

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS I**  
**Office of the City Clerk**

**City Council of the City of Napa**  
**Regular Meeting**

**March 31, 2020**

**FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:**

**AFTERNOON SESSION:**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Email received on March 31, 2020 from Cindy Watter.
- Email and attachment received on March 31, 2020 from Kevin Teague.
- Email received on March 31, 2020 from Greg Brun.
- Email received on March 31, 2020 from Bernie Narvaez.

**From:** Cindy Watter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 10:16 AM  
**To:** Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** redistricting

[EXTERNAL]

To: Mayor Jill Techel, Napa City Council members Liz Alessio, Doris Gentry, Mary Luros, Scott Sedgley

This is just to weigh in on the redistricting issue. Of the five plans presented, map A makes the most sense. The neighborhoods are fairly compact. I know the Coombsville/Stanly Ranch sections are strung out, but they have agriculture as a common element). I live in the Fuller Park/Abajo area, and I like the idea of the historic neighborhoods being linked, including the A-B-C streets. The river is a natural border for the east side of the district.

One of the purposes of district elections was to maximize the importance of the Latino/a population as a voting group. I do not see that group as a majority in any of the districts presented by your demographer, but district elections for council members would significantly reduce the costs of campaigning for a council seat. That would democratize the process. More people would be able to run. Funding a city council race today is a truly eye-watering expense; this might help.

Thank you for your consideration. My husband or I have attended all of the redistricting hearings so far. It looks as if you have postponed the process for a bit. Good luck, and we will get through this together. We have been through crises before.

Best,

Cindy Watter

**From:** Kevin Teague <[teague@htralaw.com](mailto:teague@htralaw.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** Jill Techel <[jtechel@cityofnapa.org](mailto:jtechel@cityofnapa.org)>; Tiffany Carranza <[tcarranza@cityofnapa.org](mailto:tcarranza@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Cc:** Steve Potter <[spotter@cityofnapa.org](mailto:spotter@cityofnapa.org)>; Michael Barrett <[mbarrett@cityofnapa.org](mailto:mbarrett@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Covid-19 and the City of Napa

[EXTERNAL]

Mayor Jill and Tiffany,

Attached is the letter I sent to Council over the weekend with a minor correction (that Taylor pointed out to me). On page two, last paragraph the word simulated should have been stimulated — this version corrects that for the record, if you don't mind. I have also bcc'd Council so you don't need to send it around.

In the spirit of my letter, I do have one specific comment for the hearing today in looking ahead to Council schedules. I am sure I will have more of these comments as projects are ready to be heard. Before I give you my comment, I know I have been speaking up a lot so far this 2020, which is something I generally do not do outside of projects. I promise I will go back to the old me. I have a passion for government doing things that make sense. Council has done a great job for years doing things that make sense and leading our City, and you continue to do so. (This is why I don't need to speak up.) It seems, however, that 2020 has thrown all of us and the Council some curveballs that none of us were expecting. First districting and now coronavirus. On these topics my comments are intended to be constructive and not critical. I hope that comes across.

So, the one specific thing that the City can do now is move to complete the election districting. Districting is important to move ahead now because taking action on this one topic will give us all confidence that Napa is ready to get, and is getting, things done to move our City into the recovery phase. We need this confidence boost. Confidence is the name of the game when it comes to the economy. This is one of those rare "just do it" moments that you will look back on and say I am glad we did that (rather than "if only we had done that"). While mostly symbolic, this is one of the bold moves I speak about in my letter. This action says, Napa we can do this.

It can be heard electronically and with distancing. Because districting is a complicated, multi-hearing matter that was thrust upon you, by moving it ahead now the City will demonstrate to the citizenry and itself that it can conduct any business that requires a hearing. It shows that the Council is leading and the City is not idle. Most of the hard work by the public has been done — we provided input and drew maps. I know the Governor may be giving relief on this issue, but with what the community had gotten done, we are ready for you to complete this process.

The added benefit is that Council and make changes in two years if it needs any adjustment. While there may be a few dissenters on whatever map is approved, your action will be appreciated. I think the people and communities who have provided you comments will appreciate the action now.

Thanks again for all of your hard work in this time of crisis. I thought Mayor Jill had seen it all . . . now a pandemic to add to the resume!

