

Public Commission Hearing GMT Jan 19th, 2022.

okay member of the public do you have any comments?

We have Mr Yanez joining us

Mr Yanez do you have anything to contribute? You have 3 minute time limit. I'm hearing nothing let's go to number 4 consent items okay hear bells consider approving the minutes from citizens districting commission community outreach workshop and special meeting on January 8th 2022. Do I hear a motion?

Move for adoption Maria?

Second?

I second.

do we have any additional discussion on the changes? okay hearing none. move to approve all those in favor say aye

aye

aye

aye

aye

we need to, because this is a remote meeting we have to do a roll call vote.

okay let's go to a roll call. Aron

aye

Seth

Aye

Maria

Aye

Marsha

Aye

Nancy

Aye

okay we have a quorum, minutes approved

thank you

any new business?

Okay let's go to the public hearing part. Jessica I'll let you take over on this point.

So at this point we are going to start the public hearing Port item we've done a number of community outreach workshops in meetings until in the stage of this process is we have some draft mapped out for review they were approved to be released on the 8th at our special meeting of January 8th they were released on the website and they've been out for review and now we are going to be able to discuss the draft maps and get directions on how to move forward in this process and Liz, our Consultant, is going to go ahead present the draft map presentation.

hey Marshall glad to see you. Hi Marshall. Sorry for the late

okay so this is going to look very similar to last time I will be presenting the maps again to you all but this time I'm hoping to get a conversation with you all. Should even stay today's date I apologized so this should be a conversation with you all on what you think of the maps what don't you like what do you like and hopefully we'll get members of the public to comment as well because this is all available online hopefully the public has an opinion on it because we would love to hear it so this is the California fair map act requirement that we use to guide the redistricting process you all are familiar with it and this is also in City Charter so these are the traditional redistricting principles that we used to guide the mouse that were created today that will be going over today so relatively equal in size and we're talking about US Census population data next each district has to be contiguous that means it has to be one whole piece and you can drive with one line maintain communities of Interest so a pivotal role in this process to make sure that we aren't diluting the voices of communities next we want to follow City and census-designated place boundaries when practicable so this includes things like school districts water districts potentially just looking at other lines to help justify different divisions and then finally keep districts compact we want to make sure we're not bypassing a nearby population for more distant one and then because this is the citizens District in commission this is very focused on getting the Public's input on the redistricting process so what we have done getting input the goal is to get input from the community to drive this process rules for the process emphasizes the importance of traditional criteria and minimizing divisions of neighborhoods that includes a traditional criteria that I just went over and then releasing them Maps so we have gotten some community of Interest forms just quick summary was very family-oriented community of interest and then highlighting the need for affordable housing Community Resources among the community we have gotten at least one District our submission this one you'll notice 5.9 deviation so under 10% but it would need to be a little fixed to make sure that it's contiguous because this would need to be connected so there and was just that if I can try man briefly there's been a couple other submissions as well from community members I think there are two more that have been submitted in the past couple days thank you for highlighting that and so these are the maps that we are working with today again this is an iterative process so I by no means expect these to be the final Maps so please feel free to rip them apart if you don't like them or highlight what you do like but you want changes so this is what we have for the current lines there is no lyrics you all at this point total deviation is 7.5 so we're in good shape it's under 10% what we're really looking for from the community is input on how they would want the maps to be changed so draft Map A is it was created as a minimal change plan so it was created to decrease the total deviation and I'll go over that those changes so this is what Draft Plan A looks like it's very similar to the current lines total deviation is 5.1 compared to the 7.5 of

the city has right now and then this is what it looks like with the current lines overlay so you'll see the changes up here so there are four spot in particular were the district changes and then Map B. So this one is a little more different this deviation is 4.4. give me a moment to pull up my notes, I left it on a different screen. here it is, sharing, one second please. okay so with this plan the whole theme behind everything is to continue to use the current districts as a starting point. the current districts as a starting point but then focus on United neighborhood than using major thoroughfares as the new borders so under the next slide and you'll see that the changes aren't that different from the current lines but the La Loma and Scenic are used for the borders between D2 D3 and D4 this keeps La Loma together and the neighborhoods north of Scenic unified Ruth Avenue becomes the major border running through North South through the east side of town and becomes the border between D3 D4 D5 in D6 and then other highlights include D1 which has no changes, downtown remains unified or united with south Modesto and D2, portions of West Modesto west of Highway 99 remain united with central Modesto as well. and then we have Map C so you'll see this is the most different out of all of them it creates essentially a western portion District so most notably the Latino see that remains over 50% for all three districts our excuse me all three plans including this one even when we change District to physical structure so it remains 58.7 so they will not be losing their voting power during elections the Latino population in District 2 and then it's a total deviation of 4.7 so again it's under that 10% threshold so we are in a good place here and then this is what it looks like with the current lines overlay you'll see major difference in District 2. I mean 5 lost a little piece but gained a little piece of six up here or lost a little bit here and a little change here but the bulk of the change is District 2.

