



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REDISTRICTING 2021

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (LA County CRC) CRC MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING – June 9, 2021 VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING NOW POSTED ON YOUTUBE:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER

Thai V. Le, County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission (LA County CRC) Clerk, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Thai V. Le took roll call. A quorum is present:

Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner Mary Kenney	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

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was accepted.

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 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: All public comments are recorded and posted on YouTube; the following of individuals spoke:





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- Monica Marquez, League of Women Voters, provided suggestions on how to provide useful information for the public on the LA County CRC website.
- Chris Rowe, former West Hills Neighborhood Council member, is split between Supervisorial Districts 3 and 5; she would prefer that the West Hills and Westend of the San Fernando Valley not be divided and linked to Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys. She suspects that there are 2 million people in the San Fernando Valley alone.
- Margo Reeg, Second Vice President, League of Women Voters, provided suggestions for how the LA County CRC can promote communities of interest (COIs) better in flyers and promotional materials. She also asked about available mapping tools.
- Maria Skelton, President, Democrats of Neighborhood Action, wanted to know when commissioners are available to speak at community meetings.

Public written comment: There was one public written comment submitted and posted to the CRC website as part of this meeting’s information.

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 May 12, 2021, LA County CRC special meeting. The Commissioners made a motion and approved the minutes.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Motion Seconded:	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Outcome:	Approved

Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner Mary Kenney	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





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The Commissioners discussed the minutes for the May 26, 2021, LA County CRC regular meeting. The Commissioners made a motion and approved the minutes.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Doreena Wong
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Outcome:	Approved

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

6. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Co-Chair Mayeda introduced the Agenda Items.

6A. COMMISSIONER MARK MENDOZA, LEADER, EDUCATION – CO-CHAIR DAN MAYEDA

Co-Chair Mayeda introduced Matt A. Barreto, Professor of Political Science & Chicana/o and Central American Studies, UCLA, and Director of UCLA Voting Rights Project, who spoke on analysis of racially polarized voting.

Public speaker comment:

- Alejandra Ramirez-Zarate, Advancement Project, asked Professor Barreto’s opinion on coalition districts.
- Chris Rowe appreciated the presentation and wanted to see Slide 37 with the San Fernando Valley displayed and its large minority population.

After Dr. Barreto’s presentation and request for public comment, the Commissioners each had an opportunity to ask Professor Barreto questions.





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6B. UPDATES FROM AD HOC WORKING GROUPS

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

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, LA County CRC Executive Director, provided an overview of the upcoming public hearings. She also pointed out that the materials for the outreach toolkit are translated into the County's 12 threshold languages and posted on the LA County CRC website for helping to get the word out.

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough showed a Google Form that Thai V. Le designed for the public to use in lieu of "speaker cards," normally handed out for in-person meetings. The Google Form allows public hearing attendees to share their perspectives on their communities of interest (COIs) and indicate if they would like to speak or not. The Google Form is in both English and Spanish: <https://forms.gle/2SDZSxEuKNZ3ZU1KA> Thai V. Le can compile the information for each public hearing and, at the conclusion of the 10 public hearings, compile the COI input across the 10 zones.

Thai V. Le showed a GIS mapping tool that can be used during public hearings to help bring clarification if questions arise regarding locations being discussed.

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough also went through the key milestones for the coming months in terms of the release of the County's mapping software and training on the use of the mapping software, starting in late July. Once the software is available, the public can begin preparing redistricting maps for the Commission's consideration in the Fall.

Commissioner Holtzman suggested that the LA County CRC might want to begin in-person meetings sooner and questioned if the public hearings might be better done in the districts. Co-Chair Mayeda pointed out the challenges in finding sites that are open and can handle the size of the Commission.

Independent Legal Counsel, Holly Whatley, explained that the Senate Bill requires that the public hearings be held in the supervisorial districts "...to the greatest extent practicable." The Executive Director's efforts to find facilities has been challenging that so far have made scheduling in-person public hearings impracticable. Furthermore, the site-based public hearings were proposed to avoid the public having to travel downtown; the virtual model reduces the need for the public to travel. She indicated that the LA County CRC is "...legally on solid ground."

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments.

The Commissioners had no further questions.





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6Bi. Commissioner Apolonio Morales, Leader, Ad Hoc Working Group on Public Outreach – Co-Chair Williams (continued)

Commissioner Morales reinforced the importance of Commissioners attending the public hearings and helping to spread the word about them. The Los Angeles City CRC has prepared a tentative schedule with two of their public hearings on August 7, 2021, which conflicts with the established schedule of the LA County CRC's public hearing that day. Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough has contacted the LA City CRC to see if they can adjust their schedule; several community-based organizations are also asking the LA City CRC to change their schedule since the LA County CRC coordinated our schedule with the California CRC and has already issued our dates. Otherwise, this matter will be discussed further at the next LA County CRC Ad Hoc Working – Outreach meeting.

Public speaker comment: Chris Rowe pointed out that some candidates have declared they are running for office without knowing the new districts.

6Bii. Commissioner Mark Mendoza, Leader, Education – Co-Chair Dan Mayeda (continued)

Commissioner Mendoza indicated that his Ad Hoc Work Group continues to welcome input from other Commissioners regarding what other topics they would like to have addressed.

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments.

The Commissioners had no further questions.

6Biii. Commissioners Brian Stecher and John Vento, Co-Leaders, Demography – Co-Chair Carolyn Williams

The Co-Leaders are planning the next steps for the Ad Hoc Working Group – Demography, including initial meetings with ARCBridge and the Los Angeles County Internal Services Department (ISD).

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments.

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

Commissioner Holtzman provided the following updates:

- **Ad Hoc Working Group assignments.** The members of the Ad Hoc Working Group are focusing on different CRCs as point persons:
 - Commissioner Kenney on California CRC.





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- Commissioner Stecher on Santa Barbara County Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission (CIRC)
- Commissioner Holtzman on San Diego IRC and State of Michigan redistricting
- **California CRC:** Is calling their public hearings – COI public input meetings; have established outreach zones similar to LA County CRC. Suggested that the LA County CRC consider including “COI public input” in our title for public hearings. The State is only taking COI input by telephone; the public can sign up for telephone time slots.
- **San Diego IRC.** The San Diego IRC has stationery. The San Diego IRC offered to come up with amendment language for the timeline for the legislature but has nothing to report yet. Commissioner Holtzman may draft language if the San Diego IRC does not respond soon. This Ad Hoc Working Group would like outreach to legislators (if needed) to be a Commission-wide, not just an Ad Hoc Working Group, effort. To that end, Commissioner Holtzman asked all Commissioners to let him know who their State legislators are, and which other legislators might already know them.

Co-Chair Mayeda asked that the Ad Hoc Working Group focus on best practices of other commissions.

Commissioner Kenney asked if the County of Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) might provide a final date, which would be the latest that the redistricting map could be submitted. The Executive Director agreed to reach out to the RR/CC again on that request.

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments.

The Commissioners had no further questions.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

There was none.

9. CLOSED SESSION – HOLLY WHATLEY, ESQ.

Conference with Legal Counsel; Anticipated Litigation: Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2)





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Holly Whatley indicated that a point has been reached where, in the opinion of the Commission on the advice of its independent legal counsel, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the Commission.

The Commission will announce if any reportable actions are taken at the next regular meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, June 23, 2021.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Co-Chair Mayeda adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

To sign up for receiving future LA County CRC notices, go to: redistricting.lacounty.gov

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

To submit input to the public hearings, including signing up for speaking before the Commission, go to: <https://forms.gle/2SDZSxEuKNZ3ZU1KA>

