



April 6, 2022

VIA EMAIL to elections.commission@sfgov.org and lucy.bernholz@sfgov.org

San Francisco Elections Commission
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Concerns regarding Elections Commission's Redistricting Task Force appointees

Dear President Bernholz and Elections Commissioners,

We are writing in support of concerns raised by the League of Women Voters of San Francisco regarding the Redistricting Task Force's failure to reflect and regard in their process the significant, and continuous input given by the communities of interest, in particular those made up of the most vulnerable and least represented people in San Francisco. We agree with the alarm expressed by the LWV SF in seeing draft maps that would diminish the voting power of low-income, immigrant, renter, LGBTQ+, and people of color neighborhoods. The maps, and the Task Force's process, have clearly diminished and disregarded the community's expressed concerns—which they have expressed over several meetings over the past months—and will ultimately reduce these communities' voting power.

To that end, we echo the League's request to this Commission that it take action to reinforce the duties and obligations of the Task Force members appointed by this body to support a fair and equitable redistricting process.

This Commission has a duty, under [Ordinance 094-21 \(BOS File No. 20606\)](#), to the public and the city to ensure that its appointees carry out their duties. As noted by the League in its letter to this Commission, the City Attorney has explained that the Task Force "is responsible for redrawing supervisorial district lines in accordance with the law and for making appropriate adjustments based on public input provided at community meetings." This includes the duty to draw districts that "reflect communities of interest within the City and County" ([S.F. Charter § 13.110\(d\)](#)).

The people of San Francisco have turned out to the Task Force's meetings for months to give feedback, describe their communities of interest, and express their needs to the Task Force. However, the Task Force has minimized these communities' input despite their substantial time and effort. The Task Force has also made the mapping process difficult, and the public's ability to provide meaningful feedback on the proposed maps is next to impossible by scrapping draft after draft.

Like the League, **“We call upon you to take action and speak to the Redistricting Task Force members who were appointed by the Elections Commission and reinforce to them their duty and obligations to make appropriate adjustments based on the public input of historically and systemically marginalized, vulnerable, and disadvantaged communities. We also recommend you call a special meeting of the Elections Commission regarding our concerns. Redrawing the district map must be done by April 9, so the task force can vote on it by April 13 (as currently scheduled) and the districts can be finalized by April 15.”**

Your public service is greatly appreciated. We are available to speak with you about any of the above issues. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Regina S Islas/on behalf of

ACLU SF Chapter
aclusf@gmail.com

CC: Martha Delgadillo, martha.delgadillo@sfgov.org