



PUBLIC MAP INFORMATION

4 messages

Scott Rafferty [REDACTED]
To: "Candice K. Lee" [REDACTED] districting@covinaca.gov
Cc: Christopher Marcarello [REDACTED]

Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 5:34 PM

I would be grateful for shapefiles or correspondence files for each of the publicly submitted maps, as well as a data file showing the CVAP values for each population unit, if that is how the charts were calculated. Although one of these maps resembles those I submitted on behalf of my clients, I do not see those two maps. Will they be posted by Nov. 13? Also, how will you deal with maps submitted by those who may have relied upon the Nov. 14 deadline stated in the staff report? Finally, is the city willing to post our letter of Dec. 6 and/or publicize the availability of the template on DavesRedistricting? I am somewhat concerned that the manner in which some of the "population units" combine blocks (and break block groups) may be an inappropriate constraint given the applicability of Section 2. It is not clear to me how members of the public can specify an election sequence at this stage. Section 10010(b) provides special consideration of CVRA purposes before the interests of incumbents. The public was not provided this standard and had no CVAP calculations or public testimony from the minority community about how sequences could affect the effectiveness of particular maps. Nor has there been a disclosure of which census blocks or population units include an incumbent, which is the secondary element for the statutory standard. At this stage, to the extent the map drawer offers a sequence, it should not disqualify the map from being considered with a different sequence.

Scott Rafferty
[REDACTED]

Nicole Alvarez

From: Kevin Stapleton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 5:46 PM
To: Nicole Alvarez; Mary Lou Walczak
Subject: 12/21/2021 City Council Agenda # PH-1

Good evening City Clerk Walczak and Chief Deputy City Clerk Alvarez

I write to express my opinion for consideration by the City Council on Agenda item PH-1, the City Council Election District matter. I am a resident of the City of Covina, and am a validly registered voter.

As I mentioned in my comments at your October meeting, I do not believe districts will accomplish the laudable goals of the legislation that encourages forcing otherwise adequately represented communities to adopt districts. Even a shallow, cursory look at our City Council proves that Covina is, and has been, a shining example of representative government. I understand that our City is in the districting cross hairs, so to speak. I do not agree districts in Covina will accomplishing anything positive for the City or its residents. Nevertheless, to avoid a cram down resolution, I am forced to conclude that the City must adopt districts to avoid being a continuing target.

Having reviewed the public maps and the consultant maps attached to the agenda packet, it is my opinion that the City Council should adopt the Wildan Map Number 2 option. While I appreciate the efforts and the interest of the public in dealing with the question of districts, I am familiar with the work of the Wildan group and know of their comprehensive approach to reaching a recommendation for the City Council. They are, after all, experts in the field, who study all aspects of a question and then, using their expertise and knowledge, make a recommendation.

I opted for Wildan Map Number 2 because it maintains 5 member council, where those elected representatives select which among them should sit as Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem. This format is an additional protection against having an otherwise inappropriate person manage to be elected at large in Covina. The selection of the City leaders by the 5 council members allows ongoing monitoring by the council members and keeps the City Council in a position to deal with an unfortunate outcome should the need arise. I also chose Wildan Map Number 2 because it appears to provide a balance of residential and commercial interests among the districts.

Should you have any questions, I would be pleased to discuss my opinion in greater detail.

Thank you

Kevin Stapleton

Nicole Alvarez

From: Elias Aguayo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 7:58 PM
To: Nicole Alvarez
Subject: Covina Redistricting Maps

Hello Nichole,

In reference to the redistricting maps proposed for the City of Covina, I like maps #2 and #3 because of the historic areas like Adam's park, citrus packing house, Hollenbeck estate and downtown Covina. I also like the shared interest with the parks, downtown Covina businesses and future growth near metro link station.

Thank you,

Elias Aguayo

From: Irma Ramirez [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Covina City Clerk
Subject: CITY OF COVINA DISTRICTING PROCESS

To whom it may concern:

We would like to express our concerns regarding the districting process of Covina. We want to ensure that the residents voices on how our community should be split is heard and considered. While the majority of the Covina residents did not request the process, it is up to us to voice how our communities of interest are protected.

