

## SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Zoom Meeting

Approved on October 12, 2022

**Commissioners Present:** Eliseo EJ Juárez, Commission Chair Patience Malaba, Rory O’Sullivan, Neelima Shah

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**Commissioners Absent:** Greg Nickels

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**Commission Staff and Guests:** Logan Drumond: Department of Neighborhoods, Elsa Batres-Boni: Department of Neighborhoods, Ariel Schneier: Assistant City Attorney, Mary Ullrich: Districting GIS Consultant, Dennis Higgins: Districting GIS Consultant

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(Transcriber’s Note: Seattle Redistricting Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript and represent key points and the basis of discussion. The recording of the meeting is available upon request.)

#### Meeting Minutes:

##### I. Call to Order

- To follow the recent amendment by Governor Inslee [House Bill 1329](#), of the Open Public Meeting Act to increase the accessibility of and participation in public meetings. This meeting was held online and in a physical location at the City of Seattle L280 Boards and Commissions Room on floor L2 at 600 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Seattle WA, 98104.
- This meeting was open to the public and was advertised through appropriate channels. The meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM once the Redistricting Commissioners had quorum.

##### II. Welcome & Housekeeping

- Reading of the agenda, welcome and land acknowledgement

##### III. Agenda Review and approval

- There were no questions or concerns from the Commissioners on today’s agenda for the 10.04.22 meeting. Commissioner O’Sullivan motioned for a vote to approve the agenda, with the change that public comment be moved after the draft map discussion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Juarez. The agenda for 10.04.22 was then passed unanimously with four yes votes, as Commissioner Greg Nickels was absent for this meeting.

##### IV. Minutes approval

- The 9.27.2022 meeting minutes were up for approval at today’s meeting. The minutes were motioned for approval by Commissioner Shah with a second from Commissioner O’Sullivan. The

9.27.22 meeting minutes were approved with three aye votes and one abstention from Commissioner Juarez. Commissioner Greg Nickels was absent for this meeting.

**V. Received Public Comment Acknowledgement**

- Commissioners acknowledged that they have reviewed the latest submitted public comments.

**VI. Conflict of Interest Disclosure**

- Commission Chair Patience Malaba disclosed that she had been contacted by Councilmember Dan Strauss, asking clarifying questions about the latest amendment changes and the Fremont/Magnolia swap.

**VII. Draft Map discussion**

- Commission Chair Malaba and Commissioner Shah both shared their proposed changes to the draft map. Descriptions of the proposed amendments and links to the maps on Dave's Redistricting App are attached below:

- **10.04.22 Commissioner Malaba Discussion Map:**

- <https://davesredistricting.org/join/4293c200-b298-4cd3-bcb4-8f15c443a477>

- Commissioner Malaba's D7/D6 Boundary starting in the SW corner in Magnolia – 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave W from Puget Sound to W Howe St; W Howe St from 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave W to 30<sup>th</sup> Ave W; 30<sup>th</sup> Ave W from W Howe St to Condon Way W; Condon Way W from 30<sup>th</sup> Ave W to W McGraw St; W McGraw St from Condon Way W to 28<sup>th</sup> Ave W; W 28<sup>th</sup> Ave from W McGraw St to W Manor Pl; W Manor Pl from 28<sup>th</sup> Ave W to 27<sup>th</sup> PI W; 27<sup>th</sup> PI W from W Manor Pl to W Emerson St; W Emerson St from 27<sup>th</sup> PI W to 15<sup>th</sup> Ave W (this does include several "easements", including a large one through the rail yard).
- The adopted amendment to the draft map boundary between D7/D6 starting in the SW Corner of Magnolia – Smith Cove from Elliott Bay to Magnolia Bridge/W Garfield St; W Garfield St from Smith Cove to 15<sup>th</sup> Ave W; 15<sup>th</sup> Ave W from W Garfield St to Lake Washington Ship Canal.
- Commissioner Malaba's D7/D6 boundary maintains the Lake Washington Ship Canal
- The Amended Map D7/D6 goes from the Lake Washington Ship Canal into Fremont – 8<sup>th</sup> Ave NW from Ship Canal to NW 45<sup>th</sup> St; NW 45<sup>th</sup> St from 8<sup>th</sup> Ave NW to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave W; 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NW from NW 45 St to N Market St; N Market St from NW 1<sup>st</sup> St to Phinney Ave N; Phinney Ave N from N Market/N 46<sup>th</sup> St to N 50<sup>th</sup> St; N 50<sup>th</sup> St from Phinney Ave N to Aurora Ave N; Aurora Ave N from N 50<sup>th</sup> St to Lake Washington Ship Canal.
- The boundaries of D7 and the adjoining districts are the same as the Amended Draft Map until you get to First Hill
- Commissioner Malaba's D7/D3 Boundary starting in the NW corner of First Hill – Borne Ave from I-5 to Pike St; Pike St from Boren Ave to Terry Ave; Terry Ave from Pike St to University St; University St from Terry Ave to 9<sup>th</sup> Ave; 9<sup>th</sup> Ave from University Street to Spring St; Spring St from 9<sup>th</sup> Ave to 8<sup>th</sup> Ave; 8<sup>th</sup> Ave from Spring St to Marion St; Marion St from 8<sup>th</sup> Ave to I-5; I-5 from Marion St to James St.
- **10.04.22 Commissioner Shah Discussion Map:** <https://davesredistricting.org/join/25614583-cb01-4b72-b0f5-3d1d4c32289c>
  - Commissioner Shah's D7/D6 Boundary starting in the SW corner in Magnolia – 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave W from Puget Sound to W Howe St; W Howe St from 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave W to 34<sup>th</sup> Ave W; 34<sup>th</sup> Ave W from W Howe St to W Barrett St; W Barrett St from 34<sup>th</sup> Ave W to 30<sup>th</sup> Ave W; 30<sup>th</sup> Ave W from W Barrett St to W Dravus St; W Dravus St from 30<sup>th</sup> Ave W to 25<sup>th</sup> Ave

