

**MINUTES
CITY OF PASADENA
REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE
FEBRUARY 20, 2002
7:00 P.M.**

Regular Meeting
Council Chamber, Room 247
100 N. Garfield Avenue, Pasadena

In the absence of the Chair, Vice Chair Vannia de la Cuba called the regular meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and welcomed all public participants. Vice Chair de la Cuba noted that Chair Crowfoot had been called out of town on business.

Members Present: Gilbert Cadena, Michael Coppess, James DeBose, Marguerite Hougasian, Richard McDonald, Jean Owen, Timothy Wendler, Vice Chair Vannia de la Cuba

Members Absent: Chair Bill Crowfoot

Staff Present: David Ely, Redistricting Consultant
Scott Rasmussen, Assistant City Attorney
Jane Rodriguez, City Clerk
Kayleen Maya-Aviles, Outreach Consultant

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 18, 2002

It was moved by Member McDonald, seconded by Member Coppess, to approve the January 18, 2002 minutes as submitted. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Chair Crowfoot)

SELECTION OF REDISTRICTING PLAN(S) TO RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL

Mr. David Ely, Redistricting Consultant, noted at the last meeting the Task Force had instructed him to focus on Options 1-A and 1-D and try and deal with some of the issues discussed relative to the Garfield Heights area, the Lake Avenue Congregational Church area, and the Madison Oakland Neighborhood Association (MONA) area. He reported that he had met with Task Force members Cadena and Wendler and Options 1-E and 1-F were generated as a result. In addition, Mr. Ely reported he had also had a conversation with the District 3 Councilmember, and Option 1-G is a result of the conversation with the Councilmember. Mr. Ely reported that Councilmember Holden

had expressed an interest in having most of the District 3 population changes be in the area north of Washington.

Mr. Ely provided an overview of the various options. He responded to questions and confirmed that Options 1-E and 1-F were based on Task Force direction last week to build new proposals based on Options 1-A and 1-D. He noted Options 1-E and 1-F were not radically different from Option 1-A which was presented earlier to the public, and these options basically move the same neighborhoods presented in earlier proposals to the public, with the exception of one block on Garfield Avenue between Mountain and Orange Grove. Mr. Ely expressed the opinion that the changes in the new proposals fit within the framework of earlier discussions and would not necessitate additional public forums beyond the one scheduled for March 6th.

It was moved by Member McDonald, seconded by Member Cadena, to adopt Option 1-F.

Member Coppess expressed concern that Option 1-F includes a variant in the border between Districts 5 and 2 that has not been seen prior to this evening, and voiced opposition to the border change in the Wilson/Catalina area just north of Colorado. He advocated for keeping the border for this area as it currently exists and is reflected in Options 1-A and 1-D.

Mr. Ely corrected his earlier statement and noted one additional area that had not been presented in earlier proposals was the two-block area between Wilson and Catalina adjacent to Colorado Boulevard, being moved from District 5 into District 2.

Discussion ensued regarding the redistricting process and concern with presenting new changes that had not been discussed earlier or directed by the Task Force.

With consent of the maker of the motion, Member Coppess amended the main motion, to recommend Option 1-F to the City Council, with the exception that the border between Districts 2 and 5 be the same as depicted in Options 1-A and 1-D, including the Michigan move.

Member Cadena suggested the Task Force consider just adding the additional population (of approximately 155 people) to District 5 and not change the current Michigan Avenue line to Mar Vista (between Mountain and Orange Grove) as depicted in Options 1-A and 1-D. Member Cadena noted that by leaving the Michigan Avenue border where it currently stands today (as depicted in Option 1-F), and not moving the small Catalina/Wilson area adjacent to Colorado into District 2 (as proposed in Member Coppess' amended motion), the population deviation would still be within legally permissible deviations.

Member McDonald, with consent of the seconder Member Cadena, and with consent of Member Coppess who amended the main motion, provided a substitute motion: "That the Task Force recommend Option 1-F to the City Council, as revised without the

Catalina/Wilson border change north of Colorado Boulevard.” It was clarified that with the pending substitute motion, the District 2 & 5 border on Michigan Avenue (between Mountain and Orange Grove) would remain as it currently exists (as depicted in Option 1-F).

Mr. Ely noted that with the pending substitute motion, the population deviation in District 2 would be approximately 2 ½ percent, and this should not be a legal problem. Assistant City Attorney Scott Rasmussen concurred with Mr. Ely.

Member McDonald noted that the pending motion builds off of Task Force direction of the prior meeting, as well as all the public forums, evidence, and testimony received from the public, and is consistent with the overall procedural direction that we have undertaken since the Task Force began.

Mr. Ely calculated the District 2 population, after moving the small Catalina/Wilson area back into District 5, would be 487 under populated, or a 2.5% deviation. He noted that the most populous district is 1.9% over, and the total deviation between top and bottom is a little over 4.5%, which is within legal requirements.

Mr. Rasmussen noted the Task Force is abiding by case law and what the courts have permitted under “one person, one vote”. He noted the Task Force has tried to keep a deviation of 2%, that this deviation is a few decimal points above 2%, and is within an acceptable range.

Member McDonald noted that the people who are now represented by the Councilmember in District 5 will keep that same representation. He noted one factor the Task Force has considered is continuity.

Vote on the motion, as amended:

AYES: Members Cadena, Coppess, DeBose, Hougasian, McDonald, Owen,
Wendler, Vice Chair de la Cuba

NOES: None

ABSENT: Chair Crowfoot

DISCUSSION OF PROCESS TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A FINAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Discussion ensued concerning the preparation of the agenda report to be submitted to the City Council. Vice Chair de la Cuba indicated Chair Crowfoot would work with Mr. Ely in the preparation of the agenda report to Council.

Mr. Ely indicated that he had a lot of data for the preparation of the report.

Member McDonald expressed his appreciation to Mr. David Ely with gathering the information received from the Task Force at the previous meeting and presenting a good plan. He requested that staff and Mr. Ely work with Mr. Rasmussen to ensure that

all of the legal pieces were included in the report for Council's record when the plan was adopted.

Vice Chair de la Cuba requested that the Task Force have the opportunity to review the report prior to the report being submitted to the City Council.

Ms. Jane Rodriguez, City Clerk, indicated that the Outreach Consultant would be preparing a citywide mailing to each household publicizing the upcoming meeting on March 6, and noted it would include a map of the proposal approved this evening.

Ms. Kayleen Aviles-Maya, Outreach Consultant, provided an overview of the household mailer and noted it would be sent to approximately 60,000 households. She noted that due to budget constraints the mailer would be in black and white.

Ms. Rodriguez noted that the March 6, 2002 Redistricting Task Force meeting would be televised live.

Member McDonald noted that the purpose of the March 6 meeting is to receive direct testimony on the specific plan chosen and find out if there were any strong public objections to the plan prior to sending it to Council.

COMMENTS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS

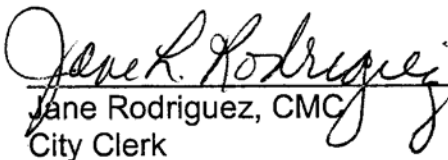
There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting of the Task Force adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



Bill Crowfoot, Chair
Redistricting Task Force



Jane Rodriguez, CMC
City Clerk

JR:v:\DATA\REDISTIC\FEB-20MIN