So now is your chance to continue to ask questions talk about what you like and what you don't like and open it up to the public for them to comments as well but what I'm hoping to get from you all is an idea of your preferred plan or plans so we can narrow it down and then focus on changing the maps to how you think it best represents the City of Modesto so suggest possible changes provides directions for next time so we'll update the draft maps and get them back to you by next week and of course there are any map submitted on District or between now and when you all are finalizing the maps to get opted if there are any Districts or plans that you like you can always request in these meetings to have a district or plan uplifted and included as a draft map, so I want to make sure that everyone's aware that there could be a new draft map, so that being said I would love to open it up and hear what you all have to say and I'm happy to go back to any Maps if you want to take a look at it again.

So Liz just to make sure, this is Jessica, the additional map that you showed that was on Districter since we do have a couple more can you go share those or should we share those Saturday it might have came in after you prepared the the PowerPoint it might have come in after

I didn't include the drafts or the districter ones that were created by Commissioners typically I don't unless you want me to. I'm happy to do so but I really want to highlight the public and what they draw.

so you presented, 'keeping the historical neighborhoods'?

Yes.

Okay. excellent thank you.

If we wanted to just do a review Commissioner Crowsie's map, really they symbolize mostly population, she was evening out, some of it was left out. so it may need to be tweaked a little bit. they are on Districter so they can be reviewed there.

no further do we have any further discussion on the maps any preference do you all want to, basically just go to Districter take a look at everything that's there and think about them and just as Jessica said discussing on Saturday.

I mean today is the day to start discussion because Saturday is an additional day to keep discussing for anybody that possibly couldn't make it tonight but you know we want to leave that open as an option for others you know for citizens to participate but tonight we should really start the discussion they were released, you know, last week and they've been out and we need to kind of start doing a process of elimination a little bit what do we like about them you know be purposeful you know how do we want to move forward in and you know knowing that we're going to get community input at our next couple meetings too so we kind of need to just start the conversation at least.

okay Aaron I know you have some ideas, comments, it's in the past so I don't know if you particularly feel strongly about anything again I might from my perspective there hasn't been significant changes so nothing that throws up any red flags for me just that one dangling chad back down there and District 4 that's the only thing that's a little concerned other than that.

I'm looking at plan C where you're splitting the Westside neighborhood north of Kansas and that's the districted near proposed boundary and I don't like that because I live in that area and all of the kids around there go to Martone. And then District 2 would give up downtown instead in exchange for half of the west side north of Kansas. I think splitting the west side like that is not a good idea, north of Kansas and losing downtown to District 2. I'd rather keep downtown to District 2 than add the west side portion west of the 99. and then the airport, the other one. I thought we had one where the airport was given to District 2. Today I didn't see one that way.

Commissioner that's Plan B, on slide 18. You'll see over here on the screen. 4 dips down here and picks up the downtown area.

I don't see the black lines on that one

Slide 21 has the black lines that show the airport district

Okay I see it now. That one is my personal preference in getting the airport, getting the airport in District 2. But I see a corner there south of La Loma, between Yosemite and La Loma. That corner, I'm not sure of you splitting that neighborhood there.

Let me pull up a URL map so I can check. So B your preferred map?

Yes, except that we need to discuss whether or not the boundaries should be at La Loma because south of La Loma, some of those houses are also kind of go together with north of La Loma, where the park and the creek. Probably east of the creek is fine, as a line. That's what I'm worried about is that little corner.

Let me share my screen, and you'll probably have to navigate me

I have it open on Districter if you'd like me to share my screen.

Yes please. All the draft maps are on districter so anyone can go now and look at the differences on the very easy to use districter.

So here is where you're referring to, here is the river, or the creek.

Yeah, and I think that taking and splitting south of La Loma there might not be a good idea, because houses north and south of La loma kind of go together in that neighborhood, they have Wilson elementary I think it is, around where Kansas is?

