one-ninth of the total population. No magic number can justify the partitioning of a real community. I respectfully request the Commission not to move forward with the preliminary plan that would partition Linda Vista into different district councils. It is unacceptable to have the political future of our community decided this way. Please be consistent in application of the guidelines used to put together the redistricting plan. Please reconsider your decision and do the right thing, preserve Linda Vista under a single Council District. Thank you.

Comment 31: Sandy Spackman

Hi. I'm already introduced, Sandy Spackman, and I'm happy to be here today and thank you so much for your time. I am very happy to live in this country, the United States of America, and I'm just a happy go-getter and just grateful to be here. And, up until, just a year, or little bit before a year ago, I, you know, heard about APAC and was enthusiastic about being involved in the process of redistricting. I've never done anything like this before. And, you know, I thought that when I'm here that my voice would be heard and, and just, what, last week or, ago, or, and then I saw the map and I was very disappointed. I was, how is it that, with respect to everyone here, how is it that the gays and the lesbians, under 5%, they got their own district? How is it that the African American, you know, also less than the API community, got their own district? What, did someone change the rule? I thought, you know, I thought we're in this country, that we're being fair and, and I felt like, I, you know, I've been cheated, for some reason, I just, like, what happened? Did someone change the rules? I thought for sure we were gonna get our own district. Well, anyways, I just hope that you will seriously consider, and I don't know if tweaking the map will do, someone said maybe, if someone has to tweak, push it here and there, but I think that it needs some major rehauling to be able to allow us to have a voice, a political voice in this whole process. Thank you.

Comment 32: Pim Siripanyo

Good evening, Commissioners. My name is Pim Siripanyo. My parents came to the United States when I was eight, in 1985. And we came here as refugees, and pretty much, I grew up in San Diego, been here ever since. Attended UCSD, with, and graduated with a bachelor's in biochemistry. And throughout my whole life, I've pretty much lived under radar. Where we grew up there's not making any noise, or what, but today I've actually come before you to have you, to consider APAC District 9 map, and I'm just here to show my support. Thank you very much for allowing us to be included in this process.

Comment 33: Casey Chan-Ruthenbeck

Hi. My name is Casey Chan-Ruthenbeck. I'm a resident of North Peñasquitos since 1989. Left for college and came back to live in that community. I'm also a business owner in Peñasquitos, as well. In fact, I know that there are a lot of other Asian and minority business owners in Peñasquitos. There's a four to five-lane road that runs through Peñasquitos, and you might have heard of that earlier, it is the main road, it's called Black Mountain Road. Ok? This road doesn't

go into Rancho Bernardo, it goes into Mira Mesa. And why is that? Because back before the growth of the North County inland areas of towns such as Carmel Mountain Ranch, Peñasquitos was only connected to Mira Mesa. Since then, they've grown together, the communities are growing together. I frequently visit my friends in Mira Mesa, I shop and eat in Mira Mesa, go to Target, Best Buy, movie theaters, Asian markets, Trader Joe's, and the many restaurants. I'm asking you today to, hopefully, if you have to reconsider the District 6 to join Mira Mesa and Peñasquitos, and that is the whole of Peñasquitos. I find that if, honestly, if an individual is a true representative of Peñasquitos, he wouldn't have been willing, he wouldn't have been willing to sacrifice the southern part of Peñasquitos, which we heard earlier. Thank you very much.

Comment 34: Samly Maat

I am Dr. Maat, Samly Maat. I have been here in San Diego for over 23 years. I am an ex-Marine, I mean, ex-Navy, and my husband is also ex-Navy. The Navy brought us here, like other people here. I have two sons, who's 11 and 14. We are, I am here on behalf of myself, as well as APAC's community. We are no more sleeping, we are awake. We are participate here for the fair, only fair, that's all we ask for. There's a district representing African American, there's a district representing Latino, and also, district representing LGBT. All we ask is another district representing API, that's all. We don't, we're not here to ask for anything special, we just want something fair. Again, like other speaker before me, please do the right thing at the, with the right reason. All we ask is fair. Thank you.

Comment 35: Soumana Homsombath

Good afternoon. My name is Soumana Homsombath. Here to support APAC for District 9, and this is my first time. And, please reconsider to give District 9 to APAC. Thank you.

