



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REDISTRICTING 2021

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (LA County CRC) CRC MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING – May 12, 2021 VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING NOW POSTED ON YOUTUBE:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Thai V. Le, County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission (LA County CRC) Clerk, took roll call with the following Commissioners present:

Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	Yes	Vacant

A quorum is present.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was accepted.





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4. PUBLIC COMMENT—GENERAL

This is the time for public comment on matters not on the agenda. Pursuant to state law, the Commission may not discuss or act on issues not on the meeting agenda, except that members of the Commission or staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. Staff may be asked to follow up on such items.

Public speaker comment: Terri Tippit, Chair, Westside Neighborhood Council (NC) in the City of Los Angeles spoke. She indicated that the Westside (NC) had been split between two supervisorial districts in the past and requested that this LA County CRC not do that again. If the Westside NC had a choice, it would prefer to be part of the district to its north.

Public written comment: There was one public written comment with attachments submitted and posted on the LA County CRC website: redistricting.lacounty.gov

5. CONSENT ITEMS

Items listed under the consent calendar are considered by the LA County CRC Executive Director to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion unless a Commissioner requests otherwise, in which case the item will be removed for separate consideration.

The Commissioners discussed the minutes for the April 28, 2021, LA County CRC meeting. The Commissioners made a motion and approved the minutes.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Stecher
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Saira Soto
Outcome:	Approved

Abstain	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	N.A.	Vacant

6. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Co-Chair Mayeda introduced the Agenda Items.





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6ai. Presentation(s) of Finalist(s) for RFP on Demographics & Mapping Consulting Services

– Co-Chair Williams

On the basis of the RFP criteria, the Ad Hoc Working Group – Demographics scored the three proposals received and invited two Demographics & Mapping Consulting Services finalists to present before the full LA County CRC. Each firm was given 10 minutes to present, followed by 20 minutes of structured questions from the Ad Hoc Working Group – Demographics.

The firm presenters were:

- ARCBridge Consulting & Training Inc.: Priti Mathur, Presenter, and Sam Mathur
- National Demographics Corporation (NDC): President Dr. Douglas Johnson, Vice President Dr. Justin Levitt, Consultant Kristen Parks, Consultant Jeff Simonetti, and Consultant Todd Tatum

Public speaker comments: The following individuals made 2-minute public comments (available on the recorded YouTube link provided on page 1 of these minutes):

- Henry Fung
- Jessica Pandura, Inner City Struggle
- Karen Diaz, CHIRLA
- Alejandra Ramirez-Zarate, Advancement Project CA
- Soila Rodriguez, San Fernando Valley resident
- BJ Atkins, Santa Clarita Valley resident and water districts
- Rob Quan, Unrig LA

The Commissioners then asked ARCBridge and NDC additional questions. After questioning the consulting firms, the Commissioners discussed their perceptions and assessments of both firms. A motion was made and seconded to continue the discussions at a Special Meeting to be held Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at 7:00 pm. Independent Legal Counsel Holly Whatley was asked to research both firms backgrounds pertaining to redistricting litigation, including NDC’s involvement in North Carolina. The motion passed.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Stecher
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Mayeda and Commissioner Vento
Outcome:	Approved

Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher





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Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	N.A.	Vacant

6a.iii. Presentation(s) of Finalist(s) for RFP for Voter Polarization Analysis

Co-Chair Williams requested LA County CRC Executive Director, Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, to see if the Maroon Society, Inc., could reschedule its presentation at the next regular LA County CRC meeting on May 26, 2021, at 7:00 pm. Aaron Celious, Ph.D., of Maroon Society confirmed that he could accommodate that change. This agenda item will be continued.

6B. UPDATES FROM AD HOC WORKING GROUPS – CO-CHAIR DAN MAYEDA

6bi. Discussion and Consideration of Process to Fill Vacancy on Commission – Co-Chair Mayeda

Co-Chair Mayeda explained the process of the Ad Hoc Working Group to review candidates to replace the vacancy created by former Commissioner Priya Sridharan. The Ad Hoc Working Group included Co-Chairs Mayeda and Williams and Commissioners Saira Soto, Mark Mendoza, and John Vento. This Ad Hoc Working Group developed a short list of candidates and requested Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough to survey and confirm candidates' availability/interest, continued residency in Los Angeles County, and status regarding potential conflicts of interest. On the basis of that review, three candidates were removed because of potential conflicts of interest or temporary residency gap.

Co-Chair Williams gave a brief overview of the Ad Hoc Working Group's recommendation: Mary Kenney.

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments.

The Commissioners asked questions about the process and candidates considered. They made a motion to approve Mary Kenney to fill the vacant Commissioner position. The Commissioners discussed her candidacy further. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Stecher
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Saira Soto
Outcome:	Approved

Abstain	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto





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Yes	Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong
Abstain	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	N.A.	Vacant

The Co-Chairs requested that Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough arrange for the swearing in of Mary Kenny at the Special Meeting on May 19, 2021.

6Bii. Commissioner Apolonio Morales, Leader, Ad Hoc Working Group on Public Outreach – Co-Chair Williams

Commissioner Morales provided an update the Ad Hoc Working Group – Outreach meeting with community-based organizations to receive additional feedback about outreach and scheduling public hearings.

Commissioner Holtzman raised a concern about the role of the proposed liaisons, which the Ad Hoc Working Group – Outreach will continue to explore and clarify.

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough indicated community support for the regional or “zone” approach to 10 public hearings during June, July, and August. She encouraged the Commissioners to complete the survey about their dates of availability for scheduling those public hearings.

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments.

6Biii. Commissioner David Holtzman, Leader, Legislation and Updates on Other Redistricting Commissions – Co-Chair Mayeda

Commissioner David Holtzman gave a brief update.

- He mentioned that one of the bidders interviewed earlier during the meeting (National Demographics Corporation [NDC]) had been hired by the County of Santa Barbara Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission, and that hiring had been controversial and reconsidered. NDC has remained as the commission’s demographic consultant.
- He mentioned that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission held its first in-person public hearing in Jackson, MI. It took 3 hours for 70 people at the hearing to give comments (not everybody stuck to the 2-minute limit).
- SB 564, the bill that may provide the LA County CRC some deadline relief, was headed to the State Senate floor on the consent calendar and, as amended, still would not provide the LA County CRC any substantive relief.





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- Karin Mac Donald of the Statewide Database (SWDB) recently estimated that the official redistricting database prepared by SWDB would be released on September 23rd.

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments.

6biv. Commissioner Mark Mendoza, Leader, Education

Commissioner Mendoza presented a roster of a panel on the 2011 Border Redistricting Committee (BRC) lessons learned for May 26, 2021.

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D., provided a brief update requesting that Commissioners complete the survey on available dates as soon as possible for scheduling the 10 public hearings for June through August 2021.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Co-Chair Mayeda adjourned the meeting at 10:21 p.m.

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To provide written public comment, you can: [Click Here](#) or go to: <https://PublicComment.Redistricting.gov>

