



REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

MINUTES

City Hall, Room 416
(remote access provided)
(remote public comment provided via teleconference)
www.sfgovtv.org

March 9, 2022 – 5:30 PM

Regular 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 regular session, in-person with remote access and public comment via telephone and videoconference, on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. Chair Reverend Arnold Townsend called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m.

On the call of the roll, Chair Townsend, Member Jeremy Lee, Member Hernández Gil, Member Pierce, Member Castillon, Member Ho, Member Cooper, Member Chasel Lee, and Member Reiner were noted present.

A quorum was present.

2. District 3 Boundaries, Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest

Member Hernandez Gil provided a presentation on Public Input and Communities of Interest, including what the redistricting process is, what the criteria is for redistricting, recognized neighborhoods and communities of interest, examples of common interest, what are communities of interest, district-based input, and the redistricting mapping tool.

Speakers: Carol Ann Rodgers, President (Russian Hill Neighbors); requested that the Task Force recognize the Russian Hill neighborhood as a community of interest, and retain it wholly within District 3 by moving the western boundary with District 2 to Van Ness Avenue; and endorsed the District 3 United map, on file with the Task Force. Curtis Bradford, Co-Chair (Tenderloin Peoples Congress); requested that the Task Force review the Community unity map announced by San Francisco Rising, suggested that portions of eastern District 6 could be included in District 3, requested that the Tenderloin and SOMA neighborhoods be included together in District 6, but offered that

portions of the neighborhood around Polk Street, Geary Boulevard, and areas east of Mason Street should be in District 3 rather than District 6.

Kathleen Courtney (Russian Hill Community Association); requested that the Task Force include all of the Russian Hill neighborhood in District 3, rather than split it between two supervisorial districts.

Diana Taylor, President (Barbary Coast Association); requested that the Task Force review the District 3 United neighborhoods map on file, and highlighted that the District 3 United neighborhoods plan and map keeps the population within 1% of the ideal deviation.

Susan Ford; requested that the Task Force not split the Russian Hill neighborhood between multiple supervisorial districts, and defined the area as North Point, Columbus Avenue, and Mason Street to Van Ness Avenue.

Pheobe Douglas; requested that the Task Force recognize the Russian Hill neighborhood as a community of interest and retain it within one supervisorial district by moving the boundary with District 2 to Van Ness Avenue, and highlighted that the 45 Union 19 Polk buses serve the community.

Xinyu Huang (Chinese Progressive Association); requested that the Task Force recognize the community of single room occupancy renters in the Tenderloin and SOMA neighborhoods as a community of interest and retain them together in one supervisorial district.

Bob Hare; requested that the Task Force review the District 3 United map and adjust the western boundary with District 2 to Van Ness Avenue north all the way to the bay, in order to incorporate all of the Russian Hill neighborhood within District 3.

Betty Louie (Chinatown Merchants Association); requested that the Task Force review the District 3 United neighborhood plan on file with the Task Force, and recognize the small business and tourist merchants as a community of interest.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force recognize the single room occupancy renters in both the Tenderloin and SOMA neighborhoods as a community of interest and retain them together in one supervisorial district.

Steve Levine (Chinatown Merchants Association); requested that the Task Force recognize the tourism corridors of the north eastern corner of the city and retain them together within one supervisorial district, and recommended that all of Russian Hill be included in District 3.

Michael Nulty; requested that the Task Force retain the Tenderloin neighborhood in District 6 with the central city neighborhoods.

Notara Lum; requested that the Task Force recognize the Russian Hill neighborhood as a community of interest and retain the neighborhood in District 3 and endorsed the District 3 Unity map.

Matthias Mormino (Chinatown Community Development Center) requested that the Task Force recognize single room occupancy hotel renters as a community of interest and retain them in one supervisorial district.

Sana Sethi (San Francisco Rising); requested that the Task Force review the community Unity Map announced by San Francisco Rising and requested that any changes to Districts 3 and 6 do not harm the communities of either district.

