

REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO MINUTES

City Hall, Room 400

(remote access provided)
(remote public comment provided via teleconference)

www.sfgovtv.org

March 11, 2022 – 3:00 PM

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, in-person with remote access and public comment via telephone and videoconference, on Friday, March 11, 2022. Chair Reverend Arnold Townsend called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

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

A quorum was present.

Vice Chair Reiner Excused from Attendance for a Portion of the Meeting

Member Cooper, seconded by Member Chasel Lee, moved that Vice Chair Reiner be EXCUSED from the meeting until her arrival. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Jeremy Lee, Hernández Gil, Pierce, Castillon, Townsend, Ho, Cooper, Chasel Lee

Excused: 1 - Reiner

Vice Chair Reiner was noted present at 3:36 p.m.

2. Districts 1 and 2 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: Brian Quan; requested that the Task Force unite the businesses on both sides of the California Street merchant corridor within one supervisorial district, and shared concerns about the various school districts and their intersection with the supervisorial district lines.

Kathleen Courtney (Russian Hill Association); requested that the Task Force recognize the Russian Hill neighborhood and redistrict it to be a part of District 3 rather than District 2.

Thomas Duda; requested that the Task Force recognize a community of interest of renters within District 1, and requested that the Task Force not include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1.

Richard Rothman; requested that the Task Force recognize the working-class communities of the Richmond District as a community of interest and retain them within District 1, requested that the Seacliff neighborhood remain in District 2 rather than District 1, and supported the Community Unity map announced by San Francisco Rising. Richard Frisbie; requested that the Task Force recognize the Laurel Heights neighborhood and retain it within District 2.

Lorna; requested that the Task Force recognize the Russian-speaking community of the Richmond District and provide Russian-language translation of all the redistricting documentation.

Boris; requested that the Task Force recognize the Russian-speaking community of the Richmond District and provide Russian-language translation of all the redistricting documentation.

Daphne Alden; requested that the Task Force recognize the residents of the Seacliff neighborhood and redistrict the area to be included in District 1 rather than District 2. Ms. Li; requested that the Task Force recognize the residents of the Seacliff neighborhood and redistrict the area to be included in District 1 rather than District 2. Chelsea Lake; requested that the Task Force redistrict the Jordan Park, Laurel Heights West Clay Park, and Seacliff neighborhoods into District 1 rather than District 2. Laura Bolden; requested that the Task Force recognize the community of renters within the Richmond, and retain them in District 1, and endorsed the Community Unity map announced by San Francisco Rising.

Shane Natoli; requested that the Task Force not include the Anza Vista neighborhood in District 1 and requested that the Seacliff neighborhood and both sides of Lake Street in be added to District 1.

Cathy; requested that the Task Force review the Community Unity Map announced by San Francisco Rising, and suggested that the Task Force recognize the Asian American renters and seniors in District 1 as a community of interest and retain them wholly within one supervisorial district.

Regina; requested that the Task Force not include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1, and endorsed the Community Unity map announced by San Francisco Rising.

Marie Hurabiell; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1 rather than District 2.

Julie Pitta; requested that the Task Force review the Community Unity map announced by San Francisco Rising, and requested that the Task Force recognize the working-class residents of the Richmond and retain them together in District 1.

Mr. Yue; requested that the Task Force recognize the Jordan Park neighborhood and include it in the same district as the Inner Richmond.

Sophia Andary; requested that the Task Force review the Community Unity Map announced by San Francisco Rising, and suggested that the Task Force not include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1 rather than District 2, suggested that the northern border of District 1 should be the Presidio and the southern boundary should be Golden Gate Park.

Caroline Bash; requested that the Task Force redistrict the Laurel Heights neighborhood to be included in District 1 rather than District 2.

Leigh; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1 rather than District 2.

Montgomery Woods; requested that the Task Force redistrict the West Clay Park and Seacliff neighborhoods into District 1 rather than District 2.

Sandra Lee Fewer; requested that the Task Force review the Community Unity map announced by San Francisco Rising, and suggested that the Task Force not redistrict the Seacliff neighborhood into District 1.

Chuck Obermeyer; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff neighborhood and both sides of Lake Street in District 1 rather than District 2.

Vanessa Marrero, Executive Director (Parents for Public Schools); requested that the Task Force review the local school district impacts of the redistricting process.

Richard Lowden; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff and both sides of Lake Street in District 1 rather than District 2.

