

From: ROBERTO MENDEZ <berto53@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 6:21 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@brisbaneca.org>
Subject: By-District Elections

April 3, 2024,

Dear Brisbane City Council,

We have been Kings Road residents of Brisbane for over 33 years. I am a retired San Francisco physician, and my wife, Eva, is a retired Stanford Hospital registered nurse. As a couple that represents both the Hispanic and Asian communities of Brisbane, we value the diversity of Brisbane, and understand the benefit of different perspectives. We love our city, and would like to have ethnic diversity on our Council that is more representative of the cultural mix in our community.

The California Voting rights Act encourages cities to enact by-district elections if a city council does not reflect the full diversity of the community. I appreciate the spirit in which this Act has been created because true representation is the foundation of our democracy.

To insure Brisbane is not in violation of the California Voting Rights Act, the city needs to hire a demographer to gather the information that will enable all Brisbane citizens to explore by-district elections. Some cities in San Mateo County have been proactive in implementing by-district elections, while others were pressure with litigation to do so. It makes sense to avoid a financial cost to Brisbane by not procrastinating and being proactive.

Thank you for creating the subcommittee and looking into this important election issue. We hope that we can continue moving forward so that the community can soon join in the conversation about a by-district election option.
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Roberto Mendez
Eva Mendez

Sent from my iPad