Yes Wilson Elementary is in that area

I wonder what happens if fashion keeping that corner in district 4 and make the boundary around there.

So Aron, to be clear, your suggestion is that the boundary for district 2 end here?

Yes the creek.

Can you point me to the street name?

The dry creek bed, do you see that house right there at the creek bed off Scenic?

Yes.

That would be where I would be where the boundary should be right there.

Alright

I do want to say we might be losing too much population by doing that, but we will try our best to accommodate that. It might not go that far back, but we will try to keep that elementary school with 4.

Yeah, that whole neighborhood goes together. If you see how it goes to the creek, where it says miller ave, that neighborhood goes together. Even though la loma goes through there. That's like the "la loma neighborhood"

Yeah and that is a community of interest so we would want to keep it together as much as we can.

So real quick this airport neighborhood here is not yellow. Confirming Plan B is included in District 2 in Districter

Yes it should be.

Would that balance the numbers potentially?

It would come closer wouldn't it?

It would come closer, yes. I need to check in with my tech people, because that should be in with district 2.

I like that this tree is at Rose, Rose becomes the boundary. That looks good. I suppose from before it used to be that little corner into district 4 but now you make it straight.

This is Commissioner Wagner I agree that B at least in the 4, 5, and 6 area makes it with Rose ave straight up and down makes it enough of a thoroughfare I think where one side of the street in one district with the other side in the other district is fine. I'm, not familiar enough with the situations in the

gold area where Manny was talking about moving them over in the green area, whether those streets are using a creek bed, I'm assuming there are no houses that are going to be on either side.

Commissioner Wagner I'm a little unclear as to where you are referring to. Can you please maybe tell me some street names.

Well when Manny was talking about moving the division in the gold area over, its making sure that that dry creek doesn't really have, I know on a map it could seem like theres nothing really there, but it could be that there are houses really close together. I don't know the topography of that particular section.

Just over the la loma bridge or miller or whatever it is there are houses pretty close together behind the old hospital and west.

I wonder if that little corner by downy should be in the gold area, and the gold would lose the right of the creek.

So if I am understanding correctly the creek will be the boundary and go all the way up to downy to take 5 corners here and come back.

Yes, to the gold area or the blue, I don't know what would be better. But it looks like the neighborhood there, and downy and J street, they kind of all go together.

Got it. And I do want to note that we do have a member of the public with us, a Mr. Yanez, if you don't mind can we go to public comment to see if there are any additional comments for map B then we can proceed if there are any additional comments on Map C

Absolutely, Do you have any comments, I believe it is a Mr. Yanez?

Mr. Yanez you can indicate whether you have a comment by raising your hand at the bottom of the screen.

Mr. Yanez: I do not have any comments.

Excilent, thank you.

Edgar, if you're able, could you just draw those 2 districts real quick in Districter, and we can just post them and keep the record. Cause Liz was going to do the same thing anyways, but we could at least figure out the boundaries here so theres no confusion.

I can go ahead and do that and have that by Saturday, but I don't know if we want to take the meeting time with that.

Liz could you do that real quick?

On Disctricter, yes let me just pull that up.

Mr. Yanez did I interrupt you

No I just wanted to mention that I did agree with Commissioner Wagner and Commissioner Umbreano about plan B and plan C. Im not in favor of Plan C. I am more in favor of plan B, especially based on the questions that have been questions that have been made. I am curious as to what the total deviation will be and I like plan be because of the lower deviation as well.

I agree.

Great Comment.

It seems the airport will be a little island but its still an island right now in district 4. I guess that's the way it is. They say the airport identifies itself better with the south of Modesto than the north part of Yosemite.

So my districter is not working for whatever reason on my computer so I'm pulling up our actual fancy software so it might take a couple minutes just to get up on the screen.

While we have a couple minutes if we're going into pretty big detail in the La Loma area to make sure that it stays together, are there any other areas we should focus in on and make sure with the change that we're not breaking anything up with any of the other smaller changes?

That's a great question

I don't recall any significant changes really except those that border 3 and 2. The other ones would be so small as to be almost irrelevant.

I'll just chime in here. It appears to me here that the changes made in plan B, Commissioner Riddle, are associated with district 2, district 3, and district 4 only. So that would be that Downey area, airport neighborhood, downtown area, no changes are made, and Liz correct me if I'm wrong, to districts 1, 5 and 6 in plan B.

That sounds right

So I guess the only part I'm looking at is that border between 3 and 4 where it looks like a few blocks that changed nothing to kind of focusing on there then the few blocks between 3, 4, and 2 um I actually I'm looking at between 3 and 4 just under 5 and 6 so kind of the northeast corner of Three that where three and four kind of changed over a little bit

yeah we should look at the URL commissioner rental I'm pulling it up now can you point me to what you're referring to while we wait for her software to go up and running. Let me go ahead and share my screen just to address the concern, can you point me to where you're referring to?

Yeah if you go up to that I'm going to look at it the map at the same time so it would be would be the east of Rose Avenue between Avenue and Oakdale yes its just looks a handful of blocks that have switched places. When I'm looking at the overlay of the lines on the the current districts in the the presentation and I'm just making sure that there was nothing we were breaking up there on.

I mean I'd assume it's probably fine but just since we're taking the time on that other section just make sure we're not breaking up anything important in that that area.

you said east of Rose Avenue?

yeah so I'm looking at the plan B on the slide

real quick Edgar if you go to the existing slide with the black line overlay and then maybe go to the URL at last slide 21 I'm looking at that one myself so that's what you talking about heading there now.

I apologize it looks like my technology is not cooperating with me tonight so I can definitely do some live drawing on Saturday but yeah I don't think my computer's operating I'm sorry

I think we can help you work on that for Saturday.

commissioner riddle confirm you can see my screen.

yes right there where you have your mouse just that section that your switching over just making sure that there's nothing you know to zero in and if anybody knows if there's anything we'd be kind of breaking up there or if you know it makes sense to move that.

yeah absolutely

I believe this is, without seeing the the names of the streets there, I believe that's Rose Avenue.

So what what's the East-West Road?

Briggsmore I believe.

Yeah that's what I assumed. We have brown ave school right there on rose, near Rose and Coffee. that we would probably want to keep them the same district around where it is now if it's grows out I mean it is the school if it's north of Briggsmore, if it's south of Briggsmore it's not Coleman Brown

Coleman is on Celeste right I'm almost positive that the city that the Briggsmore Street divides between Modesto city and sylvan. or it did, it used to. I dont know if it's changed.

I think it still does for the most part.

Rose avenue schools on rose way down in the south way down with scenic but it does encompass both sides of rose ave in terms of attendance. so that might be the reason why the corner may be part of the attendance area.

We may not be able to carve out perfectly as long as we don't cut out any of the cohesive groups, I think as far as rose ave school i think its fairly equal on both sides.

If I may, getting us to the section here it looks like this small section that's in your PowerPoint that's identified as being cut out of District 3 and being put into district for based on your PowerPoint is not reflected in Districter.

and that is which one?

This is map B. at the intersection of these four districts between 5, 6, 3, and 4 and you're looking for, this area here that is split based on slide 21 in the PowerPoint as noted by the colors here looks like it's not the districition is not made in Districter so it's a bit hard to tell but I think we can kind of walk through it I believe it's this pocket here that is being the small neighborhood. we've it's this pocket here that is being, this small neighborhood. so I in the new map, map B being proposed that neighborhood isn't in there in the previous Map, it had the little cut out to go there is that. Correct right?

yeah I felt so here's what you're saying and Districter, let me go to the PowerPoint now just so you can see them back to back and Edgar I have the URL up of the current lines so I can compare both of them side-by-side they can see exactly let me just fix my screen real fast okay so here we have oh no.

That's Map B correct?

This is Plan A and then I have plan B next to it I though I had, give me one second. I thought I had. I definitely. I have so many Maps you guys.

so planning is a minimal change so this wouldn't have changed. this is what the current lines would have and then this is Plan B. so it took off from Wylie drive down here

what's the name of the drive

Wylie drive

and then Road comes out here and then Sharon wood and then down Orangeburg and then up here so this area is what was taken out and put into I believe that's for North End as Briggsmore right.

area on the corner of Wylie and Rose there is a school what are the implications of moving that school to another District

I mean not much it really depends on how involved the community is around the school when they prefer to remain with District 3

I mean I would want to hear from community members on what it would mean for them to move from District three to district 4

just that again that Rose Avenue basically splits the school there are students on either side right so either way they're going to have it put to supervisor I mean, excuse me, to council members working for them

can I get my point looking at it wasn't to say that we have to go either way it was more just stay with moving that was there a reason it was kind of carved out you know initially or was it just going to happen stance and it's not a big deal.

