

Hi, I want to thank the council for engaging in this process and want to ask that they vote for any of the 5 district maps. None of the 4 maps make sense to me and it seems from previous public comments they are a way for the current councilmembers to avoid leaving office. We need representation from other parts of town for their needs to be heard. Do the right thing for all of our community and let others have their voices heard. I personally like map 503 or 504, and I urge you to make sure the other parts of town (not the Greenhills) go up for election first.

Thank you,

Digna

Hi, could you please have this read into the record for tonight's meetings? Thank you,

I want to take the opportunity to thank the council for doing this very important work despite their personal objections to it. You'll understand that simply because something has not been an issue for you personally, that does not mean the issue does not exist, and that it doesn't affect others in meaningful ways. Chowhilla deserves a council that represents all parts of our community.

I want to ask that you set aside your personal ambitions (political and otherwise) and choose what is best for all of our community. We do not need to change the way the mayor is voted in, we simply need to change the way the 5 member council is elected. Nobody in the community has asked for a change in the structure of our council - that idea has been floated internally by the council and staff from the start of this process. I heard personally from Mr. Chavez and Mr. Ahmed very early on that the council wanted to change the structure to 4 seats, and i have also been told by others that this was recommended to the council by paid city staff as a way to protect incumbents. It comes at no surprise that Mr. Tilton's presentation and slides changed between his first and second presentations given on 4/9 & 4/23. Slide 7 was changed the second time around to remove language specific to 5 districts, and in watching the recorded meetings, the shift in language is easy to spot. The question is who, if not a member of the council or paid staff, reached out to NDC to prompt this sudden change in language and the production of so many maps of 4?

This subversion of the districting process is shameful and deceitful. I don't believe this is how each of you would run your various businesses, it certainly isn't how you should run the city.

As stated before, I am in favor of map 504, with districts 1, 2, 3 & 4 given priority for election in 2024. I represent a large group of Latino and non-Latino voters who feel this map is the best representation for our community.

Do what is legal, and what is right for our community.

Thank you,

Josue Diaz

I am writing to express my strong support for the creation of the five districts map. It is imperative that each district receive fair and equitable representation in our districting plans. I would like to state my support in favor of the proposed district map draft # 504 with the suggestion for the election year sequencing schedules for district 1, district 2 and district 3 to be placed first for the upcoming elections November 2024.

I would like to point out that Chowchilla's Arab American and Latino communities have made significant contributions to our city, enriching our cultural diversity and driving economic growth. Ensuring that these communities are adequately represented in our districting process is not only a matter of fairness but also a recognition of the diversity that strengthens our city.

Creating districts that are inclusive will help ensure that everyone's voices are heard and their needs are addressed. It will promote greater civic engagement and foster a sense of belonging and representation among our communities.

I urge you to consider the importance of inclusivity and representation in the districting process. By creating five districts that are inclusive, we can take a meaningful step towards a more equitable and just society.

I would like to also make note that the districting maps available on-line, the Arab American community is referred to as Arab American cultural center and that typo should be edited as the verbiage is misleading.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your positive response and to seeing our communities better represented in the future.

Sincerely,

Ahlaam Escheik, BSN RN