

EQUITABLE REDISTRICTING FOR THE CAMBODIAN COMMUNITY

March 16, 2018

This paper discusses the circumstances and principles involved in the current effort to redistrict the City of Long Beach so that the greater Cambodian community, located principally along the Anaheim Corridor area, is in one council district.

CITY OF LONG BEACH

The City of Long Beach is a charter city meaning that it is governed by the City Charter. Section 103 of the Long Beach City Charter requires that the City be divided, for electoral purposes, into nine (9) councilmatic districts that are of approximately equal population. Council districts are determined based on population, not registered voters.

With a population of roughly 460,000 people, each district has approximately 51,000 people.¹ The current Long Beach Council District map per the last redistricting is set forth in Exhibit 1.

THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS

Section 103 of the Long Beach City Charter provides that the opportunity for redistricting in Long Beach happens every five years or at any other time the City Council directs. Thus the Council can consider redistricting at any time. Section 103 of the Charter also directs that, upon City Council direction, the Planning Commission shall ascertain the population residing in each council district and report its findings to the City Council. If the council districts are not “approximately equal” the City Council must redistrict. Yet the Charter does not limit redistricting to only this circumstance nor does it indicate under what circumstances the Council may redistrict. Additionally, in the past, the City has amended its prior redistricting as needed. See discussion infra.

THE CAMBODIAN POPULATION LIVING IN LONG BEACH

As a direct result of the Khmer Rouge genocide, many Cambodians immigrated to Long Beach. Consequently, Long Beach has the largest population of Cambodians outside of Cambodia itself.

Within Long Beach, the majority of Cambodians settled in the Anaheim Corridor area. Much of this area was designated by the City in 2007 as Cambodia Town.

Over the years, this population has somewhat shifted. Today, many Cambodians live in North Long Beach although the majority still reside in the Anaheim Corridor area. Exhibit 2 is the 2012 breakout by census tract of Cambodians residing in Long Beach.

¹ When the Council redistricted last, in 2011, the number of residents was 462,257.

2011 REDISTRICTING

As part of that the 2011 redistricting, the Council adopted its “City of Long Beach: Redistricting Criteria,” on March 22, 2011. A copy of the Redistricting Criteria is Exhibit 3.

Item seven (7) of the Redistricting Criteria states: “Splits in neighborhoods, ethnic communities and other groups having a clear identity should be avoided.”

Paragraph eleven (11) states: “Preservation of communities of interest, where possible.” Paragraph fourteen (14) states: “Preservation of population cores which have consistently been associated with particular districts.”

Despite these criteria, the 2011 redistricting divided the greater Cambodian population living on and along the Anaheim Corridor. Most of the area was divided between the Fourth and Sixth districts due to the use of Gardenia Avenue as the North-South dividing line. This division of the Anaheim Corridor does not track or reflect the designation of Cambodia Town by the City. The population maps also show some of the larger Cambodian census tracts in the northern part of the Second Council District and eastern part of the First Council District.

NOVEMBER 29, 2016 MEMORANDUM FROM CITY MANAGER

On November 29, 2016, Patrick H. West, City Manager, presented the Council with a memorandum prepared by the Director of Development Services which reviewed the possibility of redistricting in 2016. Exhibit 4. That memo looked to whether increases in population of roughly more than 5% above or below the ideal distribution had occurred. At that time, the initial estimates showed that the Seventh District had grown over 3,000 residents putting it 6.7% above the ideal but the Memorandum does not advocate redistricting because there was “no guarantee that a redistricting process would result in an actual population that is closer to the ideal” The Memorandum also referred to the federal Voting Rights Act and state California Election Code requirements that redistricting plans not discriminate on the basis of race, color or membership in language minority groups. Lastly, the Memorandum points out that the Census Bureau will be releasing the latest population estimates, ACS 2015, on December 8, 2016 and cites as this as “most suitable option for population estimates data if mid-decade redistricting is conducted.”

AMENDING REDISTRICTING

While the City Charter requires redistricting when population shifts create district populations that fall outside the ideal number, to a plus or minus 5%, the Council has, in the past, redistricted partially to amend Council boundaries when necessary. Probably the most well-known example occurred following the redistricting in 1991. During that redistricting, the boundaries for the Second Council District were changed so that then Council candidate Alan Lowenthal was redistricted out of his own district, being moved from the Second District to the Third District. Following his election in 1992, the City Council amended its redistricting to move the boundary of the Second Council District sufficiently to include Councilmember Lowenthal’s longtime residence. This was reportedly done to fix a “political wrong” created by the 1991 redistricting. See LA Times, July 23, 1992. This redistricting fix was done without

the procedure set forth in the City Charter for the Planning Commission to evaluate the need to redistrict, etc. There may be other examples of this as well.

PROPOSED INCLUSIVE AREA

Rethinking Long Beach, a Long Beach based think tank, reviewed the U. S. Census data for 2016 and prepared a map showing the contiguous concentration of Cambodians living in and around the Anaheim Corridor (Exhibit 5). This map shows the 13 census tracts needed for unification of the Cambodian population in the Anaheim Corridor area. This would include 52% of the Cambodian population, about 9,312 Cambodians, of the total population estimated at 17,641.²

NEW DATA

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population estimated for the City of Long Beach as of July 1, 2016 was 470,130 persons which represents a population increase of about 8,000 people since 2011. The population estimate for July 1, 2017 is not yet available. Probably this results in additional Council Districts being outside the plus/minus 5%.

