



CITY OF MONTEBELLO
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022 AT 5:00 P.M.

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1600 WEST BEVERLY BOULEVARD
MONTEBELLO, CALIFORNIA**

OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Members present were Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne, Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez, Councilmember Peralta, Councilmember Melendez, and Councilmember Torres. City Clerk Jimenez and Treasurer Gutierrez were also present.

STAFF PRESENT – City Attorney Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, City Manager René Bobadilla, Assistant City Manager Arlene Salazar, Deputy City Clerk Alicia Fernandez, Assistant to Deputy City Clerk Kimberly Guillen, and Records Coordinator Angelina Padilla.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

The City Clerk's Office called one (1) member of the public wishing to address the City Council. Speakers were provided three minutes to address the City Council and said speaker cards are on file at the City Clerk's office. No written comments were submitted.

CLOSED SESSION – 5:30 P.M.

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne recessed the meeting into Closed Session at 5:09 p.m. to consider the following closed session items:

- 1. THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES**
Government Code Section 54957
Consultation with City Manager, Police Chief, City Attorney and other related City officials.
- 2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**
Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)
Threat of litigation – One matter related to the CVRA

3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Application of San Gabriel Valley Water Company (U337W) for an Order Authorizing the Purchase of the City of Montebello's Water System Assets and related Approvals. PUC Application 20-10-004

4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Negotiators: René Bobadilla, Nicholas Razo

Employee Groups: Various City employee groups including but not limited to MPMA, MFMA, MMMA, MSA, MPOA, MCEA, MFA and unrepresented employees.

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 P.M.**CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne reconvened the meeting at 6:09 p.m. During Closed Session the City Council received a briefing on Item No's. 1 -4; there was no action taken and nothing to report.

INVOCATION – Frances Rowe, The Ark of Montebello

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Anthony Cruz, American Legion 2nd Vice Commander

CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA – CITY MANAGER – None.

CEREMONIAL/PRESENTATIONS

5. RECOGNITION OF UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RECRUITING SUBSTATION OFFICE OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2021 – Presented by Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne

6. RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH – Presented by Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne

7. RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN HEART MONTH – Presented by Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA AND AGENDA ITEMS (30 MINUTES)

The City Clerk's Office called two (2) members of the public wishing to address the City Council. Speakers were provided three minutes to address the City Council and said speaker cards are on file at the City Clerk's office.

The City Clerk's Office acknowledged one (1) written public comments submitted to the City's public comment email address. Said comments are on file at the City Clerk's office.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS ON ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

City Manager Bobadilla introduced a new member of the team, Lupita Ibarra, as the City's new Transportation Director. Director Sosnowski provided an update on COVID testing locations.

PUBLIC HEARING**8. CALIFORNIA VOTING RIGHTS ACT (“CVRA”) TRANSITION FROM AN “AT-LARGE” TO A “BY-DISTRICT” ELECTION SYSTEM – PUBLIC HEARING NO. 3**

City Attorney Arnold Alvarez-Glasman presented the staff report to the City Council. City Demographer, Claudio Gallegos, presented the City Council with an update on the districting process and the draft maps that were submitted by both the demographer and the public. Mr. Gallegos reviewed each map and its demographics.

The City Clerk’s Office called three (3) members of the public wishing to address the City Council. Speakers were provided three minutes to address the City Council and said speaker cards are on file at the City Clerk’s office.

Councilmember Melendez commended the community for getting involved. Demographer Maps 1, 2, and 3 stood out to him and recommended scheduling a meeting to review the maps that are elected at today’s meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez was in support of scheduling a meeting to review the maps to be discussed.

Councilmember Torres asked for clarification on when the updated maps were published on the website, how the demographer maps were drafted, and how many public submitted maps were submitted. Councilmember Torres asked if there were any communities of interest submitted to the demographer. City Manager Bobadilla clarified that census track data was used when drafting the maps; Mr. Gallegos confirmed that. Councilmember Torres stated that it appears the maps drafted were solely based on race. He stated that he was open to City Council’s comments and requested that maps 5 and 16 be included for consideration of further review.

Councilmember Peralta thanked everyone who participated in the map process. She stated that it’s important to understand the various communities of interest and would like additional data to be provided with the maps being presented.

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne stated that two Community Input Meetings will be held next week. She also summarized the various forms of public outreach that the City has completed to date. Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne asked Mr. Gallegos to explain the different data that was used, other than census data, to create the Demographer Maps. Mr. Gallegos stated that the primary data used is census data and citizen voting age population is the secondary data used to meet the CVRA compliance. Other data can be used but the two benchmarks mentioned are the ones that are required by law.

Councilmember Torres requested that the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem state which maps they preferred. Mayor Pro Tem stated that she prefers Demographer Maps 1-3 and expressed her support in moving forward with reviewing the maps. Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne stated that she would like to move forward in reviewing the Demographer Maps.

After further discussion the City Council mutually decided to further review District Maps 1, 2, 3, 5 and Public Maps 5 and 16 at the Community Input Meetings on Wednesday, February 15, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 19, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

It was motioned by Councilmember Melendez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez that the City Council hold the Community Input Meetings as mentioned above and:

- 1) Review draft City Council district maps submitted by the public and ARDA Demographics; and
- 2) Receive input from the public regarding the draft City Council district maps submitted by the public and ARDA Demographics; and
- 3) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

MOVED: Melendez

SECONDED: Jimenez

APPROVED: 3-0-2-0

AYES: Cobos-Cawthorne, Jimenez, Melendez

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Torres, Peralta

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 3-2.

REGULAR BUSINESS

9. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT (ACFR)

Director Solorza presented a PowerPoint presentation to the City Council. The presentation provided an overview of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), the scope of auditor's services, auditor's opinions, auditor's recommendations, and management responses, financial overview, reserves and cash, reserve policies, financial highlights, capital outlay, golf course, and hotels.

Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez motioned, seconded by Councilmember Melendez that the City Council:

- 1) Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and presentation.

Motion passed unanimously.

10. FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 SECOND QUARTER BUDGET REPORT

Director Solorza presented a PowerPoint presentation to the City Council, providing an overview of the adopted vs. projected updates, revenue highlights, expenditure updates, and Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Councilmember Torres requested for a copy of the Project Expenditure Report; that a survey be conducted to find out what the greatest impact for the community has been due to COVID and needs of the community to allocate funds to help the community; and requested that this recommendation be added to the motion.

Councilmember Melendez motioned to approve staff's recommendations as shown below, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1) Receive and file this agenda report and the presentation on the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Second Quarter Budget report; and,
- 2) Amend the budget by increasing appropriations by the listed amounts in the various accounts listed on Attachment B; and,
- 3) Update the Table of Organization/Master Position Control by adding two (2) Deputy Director positions in the Transit Department (Attachment C); and,
- 4) Take whatever additional actions necessary.

MOVED: Melendez**SECONDED:** Jimenez**APPROVED:** 4-1-0-0

AYES: Cobos-Cawthorne, Jimenez, Melendez, Peralta

NOES: Torres

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 4-1.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne pulled Item No's. 11 and 12 and Councilmember Torres pulled Item No's. 14 and 17. Councilmember Melendez motioned to approve Item No's. 13, 15 and 16, seconded by Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne; motion passed unanimously.

11. UPDATED REPORT OF EMERGENCY REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF THE BEACH STREET STORM DRAIN

Director Enriquez presented the staff report and photos of the emergency repairs to City Council.

It was motioned by Councilmember Melendez, seconded by Councilmember Peralta that the City Council:

- 1) Receive and file the City Manager's updated report of the emergency repair of the Beach Street Storm Drain pursuant to Montebello Municipal Code Section 3.20.140 and Public Contracts Code Section 22035; and
- 2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

Motion approved unanimously.

12. COMMUNITY GARDEN AT GRANT REA PARK

Director Sosnowski presented a PowerPoint presentation to the City Council.

