



# City of Santa Clara

## Meeting Minutes

### Charter Review Committee

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09/26/2019

7:00 PM

Mission Branch Library  
Community Room  
1098 Lexington St.,  
Santa Clara, CA 95050

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#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

**Chair Jain** called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

**Present** 7 - Member Benjamin Cooley, Vice Chair Steven Silva, Member Christine Koltermann, Member Katherine Almazol, Chair Sudhanshu Jain, Member Stephen Ricossa, and Member Richard Bonito

#### 2. Public Presentations

**Public Presentation(s): City Clerk Haggag** made a few meeting housekeeping announcements.

**Member Silva** asked that speakers note if they are residents of Santa Clara.

**Steve Chessin** noted he is not a resident of Santa Clara and informed the Committee that the County has signed a contract for new election equipment that can handle ranked choice voting in both single and multi-winner form.

**Public Speaker** noted he is a resident and gave an example of why it's important to have local representation.

**Public Speaker** noted she is a resident and in support of more districts because it allows for greater democracy as more people can run for office.

#### 3. Receive Public Input

**Chair Jain** opened the meeting for public input.

**Public Speaker(s):** None.

#### 4. Verbal Report from City Clerk on Survey Results and Other Feedback Received to Date

[19-1102](#)

Verbal Report from City Clerk on Survey Results and Other Feedback Received to Date

**City Clerk Haggag** reviewed the public input received as of the day of the meeting and the Committee members discussed.

#### 5. Verbal Report from Committee Members on Public Input Received to Date

**Committee Members** reported and discussed the public input they had received as of the day of the meeting.

[19-1156](#)

Post Meeting Material for Item 5, 6, and 7

#### 6. Discuss Different Forms of 3 Member Districts and Transition Plans

**City Clerk Haggag** noted the agenda item was incorrectly stated. The agenda item should have been different forms of 3 districts, not different forms of 3-member districts.

**City Clerk Haggag** delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the different forms of 3 districts and 6 districts.

**Committee Members** asked questions and discussed this item.

**City Clerk Haggag** delivered a PowerPoint presentation on transition plan options.

**Member Cooley** presented some information on election methods.

**Committee Members** asked questions and discussed the items.

**Public Speaker(s):** Public Speakers (6)

[19-1233](#)

Discuss Different Forms of 3 Member Districts and Transition Plans  
Post Meeting Material

**A motion was made by Member Ricossa and seconded by Member Almazol to adopt 3 districts.**

**Aye:** 5 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Almazol, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

**Nay:** 2 - Member Koltermann, and Chair Jain

**A motion was made by Member Koltermann and seconded by Chair Jain to adopt 6 districts.**

**Aye:** 2 - Member Koltermann, and Chair Jain

**Nay:** 5 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Almazol, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

**A motion was made by Member Ricossa and seconded by Member Bonito to adopt the 3/3 election configuration.**

**Aye:** 5 - Vice Chair Silva, Member Almazol, Chair Jain, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

**Nay:** 2 - Member Cooley, and Member Koltermann

**A motion was made by Member Cooley to adopt the 4/2 election configuration. Motion failed for lack of a second.**

#### **7. Discuss Residency Requirements, including Effects of Redistricting and Relocating (inside and outside city) During Term**

**City Clerk Haggag** provided some general guidance on this item.

**Committee Members** discussed the item.

**Public Speaker(s):** Public speakers (3)

**Chair Jain** asked the City Clerk to conduct a survey of neighboring Charter cities on residency requirements.

**A motion was made by Member Bonito and seconded by Member Cooley for the City Attorney to bring back two language options for Committee consideration related to residency requirements.**

**Aye:** 7 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Koltermann, Member Almazol, Chair Jain, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

## 8. Discuss Possible Language Related to Redistricting

**City Clerk Haggag** presented some general questions to help guide the discussion.

**Committee Members** discussed the item and asked questions.

**City Attorney Doyle** provided information on the item and noted he would bring back some sample language for discussion purposes. He also asked if the Demographer could provide options on combining districts.

**Committee Members** chose to defer any remaining discussion to the next meeting pending additional information.

**Public Speaker(s):** Public Speakers (2)

## 9. Discussion and Action on Recommended Charter Amendment

**City Clerk Haggag** clarified that the earlier motions will suffice for direction under this item.

A discussion occurred regarding providing some initial map options for 3 districts.

**City Attorney Doyle** stated he would bring back language from Measure A on how initial districts will be drawn.

**Dr. Gobalet** stated she would provide information from her past work on Measure A for the Committee.

**Public Speaker(s):** Public speakers (3)

## 10. Adjournment

**A motion was made by Member Ricossa and seconded by Member Bonito to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 PM.**

**Aye:** 7 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Koltermann, Member Almazol, Chair Jain, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito