



# CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE AGENDA

City Council Chambers  
3300 Newport Boulevard  
Newport Beach, California 92658

Thursday, July 21, 2011  
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

***Committee Members:***

Council Member Steven Rosansky, Chair  
Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Gardner  
Council Member Keith Curry

***Staff Members:***

Patrick Alford, Planning Manager  
Dan Campagnolo, Systems & Administration Manager  
Michael Torres, Deputy City Attorney

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I. **ROLL CALL**

II. **CURRENT BUSINESS**

1. **Approve June 30, 2011 meeting minutes**
2. **Review potential Council District configurations**
3. **Schedule next meeting**

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Public comments are invited on non-agenda items generally considered to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee. Speakers must limit comments to three (3) minutes. Before speaking, please state your name for the record.*

IV. **ADJOURNMENT**

This committee is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Committee's agenda be posted at least 72 hours in advance of each meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Committee and items not on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee. The Committee may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally either three (3) or five (5) minutes per person.

It is the intention of the City of Newport Beach to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City of Newport Beach will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact Patrick Alford, Planning Manager, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to inform the City of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible (949-644-3235 or palford@newportbeachca.gov).

City Council Redistricting Committee  
Meeting Notes

June 30, 2011  
4:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers

PRESENT: Council Member Steven Rosansky, Chairman  
Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Gardner  
Council Member Keith Curry

STAFF: Daniel Campagnolo, Systems and Administration Manager  
Michael Torres, Deputy City Attorney  
Patrick Alford, Planning Manager

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

I. Adopt agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

II. Introductions

Chairman Rosansky welcomed the public to the first meeting of the Committee.

After introductions by Committee members and staff, Chairman Rosansky explained that the City Charter requires realignment of the districts every ten years. He explained that the districts are unbalanced due to annexations. He then outlined his goals for the redistricting:

- Each district with a population of approximately 12,000 people
- Avoid breaking up neighborhoods
- Maintain the current geography of the existing districts as much as possible

In response to a question from the public regarding the goal of redistricting, Deputy City Attorney Torres explained that both the City Charter and the State Elections Code require redistricting efforts to focus on the goal of promoting districts with equal populations and geographic area; however, other factors, such as communities of interest, can be considered.

III. Explanation of methodology

Mr. Campagnolo gave a presentation on staff's approach to the project. He pointed out that with the Census 2010 data, the populations of Districts 4 and 6 are out of proportion with the other districts. He added that staff sought to maintain a commonality of interests and respect the boundaries of community associations and General Plan

Statistical Areas. He then presented maps illustrating two options. He stated that Option 1 provided districts with populations that were close to the 12,000-person target; while Option 2 provided a better alignment of district boundaries, but with wider population deviations.

#### IV. Review of potential Council district configurations

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner asked what would happen under Option 2 if the Coronado Apartments were placed into District 3.

Mr. Campagnolo replied that District 2 would become too small.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner noted that under Option 2, District 6 would contain most of Newport Coast. She pointed out that the smaller lots of Corona del Mar were quite different from those in the gated communities of Newport Coast.

Council Member Curry noted that District 6 would be more “Corona del Mar-centric.” He stated that he would not like to give up the Port Streets. He added that Option 1 had a better population mix and would keep the boundaries close to where they are.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner suggested that Balboa Island has more in common with the small lots in District 1 than those of District 5.

Chairman Rosansky outlined some of the other issues that Balboa Island has in common with Lido Isle.

Council Member Curry commented that he would not like to give up Harbor View Hills and parts of Corona del Mar.

Chairman Rosansky stated that the Option 2 numbers are loop-sided and that Option 1 is more balanced.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner asked if population projections were factored in, to which Mr. Campagnolo replied no.

Mr. George Schroeder made the following comments:

- Inquired as to whether the Census boundaries could be adjusted, noting that under Option 1, a portion of District 2 extends almost to Newport Pier.
- Questioned the appropriateness of placing Balboa Island in District 1.
- Suggested adding Harbor Cove and Park Newport to District 3.

Chairman Rosansky directed staff to make available blank base maps with population data and invited the public to submit their redistricting suggestions to staff.

Mr. Robert Rush asked how many meetings were planned and when was the Committee's deadline.

Chairman Rosansky responded that there was no set number planned and Deputy City Attorney Torres added that the Committee's recommendation must be made at least six months before the next election.

Council Member Curry expressed his desire to submit the Committee's recommendation as soon as possible in deference to those considering running for Council.

Mr. Rush asked the Committee to consider other variables other than population and geography, noting that there are large blocks of non-voters residing in District 1 and 2.

Mr. Jack Woo asked the Committee to factor in the number of non-registered voters.

Council Member Curry pointed out that each Council member is elected citywide, not by district.

Mr. Scott Peotter suggested that Council Members will pay more attention to those districts with higher concentrations of registered voters.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner pointed out that the Committee cannot consider elections by district.

Chairman Rosansky expressed concern about opening the door to consideration of political party, ethnicity, income, etc.

Mr. Jim Mosher pointed out that the Charter only requires the Committee to report on the advisability of redistricting the City every ten years and suggested that the redistricting could be done at any time. He stated that the districts are only a residency requirement for candidates and that he is represented by all City Council members. He also asked if the districts have any other function.

Deputy City Attorney Torres responded that the City Charter requires the City Council to form an ad hoc committee every ten years following the national census to consider and advise on redistricting. However, the City Charter also provides the City Council with the flexibility to consider redistricting prior to ten years and allow for developments such as the annexation of territory. He added that the Environmental Quality Affairs Committee and other committees have memberships based on the districts; however, he is not aware of any requirement that financing be balanced by district.

Mr. Mosher stated that he believed that some districts are guaranteed representation on the Aviation Advisory Committee.

Mr. Dan Purcell asked if any consideration has been given to future population changes.

Chairman Rosansky responded that Newport Center, Banning Ranch, and the Airport Area are the only areas that could see significant residential development and that the timetable for those projects is not known.

Mr. Schroeder requested that the Committee only consider population and that the districts should not be gerrymandered. He repeated that his belief that Balboa Island would be the big issue.

Mr. Rush asked how "fair representation" is defined.

Deputy City Attorney Torres responded that "fair representation" is not defined in the Charter and is instead a subjective term that is guided by the State Elections Code and the City Council.

Mr. Rush stated that the districts with larger voting blocks will protect themselves from the issues in other districts. He stated that he would look into potential solutions.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner stated that the meeting was interesting and thanked the public for participating.

Council Member Curry suggested using Option 1 as a starting point.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner stated that a second meeting would be needed to consider the comments they will receive.

Chairman Rosansky invited the public to submit their comments to staff. He stated that the emphasis needs to be on population balance, maintaining neighborhoods, commonality of interests, and maintaining the geography of the existing districts as much as possible.

Council Member Curry added that staff must also avoid placing a sitting Council member out of his or her district.

Deputy City Attorney Torres pointed out that the Charter provides that redistricting will not disqualify a Council member from serving out the remainder of their term on the City Council.

V. Schedule next meeting

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

VI. Public comments

There were no additional public comments.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:20 p.m.