It was motioned by Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez, seconded by Councilmember Melendez that the City Council:

- 1) Approve an Agreement No. 3955 with the Los Angeles Community Garden Council ("LACGC") for a three-year term to manage a community garden at Grant Rea Park; and
- 2) Amend the Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget by increasing appropriations in Account Nos. 221-70-720-6040.10 by \$41,000; 221-70-720-6040.96 by \$25,000 and 221-70-720-7116 by \$75,000 (Measure A, Parks and Recreation, Parks Maintenance, Outside Contracts; Engineering Design Services; Improvements Other Than Building; and
- 3) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

Motion approved unanimously.

13. APPROVE BLANKET PURCHASE ORDER WITH PDQ RENTAL CENTER FOR PURCHASE OR RENTALS OF CITYWIDE EQUIPMENT

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1) Approve a blanket purchase order with PDQ Rental Center in a total not-to-exceed amount of \$75,000, for the purchase or rental of citywide equipment rentals; and
- 2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

14. WAIVE SECOND READING AND ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2447 AMENDING MONTEBELLO MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTERS 3.16 "CITY FUNDS," 3.20 "PURCHASING SYSTEM," AND 3.21 "CONTRACTS FOR PROFESSIONAL AND SPECIAL SERVICES" TO INCORPORATE REVISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THE STATE AUDITORS REPORT OF 2021

Councilmember Torres pulled this item to ask clarifying questions and Director Solorza addressed all his questions.

Councilmember Melendez motioned, Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez seconded that the City Council:

- 1) Waive Second Reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2447 Amending Chapters 3.16 “City Funds,” 3.20 “Purchasing System,” and 3.21 “Contracts for Professional and Special Services” of the Montebello Municipal Code Relating; and
- 2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

MOVED: Melendez**SECONDED:** Jimenez**APPROVED:** 4-1-0-0

AYES: Cobos-Cawthorne, Jimenez, Melendez, Peralta

NOES: Torres

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 4-1.

15. APPROVE PURCHASE OF A FIRE COMMAND VEHICLE AND AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 BUDGET

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1) Authorize the purchase and replacement of the Fire Command Vehicle using pre-bid Sourcewell Contract #0011620-NCL awarded to NCL Government Capital; and
- 2) Amend the Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget by increasing appropriations by \$221,000 in Account No. 100--85-860-6082(General Fund, Fire, Suppression, Vehicle Purchases); and
- 3) Take such additional, related actions necessary to actions to effectively and efficiently procure the Fire Command Vehicle.

16. PAYMENT OF BILLS: RESOLUTION NO. 22-08 APPROVING THE CITY WARRANT REGISTER OF DEMANDS DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2022

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. 22-08 approving the Warrant Register dated February 9, 2022.

17. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING MAY 1, 2021; CITY COUNCIL MEETING MAY 12, 2021; CITY COUNCIL MEETING MAY 26, 2021; ADJOURNED CITY COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 1, 2021; JOINT SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING MEETING JUNE 1, 2021; ADJOURNED CITY COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 3, 2021; AND CITY COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 9, 2021.

Councilmember Torres motioned that the City Council table this item to the next Regular City Council Meeting, seconded Councilmember Melendez; motion approved unanimously.

AB 1234 TRAVEL REPORTS – None

Members of the City Council will provide a brief report on meetings attended at the expense of the local agency as required by Government Code Section 53232.3(d).

COUNCIL ORALS

Council member announcements; requests for future agenda items; conference/meetings reports.

1. Councilmember Torres

- a. Comments on Black History Month – provided an update.
- b. Request for financial reports – requested to receive reports as stated per the Municipal Code.
- c. Request for report on language access plan status – asked for consensus to receive a report on why the City stated that a language access plan was not needed by the City; consensus was not received.

2. Councilmember Melendez – None

3. Councilmember Peralta – None

4. Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez – None

5. Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne – None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne adjourned in the memory of Chief Keller's mother, Donna Dexter, and former Congressman Esteban Torres. Mayor Po Tem Jimenez motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2022 ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 9TH DAY OF MARCH 2022.



