

October 25, 2021 Minutes from the First Redistricting Hearing

(Hearing time – 7:00 pm)

10. First Redistricting Public Hearing and Process Overview. (City Attorney/City Clerk)

Doug Yoakam, Redistricting Consultant from National Demographics Corporation (NDC) detailed the Redistricting Process.

Council Member Ryno asked the consultant what the current district numbers are in comparison to 12,366. Consultant did not have the original information on hand. He stated that he will have that information in 2 weeks.

Mayor Lopez opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone from the Public had any comments and the following citizens spoke:

Daniel Padilla commented via Zoom and stated that some natural boundaries for zoning could be the freeway and the railroad. He advised that one whole district could be on the west side of highway 99. Since the Council has a vacancy, he thinks this is a good time to do it. He then asked if redistricting needs to be done before or after the vacancy is filled. He asked that voter choices be respected with continuity and equalizing of the districts. He commented about where the districts come together at Whitmore and Moffett, advising that there isn't a natural barrier there. He would like to hold off on the appointment of a new council member until the redistricting is complete.

John Warren asked what the numbers for the current districts are. Doug Yoakam, NDC consultant stated that he will have the information in a few weeks. City Attorney, Tom Hallinan, advised that there is a website that will be dedicated to redistricting. Mr. Warren asked when it would be available to use.

Gene Yeakley inquired on why with a population of 49,000+ there weren't 5 districts instead of 4. City Attorney Hallinan stated that in order to change the number of districts they need a ballot initiative. Mr. Yeakley stated that he thinks a 5th district is best.

John Osgood stated the local amount of people per district should be 7,000. He wants the districts amended to reflect 7 districts. He thinks that the less people represented the closer the representatives are to the people. He does not know if the City needs a ballot to make it 7 districts and wants the municipal code amended.

7:32 pm - Mayor Lopez closed the Public Hearing.

ACTION: No Action Taken. This was the first hearing that detailed the Redistricting Process and timeline.