Kind of switch between districts let me look at the notes really fast. so Rose Avenue becomes the major border running North and South it doesn't expand more than that. I think it was to sort of clean that up and make this shape and also population difference right so my assumption would be to adjust the population you done it before

there's a good chance that the reason it has that little carve-out is because they just needed to add a little population into the other one will release their the change and let the community give us their opinion and we'll find out if they really like we splitting anything or just thought it was unlikely what you call the population to even it out

you know some of the comments that have been submitted that I've read, they really don't deal with specific necessarily areas more very, very general comments but I think there're pretty homogeneous in terms of across the city everybody has the same concerns interest etcetera but they're not necessarily specific to an area in terms of wants or needs besides you know quiet Streets, crime, etcetera, so I don't know how much I'll wait and see for sure but I don't know how much fuss that will get. you're not breaking up or area that's just a commentary on my part

I would agree with you commissioner because I think everybody is fairly happy with their District I think it's more in general the way they want the Modesto City to go or what they feel are the benefits in there

and the reasons why Modesto is doing what it's doing so to me Plan B still looks like the one that is changing slightly but it's cleaning up some of the lines and I don't think it's going to necessarily cause a general uproar with the people who are being affected from those lines being changed.

now we're going to have additional comments available time available once we decide on a recommended that redistricting redistrict map so that is really probably when we'll hear more concern. many right I think that once we posted with the changes they probably can give us more Direction. So, we don't have any additional public comments I'm assuming so with that I'm going to close the public hearing.

well hold on one second okay I don't think we should close it right Alex we're still discussing Maps?

well is there any other comments? It sounds like there's no additional comment from the Public you could close the public hearing and if you want move on to the next item if you're done providing feedback to staff

me the only other additional and this could go into her directions to staff is again the comment that was made about providing that on Saturday and I can't remember, Jessica we're still going to be remote right on Zoom?

Yes.

So we close out I'm closing up the a public hearing. directions to staff besides Liz. anything else?

okay next time, just to be clear, the direction to staff and Liz is to come back Saturday or next week, Depending on time, See how fast we can get these changes to you with the recommended changes to plan B that we talked about just now.

so next steps and future meeting dates and we discuss the past plan meeting dates any changes Jessica?

Nope still virtual agenda is on the website all updated information is on the website and that should be it if you have any questions my contact information

did I hear someone want to make a comment?

I just I was looking at a District 4 on the side I just anyone know also why south of Briggsmore and between 4 and 6 that Corner is in District Six and not in District 4? I just wondering if we just let the population or a newer neighborhood?

Which one?

map B, the east corner of district 4, south of Briggsmore it's in district 6 is there a reason why its in district 6 besides equalizing the population.

I believe that is there for equalization, but I will double check that and get back to you on Saturday.

Okay so number eight matters too late for the agenda anything else anyone would like to add

I did just want to mention actually on item 7 next steps in future meeting date February 3rd which is Thursday monthly meeting I have open house that night and it will either be virtual or in person not sure

yet and I was just wondering is it possible to change our meeting to a different day or should i just simply miss that meeting. I don't know how important that meeting will be.

So timing wise that meeting we will be determining the recommended map that you want to send to council in march but if the commission is amendable to changing the date I can see what works within the time frames and maybe do something on Wednesday if Liz and other staff and commission is available.

Is there any other date that interferes the class?

No that was just the main school official duty is on February 3rd. if it is possible to move it to February 2nd which is a Wednesday or at a different time I would appreciate it.

Okay let me work on that.

What is the time of your open house?

It is probably around 6. Is it 2 hour slot or only an hour.

The details have yet to be released.

Oh. In the past for open houses, have they been a 2 hour time slot or 1 hour time slot.

I think about 1 hour.

So I was wondering whether it could be switched time wise to accommodate you on that date if another date is not available.

Let me check my meeting notes.

Also just a reminder and for anyone listening from the public if you have questions please check the website. if you are spreading the word please direct people to the website. all current information is there, the schedules, the agendas, minutes. if anyone has any questions please feel free to contact me.

Any other comments or questions. I know Jessica you're going to do further research on possibly changing the February third date.

Yes I can look into that.

I have an answer to a question. the border line between 6 and 4 and that last B. that's the same exact border that the city has now.

Okay. Good answer.

Anyways, unless there are any further comments. We stand Adjourned. thank you everyone.

thank you.

See you on Saturday.