Alicia Fernandez, Deputy City Clerk

**CLOSED SESSION
SPEAKER CARD**

called @ 5:06 p.m. (closed session)

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No.

1



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note: Address and phone number are optional and not required to speak.

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to City Clerk's Office prior to 5:00 p.m. for live meetings or in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for video/audio meetings.

Type of Comment: Closed Session ☒ Non-Agenda Item ☒ AGENDA ITEM NO. 248

Meeting Date: 2/9/22 Time Received: 4:55 pm Date Received: 2/9/22

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: SCOTT KAFFERTY PHONE: 202-390-5625
(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ TOPIC: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

Translation Needed: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

Received by Staff Angelina P. Received Via: Email ☐ Phone ☒ In Person ☐

AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA SPEAKER CARDS

called @ 6:22 pm.

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No.

1



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note: Address and phone number are optional and not required to speak.

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to City Clerk's Office prior to 5:00 p.m. for live meetings or in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for video/audio meetings.

Type of Comment:

Closed Session ☐

Non-Agenda Item ☒

AGENDA ITEM NO. _____

Meeting Date:

2/9/22

Time Received:

11:32 am

Date Received:

2/9/22

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:

Margot

Eiser

PHONE:

323-728-7006

(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

Opposed ☐

In Support ☐

Neutral ☐

TOPIC: _____

NOTES:

general comment

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

Translation Needed:

No ☐

Yes ☐

Language: _____

Received by Staff

Angelina P.

Received Via: Email ☐

Phone ☒

In Person ☐



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note: Address and phone number are optional and not required to speak.

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to City Clerk's Office prior to 5:00 p.m. for live meetings or in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for video/audio meetings.

Type of Comment: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ AGENDA ITEM NO. _____

Meeting Date: 2/9/22 Time Received: 5:33pm Date Received: 2/9/22

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Osvaldo Peña PHONE: 323-493-8633
(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ TOPIC: general comment

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

Translation Needed: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

Received by Staff Angelina Padilla Received Via: Email ☐ Phone ☒ In Person ☐

called @ 6:25pm

called @ 6:58 p.m.

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. _____



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note: Address and phone number are optional and not required to speak.

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to City Clerk's Office prior to 5:00 p.m. for live meetings or in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for video/audio meetings.

Type of Comment:

Closed Session ☐

Non-Agenda Item ☐

AGENDA ITEM NO. ^{PH} 8

Meeting Date: 2/4/22

Time Received: 11:32am

Date Received: 2/9/22

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Margot Eiser

PHONE: 323-728-7066
(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

Opposed ☒ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ TOPIC: CVRA

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

Translation Needed: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

Received by Staff Angelina P.

Received Via: Email ☐ Phone ☒ In Person ☐

Called @ 7:02 p.m.

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. _____



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note: Address and phone number are optional and not required to speak.

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to City Clerk's Office prior to 5:00 p.m. for live meetings or in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for video/audio meetings.

Type of Comment:

Closed Session ☐

Non-Agenda Item ☐

AGENDA ITEM NO.

8

Meeting Date:

2/9/2022

Time Received:

1:59 p.m.

Date Received:

2/9/22

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:

Tila Gregorian

PHONE:

(323) 722-3521
(Optional)

ADDRESS:

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:

Opposed ☒

In Support ☐

Neutral ☐

TOPIC:

CVRA

NOTES:

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Translation Needed:

No ☐

Yes ☐

Language:

Received by Staff

Received Via: Email ☐

Phone ☐

In Person ☐

AGENDA & NON-AGENDA COMMENTS

Angelina Padilla

From: M Pedroza <mpedroza969@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:30 AM
To: comment, ccpublic
Cc: Cobos-Cawthorne, Kimberly Ann; Jimenez, Angie; Melendez, Salvador; Torres, David; Peralta, Scarlet
Subject: Agenda Item #8 Public Hearing #3 CVRA
Attachments: District Maps Missing.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

I was reviewing today's Council agenda and noticed that three of my six map submissions are not included. I submitted these six maps, first, on January 6, to the consultant. According to the demographic deviation and software screening, all maps met the qualifications. Because I did not receive a confirmation that my maps were received on January 6, I resent the six maps to the city council as a public comment for closed session on January 26. However, now that I see three of my maps missing, I am not confident that Council has actually seen my submissions.

