### MINUTES CITY OF PASADENA REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE JANUARY 9, 2002 7:00 P.M.

# Special Meeting Cleveland Elementary School Auditorium 524 Palisade Street

Chair Crowfoot called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. and welcomed all public participants.

Members Present: Gilbert Cadena, Chair Bill Crowfoot, Vannia de la Cuba, James

DeBose, Jean Owen, Timothy Wendler

Members Absent: Michael Coppess

Marguerite Hougasian Richard McDonald

Staff Present:

Scott Rasmussen, Assistant City Attorney

Jane Rodriguez, City Clerk

David Ely, Redistricting Consultant

### INTRODUCTION OF REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF

Chair Crowfoot introduced himself, noted that Member Coppess had an excused absence due to attending a Planning Commission meeting, and the next community forum meeting would be conducted at Villa Parke Auditorium in Spanish with English translation.

The Chair introduced City staff, staff from Valencia, Perez & Echeveste, and Mr. David Ely, Redistricting Consultant.

Members of the public Ms. Pixie Boyden and Ms. Adrienne DeVine introduced themselves to the Task Force.

The Task Force members introduced themselves and stated their District of representation.

### APPOINTMENT OF TASK FORCE MEMBER VANNIA DE LA CUBA AS VICE CHAIR

It was moved by Member Wendler, seconded by Member Owen, to appoint Member Vannia De la Cuba as Vice Chair to the Redistricting Task Force. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Members Coppess, Hougasian, McDonald)

## INTRODUCTION OF REDISTRICTING PROCESS AND ISSUES - REVIEW OF THREE CONCEPTUAL PLANS PREPARED BY REDISTRICTING CONSULTANT

Mr. David Ely, Redistricting Consultant, introduced himself and provided an overview of the current City Council districts. He displayed district maps, reviewed the process for redistricting, and discussed three proposed redistricting conceptual options and described rotating the districts counter clockwise and going directly across Colorado Boulevard to balance the population within the districts. He provided a power point presentation highlighting the differences in census data from 1990 and 2000 and explained a series of maps indicating breakdowns of the populations according to ethnicities, households, and votes in support of Propositions 209 and 36. In addition, he reviewed how the data was gathered for the equalization of the districts and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued concerning the changes proposed between Districts 3 and 5.

In response to a question concerning the substantive impacts of the potential options, Mr. Ely indicated that the conceptual proposals did not have a real impact on representation.

Member DeBose noted that careful attention was given, during past meetings, to ensure that there would not be any historical errors that would have negative impacts on the African-American community as occurred in past years, and as an example he indicated that the Task Force was trying to see that there would be no dissolution of representation in areas where there have been problems in the past.

In response to a question concerning analysis of characteristics to deter any potential impacts to a District if shifts would occur, Mr. Ely referenced a table noting changes in characteristics of the areas that were being moved from one district to another in the conceptual options. He noted there were no communities being moved into a district that had different characteristics than the current communities of interest. Mr. Ely stated the proposed shifts were moves that would be consistent to the overall district.

Brief discussion ensued regarding a suggestion by Member Wendler to shift the population from District 3 into District 5, which would be more of a vertical slice rather than the proposal of Option 1A.

Ms. Pixie Boyden, Pasadena resident, inquired if any of the options set forth would split neighborhood associations in a district, and if so, had consideration been given to shift the entire neighborhood into a district.

Chair Crowfoot indicated that the discussion concerning the matter had taken place at a previous meeting and noted that Option 1A splits the neighborhood that he lives in. He indicated there were different views pertaining to splitting the neighborhoods and some persons may have two Councilmembers representing their neighborhood and perceive it to be an advantage.

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Member Cadena noted that the Task Force had discussed the issue and it was the intent not to split any other neighborhoods that were not already split. Mr. Ely further indicated that some of the neighborhoods were already split and the proposals only modified the way the neighborhoods were currently split. He noted that none of the options were splitting any new neighborhoods. He further indicated that in Option 1A the core of the neighborhood association was being moved as a whole into District 5; in another option it was being split more, south of Villa. He stated Option 2 splits the area most thoroughly; the other two options transfer it as a whole.

Ms. Boyden inquired as to what will happen after the next meeting.

Chair Crowfoot indicated that the information will be gathered, and the Task Force will discuss the options and determine which option or scenario should be recommended to City Council. He stated it could be an option presented or another recommendation determined by the Task Force. He noted the Task Force will conduct a public meeting for the entire City and inform the public that the Task Force is prepared to make such recommendation to the City Council to allow further comment from the community.

Ms. Adrienne DeVine, Pasadena resident, commented that although the impacts may be minor, it behooves the Task Force to make as much of an effort to offer the information to the constituents. She stated that when the Task Force is ready to make the final decision, the public may attend the meetings in larger numbers and raise additional concerns that would start the process over.

Vice Chair De la Cuba provided a brief overview of some of the outreach provided to date.

Chair Crowfoot also noted there would be additional newspaper ads and articles for further outreach.

In response to a question concerning the number of people impacted by the options, Mr. Ely indicated that the least impacted option (Option 2) would be approximately 1,000 people and the maximum affected (Option 1B) was approximately 6,000 people.

Ms. DeVine inquired as to what would happen if the City did not review the district lines and what the timeframe was for completion.

Chair Crowfoot responded that the City would be out of State compliance with the law. Mr. Ely indicated that the Justice Department could take the City to Court, the Court would probably allow time for compliance prior to action, and then if still not performed, the Court would probably order its own redistricting plan.

Chair Crowfoot indicated that completion of the process was anticipated by March 2002 and the lines redrawn prior to the upcoming municipal election (in the spring of 2003).

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS

Ms. Boyden suggested the Task Force do additional outreach to the specific impacted neighborhood associations.

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Discussion ensued on outreach efforts and Task Force members expressed concerns with doing a targeted mailing to specific areas impacted by proposed changes in the proposals, as this could skew comments from the public. Assistant City Attorney Scott Rasmussen advised against doing a targeted mailing, and emphasized the need to ensure that due process was accomplished for the redistricting process.

In response to questions regarding outreach, Mr. Valencia reported on prior outreach mailings and offered to do as broad an outreach as possible through various means, such as regular mail, e-mail, community organizations, and the news media.

It was suggested there be a citywide mailing to all households, to include maps of the three proposals. It was suggested by the Chair that such mailing could be campaign-style and include language on the outside of the mailing as follows: "IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT REDISTRICTING INSIDE THAT MIGHT AFFECT YOUR PASADENA VOTING DISTRICT." Mr. Valencia stated that he and his staff would come up with some language for the mailing. In order to minimize costs, it was suggested that the mailing be on copies versus letterhead, and that Mr. Valencia coordinate with the Ann Erdman, Public Information Officer, to utilize the same mailing distribution for In Focus. The Chair requested that he and the Vice Chair have an opportunity to review the draft of the mailing prior to distribution.

Ms. Boyden commented that she believed distributing the maps would generate additional comments because it would allow someone the opportunity to review the maps prior to attending a meeting.

### COMMENTS FROM THE REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE

There were no comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 7, 2001 NOVEMBER 20, 2001 DECEMBER 11, 2001

It was moved by Member Wendler, seconded by Member DeBose, to approve the minutes as submitted. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Members Coppess, Hougasian, McDonald)

### ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting of the Task Force adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Bill Crowfoot, Chair

Redistricting Task Force

Jane Rodriguez, CMC

City Clerk

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