THE CALL TO REDISTRICT NOW

The Cambodian population is one of the most traumatized populations in the world resulting from the Khmer Rouge genocide from 1975 to 1979. The MAYE Center works with Cambodian survivors to build their residency and develop their self-healing. As a natural progression of self-healing, about 20 Cambodian survivors began a 20 week class on Civics, Organizing and Government (COG). After gaining their footing in the nature of federal, state and local governments, one student Vy Sron asked “how do we organize our community for more political power?” This led to a study, in detail, of Long Beach City Government including the current Council Districts, current population maps and the ability to alter Council Districts so that the greater Cambodian population in Long Beach could be united in one Council District. The class believes that such a move will promote the power of the Cambodian community to achieve equity, bring resources to bear on the Cambodian community as such, and lay the groundwork for voter registration and greater participation in the democratic process.

In December 2017, the COG class put out a call to all community leaders and individuals in the Cambodian community as far as they could reach. As a result, during an initial meeting in January, about 40 community members came together to learn what the COG class had learned and to evaluate whether something could be done. The concept of a petition was presented. Redistricting in time for the 2020 election cycle was sought because even numbered council districts vote in 2020.

The MAYE Center’s COG class opened the process up to democratic and transparent participation by everyone who wants to participate. As a result, those at the larger meeting were

² Commentators have noted that this probably is an undercount of the true number due to distrust of government and lack of participation in the census process.

invited to participate in a Planning Committee, charged with making all decisions related to the initiative. The Planning Committee decided upon a petition to Long Beach City Council. Charles Song and Laura Som were selected as co-chairs and these individuals along with Ms. Vy Sron were elected as spokespeople. The petition was created by the Planning Committee which is chaired by the consultants to the group Marc Coleman and Dr. Alex Norman and all decisions are made democratically by the Planning Committee.

THE PETITION DRIVE

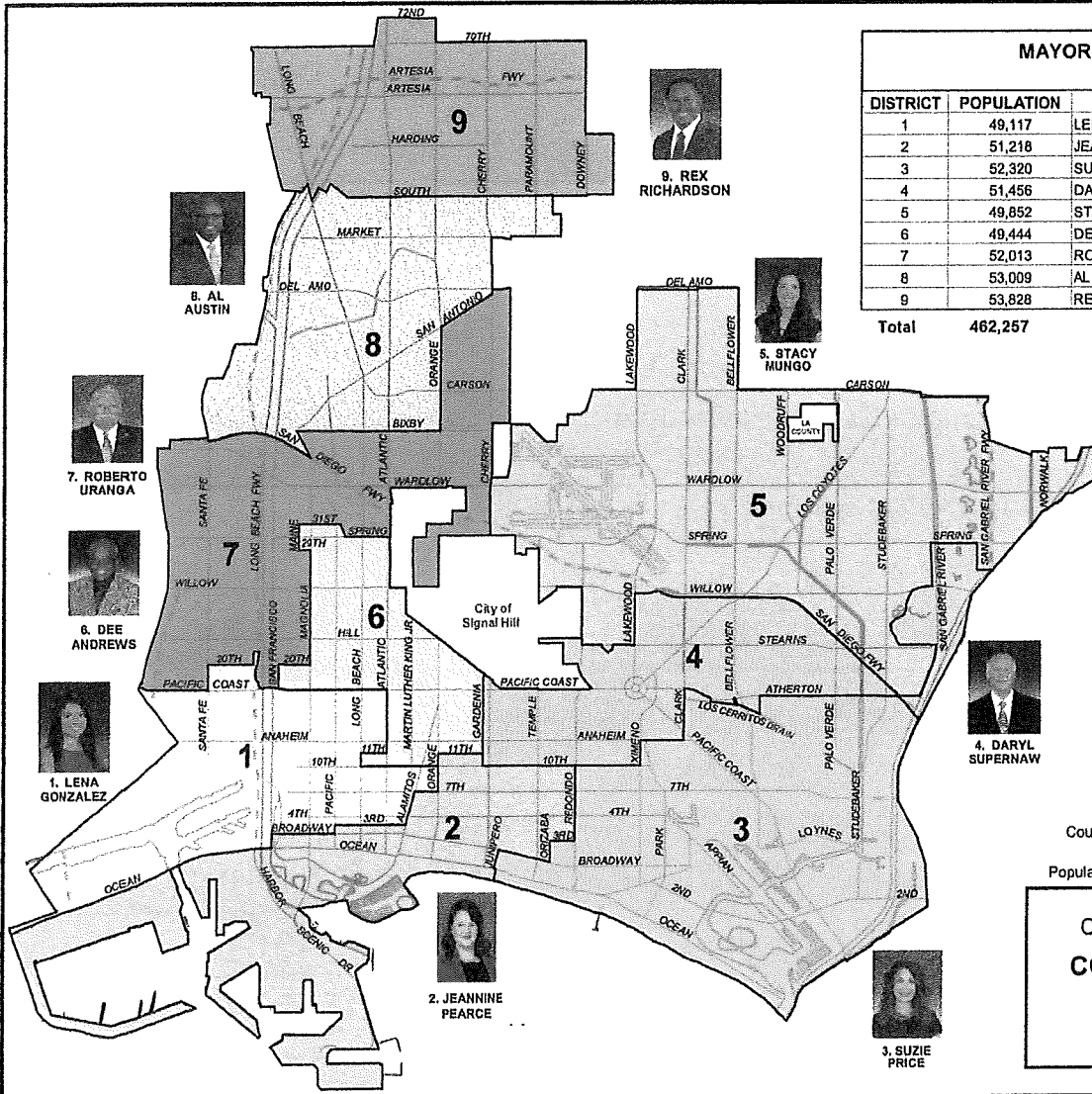
The Committee believes that the best way to educate the community about both the current division of the Cambodian population and the ability to change this condition is through a petition campaign. Moreover, coming from a country and a time where one could be killed for speaking out, the act of petitioning in pursuit of justice and equity has tremendous repercussions for the Cambodian community. Not only do they seek a just result but they seek a just process wherein they exercise their democratic right under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution to petition and receive a hearing. The petition is open to people of all races, nationalities, ages and ethnic groups to sign. The Planning Committee has specifically encouraged other groups to participate, collect signatures and join in one voice to promote redistricting that unites the Cambodian community. A copy of the Petition is attached as Exhibit 6.

