



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 16, 2022 – 5:30 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 Wednesday, March 16, 2022. Vice Chair Ditka Reiner called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

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

A quorum was present.

Chair Townsend was noted present at 5:56 p.m.

2. Districts 4 and 5 Boundaries, Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest

Member Hernández 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: Dr. Melinda Lawlor Skrade, President (Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory); defined the Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory campus as the 900, 1000, and 1100 blocks of Ellis Street, parts of Willow Alley, Turk Street, and the Margaret Atwood Practice Field, and requested that the Task Force recognize the campus as a community of interest and retain it together within one supervisorial district.

Curtis Bradford, Co-Chair (Tenderloin Peoples Congress); requested that the Task Force review the Community Unity Map from the SF Community Unity Map Coalition

and requested that the Tenderloin and SOMA communities be kept together through the redistricting process.

Cheryl Thornton; requested that the Task Force recognize the Black community as a community of interest in the Fillmore, Western Addition, and Lower Haight neighborhoods, including the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center and Westside Courts, and requested that the areas be kept together in one supervisorial district.

Dennis William (Fillmore Merchants and Neighborhood Collaborative); requested that the Task Force recognize the low-income housing communities of District 5 and retain them together in one supervisorial district.

Ace Washington; requested that the Task Force recognize the Black community in the Fillmore neighborhood as a community of interest, and retain it wholly within one supervisorial district.

Eileen Boken (Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee SPEAK); requested that the Task Force review the SPEAK mapping submission for District 4, which includes neighborhood-level details.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force recognize the Black population in San Francisco and strengthen the Black community voice in the redistricting process, and requested that the Black and Japanese communities be retained together in one supervisorial district.

Sheryl Davis; requested that the Task Force include the voices of the Black community in the redistricting discussion and requested that the Japantown, Fillmore, and Western Addition neighborhoods be recognized as a community of interest and retained together in one supervisorial district.

Renee Curran; endorsed the Community Unity map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, requested that the Task Force recognize the community of tenants as a community of interest, and requested that the Black and Japanese communities be retained together in one supervisorial district.

Hugo Kobayashi; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, requested that the Task Force recognize that the majority of residents who live in the Inner Sunset are renters and that they be recognized as a community of interest, requested that the Inner Sunset be included as part of District 5, and that the Black and Japanese communities be kept together in one supervisorial district.

Rosalyn Tonai, Executive Director (National Japanese American Historical Society); endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition and requested that the Task Force recognize Japantown as a community of interest and retain it wholly in District 5.

Naima; requested that the Task Force recognize the Black and Japanese communities as a community of interest and retain them together in one supervisorial district.

Jordon Wing; requested that the Task Force recognize the performing arts community in the Hayes Valley and Civic Center areas as a community of interest and retain it wholly within one supervisorial district.

Tes Welborn; requested that the Task Force review the Community Unity map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition.

Richard Ivanhoe; requested that the Task Force set the Districts 4 and 5 boundaries pursuant to the Community Unity map submitted by the SF Community Unity Coalition.

Erika; requested that the Task Force recognize the Black and Japanese communities of the Western Addition as a community of interest and retain it wholly within District 5 with a norther border at California Street.

Angie Pettit; requested that the Task Force recognize the Inner Sunset merchants and park neighbors together as a community of interest and included it wholly within District 4, including the Sunset Chinese Cultural District.

Norm Degelman; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition.

Speaker; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition and requested that the Haight Ashbury and North of Panhandle neighborhoods should be retained in District 5.

Shakirah Simley, Executive Director (Booker T. Washington Community Service Center); requested that the Task Force ensure that the voices of Black people in the community be included in the dialog about the redistricting process, requested that the district lines be shaped to strengthen the Black community, and rejected any map which doesn't retain the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center and Westside Courts together in one supervisorial district.

Lauren; requested that the Task Force retain all of Japantown within District 5, with a northern boundary of California Street.

Patricia (Better Housing Policy); requested that the Task Force include the Inner Sunset west of 14th Avenue in District 4, and suggested that the southern border of District 4 be moved to include Lowell High School.

Jessica (Better Housing Policy); requested that the Task Force include the area of 14th Avenue south to West Portal in District 4, and suggested that the southern border of District 4 be moved to include Lowell High School.

Christy (Better Housing Policy); requested that the Task Force include the Inner Sunset in District 4 with a boundary at 14th Avenue, and suggested that the southern border of District 4 be moved to include Lowell High School.

Qi Dai (Better Housing Policy); requested that the Task Force include the area west of 14th Avenue in District 4, and suggested that the southern border of District 4 be moved to include Lowell High School.

