



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REDISTRICTING 2021

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (LA County CRC)

**CRC MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING:
Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 6:30 pm**

VIDEO FILES FOR ENTIRE MEETING POSTED IN TWO PARTS AT:

[PART I: CLICK HERE](#)

[PART II: CLICK HERE](#)

Agenda

AGENDA ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

Thai V. Le, Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission (LA County CRC) Clerk, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

[LA County CRC's Resolution No. 2021-01](#) enables the Commission to meet virtually in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the Commission may continue to teleconference its meeting without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953 because of COVID- 19 pandemic and health issues.

Thai V. Le took roll call. A quorum was 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

AGENDA ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA – CO-CHAIR CAROLYN WILLIAMS

The agenda was accepted with no changes. Co-Chair Carolyn Williams pointed out that the Commission may not get to Agenda Item 5b, depending on discussions pertaining to Agenda Item 5a.





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AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL – CO-CHAIR CAROLYN WILLIAMS

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 Commissioners or staff members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. Staff may be asked to follow up on such items.

Public comment – see recordings on “VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING POSTED” at the start of the minutes:

1. Chris Rowe

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5a. Update and Discussion of Maps Submitted by the public and LA CRC Commissioners, Including Potentially Requesting Drafters of Certain Maps to Present at Future Meeting(s) and Hearing Presentations from Map Drafters Invited Earlier— Co-Chairs Daniel Mayeda and Carolyn Williams

Priti Mathur of ARCBridge presented her updated evaluation model of the maps. She identified the following maps by tiers:

Top Tier: 24/35 points	014, 015, 017, 025
23/35 points	0026
22/35 points	004, 008, 018, 027
Low Tier	001, 002, 020, 0021

The Commissioners asked questions of clarification, following a round robin format.

Public comment – see recordings on “VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING POSTED” at the start of the minutes:

1. David Pedersen, Las Virgenes Municipal Water district
2. Melanie Winter, Director, The River Project
3. Lucy Demirjian, City of South Pasadena
4. Tim Sanchez, Latinos for Fair Presentation

Following a round robin format, the Commissioners critiqued the ARCBridge evaluation model and expressed a lack of confidence in it, although they would like to have metrics for comparing maps. Commissioner David Holtzman wanted to discard the evaluation. Commissioner Mary Kenney pointed out that the COI Models are alternatives and should not be scored individually. Commissioners Apolonio Morales, Saira Soto, and Doreena Wong, and Co-Chair Carolyn Williams wanted CVAP metrics. Thai V. Le, Clerk/GIS Expert, agreed to calculate CVAP and Total Population calculations for all submitted maps.





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Commissioner Doreena Wong wanted the MALDEF and People’s Bloc maps to be evaluated. ARCBridge offered to import and evaluate their maps. Other Commissioners weighed in.

Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda pointed out that once the Commissioners select map options – which can be more than 3 options – they can be further refined during the November public hearings. The map makers can be invited to present their maps at that time.

Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda asked each Commissioner to describe what were their most important considerations when evaluating maps. They cited:

Commissioners’ Priorities or Considerations

- Kept SGV together (Map 15)
- CVAP & VAP – preserve minority majority districts; ethnic representation
- Wants 1-2 minority majority districts (plus opportunity districts for Asians and African Americans) (Map 2, 18, 22)
- Kept COIs whole (Map 27); kept Long Beach SE LA together
- Compact; avoid geographic spread of the districts: end-to-end (e.g., Santa Clarita to the east end of SGV; Pacific coast to Pomona); visually compact
- Innovation; doesn’t divide the county in same way as in the past (e.g., pie maps (Map 015), Map 006, Map 018))
- Kept SFV together although conflicting testimony about splitting SFV (Map 004)
- Coalition maps (MALDEF, People’s Bloc, Map 016) – expected more group maps
- Be mindful that new SDs are improvements over the current SDs
- Does not view current SD as “broken;” rebalance population; make something better; integrity of cities
- Maps that did not split cities – kept them whole
- Clearly identify 87 cities and CSAs within LA City
- Avoid racial/ethnic dilution or divided – African American, Asian populations not split up too much
- North County: Not enough people in SCV and AV to form a SD; implications for Antelope Valley
- Kept NE LA, ELA, SE LA, Lynwood together
- Challenge of keeping SGV and SFV together, given populations in North County





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Commissioners' Priorities or Considerations

- MALDEF and People's Bloc maps because they are from community-based organizations, but should be imported into the Esri software so they can be reviewed more carefully
- How unincorporated areas handled
- Implications for Santa Monica Mountains
- Does not like the southern "U" in the county (Palos Verdes and along SE border of the county)
- Hard for a supervisor to relate to concerns of southern border of SD 5
- Resource reallocations to areas in greater need of them
- Important to separate central core working class areas of the San Fernando Valley (SFV) from the surrounding higher class areas considered part of SFV

Commissioner David Holtzman expressed concerns with the use of RDUs. He went on to suggest concerns that the commission might be in violation of the law by no longer providing a database in software for redistricting that includes U.S. Census blocks, block groups, and tracts.

Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda disagreed with him, RDUs are built on the U.S. Census U.S. Census blocks, block groups, and tracts. He outlined the process for deciding to use the 3,000 RDUs versus the 90,000 census blocks that do not take into consideration city and unincorporated boundaries. He reinforced that the RDUs are in compliance with the law (Cal. Elec. Code § 21534(c)(7): "The board shall take all steps necessary to ensure that a complete and accurate computerized database is available for redistricting...." He added that the public has access to the same datasets that the commission will be using to draw maps.

Commissioner Mary Kenney added that the RDUs are the basis for County departments to deliver services to residents, so it is a useful building block for drawing districts. She also noted that using RDUs make it easier to keep cities and neighborhoods together.

5b. Discussion and Possible Approval of Draft Maps and/or Direction to ARCBridge to Develop Draft Maps for Upcoming Public Hearings—Co-Chairs Daniel Mayeda and Carolyn Williams

This Agenda Item has been deferred to the next meeting.





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5c. Continued discussion relevant bylaws and possible approval of a bylaws amendment or a media policy for the LA County CRC — Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda

This Agenda Item is a continuation from the October 20, 2021, meeting. At that time, Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda introduced proposed amendments to the bylaws. Bylaws Section 4.08 pertains to Communications. Co-Chair Mayeda suggested that the words “or predictions” be added to the Bylaws under (c)(2).



Bylaws Section 4.08 Communications

b) Representing the Commission. The Co-Chairs are the only official spokespersons for the Commission unless this responsibility is delegated in writing by the Co-Chairs or by a vote of nine (9) Commissioners. Except as provided in this paragraph, no Commissioner shall make any statement or take any action taken on behalf of or in the name of the Commission. This does not prevent Commissioners from disseminating information in the name of the Commission regarding the time, place, or agendas of upcoming Commission meetings or hearings.

c) Communications Outside of Open Meetings or Hearings.

c.2) Prohibition Regarding All Other Parties. Except during a public meeting, workshop or hearing, a Commissioner shall not intentionally communicate with a member of the public, organization, or interest group regarding the specific placement or predictions of supervisorial district boundaries in Los Angeles County. A commissioner shall promptly summarize and report any such communication that arises unintentionally to the Clerk of the Commission. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as prohibiting a Commissioner from communicating outside of a public meeting, workshop or hearing with a member of the public, an organization, or an interest group regarding best practices, accessibility, education, and outreach.

c.3) Reporting Requirement for Other Communications. Except during a public meeting, workshop, or hearing, if a Commissioner directly communicates with anyone other than another Commissioner, LA County CRC staff, legal counsel, consultants retained by the Commission or experts to learn about general redistricting principles, regarding a redistricting matter that might come before the Commission other than the specific placement of district boundaries (which is covered in subparagraph (2) above), the Commissioner shall promptly forward originals or copies of all involved written or electronic communications to the Clerk of the Commission. For unrecorded verbal or other communication, a Commissioner shall promptly prepare a written summary of the communication and transmit the summary to the Clerk.

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Co-Chair Mayeda indicated that e) under Bylaws Section 4.08 addresses “Internet/Social Media,” but not other forms of communication. The proposed revision to e) is:



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CURRENT BYLAW LANGUAGE

e) Internet/Social Media. Commissioners should keep in mind the provisions of Section 4.04 and are encouraged to use caution when communicating about redistricting on any internet platform or social media website, including the use of any digital icons that express emotion.

PROPOSED DRAFT REVISED MEDIA POLICY LANGUAGE

e) ~~Internet/Social Media~~ Media. Commissioners should keep in mind the provisions of Section 4.04 and are encouraged to use caution when communicating about redistricting on ~~any internet platform or social media website, including the use of any digital icons that express emotion.~~ **all media platforms. Non-interactive media examples are television, newspapers, magazines, and radio. Particular caution should be exercised in the use of interactive media, such as social media, virtual reality, electronic newspapers, electronic newsletters and bulletins, blogs, and apps** including the use of any digital icons that express emotion.

Public Comment: None

The Commissioners had no further discussion. A motion was made, seconded, and passed.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Mark Mendoza
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

AGENDA ITEM 6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GAYLA KRAETSCH HARTSOUGH, PH.D.

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough reminded the Commissioners of the tight timeline. She advised the Commissioners to plan on meeting every Wednesday evening up until December 15 with the earliest possible date for the launch of the public hearings as November 5.





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AGENDA ITEM 7. ADJOURNMENT – CO-CHAIR DANIEL MAYEDA

Co-Chair Mayeda adjourned the meeting at 9:49 p.m.

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

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

