

RESPONSE TO COUNCIL QUESTIONS RE: 11/5/19 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Agenda Item #3: (19-1104)

Discussion of, and Possible Direction On, Review of Potential General Fund Revenue Opportunities for the November 2020 Ballot; Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute Contracts for Community Research and Outreach

Council Question: Page 7 of 9 of the staff report discusses square footage-based measures. Do we know what is square footage of the residences vs commercial spaces (total number of taxable parcels is 28,888? The taxable parcels are separated out by land use categories: residential (27,240), commercial (756) and industrial (892). Do we know the square footage of each of the three types ?

Staff Response: Based on data collected from the County of Santa Clara, through our Property Tax consultant, for the FY 2019/20 Assessed Tax Roll the building square footage by industry is as follows:

Commercial – 23,126,622

Industrial – 28,984,983

Residential – 57,690,663

Council Question: I would like to discuss business tax based on number of employees, similar to the measure passed by Mountain View in 2018.

Staff Response: Regarding an employee-based business tax, we currently have an outdated fee structure that varies based on number of employees and type of industry. An evaluation and update of the Business Tax could be done, however, would require significant consultant time and community outreach. This work would take over a year to complete.

Agenda Item # 5: (19-1004)

Approval of Charter Review Committee Recommendations Regarding District Elections

Council Question: Can you please get us the summary of the 259 survey responses regarding district elections and also the details of the seven emails received in this regard.

Staff Response: The requested documents are attached.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SANTA CLARA DISTRICT ELECTIONS

October 17, 2019, 3:31 PM

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HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SANTA CLARA DISTRICT ELECTIONS

The City is seeking input from the community on the number of districts. Is the current six-district model working or would some other model be preferred?

Summary Of Responses

As of October 17, 2019, 3:31 PM, this forum had:		Topic Start
Attendees:	369	July 30, 2019, 9:47 AM
Responses:	242	
Hours of Public Comment:	12.1	

QUESTION 1

Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

		%	Count
Yes		97.1%	235
No		2.9%	7

QUESTION 2

Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by district?

		%	Count
Yes		65.8%	152
No		34.2%	79

QUESTION 3

If you answered No to question No. 2, would you like to see:

		%	Count
3 districts with 2 Councilmembers elected per district		59.2%	58

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SANTA CLARA DISTRICT ELECTIONS

The City is seeking input from the community on the number of districts. Is the current six-district model working or would some other model be preferred?

		%	Count
2 districts with 3 Councilmembers elected per district		21.4%	21
Some other district configuration? Please insert any additional comments in question No. 5 below.		19.4%	19

QUESTION 4

Should Councilmembers be required to live in the district they represent?

		%	Count
Yes		94.2%	226
No		5.8%	14

QUESTION 5

Please tell us if you have any additional comments that you would like the Charter Review Committee to consider in making a recommendation on a City Charter amendment about district elections.

Answered	98
Skipped	144

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SANTA CLARA DISTRICT ELECTIONS

The City is seeking input from the community on the number of districts. Is the current six-district model working or would some other model be preferred?

Survey Questions

QUESTION 1

Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 2

Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by district?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 3

If you answered No to question No. 2, would you like to see:

- 3 districts with 2 Councilmembers elected per district
- 2 districts with 3 Councilmembers elected per district
- Some other district configuration? Please insert any additional comments in question No. 5 below.

QUESTION 4

Should Councilmembers be required to live in the district they represent?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 5

Please tell us if you have any additional comments that you would like the Charter Review Committee to consider in making a recommendation on a City Charter amendment about district elections.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SANTA CLARA DISTRICT ELECTIONS

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Question 5

No response

Name not shown

inside Santa Clara

September 16, 2019, 4:11 PM

Question 1

- Yes

Question 2

- Yes

Question 3

No response

Question 4

- Yes

Question 5

Please urge the council to stop appealing the case, it's a complete waste of time and money. The courts have repeatedly ruled against at-large council members (both in Santa Clara and elsewhere) and provided a remedy for it, stop trying to weasel your way around the ruling and the will of the people as evidenced in the ballot measure passing by an overwhelming majority.

Marjorie` Banko

inside Santa Clara

September 21, 2019, 12:53 PM

Question 1

- Yes

Question 2

- Yes

Question 3

No response

Question 4

- Yes

Question 5

No response

john sontag

inside Santa Clara

September 28, 2019, 5:47 AM

Question 1

- Yes

Question 2

- No

Question 3

- 3 districts with 2 Councilmembers elected per district

Question 4

- Yes

Question 5

Having 3 districts with 2 council members per district on staggered terms allow each district to participate equally in every election cycle, and keeps the districts relatively compact.

