

From: Redacted

To: [Yasuda, Erica](#); [Woodward, Carrie](#); [City Clerk](#); [E-Comments](#)

Subject: New eComment for Regular Meeting of the City Council

Date: Monday, October 4, 2021 7:52:31 PM

New eComment for Regular Meeting of the City Council

Guest User submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: Regular Meeting of the City Council

Item: PUBLIC INPUT – At this time, any member of the public may address the Council on matters which are not on this evening's agenda, provided the matter is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council.

eComment: The established timeline for the City's redistricting process is not giving community members adequate time to comprehend why the city is undergoing this process or how they can share insights about their community as the city changes from city-wide voting to voting for a council member within their specified district and an at-large elected mayor. This process feels so rushed! The public workshops and City Council meetings were all conducted virtually during working and evening hours given the current COVID-19 protocols for public meetings. I'm sure many community members did not have the time to attend, were not able to rearrange their work or home schedules, or were not even aware of these workshops or meetings. I personally attended two public workshops and one City Council meeting for the redistricting, and I estimate the public attendance was between 20-30 individuals for each. With a population of approximately 80,000 in Tustin, less than 0.04 percent of the community has participated in each of these three meetings. That is very low participation for something so important for our community. I have not heard a good explanation as to why the schedule for this process is so compressed (2 to 3 months), except that the Census numbers were not available until September. Why was the community engagement process not started three to six months sooner than it did? Why hasn't the City considered additional creative ways to engage the community, such as collaborating with the school districts to disseminate information and maps that school children could take home and mark up with their parents. The students or their parents could return marked-up maps to the school and then have them picked up by the City. Also, maps could be available at City Hall or other community events for community members to pick up and then return them in person or online. The website for DrawTustin.org has useful information, but I can imagine it is overwhelming for many individuals if they did not attend either of the public workshops. What are you supposed to focus on and how can you meaningfully participate in this process? Or how can you individually find enough spare time to watch the

videos of the City Council meetings or the public workshops? That is big ask of our 80,000+ community members. I was not aware of lawn signs placed throughout the community until there was a mention of them during the second public workshop. I had not seen any throughout the community before that workshop, but made an effort after that as I ran errands to see if I noticed any. I did see a limited number of the small lawn signs along Irvine Boulevard and Bryan Avenue/Main Street, which were hard to read while driving by. I did not see any signs posted at City Hall or along First Street. They were not the most effective method to share information and engage the community. Something more visible, like a banner across Main Street by City Hall about the process, would have been helpful. I support redistricting for Tustin. But the limited timeframe to inform and interact with the community does not feel genuine or inclusive. I worry the limited participation will not result in four council districts that are equitable, representative of all their constituents, or provide greater opportunities for future community leaders to serve their district and their City. Collette Morse