From:

Minh Pham <phamnguyenkhaiminh93@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 6:39 PM

To:

Public Comment

Cc:

Lena Tran; Vincent Tran

Subject:

12/8 Public Comment - Westminster City Council Meeting

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### Minh Pham, District 2, for Westminster's Redistricting Process - December 8, 2021

Dear City Clerk,

My name is Minh Pham. I am writing as a resident of Westminster's 2<sup>nd</sup> District. I have lived at the corner of Goldenwest Street and Maple Street.

I'm currently a part of the Westminster Redistricting Committee with VietRISE where I worked with over the past 6 months with 6 residents from the City of Westminster. We would like to ask the Westminster City Council to have a redistricting process to be open to the general public because everyone should have a voice and opinion toward the maps. The map is the representation of our community. Therefore, everyone should have the contribution to make sure it is a right map. Plus, the community should deserve to know about the process as the citizens and residents of this country. Additionally, the Westminster City Council should have more workshop so they can educate our community about the process so they can learn and voice their opinion.

I can see that the Westminster City Council should allow to have more public hearing and release the map(s) for Westminster Residents to see beforehand so we can ensure it is a fair process, and the map should reflect our community as a whole.

Lastly, I think the mobile home parks, new immigrants, younger and older generation of Vietnamese American along with our Latinx and Asian Pacific Islanders should be kept with one another. Our country is built by immigrants, and it is a collective group of individuals who wants to pursue American Dreams. Hence, I think it is important that we should include these communities in the redistricting process.

Best Regards,

Minh Pham

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From:

Lisa Nguyen < lisan1200@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 6:24 PM

To:

**Public Comment** 

Cc:

Lena Tran; Vincent Tran

Subject:

12/08 Public Comment - Westminster City Council

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Lisa Nguyen, District #1 for Westminster's Redistricting Process - December 8, 2021

Hi, my name is Lisa Nguyen. I am writing as a resident of Westminster's 1st District. I live at the cross streets of Westminster and Edwards.

I have lived and worked in Westminster for almost all my life. Growing up in a vibrant and diverse community, I am always engaging with many community members from different backgrounds. The lived experiences and stories of community members are valuable and representative of day-to-day life in Westminster. Today, I come to you as a long time resident of the city and as a member of the Westminster Redistricting Committee. We have been meeting since June and have identified different communities of interests, especially in regard to the Vietnamese community here. The Vietnamese community encompasses members from different backgrounds such as low-income, elderly, working class, and mobile home residents. There is no single narrative when redrawing maps, as each community members' voice is valuable to the political process. When redrawing maps, it is crucial to keep communities together, especially mobile home parks and neighborhoods of similar income level. Communities are deeply connected to each other, thus it is crucial that we maintain and build positive relationships with communities across the city. The redistricting process should empower and uplift all of our community members, as our city lines will impact the day-to-day lives of folks for years to come. We urge you to keep our communities together and to strongly consider the stories of our residents as you redraw district lines. Thank you!

From:

Niki Nguyễn <nikiinguyenn@gmail.com> Wednesday, December 1, 2021 6:29 PM

Sent: To:

Public Comment

Cc:

lena@vietrise.org; vincent@vietrise.org

Subject:

12/8 Public Comment - Westminster City Council Meeting

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Niki Nguyen, District 1 for Westminster's Redistricting Process - December 8, 2021

Hi, my name is Niki Nguyen. I am writing as a resident of Westminster's 1st District (Edward St. & Westminster Blvd.) and a member of the Westminster Redistricting Committee--a group of community members who have been collaborating over the past 6 months with VietRISE to identify key communities throughout Westminster and advocate for an equitable redistricting process.

As a resident of Westminster for the past 22 years and the child of two Vietnamese refugees, I ask that the city council: 1) create a redistricting timeline that accommodates residents' various working hours and clearly communicate the process dates to residents; 2) allow for at least 3-5 public hearings to be held, as put forth by the Fair Maps Act; 3) post the final draft of maps at least 2 weeks before the next public hearing so that residents may have an adequate amount of time to review the maps; 4) host 2 public hearings for the final map adoption; and lastly 5) approve of a map that keeps critical Little Saigon communities together.

