

SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
ADDITIONAL CITYWIDE PUBLIC FORUM #3 MINUTES

Saturday, October 8, 2022

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

Approved on October 18, 2022

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

Commissioners Absent: N/A

Commission Staff and Guests: Logan Drummond: Department of Neighborhoods, Elsa Batres-Boni: Department of Neighborhoods

(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

- This Seattle Redistricting Commission meeting was held virtually through Zoom with an option to meet in person at the Bertha Knight Landes Room (BKL) on the first floor at Seattle City Hall. This meeting was open to the public and was advertised through appropriate channels. The meeting was called to order at 10:09 AM 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 further questions or concerns from the Commissioners on today’s agenda for the 10.08.22 public forum meeting and motioned for approval by Commissioner O’Sullivan and seconded by Commissioner Shah. The agenda was passed with four votes, as Commission Chair Malaba had technical difficulties during this part of the meeting.

IV. Acknowledgment of Received Comments and Disclosures

- Commissioners acknowledged that they received and reviewed received comments. There were no disclosures made by the Redistricting Commissioners.

V. Purpose of the Forum

- Commissioner Greg Nickels gave the public an overview of where we are currently at in the process of redistricting, why the redistricting process is occurring, and what to expect in terms of timelines in the coming weeks. The next Redistricting Commission meeting will be on

Wednesday October 12, 2022 from 12:00pm-1:30pm at the L280 Boards and Commissions Room on the L2 floor of City Hall on 600 4th Avenue, Seattle WA, 98104.

VI. Public Comment

- **Ann Goos** - "Hello Commissioners and thank you uh commissioner Nickels um for this opportunity to testify and it's always good to be in front of you um even by Zoom um on behalf of the Magnolia Chamber of Commerce we continue to support Magnolia as a distinct community of Interest primarily given its Geographic and topographical attributes that we think are unique within Seattle we also have a strong legislative interest in being in a single Council District given the access to our Peninsula continues to be one of the most critical issues to the four business districts and residents of Magnolia we are particularly concerned given our recent history where we have lost Bridges due to natural disasters and issues that many of our residents face simply because we're on Hills that like to slide so it's really an important issue that we continue to be connected to our three access points and to 15th Avenue West we're also going to provide additional information about the Magnolia Peninsula as a clearly defined community of Interest including its history of strong voter engagement I've had the honor of running three Levy campaigns one for the Seattle public schools and two for the King County automated fingerprint identification system has any Levy support order nose or any Levy manager knows the first step in any successful Levy campaign is identifying High voter turnout neighborhoods and their history of supporting levees Seattle and the state must deal with a regressive tax system that makes levies essential for Good Government funding particularly of public resources one tool that we have is to tax property owners for services that benefit all of Seattle Magnolia not only votes in very high numbers as an Engaged neighborhood its precincts and homeowners strongly support Seattle public schools Seattle libraries public parks Seattle Transportation Light Rail Public Safety and I anticipate that we'll be supporting future levies on all of those issues though relatively easy to negate the value of neighborhoods and homes property taxes and levies are an essential tool and a part of what makes Magnolia important to the city of Seattle the social compact of representative democracy is being tested a hundred different ways in our country and in our city we asked the commission to rely on the principles of representative government fair and impartial partial redistricting that honors all communities and interests of Seattle regardless of color ethnicity socioeconomic background and lifestyle and we hope this process encourages Harmony between neighborhoods and doesn't divide thanks."
- **Joanna Cullen** - "Hi so first I wanted to thank the commission for your transparency and all of your work and for uh all of your drafts have kept the central areas and neighborhoods you know in one District um and it's a important neighborhood in it it's been working together to build strong um strong programs for its Youth and seniors and its cultural uh past and it's a vibrant Cultural District that reflects a lot of the African-American history and we've been working really hard on that and thank you for keeping us whole um I also want to uh thank you for the graph Maps always keeping District 4 north of the ship canal and District 3 south of the ship canal and I realize and also thank you for paying attention to the equity issues that have been presented by redistricting for justice I think they have been very valuable contributions um and I hope you can resolve the issue in Fremont because I see that there is a balance of issues with Magnolia I I feel like the map does need to make sure that Magnolia has good access to each other and um and then most current map that you have drawn does answer that although it does I know there's been some desire by groups to keep the um renters in Magnolia Interbay with the renters and

Queen Anne Lower Queen Anne um I think that's a difficult ask if you want to keep the if you want to have good access for Magnolia residents to their District so anyway I just really want to thank you for your work."

- **Ron Davis** - "I'm Ron Davis I've testified before uh some of you know and some of you don't I'm on the board of the Roosevelt neighborhood association University YMCA Seattle Subway and future wise and active with the 46 stems in King County Dems after the last Forum I was happy to see that the vast majority of people testifying in that meeting and over time have spoken in favor of the rjs map or the principles that they engender and many of those testifying were speaking on behalf of community groups and so really represent a staggering swath of Seattle residents now it's true I saw that some folks were arguing for changes but I know that it noted it was just a few and they mostly all represented the same interest group and I slept most soundly knowing that the change they wanted the United Magnolia which is a legitimate ask could be accomplished by adopting the rjs map what a disappointment it was to wake up to this new map uh if Magnolia split in two is a problem what does the commission mean to say when it dice is a rent or heavy neighborhood into three districts and creates a water crossing while doing so now it's been said that this map may have been a technocratic fix in the press something about equal numbers of renters and districts I'd like to give you the benefit of the doubt there were certainly times in my own Journey when I've been caught up in sort of just so technocratic answers as substitutes for the Deep work of answering real questions of justice but I want to be clear here this isn't just about some net voter score across the city or whether the last race would have come out the same it's about dignity and respect and an out loud statement by the city and the charter is pretty clear that those are the guidelines we follow now it's clear to me that you are all here because you want to serve the public and I believe deeply in my heart that you do not want to send the wrong message but if this map is passed the statement from our government will be the same sickening sound we've heard for Generation after generation and that is if your community is Rich and white and loud it matters more than the ones that are brown or full of renters or too busy to testify we have to stop sending that message and if we don't stop sending in Seattle 2022 it's hard to understand when we ever will now maybe you secretly wonder if you adopt the rjs map if it looks like you took a shortcut right because they did their work you're supposed to be doing your work but the rjs map is a synthesis and it's supported by a broad Coalition and you can do excellent work without showing off expertise and cartographic creation the rjs map doesn't split Magnolia it doesn't blow Fremont to Smithereens it restores Community Connections in North Seattle it complies beautifully with the charter and it sends the right message I strongly urge you to adopt it and I yield her any time left thank you."
- **Nirae Petty** - "Good morning my name is nirae petty and I live in city council District Two I'm here as a representative of redistricting Justice for Seattle a coalition of multiple organizations and community members who advocate for fair and transparent redistricting which prioritizes black brown and indigenous people of color winter and low-income communities and decision making to achieve ethical representation in our city first I'll start by thanking the commission for your decision to keep my district a majority bipoc district and reunite historically significant Yesler Terrace in one District however as an advocate for renter and working class rights I must say I'm disappointed at our submitted map which took months of community engagement education and advocacy has been overshadowed by the recent priorities of a few from Magnolia's Chamber of Commerce I stand in solidarity with Fremont neighborhood Council a

volunteer-led council representing A working class young renter-heavy neighborhood a neighborhood that does not deserve being split between three different districts in order to keep Magnolia predominantly white wealthy single-family Zone neighborhood together in one thus to support fnc's request I ask that the commission adopts the amendment by commit commissioner malaba which keeps Fremont within two districts rather than being split in three all in all I ask that the commission adopts the map proposal from rjs which is in line with this request and prioritizes representation for communities of color young people and renters in Seattle thank you.”