Daniel Landry; requested that the Task Force recognize the Black community as a community of interest and retain it together with the Japantown community in District 5.

Calvin Welsh; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition and requested that the Task Force recognize the residents of affordable housing and price-controlled-units as a community of interest.

Sandy Yu; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

Chad Buckner; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition and requested that the Task Force recognize the residents of affordable housing and price-controlled-units as a community of interest.

Louise; requested that the Task Force include the Inner Sunset in District 4 with a boundary at 14th Avenue.

Elanor Cox; requested that the Task Force recognize the renter residents of District 5 as a community of interest, requested that the Task Force retain the entirety of the Inner Sunset and Japantown in District 5, and suggested that the Duboce Triangle neighborhood be included in District 8.

Jon Osaki, Executive Director (Japanese Community Youth Council); requested that the Task Force recognize the Black and Japanese communities of the Western Addition as a community of interest and retain it wholly within District 5 with a northern boundary of California Street.

Jason Henderson (Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association); endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, requested that the Task Force recognize the renter residents of District 5 as a community of interest, suggested that the Hub neighborhood not be included in District 5.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force include the Inner Sunset neighborhood in District 4.

Ken; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, requested that the Task Force include the Inner Sunset and the Sunset Chinese Cultural District wholly within District 4, and suggested that the blocks south of Sloat Boulevard not be included in District 4.

Chuck Obermeyer; requested that the Task Force recognize the roughly 5,500 residents of the Hub neighborhood retain it wholly in one supervisorial district along with the Mid-Market neighborhood, and defined the Hub as Market Street to Lily Street, Franklin to Fell, across Van Ness Avenue on Hayes Street back to Market Street, and south on 11th Street to the Central Highway.

Erika Zweig; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, requested that the Task Force recognize the working-class neighborhood of the Outer Sunset as a community of interest, and suggested that Lowell High School is not a community of interest as it is a school serving students city-wide.

Jeff Matsuoka; requested that the Task Force recognize the Japanese community and retain it wholly within District 5 with the Fillmore and Western Addition neighborhoods.

Steven Torres; requested that the Task Force recognize the Duboce Triangle neighborhood and include it with the greater Castro neighborhood in District 8 rather than District 5.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force include the Western Addition, Japantown, Tenderloin, and Hayes Valley neighborhoods together in one supervisorial district.

Lori Leiderman; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition and its recommendations for District 5, recommended that Funston Avenue should be the western border for the Inner Sunset, and recommended that the Fillmore and Japantown neighborhoods be retained together in one supervisorial district.

David Woo (Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council); endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, requested that the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood be recognized as a community of interest, recommended that the Japantown and Fillmore neighborhoods be retained together in District 5, and that the Tenderloin and Central SOMA neighborhoods be retained together in District 6.

Deanthony Jones; requested that the Task Force ensure that the voices of Black people in the community be included in the dialog about the redistricting process, requested that the district lines be shaped to strengthen the Black community, and requested that the Japantown neighborhood north to California Street, Westside Courts, and Hamilton Recreation Center all be included together in District 5.

Sarah Wolfish; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition and requested that the Fillmore, Western Addition, and Japantown neighborhoods be included together in District 5.

Judy Hamaguchi, President (Japanese American Citizens League); endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, and requested that the Task Force preserve and retain Japantown as a community of interest within District 5.

Jeremy Chan (Japantown Task Force); requested that the Task Force recognize the Japantown community and retain it along with the Fillmore and Western Addition

neighborhoods wholly within District 5, and defined the area of Japantown as California Street to Ellis Street, Steiner Street to Gough Street.

Kelly; requested that the Task Force recognize the Japantown neighborhood with a northern border at California Street and retain it wholly within District 5.

Sana Sethi (San Francisco Rising); endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, and requested that the Task Force retain the Japantown neighborhood wholly within District 5.

Speaker; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

Larry Griffin; requested that the Task Force include the Japanese Community Youth Center and Booker T Washington Community Service Center in District 5 as part of a unified Japantown and Western Addition, and suggested that the Tenderloin may be added to District 5, as well.

Shanell Williams; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition and requested that the Task Force retain the Japantown and Western Addition neighborhoods together in one supervisorial district.

Nate Podell; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition.

Speaker; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition.

Jade; requested that the Task Force include the area south of Sloat Boulevard in District 4.

Grace Horikiri, Executive Director (Japantown Community Benefit District); requested that the Task Force include Japantown wholly within District 5.

Speaker; requested that the Task Force retain the current district boundaries for Districts 4 and 5.

Nico Bremond (Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association); requested that the Task Force ensure that the voices of Black people in the community be included in the dialog about the redistricting process and requested that the district lines be shaped to strengthen the Black community.

