

Final
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING

COLORADO REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

Date: 08/08/2011	ATTENDANCE
Time: 06:04 PM to 09:45 PM	Atencio X
Place: Community College of Aurora	Berry E
	Carroll X
This Meeting was called to order by <u>Senator Carroll</u>	Jones X
	Loevy X
This Report was prepared by <u>Jessika Shipley</u>	Nicolais E
	Salazar X
	Tool X
	Witwer X
	Webb E
	Carrera X

X = Present, E = Excused, A = Absent, * = Present after roll call

Bills Addressed:	Action Taken:
Welcome and Introductions	-
Public Testimony	-

Note: This meeting summary is not an official record of the commission or of the meeting. It is not intended to serve as a transcript or minutes of the commission meeting. The audio recording of the meeting is the official record of the meeting. This summary may be used as a guide to the audio recording. To access the audio recording of a commission meeting, visit the Colorado Joint Legislative Library located in the State Capitol, Room 048 (basement/ground floor level). You will need to note the date, time, and location of the meeting to access the audio recording. Copies of the audio recordings may be obtained at the library if you bring with you blank, recordable compact discs or a flash drive. Librarians are on site and available to assist you with accessing an audio recording.

6:04 PM -- Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner Carroll, chair, welcomed everyone. She made brief opening remarks about the process. Each of the commissioners introduced themselves.

6:09 PM

Jeremiah Barry, Colorado Reapportionment Commission Staff, provided an explanation of the legal criterion governing state legislative redistricting.

6:16 PM

Commissioner Carroll explained that the map is preliminary and will likely need to be changed. Bo Pogue, Colorado Reapportionment Commission Staff, provided a brief explanation of the boundaries of the districts in and around Aurora.

6:22 PM -- Public Testimony

The following individuals testified:

6:23 PM -- John Buckley, representing himself, spoke about his experience with civic engagement. He stated his opinion that extremely safe legislative seats allow the legislator in that seat to ignore a large part of his or her constituency. He talked about communities of interest and discussed his concerns with the boundaries of the proposed House District 40 with regard to school district boundaries. In response to a request from the commission, Mr. Buckley spoke about specific areas of the proposed House District 40 with which he has concerns.

6:33 PM -- Molly Martin, representing herself, spoke about her professional background. She discussed her concerns with the proposed House District 40 and the Cherry Creek School District schools in that district. She proposed moving part of the district boundary north in order to include more of the high school catchment areas in the Cherry Creek School District for juvenile-justice-related reasons.

6:39 PM -- Bill Wasinski, representing himself, spoke about neighborhoods that are divided in the proposed plans and suggested moving some district boundaries to include whole neighborhoods. He commented about schools as communities of interest.

6:43 PM -- Former state Senator Bob Hagedorn, representing himself, spoke about his history with Aurora. He discussed a map that he distributed to the commission (Attachment A). He talked specifically about the history of House District 42. He discussed his concerns with the proposed plan, which divides House District 42 in a way he finds objectionable. He provided suggestions for redrawing the district that would maintain communities of interest and still satisfy population requirements.



Attachment A.pdf

6:51 PM -- Harry Kottcamp, representing himself, spoke about the redistricting of Grand County. He discussed the constitutional requirement for the preservation of communities of interest. He talked about communities of interest in Grand County and stressed that those communities share nothing in common with the communities of Boulder County. Mr. Kottcamp discussed ethnic, cultural, economic, trade, geographic, and demographic factors. He stated his opinion that the commission has not followed the requirements of the Colorado Constitution in creating the proposed map.

6:56 PM -- Arnold Schultz, representing himself, discussed House Districts 28 and 29. He stated his opinion that House District 42 should be redrawn in the ways suggested by Senator Hagedorn.

6:58 PM -- Alfonso Nunez, representing himself, expressed his opinion that "original" Aurora should be kept together in one House District. He discussed the economic drivers in Aurora. In response to a questions from Commissioner Loevy, Mr. Nunez explained that "original" Aurora goes from Dayton and Colfax to Peoria. He spoke to gentrification in the area. Commissioner Salazar asked Mr. Nunez to explain different labels people commonly use for various parts of Aurora.

7:07 PM -- Bernie Rogoff, representing himself, provided his professional credentials. He discussed his concerns with the proposed map of House Districts. He stated his opinion that the map is not good and potentially harms former and active duty military personnel. He talked about Buckley Air Force Base and stated that the base is part of a team with the city of Aurora. He continued to discuss the potential harm done to the neighborhoods around Buckley by the proposed House plan. In response to questions from the commission, Mr. Rogoff explained that the boundaries of the neighborhoods surrounding Buckley Air Force Base (6th Avenue west to Chambers and south to Mississippi) should not be fractured.

7:20 PM -- Michael Devers, representing himself, spoke about a carved out area of the proposed House District 36, which appears to be designed to preserve the incumbent in that district. He expressed his opinion that the House District that includes Buckley Air Force Base should not also include more rural areas because they do not have much in common. Mr. Devers responded to questions about the traditional boundaries of the district.