- **Joseph Lachman** - “My name is Joseph Shoji Lachman uh I am our policy manager at asian counseling and referral service and also uh with redistricting Justice for Seattle um and uh wanted to just uh offer a few uh comments today in relation to the most recent um uh commission proposals um first and foremost we still strongly advocate of the commission uh adopt the redistricting Justice for Seattle map proposal in its entirety uh because of the way that is developed through month-long Community Education and engagement ensuring that uh people of color especially black men and business and other communities of color uh renters low income and other marginalized communities have a voice in this process and based on extensive analysis we confirmed that it's blue it's the least number of uh folks in Seattle uh from uh their primary neighborhoods District compared to um any other map proposals that we've seen um and of course fully complies with um this with the charter and City and saving uh federal law we're also strongly Advocate that the commission adopted the amendment by commissioner malaba keeping Fremont within two districts instead of being split between three districts and again we're concerned that because of Fremont being historically working class winter heavy community that should not be split between three districts and also noting that uh commissioner malaba's Amendment ensures that Magnolia Village um is not being split up um and as uh a member of rjs but also as someone who uh grew up uh had my entire childhood in 400 years in Magnolia I can't speak to the fact that a split along 34th would be I fully agree is not an acceptable way of uh dividing an area like Magnolia but splitting along 28 as reducing Justice for Seattle proposes a much uh better approach to the Magnolia Community again it's someone who grew up in that area um again please uh we please we hope that you'll take these ideas into consideration um and uh thank you again so much for your time and I will stop there.”
- **Andrew Hong** - “Hi Commissioners my name is Andrew Hong I am the Statewide coordinator of redistricting Justice for Washington um I'm here today to again Advocate the commission past the redistricting Justice for Seattle map um and make changes to the current uh amended draft map to be in line with the rjs map the redistricting Justice for Seattle map um has been developed through a rigorous months-long process of thoughtful data analysis and Community Education Outreach internal Coalition meetings um and a lot of rigorous scrutiny within our Coalition and without it and uh you can I can definitely assure you there is disagreement and scrutiny within our Coalition for each of the different lines that we chose and I I emphasize this just to uh communicate to all that the rjs map and I think it's been said so long that it's kind of uh and like different public hearings that it's kind of just another thing you here but I really want to emphasize that we considered neighborhood boundaries we considered probably over a hundred different Maps we considered communities of Interest through Geographic boundaries Geographic waterways and neighborhood boundaries as well as data analysis of renters and low-income and communities of color to make sure that all different communities of interests

were considered we had public events that were made toward to the whole city that were at dedicated to education as well as discussion on our own map proposal and we majored to rigorously follow City Charter state and federal law and Voting Rights Act laws throughout the whole process and would stand up in potential Court hearings under all different laws under any different interpretation our Coalition includes folks yes primarily from the Central District in the south end but we also have people in our Coalition from Lake City Magnolia Green Lake Roosevelt downtown Queen Anne and um as well as Magnuson Park um this map the RGS map is a viable map it has been scrutinized and has had the most specific and explicit public support of any map submitted to the commission and we currently have a petition that has over 160 signatures from Seattle lights in support of the rjs map um and also I just want to know on a specific note you know following the recent events from commissioned businesses meetings that uh the malaba amendment is in line with the commission of the RJS map and we appreciate commissioner malaba proposing her District six and seven boundary edits it helps make sure Fremont is split only within two districts which in itself is not something that we want to have happen but it's better than having it in Fremont being split between three districts just to keep another one within one District thank you.”

- **Jude Ahmed** - “Good evening Commissioners and thank you for the opportunity to speak to you once again my name is Jude Ahmed and I am testifying on behalf of the advocacy and Civic engagement department at the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle we are a non-profit that serves black and underserved communities in the greater Seattle area I want to start by highlighting the incredible work of all the community members who came out to participate in this first ever redistricting process in the city of Seattle redistricting is a challenging topic to talk about with the everyday resident because it's not high on the list of the most exciting topics that is until you point out how the political landscape of the city correlates with the visible displacement and under investment in communities of color and low-income communities in parts of Seattle my dream is to see Seattle have an electoral system that was designed by the people for the people and I mean all people what I admire about our work on the redistricting Justice for Seattle Coalition is that we've made a concerted effort to reach out to Seattle residents across the entire span of our geographically large city by tapping into our personal networks and relationships we've made in the community from our work to reach those most vulnerable to political change our conversations about redistricting always include discussion about housing education environmental economic Justice and so forth and this is solidarity that's why I wholeheartedly stand behind the redistricting Justice for Seattle map proposal not everyone has time to come participate in testimony or submit a proposal in the face of a myriad of day-to-day challenges and yet we've been able to pull together a cohesive math that takes into account the needs of seattleites and those who have been largely disenfranchised or excluded from political processes thus I asked the commission to pass a map that closely aligns with the redistricting Justice for Seattle map proposal and make additional changes to your draft map to be in line with the rjs map as we stand in solidarity that includes standing in solidarity with members of the Fremont neighborhood and thus we believe that the commission should adopt the amendment promoted by commissioner malaba to keep Fremont within two districts instead of being split between three the Fremont Community is a historically working class renter-heavy community and as someone who does also rent in the city of Seattle I know that there are policies that need to be changed to make housing more affordable inclusive and

accessible to black and brown community members and thus we hope to see that the voting power created by this map enables those communities to have a say in a closer connection to their electives to make these changes necessary thank you so much for giving me the time to speak today.”

