CITY OF ESCONDIDO MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE THE INDEPENDENT DISTRICTING COMMISSION

November 23, 2013

The meeting of the Independent Districting Commission was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chairperson Nuesca at Mission Middle School, Escondido, California.

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Nuesca, Commissioner Flores, Commissioner Cruz, Commissioner Ramirez, Vice-Chairperson Valdez, Commissioner Anderson, and Commissioner Carey.

Commissioners Absent: None.

Staff Present: Eva Heter, Assistant City Clerk; Megan Grimm, Executive Office Coordinator; Livier Valenzuela, Interpretation Services; and Ty Paulson, Minutes Clerk.

Chairman Nuesca recessed the meeting for the purpose of meeting with the public and reviewing the maps at 9:06 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

Public Hearing – Public consideration of and comment on the drawing of district lines; Public input regarding their Community of Interest (COI).

Pat Mues, Escondido, expressed her concern that homeowner associations appeared to be trumping communities of interests (COIs).

Gina Gillie, Escondido, noted that her COI was along Escondido Creek in the Urban Core area. She felt the district line should be adjusted to include the single-family homes and condominiums along Escondido Creek thus enlarging the district.

Laura Kohl, San Marcos, noted that she was a teacher at Hidden Valley Middle School. She expressed her enthusiasm with the hearings be spread throughout the schools in the city. She expressed concern with the Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) numbers being taken so literally when drawing the districts.

Robroy Fawcett, Escondido, referenced the area of Sunset Terrace Mobile Home Park and expressed his concern with not having access to the data being used by Q2. He stated that the data used for drawing the school district boundaries showed a different view of the Hispanic CVAP for this area. He questioned how Q2 determined the subject area was nearly 100% Hispanic. He suggested that the Commission use the Register of Voter data.

Patricia Serano, Escondido, requested that the urban core district boundaries include the residents along Escondido Creek.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Don Greene, Escondido, wanted the Commission to be aware that there was a concerted effort to discredit the work being done by the Commission online and through social media, which he strongly disagreed with. He expressed his view that the work being done by the Commission was being done appropriately and what was mandated.

Robroy Fawcett, Escondido, stated that he was appalled by the expert consultant, noting his concern for the public not receiving the data at the block level for the Hispanic CVAP. He disagreed with Q2's position that the Hispanic CVAP was required to draw the district lines. He indicated that it appeared that the Hispanic CVAP was the key data being used by the Commission to draw the district lines. He requested the subject data be provided on a block group level. In conclusion, he expressed his concern with Q2 using an algorithm different from the State and other consultants.

Adjournment: Chairperson Nuesca adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m. The next meeting was set for November 24, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

Diane Halverson, City Clerk

Ty Paulson, Minutes Clerk

Please note: These hearing minutes were not formally approved by the Independent Districting Commission.