

SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 28th, 2022

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Zoom Meeting

Approved on July 12th, 2022

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

Commissioners Absent: Neelima Shah

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

(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 4th Avenue, Seattle WA, 98104.
- This meeting was open to the public and was advertised through appropriate channels. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 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 6.28.22 meeting.

IV. Minutes approval

- Approval for the 6/14/2022, 6/16/2022 meeting minutes were motioned for a vote by Commissioner Nickels and seconded by Commissioner O'Sullivan. The minutes were then passed by the Commission unanimously with three yes votes. Commissioner Shah and Commissioner Malaba were absent for this agenda item.

V. Received Public Comment Acknowledgement

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

VI. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

- No conflicts of interest were disclosed at this time by Redistricting Commissioners.

VII. Public Comment

- **Gregg Petrie** – “Yeah I just have more of a question I've been going over those maps that people submitted can you guys put that with the other maps that you have so people can look at them in a sort of interactive way secondly can I get a list of people that I made comments I understand that's a public record but I'm a little bit hesitant to ask you to post it on the web with people's email address or their contact in data but is there some way you can let people get that so we could talk as a group and maybe reconcile some of those maps so that's a question for you guys. So, I could just write I'm interested in the contact information because some of those maps are pretty close to what district four five and one would be sort of interested in, we just tweaked those things I think we could uh work something out, so I'd like that contact information.”
- Staff responded that Gregg has the option to submit a PDR for the contact information of the folks who submitted public comment.
- **Scott Shawcroft** - “I just wanted to I know that the public comments were on the website I just wanted to tell people how where they are because it took me a while to find them if you go on the website and click under how to participate it's got a public comments listing there and it's also collapsed for me so it'll say public comment on Seattle redistricting you actually have to click the plus button thing to expand everything down and then you'll get the very first item is a pdf with all of the likes i think it's a spreadsheet for the commissioners as well and I would like to echo the desire for the source of if they're Dave's redistricting maps would be great to have links directly to that because then it's easier to do analysis on as well so just wanted to highlight that.”

VIII. Public Forum Review and Prep

- Commissioner Patience Malaba will be giving this community the overview presentation on redistricting prior to the public comment period for District 6.

IX. Mapping Retreat preparation/logistics

- The Redistricting Commission discussed what they would like to see in terms of the mapping retreat on August 2nd.

X. Open District lines options conversation

- Commission Chair Juarez discussed his current map versions with the commission, noting that he is looking forward to the District 6 and District 7 public forums as it will provide a lot of useful feedback for his map-making process.
- This agenda item will be added to all future agendas, so that the commission can workshop where to put district lines and process feedback from the public forums in real-time to narrow down options.

XI. Next meetings – July 5th, July 12th

- The Redistricting Commissioners agreed upon canceling the July 5th Weekly meeting, as it will be directly following a holiday.
- The Redistricting Commission's next meeting will be on July 12th, 2022 from 12:00pm-1:30pm.

XII. Executive Meeting to continue regular meeting with legal team

- Redistricting Commissioners met with City of Seattle attorney Ariel Schneier in an executive meeting.

- The purpose of this executive meeting is to discuss any active or potential litigation.