- **Cindy Black** - “My name is Cindy black I'm the executive director of fixed democracy first we are also an active member of the redistricting Justice for Seattle Coalition today I would like to say a little bit about why the redistricting justice of Seattle Coalition came to be the main reason is that organizations groups and individuals recognize the importance of elevating voices that have been historically underrepresented including communities of color renters lower income and other marginalized communities the rjs Coalition wanted to make sure these voices were heard and represented in the Seattle's redistricting process since the coalition's formation we have reached out to many of these communities and asked for their input and experiences to make sure we could make the best map recommendations possible that would support their representation in the community our values have always included transparency of the data and process ensuring Equitable Community input and engagement keeping communities of Interest together and prioritizing people and communities over incumbents we want to make sure communities of color renders lower income and other marginalized people in the city have a voice and that the new District Maps ensure that happens at this time we recommend the commission adopt the malaba amendment which is in line with the redistricting Justice for Seattle's proposed map thank you for allowing me to speak today and for all your efforts on this important redistricting process.”
- **Theresa Huey** - “Good morning Commissioners my name is Theresa Huey I'm joining again today as a current resident living in District 2 in the Hillman neighborhood I am also participating as a member of the redistricting Justice for Seattle Coalition a coalition of organizations working to call for an open transparent and Community engaged redistricting process Statewide and locally our commission has been working over the past seven months to lift up the voices of people of color Working Class People renters and other marginalized populations in the redistricting process our Coalition applauds the Commissioners for the draft maps and for continuing to listen to the voices of historically divided communities in Seattle we believe the commission should pass the redistricting Justice for Seattle map proposal and make changes to the draft map to be in line with the rjs map the rjs map was developed through months-long Community Education engagement and events to ensure black brown bipoc renter low income and other marginalized communities had a voice in this process the rjs map splits the least number of neighbors from their neighborhoods primary District compared to any map released by the commission per data analysis from Scott Shawcraft so the commission should adopt the rjs math furthermore the commission should adopt the malaba amendment to keep Fremont within two districts instead of being split between three districts this is in line with a redistricting Justice for Seattle's proposed map the Fremont Community is a historically working class winter heavy community that should not be split between three different districts this would dilute the renter power and District Six the malaba amendment also ensures the Magnolia Village business Community is not split up in contrast to the other commission proposal to straddle Magnolia between district 6 and 7. I truly appreciate this opportunity to share my testimony during this final redistricting public forward forum thank you and have a great afternoon.”

- **Deborah Cushing** - “My name is Deborah Cushing I have not previously test testified not because I'm not interested but I really appreciated the opportunity to listen and learn about the process and the concerns of neighbors across the city I was out of town last week and I have to admit when I got back I was stunned to see that there was a new amended or proposed not amended uh configuration that in my opinion had gone backwards I appreciated so much that you would listen to The Magnolia community of which I am a member and restored Magnolia Community as a whole so as I was looking at this process I decided to go back back to the documents and and looked at what is supposed to happen under the charter and one of the purposes as you all know but I was listening and learning one of the purposes of this redistricting is allow the members of the city council to be closer to the people they represent and to enable the voters to know better their council members many people have put in written comments and testified previously about the significant issues that Magnolia faces both now and in the future and it is important as people have stated that we have that one voice and one city council person with whom to interact the other uh requirement of course is that the districts be Compact and contiguous and if you came to Magnolia Village and I know you're not Village the Magnolia Community you would really see who we are it's easy to see who we are and also that we were supposed to recognize waterways and Geographic boundaries and Seattle communities and neighborhoods uh that's very important it's easy to do if you keep the whole Magnolia area together uh our importance of the Puget Sound to the West I think if somebody mentioned it earlier is that we have steep slopes and unstable soils from the north at Discovery Park all the way to the South to the marina and the Magnolia bridge and these things affect all people living in Magnolia uh and there are only two ways out and we know that there are disastrous consequences that can occur as recently as this past winter uh to the West slope of note I want to be clear as someone else was that Magnolia is not insular we vote and support tax measures to improve infrastructure and opportunities for all in Seattle thank you for your commitment to the process and to the your time and we really urge you to keep Magnolia whole all of it whole thank you.”
- **Ruby Holland** - “My name is Ruby Holland and I'm here to ask that basically the CD remain whole and I think that it pretty much looks perfect as it is but I also wanted to um piggyback and say yes I approve of the redistricting Justice map and I um approve of what Theresa Huey has said and um the Urban League has said I think um everybody is in agreement that we want to keep the CD whole and keep the other um areas as together as we possibly can I didn't know anything about other communities I've been working on the comprehensive plan lately but as I listened today I hear that you're thinking about uh spitting up Fremont into three groups three districts and I just for some reason that does not sound fair so I did just want to mention that but basically I think the CD looks pretty good the way you're decided to work with it please do not let us be part of downtown the downtown they've been trying to take over the CD forever and we're trying to keep them from doing that thank you so much.”
- **Amy Sundberg** - “Good morning um my name is Amy Sundberg and I live in district one uh thank you so much for taking the time to hear from community members today um I'm calling to support the redistricting Justice for Seattle map proposal um and I'm also calling on behalf of people power Washington which is the Grassroots branch of the ACLU and we also have signed on um to support that proposal um we're very pleased that a coalition came together to support bipoc and renter communities um I've met with people from the Coalition I've been really

impressed to hear about their process and how they came up with the map and the amount of effort that they put in through Community Education Community engagement all of the meetings that they held to really hear from voices from people who often don't have their voices heard in these sorts of um processes um and I'll say as an individual I just feel really lucky that there are people that are so committed um that that went through that whole effort for all of us so that it will be good for the whole city um in addition to my support for this map I also um would like to urge you to consider the amendment put forward by commissioner malaba um I feel like dividing Fremont into three districts is fairly egregious um so I feel like this this amendment it perhaps is a good compromise because it um only it divides Fremont into two instead of three which you know isn't ideal um but is better than three and it also keeps the Magnolia uh Village uh uh business district in one District so I feel like everybody is getting a little bit of what they want at least and that could be a good compromise for the map um so thank you for listening to me and I will yield the rest of my time."

- **Robin Briggs** - "My name is Robin Briggs I'm currently a resident of District three I live in Capitol Hill but have lived and worked in various places throughout the city I've been following the redistricting from the start and want to thank the commission for all the work you put in I've been really impressed with the result um I'm also with redistricting Justice for Seattle and I wanted to urge you to approve the malaba amendment this would keep Fremont within two districts instead of splitting it in three this is better for Fremont which is a distinct neighborhood with its own unique character the malaba amendment will also ensure that the Magnolia business district is not split up and this change will give the votes of renters a better chance to be heard this will make a good map better thank you very much and I yield the rest of my time."
- **Nicholas Warren Jeffreys** - "My name is Nicholas Jeffreys I'm a resident of Central District of Seattle and I'm here to testify on behalf of the redistricting justice of Seattle Coalition it is disheartening that folks in certain communities cannot look past their privilege to see that folks in their cities and communities are struggling based on the color of their skin the space where they live and a lack of representation and decision making in this city the community of Magnolia's residents talk about having their communities voting power split up because of redistricting and how it will cut them off from infrastructure but I doubt these same people cared or even thought about the impacts of systematic racism and how their wealth and Powers built on the backs of black brown indigenous bodies they say that Seattle is the most accepting city in the country but don't want to sacrifice to make real change for those most affected by inequality it is said that folks only talk about progress until they must confront the fact that they are accomplices and advocates for the issue systematic racism is a Public Health crisis and must be addressed and the first step of this process is allocating resources to the most in need communities instead of continuing to Pander to those who benefit from white supremacy it is time to change the way we think and address issues and the impacts that they have on the future of this city so I urge city council to make the right and Equitable decision and pass a redistricting Justice for Seattle's map proposal and make changes to the draft map to be in line with the rjs map and furthermore the commission should adopt malaba amendment to keep Fremont within two districts instead of being split within three districts the malaba amendment also ensures that Magnolia Village business is not split up if we look at the bigger pictures and step in the right direction for our city-state and Country this gives render communities the opportunity to reclaim their power and make decisions in their Community we all deserve a