Kevin Teague  
[teague@htralaw.com](mailto:teague@htralaw.com)

## HolmanTeague

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On Mar 29, 2020, at 6:55 PM, Kevin Teague <[teague@htralaw.com](mailto:teague@htralaw.com)> wrote:

I hope all of you are doing well and your families are safe and healthy. I have had a few sleepless nights and have been thinking a lot about our community, so I decided to write down my thoughts.

I know you are about to consider what items to begin to hear as the City moves forward in this crisis. I have put together the attached letter that I hope you will consider in moving ahead. If you or the City needs anything from me or my clients, please ask. We are ready to stand together and help in any way we can.

<Covid-19 Crisis - Ltr to City Council.pdf>

Kevin Teague  
[teague@htralaw.com](mailto:teague@htralaw.com)

## HolmanTeague

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March 29, 2020

Mayor Techel and Napa City Council  
City Hall  
955 School Street  
Napa, CA 94559

**RE: OUR LOCAL ECONOMY/COVID-19 CRISIS**

Dear Mayor and City Council,

You do not need me to tell you that Napa along with the World faces an enormous challenge, the magnitude of which none of us really know or are fully prepared for. We can, however, prepare and act now to avoid a long-term catastrophic economic decline in Napa, all while we follow the advice of doctors and health officials to overcome COVID-19.

Why I am writing you now, in the middle of the pandemic? Because you are our City's decision-makers, and the decisions you have to make now will be the most important community decisions you likely will ever be asked to make. I understand if you feel like you might not be ready. None of us are.

I ask that you consider what history has taught us and that you act boldly based the tools available to give Napa a course ahead. A course that prepares us to get our workers working, our stores selling and our families not living in fear.

***1. Focus on Our Community's Future***

First, in the midst of the stress and emotion of this public health crisis, you must trust that the medical professionals will handle this crisis as best they can. Hopefully, they will limit the Nation's casualties to thousands rather than millions. Locally, let's hope they can limit our tragedies to less than a hundred.

While the public health officials focus on the public health issues, I earnestly suggest you continue to turn your and the City's non-healthcare and emergency response energies to our local needs and our economy. To be clear, I am not suggesting you tell the community to go back to work before we get the all clear from health officials. What I am suggesting is you do everything in your power now to get everyone back to work once health officials say we are safe to do so. While this may be weeks or months, you can take actions that will help privately and publicly stimulate the economy, either through expenditures or incentives. If

the City does not act boldly, early and often, it may mean the difference between Napa bouncing back in a year or two, or it may take a decade or more to get back to the thriving town we had a couple of weeks ago.

## ***2. Learn from the Past: Novel Economic Policies Solved the Great Depression***

While the COVID-19 crisis and the economic crash may not be technically unprecedented, it is the biggest challenge and threat to our community in any of our lifetimes. When it comes to crisis in the global economy, economic strategies can be complicated, full of theories, complex mathematical formulas, jargon, and politics. While this can appear formidable, there is a sound path you can put Napa on today – a path vital to Napa’s recovery from this possibly long-lasting and devastating COVID-19 crisis and economic fallout.

History teaches us important and relevant lessons. Neither you nor I experienced the Great Depression and World War II, which was the last time the World, the Nation and Napa faced a challenge as big as the one before us now. At the time of the Great Depression, classic economic models and policies failed. The collapsed economy and fate of the Country required a new approach.<sup>1</sup> Much like now, at that time there was widespread job loss and almost all economic activity contracted severely.

In response, new economic theory pushed for government to dramatically increase spending to accelerate demand for goods and services. This was meant to induce the private sector to increase employment, investment and output. This was contrary to all the economic thinking and policies at the time.

Spending was counterintuitive.

Roosevelt implemented these policies, and through government expenditures business and labor were able to respond and survive, with newfound innovation. It led to the recovery of individual wages and the American and global economies. This stimulated American productivity for decades, and led our country to develop new industries, technologies and businesses, which in turn created the greatest middle class in the history of the world. This fiscal policy also created an extremely skilled and productive workforce.

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<sup>1</sup> Famed economist and presidential advisor, John Maynard Keynes, provided a new solution, which required government to actively intervene to stimulate growth and economic output. These ideas were implemented before World War II, and government expenditures continued throughout the war. By the 1970s and 1980s, the country moved away from Keynesian economic policy into neo-classical approaches that look like the classical approaches in place before the Great Depression.