The educational rewards to the greater Cambodian community and its supporters through the petitioning effort is great. The ability to work both within and without the Cambodian community to maximize its voting potential and achieve equity for Cambodian immigrants bodes well for the future.

This effort is supported by many diverse individuals and the following organizations: Cambodian Veterans Association, Khmer American Civic Engagement Committee, the MAYE Center, Cambodian Health Professionals Association, Cambodian Advocacy Collaborative, Cambodia Town Film Festival, Khmers Kampuchea-Krom Federation, Mietophoum National Library and Cultural Center, and Khmer Arts Academy.

END OF MEMO

Exhibit 1”



9. REX RICHARDSON



8. AL AUSTIN



7. ROBERTO URANGA



6. DEE ANDREWS



1. LENA GONZALEZ



5. STACY MUNGO



MAYOR
ROBERT GARCIA



4. DARYL SUPERNAW



2. JEANNINE PEARCE



3. SUZIE PRICE

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
570-6801

DISTRICT	POPULATION	REPRESENTATIVE	PHONE
1	49,117	LENA GONZALEZ	570-6919
2	51,218	JEANNINE PEARCE	570-6684
3	52,320	SUZIE PRICE	570-6300
4	51,456	DARYL SUPERNAW	570-4444
5	49,852	STACY MUNGO	570-5555
6	49,444	DEE ANDREWS	570-6816
7	52,013	ROBERTO URANGA	570-7777
8	53,009	AL AUSTIN	570-6685
9	53,828	REX RICHARDSON, VICE MAYOR	570-6137

Total 462,257

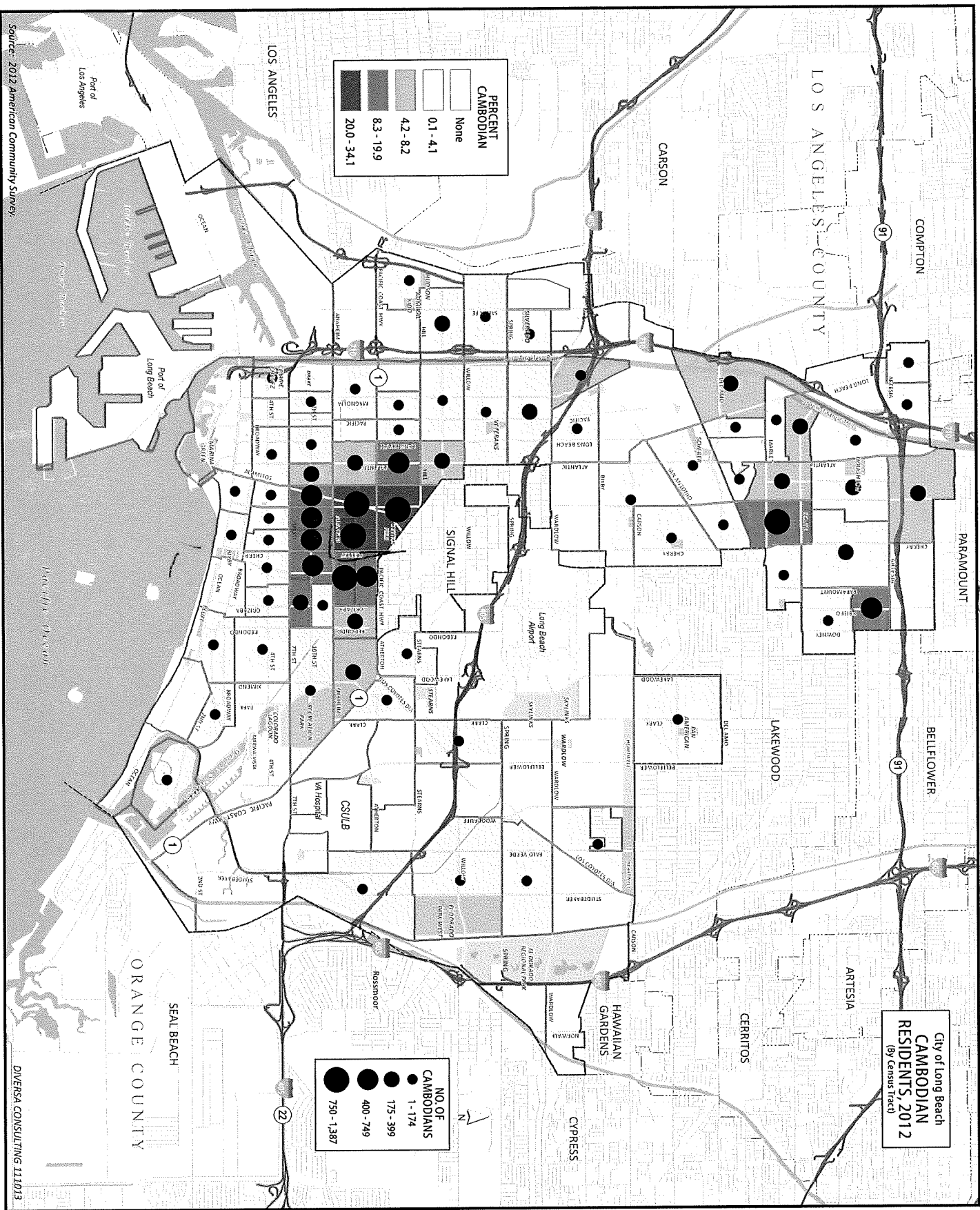
Council District Boundaries Amended: 08-02-11
by ORDINANCE ORD-11-0015
Population values are based upon 2010 Census Data

City of Long Beach, California
COUNCIL DISTRICT MAP

Technology and Innovation
Department - GIS

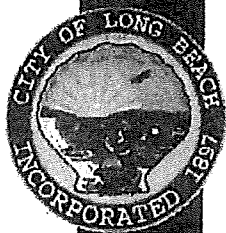
Map Revised 01-30-17

Exhibit 2"



Source: 2012 American Community Survey.