voice we all deserve to manifest our greatest selves and we all deserve to love the space we're in not just a privileged few I give my time back thank you."

- **Steve Horvath** - "Hi commissioner Steve Horvath from District Seven uh you've heard from me before so thanks again for uh allowing me this time today I'm going to take a little bit more of a colloquial approach I don't know if you all get the chance to read the written comments but I took some time to write you about a week ago with what are probably my last comments here and you know I um for different reasons than many folks on the phone have stated today I find the inclusion of uh Fremont in district 7 to be to be challenging you're not tasked with prognosticating the future um or worrying about what will happen during the next redistricting in a decade but the only conclusion we can draw as we have overwhelming amounts of evidence of where multi-family residential housing and density are going which is into downtown is that the population of downtown and what is most of District Seven will uh continue to expand faster than the rest of Seattle and you know you've had to deal with this whole time this fundamentally The Balancing Act you know the waterways have sort of we've gone across waterways now we've gone around these things to make the population numbers work and that's going to have to continue to happen until the charter gets amended um and we go back to a system where we don't have districts or maybe we maybe we have nine districts I don't know what what's going to need to happen and none of us know if that will come to pass but I I challenge this concept that a uh dramatic shifts in the geography of these districts every decade if we continue along this path is not a good thing for the citizens of the city regardless of their race ethnicity economic socioeconomic background whatever those factors are I think it would behoove all of us to have districts that are a little bit more compact than this this notion of including Fremont because it's necessarily going to have to change 10 years from now when downtown Grows by 30,000 more people um I'll know two just as sort of a reaction of what I'm hearing a lot in today's call folks may or may not realize that downtown is split into three districts and as our City's most dense urban center uh you know one of my proposals this whole time has been to keep downtown together so you know the fact that other neighborhoods or Urban centers might be split into two or three districts is really no different than what's already taking place with downtown and what will continue to occur based on the maps that have been drawn uh and thank you again for volunteering and spending so much your time on this process it's no it's a huge challenge thanks again."
- **Alma Salisbury** - "Good morning my name is Alma Salisbury I live in District 2 and I've lived in the Brighton area my entire life I'm here to urge you to adopt the map submitted by redistricting Justice for Seattle a coalition of community-based organizations and members they prioritize the creation of districts that increase representations of color whether that be in working class communities or a part of renter communities or also in solidarity with the Fremont neighborhood Council which is a renter heavy neighborhood that should not be split into three different districts thank you for your time today and I yield the rest of my time."
- **Olivia Crawford** - "Good morning and thank you for allowing us to speak and deliver our opinions in this space I work in District 2 and spend a large part of my time in that area I've always loved the idea of progressiveness and I take it very seriously redistricting and moving forward must include careful consideration of communities that have historically been silenced I believe Seattle is the quintessential liberal City my mind instantly goes to the all-inclusive sign in the yards of many white people I believe there is both irony and disconnect those white liberals

in Seattle won't directly discriminate against me but there are exclusive behaviors even and especially in this process makes it difficult to trust signages like those we are all for diversity and Community until it's in our actual backyards it is much easier to say it than act on it in this present moment the disconnect comes into play when we think about what appealing to the affluent neighborhood of Magnolia with the average household income being 172 and 243 means for the future I think it's important to ask what is being upheld with fulfilling their redistricting opinions how can we claim progressiveness when money and power including the absence of that money and power is always prevailing why does it prevail I ask that you don't Focus all of your attention on the outspoken and most visible groups but to focus on those who might be silently suffering or the ones like the redistricting justice of Seattle Coalition in the Urban League these groups have organized individuals to fight for this cause and that in my opinion is the true Testament to human advocacy thank you and I yield the rest of my time."

- **Zyna Bakari** - "Good morning Commissioners my name is Zyna Bakari I reside in District 4 and I serve as the public health program manager at the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle I am here today to show support for the redistricting Justice for Seattle Coalition and stand in solidarity with Fremont neighborhood Council fnc represents a working class renter-heavy neighborhood their request to keep Fremont within two districts rather than three is in line with the map proposal from rjs this map proposal took months of community engagement across diverse organizations and was informed by over 100 people to prioritize representation for communities of color young people and renters in redistricting these disenfranchised groups must be prioritized or else as a society we continue the unjust and unfair practice of over-investing in certain white wealthy neighborhoods and leaving others low-income communities of color with scraps disparities in political power lead to an equities where people live learn work and play which is of no small consequence it leads to poorer Health outcomes and in fact shorter life spans in some neighborhoods compared to others even when they are just miles apart research is conclusive that zip code is a greater predictor of Health than genetic code this is why low income and communities of color had the highest rates of covid cases hospitalizations and deaths it is decisions like this like the ones you Seattle redistricting commission get to make that either widens Health gaps or closes them and the ramifications Ripple for Generations by continuing to invest in some communities over others we reinforce the trends of low-income and communities of color being the hardest hit by chronic health conditions thus more vulnerable to current and future Public Health crises if we as a city truly believe in Health Equity we must align words with action now it is not enough to say we are progressive then refuse to make compromises that support communities disproportionately impacted by inequality thus I ask that the commission adopts the malaba amendment which is in line with the map proposals from rjs keeps Fremont two districts and will lead to a more Equitable Seattle and ensure that all people not just some can be healthy and Thrive thank you so much for your time today."
- **Maya Manus** - "Good morning Seattle redistricting commission I am Maya Manus director of advocacy and Community engagement at the Urban League Metropolitan Seattle and here supporting the re-districting justice for Seattle Coalition today I am a Washington Native and have lived in this beautiful city for the past five years and currently live in the second Seattle City council District one thing I believe we can all agree on is that certain neighborhoods in the city of Seattle have deteriorated in the last 10 years while other neighborhoods have received the

support and resources necessary to thrive the deterioration of these certain neighborhoods which are predominantly renters and low income is because of the diminished and Scattered political power these neighborhoods have within the city council districts these neighborhoods must fight for one representative to support and advocate for their neighborhoods meanwhile other neighborhoods have the political power and influence as they can support financially and politically for multiple Representatives including the Citywide representative to support and advocate for their neighborhoods this is inherently unequal the only way to ensure that everyone truly has a voice and representation on city council is for an equitable not equal approach to how district lines are drawn this is why numerative community members and organizations support the map drafted by redistricting Justice for law because it does exactly that in addition we are in solidarity of the Fremont neighborhood Council to ensure that renters in the free in the Fremont area are one and the power is not fractured if we want to ensure that every single neighborhood has a chance of not only surviving but thriving the only option is to ensure that district lines are equitable I urge that the redistricting commission support the map created by a district Injustice Seattle Coalition because it keeps key neighborhoods together especially neighborhoods that are primarily people of color low-income residents and renters to ensure that those neighborhoods can work together and not fighting against one another for resources thank you.”