### ***3. Find Ways to Stimulate Local Economic Activity***

Now that 2020 looks a lot like 1929, it is time for government at every level to once again take action to provide stimulus in an effort to increase employment, investment and output. While there are legal limits on local government's spending,<sup>2</sup> this does not mean that you lack other tools to implement measures needed to get our local economy rolling again.

We probably don't know what all of those tools are right now and do not have all of the ideas on the table. But, we will if our goal is to make proactive moves to save our community, our local businesses, and our local workforce.

How do we find and employ those tools? First, understand that not all government spending is the same.<sup>3</sup> What worked in the Great Depression was infrastructure and public works spending (until it was replaced by war time spending). The reason this stimulus was successful was the economic multiplier effect. This simply means that dollars that go toward construction and industry means that people are working and the industries that support construction are working. Those workers have money to spend on restaurants, stores for everyday goods and services. Money starts flowing upward through our economy, getting all segments functioning again. At the same time the economy is getting this jump start, the public is getting long-term value from what will be built or created.

We can do this locally if we start now.

### ***4. Don't Be Afraid to Act Boldly – We Don't Have the Luxury of Time***

What you can do immediately as City Council is do not employ austerity measures or delay taking any steps to get and keep any business in the City from moving ahead. More economic contraction is not the answer to economic contraction.

The City must look to what new or existing local public or private projects need to or could get built in the near future. This is how we engage our local private contractors and workforce to get these projects moving.

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<sup>2</sup> Unlike the federal government, local governments have balanced budget requirements. This simply means you can't just go take on deficits (at least until federal funds flow to the City).

<sup>3</sup> Spending on unemployment benefits, Medicare, Social Security, direct cash payments are what economists call "Transfers." While this type of federal spending will be important in the early days to keep people fed and paying bills, this is not the type of local fiscal stimulus relevant to City actions.

We also have to look at what other tools you have or what new tools we can think of to make this happen. We have to do this with the best of government, private enterprise and our workforce all brainstorming and working together to figure this out. But, we have to do this now so that we have every tool available to start and continue bouncing back.

***5. Think About Projects that Strengthen Our Community and Prepare Us for the Future***

While it is critical to help our residents, businesses and economy recover from the pandemic, we also have a unique opportunity to act in the interest of the future needs of Napa. We have to turn to new ideas, innovations, and ways of thinking that better allow us to face coming challenges.

We can use this time in history to set a course to improve our community. For example, in response to our housing needs, we can explore sustainable new ideas for housing projects that can better meet long-term community needs. Advancing our thinking will further these ideas and bring new ideas to achieve our goals. This applies to any project, a park, a street, a municipal or commercial development, or housing.

Taking bold steps now will serve our community for years to come. Like the decades after the Great Depression and World War II, we not only get our economy rolling and community back on track after COVID-19, we can create an even better Napa for our and the next generations' future.

***6. Leadership Will Get Us Through This, Together as a Community***

Getting through this crisis will take leadership. As you know all too well, you are often asked to delay decisions or are told you are moving too fast. In this case, history will look back and ask whether we did everything we could do to minimize all the harm, medically and economically, from the current crisis. This means you will have to resist the requests to delay while we are sheltering in place, and instead be prepared to act. That will not be easy, but it is necessary.

Not every decision will be perfect or right. Failure to boldly act will be catastrophic.



I hope my comments can at a minimum be food for thought or better yet inspire an accelerated path of even more collaboration, brainstorming and advice among the thought leaders in the community. These individuals can find the tools and help you with the hard decisions you will face for the foreseeable future.

I personally pledge to volunteer my time and what skills and knowledge I have to help the City and our community.<sup>4</sup> I know many members of the community are willing to do the same. I ask that you let us help you and we come together as a community and work to solve this crisis.

Lastly, please do not think I am saying or suggesting in any way you are not already acting and working very hard. We know you are and appreciate it.

Sincerely,



Kevin Teague

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<sup>4</sup> While I do not claim to be an expert in this field, I have an informed perspective. In addition to my law degree, I have a degree in economics with an emphasis on macroeconomic policy, I am a small business owner, I have advised some of the largest companies along with small operations, and I have been active on the Napa Chamber of Commerce Board for the past decade. Most importantly, I have had the fantastic luck and good fortune to have worked with and learned from some of the smartest people there are, from tech and industrial billionaires, to inventors and scientists, to doctors, professionals and teachers, to small business owners and workers, and, last but not least, experienced and thoughtful government workers.