Exhibit 3"



City of Long Beach: Redistricting Criteria

Adopted, March 22, 2011

The Long Beach City Council adopted redistricting criteria applicable to Long Beach City Council districts for the 2011 redistricting process on Tuesday, March 22, 2011. The criteria are presented below and have been numbered for identification purposes only.

1. Transparency and public information should be of the highest priority;
2. Staff will receive input from many sources, but formal direction will come from the City Council in open session;
3. Direction to staff on adjustments shall occur in public session of the City Council;
4. Requested information will be shared publicly with all members of the City Council and the community;
5. Staff will provide the City Council with several options, and request direction until consensus is reached;
6. Deviations from mean population should be as small as possible, but not greater than +/- 5%;
7. Splits in neighborhoods, ethnic communities and other groups having a clear identity should be avoided;
8. Districts should be as compact as possible, avoiding gerrymandering;
9. Residences of Councilpersons should remain within their respective districts;
10. Boundaries should, wherever practicable, follow major roads and other readily identifiable features;
11. Preservation of communities of interest, where possible;
12. Boundary adjustments should generally consist of easily identifiable blocks/areas;
13. Use Census tract boundaries wherever possible; Redistricting shall avoid splitting Census blocks whenever possible;
14. Preservation of population cores which have consistently been associated with particular districts;
15. Avoidance of large scale dislocations of district populations;
16. Recognition of inevitable and historical topographic and geographic limitations on district boundaries; and
17. Redistricting should focus on areas of population, and not on areas of non-population (parks, businesses, etc.).

Exhibit 4”



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Memorandum

Date: November 29, 2016

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager *T.H.W.*

From: Andy J. Bodek, Director of Development Services *AJB*

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Mid-Decade Redistricting Process**

Introduction

On December 7, 2015, the Elections Oversight Committee held a meeting to discuss the redistricting process in Long Beach, and requested additional information from staff on the process, the timelines, the potential for a Citizen Redistricting Advisory Commission, and whether the City needs to redistrict. This memo will provide a brief overview of the mid-decade redistricting process, including the existing criteria, roles of the City Council and staff, estimated costs, deadlines, and planned redistricting methodology.

The Elections Oversight Committee further recommended that the City Council receive a report regarding the redistricting process, and the necessary steps to begin that process. This report will serve as the information necessary to begin the process.

Charter Requirements

Section 103 of the Long Beach City Charter requires that the City be divided, for electoral purposes, into nine (9) Councilmanic Districts that are approximately equal in population. The opportunity for redistricting in Long Beach happens every five years, or at any other time the City Council directs. The last major redistricting was in 2011. Prior to that, in 2006, the City Council made a finding that redistricting was not necessary. Section 103 also directs that the Planning Commission shall ascertain the number of inhabitants in each Councilmanic District and report its findings to the City Council. If the report shows that the Districts are not approximately equal in number of inhabitants, the City Council will redistrict by ordinance.

Redistricting Criteria

During the 2011 redistricting, the City Council adopted criteria prior to the start of the process to guide staff through the redistricting process. These criteria are important to ensure a smooth process, provide transparency in the process, allow for meaningful public input, provide direction to staff as they bring options back to the City Council, and ensure a legally defensible outcome. The previously adopted criteria would serve as a basis for developing an updated set of criteria for the 2016 redistricting process. A copy of the adopted 2011 Redistricting Criteria can be found in Attachment A.

Roles of City Council and Staff

The City Council, City staff, and the Long Beach community play key roles in guiding the redistricting process. The following is a brief description of the role each of the key stakeholders will play during redistricting.

Name	Role
City Council	Provides direction to staff, adopts final redistricting ordinance
City Manager	Acts as staff support for the redistricting process and coordinates department staff
City Clerk	Transmits final ordinance to County, verifies the maps with the County, oversees election process, consolidates precincts and voting centers within the new District boundaries, reports any reconciliations necessary prior to next election, assists voters with finding their Districts leading up to Election Day
City Attorney	Legal oversight; coordination with outside counsel
Technology & Innovation Dept., Development Services Dept.	GIS mapping of District boundaries and technical support for census data and population estimates
Planning Commission	Certification of population and District boundary data and recommendation of the need for redistricting to City Council
County of Los Angeles	Provides guidance on the District submission process; implements new boundary lines; voter outreach
Community	Provides public input during redistricting process

Estimate of the Need for Redistricting

Typically, cities redistrict by ordinance every decade, one year after the decennial census data is released. The Charter states that the City Council can choose to redistrict every five years, or whenever it is determined to be necessary. Mid-decade redistricting is possible, though it requires additional levels of population estimation in order to extrapolate from the available data.

For the mid-decade update, the only population estimates available from the U.S. Census Bureau are the American Community Survey (ACS) five-year survey estimates for Census Block Groups. This data can be problematic for redistricting. For example, many block groups are split by two or more Council Districts and, therefore, do not provide a reliable means to calculate the population per Council District. The level of uncertainty is further compounded by the fact that current Council District boundaries split census block group lines. While staff made appropriate assumptions to break up those block groups and speculatively estimate population, the results are not statistically accurate.

As a general rule, Council Districts should be within 5 percent above or below the ideal population (1/9 of the total population). The initial estimates show that eight of nine Council Districts are within the 5 percent margin. Council District 7 shows a growth of over 3,000 residents in the 2010-2014 time period, putting it 6.7 percent above the ideal. This divergence, however, is within the statistical margin of error within the data itself. There is no guarantee that a redistricting process would result in an actual population that is closer to the ideal or whether the various sampling and estimating errors could in fact counterbalance any attempt to bring the District boundaries toward the ideal population. See Attachment B for the mid-decade methodology utilized to estimate the Council District populations, and the challenges with using the data for redistricting.