- **Orlando Santoni** - “Good morning Commissioners and thank you for the opportunity to speak today my name is Orlando Santoni and I'm a District 3 resident I want to show my support for redistricting Justice for Seattle coalitionist draft map I believe it did a great job of keeping bipoc renter low income and other marginalized communities together because the Coalition ensured they had a voice in the process in this process the commission should pass a map that strives to emulate the redistricting Justice for Seattle map proposal the commission should adopt the malaba amendment to keep Fremont within two districts instead of being split between the three districts this would dilute rental power in district 6 and renters are important to the city especially as Seattle is now a renter majority City and this percentage is going to continue to grow I believe it's important that we have districts that equitably represent the residents of these communities and policies that favor single-family communities at the expense of renters is harmful not only to the residents of these districts but to the Democratic processes of as a whole um and this is all in line with the rjs's proposed map um thank you for your time.”
- **Martha Tafrey** - “Good morning my name is Martha Tafrey and I live in district 7 Magnolia uh I want to say that I don't know that when you all were asked to take this redistricting project on if you knew it was going to be so darn contentious even if an outside group with their own agenda hadn't entered the proceedings this was not going to be an easy task getting population numbers right while adhering and I underline it hearing to the rules set out in the city Charter yet after attending one of these meetings in person where a commission member felt it necessary to say something similar to this that there are no Apollo no politics here I realized that the opposite is true it has turned into all politics then there have been the nasty names for people who live in Magnolia and I speak of the first Zoom attendee from the Roosevelt neighborhood to a member of the posts online I'm here to say that we are regular people here in Magnolia just like every other neighborhood we have a mixed group there are big houses on the boulevard just as there are in other parts of the city we have apartments condos duplexes low-income housing with more to come as Fort Lawton uh the Fort Lawton project is now uh at

HUD for their review Magnolia stands out because of its geography it this should be a plus in this instant as geography is a charter criteria the special interest group would have easily could have easily picked on Laurelhurst as it also has big houses Big Lots of waterfront and it's probably richer than Magnolia but it doesn't stand out on a map as much not such an easy target I don't know why the Commissioners don't follow the rules set out in the charter there was absolutely no reason to split back and only on the map either at 34th or 28th let's keep it one piece including the access purchase onto 15th Avenue in addition I would also understand the commission's desires for apartment dwellers but aggregating them together isn't going to make them um vote more often something additional needs to be done please revisit mayor nickels map while closing your ears to special interests and their divisive agenda and keep Magnolia whole thank you."

- **Jennifer Nagel** - "Thank you so much to the commission for having this meeting and hearing all of our comments I'm a resident of Magnolia I've been here almost 40 years and I just wanted to um uh don't tell on some things that were said by Martha and earlier we have the three access points to Magnolia so we're very much a peninsula and I don't know if people in other districts realize there are a lot of renters there are a lot of seniors people of low income some people who cannot drive who are dependent on the buses and our main buses here go to downtown they go across the Magnolia bridge and if we are separated the people in the North End of Magnolia will not have a say over the replacement of the Magnolia Bridge which needs to happen and so we really do need to be kept together as a community we are a diverse Community there are people here of lower income even some people of mixed race I know that that might not be believed but we are we're becoming more diverse and we do need to have access to our community so I want to thank you very much for your time and please keep us in mind and keep us whole thank you."
- **Tara Gallagher** - "Hello my name is Tara Gallagher I'm in District Six a long time free monster I'm also board member of the 43rd district Democrats and the 46th District Democrats that's two organizations because last year at the very last minute Fremont got torn into three State Legislative districts and now we woke up to find another 11th Hour remapping issue where we've been shifted across the water to District Seven Fremont is supposed to be the center of the universe not neighborhood to kick around at the last minute when you have problems with the map I understand the issues are around splitting Magnolia I hear them I feel for them but still the people in Magnolia the eastern part must have a lot more in common with Queen Anne than Fremont does everyone I've spoken to in Fremont feels a lot more connection with Ballard Finney our neighbors in District Six we go there we share a lot of contiguous city services with them we know their problems they know ours Queen Anne is that big hill across the water downtown is downtown we do not feel any connection with them the water is a huge psychological barrier and in fact the water being a huge psychological barrier is part of the key to the Charter that says to the extent practical District boundaries shall follow existing District boundaries and recognized waterways zigging up across the water and then immediately zigging back down across the water is not following the charter in any practical way I urge you to please restore Fremont the bulk of it to District Six with our actual neighbors who share Services thank you very much."
- **Alex Cooley** - "Thank you so much Alex Cooley District three I also have the distinct pleasure of being the president of the Jackson Place Community Council in the Central Area neighborhood

District Council here representing those groups that Encompass almost half of D3 as it currently exists we have been engaged in this redistricting process since the very beginning and have been very consistent with our statement of keeping the Central Area whole incredibly grateful to the commission through their diligent commitment to the process and maintaining the Central Area whole we have worked in conjunction with rjs and support their map as well as support the two previous Maps presented by the commission because it keeps the Central Area whole Central Area is the historic cultural center of the city it is the historic bipoc community of the city unfortunately is also historically the most marginalized community in the city that is why it is incredibly important to us to remain as whole as possible specifically on our southern boundary which has over time slowly been eroded and even in these Maps is eroded partially but we are willing to make compromises in order for all or many communities to remain as whole as possible I thank you so much for your time and your commitment to keeping the Central Area whole thank you."

- **Andrew Katz** - "Good morning Commissioners and everyone my name is Andrew Katz I am a resident of District three I've been for the past 15 years uh and succinctly because uh there's a lot of people want to speak I thank you for your time I strongly support reverting to the rjs map and adding commissioner malaba's uh amendments um for all the reasons that we've heard today I as a renter um who understands the economic forces at work preserving the incumbency of property owners historically here through zoning and previously through redlining the idea that folks asking for economic and racial Justice are special interest groups is mildly offensive but I want to stick to the issues I think that Fremont's um uh needs shouldn't be placed behind Magnolias or other neighborhoods such as downtown that have been splitting in pieces so I strongly urge you to reconsider an action that was taken relatively quickly and can be reverted just as quickly thanks."
- **Camille** - "Thank you for um hearing me speak my name is Camille I'm in District Five I'm also a member of people power Washington I want to thank the Commissioners for this opportunity um and I want to ask them to um to honor the rjs map I've really been impressed with the amount the months of of work and Community engagement that um that was done in order to create a map um that um that was developed through an equity lens to really ensure that black indigenous and communities of color as well as renter and low-income communities have representation I know that the most recent changes were made based on complaints of a few Magnolia residents and and yes to respond to some previous callers there are some renters and people of low income in Magnolia but the Magnolia demographic is a largely white wealthy Property Owners whose political power is not really in danger of being diluted um I in the words of Franklin Leonard when you're accustomed to privilege Equity feels like oppression and I want to urge the the commission to pass the redistricting Justice for Seattle map proposal and adopt the malaba amendment to keep Fremont a historically working class and render every Community within two districts instead of being in three districts the malaba amendment also ensures that the Magnolia Village business Community is not split passing the rjs map and adopting the amendment splits the least number of neighbors from their Community from their neighborhoods primary District compared to any other map being proposed and it ensures that bipoc communities and renter communities have representation thank you and I'll yield my time."

- **Eddie** - “Hello uh my name is Eddie um I live in District Two um yeah thank you guys for having this today uh let's see for renter and working classes I must say I'm disappointed uh that this I'm I'm uh I'm advocating for um from uh uh redistricting Justice and I just want to say that I'm disappointed that our the map that was submitted which took months of community engagement education advocacy has been overshadowed overshadowed by the recent priorities of Magnolia's Chamber of Commerce um I stand in solidarity with the Fremont neighborhood Council uh volunteer-led city council representing uh working class young renter heavy uh neighborhood a neighborhood that does not deserve being split between three different districts districts in order to keep Magnolia predominantly white wealthy single family zoned um family's own neighborhood together in one uh thus to support the fnc's requests I asked that the commission adopt the amendment by the commissioner malaba by commissioner malaba which keeps Fremont within two districts rather than being split in three uh all in one I ask that the commission adopt the map proposal for rjs which is in line with the requests and prioritizes representation from communities of color young people and renters and I just want to make sure that you know uh you know that our voices are heard because uh we didn't have a a voice when uh our uh communities were redlined so um our voices should be heard this time in this part of History so be a part of history and help us uh be on point thank you.”
- **Seattle Times Mental Health** - “Magnolia uh resident I'm a renter living in Magnolia I am not wealthy and I am concerned about the Prejudice that is has been expressed about Magnolia uh Magnolia is changing we have lots of multi-family housing it continues to go in that direction and all of us regard regardless of wealth or whether we're Property Owners we all have Geographic concerns um about limited access um you know in case of a disaster so I would like to say that I think it's very important to keep access to this community thank you.”
- **Katie Stultz** - “Hello uh my name is Katie Stoltz um it's great to see you all again during this final public hearing it has been a marathon of a process uh I just wanted to say thank you to to all the Commissioners and to the staff for your commitment to public engagement throughout this process I think the first time we chatted was in April and so I think you just continued that commitment and we're really very grateful for that I'm also joining today as a member of the redistricting Justice for Seattle Coalition I currently live in the green lake neighborhood but I've lived in Lake City and the U District over the past 15 years in King County my entire life I want to touch today specifically on the community engagement that we have seen throughout this process since May the redistricting Justice for Seattle Coalition as you've heard from many folks today has organized multiple Community forums and public education opportunities outside of even the public hearings offered by the commission this Coalition has worked together representation at every public hearing since the first public hearing on May 15th for district 7 and May 19th for district one in comparison the north Seattle districts in Seattle didn't hold their forums until the end of July giving those districts over two more months to organize since mayor Coalition has gathered over a hundred members of our Coalition and supporters list and almost 170 petition sign-ons from all seven districts in the city in support of the rjs map proposal you've heard from many of the folks today uh representing those supporters we are so proud of the work of this Coalition and members of the community that have kept a consistent present throughout this presence throughout this process to make sure that the voices of historical bipod communities renter communities and young people across the city who have for years

been underrepresented in Seattle have been heard in this process we're also not just here to organize in historic numbers only to be overlooked in the final moments of this process when Seattle moved to a seven district council the original intent was to ensure that satellites across the city were represented not just one neighborhood or area which was reflective of the current at large city council so I'm here to ask that this commission keeps that same intent and to ensure that this final map represents the voices and entrance of the whole city and not just one louder well fear and historically white neighborhood and closing as uh noted by many members today just overall we ask that you we urge you to pass the redistricting Justice for Seattle map proposal um and if changes are made that they're in line with that proposal and that specifically you adopt the malaba amendment to keep Fremont within two districts instead of being split between three districts thank you all so much for your leadership as this commission I want to reiterate um as a testifier just before us please take this moment to make history and make sure that the voices across the city represented in this final map uh thank you for your time today."

- **Julianne Kempf** - "Thank you commissioner Nickels I'm Julianne Kempf a 23-year resident of Northeast Green Lake I am the former Vice chair of the green light Community Council active in the League of Women Voters and the current chair of the 46th District Democrats but I testify today as simply a resident of District Six I thank you to the commission for their transparent and thorough process during the past year and I rise today to add another voice to urge the commission to adopt the redistricting Justice for Seattle map others have spoken more eloquently eloquently and completely than I could about the rigorous process rjs underwent to develop their proposed map others have also spoken of the importance of keeping Fremont together in the Central District together I would like to speak to another important aspect of the redistricting Justice map the inclusion of the Green Lake neighborhood in one district with Roosevelt and Wallingford neighborhoods it has never made sense for green lake to be a part of District Six the Northeast Green Lake business district and neighborhood is very much part and parcel of the Roosevelt business district underscored incredibly by the recent opening of the Light Rail station at Roosevelt which is very much in our neighborhood in Northeast Green Lake and the southern part of the Green Lake neighborhood is very much linked to the Wallingford business district and neighborhood we are connected with Roosevelt and Wallingford in walk distance in our increased density and diversity as we grow as neighborhoods and we are very much one type Community it has never made sense for North Green Lake to be an unrelated appendage to District Six with whom we do not share that much as a Seattle neighborhood as our density and diversity grows we've had an explosion of growth in all three of these neighborhoods that is very linked together in our deeply intertwined communities and we urge you to adopt the redistricting Justice map which would give our Green Lake Roosevelt Wallingford neighborhood one council member to advocate for our very intertwined needs thank you."
- **Caroline** - "My name is Caroline I am a current Queen Anne resident but prior to living in Queen Anne lived in the University District for about seven years I just wanted to get on basically to acknowledge this is a process I came into a lot later than I really wish I had I wish I'd been doing more advocacy for longer but as I've researched this topic more recently um I just really want to voice my support for the rjs map and um advocate for all of the work and Community engagement that they put forth that's a really huge effort as someone who has a master's in public administration I know how complicated putting all of that together is um someone who

lives in Queen Anne I can also speak for the fact that putting Fremont in with Queen Anne really doesn't make a whole lot of sense um as much as I love visiting Fremont and does feel like the needs of those two communities and what um the feel of those communities like is pretty separate um but yeah I just wanted to thank everyone for their time and voice my support for the rjs map thank you."