**From:** Greg Brun <[greg.brun@winetrain.com](mailto:greg.brun@winetrain.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 12:33 PM  
**To:** Jill Techel <[jtechel@cityofnapa.org](mailto:jtechel@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** City of Napa Districting

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Jill,

I know you're all inundated with all you have on your collective plates. I very much appreciate the leadership you provide. More so in times like we're currently experiencing. I'd like to voice my support of moving forward with districting and not postponing. I feel now is the time with the progress that has been made to date.

Best regards,  
Greg



Gregory Brun  
Partner  
1275 McKinstry St, Napa, CA 94559  
707-337-6996  
[Greg.brun@winetrain.com](mailto:Greg.brun@winetrain.com)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Districting must move forward  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 2:35:39 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Hi Mayor and council members,

I know our community is facing great difficulty due to the Coronavirus epidemic. Our community will be greatly impacted and we may not know to what extent until much later.

The economic impact to the City of Napa due to the Coronavirus is severe. I know you are doing the best you can under the circumstances to help our city. Although, you may feel the need to pause discussing districting during this time I am asking to please reconsider. I think defending a lawsuit for not following through with Districting would be of greater economic consequence than the limitations of public input moving forward in this districting process. I know Mayor Techel, the city council, city staff, and community members have done a lot of the work to get this point. Even with limited public input due to social distancing requirements please keep in mind that much of the work has already been done. Many members of the community have voiced their concern, submitted their support for a particular map and have participated in this process. What is left to do is choose a map and move forward.

Our community and economy has come to a grinding halt. Moving forward will help our community rebuild our future and recover from this crisis. We need your great leadership and decisiveness now more than ever. I ask you to please move forward without further delay with the districting of our City of Napa. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bernardo "Bernie" Narvaez  
Call or Text @ [REDACTED]

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS II**  
**Office of the City Clerk**

**City Council of the City of Napa**  
**Regular Meeting**

**March 31, 2020**

**FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:**

**AFTERNOON SESSION:**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT (all items were read into the record):**

- Email received on March 30, 2020 from Napa County Progressive Alliance, Communications Chair, Beth Nelsen.
- Email received on March 30, 2020 from Cindy Clark.
- Email and attachment received on March 31, 2020 from Robert Van Der Velde.
- Email received on March 31, 2020 from Michael Murray.
- Email received on March 31, 2020 from Scott Rafferty.

**City Council Meeting  
3/31/2020  
Read into the Record  
Supplemental II - 3. Public Comment  
From: Napa County Progressive Alliance**

**From:** Napa County Progressive Alliance

**Sent:** Monday, March 30, 2020 4:40 AM

**To:** Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>; Jill Techel <[jtechel@cityofnapa.org](mailto:jtechel@cityofnapa.org)>; Doris Gentry <[dgentry@cityofnapa.org](mailto:dgentry@cityofnapa.org)>

**Cc:** Beth Nelsen; Gary Orton; Devra Dallman; Chris Malan; Val Wolf; Amy Martenson

**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL – PLEASE READ (For Item 7B on the March 31, 2020 Napa City Council agenda)

[EXTERNAL]

Good afternoon. My name is Beth Nelsen. I am speaking as the Communications Chair for the Napa County Progressive Alliance and as a member of the Indigenous community.

As we are sheltering in place, it appears that the presidential election will still be happening as scheduled on November 3rd; for that reason, we believe that the City of Napa's change to district elections should also proceed so that it can be completed in time for the election, per the California Voting Rights Act of 2001.

Due to city staff's excellent outreach efforts and coverage by the Napa Valley Register, there has been robust public participation, both in writing and in person, resulting in numerous district maps being proposed by the city's demographer and community members, including two by the Napa County Progressive Alliance. The only step left is for the community to have an opportunity to weigh in on the proposed maps and for the council to adopt one.

We understand that currently community members may not appear in person for these public hearings due to COVID-19. However, for many working people and those intimidated by the formality of city meetings, attending these public hearings in person has always been a challenge. The current situation provides an opportunity for the city to develop best practices in allowing community members to provide input into city meetings remotely—practices that we hope will continue after this health crisis is over.