Robyn Tucker, Co chair (Pacific Avenue Neighborhood Association); requested that the Task Force recognize nob hill, Chinatown, Russian Hill, as COI and retain together -- north of California and east of van ness should be retained together.

Betsy Brill (Pacific Avenue Neighborhood Association); requested that the Task Force review the United Russian Hill District 3 map and extend the western boundary with District 2 on Van Ness Avenue northward to the bay, and suggested that the Tenderloin neighborhood could be included in District 3.

Bruno Kanter, President (North Beach Neighbors); requested that the Task Force review the District 3 United neighborhoods plan and map on file, unite all of Russian Hill in one district 3.

Madeline Trembley (Gateway Tenants Association); requested that the Task Force review the District 3 neighborhood Unity map on file with the Task Force, which includes all of Russian Hill, Nob Hill, North Beach, Chinatown, Jackson Square, and the tourism and business districts together.

Tes Welborn; requested that the Task Force make as few changes as possible to the existing district maps and endorsed the Community Unity map announced by San Francisco Rising and 65 other community groups.

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

3. Outreach Plan Update

Speakers: None.

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

4. Q2 Redistricting Consultants Update

Jaime Clark, Redistricting Consultant (Q2 Data and Research) presented the map which resulted from the directions provided by the Task Force during the March 2, 2022, meeting. This is the map which will be considered as map 1A during the mapping discussion on March 14, 2022; Ana Flores, Deputy City Attorney (Office of the City Attorney); Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors (Board of Supervisors); answered questions raised throughout the discussion.

Speakers: David Pilpel; suggested that the Task Force prepare a map with lines drawn to fit within a 5% deviation from ideal population balance, in order to better include communities of interest. Jen Tse (League of Women Voters San Francisco); suggested that map image files should also include textual definitions of the boundaries. Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); shared various concerns with the Task Force in regard to map image files. Sana Sethi (San Francisco Rising); Michael Nulty; Tes Welborn; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

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

At the request of Chair Townsend, Vice Chair Reiner assumed the Chair pro-tem at 8:22 p.m.

Chair Townsend resumed the Chair at 8:27 p.m.

5. Updates to Regular and Special Meeting Schedule

The Task Force briefly discussed the scheduling and preparation of the Final Report. Ana Flores, Deputy City Attorney (Office of the City Attorney) answered questions raised throughout the discussion.

There were no other changes to the Task Force meeting schedule offered.

Speakers: Jen Tse (League of Women Voters San Francisco); Michael Nulty; David Pilpel; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

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

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

Member Jeremy Lee reported that he recently met with Maria Benjamin from the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development to discuss the Task Force presentation about neighborhood preference for affordable housing applicants, and also reported that he recently met with advocates from the San Francisco API Council. Member Pierce reported that she is working with Cheryl Thornton and District 10 community activists to host mapping seminars at the community libraries as a form of outreach.

Member Chasel Lee reported that he recently met with community advocates from Districts 2 and 6 to discuss redistricting matters.

Member Hernández Gil reported that he recently met with residents of the East Cut and Mission Bay neighborhoods, District 1 advocates, organized labor advocates, and San Francisco Rising, to discuss redistricting matters.

Vice Chair Reiner reported that she recently met with District 2 advocates to discuss redistricting issues.

Speakers: None.

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

7. General Public Comment

Speakers: Eileen Boken (Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee SPEAK); requested that the Task Force examine SPEAK's District 4 maps, which include Merced Manor and Stonestown in District 4 rather than District 7. David Pilpel; Susan Ford; Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); Michael Nulty; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

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

8. Future Agenda Items

Members discussed possible future agenda items as follows:

- *A discussion item on the Task Force Final Report, to be held before the one-week break to begin on March 26, 2022.*

Speakers: Michael Nulty; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

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

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Redistricting Task Force adjourned at the hour of 8:53 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.