- **Lhorna Murray** – "I want to voice my support for the um uh redistricting um Justice uh map proposal and um I think it's important to note too that on the as a as the Seattle Public Schools School Board is determining what their um redistricting plan is um there's a new amendment to also um um take the recommendation of the um uh Seattle uh redistricting Justice um map proposal um to work for a free alignment the um you know both of the school board and city council speaker so I I sure hope that um all that work that that the group has done is recognized and uh the commission um goes with that one thanks."
- **Patrick Craft** - "Good morning thank you for your time appreciate this moment to speak my name is Pat craft and I do represent the Magnolia chamber of commerce's senior advisor and former two-time president I also worked on the Magnolia Community Council Board of Trustees for many years I've been involved with Magnolia for over 20 years I'm also a residential realtor working all over Greater Seattle and every price point every demographic which has allowed me to embrace and come to love every single neighborhood has helped clients invest in those neighborhoods I'm quite familiar with City expenditures and communities and and various topographies and benefits of all these different areas I'd like to point out that the outrage that Magnolia expresses is not uh based has been misinterpreted the outrage is about having a voice of the table when we saw the initial Maps it was outrageous that we've been cut in half that there's been some gross misinterpretation of what Magnolia is or has been or looks to be in the future and that's why we speak up now however we got here we're here this is a public forum for that cause and that's why we are speaking up on behalf of the 20 000 people who live here I think there's a great unfamiliarity Magnolia and I'm glad to see that map represents what we are in fact in fact see I was about seven hills Magnolia's one of those Hills topography wise were isolated on three sides by water the fourth side the east side is a major transportation Corridor which I don't think is wholly appreciated so that if you're a Magnolia and picture it as a home and you walk out your front door in our front door is the major transportation Corridor that is the subject of many uh future looking projects so understand us as a land topography a neighborhood that wants a voice at the table a voice for what's going on the city a voice for what we vote and pay for a voice for what we maintain you know we see on that for every day I've spent years advocating for this community and I can guarantee you I've walked the whole sat in the meetings written the letters and Magnolia is under represented in the city's decisions I would call anyone to pick up what's commonly known as a heat map a heat map is a capital expenditure of the city if you look at those heat Maps look across all departments you will see that there's a great deal of wonderful Accenture across the city leaving out Magnolia now that comes and goes from different budgetary reasons but I can tell you what we have and what we don't have and why we speak up today to be included as whole so that we have a whole voice at the table dividing Us in any way is uh well it's offensive uh for who we are and who we want to be so look at the map when you're uh take a look at who we are understand all the expansions we're involved in I couldn't possibly do it in 23 seconds but you've been a whole

misinterpretation of the needs we have the issues we speak to and why we need to have representation downtown at City Hall, thank you.”

- **Joanna Cullen** - “I was on a road trip and I just got back late last night and I haven't been actually and it seemed like a good Amendment and people have been referencing it but I can't find it on the website unless I listen to the whole meeting again I guess because the uh you know the the minutes aren't up yet so I was wondering if it is on the website because I probably could have would have or might have testified specifically in favor of that but I could not compare it to the other Maps because I can't find it listed on your websites and I couldn't share it with other people that asked me a few questions because without saying listen to the whole meeting so I was wondering if it is somewhere and I'm just not seeing it thank you.
 - Staff responded that the proposed amendments will be accessible via the 10.04.22 meeting minutes once they are approved and posted to the redistricting website.

VII. **Closing Comments from the Seattle Redistricting Commission**

- **Commissioner Neelima Shah** - “I want to Echo our chair comments of so many people participating in taking time it's certainly very helpful and I have to say I've gotten to know the city better and better at every discussion and Community Forum. There are a few things I wanted to clarify, I think you know we're referring to things as amendments that were voted on, we shared ideas at the last um meeting, and I think we're still figuring out you know the best way to put out ideas and get back feedback. So one thing, I would say is that personally I've never intended ,and I think we said this at the last meeting, to have Fremont be in three different districts and so it might have been a mistake to adopt a map to show an idea rather than find some other means but I just want to preview for the next meeting that commissioner O'Sullivan and I have worked together on a map that keeps Fremont in two districts not three and using the boundaries of 50th and 8th which are requested by Fremont so we'll be showing that in the meeting coming up on Wednesday. Secondly, I think there seems to be a difference in between what the RJS Coalition believes to be the neighborhood lines for Magnolia versus what Magnolia residents are seeing saying and Magnolia seems to want to go much farther east to 15th in the Ballard Bridge. So, I think there's some disagreement there and then you know I'd like to reiterate that the commission worked really hard to keep communities of Interest together in District Two District three the Central District to keep District 3 south of the cut keep renters in South Lake Union East Lake the University District North Gate and Lake City together we have not been successful due to the population numbers to keep every neighborhood in the districts that they wanted to be in and I wish that we had a magic wand and could put everyone where they want to go but I know East Lake wanted to be in District 3 and Pioneer Square has said they want you know they want to be in District Seven and Magnolia wants to be with Queen Anne and these things are you know just population wise and numerically not possible without making lots of other disruptions that I think would make folks unhappy but I do want to thank the RJS Coalition for all their work from the beginning and the Magnolia Community Council for their recent memo articulating the um serious infrastructure and Geographic challenges in that area that I don't I don't take lightly either so thank you all for listening and I look forward to continuing the process.”
- **Commissioner Greg Nickels** - “I want to thank everyone who has joined with us today it was inspiring there are lots of things going on a Saturday morning at 10 o'clock and uh the fact that we had so many people engaged in this process is was surprising to me, given as I came into this