W; 25<sup>th</sup> Ave W from W Dravus St to W Ruffner St; W Ruffner St from 25<sup>th</sup> Ave W to 24<sup>th</sup> Ave W; 24<sup>th</sup> Ave W from W Ruffner St to W Emerson St; W Emerson St from 24<sup>th</sup> Ave W to 15<sup>th</sup> Ave W (this does include several “easements”, including a large one through the rail yard).

- The adopted amendment to the draft map boundary between D7/D6 starting in the SW Corner of Magnolia – Smith Cove from Elliott Bay to Magnolia Bridge/W Garfield St; W Garfield St from Smith Cove to 15<sup>th</sup> Ave W; 15<sup>th</sup> Ave W from W Garfield St to Lake Washington Ship Canal.
  - Commissioner Shah’s D7/D6 boundary maintains the Lake Washington Ship Canal.
  - The Amended Map D7/D6 goes from the Lake Washington Ship Canal into Fremont – 8<sup>th</sup> Ave NW from Ship Canal to NW 45<sup>th</sup> St; NW 45<sup>th</sup> St from 8<sup>th</sup> Ave NW to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave W; 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NW from NW 45 St to N Market St; N Market St from NW 1<sup>st</sup> St to Phinney Ave N; Phinney Ave N from N Market/N 46<sup>th</sup> St to N 50<sup>th</sup> St; N 50<sup>th</sup> St from Phinney Ave N to Aurora Ave N; Aurora Ave N from N 50<sup>th</sup> St to Lake Washington Ship Canal.
  - The rest of the boundaries of D7 and the adjoining districts are the same as the Amended Draft Map.
- Redistricting Commissioners also asked that Fremont and Magnolia residents provide feedback on the following:
    - What is the official boundary line for the Fremont neighborhood?
    - What street(s) define the Magnolia neighborhood’s business district?

#### VIII. Public Comment

- **Dave Bradlee** - “I’m Dave Bradley I’ve you know lived in Seattle for over 35 years I’m in District four uh I’ve as many of you know I’ve made a lot of maps and looked at different drafts I’ve listened to a lot of the testimony so that I’m speaking for myself uh as a citizen of Seattle uh I want to First say I really appreciate the way you’ve listened to the citizens and the groups and been completely transparent through the process I mean it’s really great um and then specifically about the uh amended draft from the 27th um I support that draft uh one of the things I think is really important is the Magnolia neighborhood uh even though I’m not a resident of that it’s really one of the most separated neighborhoods from other neighborhoods because the you know the Interbay Corridor there is a pretty big divide uh to me as much of a divide as you know the Ship Canal or um some of the other there’s a you know the big divide down by West Seattle as well so I think that keeping them as a whole neighborhood you know really makes a lot of sense uh because of their separation um you know with that Interbay Corridor um so uh yeah so I support the amended draft um I think it it also specifically it does not impact negatively communities of color uh you know if you look at the demographics of the you know roughly 9 000 plus people that would be sort of swapped quote unquote between the Magnolia neighborhood and Fremont the demographics are very similar uh in terms of the you know white and other communities of color um so I do appreciate the work that redistricting justice of Seattle has done uh and you know especially with that whole uh districts one two and three uh but uh I’m really going to disagree with them I know that they want their map to that cuts Magnolia I’m really going to disagree with them because I don’t think it’s necessary to meet the goals that they have stated uh you know in in their work um you all talked a little bit about oh what all Alternatives yeah of course there are alternatives I’ve played around with them a little bit I think you know really it’s that move the clock around you know the only other

alternative that really to me is viable to keep Magnolia together would be to push District three up into you know basically University of Washington uh I know that's you know that that has its own complications and then you have to move the clock around with uh District Four so I think that's a tougher if you can make the Fremont one work so that people in Fremont are happy I really think this is uh the best alternative thank you so much."