Timeline for Redistricting

Since the last Election Oversight Committee meeting, staff has been reviewing information relevant to the mid-decade redistricting process, including accurate data options, mapping and analysis tools, and applicable laws and regulations. Staff has also examined available data sources and issues regarding overcrowding and vacancy. If redistricting occurs mid-decade, staff will do additional research in order to provide the most accurate estimates, despite the issues with using population estimates instead of decennial census counts.

In order to be certified for the 2018 election cycle, new District maps must be adopted by the City Council, and verified and approved by the Los Angeles County Registrar, by November 2017.

The Census Bureau will be releasing the latest population estimates, ACS 2015, on December 8, 2016. This would be the most suitable option for population estimates data if mid-decade redistricting is conducted. Once this data is released, staff will do a revised analysis of the estimated population by Council District and determine which Districts are within the 5 percent margin. Again, this analysis is based on population estimates, not actual counts, which is why the redistricting efforts after a decennial census produces the most accurate results.

After the revised data analysis, staff will bring the information to the Planning Commission in early spring 2017. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the population distribution by Council District. Subsequently, the City Council will review the Planning Commission's recommendation, the revised population estimates by Council District, and other pertinent information, and decide whether or not to redistrict mid-decade or wait until 2021 when the decennial census data will be used.

Before adjusting the boundaries of a District, a minimum of two City Council meetings would be required.

Community Outreach Process

Throughout the redistricting process, public input is one of the most important components that influence redistricting results. In the past, the City created a very robust public input process, designed to solicit feedback on proposed maps and ensure that the final maps are the result of community engagement. Previous efforts included community meetings, mapping workshops, City Council study sessions, Planning Commission meetings, website feedback, and transparency of all redistricting related data. Should the City Council wish to proceed with mid-decade redistricting, staff would continue to employ these techniques, as well as consider other avenues to encourage public engagement in the redistricting process.

Follow-up from Elections Oversight Committee

On December 7, 2015, Common Cause presented the Long Beach Elections Oversight Committee with a PowerPoint presentation on the merits of developing a Citizen Redistricting Advisory Commission comprised of Long Beach residents. This section of the memo follows up on additional items of interest that arose during the December 7, 2015 presentation.

The amount of time necessary to establish a citizens' commission for redistricting depends on a number of factors. The Elections Oversight Committee and the City Council must determine a set of criteria for selecting commissioners or task force members, approve the criteria, and then appoint the commissioners, who then go through the City's onboarding process. In a recent example, the Medical Cannabis Task Force was created by the City Council on February 10, 2015, and held their first meeting on April 1, 2015. It took six weeks to get all task force members cleared to serve on the task force. This task force was facilitated by an outside consultant, involved numerous staff at multiple meetings, and cost approximately \$75,000. The Queen Mary Land Development Task Force met ten times, from January 2016 through August 2016, and was staffed by two City employees in addition to support and research by several other staff members and a design consultant. That effort cost approximately \$60,000. Management of task forces or advisory committees require a high level of staff commitment and financial resources, and do not necessarily result in additional community input.

Staff estimates that a citizens' commission for redistricting would require at least two full-time staff members, including a GIS expert, technical staff to ensure that online maps are frequently updated for public viewing, an assigned City Clerk staff member to coordinate meeting minutes and agendas, and a project manager to shepherd the process. In-house costs are estimated to be approximately \$150,000-\$200,000 for eight to nine months of a redistricting process. This higher cost estimate is due to the complexity and involvement of staff in preparing detailed population estimates and maps every time a suggestion for a boundary change is made.

A citizens' commission would be a process to vet information and gather public comments; however, the commission would be advisory to the City Council who has the final decision

authority on redistricting pursuant to the City Charter. Staff believes that the City can achieve the same benefits of a commission in a shorter time period and at lower cost through staff efforts and the planned robust public outreach.

Redistricting Requirements

The purpose of redistricting is to ensure that the nine Councilmanic Districts have an approximate equal population. In addition to Article 1, Section 103 of the City Charter, redistricting must conform to other legal guidelines and regulations. Specifically, the federal Voting Rights Act and the State California Elections Code are applicable to redistricting at the local level, even for a charter city. The Voting Rights Act prohibits redistricting plans that discriminate on the basis of race, color, or membership in a language minority group. California Elections Code Section 21620 stipulates that the City Council may consider the following factors in establishing the boundaries of the Council Districts: (1) topography; (2) geography; (3) cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory; and (4) community of interest of the Districts.

These requirements are meant to ensure that all votes count equally and to prevent gerrymandering. During the redistricting process, the City Council cannot redraw the District lines in order to deliberately increase the likelihood of a particular political result. For example, a particular community could not be divided by District boundaries in order to diminish the voting power of a community with common social, cultural, or economic concerns; nor can the District lines be redrawn to intentionally stack a District to achieve a particular result.

For further information on the redistricting process, please contact Tom Modica, Assistant City Manager, at 562-570-5091, or Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services, at 562-570-6428. Thank you.

AJB:LT:fn
P:\ExOfc\TFF\2016\11.29.16 Redistricting Memo for EOC v7 Draft.docx

ATTACHMENT A – 2011 REDISTRICTING CRITERIA
ATTACHMENT B – POPULATION ESTIMATES

CC: ELECTIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS
CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
LAURA L. DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
TOM MODICA, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
ARTURO SANCHEZ, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
REBECCA JIMENEZ, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER
LINDA TATUM, PLANNING MANAGER



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7. Splits in neighborhoods, ethnic communities and other groups having a clear identity should be avoided;
8. Districts should be as compact as possible, avoiding gerrymandering;
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15. Avoidance of large scale dislocations of district populations;
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17. Redistricting should focus on areas of population, and not on areas of non-population (parks, businesses, etc.).

