

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS**

**SPECIAL MEETING – May 29, 2018**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council met in Regular Session at 6:00 p.m. Monday, May 29, 2018, in the Council Chamber, 3191 Katella Avenue, Mayor Pro Tem Kusumoto presiding. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (b), this meeting included teleconference participation by Mayor Edgar from 3225 Turtle Creek Blvd., Building B, Conference Room A, Dallas, TX 75219.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Council Members: Chirco, Hasselbrink, Murphy,  
Mayor Pro Tem Kusumoto, Mayor Edgar

**Absent:** Council Members: None

**Present:** Staff: Bret M. Plumlee, City Manager  
Michael Daudt, City Attorney  
Sean Connolly, Police Captain  
Ron Noda, Recreation Manager  
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

Mayor Edgar advised the meeting notice was present, the door was open, and there was no one present at his location in Dallas, TX.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING**

**A. Receive Input from the Community Regarding the Creation of a District-Based Election System (City Clerk)**

The purpose of this public hearing was to inform the public about the districting process and to hear from the community on what factors should be taken into consideration while creating district boundaries. Per Election Code 10010 (a)(1), this is one of two public hearings that will be held before draft maps or proposed district boundaries are drawn.

City Clerk Quintanar summarized the staff report and introduced Dr. Justin Levitt, National Demographic Corporation (NDC). Dr. Levitt gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Kusumoto opened the Public Hearing in Dallas, TX for public comment.

Mayor Edgar advised the doors were open and there was no one present.

Mayor Pro Tem Kusumoto closed the Public Hearing in Dallas, TX for public comment.

Mayor Pro Tem Kusumoto opened the Public Hearing in Los Alamitos for public comment.

Joel Block, Rossmoor resident, spoke regarding the letter received by the City and mentioned to the California Values Act.

Mayor Pro Tem Kusumoto requested Mr. Block limit his comments to agendized matters.

Mr. Block referred to the 90-day grace period and requested the City explore extending the process. He stated concern transparency would not take place if the process was rushed. He stated concern for the low turnout and believed additional outreach needed to occur so citizens would be aware.

Barbara Farrell, resident, expressed concern regarding transparency and opposed the rushed process. She hoped more people would get involved and expressed districting based on shared demographics such as similar income areas. She acknowledged the lack of ethnic minority concentrations and stated support for natural dividing lines.

Carol Silvia, resident, stated there was one staff member to support the entire Council and that was great for the size of the City. She expressed frustration the City could not do anything about this process and stated opposition.

Mayor Pro Tem Kusumoto closed the item for public comment.

City Council, Staff, and Dr. Levitt discussed the following topics:

- The U.S. Census does not collect data based on religion
- Particular communities of interest can be taken into consideration when drawing districts; however, they would need to notify the City
- Voting Rights Act intents is to address demographics with a history of discrimination
- Concern out of the population of 11,600 there are only 6,300 registered voters that are going to be divided into five districts
- Decreased voting power for residents by limiting their vote to one Council Member instead of five
- Noticing for the Public Hearing was done on the City's website, Facebook, Nextdoor.com, Los Al TV-3, and News Enterprise
- Concern for districts that do not have interested candidates for Council
- Action driven by threat of litigation from an allegation made by Attorney Shenkman
- Moving to district based election was not a Council driven action
- Frustration the demographics of the City do not seem to require districts and the City will not see any real benefit from the process
- Action within the 90-day safe harbor is required to limit the ultimate finical exposure

- If a City refuses, allows for the potential of more extensive attorney fees.
- Direction to Staff to increase public noticing and air tonight's public hearing more often on Los Al TV-3
- Direction to Staff to include extensive background on how this item came about to all Staff reports to clearly illustrate this was not a Council driven action
- Direction to Staff to include OC Breeze in outreach efforts
- Council urged members of the public to get engaged and spread the word

Motion/Second: Murphy/Chirco

Unanimously Carried: The City Council:

1. Received this report on the districting process and permissible criteria to be considered to create district boundaries; and,
2. Conducted a public hearing to receive public input on district boundaries; and,
3. Approved the revised timeline for the transition from at-large to district-based elections.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Edgar	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Kusumoto	Aye
Council Member Chirco	Aye
Council Member Hasselbrink	Aye
Council Member Murphy	Aye

**4. CLOSED SESSION**

City Attorney Daudt read the items aloud.

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9. Name of Case: *Los Alamitos Community United, et al. v. City of Los Alamitos, et al.* Superior Court of California, County of Orange, Case No. 30-2018-00987018-CU-WM-CXC.

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

(1 case) Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 regarding unfunded mandate test claim for reimbursement of costs of implementing State mandate imposed by order of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding Statewide trash provisions.

**RECESS**

City Council recessed into Closed session at 6:43 p.m.


**RECONVENE**

The City Council reconvened in Special session at 8:05 p.m.

City Attorney Daudt advised there was no reportable action.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

  
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Troy D. Edgar, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk