

**FAIRFAX COUNTY
REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

PRESENT: Paul Berry, At-Large, Chairman
Karen Campblin, African American Community Representative, Vice-Chair (arr. 6:02 p.m.)
William Bouie, At-Large
Lisa Sales, At-Large (arr. 6:03 p.m.)
Prashanth Rajan, Braddock District
James Bierman, Dranesville District (arr. 6:05 p.m.)
Richard Chew, Hunter Mill District
Alis Wang, Mason District
Gerald “Gerry” Hyland, Mount Vernon District (arr. 6:04 p.m.)
Paul Liberty, Springfield District (arr. 6:27 p.m.)
Samuel Walker, Sully District
Saif Rahman, Arab American Community Representative (arr. 6:07 p.m.)
Silvia Patton, Asian/Pacific Islander Community Representative
Tim Thompson, Federation of Citizens Associations Representative
Anne Kanter, League of Women Voters Representative
George Becerra, Northern Virginia Labor Federation Representative (arr. 6:02 p.m.)

ABSENT: Bryon Garner, Lee District
Linda Smyth, Providence District
Scott Price, Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce Representative

REMOTE: Maya Castillo, Hispanic Community Representative

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Chairman Paul Berry called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in Computer Labs 366.8 and 368.7 of Suite 364 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

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The following Representatives attended the meeting in-person, in Computer Labs 366.8 and 368.7 of Suite 364 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

- Paul Berry, At-Large, Chairman
- Karen Campblin, African American Community Representative, Vice-Chair (arr. 6:02 p.m.)
- William Bouie, At-Large
- Lisa Sales, At-Large (arr. 6:03 p.m.)
- Prashanth Rajan, Braddock District
- James Bierman, Dranesville District (arr. 6:05 p.m.)
- Richard Chew, Hunter Mill District
- Alis Wang, Mason District
- Gerald “Gerry” Hyland, Mount Vernon District (arr. 6:04 p.m.)

- Paul Liberty, Springfield District (arr. 6:27 p.m.)
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- Tim Thompson, Federation of Citizens Associations Representative
- Anne Kanter, League of Women Voters Representative
- George Becerra, Northern Virginia Labor Federation Representative (arr. 6:02 p.m.)

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Chairman Berry presented the meeting's agenda.

Representative Bouie MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING'S AGENDA.

Representative Chew seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 9-0. Representatives Castillo, Campblin, Becerra, Bierman, Rahman, Liberty, Sales and Hyland were not present during the vote. Representatives Smyth, Garner, and Price were absent from the meeting.

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Chairman Berry announced there were remote participants and requested that each remote participant state for the record their location and reason for participating remotely:

- Maya Castillo, Hispanic Community Representative, stated that she was participating from her home in Fairfax, Virginia, due to providing care for her daughter who was feeling ill (*medical condition of family member*).

Representative Bouie MOVED THAT FOR EACH MEMBER PARTICIPATING REMOTELY, THE REMOTE PARTICIPANT'S VOICE WAS CLEAR, AUDIBLE AND AT AN APPROPRIATE VOLUME FOR THE MEETING ROOM AND THAT THEIR REMOTE PARTICIPATION COMPORTS WITH THE POLICY.

Representative Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 11-0. Representatives Castillo, Bierman, Rahman, Liberty, Sales and Hyland were not present during the vote. Representatives Smyth, Garner, and Price were absent from the meeting.

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Chairman Berry announced the next agenda item, approval of the Minutes from the Redistricting Advisory Committee's ninth meeting, held on September 20, 2021, and asked if there was a motion to approve.

Representative Bouie MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2021, MINUTES.

Representative Chew seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 13-0. Representatives Bierman, Rahman, Liberty, and Hyland were not present during the vote. Representatives Smyth, Garner, and Price were absent from the meeting.

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Chairman Berry opened the floor for public comment.

Peter Weyland, a resident of the Mason Neck area of Lorton affiliated with the South County Federation, shared with the Committee information on the history of and the current and future development of the Lorton area. He shared that the South County Federation would like to see a separation between Mount Vernon and the South County area and would like to have its own district named "South Fairfax". He further presented a submitted, 10-district map, designated PUB_10_0919_2029, to the Committee. He answered questions from and received feedback from the Committee. Mr. Weyland shared he would work further with Representative Hyland on a proposed plan.

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Chairman Berry announced the next topic on the Committee's meeting agenda was a discussion on the report format.

Chairman Berry presented to the Committee the *Report of the Advisory Citizens Committee on the 2011 Reapportionment of the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County* ("2011 Report").

Chairman Berry asked for the Committee's feedback on the designation of the Committee's recommended RAC-submitted plans, which would be two maps from each category of maps, organized by the number of districts (9, 10, or 11 districts). Following suggestions on the designations, the Committee came to a consensus to designate these plans as "RAC Recommended Plans".

Discussion then ensued on the inclusion of public plans, and several Committee members brought attention to the action of the Committee on September 20, 2021, to remove a few of the plans, submitted from Gillie Cuda, from the public map addendum in the Committee's report.

Representative Becerra MOVED TO ADD GILLIE CUDA'S SUBMISSIONS THAT WERE REMOVED FROM THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2021, TO THE PUBLIC SUBMISSION MAPS IN THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Chairman Berry seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 11-4-1. Representatives Thompson, Chew, Kanter, and Bierman voted in opposition. Representative Walker abstained from the vote. Representative Liberty was not present during the vote. Representatives Smyth, Garner, and Price were absent from the meeting.

Following the approval of the motion, Chairman Berry referred to the organizational structure in the 2011 Report. Discussion then ensued on the designations used in 2011, including that of the lettering and numbering system, to organize the maps. Martin Desjardins, Assistant County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney, provided the Committee with clarification on the 2011 designations.

Following discussion, Chairman Berry shared that the designation format used in the 2011 Report would not work for the Committee's report due to the amount of variation present in the current maps. Vice-Chair Campblin shared that she thought the maps could be organized and designated using the number of districts, deviation, and a code for if districts were renamed in the maps. Chairman Berry shared that he thought they should organize the maps first by the least number of precincts moved and then by the lowest deviation.

Representative Rahman asked if a count of Committee members, organized by their preference on the number of potential districts, or a statement on the majority preference of the Committee on the number of districts, could be included in the Report. Chairman Berry then asked the Committee to raise their hands for a straw poll on the number of districts that they'd like to recommend to the Board of Supervisors.

For 9 Districts, these Representatives raised their hands: Thompson, Walker, Liberty, Chew, Bouie, Berry, and Bierman (a total of seven Representatives).

For 10 districts, these Representatives raised their hands: Castillo, Becerra, Hyland, Kanter, Sales, Wang, Rahman, Campblin, and Rajan (a total of nine Representatives).

For 11 districts, these Representatives raised their hands: Patton (a total of one Representative).

It was noted that Representatives Smyth, Garner, and Price were absent from the meeting and that their preferences would need to be added into the count later.

Chairman Berry then opened the floor for discussion on the Chairman's Intro Letter for the Report.

Representative Chew shared that he believed that the letter should point out the time constraint and compressed schedule under which the Committee had to work.

Representative Becerra shared that he thought there should be a suggestion or comments section for next Committee in the Report. Chairman Berry shared that the letter could contain three lines or so on after-actions if the Committee could send him concise thoughts for inclusion.

Representative Bierman asked for clarification on the seven bullet points of criteria listed for discussion on the September 21, 2021, agenda under "Criteria discussion for RAC "Preference Maps". He asked how the criteria points could be incorporated into the Report's letter, and how many sentences each bullet point would get in the letter.

Chairman Berry shared he would need, by 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 25, 2021, a paragraph or a few sentences on each bullet point/criteria to be included in the letter. The Committee then worked on volunteer assignments per each bullet point/criteria.

- Equity and Vulnerability Index, which were separate bullet points, were assigned to Vice-Chair Campblin and Representative Sales.
- Marginal disruption was assigned to Representative Bierman.
- Communities of Interest was assigned to Vice-Chair Campblin.
- Historical neighborhoods was not assigned. There were no volunteers for this section.

- Major infrastructure (freeways, traffic centers, etc.) was not assigned. There were no volunteers for this section. Chairman Berry shared that he would check in with Representative Smyth to see if she could write on this point.
- Compactness was assigned to Representative Kanter.

Chairman Berry asked if there were any other criteria that were not already listed that would need to be discussed.

Representative Bierman shared that school districts were discussed.

Representative Sales shared that the Committee also discussed offices/governmental centers remaining in magisterial districts were also discussed and suggested that the topic be placed under the “major infrastructure”. Vice-Chair Campblin shared that there had been careful consideration for Governmental Centers, and that a sentence should be included, and suggested that “municipal buildings” be added as a subsection to “major infrastructure”.

Representative Wang asked if town boundaries would fall under “historical neighborhoods”. Chairman Berry answered shared that, for example, he took into consideration the racial history of Fort Buffalo, a precinct in the Providence District, when proposing moving the precinct to the Mason District.

Vice-Chair Campblin requested that the Committee revisit the topic of municipal buildings and asked if the topic should be placed under “major infrastructure” or “marginal disruption”. Representative Bierman shared he would work to include municipal centers into the “marginal disruption” paragraph.

Representative Thompson brought up the question on how the Committee would vote if only one 11-district map was submitted. Chairman Berry shared that the Committee would need to wait for the Committee’s final submissions. Discussion then ensued on how the Committee’s voting on preferred maps would logistically work.

Vice-Chair Campblin asked if a member could just vote on one map. Chairman Berry shared that Committee members could abstain when the Committee votes on the maps. Vice-Chair Campblin also asked if Committee members could also vote for a certain map twice. Chairman Berry shared that a Committee member could not do that.

Discussion then ensued on how the voting would be organized, such as a rank choice vote or a majority vote, and if there could be a score card or table in the final Report that shared how many members voted for each map, and the meaning or purpose of abstaining when voting. Chairman Berry shared that as per the Committee’s bylaws, all votes would need to be a majority vote, and that votes would be recorded in the minutes.

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The Committee then worked on their individual maps and had a work session.

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Following the Committee's work session, Chairman Berry announced the next topic on the agenda "Criteria Discussion for RAC "Preference Maps"". On the agenda, seven criteria points were listed under this topic and included: equity, Vulnerability Index, marginal disruption, Communities of Interest, historical neighborhoods, major infrastructure (freeways, traffic centers, etc.), and compactness.

Chairman Berry started the discussion by asking the Committee what they felt were the most important things to consider when voting for the two preferred, committee-made maps per each district number category (9, 10, or 11 districts), for the Board of Supervisors.

Representative Bouie shared that the Committee would need definitions on all the criteria listed to take them into consideration and that it would be important that those who, earlier in the meeting, were assigned to those criteria points for the Report's Letter, share definitions with the Committee as soon as possible. He further stated that not everyone has the same definitions per each criterion, but if the Committee is using each as criteria, it would need agreed upon definitions of what they are prior to voting per each map.

Discussion then ensued. Chairman Berry asked if the definitions could be agreed upon by Monday, September 27, 2021, and shared that he agreed that the Committee would need to have a general idea of the thought process and concepts behind each criterion, but that definitions would be hard for the Committee to agree upon.

Representative Wang asked about the proposed in-depth conversation that was to occur on compactness. Representative Kanter shared with the group two proposed ways of calculating compactness. Discussion then ensued with Representative Liberty asking how low-population areas would be taken into consideration when calculating compactness and Chairman Berry shared that compactness is not a high priority as this factor would need to be considered. Chairman Berry asked that Sandy Woiak, Geospatial Services Manager, Department of Information Technology, send to the Committee more information on compactness.

Chairman Berry then shared that he anticipated that the Committee would have an open discussion to describe what they believed each criterion meant and that some criterion had hard definitions in a legal setting, such as Communities of Interest.

Representative Bierman shared that each Committee member may have considered things differently and that the Chairman's Letter for the Report would share some of the various criterion that were considered.

Vice-Chair Campblin explained the difference between equity, Vulnerability Index, and Communities of Interest and shared that she would work on sharing more details on this for the Report's Letter. Discussion ensued further on this matter and how the Vulnerability Index data could be used and interpreted when mapping. The Committee also discussed the needs of the identified most vulnerable magisterial districts (Lee, Mount Vernon, and Mason) and how to address these needs.

Vice-Chair Campblin also shared that as the Committee looks at maintaining Communities of Interest, a consideration should also be placed on the locations of economic drivers. Vice-Chair Campblin further shared that each district should have the ability to attract businesses, and how historically, when a

community has a percentage of persons of color, investment dollars shrink. Discussion then ensued with multiple Representatives. Representative Rahman shared how developers evaluate locations in the County, which impact the investments that come into specific districts. Representative Kanter shared that property and business taxes, while collected in a certain area, are placed into a larger pot for distribution and that the money doesn't stay within the district. Representative Bouie shared information to the group on proffers, such as how they're typically written strictly for a geographical region or location, that proffer money may be tied up in one location and cannot be reallocated, and how that the County needs to address the way it does development to redirect its resources in an equitable fashion.

Representative Kanter recommended that the Committee read a report titled "*Racially Polarized Voting Analysis for the Virginia Redistricting Commission*", published by Maxwell Palmer and Benjamin Schneer, on August 31, 2021. She stated that as per the report, most of northern Virginia has little or no levels of racially polarized voting.

Representative Walker asked the Committee to share if they drew a map where their home location had been drawn out of their current district. Representatives Liberty and Rahman shared that their maps did.

Chairman Berry asked that all maps for consideration for the Committee's preferred maps vote, but submitted by close of business on Friday, September 24, 2021, or earlier. Discussion then ensued on the proposed number of maps the Committee would be evaluating. Following a general polling of the Committee, Chairman Berry shared that it seemed as though at least seven to eight Committee members planned on only submitting one map, and that while the Committee had no limit on their number of map submissions, that they should try and keep the count reasonable. Further, it was shared that at that moment, three 9-district, two 10-district, and one 11-district map had been submitted and processed from Committee members.

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At the conclusion of the meeting, Chairman Berry asked for a member to move to adjourn the meeting.

Representative Thompson MOVED THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AS OF 8:06 P.M.

Representative Campblin seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 15-0. Representatives Castillo and Patton were not present during the vote. Representatives Smyth, Garner, and Price were absent from the meeting.