

07/06/2011

Sacramento Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee

Item 3 - Review/Approval of Committee's Final Report to Council

Sacramento Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Redistricting Committee

C/O Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Foundation

P.O. Box 160126, Sacramento, CA 95816-0126



July 6, 2011

Mr. Julius Cherry, Chair Person

Sacramento Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee

Subject: Request for changes to the proposed Council Report as it relates to communicating the needs of the local LGBT Community of Interest

Dear Chair Cherry,

On behalf of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Redistricting Committee, we would like to commend you and your fellow committee members for the excellent job you have done in reviewing the thirty-seven redistricting maps that were submitted. The Committee has worked diligently to listen to members of various communities and to develop four Plans that will lay the groundwork for the City Council to adopt new City Council Districts. This was a job well done! Thank you for your service to our community.

In reading the draft Council Report, the LGBT Community would like to ask for some minor changes to better convey what the local Lesbian and Gay Community has requested during the redistricting process.

The changes we would like to see are in bold:

- 1) Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender (LGBT) Community of Interest

Geography: **The LGBT core community of interest is defined as the Central City, with a connection to one of the surrounding LGBT friendly neighborhoods of Curtis Park, Land Park or East Sacramento.**

The staff report doesn't reflect the fact that the local LGBT Redistricting Committee has asked that the Central City be put into one district *and then joined* with a lesbian and gay friendly neighborhood such as Curtis Park, Land Park or East Sacramento. The data from Equality California simply provides the rationale for what the local LGBT Redistricting Committee has requested. We ask for this change because our request of the Committee isn't clearly captured in the current draft Council Report.

2) City of Sacramento Communities of Interest Map

The current map that shows communities of interest has identified an "Extended LGBT" community of interest. **We would like to have a "Core LGBT" community of interest added to the map that includes the Central City.** Perhaps the "Core LGBT" color could be pink. We think it is important to show the "Core LGBT" request because the "Extended LGBT" area isn't realistic to put into one district. We have worked hard to make sure our requests are reasonable. Not only does the "Extended LGBT" title give the wrong impression of what the local LGBT community has requested, but it causes the evaluation of the Plans and the information in the Summary Matrix to be inaccurate.

3) Summary Matrix and Committee Comments on the Plans

The current Summary Matrix gives the impression that the four Plans don't keep the LGBT community of interest together. That is false. The LGBT community of interest finds three of the four maps to be consistent with what we have asked for in the redistricting process. **We would like to see another column added to the matrix entitled "Core LGBT" that would indicate that Plans A, B, and D meet the objective of the LGBT Community because they join the Central City with one of the LGBT supportive neighborhoods of Curtis Park, Land Park or East Sacramento.** Another option would be to simply take out the references to the "Extended LGBT" area in the Summary Matrix as the map provided by Equality California was simply a data map to show where there is strong support for the LGBT community of interest in neighborhoods that surround the Central City.

Similarly, in the evaluation of each Plan, there are Committee Comments that indicate either a positive characteristic or weakness/tradeoff of each Plan. In all the Plans, there is the comment "LGBT Equality CA-mostly intact (D5/D3/D/4)" on all the maps. We don't feel these comments accurately convey what the local LGBT Community has asked of the Committee. **We would like to see the Committee Comments reflect when the "Core LGBT" area is intact and when it is split. Accordingly, on Plans A, B and D, the Committee Comments would indicate "Core LGBT- intact" and on Plan C "Core LGBT-not intact."** Another option would be to simply take out the references to the "Extended LGBT" area in the Committee Comments as the map provided by Equality California was simply a data map to show which neighborhoods connected to the Central City have strong support for the LGBT community. A better evaluation is whether or not the Central City is kept whole and then joined with one of the neighborhoods of Curtis Park, Land Park or East Sacramento.

We respectfully ask that you make these changes so that the Council Report accurately reflects these nuances. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rosanna Herber, Chair

LGBT Redistricting Committee