



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Memorandum

Office of the City Attorney

DATE: January 7, 2021
To: Independent Redistricting Commission Members
FROM: Amy R. Webber, Deputy City Attorney, Ext. 82227 *ARW*
SUBJECT: Commission Communications

In 2018, the voters approved, Measure DDD, establishing procedures for a redistricting commission independent of the City Council. Part of this new legislation included a provision intended to ensure transparency in communications relating to redistricting issues, thereby improving public confidence in the process. Charter section 2507(d) provides that

“(d) Commission members and staff may not communicate with or receive communications about redistricting matters from anyone except at a public meeting or through the process established for accepting written public comment. This subsection does not prohibit:

- (1) communication between Commission members, staff, legal counsel, and consultants retained by the Commission that is otherwise permitted by State and City open meeting requirements; or
- (2) commissioners, staff, legal counsel, or consultants from engaging in public education and outreach, including explaining how the Commission functions and encouraging public participation in the redistricting process.”

While the Charter section contains an exception for communications between commissioners, commission staff and consultants, this does not extend to City Council members and their staffs. Communications from or to those offices should be in writing addressed to the Commission or should occur at a public Commission meeting.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

ARW:bg

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Independent Redistricting Commission

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cc: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Charles Parkin, City Attorney
Thomas B. Modica, City Manager
Monique De La Garza, City Clerk
Kevin Jackson, Deputy City Manager
Taylor Anderson, Deputy City Attorney