MINUTES CITY OF PASADENA REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE FEBRUARY 6, 2002 7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting
City Hall Council Chamber
100 North Garfield Avenue, Pasadena

Vice Chair de la Cuba called the regular meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

Members Present: Gilbert Cadena, Michael Coppess, Vannia de la Cuba, James

DeBose (arrived 7:33 p.m.), Marguerite Hougasian, Richard

McDonald, Jean Owen, Timothy Wendler (arrived 7:24 p.m.)

Member Absent:

Chair Bill Crowfoot

Staff Present:

Prentice Deadrick, Assistant City Manager

Scott Rasmussen, Assistant City Attorney

Jane Rodriguez, City Clerk

David Ely, Redistricting Consultant Manuel Valencia, Outreach Consultant

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

COMMENTS FROM THE REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE

Vice Chair de la Cuba announced that Chair Crowfoot was absent as he was out of the country.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Coppess, seconded by Member McDonald, to approve the minutes of January 9, 2002, as submitted. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Members DeBose, Wendler, Chair Crowfoot)

REVIEW OF RESULTS FROM THE COMMUNITY FORUM MEETINGS

Vice Chair de la Cuba called the Task Force members' attention to the draft minutes of the special meeting of January 18, 2002 at the Villa Parke Auditorium.

Task Force members discussed public reactions to the proposed redistricting options which had been presented at the various community forums; noted there seemed to

have been more concerns expressed about the process, rather than the proposed options; and pointed out the benefits of soliciting public comments in a variety of community settings.

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

Vice Chair de la Cuba noted that three additional options/plans had been distributed for consideration in conjunction with those options which had been presented and discussed at previous meetings.

Assistant City Attorney Scott Rasmussen confirmed that the Task Force could discuss all of the redistricting plans without selecting one or more options for consideration by the City Council.

Mr. David Ely, Redistricting Consultant, conducted a Powerpoint presentation of the three "new" options and commented on the options previously presented; and briefly reviewed the related data handouts on the District-by-District distribution of listed factors. Mr. Ely noted the proposals' attempts to consolidate neighborhoods and square up District boundaries; and responded to questions regarding the different features of the options, and the rationales for the various proposed boundaries. He noted that the three "new" options were modifications of the options which had already been presented in the community forums; that all proposals were well within an acceptable legal limit of 10% in population deviation and ranged within a statistical target of ± 2%; and that it would be helpful if the Task Force's discussions during this meeting could result in some consensus for producing a plan for final consideration. He clarified that projected population increases/new developments could be considered in terms of patterns of representation or character of a neighborhood, but could not be used for analytical purposes regarding population.

Mr. Manuel Valencia, Outreach Consultant, also commented on the rationales and guidelines for development of the options.

Discussion followed on the consideration of alterations in the District boundaries involving the Colorado Boulevard guideline; on the benefits of containing neighborhood associations within one District; on the possible effects on neighborhoods and population distributions of new construction in the freeway area; on the demographic changes which might result in Districts where populations have been shifted in the proposals; and on the guideline to maintain the integrity of neighborhoods having a common community of interest within each District.

Task Force members and the Consultant explored additional changes to the proposals based on the Task Force members' preferences and suggestions. Discussion continued on the population shifts which would be required and in which Districts to achieve the legal mandate for population deviation; on the impacts of new developments, trends in Districts' ethnic and economic characteristics, and effects of voter registration and participation in elections; on the level of community participation

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and input during the redistricting process up to this time; and on the preferences to keep neighborhood associations as a block, maintain the Colorado Boulevard guideline, smooth the District boundaries with the least amount of impact to existing neighborhoods, and resolve population shifts between Districts 3 and 5.

Assistant City Attorney Scott Rasmussen stated that motions regarding the current consensus reached by the Task Force regarding directions to be given to the Consultant would clarify the record and move the process forward.

It was moved by Member McDonald, seconded by Member Cadena, to focus the Task Force's attention on Options 1A and 1D presented by the Task Force Consultant, as a basis to develop a Task Force recommendation to be presented to Council, and to adopt a process to instruct the Consultant on how to provide a work product for consideration at the Task Force meeting of February 20, 2002.

It was moved by Member Wendler to amend the motion to include the criteria of keeping the Mountain/Oakland Neighborhood Association in District 3. The maker of the motion declined to amend the motion. (Motion died for lack of a second)

The pending motion by Member McDonald carried, with Member Wendler abstaining. (Absent: Chair Crowfoot)

It was moved by Member McDonald, seconded by Member Coppess, to provide instructions to the Task Force Consultant based on a methodology of discussing and arriving at a consensus of Task Force members on the issues and allowing Task Force members of the affected Districts to confer with the Consultant regarding changes in their Districts. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Chair Crowfoot)

It was moved by Member McDonald, seconded by Member Cadena, to direct the Task Force Consultant to use Options 1A and 1D to reconcile the issues of: (1) locating the entire Madison/Oakland Neighborhood Association (MONA) in District 3; (2) locating the Garfield Heights Neighborhood Association in District 3; (3) locating the Church/Villa Gardens area in District 5; and (4) equalizing the resulting population shifts within Districts 3 and 5. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Chair Crowfoot)

CONSIDERATION OF SCHEDULING A COMMUNITY MEETING ON THE TASK FORCE'S RECOMMENDED REDISTRICTING PLAN(S)

- Outreach
- Budget

Discussion followed on the scheduling of a community meeting to present the Task Force's recommended redistricting plan for discussion.

City Clerk Jane Rodriguez advised the Task Force that a televised meeting had been included in the budget; discussed the planning and operations logistics for televising a

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meeting; and indicated the Outreach Consultant could produce a household mailing for all residents to present the proposed redistricting map prior to the televised meeting.

Mr. Manuel Valencia, Outreach Consultant, described elements of an outreach program which could be initiated when the Task Force deliberation process had been concluded and a recommended redistricting plan had been approved; and discussed the use of local media in disbursing information on the process and plan.

Discussion followed on the process for arriving at a recommendation for a redistricting plan to be presented to the public and the Council, the possible problems in using a return postcard to solicit public opinion in favor/opposition to the proposed plan, and the format for the televised meeting.

City Clerk Jane Rodriguez confirmed that translation services would be available for the community meeting.

It was moved by Member McDonald, seconded by Member Cadena, to: (1) direct the Consultant to return to the February 20, 2002 meeting with a revised plan/proposal for consideration by the Task Force; (2) adopt a plan for recommendation during the February 20 meeting; (3) present and discuss the recommended plan in a televised meeting in the Council Chamber on March 6; and (4) deliberate on all public comment and materials at the Task Force meeting on March 6 and adopt a proposed redistricting plan to be sent to City Council for their consideration and approval, or direct that the plan be reworked for deliberation and adoption at a regular Task Force meeting on March 20. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Chair Crowfoot)

CONSIDERATION OF TASK FORCE WORKPLAN TO SUBMIT A FINAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Assistant City Attorney Scott Rasmussen outlined the steps in preparing the written materials for the agenda report which would be presented to the City Council.

Brief discussion followed on the roles and levels of involvement of the Chair and Task Force members in the preparation of these materials. Mr. Rasmussen noted Staff would work with the Task Force Chair to prepare a final report.

The regular meeting of the Task Force adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Bill Crowfoot, Chair

Redistricting Task Force

Jan∉ L. Rodriguez

City Clerk