



Redistricting Commission City of San José MINUTES

<https://sanjoseca.zoom.us/j/92742607814>

6:00 PM

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Present: Chair- Teresa Alvarado; Members- Jonathan Bruns, Enedina Cardenas, Daisy Castro, Andrew Ditlevsen, B J Fadem, Ramon Martinez, Freddie W. Sidbury Jr., Lenka Wright

Absent: Sylvia Alvarez, Kaitlyn Tran

Staff: Paul Mitchell, Redistricting Partners; Megan Roche, Legislative Secretary; Toni J. Taber, City Clerk; Mark Vanni, Senior Deputy City Attorney

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Days

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Fadem and seconded by Commissioner Wright, the Commission moved to accept the Orders of the Day. (9-0-2; Absent: Alvarez, Tran)

II. Public Record- None

III. Consent Calendar

a) Approve Redistricting Commission Minutes.

Public Comment: Blair Beekman appreciated the Commission's ability to ask more refined questions that build upon the more fundamental topics that previous Commissions have addressed.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Bruns and seconded by Commissioner Martinez, the Commission moved to adopt the Redistricting Commission minutes from March 18, 2021. (9-0-2; Absent: Alvarez, Tran)

IV. Reports & Information

V. Public Hearing- None

VI. Old Business- None

VII. New Business

a) Workshop on Redistricting Process

Paul Michell, Owner of Redistricting Partners and Consultant to the Redistricting Commission, provided an overview of the Redistricting Process and answered questions from Commissioners.

Public Comment: Paul Soto noted the historical redlining of San José that created concentrated populations, voting blocs, and leveraged power, which he emphasized should play a critical part in the Redistricting Commission's decisions. A caller with the phone number ending in 5140 suggested that the City replace the redistricting effort with alternate foci. Blair Beekman called attention to the lack of federal oversight for certain voting districts and questioned how the transfer of power from the federal to state level can be made more seamless.

VIII. Public Comment

1. Paul Soto called for the rectification of historical redlining in San José that deprived those affected of both due process of law and equal protection under the law.
2. Blair Beekman highlighted the possibility of an upcoming natural disaster in the Bay Area.
3. A caller with the phone number ending in 5140 believed that the City should focus its efforts on bettering the community and voiced support for those that share their opinions through the public commenting process.

IX. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

The Chair confirmed that a discussion on community engagement and timelining will be included in the next meeting. The next Redistricting Commission meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2021.

X. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 8:02 p.m.


Megan Roche (5/25/2021)
Email: megan.roche@sanjoseca.gov


Teresa Alvarado (5/24/2021)
Email: [REDACTED]

Prepared by:
Megan Roche, Deputy City Clerk

Teresa Alvarado
Chair, Redistricting Commission