

Communication from Public

Name: Lionel Mares

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Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members & Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, I write to strongly urge the committee and full city council to support an Independent Redistricting Commission that will be free from influence and or undue influence from the Los Angeles City Council. When I participated in the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission in the 2021 - Public Hearing, I expressed my concerns about how the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission was being influenced by City Council Members and their 'allies'. I also expressed my concerns about Rachel Torres (Twitter handle: <https://twitter.com/racheltorres11>) who was appointed by Council President Nury Martinez, Council District 6. I found it odd that someone like Rachel Torres (Appointed by Council District 6) would be appointed as one of the commissioners and Fred Ali (Chair, Appointed by Council District 6). I became appalled that these individuals who I deem to be unqualified and unfit for office were allowed to be on the Commission (https://redistricting2021.lacity.org/LACCRC/html/about_commissioners.html). I believe that the whole process was corrupt from the start. There was too much partisan politics and Rachel Torres did not do anything. She remained silent the whole time while her counterpart Fred Ali did all the talking. I find it appalling that there was too much arguing and bickering between Commissioners, such as Jackie Goldberg (Appointed by Council District 4) and Fred Ali. I believe that the Los Angeles City Council should strongly consider expanding the City Council. The city of Los Angeles has a huge population and 15 council members aren't enough to represent the population. I strongly urge the City Council to increase the number of city council members to adequately and to properly represent the city of Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley. Sincerely, Lionel Mares, MPA