

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 7, 2022 10:56 AM
To: districting <districting@sanbruno.ca.gov>
Cc: Melissa Thurman <MThurman@sanbruno.ca.gov>; Linda Mason <LMason@sanbruno.ca.gov>
Subject: Public comment on San Bruno Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to express my concerns about the public input process for redistricting. I've heard people at city council meetings and in social media say that the redistricting tool is easy to use. That was not my experience. At all. The people who find it easy to use may be knowledge workers who use computers and computer software every day. I am not. I spent hours trying to create, balance, and submit a redistricting map. Either I was unable to successfully submit my map or else I guess I didn't successfully balance it for population, even though I thought I had. This is a fail.

(I later created a quick-and-dirty neighborhood-only map that I submitted via email, but by the time I thought of doing this and was able to get it done it was a little past the 5:00 deadline for inclusion in the last meeting.)

In addition, in the last city council meeting where this was discussed I was disappointed that maps which were not successfully balanced for population seem to have been dismissed out-of-hand. Was there any analysis of what the submitter might have been attempting to say regarding neighborhoods? Was there any attempt to determine whether that might be valid and whether an attempt to correct whatever population imbalance existed should be looked into? It doesn't sound like there was. This seems like a fail too.

I know it is possible to submit a paper map. This still requires using the mapping tool to get the map and figure out how to balance it. Getting a paper map may be simple - I didn't try. But balancing it by population still seems to require using the tool with the additional burden of having to do the math yourself. And if you get it wrong it appears you will have totally wasted your time and effort. Submitting a paper map isn't really a solution to not being able to use the tool.

So far, I have not seen any maps that reflect the proposed districts I created, including one based on the transit corridor.

I would also like to better understand what effect by-district representation will have when various types of projects arise. We have seen several instances in which city council members have had to recuse themselves because of property ownership near a project. When does this occur and when does it not occur (types of projects, not proximity)? Obviously it can already be a concern that city council members who may have the most intimate knowledge of the impacts of a project on the immediate community can be excluded from having a say on it. How will district representation affect this? Could districts end up without not having their interests fully represented on projects such as grade separations, road changes, and other types of projects? Sure, all city council members should be taking the interests of the city as a whole into account but they will also have a responsibility to reflect the interests of their own voters. Sometimes the interests of one neighborhood do not coincide with the interests of another. Is it reasonable to expect them to vote on projects in a way that would not reflect the outcome preferred by residents of their district? It seems like communities could sometimes end up with less of a voice instead of more.

Thank you,

Marsha Glassner

From: william walker [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 9:05 AM
To: districting <districting@sanbruno.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Last Chance to Submit Your District Formation Map - Today at 5 p.m.

Stop the federal government from tampering with local elections, we are watching.

From: John Devincenzi [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 4:22 PM
To: districting <districting@sanbruno.ca.gov>
Subject: Districts

I received a flyer today saying you want input on the district maps presented. Asking for input is a commendable democratic practice and I applaud that. What I do not applaud is that we have not been asked for input as to whether districts are a good idea for the city. That is something that I feel should go to a vote to the citizens because essentially you are denying me the right to choose 3 of the 4 city council seats under your belief that my voice will be louder in my one district. I believe the city is small enough that districts are not necessary and the entire council should be accessible to all the citizens.

If districts are going to happen it should be the decision of the citizens and not the council or the city manager. Anything less than that I feel is a denial of our right to vote on matters that significantly impact our voice.

This is like saying we decided to execute you without your input but we are giving you a choice between firing squad or lethal injection because your input is important to us.

JohnDevincenzi