I trust that the City Council genuinely wants an open process with as much community input as possible. I hope the Council will make sure all community submissions have been received and reviewed, and take all the time necessary to carefully study all possible options.

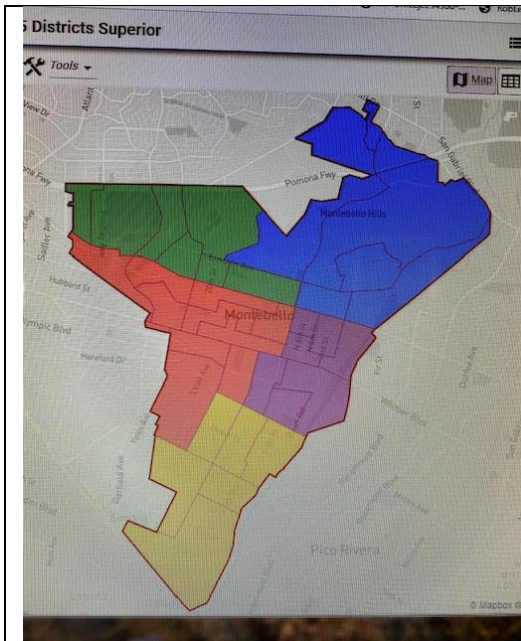
Personally, I hope you seriously consider establishing seven districts to create greater representation. Now is a once in a lifetime opportunity to consider and establish seven districts, before future elected bodies become protective of their "piece of the pie."

Your decision in this important matter will have ramifications well beyond your terms as Council members. Please do not be short sided. Act in the public's interest, not self interest.

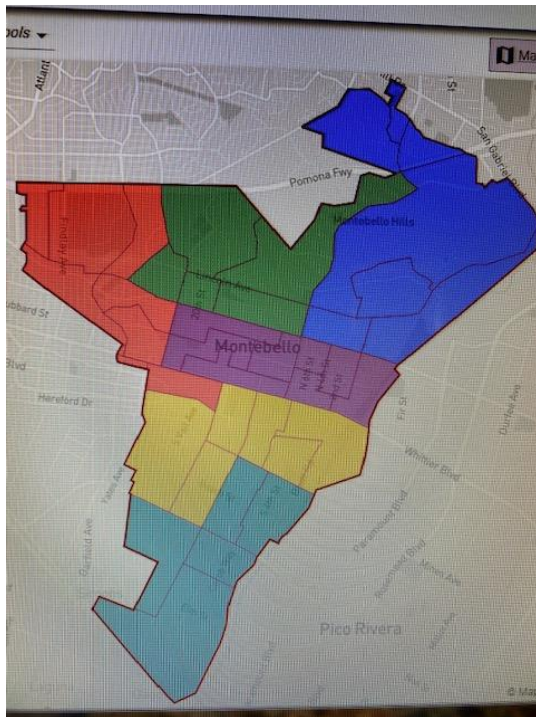
M. Pedroza

PLEASE DO NOT CLICK ON UNKNOWN LINKS. Contact Montebello IT Division if you are unsure.