- **Andrew Hong** - "My name is Andrew Hong I'm a one of the campaign coordinators of the Regis routine Justice for Seattle Coalition and just in response to today's meeting um I think that our Coalition would broadly support uh Malaba's proposal for the district six and seven boundary we appreciate your work to look at the rjs map and the description and the explanations for our lines um and I also want to add in that um residence of Magnolia within our Coalition also not speak on behalf of anyone in Magnolia but other folks we've talked to Magnolia uh looked at the you know obviously magnolia residents want to stay whole and we are sympathetic to those concerns but looking at the different ways that uh commit the August second commission map Magnolia versus the way that our Maps decided to set the boundary between six and seven and Magnolia um from people we've heard that the 28th Avenue boundary does a better job at keeping business district whole and intact and makes more Geographic sense with the hill that kind of goes along 28th Avenue along just kind of with pushing our position has stayed the same with wanting to pass the rjs map given that it Floyd complies with the city Charter and keeps the most number of Neighbors in there together in their neighborhoods primary District via a data analysis that we've cited many times we continue to push for the RGS map and just this past week we've had a pledge support form that has gotten almost 100 new petition signatures and that goes us to 152 total signatures showing that there's broad support across Seattle lights over 100 people engaged in this process that support the rjs's a specific map proposal um and then finally I want to add I've reviewed just now the Fremont Community council's memo and I tried to amend the commission's amended map from September 27th in order to be in one and keep all of Fremont within districts four and seven and um as the council has defined uh Fremont and you'd have to move District six into over 1500 residents in Queen Anne so splitting Queen Anne most likely in order to um keep Fremont hole in districts four and seven only so that is a note that I think that is important and is a reason why we should move with Malaba's proposed amendment to District six and seven or uh iteration of the map and finally my question is is August or October 15th still the deadline for public comment I was I think that was previously stated but I wasn't clear on that anymore."
  - City Staff responded to the public comment question, stating that public comment will be accepted up until the final draft map is filed.
- **Ann Goos** - "Forgive me for the passion that I may give on this testimony uh to clarify for commissioner Shah um Magnolia and I'm speaking now on behalf of the Magnolia chamber the Magnolia chamber represents the businesses in Magnolia um we have many business districts relatively speaking for Magnolia it goes beyond Magnolia Village please do not split us at 34th you're splitting the residence of Magnolia if you do that and I agree with the first testifier Dave who talked about the fact that Magnolia is a peninsula it's it is it is defined well by topography and geography because it is it is surrounded on three sides by water it is accessed only by Three Bridges Magnolia is easily identified by the peninsula itself um we with great Passion from the business side of Magnolia depend upon for our businesses Three Bridges to access the peninsula we've got to keep those three Bridges connected to the residents because we have direct

legislative interest in things like replacing the Magnolia Bridge and all of the development that is going to occur along Interbay and 15th Avenue West we exit an entrance only to 15th Avenue West that is it we have three bridges that connect us all three of those bridges are under plans for redevelopment by either the Port of Seattle at Pier 91 or at Fisherman's Terminal the plan by the city of Seattle for the Ballard Interbay manufacturing Industrial Center we have plans because of the 25 acre Armory by the state of Washington to develop that area that is all going to impact the ability of Magnolia to get in and out of our Peninsula and goods and services for our businesses please please if you're willing to go to meet with Fremont which we applaud if you want to come and visit the Magnolia Chamber of Commerce or the Magnolia Community Council We Are One Community the city has recognized that since we've been annexed into the city since 1891. and I it is really important that you keep all of Magnolia together we appreciate the concerns of Fremont they've been split into two districts I think the community council is working with you we'd like to do the same thank you."

