

**Public Comment**

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**From:** Julia Gomez <JGomez@aclusocal.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 4:05 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Cc:** Jazzmin Mercado; Grace Fan; Christina Nguyen; Cynthia Valencia  
**Subject:** Aug. 10 Meeting: Public Comment on Agenda Item 18, Redistricting Timeline  
**Attachments:** 2021-08-10 - OCAPICA ACLU Letter to Anaheim CC re Item 18.pdf

Hello,

Attached please find comment from OCAPICA and the ACLU on agenda item 18 regarding the planned redistricting timeline. Thank you.

Julia

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August 10, 2021

*Sent Via Email*

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**Re: Public Comment on City Council Redistricting Process Timeline  
August 10, 2021 Meeting, Agenda Item 18**

Dear Members of the City Council:

The Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA) and the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California (ACLU) write to provide suggestions on the Council's draft redistricting process timeline. OCAPICA is part of the Anaheim Citizens Redistricting Committee and the People's Redistricting Alliance (PRA), two coalitions made up of Anaheim residents and community-based organizations, respectively, working in the region to promote a greater community voice in the redistricting process. The ACLU is also a member of the PRA and aims to provide legal and organizing support to member organizations.

We commend the City's decision to move forward with its planning for the 2021-2022 redistricting process, including its plan to hold more than the required number of public hearings and workshops. We request that the Council, however, amend its draft timeline to host the post-map community meetings in January and February of 2022. Currently, the timeline has the Council releasing draft maps in late October 2021 and hosting community meetings in November and December of this year. While we appreciate the Council's efforts to move the process along, we are concerned that hosting post-map community meetings during the same timeframe when the Orange County Board of Supervisors and the California Citizens Redistricting Commission will be hosting the bulk of their post-map hearings may make it difficult for Anaheim residents to engage in the City's redistricting process. We are also concerned that it will be difficult to engage Anaheim residents during the November to December holiday season and to keep them engaged over the holiday break and into early next year when the Council votes on a final map.

Instead of hosting post-map hearings this fall, we suggest that the Council: 1) focus on continuing to host pre-map community meetings and hearings until the end of the year; 2) delay the release of draft maps until early January 2022; and 3) host the remainder of post-map community meetings and public hearings in January and February of 2022, extending the process until March or mid-April 2022 if necessary.

We appreciate the Council and staff's efforts to plan for the redistricting process and look forward to continuing to work with you on making this process inclusive and transparent.

Sincerely,

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