Name not shown

inside Santa Clara

October 4, 2019, 12:28 PM

Question 1

- Yes

Question 2

- Yes

Question 3

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- 3 districts with 2 Councilmembers elected per district

Question 4

- Yes

Question 5

No response

Question 4

- Yes

Question 5

Under the CA Voting Rights Act any form of at-large election of the City Council risks future lawsuits for the City. The City should adopt a 6-district system to protect itself from future lawsuits.

Name not available

October 12, 2019, 7:14 AM

Question 1

- No

Question 2

- Yes

Question 3

- 3 districts with 2 Councilmembers elected per district

Question 4

- No

Question 5

No response

Name not available

October 12, 2019, 10:24 PM

Question 1

- Yes

Question 2

- Yes

Question 3

No response



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Help Shape the Future of Santa Clara District Elections

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The City is seeking input from the community on the number of districts. Is the current six-district model working or would some other model be preferred?

Please provide a response to the following questions. Your personal information will not be collected unless you choose to provide it. The survey results will be provided to the City's Charter Review Committee that will recommend a City Charter amendment about district elections to the City Council for potential placement on the March 2020 ballot.

For more information on district elections and the Charter Review Committee, please visit: SantaClaraCA.gov/charterreviewcommittee.

Survey

Name (optional): _____

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by District?

☒ Yes

☐ No



City of Santa Clara

3. If you answered No to question No. 2, would like to see:

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- ☐ Some other district configuration? Please insert any additional comments in question No. 5 below.

4. Should Councilmembers be required to live in the district they represent?

☒ Yes

☐ No

5. Please tell us if you have any additional comments that you would like the Charter Review Committee to consider in making a recommendation on a City Charter amendment about district elections.

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Survey

Name (optional): Hent M. Clerb

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by District?

☐ Yes

☒ No



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☒ Yes

☐ No

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4 - Must live in City
3 - Return to old system - Not
segregate the city into separate
"Countries" / Nationalities

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☐ Yes

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Leave well enough Alone!!!
— — — —

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☒ Yes

☐ No

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☐ Yes

☒ No



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- ☒ Yes *council members should live in city! People tend to care more if they live in & work in that community.*
- ☐ No

5. Please tell us if you have any additional comments that you would like the Charter Review Committee to consider in making a recommendation on a City Charter amendment about district elections.

I DON'T believe in segregating our community. WE HAVE ALWAYS VIEWED SANTA CLARA AS A LOCAL COMMUNITY NOT A "BIG CITY"! THE WAY WE HAVE ALWAYS VOTED HAS ~~SERVED~~ SERVED US WELL OVER THE YEARS! IF IT'S NOT BROKE DON'T TRY TO FIX IT.

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☒ Yes

☐ No

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☒ Yes

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- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

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Survey

Name (optional): Scott Hansen-War

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☒ Yes

☐ No

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☐ Yes

☒ No



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☐ No

5. Please tell us if you have any additional comments that you would like the Charter Review Committee to consider in making a recommendation on a City Charter amendment about district elections.

Having larger districts w/ multiple representation seems useful. But, we need to be careful to draw district lines that allow for the representation of the diversity of the city.

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For more information on district elections and the Charter Review Committee, please visit: SantaClaraCA.gov/charterreviewcommittee.

Survey

Name (optional): _____

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by District?

☒ Yes

if necessary

☐ No



City of Santa Clara

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4. Should Councilmembers be required to live in the district they represent?

☒ Yes

☐ No

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Please consider some form of ranked choice voting
no matter which districting method is
chosen

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Survey

Name (optional): _____

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by District?

☐ Yes

☒ No



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WOULD PREFER TO GO BACK TO
GENERAL ELECTION AND VOTE FOR
ALL CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR
COUNCIL. PRESENT METHOD LEADS
ME TO BELIEVE ANY DISTRICT COUNCIL
REP WOULD ONLY CARE ABOUT THEIR
PARTICULAR DISTRICT AND NOT CITY
AS A WHOLE OR ALL CITIZENS OF CITY

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Survey

Name (optional): Vida Abba

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☒ Yes

☐ No

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☒ Yes

☐ No



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Name (optional): _____

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

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☐ Yes

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- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

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Survey

Name (optional): _____

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by District?

☐ Yes

☒ No



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3. If you answered No to question No. 2, would like to see:

☐ 3 districts with 2 Councilmembers elected per district

☒ 2 districts with 3 Councilmembers elected per district

☐ Some other district configuration? Please insert any additional comments in question No. 5 below.

4. Should Councilmembers be required to live in the district they represent?

☒ Yes

☐ No

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Survey

Name (optional): Patricia Machado

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by District?

☐ Yes

☒ No



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Survey

Name (optional):

Jim Jones

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

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☐ Yes

☒ No



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*Keep all councilmembers
at large,*

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Survey

Name (optional): _____

1. Are you a resident of the city of Santa Clara?

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by District?