Comment 36: Dr. Allen Chan

Thank you Commissioners for you hard, hard and thankless work. You have made an oath to uphold the City Charter and Federal Voting Rights Act to ensure a fair and effective representation for all citizens of San Diego. Redistricting is all about empowering the citizens to choose their representatives. I can appreciate the fact that there are several representatives of special interest groups on the Commission. It seems that they are doing a really good job to empower the committees that they represent. And that's why a third Latino District is added, that is why the whole LGBT District is moved west to pick up sympathy votes in the west, and that is why portion of the Latino population is cut out of District 4 so that the dwindling African American community can pick up a couple more percentage for representation, and the new district can be inserted by gerrymandering through three districts, in order to form the new and third Latino District. However, what happened to the voices of the API? What happened to the close to 2,500 signatories in our written and online petitions and spoken comments? Are our voices less important than others? Are we still considered as a humble Charlie Chan that will accept ridicule, insult, and still with apologetic gesture so that they can still be in this country we call America?

We applaud your effort to increase those minority communities, but not at the expense of the Asian Pacific American community of interest. API community of interest in Peñasquitos, Mira Mesa, and north University City are currently in two City Council Districts, 1 and 5. But, according to the post map, it has been fractured into three districts: 1, 5, and 6. The proposed post map has for so many communities of interest, it has divided school districts and community planning areas, even though those two things, or two entities, really have nothing, and no relationship to City Council redistricting at all, but conveniently used to protest special interests. Those on the board don't even represent the people in that community. So, the bottom line is that we ask the Commission to do the following: 1. Recognize the validity and equal weight for those close to 2500 petitions signatories as equal speakers for each of them showing at the hearings; 2. Recognize the compact and contiguous neighborhood of Mira Mesa, Peñasquitos, and North University City has community of interest for AP Americans. They discuss the merit of uniting Mira Mesa, Rancho Peñasquitos, and North University City. Unite Mira Mesa, Peñasquitos, and north University City together with Torrey Highlands, Miramar West, West Kearny Mesa as an Asia Pacific American-influenced district. Return, and we strongly urge you to return the two parcels of land that, around the water treatment plant, that were stolen from us, which are now in District 5 and 7, and for the future map that you have proposed in 6, back to our community.

Give timely, fair, and effective representation to the Asian and Pacific Americans, and designate an odd number so that the Asian Pacific American District, under City Charter 2, Section 5.1, and Voting Rights Act, can have, and can have immediate representation during next year's election. As we have said it before, we are also supporting the map 3 that was presented before us, as a good starting point for drawing the final map. The time for fair representation for the Asian American is now. Not another ten years later again for the third time. Both my daughters have been involved to fight for their representation since the last redistricting. Redistricting is about representation of the people, especially for our next generation, and our next, next generation. Please, don't make us wait again for another ten years and I have to bring my grandson, who's here right now, my newborn grandson, to be here in front of you, or in front of the next Commission, to plead for an Asian district, so that we can be true Americans again, and we can have the chance, the equal chance, to vote for somebody who really care about our whole community, not just the Asian Pacific American, but the whole community in that district. Thank you.

Comment 37: Deborah Knight

Hi. Thank you very much. My name is Deborah Knight. I'm a resident of University City. I want to express my really deep appreciation to all of you for the proposed District 1. It reflects a large amount of testimony in favor of those boundaries. This plan works on so many levels, I can't go into them all now, you've heard a lot of them. It keeps the UCSD campus whole, along with many of the medical and research institutions that surround UCSD and are critical to San Diego's new economy. It keeps their surroundings an interlocked communities of North University City, South University City, and La Jolla whole and together. It also keeps them together with the other coastal-oriented communities to the north. University City, North and South, is, and always has been, one community. In other areas of the city, community plans may not play a significant a role as ours, but we are a newer community, and our community plan, including UCSD, has over the last thirty years, in many ways made us what we are today. And

our plan area is still undergoing significant development. I'm sympathetic to the goals of APAC, but I urge you to reject any proposal to carve a chunk out of University City, including a portion of the UCSD campus, to put it into a district with Mira Mesa. I urge you to stick with the good work you have done and make no changes to District 1. The preliminary map you have drawn gets District 1 just right. Thank you.

Comment 38: Adam Manhbaoboua

Good evening, Commissioners. Sorry, lost my voice at the protest. My name is Adam Manhbaoboua, and I'm here as a citizen, and as a San Diegan. First off, Commissioner, thank you for your hard work, and, I appreciate your commitment and sacrifice. I know it's been a long and grueling process, but you're probably, and you're probably very tired and overwhelmed. I really don't know how to feel about the approved preliminary map. Part of me is confused, part of me is upset, and part of me is heartbroken. The Asian and Pacific Islander community, arguably, fought harder than anyone else in this process. But why does it seem our efforts doesn't matter? Why does the Commission make us feel like you don't care or respect our community? Today, I don't want to present evidence or data of any sort. I just want to speak to you individually. Commissioner Quiroz, thank you for recognizing that the API community is a community of interest, and that the preliminary map will disenfranchise our community for another ten years. Thank you for fighting for the API community, but more importantly, fighting for equality, and what's right.

Chairwoman Dalal, when I first met you about a year ago at Jasmine, we connected instantly when you told me that you were the Principal at my old high school. And when I heard the news that you were Chairwoman of the Redistricting Commission, I was excited and hopeful, that we would finally get fair representation, because you belong to the API community. We thought you'd fight for us. We depended on you; so far, you have let us down. I hope you join Commissioner Quiroz and Commissioner Morrow, and recognize that his map would disenfranchise your community. Please don't turn your back on your community.

I know Commissioner Nishioka is not here, but I just want to say I thought you would be fighting for us as well. I thought you would be—I thought you would be sensitive to our community. I understand that for too long we had been underrepresented. I thought you would realize that our time is now. Please don't disenfranchise our community.

Commissioner Kosmo, you come across as an open-minded and fair person. In your profile you say that you wanted to part of the Redistricting Commission because you wanted to protect a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. If this preliminary map becomes a final map, hopefully that's not the case, I would love to sit down and have lunch with you, so you could help me understand what you meant when you said you wanted to protect a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, when 16% of the population, 200,000 San Diegans, will be left out of City Hall. I hope we can have lunch for not this reason.

Commissioner Potter, you commented that if Tom Hom could be elected as a Councilman early, or about 50 years ago, without the luxury of an Asian-influenced district, we could do the same today. Maybe you should also tell the LGBT, African American, and the Latino community the

same—that they don't need the luxury of an influenced district to elect a representative of their choice. Or maybe you forgot why these communities, as well as the API communities continue to fill these seats, and continue to fight this whole time in this process. Maybe the reason, in your own word, is to have the luxury of an influenced district.

I know Commissioner Marquez is not here, but, Commissioner Marquez, you are one of the most influential Commissioners sitting there. Your community, the LGBT and Latino community, are still fighting for fair representation. It is never enough. This is why it is so disappointing. When you tell the API community that you have done enough for us when we don't even have a start—a district we can call home. We are so behind compared to your community, in regards to fair representation. In many ways, we are following the footsteps of your community. You were in our shoes not long ago, so if we were to switch places, would you accept when a Commissioner, who was in our shoes not long ago, tell us he did enough.

Commissioner Morrow, thank you for recognizing that this map would disenfranchise the API community. And for pointing out why certain groups are priority, after all, our community is much as a part of this city as any other community. I also want to talk a little bit about in regards to Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council. I admired them for attending all the hearings, for being in force and being consistent, especially Andy Berg, but his whole argument this whole time has been about, he's about the kids, and rightfully so, rightfully so, he's about the kids, you know, it's about cheerleading, having the rivals, cheerleading, basketball, band, all that good stuff, but the redistricting process does not affect the Poway School District at all. They will continue to play with the same kids like Commissioner Quiroz mentioned, they will have those rivals. Is that it? Commissioner, if you don't make necessary changes you will send a clear message to the citizens of...just three lines, ok...if you don't make the necessary changes, you will send a clear message to the citizens of San Diego, that the, that the effort of the Asian Pacific Islander community don't matter, that you don't care about our community. That you don't respect our community of interest. That we are second-class citizens. Clearly, this is the wrong message. We are citizens, we are San Diegans too. This is the message you want to send. Thank you.

Comment 39: Leon Wu (time yielded)

Thank you for letting me finish from earlier. Commissioners and residents of San Diego, thank you for having us here. We presented a lot of information from day one from the API community. And the very first day you sat down in your seats for your first meeting, we were here with a map. We took the lessons we learned ten years ago, we bided our time, paired with the diligence befitting of a group with the American dream of being fairly represented in our government. We were present in force at all the hearings, obviously. We polled our community, provided testimonials and signatures, we organized presentations and speakers galore. We did everything you asked of us to secure our representation. You've seen by our presentations what an empowered API community can do when given the opportunity of a voice in local government. We need your help to make this dream a reality. This isn't about school districts or planning areas, even politics, it's about people. I urge you to think about what you're doing and say it out loud, just say it out loud, well, it might make more sense. To us, it sounds like, let's take the second-largest minority group in San Diego, ignore their demands while conceding to the wishes of smaller groups. Think about how that sounds to us. It's a bitter pill to swallow for

sure. Do not get us wrong, we do respect the desire of other minority groups to expand their voting blocks, we even support it, but we deserve the same consideration as well. Their expanse should not come at the expense of the API community. Again, please make our dream a reality. We send the same clear message to you every time we talk. Don't table us for ten years, our time is now. Thank you.