XIII. Public Comment – Continued

- **Scott Shawcroft** - “First I wanted to point out with your idea of putting Ballard and magnolia together I believe Ballard high school students from magnolia go to Ballard high school so that's another common commonality between those two so I like that idea uh and then I also when thinking about geographic features I think that though Dave's redistricting app as default really highlights water boundaries but hills are a huge part of Seattle as well and I think here I like your thought process about how people move but I did find a really interesting data set that the city of Seattle has around steep slopes and I think that uh that could really help also in terms of the lower the southern boundary for i-5 it's not really i-5 it's like the west side of beacon hill so I would recommend taking a look at the steep slope data set in terms of figuring out kind of where you know road connectivity doesn't exist because there are hills right a side of a hill so I wanted to point that out and then I really I know everybody has all the commissioners have their draft maps I would it would be awesome to get those released prior to prior to the retreat because like I'm actually working on like automated analysis of maps so the more inputs I have I can like run the analysis over them and then bring that on during the retreat day because I know there will be public comment there as well. I'm just trying to collect as many versions as possible of maps and then run them through this analysis. I already have those four examples maps as part of that as well and I think that it's all food for thought right and it's supposed to be like these maps do the population this well these maps keep these neighborhoods together or split these boundaries in these ways. and that's a good analysis yeah and I think it's worthy of discussion for us to as a commission whether or not whatever our most current map is that we bring into the retreat right we've not had this discussion as a group yet what those map where those live how we bring them into that moment we've talked broadly about sharing our values and sharing our priorities but not necessarily if we are bringing in maps so thank you.”
- Redistricting Commissioner O'Sullivan responded to Scott, noting that he will make an effort to share his current map after the district 7 forum but before the mapping retreat. Commissioners also noted that there will not be a large expectation for public participation during the draft mapping retreat, as this meeting will mainly be a space for the Redistricting Commissioners to narrow down their maps to a single map draft. Commissioners also pushed back on sending multiple drafts of their individual maps through Dave's Redistricting App, as the individual maps are an ongoing work in progress.
- **Katie Stultz** - “My name is uh or Katie Stultz I use she/her pronouns with win-win and the redistricting justice for Seattle coalition it's great to u be here this uh afternoon and to see you all grateful for this conversation I do first I just wanted to echo the comments before this that I definitely think the idea I think one of the commissioners mentioned the idea of really on the 26th the 26th meeting being able to have some type of summary or some type of in insight as to really what the overall uh commissioner's feedback has been from the hearings I definitely think any type of primer going into the retreat will definitely also help I think with that public comment that will happen most likely at the retreat and so I think any type of uh insight I think would be super helpful I mostly wanted to uh chime in today just because of overall sort of observations from the different past couple of public hearings and preparations for the final two the one benefit is there's a month break in between and so one question I was curious about and suggestion was the idea of potentially having like a roll call deck for public comment

just my experience in giving public comment for the last couple is it was it's been kind of challenging either to know like when I my here when my public comment was coming up and to be able to really be prepped in front of my computer like my screen on my phone on so I'm curious if there's any way to either do like a roll call or say when you call the names of folks to give like what the statewide process would do is they would say they would give four names and they'd say this is the group of the next four people who are up on deck and it was super helpful really being able to be prepped and then the other idea is just if there's any way I know it's probably challenging but to actually have folks as attendees like this meeting I think can sometimes help with being like just ready to go and prepared I know only four seconds but that's just my couple two cents before the next couple thanks.”

- **Gregg Petrie** - “I'm making a series of maps I've taken the uh voting uh data and making maps of people's age how long they vote uh how what type of housing they're in if they're in a single family housing and all this all the data I can extract from the voting record make these maps the idea is that as you make these changes you want to look at the sociological data to minimize the amount of changes that that you do like you're trying to minimize the changes in shape I'm suggesting it'd be nice to minimize the change in the social uh social uh structure first uh so that people that are forming a neighborhood right now can do that a little more it won't be damaged by change so if you're interested I can make those maps available I'm also formatting a bunch of public domain data into data that is a gis incorporate it into the precinct maps like I'm putting house values if that information is valuable or perhaps useful I could give that to you.”

XIV. Next meetings

- The next regular meeting will be on July 12th, 2022, from 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
- The next redistricting public forum will be the District 6 Public Forum at the Ballard Seattle Public Library Branch at 5614 22nd Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98107 on June 16th, 2022, from 5:30PM-7:30PM.

XV. Adjourn

- Commission Chair Eliseo EJ Juárez asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nickels motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner Malaba seconded. The motion for adjournment was approved unanimously with four yes votes.
- The next Seattle Redistricting Commission meeting will be on Tuesday July 12th, 2022, from 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM.
- Redistricting Commissioners - Send any comments or recommended changes for 6.28.22 minutes before the next meeting.
- Questions and comments, please send them to Elsa.Batres-Boni@seattle.gov