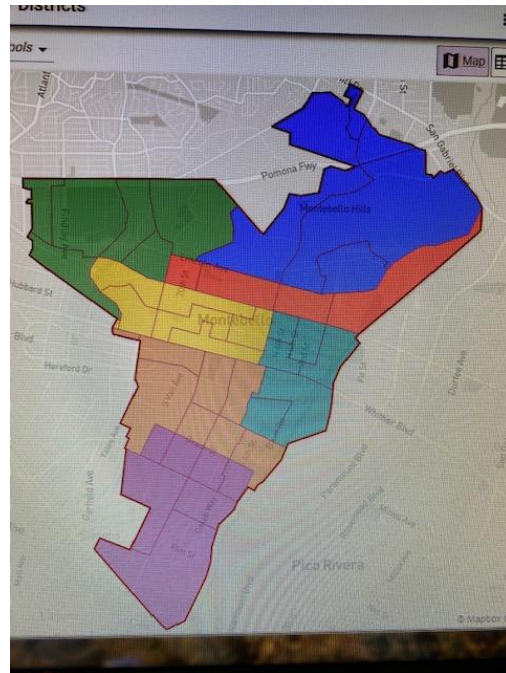
M. Pedroza



5 Districts -Superior



6 Districts



7 Districts

Angelina Padilla

From: Reyna Melendez <reynamelendez04@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 10:09 AM
To: comment, ccpublic
Subject: Safety Concerns

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good morning Montebello City members,

As a Montebello resident, I would like to bring the safety concern of our intersections in our city, especially the intersection at Beverly Blvd. and 4th Street.

The car accident that occurred yesterday, Tuesday, February 8th at approximately 7:30 am on the intersection of Beverly Blvd. and 4th Street sadly is an example of the need to calibrate and adjust the timers on the traffic lights. The traffic light stays on green much longer for the traffic flowing on Beverly Blvd. It takes a long time for the traffic light to turn green on the 4th street side, causing drivers to pass with fear as the light changes quickly, or pedestrians do not have ample time to fully cross the intersection. The video was posted online by another resident.

The Montebello residents involved in yesterday's accident are my neighbors, and as a community we are happy they were able to walk out of this terrible accident alive. Later that afternoon, my daughter was about to cross the same intersection after coming home from school and would have been hit by a car that was passing on Beverly who ran the red light. This is a very serious and scary situation. Gladly she was careful and held herself back and avoided a tragic accident. I couldn't bear to lose my child.

I am reaching out to you and beg you to please take this urgent matter into consideration and check the timers on these lights.

I appreciate your attention to this matter.
Reyna Melendez

PLEASE DO NOT CLICK ON UNKNOWN LINKS. Contact Montebello IT Division if you are unsure.

Angelina Padilla

From: William Moreno <billmoreno@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 10:51 AM
To: Montebello District Election
Cc: Melendez, Salvador; Jimenez, Angie; Kimberly Ann Cobos; Bobadilla, Rene; Torres, David; Scarlet Peralta
Subject: District map input

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

PUBLIC SUBMISSION MAP 1 or 3

At first analysis, here's my take & preferences:

1) These are divided more or less in concert with Montebello's development and keeps older and newer communities intact. Prior to the mid-60s or so - there were no homes in the hills or very few and Montebello Blvd (a two lane street) ended at Lincoln. They also recognize that South Montebello and North Montebello are distinct areas and identify as such and reflect in Street signage. South Montebello was historically bordered by Whittier Blvd on the North. In my view these areas should not be commingled.

2) It provides South Montebello with two District representatives. A plus since much work needs to be done there.

3) it's geographically coherent and keeps border aberrations to a minimum.

The rest of these maps either create additional Council Seats - a bureaucratic circus I'd think we want to avoid - or have been diced up into areas that have no real commonality.

Thanks - Bill Moreno
213/804.5901

PLEASE DO NOT CLICK ON UNKNOWN LINKS. Contact Montebello IT Division if you are unsure.

Angelina Padilla

From: Michele Gregorian <m.gregorian@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 11:02 AM
To: comment, ccpublic
Subject: PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2/9

READ THIS OUT LOUD DURING THE HEARING.

Why are we even entertaining the IDEA of going through with voting districts?

This was something brought up to the city by a GRIFTER. Other Southern California cities told this man to take a hike.

Why didn't Montebello follow suit & do the same?

It looks like the leadership of montebello is acting stupidly & foolishly and actually holding a hearing for this??

Montebello is a relatively small city with only one zip code and only 62,500 citizens. There is absolutely no need for voting districts.

This is one of the most ludicrous ideas this city has considered I'm sure printing 62,500 public notices, time spent on preparing & having this hearing cost a pretty penny.

