

**LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 19, 2020**

|                  |                  |                  |                     |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Members Present: | Fred Ali (Chair) | Rocky Delgadillo | Paloma Perez-McEvoy |
|                  | Edward Anderson  | Sonja Diaz       | Richard Polanco     |
|                  | Elissa Barrett   | Andrew Garsten   | Michele Prichard    |
|                  | Charisse Bremond | David Hyun       | Liz Saldivar        |
|                  | Maria Brenes     | Richard Katz     | Valerie Lynne Shaw  |
|                  | Cecilia Cabello  | Nam Le           | Michele Siqueiros   |
|                  | Denis Cagna      | Carlos Moreno    | Michael Woo         |

Meeting called to order at 3:00 PM.

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**Roll Call, Swearing-In of Commissioners, and Election of a Temporary Chair**

The Commissioners introduced themselves and noted which City office appointed them, respectively. All Commissioners were noted as present. The City Clerk, Holly Wolcott, swore in the Commissioners.

The Commission held an election of the temporary Chair of the Commission. CM Fred Ali was nominated. A verbal vote was called, and Mr. Ali was elected temporary Chair.

**Multiple Agenda Item Comments**

The Commission took public comment.

**Items Noticed for Public Hearing**

Item No. (1) Presentation by the City Attorney relative to California Open Government Laws: The Ralph M. Brown Act, California Public Records Act, Conflicts of Interest, Ex Parte Communication Disclosure rules, and other open government laws

The City Attorney provided a presentation relative to California Open Government Laws: The Ralph M. Brown Act, California Public Records Act, Conflicts of Interest, Ex Parte Communication Disclosure rules, and other open government laws.

Tanea Ysaguirre described meeting requirements relative to the Ralph M. Brown Act, including what gatherings would qualify as an official Commission meeting and thus would require public involvement, and when communications must be made public. The Commission must post an agenda at least 72 hours in advance for a regular meeting.

Strefan Fauble discussed the California Public Records Act, outlining when and how certain Commission records should be made available to the public, by request. These requests can be made in any communicable way, and must be responded to by the receiving entity with a reasonably diligent search. Mr. Fauble explained that communications made between Commissioners in any format must be disclosed, including personal emails, text messages, etc.

Harit Trevidi explained Conflict of Interest issues, and specifically Commissioner or their family member having a personal or financial interest in any decision made by the Commission. The Commissioners will fill out Form 700, which should help identify conflicts, but not all conflicts may be covered by this form.

Commissioners with any concern regarding Conflict of Interest issues should contact the City Attorney to determine if a recusal is necessary.

Mr. Trevidi also discussed Ex Parte Communications. Any communication between a Commissioner and an elected official of the City regarding a matter pending before this Commission must be disclosed to the public. Any meeting already made public, or under attorney-client privilege, are exempt from this requirement.

The Commission discussed the need for public access to the meetings. This meeting was held without video transmission to the public due to technical limitations that are currently being resolved. Commissioners noted the need for public access to the video of the meeting, as well as additional access options and translation services.

Item No. (2) Presentation by the Chief Legislative Analyst relative to the Commission purpose and intent, pursuant to the Los Angeles City Charter Section 204, historical Commission information, discuss the timeline for Commission to prepare and present a City Council District Plan and administrative steps including hiring of Executive Director, office location, data issues

Oscar Ixco of the Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) provided a report relative to the Commission purpose and intent, pursuant to the Los Angeles City Charter Section 204, historical Commission information, discuss the timeline for Commission to prepare and present a City Council District Plan and administrative steps including hiring of Executive Director, office location, and data issues.

The City is required to provide redraw district boundaries for the City Council every ten years following the decennial U.S. Census. The Commission will redraw the boundaries and submit plans to the City Council for review and adoption. As it relates to the redistricting schedule, the County has informed the City Clerk that the City must provide revised district boundaries for the City Council no later than December 9, 2021. In addition, the State passed SB970 (Umberg), which has moved the State's primary election dates in non-presidential years from March to June.

Alex Whitehead (CLA) provided an update on the redistricting timeline. The City Charter would normally require that redistricting ordinances be completed in full by October 2021. This would have required Commissioners to deliver their redistricting proposals in April 2021 to give Council proper time to consider proposed plans prior to approval. However, due to delays caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, the Census Bureau has announced that they expect to release 2020 Census data by the end of March 2021. Under the original timeline, this would have left redistricting Commissions less than a month to consider the data and provide proposals to Council. The passage of SB970 (Umberg) provides additional time for completion of City redistricting plans. The revised timeline now allows for the Commissions to deliver their proposals to Council in June 2021, with final ordinance approval on December 8, 2021.

John Wickham (CLA) noted, however, that it had just been announced that there are concerns regarding the March 2021 Census data receipt date due to technical issues with the raw data. Mr. Wickham stated that the Commission may need to rely on less extensive data sources than is typical, but would have access to the PF94 file, as well as reports from the American Community Survey.

Mr. Wickham discussed the Commission process for appointing an Executive Director. The Commissioners will evaluate a job description and send their notes to staff, who will post the job description for candidates. The Commission will either allow the Chair to review, or will appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to review, candidate resumes and interviews, and select an Executive Director for appointment.

Item No. (3) Discussion and adoption of a regular Commission meeting schedule

The Commission discussed the adoption of a regular Commission meeting schedule. Commissioners expressed the need for a regular meeting schedule to allow public knowledge and participation, and during hours that would allow the public the most likely ability to participate in the redistricting process. CMs also expressed a desire for public town hall meetings, but were advised by staff of the health issues related to the COVID pandemic, and the potential restrictions on these gatherings. The Commission voted to set a regular schedule moving forward. Staff will coordinate with Commissioners to find the most appropriate time.

Item No. (4) Discussion of future agenda items

The Commission discussed future agenda items. Noted items were the hiring of the Executive Director and potential Ad Hoc Committee formation, the establishment of public speaking rules, translation services, a report on how COVID restrictions might affect public outreach, an education session on redistricting best practices, a discussion on the leadership structure of the Commission. The Commission voted to allow the Chair to establish an agenda for the next meeting with the redistricting staff. The Commission were reminded to complete their Form 700.

Meeting adjourned.