process I thought that this would be about as attractive a subject for people is as oral surgery without Novocain so thank you all for your engagement you've been very helpful during the process we heard from the redistricting Coalition about the need for BIPOC communities to be kept together and respected and we were very careful as we looked at districts one two and three in particular to respect that work and that perspective as we moved along in the process and adopted a draft map we heard from many people in the Magnolia Community who were concerned about what was being done in their District or districts and we were respectful of that and responded to that we've now heard from the Fremont District Fremont neighborhood and I thank commissioner Shah and O'Sullivan for spending more time looking at that I think it's an important piece it was not your intent when you proposed amendments a couple of weeks ago I think to do that and I think the commission will listen Commissioner Malaba you've proposed or at least looked at some additional changes that attempt to achieve the same end so we're continuing to work we too have had many meetings Outreach meetings forums all over the city we've thought a lot about the voices that we have heard and attempting to address those in the best way possible understanding we're not going to make everybody happy and that there are some constraints on us that make it impossible for us to meet every request the downtown community spoke today had a couple people speaking on behalf of the downtown community the population downtown and I take some credit for that having initiated some of the policies that have increased the population downtown significantly cannot be accommodated in a single District so the neighborhoods that comprise the downtown we have tried very hard to be respectful and kept those together so the Pioneer Square Community is not in District Seven but it is together in the district one and I hope and I believe we have treated other parts of the downtown larger downtown community with care so thank you all our job is not yet done we're not going to make everybody in the room happy and we would certainly love to, but we will do the best possible job we can to make sure that all the communities of Seattle are given a chance for equity and representation within their communities and across the city thank you."

- **Commissioner Rory O'Sullivan** - "I just want to note that I really appreciate the tremendous work and Outreach that's been done by the Redistricting Justice for Seattle coalition the values that they've expressed in terms of ensuring fair representation of traditionally marginalized communities our values that I've shared I've supported and voted for maps and districts that align with their recommendations to a great extent their input has just been tremendously valuable throughout the redistricting process and I continue to rely on the impact that they provide we've received public comment from hundreds of residents around Seattle and it's been exciting to see so many communities and residents engage with this aspect of the democratic process we're continuing to work on building a map that really aligns with the values expressed by the redistricting Justice for sale for Coalition takes into considerations the decisions that we've already made but also those an even better job of ensuring that residents on the same district of the majority of their neighborhood so um again I appreciate everyone's input and look forward to continuing to improve the maps that we're working on."
- **Commissioner Eliseo EJ Juárez** - "I appreciate my colleagues speaking from their perspectives as we enter into these final weeks of deliberations. I think I've been uh very consistent in my public statements around my commitment to honoring the most broad spectrum of the public and those who have participated throughout the duration of this process from day one until today

and while our work is not done I will not be forsaking the months of Engagement that have been taking place and the voices of those that have been with us guiding us and providing expert testimony which have got us to today. While I opposed the most recent changes I believe they were done with the best of intention I would continue to oppose those I hope that the next iteration of maps more closely represent the redistricting Justice for Seattle and Washington maps I believe those are the most representative the most commented on and the most preferred by the broadest spectrum of the public my votes will be guided by that I'm also committed to the number of people in Magnolia who have expressed that it is unfortunate that we cannot find a solution that keeps their community whole that is a value just like it is for every other neighborhood that I have tried to keep those neighborhoods together so as we work to solve that problem that does not change my commitment to maps that most closely represent the rjs maps I will also speak to the fact that any assertion that we are not following the rules as we've heard from multiple commenters primarily from the Magnolia neighborhood is misguided and factually incorrect. Our obligation and our commitment and the time spent on our legal obligations has been Paramount in this process. I also want to comment on the amount of time we've heard about bridges and infrastructure and specifically car infrastructure we're doing this work for people not for potential projects in the future not to influence the amount of Council people who could work on a potential project this is about population fairness and equity and the last thing I'll say is you know we've heard a lot I think especially over the last couple of weeks as people's passion has come out on this in this process which I think is generally a good thing and I think for the most part the civility of Seattleites from across the city is really heartening but when we start talking about what special interests are and we start calling certain communities interests special in patronizing tones I find it deeply troubling because no interest in pursuit of equal representation or Equity should be downgraded or seemingly cast aspersions upon. I hope that in the next few weeks we can get to maps that meet everybody and at least they feel satisfied with I know that won't be the case and that's unfortunate but part of the obligation and Duty we have is people who live in a city is to participate in a process in which everyone bears that burden at some point in the history of that City and so while it might be this decade it might be the next decade um you know we're doing our best so that everybody can enjoy the city equally, thank you."

- **Commission Chair Patience Malaba** - "I must say that we are as a commission working toward an equitable map an equitable map that gives voice and fairness to all communities across the city I have deeply appreciated the level and depth of Engagement that we've seen we've seen the work that the redistricting Justice for Seattle Coalition has done engaged from the start of this process until today we've seen the level of Engagement that the Magnolia Chamber of Commerce has had with us providing their feedback the Fremont neighborhood Council and many other groups who have engaged with all of the best work that you've given and our goal has been to listen to the community and reflect that in our Maps I do intend to proceed and move forward the Malaba amendment that works towards addressing a lot of those concerns as has been discussed throughout the public forum I believe it reflects a lot of the great work that the community has done in listening to all corners of the city of Seattle and working towards that Equitable map that we can end up with it seeks to ensure that we are looking at the concerns in Magnolia preserving good parts of Magnolia really being kept wall even though it would not be the whole neighborhood it looks at ensuring that Fremont is not split into the

three districts as we ended up with our revision for the last time and it also ensures that Eastlake is kept in one District so all of those considerations we've had from the community throughout this process and it is our commitment that at the end of the day when we look back at history we know that the map that we ultimately ended up with really got us to a place where we were setting ourselves up for an equitable Seattle and that remains the commitment that I have I will say one thing that Jude said earlier I think I believe it was Jude Ahmed who said the engagement on the redistricting process it's not the easiest topic to get people excited but all of you have just done an exceptional job of making this so exciting getting people to testify from communities that are hardly ever at the table and one of my commitments applying to the redistricting commission was to be sure that those voices that are never at the table are here in the decision making process and that remains a commitment that we have as we move in the home stretch towards the finish line and with that I will thank you all for the great work you are doing and us that you continue to partner with us provide us with your specific recommendations and feedback as we get towards finalizing our map and getting ready to submit it the last topic we do have here is the next meeting that is scheduled for Wednesday uh October 12th that is when we will be discussing the Amendments that you've had been discussed so far in getting closer to finalizing."

VIII. Next meetings – October 12th

- The next Redistricting Commission meeting will be on Wednesday October 12, 2022 from 12:00pm-1:30pm at the L280 Boards and Commissions Room on the L2 floor of City Hall on 600 4th Avenue, Seattle WA, 98104.

IX. Adjourn

- Commission Chair Patience Malaba asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nickels motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner Juarez seconded. The motion for adjournment was approved unanimously with five yes votes.
- The next Redistricting Commission meeting will be on Wednesday October 12, 2022 from 12:00pm-1:30pm at the L280 Boards and Commissions Room on the L2 floor of City Hall on 600 4th Avenue, Seattle WA, 98104.
- Questions and comments, please send them to Elsa.Batres-Boni@seattle.gov