Jeff Rigo; endorsed the Community Unity Map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, requested that the Task Force relax the 1% population deviation between districts in order to include the communities of interest defined during the redistricting process, supported including the Inner Sunset in District 4, and requested that the areas south of Sloat Boulevard remain in District 7 rather than District 4.

Brittany Ford; requested that the Task Force recognize the Black and African American community in District 5 as a community of interest, and recommended that the Fillmore, Western Addition, Hayes Valley, and Lower Haight neighborhoods including Westside Courts, the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center, the African America Arts and Culture Complex, the Ella Hill Hutch Community Center, and Westside Community Services be included together in District 5 with the Japantown neighborhood.

Reverend Dr. Carolyn Scott; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

Melissa Hernandez (Office of Supervisor Dean Preston); requested that the Task Force retain the Japantown and Western Addition neighborhoods together in District 5.

Lisa Awbrey (Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council); endorsed the Community Unity map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, and requested that the Japantown and Western Addition neighborhoods be retained together in District 5.

Dr. Saida L. Burch; requested that the Task Force recognize the exiting culture and history of the Fillmore neighborhood and requested that the Task Force include the

Booker T. Washington Community Service Center and Japantown neighborhood in District 5.

Amos Brown; requested that the Task Force include the Western Addition and Japantown neighborhoods in District 5.

Alice Kowahatsu; endorsed the Community Unity map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, requested that the Task Force ensure that the voices of Black people in the community be included in the dialog about the redistricting process and requested that the district lines be shaped to strengthen the Black community, and requested that the Task Force include the Western Addition and the Fillmore neighborhoods in District 5.

Edward Wright, President (Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club); endorsed the Community Unity map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition; and requested that the Task Force keep the Castro wholly within District 8, the Western Addition and Japantown neighborhoods wholly within District 5, and include the Inner Sunset in District 4.

Virginia Marshall; requested that the Task Force recognize the Fillmore and Western Addition neighborhoods as a community of interest retain them together in District 5, and suggested that Lowell High School is not a community of interest as it is a school serving students city-wide.

Monica Pinkston; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

Denise; endorsed the Community Unity map submitted by the SF Unity Map Coalition, and recommended that the North of Panhandle and Haight-Ashbury neighborhoods should be included wholly within District 5.

Steven Depant-Kelani Currier; requested that the Task Force be mindful of the issue of incumbent gerrymandering during the redistricting process.

Suzy Kagami (Japantown Cultural District); requested that the Task Force retain the Western Addition and Japantown neighborhoods together in District 5, including the Japanese Community Youth Center and the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center.

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

3. Outreach Plan Update

Speakers. Virginia Marshall; shared various concerns about outreach and access to those who live in public housing. Cheryl Thornton; Mark Powell; shared various concerns with the Task Force.

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

4. Q2 Redistricting Consultants Update

Seth Neill, Redistricting Consultant (Q2 Data and Research); presented an update on the roll-out of the San Francisco Redistricting Tool, and receipt of recent mapping and community of interest definition submissions.

Speakers: Lauren Girardin (League of Women Voters San Francisco); requested that the Task Force share and make available pdf and jpeg image files for Map 1A.

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 changes to the Task Force meeting schedule offered.

Speakers: None.

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 Cooper reported that he recently met with San Francisco Rising to discuss the Community Unity Map.

Member Pierce reported that she recently met with many members of the Black and African American communities about the 1A map.

Member Hernández Gil reported that he recently met with many advocates in District 6, the East Cut Community Benefit District Board of Directors, and advocates from Chinatown to discuss redistricting matters.

Member Castillon reported that he recently met with Glen Park and Hayes Valley advocates to discuss the 1A map.

Chair Townsend reported that he recently met with Miguel Bustos from Glide and discussed redistricting.

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

7. Approval of Minutes from the March 7, 2022, Meeting

Chair Townsend inquired whether any Member had any corrections to the Minutes of the March 7, 2022, regular Meeting of the Redistricting Task Force.

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

John Carroll, Clerk, indicated he would make a correction to the Task Force Member Reports agenda item on the March 7, 2022 Minutes, and make other clerical changes.

Member Pierce, seconded by Member Castillon, moved that the March 7, 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

8. General Public Comment

Speakers: Jen Tse (League of Women Voters San Francisco); requested that the Task Force have a discussion about the Voting Rights Act; Madison Tam; requested that the Task Force include the areas south of Sloat Boulevard in District 4.

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

9. Future Agenda Items

There were no Future Agenda Items offered.

Speakers: None.

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

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Redistricting Task Force adjourned at the hour of 9:04 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.