As a Covina resident for over 30 years, we are fortunate to have a city that has distinct neighborhoods each with their own character, interests, and concerns. This is what makes us proud to be a part of this city. However, we all operate as one city, striving for a high quality of life for our families. We have had the privilege of raising our boys in this community. With this in mind, I ask the Council to consider our historical neighborhoods such as the Adams Park area, the Covina Hills community, the historical packing houses, just north of the railroad, and the Ruddock Mansion area just east of San

Bernardino/Grand Avenue. I would also like to request the economic corridors be considered in creating divisions such as the Azusa Corridor, and Badillo Street.

Some of the maps submitted show these areas are considered when drawing divisions. From my perspective, I would strongly suggest that the Council consider the Wildan Map #2 or Wildan Map #3 as I believe these maps more closely reflect the concerns we have expressed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I hope that we can keep Covina moving forward in a positive direction.

Alfonso & Irma Ramirez

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Nicole Alvarez

From: Paula Hansen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 1:59 PM
To: Covina City Clerk
Subject: City Council (etc.) Meeting on 12/21/2021, concerning Agenda Item PH1: City Council Election District Public Hearing #3

Dear Mayor Marquez and esteemed City Council Members Allen, Cortez, King, and Linares --

Although aggrieved at the seeming inevitable "necessity" of carving the City of Covina into Election Districts, I am writing in support of what I believe to be the best choice for our Redistricting Map.

Willden Map Number 1 reaches across the city, largely uniting it from east to west, while considering natural boundaries like Walnut Creek and also historical ranches and areas of the community, even as it divides the city into five equally representative districts and fulfilling the requirements of the Voting Rights Act.

I believe that if we were to divide the city into just four districts, and instituted an elected at-large mayor, we would lose the cohesiveness and cooperation that is characteristic of our current City Council team. Therefore, please vote to make 5 districts instead of 4, and also please strongly consider choosing Willden Map Number 1 as the guide for selecting where to draw the Election District lines.

Thank you for your attention, for your careful consideration of my input, and for working together to move forward as seamlessly and as cooperatively as possible, for the future and benefit of the people of the City of Covina.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Paula Hansen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nicole Alvarez

From: Paula Hansen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 2:54 PM
To: Covina City Clerk
Subject: Agenda Item PH1 for tonight's Covina City Council meeting

Good evening, and thank you for hearing my input regarding tonight's agenda item #1, which is the third City Council Election District public hearing.

Ever since I first learned about the proposal to divide our city geographically into five districts, each represented by one of our city council members, I have been disheartened and resistant to the idea.

After attending the Public Hearing that was held on November 30th, however, I understand that our hands are tied in this matter, and so we had better do our utmost to draw district lines that we can live with, for a lot of years, which best represent our population, our demographics, our historic and geographical regions, and do so in an even-handed and equitable fashion.

After looking at the many proposed redistricting maps, I feel like the one which does this best is the **Willden Map Number 2** (Number 1 is also a reasonable choice), as it also reaches across the city, east to west, drawing it closer together in unity.

For what it's worth, **I also prefer representation** of the five Covina City Council members **via five districts**, and to continue our "elected from within, and serving in rotation" manner of city mayorship. I don't think that having only four electoral districts, with an at-large elected mayor would help our city council to continue to work together as a team of equals.

Thank you for taking the time to listen and consider my input.

Sincerely,

Curtis Hansen
[REDACTED]

Nicole Alvarez

From: Joan Mabee [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 3:59 PM
To: Covina City Clerk
Subject: Agenda item PH one for tonight city council election district public hearing #3

Dear Mayor Marquez and the rest of the Covina City Council, Thank you for working to get the word out on this election redistricting issue. We're sorry that we missed knowing about the previous two public hearings, but we're glad that we learned about tonight's hearing in time to read, catch up, study, and share our perspective with you tonight.

It is hard to fathom why anyone would think this redistricting idea would actually be helpful to our city, when actually it seems detrimental.

We do understand, however, the great financial loss the city would suffer in fighting what is certain to be a battle we cannot win. Therefore, our best option seems that we work together to determine the most equitable and representative districts for our citizens and our city council members, which will help us to remain united across the city and continue to work together toward its betterment.

To that end, we would like to ask you to reject the 4-districts + elected mayor model, and go with the 5 council members-5 districts model, continuing our current and time-honored practice of allowing the City Council to elect a mayor and mayor pro-tem from among themselves, positions which roll through the city council, giving each member a turn.

As for the many draft mapping proposals listed alongside tonight's meeting agenda, may we suggest that you please consider Willden Map 2 as your first choice, and Willden Map 1 as your second choice. Both maps represent our population, demographics, and geographical areas evenly -- with the added bonus on unifying the city's sense of community by reaching across the city to connect us from west to east.

Thank you for your time, and for considering our recommendations.

Sincerely,

Ron & Joanie Mabee

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nicole Alvarez

From: Mark [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 4:00 PM
To: Nicole Alvarez
Subject: Regarding Covina Districting

Hello Ms. Alvarez,

my name is Mark and I'm a resident of Covina. I just wanted to quickly reach out about the discussion of Covina's districting which I understand will be in tonight's city council meeting. I just wanted to convey that my preference is to use Map 2 and Map 3. Thanks for your time.

Kind Regards,

Mark Segura
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nicole Alvarez

From: ROSIE RICHARDSON [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 4:44 PM
To: Covina City Clerk
Subject: Covina Redistricting Comment for 12-21-2021 Meeting

Good evening Mr. Mayor and members of Council.

I would like to start off by thanking you and the City of Covina staff for your efforts and transparency through-out the Covina Redistricting Map process.

As a resident of Covina for over 32 years, having parents who resided here for over 45 years, and am now currently raising my own daughter here, I hold this community near and dear to my heart. For those who do not know, I am currently serving as Chair for the Parks and Recreation Commission, am a member of the Library Board of Trustees and am an active member in two service clubs in Covina. To say the least, my goal is to always put Covina first and ensure our families and residents are considered in all that we do.

With that being said, I strongly feel that the Willdan Map number 2 would be in the best interest of the community. Like many others, I took several things into consideration; location of landmarks, schools, parks, shopping areas and population of areas. As a resident who ventures to most areas in our community due to volunteering, I can see and hear from residents first hand where we are missing the mark. I can see where our community needs representation and see where most of these maps would fall short of just that. We need to ensure that all areas of our community are equally represented while also remembering that we are still a small town. That is why Willdan Map number 2 is the best fit for our families and community.

I thank you for your consideration and I trust that we have elected the right individuals to make these tough decisions for our community.

Warm regards,

Rosie Richardson
[REDACTED]

Nicole Alvarez

From: Maria C. [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 6:05 PM
To: Covina City Clerk
Subject: To read/submitted as public comment for Public Hearing 1

I am writing to you today to share the concerns I have regarding the districting process of Covina. I feel that is important to take the community's opinion into consideration on how our city should be divided. From what our council has witnessed at recent meetings, it is evident that the majority of Covina residents are against this process; therefore, it is imperative that we voice how our communities of interest are protected.

As a Covina resident, I consider myself fortunate to live in a city that is made up of distinct neighborhoods each with their own character, interests, and concerns. Despite the the uniqueness of each neighborhood, we all operate together, as one city, striving for a high quality of life for our families. With this in mind, I ask the Council to carefully consider our historical neighborhoods such as the Adams Park area, the Covina Hills community, the historic packing houses, just north of the railroad, and the Ruddock Mansion area just east of San Bernardino/Grand Ave. I would also like to request that economic corridors be considered in creating divisions such as the Azusa Corridor, and Badillo Street.

From my perspective, I would suggest that the Council consider the Willdan Map #2 or Willdan Map #3 as I believe these maps more closely reflect the concerns I have expressed.

Thank you for your time in considering my comments and I hope that Covina remains united as a community.