



MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Rachel Flynn
Director, Planning Building

SUBJECT: Redistricting 2013

DATE: October 29, 2013

City Administrator

Date

Approval

/s/ **Deanna J. Santana**

10/29/13

INFORMATION

At the October 15, 2013 City Council hearing on redistricting, the Council heard from approximately 20 public speakers, and approved the following motion:

“[F]ocus future discussion on Maps 18, 21 and 22, taking into consideration the comments and input given during the October 15th City Council meeting, including keeping Fremont High School in District 5.”

The motion passed with a vote of 3 Ayes, 2 Noes – Gibson-McElhaney and Kalb, 1 Abstention - Schaaf, and 2 Excused - Reid and President Kernighan.

The “comments and input” at the October 15, 2013 Council hearing were:

1. A request not to split Adams Point from its commercial street, Grand Avenue; and to keep Adams Point in District 3;
2. Move the east of the Lake Merritt blocks (Cleveland Heights and Lakeshore Blvd) in District 2;
3. Keep the area north of Chinatown (14-20th Streets) in District 3;
4. Keep area near Garfield Elementary in District 2 (keep border between D2 and D5 at 23rd Avenue);
5. Explore two options for uniting Maxwell Park: unite into District 4; and unite into District 6; and,
6. Keep the neighborhoods between I-880 and International Blvd in District 6.

The City’s redistricting consultant, Doug Johnson, took the comments and input from the Council, and revised maps #18, 21 and 22 into new maps # 23, 24 and 25, which were sent to Council, and posted on the City’s Redistricting website (www.oaklandnet.com/redistricting).

All proposed redistricting maps are posted on this website. Each of the maps made by the consultant in response to Council’s comments are described in more detail in **Attachment A** to this memorandum.

In addition to the consultant-revised maps #23, 24 and 25, several Council members have submitted maps of their own, and these five maps are also part of the October 29 Council hearing. These maps are numbered 18b, 21b, 26, 27 and 28, and details can be found on the City's redistricting website, and in **Attachment B** to this report.

The next public hearing will be on October 29, where the Council will recommend a preferred redistricting map for to be prepared as an ordinance for first reading at the November 19 City Council hearing.

The City continues its commitment to a transparent and publically-engaged Redistricting process. Staff and the consultant Doug Johnson, remain available to the Council, and the public, if there are questions or if further explanation is needed.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

RACHEL FLYNN

Director, Department of Planning and Building

For questions, please contact Devan Reiff, Planner III, at 510-238-3550.

Attachments (2)

Attachment A

The City's redistricting consultant, Doug Johnson, explains the details about maps #23, 24 and 25:

“The Council direction on October 15 was to make tweaks to maps 18, 21 and 22, and we have direction from that Council meeting to show Maxwell Park in District 4 and Maxwell Park in District 6. All of the direction for Maps 23, 24 and 25 was received during the Council discussion at the Council meeting.

The number of maps has been kept down to three, as the Council directed, with each of the “tweaks” included in each of old map #18 (the new map #23); the old map #21 (the new map #24); and old map #22 (the new map #25). As noted at the Council hearing, most of the changes in the west, involving District 1, District 2, and District 3 are independent of the changes in the east involving District 4, District 5 and District 6. The only exception is the “Adams Point into District 2” scenario and its resulting need for a population offset between District 2 and District 5 in the 21st Avenue / 23rd Avenue corridor.

The larger shifts in maps #23 and #24 that were not directly mentioned in the “tweaks” discussed by the Council and/or members of the public at the Council meeting consist entirely of the need to offset the population involved in showing a scenario with Maxwell Park in District 6. When Maxwell Park is placed in District 6, the compact way to make that is to put Maxwell Park and the Fairfax/Melrose area into District 6, as shown in map #23, however balancing the population of District 6 then requires District 6 to move entirely north of International Blvd. Given Councilwoman Brooks' statement at the Council hearing that she opposed losing all of the area south of International, I added an alternative approach, map #24, which keeps District 6 south of International and keeps most of Fairfax/Melrose in District 4. These changes are exclusively limited to the Council's direction regarding Maxwell Park, and the three options (shown in maps #23, 24 and 25) are entirely interchangeable – any of the map #23, 24, 25 Maxwell Park options can be combined with any of the map #23, 24, 25 western options for Districts 1, 2 and 3.

Uniting Maxwell Park in District 6 in two of the maps (maps #23 and 24), and in District 4 in only one of the maps (map #25), is not an endorsement or recommendation that Maxwell Park be in District 6. It simply reflects that there were two ways to offset the population shift involved, so it took two maps to show those two options.

The smaller “tweaks” included in all three maps are the Trestle Glen Road change between District 2 and District 5; the Garfield Elementary/San Antonio neighborhood change between District 2 and 5; the Glenwood Avenue change between Districts 2 and 5; and keeping Fremont High School in District 5.”

Councilmembers requested maps be prepared for the October 29, 2013 Council hearing:

- Councilmember Brooks had the consultant make revised versions of maps #18 and 21, which among other changes, both show Maxwell Park united into District 4 (these are maps #18b and #21b).
- Councilmember McElhaney had the consultant make map #26, which unites Maxwell Park into District 6, and puts the Lakeshore Avenue/China Hill neighborhood into District 2.
- Councilmember Kalb had the consultant make maps #27 and #28:
 - Map #27 is the same as map #26, but changes the border of District 1 and District 3 to unite the Mosswood neighborhood in District 1 (boundary of District 1 would be I-580, between Highway 24 and Broadway).
 - Map #28 is essentially the same as map #27, but puts the Fairfax neighborhood into District 6, and uses Sausal Creek as the boundary between District 4 and District 5, moving the neighborhood around Curt Flood Field (upper Coolidge and Fruitvale at I-580), from District 5 into District 4.