Attachment B Population Estimates

The current Council Districts were drawn using data from the 2010 decennial census. That data set includes 100 percent certain data down to the block level and contains less than 1 percent margin of error.

For the mid-decade update, the only population estimates available from the Census Bureau are the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year survey estimates for Census Block Groups. Unfortunately, many block groups overlap or are split by two or more Council Districts and, therefore, do not provide a reliable means to calculate the population per Council District. Using the ACS 2014 5-year survey estimates for Census Block Groups, we determined the percentage of difference in population from 2010 for each block group.

Population Change Equation

$$\% \text{ Difference} = \frac{2014 \text{ Estimated Population} - 2010 \text{ Census Population}}{2010 \text{ Census Population}}$$

This block group change percentage was then used to estimate the 2014 population for each block within the block group. We then tallied the new estimated population for each Council District using block estimates.

Unlike the data in the decennial census, the ACS data is an estimate based on a rolling 5-year set of household surveys. The Census bureau mails questionnaires to between 0.5% and 10% of households in a given census tract. Non-responding households are contacted by phone, but unlike the decennial census, there are no serious consequences for a resident who chooses not to respond. Beginning in 2013, the Census Bureau also began supplementing its data collection with an internet-based survey.

In the ACS data, survey response rates, sampling, weighting, and statistical adjustments vary by census tract. The ACS data, therefore, does not have a standard margin of error the way the decennial census does. For analysis over a broad area, such as measuring the population of the State of California, the overall error remains low. However, for the task of local redistricting, which requires the use of census blocks to accurately determine District population, the error balloons to as high as 20 percent in some block groups. ACS 2015 data will be released in December 2016, which may provide us with more current data should we choose to redevelop estimates at that time, but will still have the same sampling and statistical limitations.

The level of uncertainty is further compounded by the fact that current Council District boundaries split census block group lines. While staff made appropriate assumptions to break up those block groups and speculatively estimate population, the results are not statistically credible.

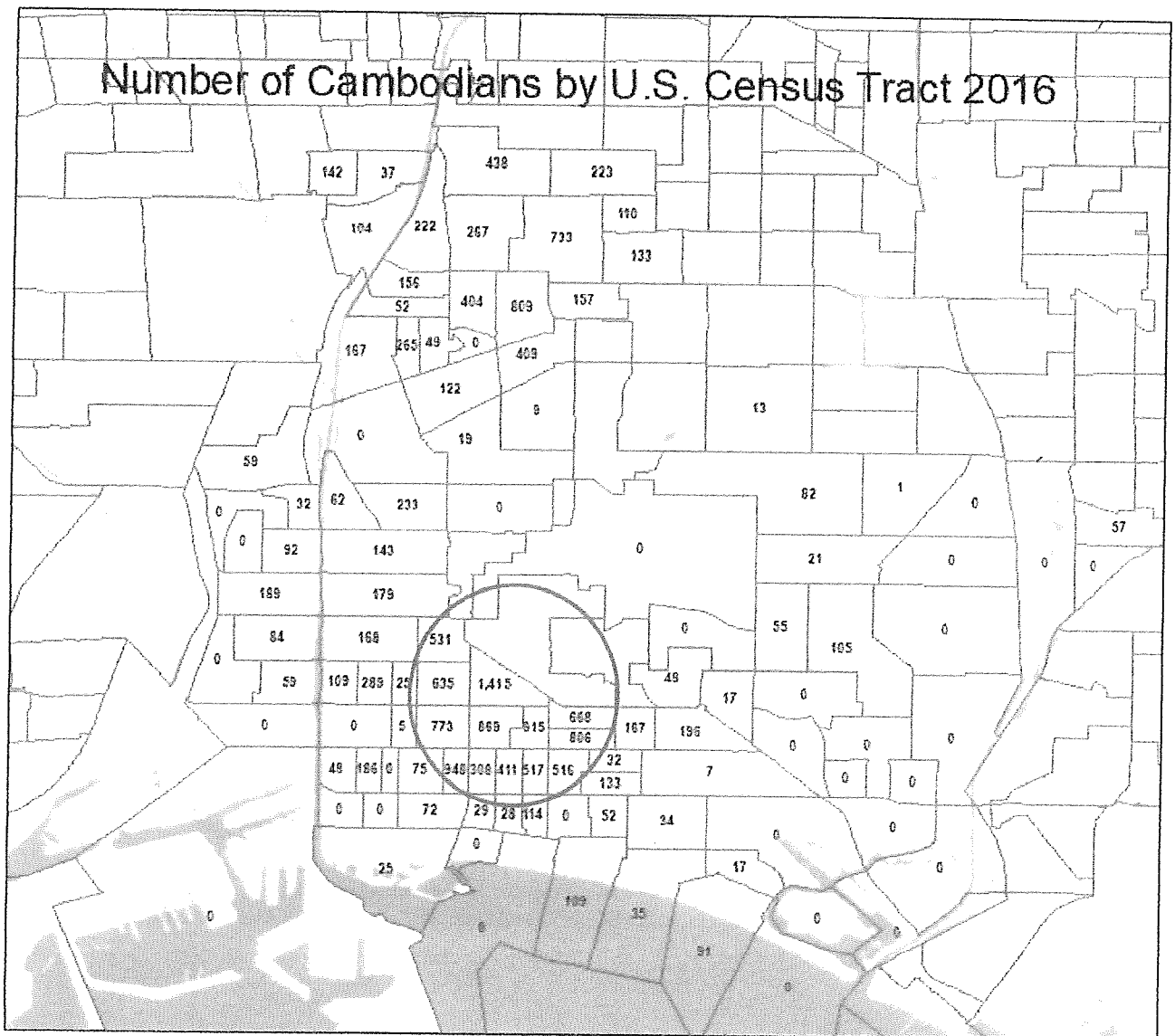
Staff continues to refine the data in order to improve the reliability of the estimates. However, the available data from the U.S. Census limits the accuracy and usefulness of the data. Initial results are shown in the table below. A negative percentage indicates that the District has a smaller population than the ideal distribution; a positive percentage indicates that the District's population is larger than the ideal.