Comment 40: Florfina Arce

Madam Chair and respected members of the Commission, my name is Florfina Arce. I have been in San Diego for 33 years and lived in different districts. I'm Vice President of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of San Diego County. I chartered the Lion's Club, which is my favorite charity organization, for the last 17 years. I'm currently a member of the board on the Council of the Filipino-American Organization of San Diego County. I just became an American citizen last month, after 43 years of being in America. I guess people at INS love that so much they made me the speaker for my oath-taking day. And the judge who gave me my oath did not dare question why I waited 43 years. Yes, I missed a lot because I was not a citizen. So, this is my first chance to exercise my right to petition. And I am here with the APAC community and the Asian Pacific Islander, especially the Filipino Americans who live in Mira Mesa and even call Mira Mesa "Manila Mesa," Peñasquitos as "Pinoysquitos", Pinoy being a slang for Filipinos. But, I really thank you for your hard work. Perhaps the Asian Pacific American community would like this equal representation seen not, now, and not for another ten years. I beg to disagree with the person that said that APAC is considered only one person's voice. We are one voice, but it comes from the whole community of the Asians. Thank you.

Comment 41: Katrina Juian

Good evening. Thank you for allowing me to speak this evening and have my voice heard tonight. I appreciate all that you do here for the San Diego community. And I'm here to show my support for APAC's efforts tonight. More specifically, I am here as a product of the Rancho Peñasquitos community, who embraces, in fact, advocates the idea of joining with Mira Mesa. As I said, I grew up in Rancho Peñasquitos, I went to school there, elementary school, I go to church there, and I see a lot of Filipino Americans, especially Asian Pacific Islanders, in the area, I see it at my church, I see it at my dentist's office on Black Mountain Road—we are there. And, it was until I moved to San Francisco for college that I realized how overlooked we are, where we are. Asian Pacific Islanders in the Bay Area, as you know, are very active, and they are leaders who look like us and advocate for our group's unique values and interests. Now that I'm back here after about eight years of being away from San Diego, I would really love if my own community where I grew up, embraced that as well—had people who looked like us, people who heard our voices and did something about it and didn't just sit idly while many people here are fighting for these efforts. I feel that by approving this map, it will ignite civic pride and engagement, especially in the younger API community, a lot of people whom I call my friends. And, just as an example, I'm here in Mira Mesa all the time, I grew up coming here, frequenting a lot of the supermarkets, restaurants, and other businesses, and I feel there is a value to uniting Rancho Peñasquitos and Mira Mesa. Thank you.

Comment: Anne Schoeller

Good evening to all. I'm here from the District 7 that has been cut into three pieces. And I want, and I'm protesting that. I do not agree with what has happened to us, and I've been here, I've been before you, this is my seventh meeting. You, instead of taking our area, which actually was, had all the, all the regulations you were to follow, you know, you took, you didn't take a good look at our, as we were presented today. And, I was going to have them put this map up, but the, the existing. So we're like all of the rest of you, we want, we didn't want our communities of interest torn apart, which is the college area, and the college neighborhoods. Historically, they've been there for many years. And we've, we've been together with them. We've asked just simply that we be declared a community of interest with San Diego State and no one seems to want to touch that one, although they will give UCSD to the La Jolla, or University Town, whatever that is, Town Center. So, we're protesting this because you've taken, we were 147,000, and you're supposed to have 144, but then I look at all these deviations that you've awarded to other people, to other districts, and yet, you couldn't take 2,000, which would have been down in, in, along City Heights past 54, you wouldn't take them and, and take a good look and say, should we really move these people? According to what you say, legal requirements, you're taking two or, you're taking about four of us and stuffing us into District 4 and District 9. We don't want to be in District 9, we want to be in District 7, all of us. And some of our northern people that were cut off have come, have said they wanted to be left with us because they want, they're, they're from San Diego State, they went to school at San Diego State, and I want you to put us back and give us a fair look, according to all the criteria that you are supposed to follow and have not. Thank you.

(Transcript Ends)

ITEM 3 – COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Quiroz thanked everybody in attendance for staying to the end.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dalal adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Susan Manning, Executive Secretary
2010 Redistricting Commission

**Written Comments Received July 28, 2011
Redistricting Commission Public Hearing**

Comment 1: Alexander Nguyen

I support APAC's map. School district is not a community of interest. Regardless of the district, you can still go to the same school.

Comment 2: Margaret McCann

Our neighborhood presentation group supports any map that keeps Kensington in D3 with Normal Heights, North Park and University Heights.

Comment 3: Dorothy J. Perez

Please do not break up Linda Vista into 3 different districts. The proposed change is not appropriate, nor necessary. Keep Linda Vista as is and has been for several years.

Comment 4: Luis G. Perez

Do not break up Linda Vista into different districts. The proposed change is unacceptable and unwarranted.