

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

RULES ON PUBLIC COMMENT FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. The Agenda for each public hearing meeting of the Los Angeles Unified School District Redistricting Commission (“Commission”) shall be posted at least 72 hours before the meeting. It shall contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting.

2. Public Testimony Agenda Item.

The Commission shall provide an opportunity in open meetings for the public to address the Commission on the Agenda item known as “Public Testimony” for a total of up to two (2) minutes per speaker, not including interruptions for non-English translation. The Presiding Officer may grant or deny speakers additional time, subject to reversal by a majority of the Commission. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to providing the Commission input on the drafting of new Board Member District boundaries. The Presiding Officer may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to public testimony. The Presiding Officer shall have the sole authority to grant a speaker’s request to loan, cede, defer or yield time to another speaker. (The public-comment procedures set forth in this rule are in addition to any other hearing requirement specifically imposed by law.)

3. Other Agenda Items.

The Commission shall provide an opportunity in open meetings for the public to address the Commission on each Agenda item, other than the Public Testimony agenda item discussed above, for a cumulative total of up to five (5) minutes for each item. The Presiding Officer may grant or deny speakers additional time, subject to reversal by a majority of the Commission. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Presiding Officer may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. If multiple speaker cards are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during public testimony or on another agenda item. A member of the public wishing to speak on more than one agenda item at a single meeting shall limit his or her remarks to a total of five (5) minutes per meeting. A member of the public may allocate time between items in one minute increments per item. The Presiding Officer, in his or her discretion, may allow a speaker to combine remarks on multiple items so as to speak to them during one appearance at the podium. The Presiding Officer shall have the sole authority to grant a speaker’s request to loan, cede, defer or yield time to another speaker. (The public-comment procedures set forth in this rule are in addition to any other hearing requirement specifically imposed by law.)

4. General Public Comment.

The Brown Act requires the Commission to provide an opportunity in regular meetings for members of the public to address it on any non-agenda item generally considered to be a Commission affair and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission.

This shall be referred to as “general public comment.” Only items not on the agenda may be addressed during this period. The Commission has determined that a reasonable amount of time for general public comment shall be a cumulative total of up to fifteen (15) minutes. The Presiding Officer may exercise his or her discretion, subject to reversal by a majority of the Commission, in conducting the public comment period, including, but not limited to: re-ordering the order of business; determining an equitable amount of time that each member of the public may speak; granting or denying speakers additional time to speak, individually or collectively. If multiple speaker cards are submitted for general public comment, the speakers shall be called in the order submitted by the Commission Executive Director, or designee, to the Presiding Officer. However, preference shall be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously either during public testimony or on agenda items at the immediately preceding two regular meetings. The Commission shall not discuss or take action relative to any public comment, including public testimony, unless authorized by Section 54954.2(b) of the Government Code.

5. No person shall be permitted to interrupt Commissioners, Commission staff, or City staff during a Commission Meeting.

6. No person, other than Commissioners and Commission staff, shall be admitted into the Commission business area while the Commission is meeting except upon the request of a Commissioner and consent of the Presiding Officer.

7. To facilitate the orderly process of general public comment and agenda-item public comment, members of the public who wish to address the Commission shall hand a speaker card, which includes the speaker’s name, or other identifying designation, to the Commission Executive Director, or designee, prior to the start of the particular comment period. Members of the public shall speak from the podium in the center aisle, or where such podium is situated in the meeting room. Each speaker shall promptly conclude all comments when his or her time to speak has expired. Except at hearings expressly required by law, speakers’ comments shall be limited in time as determined by the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer may exercise discretion in determining the duration of speakers’ comments based upon factors such as the length of the agenda or substance of the agenda items, the number of public comment speaker cards submitted, the need for the Commission to conclude its business as expeditiously as is practicable, and whether the Commission is in danger of losing a quorum.

8. Rules of Decorum:

a. Rules of Decorum.

During a meeting of the Commission, there is the need for civility and expedition in the carrying out of public business in order to ensure that the public has a full opportunity to be heard and that the Commission has an opportunity for its deliberative process. While any meeting of the Commission is in session, the following rules of decorum shall be observed. All remarks shall be addressed to the Commission as a whole and not to any single Commissioner, unless in response to a

question from a Commissioner. Persons addressing the Commission shall not make personal, impertinent, unduly repetitive, slanderous or profane remarks to the Commission, any Commissioner, Commission staff, City staff, or general public, nor utter loud, threatening, personal or abusive language, nor engage in any other disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of any Commission meeting. No person in the audience at a Commission meeting shall engage in disorderly or boisterous conduct, including the utterance of loud, threatening or abusive language, whistling, stamping of feet or other acts which disturb, disrupt or otherwise impede the orderly conduct of any Commission meeting. Signs, placards, banners, or similar items shall not be permitted at any time at a Commission meeting. Unless addressing the Commission or entering or leaving the Commission meeting room, all persons in the audience shall remain sitting in the seats provided. No person shall stand or sit in the center aisle, nor shall the doorways be blocked. The Presiding Officer of the Commission, with the assistance of the Sergeant-at-Arms, shall be responsible for maintaining the order and decorum of meetings, as set forth more fully below.

b. Enforcement of Decorum.

At the discretion of the Presiding Officer or upon a majority vote of the Commission, the Presiding Officer may order removed from the Commission meeting room any person who fails to observe these rules of decorum, including committing any of the following acts of disruptive conduct in respect to a regular, adjourned regular or special meeting of the Commission. Disorderly, contemptuous or insolent behavior toward the Commission, any Commissioner thereof, or Commission staff, tending to interrupt the due and orderly course of said meeting; A breach of the peace, boisterous conduct or violent disturbance, tending to interrupt the due and orderly course of said meeting; Disobedience of any lawful order of the Presiding Officer, which shall include an order to be seated or to refrain from addressing the Commission; and any other unlawful interference with the due and orderly course of said meeting; and any person so removed shall be excluded from further attendance at the meeting from which he/she has been removed, unless permission to attend is granted upon motion adopted by a majority vote of the Commission. These enforcement provisions are in addition to the authority held by the Sergeant-at-Arms to maintain order and pursuant to his or her lawful authority as a peace officer.

c. Penalties.

Any person who has been ordered removed from a meeting may be charged with a violation of Penal Code Section 403, or other appropriate Penal Code or Los Angeles Municipal Code sections.