The importance of moving forward in time for the November 2020 election far outweighs the inconvenience of the city providing alternative methods for public input and widely publicizing them. The city should proceed for the following reasons:

- 1.
- 2.
3. The city should not knowingly conduct an illegal election.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
7. The California Voting Rights Act places a special emphasis on municipalities
8. completing this change prior to a presidential election, because protected groups (in this case Latinos) have a higher voting rate during presidential elections.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
12. Whoever joins the council in 2020 will be a part of the redistricting process

13. taking place after the decennial census, establishing district boundaries for city elections for the next decade. Latino voters should have the best possible chance of electing their preferred candidates, gaining a seat (or two) at the table to influence that
14. process.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
18. The public
19. will have an opportunity to weigh in again after the decennial census when redistricting takes place, and the district map can be further refined at that time.
- 20.

We request that the Napa City Council make a commitment today to proceed in time for the November 2020 election; discuss the alternative methods it will use to gather community input regarding the proposed maps; and, discuss how the city will publicize those methods. We suggest that the city look at how the County of Napa and Napa Valley Unified School District have been conducting their meetings, including not only reading emails aloud during the public comment section of the meeting but also allowing community members to call in and to participate online via Zoom.

Thank you.

**From:** cindy clark  
**Sent:** Monday, March 30, 2020 7:29 PM  
**To:** Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL – PLEASE READ— For Item 7B

[EXTERNAL]

To: Napa City Council Members  
From: Cindy Clark

Mayor and Napa City Council members,

I am a resident of Old Town and have been following the City Council's change from at-large to district elections through the news reports and by watching the meetings online. I have been particularly interested in this change, because I understand that we currently do not have anyone on the City Council who lives in central Napa, even though much of the Council's focus has been on economic development Downtown.

To me, one of the most important aspects of changing to district elections is the guarantee that the entire city will have a representative on the Council who understand the needs and interests of their area, not because they visit the area once every four years during election time, but because they live there everyday. They walk on the uneven sidewalks, drive over the potholes in the street, navigate the three roundabouts each day, and understand the desire of residents to have businesses Downtown they can walk to that are affordable, offer variety, and provide for our everyday needs.

I have reviewed the maps submitted by the demographer and members of the public, and in most cases central Napa is one of the two highest Latino districts. I believe that means that it is highly likely that our area would have candidates running for a seat in 2020 if this process moves forward, and I am asking you that it does. With the Napa General Plan being updated we truly need a representative on the Council from central Napa. We have needed one for some time, and we definitely need one now. Thank you for your consideration.

Cindy Clark

**From:** Robert Van Der Velde  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** Comment to Council - please read

[EXTERNAL]

For the 3/31/2020 City Council meeting (and attachment)

Mayor and Council:

I was surprised to learn that your closed session today would discuss possible litigation from the petitioners seeking council elections by district. Our present Coronavirus emergency has cut short the opportunity for citizen participation and has rendered the statutory 90-day deadline moot. With stay at home orders projected to last weeks if not months, it will be impossible to complete the districting process for the 2020 elections. To try to do so now would be reckless, if not dangerous.

For the record I am attaching the comments I would have made at the March 17<sup>th</sup> hearing which was cancelled due to the Coronavirus emergency. In short, I concluded that while it is possible to draw one of four districts as a majority-minority district based on Total Population, it appears impossible to do so based on Citizen Voting Age population. If the goal is to assure a voice and a seat at the table for a marginalized population impacted by a history of polarized voting, that cannot be done with four districts.

Attorney Rafferty's letter invites a negotiated solution. Council should instruct the City Attorney to enter into a settlement agreement with petitioners to do four things:

1. Delay districting to the 2022 elections to use fresh Census data;
2. Consider creating two additional seats on Council for a 7-member body;
3. Establish an independent citizens districting commission, as the voters have established for drawing congressional and legislative districts, which could embark on a comprehensive program for public input; and
4. Create a timeline to resolve the issues regarding the unincorporated islands, especially the largest one, well in advance of the 2022 districting process.

Go to court for a consent decree to bless exceeding the statutory 90-day timetable if you must.

This Wine Train appeared unstoppable when it left the station, but it has now made an unscheduled stop. On its present route it will not reach its desired destination, so turn it around for a new departure after the Coronavirus emergency, with a full and fair opportunity for citizen participation, with fresh data, and with an independent conductor.

Thank you.

