

Time stamped Transcripts from the LBIRDC September 22, 2021 Agenda  
 Item 4 *Recommendation to receive and file a report on redistricting criteria relating to census blocks. (Timestamp 1:42:56 to 1:45:14 )*

- City Video Timestamp 1:42:56 STAFF introduction:

“Chair, Chair Gutierrez , in the name of the Commission I’ll introduce this. Paul’s going to do an oral report on this item and I just want to remind the Commission that we’ve had a couple of Commissioners who have been interested in questions related to redistricting criteria and census blocks and particularly unpopulated census blocks and we’ve gotten some interest in our hearings, Community of Interest hearings, on this particular question. So this is really just a brief concise oral report in try, attempting to respond to that question. Paul”.

- City Video Timestamp 1:43:34 Paul Mitchell, Redistricting Partners (bold and underscore added to be able to find)

“Sure, thank you very much, umm, we’ve discussed this, ahh, before, but in the, ahh, charter language there’s language that states that you have to use the, ahh, census blocks and you’re not allowed to split any census blocks so that you can both know, ahh, the exact population of any district, and also to avoid, ahh what the charter calls arbitrary lines”.

- City Video Timestamp 1:44:06 Paul Mitchell continues (opinions highlighted added as is the red asterisk note)

“Umm, this is something that was put into the charter language likely because, ahh there have been concerns about redistricting in other jurisdictions in the past that have historically used the idea of splitting census blocks to achieve things that were outside of the traditional and accessible criteria. Umm, so ahh given the history of that, umm the advocates for this charter amendment ahh included that language and it is **our\*** interpretation that you are bound to it.”

- City Video Timestamp 1:44:39

**\*note:** who “our” refers to was not defined

- City Video Timestamp 1:44:39 Paul Mitchell continues

“That there is not ahh, an allowance for you to ahh, use anything other than the existing census geography, even if in places the census geography doesn’t exactly meet your perception of what would be a clean line somewhere that you’re not able to diverge from that.”

- City Video Timestamp 1:44:56 Paul Mitchell continues

“And I believe both legal counsel and I ahh, we are able to answer ahh, questions regarding it.”

- City Video Timestamp 1:44:02 Commission Chair Gutierrez asks Deputy City Attorney Amy Webber for comments on Paul Mitchell’s presentation:

“Before I open it up to the Commissioners, Amy did you want to contribute something to that?”

- City Video Timestamp 1:45:12 Deputy City Attorney Amy Webber

“No. I am available for questions”.