- **Janice Traven** - "I'm Janice Traven I live in Magnolia I uh and with the Magnolia Community Council I monitored the Magnolia Community council's mailbox I can verify and I also have verified with the Queen Anne Community Council that we have not received any Outreach whatsoever from reject redistricting uh justice of Seattle uh we also have invited the Commissioners to come and visit us we reiterate that invitation you will come and see one whole neighborhood we are not divided at 28th we are not divided at 34th we are not divided into a business district We Are One community uh what I would uh implore you to do is take a look again at commissioner Nichols map what we've been hearing throughout this process is that Magnolia wants to be whole and Magnolia also wants to be with Queen Anne we have heard that Fremont wants to be whole and they want to be connected to Wallingford we have heard that Beacon Hill yesler Terrace Chinatown International District want to be together and um we've heard that Pioneer Square wants to be together we have heard that East Lake wants to be whole and together all of those are remedied in commissioner Nickels map uh with the exception of East Lake there but I think that an adjustment could be done for that so um I implore you to take a look again at that and um reconsider but I don't know why there is this impulse to split Magnolia I agree completely with what Anne said and agree completely with her passion We Are One neighborhood we are not advocating for anybody else to split up we believe that neighborhoods should be together and uh commissioner Nickels map actually as long as we're revisiting naps uh as long as we're revisiting Maps why not take another look at that one thank you."
- **Jennifer Nagel** - "Thank you all for all your work and consideration of the communities um Anne and Janice and the first Speaker spoke to my concerns so eloquently I lowered my hand uh what I was going to say is that um while the business district in Magnolia is of concern all three entrances and exits to Magnolia are also of great concern all of the people in Magnolia use those and we were supposed to have funds available to replace the Magnolia bridge and that has been in contention for some time and you know we all need to have a say about that we are Peninsula we are um a distinct Community a distinct neighborhood in and of ourselves so please please keep us together thank you."
- **Cat Koalas** - "I want to first thank you all for all the work and time you have put into this I rather than restating what the previous speakers have said about Meg know that I want to heartily endorse what they have said and I want to go further um and rather than uh calling our

neighborhood a peninsula I want to call it what it really is which is an island wrap before the fill was put into the Interbay area it actually was an island and if we have the big earthquake which we will at some point in time it could very well be cut off again so that is a further reason to keep the entire neighborhood cut together and um that also is a reason to keep us United with Queen Anne I am in my mid 70s and have spent 99 percent of my life living on Queen Anne and on Magnolia the neighborhoods have historically been United if we do have the big earthquake uh when my uh four children attended school north of the canal we had made accommodations for them to remain with families north of the canal because those bridges along the canal could very well be taken out um we have to plan accordingly and that's another reason why Queen Anne and Magnolia should stay together uh their interests have always paralleled each other and uh as have Fremont and Wallingford uh historically the canal has been the dividing line and uh we many of us feel it should remain that way additionally uh if you look at a lot of maps they suggest people moving to this area to work at Amazon and other places look for space in Lower Queen Anne South Lake Union Etc. these are natural areas to put together these are common interests East Lake Lord Queen Anne South Lake Union Etc. uh Queen Anne and Magnolia history historically have had the same common interests and should remain the same thank you again for all the work you put into this but many of us like the map that mayor Greg Nickels former mayor Greg Nickels proposed and I hope that all of you reconsider it thank you."

- **Scott Shawcroft** - "I wanted to say uh I really support the idea of posting the proposals that we saw today I think one place to do it would actually just put the Dave's links in the meeting notes I've always liked to have access to those as the commission talks about that so I think that's a good place to go um I wanted to point out with commissioner Nichols map since that seems to keep coming up it does pretty severely split both South Lake Union and the University District so I would encourage you not to consider that um besides that I think it's a really tricky problem trying to keep Magnolia whole and Fremont hole as well and I know the commission will do what's best for the city uh thank you for your time you all are awesome."

#### **IX. Public Education post map submission**

- Redistricting commissioners tabled this agenda item, as they would like to discuss this when they have sufficient time to review materials produced by Staff. Commissioner O'Sullivan motioned for this agenda item to be tabled, with a second from Commissioner Juarez. The motion was passed unanimously with four votes, as Commissioner Greg Nickels was absent from this meeting.

#### **X. Next regular meetings – and public forum**

- The Redistricting Commission's next meeting will be a regular public meeting on October 12, 2022 from 12:00pm-1:30pm at the L280 Boards and Commissions Room at City Hall on Floor L2.
- There will be one last public forum on October 8, 2022, from 10:00am-12:00pm at the Bertha Knight Landes Room (BKL) on the first floor at 600 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Seattle WA 98104.
- Redistricting Commissioners confirmed that they will proceed with weekly meetings, including October 18<sup>th</sup>, and October 25<sup>th</sup> on the schedule.

#### **XI. Adjourn**

- Commission Chair Malaba asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner O'Sullivan motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner Shah seconded. The motion for

adjournment was approved unanimously with four yes votes, as Commissioner Greg Nickels was absent for this meeting.

- Questions and comments, please send them to [Elsa.Batres-Boni@Seattle.gov](mailto:Elsa.Batres-Boni@Seattle.gov)