Speaker; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

Erica Zweig; requested that the Task Force review the Community Unity map submitted by San Francisco Rising.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1 rather than District 2.

Jonathan Meade; requested that the Task Force not include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1, recognize a community of renters in District 1 and retain them whole as a vulnerable community, suggested that where people shop should not be part of the definition of a community of interest, and recommended that District 1 should expand to the east rather than to the north.

Nick Podell; requested that the Task Force include the Presidio Heights and Seacliff neighborhoods in District 1 rather than District 2.

Don Misumi (Richmond District Rising); requested that the Task Force recognize the working-class communities of District 1 and retain it wholly within a single supervisorial district, and endorsed the Community Unit map announced by San Francisco Rising. Speaker; requested that the Task Force recognize the Jordan Park, Presidio Heights, and Laurel Heights neighborhoods and retain them within District 2 rather than District 1. Speaker; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force include Jordan Park, West Clay Park, Laurel Heights, and the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1 rather than District 2.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 2 rather than District 1, and endorsed the Community Unity map announced by San Francisco Rising.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff and Lake Street neighborhoods in District 1 rather than District 2.

Jesse; requested that the Task Force include the Jordan Park, Lake Street, Seacliff, and Laurel Heights neighborhoods in District 1 rather than District 2.

Bobak Esfandiari; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1 rather than District 2.

Martha Conte; requested that the Task Force include Jordan park, the north side of Lake Street, and the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1.

Todd Berman; requested that the Task Force not include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1.

David Pilpel; requested that the Task Force review the policy choices made by the 2010 Redistricting Task Force in establishing the northern border of District 1.

Reyna; requested that the Task Force include Roosevelt High School in District 1, and retain the Seacliff neighborhood in District 2 rather than District 1.

Andrew Sun; requested that the Task Force recognize that the districts change over time, and that the communities of interest within may need to be redefined.

Vanita Louie; requested that the Task Force recognize the Anza Vista and Laurel Village areas and retain them together within District 2.

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

3. Outreach Plan Update

No presentations.

Speakers: Brian Quan; requested that the Task Force improve outreach to the Asian and Asian American communities for Task Force meetings.

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

4. Q2 Redistricting Consultants Update

Vice Chair Reiner provided a presentation on the updated mapping procedures she has prepared with updated language. Seth Neill, Redistricting Consultants Andrew Shen answered questions raised throughout the discussion.

Speakers: Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); suggested that the changes from map to map be displayed in the mapping tool. Jen Tse (League of Women Voters San Francisco); shared concerns about the reported undercount in the 2020 census. David Pilpel; spoke on various concerns relating to the hearing matter.

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

5. Updates to Regular and Special Meeting Schedule

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

Speakers: David Pilpel; spoke on various concerns about the cablecast coverage for future Task Force meetings.

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 an advocate from Equality California.

Member Castillon reported that he recently met with SOMA and South Beach neighborhood advocates to discuss Task Force business.

Member Ho reported that she spoke to reporters from the San Francisco Standard and Ingleside Light about the mapping instructions given by the Task Force on March 2, 2022.

Member Chasel Lee reported that he recently discussed Task Force business with community members residing in Districts 5, 8 and 10.

Vice Chair Reiner reported that she recently met with community members from the Anza Vista neighborhood and District 8, to discuss Task Force business.

Member Hernández Gil reported that he recently met with many District 6neighbors, as well as the Asian Law Caucus, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, San Francisco Rising, and the Office of the City Attorney.

Chair Townsend reported that he met with advocates for the Community Unity map coalition and participated in a remote meeting with advocates of the OMI, Lakeview, and Ingleside neighborhoods. Supervisor Safai was also in attendance.

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); shared various concerns with the Task Force in response to the draft map released on March 9, 2022. Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); requested that the Task Force consider the issue of incumbent gerrymandering when considering district lines. Cheryl Thornton; requested that the Task Force become an ongoing commission rather than a temporary Task Force. David Pilpel; shared various concerns with the Task Force. Tan Meiyun; requested that the Task Force not include Chinatown in District 2. Jen Tse (League of Women Voters San Francisco); requested that the Task Force receive an update on the Voting Rights Act. Madeline Tran; requested that the Task Force include the Seacliff neighborhood in District 1 rather than District 2.

Jennifer Parkes; requested that the Task Force recognize the Russian Hill neighborhood and retain it wholly within District 3.

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 Voting Rights Act.

Speakers: None.

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 6:40 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.

