

Redistricting Public Input Meeting-June 22, 2011

East Las Vegas Community Center

- I am concerned about how the rural population is going to split up, so what ideas do you have for that. Answer: My job is getting your feedback to help shape my thinking.
- What is the deadline on the process? Answer: Hard deadline in November, but the Commissioners have asked to get it done sooner than that.
- Population density of the valley is largest at the center and gets smaller as it goes out towards the edges. You can't make one district only there. Would like to see the districts done like the city, where the newer area is represented by someone but the older area is represented by someone else.
- What role do the boundaries of the incorporated cities play? Answer: They play a large role, because they are communities of interest that are important to keep together. It is not the most important factor, but it is a factor.
- Are the County Commissioners giving you specific requirements in order to do your job? Answer: Nothing has been given to me in writing.
- Since you have done redistricting previously, would you be willing to provide your previous work to show us what you have done and that they have withstood the court challenge? Answer: No.
- Most of the Commissioners who approved the last redistricting are in jail now. That's how I got Dario Herrera as a Commissioner. And now I see the maps with the minority population – where are the human maps? Answer: One of the constraints that I explained I am working under is the Voting Rights Act, which requires that minority populations are to be respected in redistricting.
- The census data person told me that race is a concept and that I could have checked all the boxes for all the races. How do you deal with that? Answer: Congress has specifically stated that we use the census data the way it is collected, if you have a problem with this you need to contact your federal representatives.
- What about my voting rights if my representative gets changed? Answer: You will need to check in with your federal representative to discuss that.
- Why were the lines in the current district map drawn the way they were? They should not be influenced by Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.
- I'm from Sunrise Manor, which is split among many Commissioners. I want to see something that incorporates both city lines and township lines sensibly.
- I want people representing me that understand my constituency.
- People represented by Scow in the finger of that current district probably have more in common with the residents in the districts of Giunchigliani and Collins than the other folks in the same district.

- A group of us that been working with the CCSD on a redistricting plan and we have identified a Latino corridor of 150,000, and I'd like to share that map with you. We'd like to see a Latino majority district. Answer: I commit to you that there will be one.
- I think it would be unfair if there was a Latino majority district. It would be unfair to the other people in the district. Answer: The federal law says that if you have the ability to make a majority Latino district, you must.
- What about a majority white district? Answer: I can assure you that there will be majority white districts.
- Don't we already have a majority white district already? There are already four districts that are majority white districts.
- I'm concerned that in the paper it said you would be able to retain the seats of each Commissioner and that's why you were hired. Answer: I have made no promises other than I would be fair and comply with the law. There have been no discussions with anyone about retaining any seats. I have not had meetings or any contact at all that suggests I would have to keep anyone in their seats.
- Are there any requirements in the Voting Rights Act to preserve party? Answer: No.
- What computer program are you using to do this? Answer: We are using a program called Maptitude for Redistricting. It's made by Caliper Corporation and is used all over the country for redistricting.
- In the legislature there was a bill that allowed last minute registration, and I was curious if it was the same group that was supporting that bill.
- Commissioner Sisolak's physical location will not be able to go both to Bunkerville and Laughlin.
- These colored maps are about culture and not color. There is a great cultural difference between the rural and the urban residents. The current map cheats the rural residents because they don't currently have adequate representation.
- Rural residents would be better represented if there was an entirely rural district that consisted of all the areas outside of the urban area.
- What other criteria will you be using? Answer: Major roads, city limits, national boundaries, neighborhoods, and communities of interest. May include language similarities, location of jobs of the residents. Primarily census data will drive the process.
- Grouping African Americans together and making it easier to elect an African American is a false premise because the current President is Obama, who is African American.
- The reason the Voting Rights Act was put into place was because of discrimination. Those conditions are still in place. If the law says that this is the way that the redistricting should be done, then it should be done that way. African Americans want the same thing that everyone does – the best person for

the job. We need to help you do your job well so the result is something we can live with going forward.

- When you present the proposed map to the public, will you have had a chance to speak with each Commissioner before? Answer: Yes. But I won't be able to show it to everyone before hand. Logistically, at least one Commissioner will not be able to see it because they will be out of town.
- What will be your response to the Commissioners' concerns? Answer: I will react the same way I am listening to your concerns. Ultimately the Commissioners will have to vote for the plan and approve it, so I will need to make sure the plan is something they will approve.
- This is a brand new process, and none of the Commissioners were here for the current map. One of the main principles is to make the districts as compact as possible. If you respect communities of interest, you will end up with a majority Latino district because it is unavoidable.
- What about the laws regarding illegal aliens that are in some of these districts? Those laws are not enforced now, but they could be going forward and that would change the districts dramatically. Answer: We are obligated to use the census data by law.
- Please provide the demographic statistics for all of these districts. There are too many arguments that seem unfounded. I think you will see a majority of white voters in many of these districts if you look at the numbers.
- The ten years redistricting law applies to Congress, but locals can redraw whenever they would like to. Answer: Congress can redraw lines as well. This happened in Texas recently.
- How much consideration do you take in this process for future growth? Answer: None. This is a snapshot in time.
- How many proposals will you be presenting? Answer: I think it will be multiple, but I'm not sure how many.
- Please provide the ethnic breakdown for all the new maps and also for the current map when you present the new maps.
- The map you are working off of is not a good precedent to work off of. If you get more buy-in for the new map, it will make future redistricting easier.
- You said that you would include ethnic components in the new maps? Please also include the party registration and voter registration in the data. Answer: No, I will not be providing that information.
- This map was based on 2001 data. Are any of these maps going to show multiracial people? This is a faulty process because no one is representing the multiracial people.
- Our group was able to make a majority Latino district and also make a district of Asian Americans as well. You should have districts that comprise the core of the community of various ethnic groups.
- You should try to keep voices of a community together.

- We all have the right to vote now, so we should all be represented equally. There is no more need for the Voting Rights Act.
- Will you be presenting districts to the Commissioners that will change the ethnic demography and party representation that will change the districts? Answer: Yes, it is impossible not to.
- I'm frustrated that the majority of the people in Clark County don't vote but they complain when something goes wrong. We're here voicing our concerns and trying to make change, but there are others who are not here that will make more trouble later although they have not voiced their concerns.
- If you don't put out the information on registered voters for the new districts, then you are not being transparent. If you don't provide that information then the County will be sued. Answer: That information is not in the census and so the law does not require it to be presented. Registered voter information won't be presented, but voting age population will be. That's because voting age population is in the census information.
- How much time will be available to comment? About a month.
- You are using the census data to make your maps, but you should also include natural resources as part of the redistricting process. One example of that is Gold Butte. Right now each of the Commissioners gets to be stewards of some natural resources. I would be against pooling all of those resources into one district only.
- Have you met with anyone from Mesquite? I have met with some of our state representatives in the area, and they need to be included as well. The people of Mesquite think that they are ignored by the urban area.
- Please provide maps that have the old district lines and the new district lines on the same map.
- Are you considering Native American population? Answer: No. It is not large enough.
- Can you give a breakdown of how much of a district is in various cities? Answer: Yes, that can be done.