



**CITY OF OAKLAND  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
(REGULAR MEETING)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**  
Via Teleconference

Redistricting Commissioners: Benjie Achtenberg, Amber Blackwell, Daniel Chesmore (Alternate), Gloria Crowell, Lilibeth Gangas, Shirley Gee, Stephanie Goode, Masoud Hamidi (Alternate), Paul Marshall, Tracy Richmond McKnight, Diana Miller, Tejal Shah, Jan Stevens, and Mary Velasco.

Commission website: [www.oaklandca.gov/redistricting](http://www.oaklandca.gov/redistricting)

---

**1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**

Quorum was determined and the meeting started at 5:02 pm.

Commissioners present: Benjie Achtenberg, Amber Blackwell (arrived at 5:04 pm), Gloria Crowell, Lilibeth Gangas (arrived at 5:16 pm), Shirley Gee, Stephanie Goode, Paul Marshall, Tracy Richmond McKnight (arrived at 5:25 pm), Diana Miller, Tejal Shah, Jan Stevens, and Mary Velasco.

Commissioners absent: None.

Alternate Commissioners present: Daniel Chesmore, Masoud Hamidi.

Alternate Commissioners absent: None.

City staff present: Richard J. Luna, Corey Alvin.

City Attorney staff present: Mitesh Bhakta.

**2. Moment of Silence**

Chair Shirley Gee called for a moment of silence in recognition of lives lost and families impacted by the COVID-19 health pandemic.

**3. Open Forum**

There were no public comments on this item.

**4. Disclosure Requirements by Commissioners**

There were no disclosures by Commissioners.

There were no public comments on this item.

**CITY OF OAKLAND  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
(REGULAR MEETING)**

**Meeting Minutes (Continued)**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**  
Via Teleconference

---

**5. Commissioner Appointment**

Due to a vacancy created by former Commissioner Martha Hernandez’s resignation, the Commission pursuant to Rule 14 of its Rules of Procedures was tasked with appointing one of the Alternate Commissioners to fill the vacancy. Alternate Commissioner Daniel Chesmore addressed the Commission and voluntarily withdrew from consideration, recommending the Commission appoint Alternate Commissioner Masoud Hamidi as a voting Commissioner.

A motion was made by Jan Stevens, seconded by Gloria Crowell, to appoint Masoud Hamidi as a voting Commissioner to the Oakland Redistricting Commission. The motion passed with 10 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gee, Goode, Marshall, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and two absent (Gangas, McKnight).

There were no public comments on this item.

**6. Chair & Vice Chair Schedule**

The Commission reviewed the proposed Chair and Vice Chair scheduled, as recommended by the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee.

A motion was made by Gloria Crowell, seconded by Mary Velasco, to approve the following Chair and Vice Chair terms for the 2021 calendar year:

	<b>Q1 Jan. – March</b>	<b>Q2 April – June</b>	<b>Q3 July – Sept.</b>	<b>Q4 Oct. – Dec.</b>
<b>Chair</b>	Benjie Achtenberg	Stephanie Goode	Tracy Richmond McKnight	Lilibeth Gangas
<b>Vice Chairs</b>	Shirley Gee Stephanie Goode	Tracy Richmond McKnight Diana Miller	Lilibeth Gangas Tejal Shah	Diana Miller Tejal Shah

The motion passed with 11 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Crowell, Gee, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and two absent (Gangas, McKnight).

Upon adoption, Benjie Achtenberg presided as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

There were no public comments on this item.

**CITY OF OAKLAND  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
(REGULAR MEETING)**

**Meeting Minutes (Continued)**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**  
Via Teleconference

---

**7. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The Commission reviewed the draft meeting minutes. A motion was made by Gloria Crowell, seconded by Shirley Gee, to approve the minutes for the meeting of December 9, 2020. The motion passed with 11 ayes (Achtenberg, Crowell, Gangas, Gee, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and two absent (Blackwell, McKnight).

There were no public comments for this item.

**8. Ad Hoc Committee Updates**

On behalf of the Community Outreach Ad Hoc Committee, Commissioner Amber Blackwell presented the Committee's proposed goals and objectives presented in the Agenda packet. Committee members addressed questions from Commissioners on whether work should be designated to the Committee or the full Commission.

City staff stated they would return with recommendations on how to share a list of potential community partners so the full Commission can provide input and add or make edits to the list.

On behalf of the Communications Ad Hoc Committee, Commissioner Stephanie Goode presented the Committee's proposed goals and objectives presented in the Agenda packet. Chair Benjie Achtenberg recommended the Commission use the opportunity to evaluate the proposed objectives of the Community Outreach and Communications Committees, and if the objectives fit with each Committee or could be assigned to others.

Commissioners then engaged in questions and responses to better define the roles of the Community Outreach and Communications Ad Hoc Committees. Commissioners also discussed opportunities to partner with organizations to assist and train the Commission in outreach efforts.

The Commissioners then engaged in a discussion related to defining communities of interest and brainstormed which data sets the Commission could use to help inform their decision-making process. The Commission contemplated forming Ad Hoc Committees to specifically identify and collect existing data and to further define communities of interest; however, the Commission did not elect to form such Committees. Commissioners referenced specific data sets available from organizations, and City staff stated the input provided thus far provides a sufficient framework for staff to initiate the data collection work on behalf of the Commission.

**CITY OF OAKLAND  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
(REGULAR MEETING)**

**Meeting Minutes (Continued)**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**  
Via Teleconference

---

City staff member Richard J. Luna provided an update on the consultant selection process on behalf of the Consultant Selection Ad Hoc Committee. Staff stated the City received four proposals and heard presentations from each of the firms. The Committee invited input for how it would conduct final evaluations prior to scheduling second round interviews with the firms, with the goal of presenting and nominating a consultant at the Commission's February meeting.

City staff also presented the main talking points document included in the Agenda packet that the Communications Ad Hoc Committee produced. There were no edits made to the document and staff stated the next steps would be to translate the main talking points and begin designing a flyer for public distribution.

There were no public comments for this item.

**9. Agenda Requests for Future Meetings**

Commissioner Jan Stevens stated the Consultant Selection Ad Hoc Committee would present its recommendation on which consultant should be approved to work with the Commission at the next meeting.

There were no additional requests for new Agenda items.

There were no public comments on this item.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.