Westminster is home to countless working class and immigrant community members and it is essential that the upcoming map is respectful in honoring those communities' needs and power. In particular, we must have a district that keeps mobile home park residents together--many of which include Vietnamese refugee elders--because these communities have been and continue to be vulnerable to ongoing displacement from rising costs of living, lack of tenant protections, and threats/attacks from mobile park landlords. Additionally, in the past iteration with the 2019 city map, there failed to be a district with a Latinx majority despite there being an incredibly sizable Latinx population in the city of Westminster. We should and must have at least one district that gives strong representation to this community that is vital to the vibrancy of Westminster.

We must keep our community together. I strongly urge you to adopt a redistricting timeline and process that accommodates residents and additionally, put forth maps that keep the various communities of Westminster intact. Thank you for your time and consideration.

From:

Vincent Tran < vincent@vietrise.org >

Sent:

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 4:17 PM

To:

**Public Comment** 

Subject:

Written Public Comment Submission: Westminster Redistricting Committee's Letter to

the City

Attachments:

[12\_7\_21] Westminster Redistricting Committee Letter to Westminster City Council.pdf

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This E-Mail came from outside the City of Westminster's E-Mail System. Do not open attachments, click links, or respond unless you expected this message and recognize the E-Mail address.

#### Hello,

Below I have a public comment written by the Westminster Redistricting Committee. I have also attached the letter in PDF for easy viewing. Thank you.

"We, the Westminster Redistricting Committee, ask that the Westminster City Council commit to have the redistricting process be open and transparent to the community. The Westminster Redistricting Committee is a collaboration with VietRISE and 10 Westminster residents that have been working on redrawing the maps of Westminster for the past 6 months. As a committee, we ask that the Westminster City Council first take their time to create a meaningful timeline that allows for multiple redistricting workshops that allow for morning hours and evening hours to accommodate regular work hours. Second, allow for at least 3-5 public hearings which is required by the Fair Maps Act. Third, post the final draft maps at least 2 weeks before the next public hearing to allow for residents time to review the maps. Fourth, we ask for 2 public hearings for the final map adoption in case there isn't a unanimous decision for the first public hearing for the final map adoption meeting. The second public hearing for the final map adoption meeting will allow residents a chance to voice their opinion again.

In addition, our communities of interests encompass members from different backgrounds such as low-income Vietnamese, low-income Latinx, elderly, working class, and mobile home residents. It's crucial to keep together mobile home parks and neighborhoods of similar income level. Furthermore, we urge that the redistricting process actively include the voices and thoughts of people of all age groups, especially young people that are often overlooked. We want Westminster to keep intact the Latinx community and Asian American Pacific Islander community in these maps.

We hope to work with the City of Westminster to create a new district map that truly represents the diversity and uniqueness of each community that make up the city."

Thank you,

Vincent P. Tran
Pronouns: He/him/his

Community Engagement Coordinator

VietRISE

www.vietrise.org

# Westminster Redistricting Committee (WRC) Letter to Westminster City Council

We, the Westminster Redistricting Committee, ask that the Westminster City Council commit to have the redistricting process be open and transparent to the community. The Westminster Redistricting Committee is a collaboration with VietRISE and 10 Westminster residents that have been working on redrawing the maps of Westminster for the past 6 months. As a committee, we ask that the Westminster City Council first take their time to create a meaningful timeline that allows for multiple redistricting workshops that allow for morning hours and evening hours to accommodate regular work hours. Second, allow for at least 3-5 public hearings which is required by the Fair Maps Act. Third, post the final draft maps at least 2 weeks before the next public hearing to allow for residents time to review the maps. Fourth, we ask for 2 public hearings for the final map adoption in case there isn't a unanimous decision for the first public hearing for the final map adoption meeting. The second public hearing for the final map adoption meeting will allow residents a chance to voice their opinion again.

In addition, our communities of interests encompass members from different backgrounds such as low-income Vietnamese, low-income Latinx, elderly, working class, and mobile home residents. It's crucial to keep together mobile home parks and neighborhoods of similar income level. Furthermore, we urge that the redistricting process actively include the voices and thoughts of people of all age groups, especially young people that are often overlooked. We want Westminster to keep intact the Latinx community and Asian American Pacific Islander community in these maps.

We hope to work with the City of Westminster to create a new district map that truly represents the diversity and uniqueness of each community that make up the city.