April 27, 2022

Redistricting Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

April 27, 2022
5:30 p.m.
City Clerk’s Conference Room, City Hall

MEMBERS:  
Estela Hernandez  
RoseMarie Sanchez  
Terry Cook  
Lydia Hammond  
Frances Lerner  
Michael Harris  
Dr. Bobbie Green (via Zoom)

STAFF:  
Christine Rivera, City Clerk  
Mandy Guss, Communications Dir.

I.  CALL TO ORDER

II.  APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 13, 2022

Estela Hernandez Moved to Approve the Minutes and Michael Harris Seconded the motion. The minutes were Approved 6-0, Dr. Bobbie Green was absent.

III.  REVIEW OF REDISTRICTING PRINCIPLES, PLANS, & FEEDBACK

Michael Sharp, Research & Polling briefly reviewed the Redistricting Principles and Concept Map “A”.

Gregory Shervanick, Member of the Public said on the lower portion of District 3 is the El Paseo Corridor and another 80 homes were added to that area. Why would District 3 not be able to expand into District 4? And with major projects over the coming years would this effect the boundaries?

Michael Sharp said infrastructure projects, not so much but if there are major projects like housing developments you can’t really take the assumed population and add that to what we’re working with now. We have to take the data from the 2020 Census and use those to draw districts. If you know an area is going to add population over the next 10 years, you can try to make that district on the low end.

Michael Harris said there’s a lot of development happening north of 70.

Michael Sharp reviewed Concept Map “B”.

DRAFT
Lydia Hammond said looking at the population breakdowns of this it seems to dilute Hispanic voting powers.

Michael Sharp reviewed Concept Map “C”.

Lydia Hammond asked for District 6, is the reason that precinct 172 was selected as opposed to precinct 130 is population?

Michael Sharp said 172 has 1000 people and 130 has 1400. Right now, District 6 is at +4% so you could swap between Districts 5 and 6. Moving that precinct into 5 makes 5 over 6% deviation so really, it’s balancing some precincts with large populations but 130 would have been the preference.

Michael Harris said Concept C to me seems to split up a lot of neighborhoods and communities of interest the most out of all the ones that we’ve seen.

Michael Sharp said in the end neighborhoods are going to be split and it’s going to be the task to decide which ones.

Michael Sharp reviewed Concept Map “D” and “E”.

Estela Hernandez said the only concern that I can see for District 1 is that all of these concepts cut out the Alameda Depot District and the Mesquite Historic District Neighborhood, and about joining it on the other side of Lohman. I’ve heard input from community members and councilors that the other side of Lohman would like to be included into one to District 1.

Michael Sharp said one of the challenges is that District 4 needs to add population and where does it add it.

Estela Hernandez said I think it would be okay if we didn’t go all the way up to Roadrunner.

Lydia Hammond said maybe you could take our options and draw up something for the next meeting. I don’t want to get too carried away until we hear from more people.

Terry Cook said I’d like to know the rationale behind adding the Alameda and Mesquite Historic Districts to District 1. I also don’t understand what the issue is about being divided over a freeway.

Michael Sharp said historically freeways have been a divider in terms of a physical geographic divider with different communities and neighborhoods and that’s why we pay attention to the major thoroughfares as natural boundaries and also they’re easy to describe.
IV. REDISTRICTING WEBSITE UPDATE

Mandy Guss, Communications Director updated the committee on the Redistricting page on the website.

Lydia Hammond asked would it be possible to create a push to go vote when we get the top two or three?

Mandy Guss said I don’t know if we have that capability on the website. There are some alternatives like on social media.

Michael Sharp asked could we do a survey? I’d also be curious if as people are voting there was more demographic feedback about them.

Dr. Bobbie Green said I would like to see a precinct map so we can compare precincts.

V. NEXT MEETING – MAY 11, 2022

VI. ADJOURNMENT

RoseMarie Sanchez Moved to Adjourn the Meeting, Frances Lerner Seconded the Motion. It was Unanimously Approved to Adjourn at 6:49 p.m.