Council District	2010 Population (Census)	Variance from 2010 Ideal	2014 Estimate Total Population	Variance from 2014 Ideal
1	49,117	-4.37%	49,693	-4.73%
2	51,218	-0.28%	51,817	-0.65%
3	52,371	1.96%	51,301	-1.64%
4	51,405	0.08%	52,106	-0.10%
5	49,852	-2.94%	51,067	-2.09%
6	49,444	-3.73%	49,757	-4.60%
7	52,013	1.27%	55,662	6.72%
8	53,009	3.21%	53,353	2.29%
9	53,828	4.80%	54,662	4.80%
Total	462,257		469,418	
Ideal Population	51,362		52,158	
+/- 5% Range	48,794 - 53,930		49,550 – 54,766	

As a general rule, Council Districts should be within 5 percent above or below of the ideal population (1/9 of the total population). The preliminary numbers using ACS 2014 data show that eight out of nine Districts are within this 5 percent. Council District 7 is now overpopulated with a total of 55,662 residents, 6.72 percent more than the 52,158 statistical ideal. This divergence, however, is within the statistical margin of error within the data itself. There is no guarantee that a redistricting process would result in an actual population that is closer to the ideal or whether the various sampling and estimating errors could in fact counterbalance any attempt to bring the District boundaries toward the ideal population.

Alternatively, the City Council can initiate a citywide census instead of relying on census data. This option requires significant investment in terms of time and financial resources. Staff believes that there is enough available data, both internally and externally, to construct a good estimate of the changes in population in each District since 2011, despite the limitations of the available information. As such, staff does not recommend initiating a Citywide census if the City Council determines that a 2016 redistricting process is necessary.

Exhibit 5"



Long Beach Population 469,793

Cambodian Population Total	17,641
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Percent Long Beach	4%
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Cambodian in Circled Area	9,312
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Percent of Cambodian Population 52%

Exhibit 6"

PETITION
FOR EQUITABLE REDISTRICTING OF CAMBODIAN COMMUNITY
ព្យតិសុំឱ្យគូសផែនទីសហគមន៍ខ្មែរ សារជាថ្មីដោយសមរម្យ

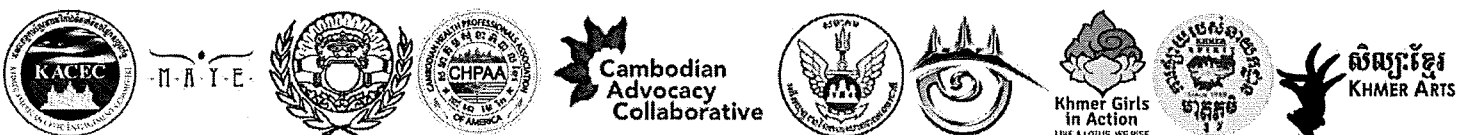
ជូនចំពោះ អភិបាលក្រុងនិងក្រុមប្រឹក្សាទីក្រុងឡងប៊ិច:

បច្ចុប្បន្ននេះ ក្រុងខ្មែរនិងសហគមន៍ជុំវិញក្រុងខ្មែរ បានត្រូវរដ្ឋបាលក្រុងបែងចែកជាបួនសង្កាត់ ពោលគឺ សង្កាត់លេខ៦ សង្កាត់លេខ៤ សង្កាត់លេខ២ និងសង្កាត់លេខ១។ ការបែងចែកសង្កាត់នេះ បានធ្វើឲ្យប្រជាពលរដ្ឋខ្មែរក្នុងសហគមន៍ មានការបាត់បង់សម្លេងក្នុងការបោះឆ្នោតយ៉ាងខ្លាំង។ ដូច្នេះ ទើបយើងខ្ញុំរួមនិងមិត្តភក្តិសហគមន៍ខ្មែរ បានមូលមតិតាមហត្ថលេខាទាមទារឲ្យរដ្ឋបាលក្រុងឡងប៊ិចធ្វើអន្តរាគមន៍គូសផែនទីសាជាថ្មី ដោយរួមបញ្ចូលក្រុងខ្មែរ និងសហគមន៍ជុំវិញក្រុងខ្មែរ ឲ្យទៅជាសង្កាត់តែមួយ ដើម្បី ឲ្យទាន់ពេលក្នុងការបោះឆ្នោត នាឆ្នាំ២០២០ ខាងមុខនេះ។

To the Mayor and City Council of Long Beach:

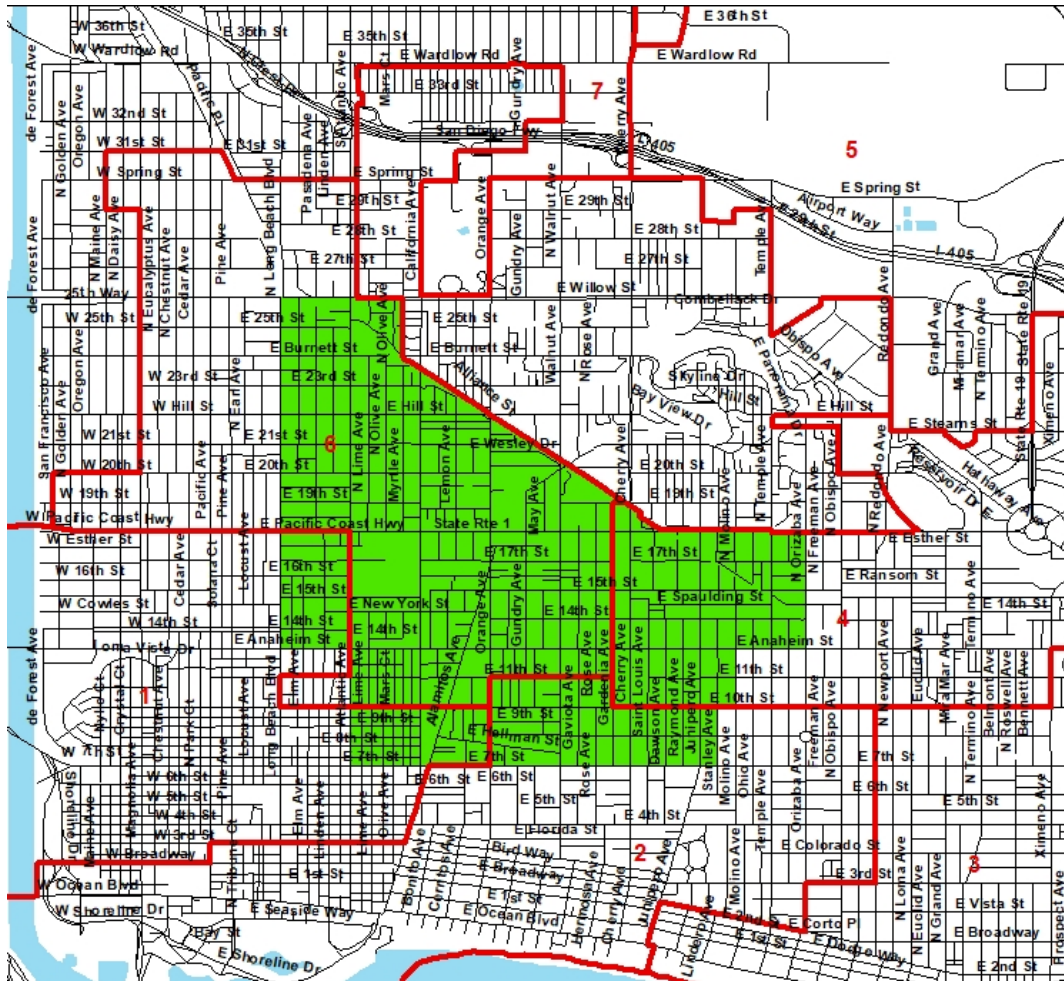
Currently Cambodia Town and the surrounding community are divided between four Council Districts including District 6, District 4, District 2 and District 1. This division dilutes our voting power. We, the undersigned residents and friends of the Cambodian community, hereby demand that Cambodia Town and the surrounding community be made part of one Council District in time for the 2020 Election.

1. First/Last Name(នាម/ត្រកូល) _____ Date(ខែ/ថ្ងៃទី/ឆ្នាំ) ____/____/____
 Signature(ហត្ថលេខា) _____ Phone(លេខទូរស័ព្ទ) (_____) _____
 Address(អាសយដ្ឋាន) _____ Email(អ៊ីម៉ែល) _____
2. First/Last Name _____ Date ____/____/____
 Signature _____ Phone (_____) _____
 Address _____ Email _____
3. First/Last Name _____ Date ____/____/____
 Signature _____ Phone (_____) _____
 Address _____ Email _____



Boundaries: (Approximate depending on 2020 Census)

West: Long Beach Blvd. from Willow St to Anaheim
South: Anaheim from Long Beach Blvd to Atlantic Ave.
West: Atlantic Ave from Anaheim St. to 7th St.
South: 7th St. from Atlantic Ave to Stanley Ave.
East: Stanley Ave. from 7th St to 10th St.
South: 10th St. from Stanley Ave to Molino Ave.
East: Molino Ave from 10th St. to Anaheim St.
South: Anaheim St from Molino Ave. to Orizaba Ave.
East: Orizaba Ave from Anaheim St. to Pacific Coast Hwy.
North: Pacific Coast Hwy. from Orizaba Ave. to Alliance St.
North East: Alliance St. from Pacific Coast Hwy to Willow St.
North Willow St. from Alliance St to Long Beach Blvd.



1. High number of Cambodians.
2. Census tracts continues. Therefore, those in North Long Beach not included.



In 2016 the Circled Area (Cambodian Town) contains 9,313 Cambodians or 52% of all Cambodians in Long Beach and 14% of the total population in the Circled Area.



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 18, 2021

Charles Song, Co-Chair
Equity for Cambodians
2153 E. Anaheim St.
Long Beach, CA 90804

Laura Som, Co-Chair
Equity for Cambodians
2153 E. Anaheim St.
Long Beach, CA 90804

Re: Cambodian Community and Redistricting in Long Beach

Ms. Som and Mr. Song:

I believe strongly in the strength of the Cambodian community in Long Beach and in the redistricting process that lies ahead, I'd like to reiterate the public position that I took in 2018 in support of the Cambodian effort to unify the Long Beach Cambodian community into one City Council District.

The Cambodian and Cambodian-American community in Long Beach has long been a crucial part of our city's cultural and economic life. For many years, Cambodian residents have been advocating for redistricting that would unify much of their community into a single district. With their shared, unique history and close-knit connections, their needs and interests should always be prominent in policy decisions and resource allocations. We should be looking for ways to keep the Cambodian community together.

The Redistricting Commission has an opportunity to support increased equity and justice for our Cambodian residents. The Long Beach Cambodian-American community deserves to have its voice heard, to be fairly represented, and to fully participate in the City's political life.

As Mayor, I support a redistricting process that unifies the majority of our Cambodian residents in one district to achieve true representation for this community.

Thank you for your service to our City.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach