



REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

MINUTES

Held via Videoconference
(Remote access provided via teleconference)
www.sfgovtv.org

January 29, 2022 – 10:00 AM

Special Meeting

Members: Jeremy Lee, Jose Maria (Chema) Hernández Gil, J. Michelle Pierce, Matthew Castillon, Arnold Townsend, Lily Ho, Raynell Cooper, Chasel Lee, Ditka Reiner

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Redistricting Task Force met in special session through videoconferencing, and provided public comment through teleconferencing, on Saturday, January 29, 2022. Chair Reverend Arnold Townsend called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

On the call of the roll, Chair Townsend, Member Jeremy Lee, Member Pierce, Member Castillon, Member Ho, Member Cooper, Member Chasel Lee, and Member Reiner were noted present. Member Hernández Gil was noted not present. A quorum was present.

2. District 3 Boundaries, Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest

Speakers: Bill Lee; requested that the Task Force not separate Russian Hill, Nob Hill, and Chinatown from each other in District 3.

Carol Ann Rogers (Russian Hill Neighbors); requested that all of Russian Hill be included in one supervisorial district.

Bob Harrer (Barbary Coast Neighborhood Association); requested that the Task Force consider extending the boundaries of District 3 westward to Van Ness Avenue above Union Street.

Matthias Mormino (Chinatown Community Development Center); requested that the Task Force recognize the tenants of Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotels as a community of interest, and retain them together in the district.

Bruno Kanter, President (North Beach Neighbors); requested that the Task Force retain the North Beach, Telegraph Hill, and Chinatown neighborhoods together, and recommended that the district expand westward to include all of Russian Hill, and potentially areas south of Market Street, including the East Cut.

Susan Ford; requested that the Task Force recognize Russian Hill as a community of interest, and retain it entirely in one supervisorial district.

Theresa Flandrich; requested that the Task Force retain North Beach and Chinatown together in District 3.

Larry Yee, President (Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association); requested that the Task Force retain the neighborhoods of District 3 together, and not divide any communities within the present boundaries of the district.

Justin Hoover, President (Chinese Historical Society); requested that the Task Force retain the neighborhoods on the west side of the Broadway Tunnel together in one supervisorial district, and recognize the growing Chinese communities as a community of interest within the district.

David Pilpel; requested that the Task Force review the boundaries he submitted on file, recommended that the Task Force retain Russian Hill in District 2; and consider adding South Beach, the East Cut, and possibly Treasure Island to District 3.

Jessica Ho (North Beach Merchants Association); requested that the Task Force keep North Beach and Tenderloin together in one supervisorial district.

Janet Crane (Mixed Village San Francisco); recommended that the Task Force extend the boundary between Districts 2 and 3 westward to Van Ness Avenue.

Stephen Taber (Russian Hill Neighbors); Requested that the Task Force keep Russian Hill wholly within in one district.

Laura Li; recommended that the Task Force extend the boundary between Districts 2 and 3 westward to Van Ness Avenue north of Union Street, and include Russian Hill and Nob Hill neighborhoods together.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Chair Townsend declared the matter heard and filed.

3. Mapping

Seth Neill, Redistricting Consultant (Q2 Data and Research); presented an update on the roll-out of the San Francisco Redistricting Tool, and answered questions raised throughout the discussion.

Speakers: Eileen Boken; requested clarification about districting unpopulated areas of the city around Stonestown, Stern Grove, and Merced Manor. Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); shared various concerns about the maps being shared by the public.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Chair Townsend declared the matter heard and filed.

4. Task Force Member Reports and City Department Representative/Public Official Reports

Member Chasel Lee shared that he had debrief meetings with several community-based organizations and advocates in District 5. Member Pierce shared that she has had discussions with community members from Districts 10 and 3, in regard to the outreach materials available in the districts.

Speakers: None.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Chair Townsend declared the matter heard and filed.

Member Hernández Gil was noted present at 11:58 a.m..

5. Updates to Regular and Special Meeting Schedule

Ana Flores, Deputy City Attorney (Office of the City Attorney), provided a brief statement on the status of the Mayor's declaration of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and potential impacts to the future of meeting in the districts of the city.