Stop wasting our time & tax dollars!

End this nonsense & put this silly issue in the trash where it belongs.

A concerned Montebello citizen

PLEASE DO NOT CLICK ON UNKNOWN LINKS. Contact Montebello IT Division if you are unsure.

Angelina Padilla

From: Montebello-Pico Rivera Democrats <mprdemocrats@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 2:08 PM
To: Montebello District Election; comment, ccpublic
Subject: Public Comment on Districting for City Council Meeting

Good Evening,

The Montebello-Pico Rivera Democratic Club would like to explicitly thank Mayor Pro Tem Jimenez and Council members Melendez, Peralta, and Torres for their advocacy and support of a district-based election system. The commitment of four, out of the five council members, to this transition is consistent with democratic values and serves as an important step forward as we develop a more inclusive and diverse city council.

After reviewing the multiple district maps, drawn by the demographer and residents and made available on the Montebello city website, the MPR Democrats fully endorse “Demographer Map #3.” As an organization, we believe “Demographer Map #3” effectively supports the California Voting Rights Act and the federal Voting Rights Act by creating districts with **equal** populations, compactness, and contiguity. In addition, as a community of interest, the Asian American Pacific Islander community will have the ability to potentially nominate and elect a candidate who openly identifies as a member of the AAPI community. This will allow the voices of the AAPI community to be heard and strengthen the city’s commitment toward increasing inclusivity and true representation.

As the final vote for the adoption of a district map is set to occur in March 2022, the MPR Democrats are prepared to continue our outreach efforts to educate residents about the benefits of a district-based election system. In addition, we strongly encourage our City Council to vote in favor of a district map that is free of gerrymandering. Any abstention or “no” vote on this matter will be met with strong disapproval from our organization and will be shared among other local Democratic chapters and the Los Angeles County Democrats. This vote is monumental and will forever shape the history of Montebello.

Thank you kindly-
MPR Democrats

PLEASE DO NOT CLICK ON UNKNOWN LINKS. Contact Montebello IT Division if you are unsure.

Angelina Padilla

From: Alberto Pimentel <pime512@usc.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 2:38 PM
To: comment, ccpublic
Subject: Public Comment on Districting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Members of the Montebello City Council,

My name is Dr. Alberto Pimentel Jr and I am a professor and sociologist. I am submitting this public comment in support of the recent efforts to transition from an at-large election system to a district-based election system. Recently, I had a conversation with several council members and community organizations about the proposed district maps (that are available on the city's website) and after close examination of each proposal, I believe the district map titled "Demographer Map #3" would be the most appropriate to adopt. "Demographer Map #3" adheres to the guidelines established by the California Voting Rights Act by carefully dividing the city's population into equal segments and from my analysis, appears to be free of discrimination. The compactness and contiguity of the proposed district map within "Demographer Map #3" appears to be void of gerrymandering and based on the demographics of the proposed districts, the Asian American Pacific Islander community will have an opportunity to change the 101-year history of Montebello by securing greater AAPI representation in the council chambers.

Over the past few months, I've held a number of conversations with neighbors from the African American and Asian American Pacific Islander communities and in those conversations, my neighbors have shared their excitement and comfort with knowing that the City of Montebello is making major efforts to value diversity. I understand that the political landscape may change and incumbents may face a tough decision in the near future about their political careers, but I applaud council members Jimenez, Melendez, Peralta, and Torres for being selfless and having the courage to stand up for the voting rights and representation of the AAPI community. I appreciate the intellectual and stimulating conversations we have had and your compassion and dedication for our community has been shared with a diverse pool of residents. Thank you for standing on the right side of history and I look forward to future conversations about equity, diversity, and inclusion.

In closing, I would also like to thank the city's staff for working hard, providing guidance to our elected officials, and educating the public about districting. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and continue doing an amazing job!

Fight on!

Sincerely, an 8-year homeowner in Montebello, Dr. Alberto Pimentel Jr

Alberto Pimentel Jr, Ed.D, M.P.A, M.A
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