Robert J. Van Der Velde



## Statement to Napa City Council on Districting

Robert J. Van Der Velde

March 17, 2020

Mayor and Council,

In one respect, this is very easy. Almost exactly 25% of Napa lives north of Trancas. Another 25% lives south of Redwood and West of 29. Draw a line horizontally or vertically east of 29, and you are done. But if the goal is to assure a voice and a seat at the table for a marginalized population impacted by a history of polarized voting, then none of the maps before you does the job.

The best I could do was to create a 60% Hispanic district, but using the American Community Survey data that does not yield a Hispanic Citizen Voting Age majority. To do that you would need a total population of 70% Hispanic, and the Hispanic population is not clustered enough for that to be possible with 4 districts. This is probably why your consultant hasn't presented you with an option based on my C-shaped or Y-shaped minority districts. Of course, ACS data are problematic, as they are only estimates based on samples and not an actual enumeration of each person, and while the results may be valuable at the state or even county level, extrapolating samples across small levels of geography is unreliable and has high margins of error. And using 10 year old Census data has its own problems: for example, the 8 year olds in the 2010 Census are now 18 and students at our college, where we are working hard to register them to vote.

Map D is the "least bad" in that it does establish a minority-majority district. But you should vote against all of the maps with 4 districts. Instead, Council should instruct the City Attorney to enter into an agreement with petitioners to do four things:

1. Delay districting to the 2022 elections to use fresh Census data;
2. Create two additional seats on Council for a 7-member body;
3. Establish an independent citizens districting commission, as we have for congressional and legislative districts; and
4. Resolve the issues regarding the unincorporated islands, especially the largest one.

Go to court for a consent decree to bless exceeding the statutory 90-day timetable if you must, but do not accept any of the consultant's proposed maps.

**City Council Meeting  
3/31/2020  
Read into the Record  
Supplemental II - 3. Public Comment  
From: Michael Murray**

**From:** [Michael Murray](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 2:52:55 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Honorable Mayor Techel and city council member:

I am speaking as a life long citizen of Napa. These are my personal views, and I'm not authorized to speak on behalf of the planning commission.

As we face a challenging event, our City must move forward and make some difficult decisions. One of those decisions relates to the election districting. We must move this forward and complete the process. Please make an effort to determine how to hold these meetings that are inclusive to all interested parties. In today's world, there must be a way to make it happen. By completing the process, you can move forward to discuss and work on issues related to the pandemic. It is an excellent opportunity to review policies related to affordable housing, resource allocation (budget), and human capital, potentially making changes that have a significant positive impact on the citizens. Reviewing and possibly revising the long-term goals of our City could be one of the most significant benefits of this event.

By clearing the districting issues off your plate, you can hit the ground running as soon as possible. I appreciate all your efforts and encourage you to take a proactive approach to look at our new future.

Michael Murray  
11 Corbett Court  
Napa, CA 94558

**Thank you,**

Michael A. Murray  
Chief Financial Officer  
Napa Recycling & Waste Services  
Napa County Recycling & Waste Services  
Northern Recycling & Waste Services  
Northern Recycling Operations & Waste Services  
600 Tower Road Operations  
Northern Recycling - Zamora  
707 256-3500 ext. 1180 telephone  
707 656-9223 cell  
707 979-1013 fax

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**City Council Meeting**

**3/31/2020**

**Read into the Record**

**Supplemental II - 3. Public Comment**

**From: Scott Rafferty**

**From:** [Scott Rafferty](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL - PLEASE READ ITEM 7B  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 3:59:52 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Obviously, this is a challenging time in which we all need to respect the extraordinary demands we all face.

Since the Council has cancelled each of the three scheduled post-map hearings, we ask that it reaffirm its commitment to complete the districting process before July 1.

The Council will be asking Napa residents to accept very difficult choices. This will continue after November 2020. Those choices must reflect the needs and values of every community in the city. Districting is now more important than ever.

We believe the hearings can be conducted by teleconference. Maps should be posted as far in advance of a hearing as feasible, but this can now be less than 7 days.

We want a 2020 map that will give the Latino community a real opportunity to elect its candidates of choice this year, when there are two open seats. Sequencing is as important as boundaries, and is not separable. A strong Latino district is meaningless if it is scheduled for 2022, before which time the boundaries will be redrawn. We ask that the demographer review the sequencing to ensure that it gives special consideration to the California Voting Rights Act before considering the interests of the incumbents. Each option should allow at least one strong Latino district to elect in 2020.

Scott Rafferty

