



Public comment for 2.9.21 meeting of LA City Council Redistricting Meeting

Carolina Goodman <carolina.goodman@sbcglobal.net>
To: Oscar Ixco <oscar.ixco@lacity.org>, alex.whitehead@lacity.org

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Dear Oscar and Alex,

The agenda describes how people can call in or raise their hand during zoom, but not how to submit written comment. Thank you for listing your email addresses. This must be the way to submit written comment. Please see below.

— Carolina Goodman

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I'm Carolina Goodman with the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles, making public comment on items 2 & 4.

Item 2 - We want to thank the ex parte subcommittee for the thoughtful discussion at their January 26 meeting. It will be helpful to have another opportunity for disclosure at the end of each meeting.

During the discussion on banning ex parte communication, concerns were raised that such a ban could interfere with community outreach. As you know, the State Redistricting Commission has a ban on ex parte communication. State Commissioners are NOT prevented from doing the important community outreach, so very necessary to gain citizen participation. The state Commission has established an outreach plan, and created materials, for Commissioners to reach out and connect to any group who will invite them. In fact, such meetings have already taken place.

The following are helpful links:

- The exact language of the State Commission's rule on ex parte communication. https://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/64/2011/04/voters_first_act.pdf

(3) Commission members and staff may not communicate with or receive communications about redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public hearing. This paragraph does not prohibit communication between commission members, staff, legal counsel, and consultants retained by the commission that is otherwise permitted by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act or its successor outside of a public hearing.

- The specific outreach zones which Commissioners are covering. <https://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/64/2021/01/12-CRC-2020-Zones-Map-1.11.21.pdf>
- The speaker request form. https://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/64/2021/02/6_CRC-Process-for-Scheduling-Redistricting-Basics-Presentations_DRAFT.pdf
- The short form of their presentation. https://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/64/2021/01/15H_CRC-2020-Redistricting-Basics-Short-Final.pdf
- And the long form of their presentation. https://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/64/2021/01/15H_CRC-2020-Redistricting-Basics-Long-Final.pdf

Tonight you will be voting on the resolution regarding ex parte communication, please consider adapting these materials for the LA City Redistricting Commission and amending the ex parte resolution to include a complete ban as the State Commission has done. The rule reads simply: "Commission members and staff may not communicate with or receive communications about redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public hearing. This does not prohibit communication between commission members, staff, legal counsel, and consultants retained by the commission that is otherwise permitted by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act or its successor outside of a public hearing."

Item 4 - Map drawing won't start until the census data is delivered to the City. However, outreach and education can take place now. Last week, State Commissioners met with Mi Familia Vota in the Central Valley. Two more meetings are set this month with the National Association of Latino Elected Officials and with the California Business Roundtable. <https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/calendar>
The State Commission will begin holding public hearings and taking testimony from people about their neighborhoods and communities of interest starting in June. The more information you get ahead of the census data the better. <https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/timeline>

Thank you for your continued efforts to create a redistricting process that is independent, transparent, and accessible.