Speakers: David Pilpel; recommended that the Task Force amend bylaws to set a regular meeting location in the event in-person meetings are authorized in the future; and recommended that the April 13, 2022, meeting begin earlier in the day.

Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); recommended that the Task Force consider adding more meetings in April 2022, consider starting meetings earlier in the day, and consider adding an additional District 11-focused meeting.

Cheryl Thornton; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

Member Pierce, seconded by Member Chasel, moved to adopt an update to the Task Force meeting schedule as follows, and to approve the entire meeting schedule as presented to the Task Force:

- **Adding a special meeting on Friday, March 11, 2022, to begin at 3:00 p.m., to be held remotely, with a mapping focus;**
- **Adding a special meeting on Friday, March 18, 2022, to begin at 3:00 p.m., to be held remotely, with a District 8 focus;**
- **Adding a special meeting on Monday, March 21, 2022, to begin at 5:30 p.m., to be held remotely, with a mapping focus;**
- **Adding a special meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2022, to begin at 5:30 p.m., to be held remotely, with a District 9 focus;**
- **Adding a special meeting on Saturday, March 26, 2022, to begin at 10:00 a.m., to be held remotely, with a mapping focus;**
- **Adding a special meeting on Saturday, April 2, 2022, to begin at 10:00 a.m., to be held remotely, with a mapping focus; and**
- **Adding a special meeting on Saturday, April 9, 2022, to begin at 10:00 a.m., to be held remotely, with a mapping focus.**

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Jeremy Lee, Hernández Gil, Pierce, Castillon, Townsend, Ho, Cooper, Chasel Lee, Reiner

At the conclusion of the discussion, Chair Townsend declared the matter heard and filed.

6. Outreach Plan Update

Speakers: Cheryl Thornton; requested that the Task Force schedule a mapping software training session at district libraries throughout the city, and requested that the Outreach Consultants share their contact list of community-based organizations for posting on the Task Force website. Sana Sethi (San Francisco Rising); encouraged interested members of the public to provide detailed community of interest definitions in their communications with the Task Force, and recommended that the Outreach Consultants solicit detailed community of interest information from the public. Lauren Girardin and Jen Tse (League of Women Voters San Francisco); shared various concerns with outreach to the public. David Pilpel; shared various concerns with outreach to the public.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Chair Townsend declared the matter heard and filed.

7. General Public Comment

Speakers: Cheryl Thornton; shared various concerns related to the impacts of redistricting on communities of concern throughout the city. Sena Sethi (San Francisco Rising); shared various concerns about language access at Task Force meetings. Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); shared various concerns about engagement by the Task Force with commenters at Task Force meetings, and reiterated that all districts of the city may be impacted by redistricting. Jen Tse (League of Women Voters San Francisco); recommended that the Task Force observe how Los Angeles County performed redistricting meetings entirely in Spanish on August 25 2021, requested that the community of input feedback form be made more prominent on the Task Force website.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Chair Townsend declared the matter heard and filed.

8. Future Agenda Items

Task Force Members did not offer any new agenda items, but a general discussion of the order and structuring of Task Force business was conducted, including a discussion of rotating the presentation of community of interest feedback engagement at the beginning of district-focused meetings among the several members of the Task Force.

Speakers: Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); recommended that the presentation of community of interest feedback engagement be translated into multiple languages. Cheryl Thornton; requested that the Department of Elections attend Task Force meetings and provide information about voter registration.

9. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 12, 14, and 22, 2022

Speakers: David Pilpel; shared various concerns about the form of the minutes under consideration.

Member Chasel Lee, seconded by Member Pierce, moved that the January 12, 14, and 22, 2022, meeting minutes be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Jeremy Lee, Hernández Gil, Pierce, Castillon, Townsend, Ho, Cooper, Chasel Lee, Reiner

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Redistricting Task Force adjourned at the hour of 1:02 p.m.

N.B. The Minutes of this meeting set forth all actions taken by the Redistricting Task Force on the matters stated, but not necessarily in the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.