☐ Yes

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Survey

Name (optional): Joe Souza

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☒ Yes

☐ No

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☒ Yes

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WOULD PREFER 3 DISTRICTS

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Survey

Name (optional): _____

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☒ Yes

☐ No

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Survey

Name (optional): Bev Lee

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☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Should the City Charter be changed to adopt the six Council district plan currently in place for electing its six Councilmembers by District?

☐ Yes

☒ No



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From: marjorie banko
To: [Districts](#)
Subject: Districts
Date: Thursday, August 1, 2019 10:22:30 PM

I urge you to leave the six districts as it is now formed.

From: jack & Jane Lueder
To: [Districts](#)
Cc: kalmazolsup@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Citizen Review Process
Date: Tuesday, August 6, 2019 2:06:48 PM

**The two sites you referred me to DO NOT describe anything but the districts's map.
Is that the only documentation of the**

" the current six-district model"

Surely there is some text defining the requirements for candidacy and the definition of a District, etc.

Jack Lueder

On Aug 6, 2019, at 1:00 PM, Districts <Districts@SantaClaraCA.gov> wrote:

Mr. Lueder,

Thank you for your question.

Please visit the city website to learn more about the districts in place and the current committee is tasked to do with regards to districting:

<http://santaclaraca.gov/government/committees/charter-review-committee>

The current district maps can be found at:

<http://santaclaraca.gov/government/council-districts>

-----Original Message-----

From: jack & Jane Lueder <jjlueder@comcast.net>

Sent: Monday, August 5, 2019 4:06 PM

To: Districts <Districts@SantaClaraCA.gov>

Subject: Citizen Review Process

How can I know what the existing "six council district plan, currently in place" is ???

I can't find that on the website regarding the online survey.

Confused, Jack Lueder, District 6

From: Pat Waddell
To: [Districts](#)
Subject: SC District Election Input
Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2019 2:49:53 PM

Dear 2019 Charter Review Committee members:

Two simple requests for your work output:

1. Please keep the Court ordered districts. They're up and running, so just leave them alone.
2. If you find yourselves inclined to include "extras" such as ranked choice voting, please ask Council to make that decision independent of the districts on the ballot. I am worried that such "extras" might doom the charter revision due to public confusion/misinformation.

Thank you
Pat Waddell
Arthur Court, District 6

=====
J. Patrick Waddell
408-248-1870 home
408-656-8237 cell
pat.waddell@smythwad.net

From: Travis Flora
To: [Districts](#)
Subject: Keep the same districts
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2019 11:29:26 AM

I don't think we (you) should overthink this process. Use the existing districts that were established for the last election. Let's just move on. It doesn't have to be complicated.

Thanks,
Travis Flora

From: Ram Misra
To: [Districts](#)
Subject: Chapter Review Committee - a misnomer!
Date: Friday, September 6, 2019 10:53:07 AM

I attended August 15, 2019, session at Central Library and was completely underwhelmed.

1. Outreach, for the public comments, is very limited. Flyers in library, inserts in our monthly electric bill etc, might have solicited more responses..

2. Committee appears to get inputs for 6 districts, 3 districts or 2 districts but no scope for drawing district boundaries! If they recommend, 3 or 2 districts, then who and when district boundaries will be demarcated! May be better name could have been "District Implementation Committee".

3. There were only 185 responses, by August 15, 2019, - 5 of which were from non Santa Clara residents. With sample size so small, 180, committee wanted to know whether responses were statistically significant! Small sample size is result of inadequate outreach process.

In my opinion, all the efforts and associated expenses could have been better utilized to tackle City's other issues.

If City wins legal battle, will we have "Chapter Undo Committee"!

Also, only Santa Clara residents should decide it. Inputs from non Santa Clara residents should be ignored.

With Regards,

Ram Misra - proud Santa Clara resident.

From: Jack Gorham
To: [Districts](#)
Subject: charter Review
Date: Monday, September 9, 2019 1:58:52 PM

You sent out a notice about drop-in Listening Sessions in my neighbor hood on 10 Sept., but the notice was sent out on Sep 7, too late to attend! Get with it!

From: Efrain Delgado
To: [Districts](#)
Subject: Re: Charter Review Committee Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 2:57:48 PM

Hi,

Following up on my previous email. Hope to hear from you soon.

Best,
Efraín

From: Efrain Delgado
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 10:49 AM
To: districts@santaclaraca.gov <districts@santaclaraca.gov>
Subject: Charter Review Committee Meeting Minutes

Hello,

I am wondering how I might be able to access the minutes for the City's Charter Review Committee Public Input Session meetings #2 (August 15th) and #3 (September 21st)? I have monitored the [City's website](#) for the minutes but they have not been posted from what I can tell.

Best,

Efraín Delgado
Civic Engagement Community Organizer
[Asian Law Alliance](#)
edelgado@asianlawalliance.org
408-287-9710 ext. 204
he/his/him