7:24 PM -- Ed Williams, representing himself, discussed the proposed House Districts 16, 42, and 36. He explained the boundaries of "original" Aurora. He spoke at length about his experience as a long-time resident of Aurora and discussed changes in the city over time. He expressed his dissatisfaction with most of the proposed changes to House District 42.

7:35 PM -- Judith Marquez, representing Rights for All People, spoke about her concerns with communities that are divided by the proposed House Districts 16 and 42. She urged the commission to maintain the current boundaries of those districts in order to keep communities whole. She discussed the various minority groups that live in the area.

7:43 PM -- Leah Houston, representing herself, expressed her opinion that Overland High School should not be drawn out of House District 41.

7:46 PM -- John Holberg, representing himself, asked the commission to maintain the current boundaries of House District 42.

7:47 PM -- Ellen Belef, representing herself, spoke about the portion of the proposed House District 36 that juts into the proposed House District 42. She discussed her experience as a resident of the Center Point neighborhood and talked about the communities of interest in that area. She suggested extending the current House District 36 south to Hampden Avenue in order to pick up the necessary number of people. She asked the commission to restore Chambers Road as the western boundary of House District 36.

7:59 PM -- David Wilman, representing himself, expressed his opinion that the governing factors of redistricting are transparency, procedural fairness, following the rule of law, and citizen engagement and that the commission has only followed two of those factors. He provided specific suggestions for moving the boundaries of the proposed House Districts 25 and 33 in order to preserve communities of interest. He reiterated the testimony of Ms. Houston about the inclusion of Overland High School in House District 41. He also reiterated the testimony of Mr. Buckley about the communities in the northeast boundary of the proposed House District 40. Discussion ensued about the best way to move boundaries in the area to equalize population.

8:15 PM -- Joy Hoffman, representing the Arapahoe County Republican Party, discussed the proposed changes to Senate Districts 26 and 27. She asked the commission to create one Democratic district, one Republican district, and two competitive districts.

8:18 PM -- Andrew Bateman, representing himself, spoke about his desire for the inclusion of Overland High School in House District 41. He discussed the communities of interest in the area.

8:23 PM -- Maisha Pollard, representing herself, spoke about a community assessment with which she is involved that concerns House District 42. In Ms. Pollard's opinion, the greatest strength of House District 42 is its diversity.

8:28 PM -- Tom Tobiassen, representing himself, spoke about the proposed split between House Districts 40 and 41. He discussed neighborhood watch programs and community cohesion in the area. He suggested alternate boundaries for the districts.

8:32 PM -- Steve Ruddick, representing himself, spoke about the historical boundaries of Aurora and the communities of interest within those boundaries. He distributed a map of police area districts in Aurora from 2008 (Attachment B). He talked about the diversity of the elected officials from Aurora and the history of community activism of those individuals. He continued to speak at length about neighborhood associations and communities of interest.



Attachment B.pdf

8:50 PM -- Mr. Barry read the prepared statement of J.M. Fay into the record. He also read a number of additional comments from Ms. Fay.

9:03 PM -- Representative Rhonda Fields, representing House District 42, spoke about respect, dignity and integrity and stated her opinion that those things are diminished by taking the Colfax Avenue corridor in "original" Aurora out of House District 42 and adding it to House District 16 with Adams County. She discussed the various neighborhoods in the older, more established portions of the city of Aurora. She expressed concern that individuals who live around Colfax Avenue will no longer have proper representation if the proposed map is adopted. She indicated that only seven of the precincts in the current House District 42 will carry over to the proposed 42. She expressed her opinion that the proposed map is not logical. She asked the commission to consider the integrity of neighborhoods. She called the proposed map devastating.

9:14 PM -- Bruce Smith, representing himself, spoke about the communities of interest in Aurora and asked that those be respected. He commented that Aurora should be given four full House districts.

9:18 PM -- Bruce Hulley, representing himself, spoke about his experience as a resident of Aurora. He asked the commission to keep Adams County intact with the political boundaries. He also asked the commission to consider the possibility of growth and development in Adams and Arapahoe Counties.

9:24 PM -- Olivia Mendoza, representing Colorado Latino Forum, acknowledged and supported the proposal to keep the Denver County line intact. She discussed Latino communities in House District 16 between 6th and 26th Avenues. She spoke about the importance of keeping the Del Mar Circle area intact. Ms. Mendoza responded to questions from the commission about Latino communities of interest.

9:33 PM -- Matt Arnold, representing himself and Clear the Bench Colorado, expressed his opinion that the maps need to follow the constitution. He indicated that litigating the plan in front of the Colorado Supreme Court is a waste of taxpayer money. He commended the commission on its transparency. He spoke about the proposed Senate plan and the issues of contiguity and compactness required by the Colorado Constitution. He responded to questions from the commission about the mission of Clear the Bench.

9:45 PM

Commissioner Carroll adjourned the commission.

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KAYARDE

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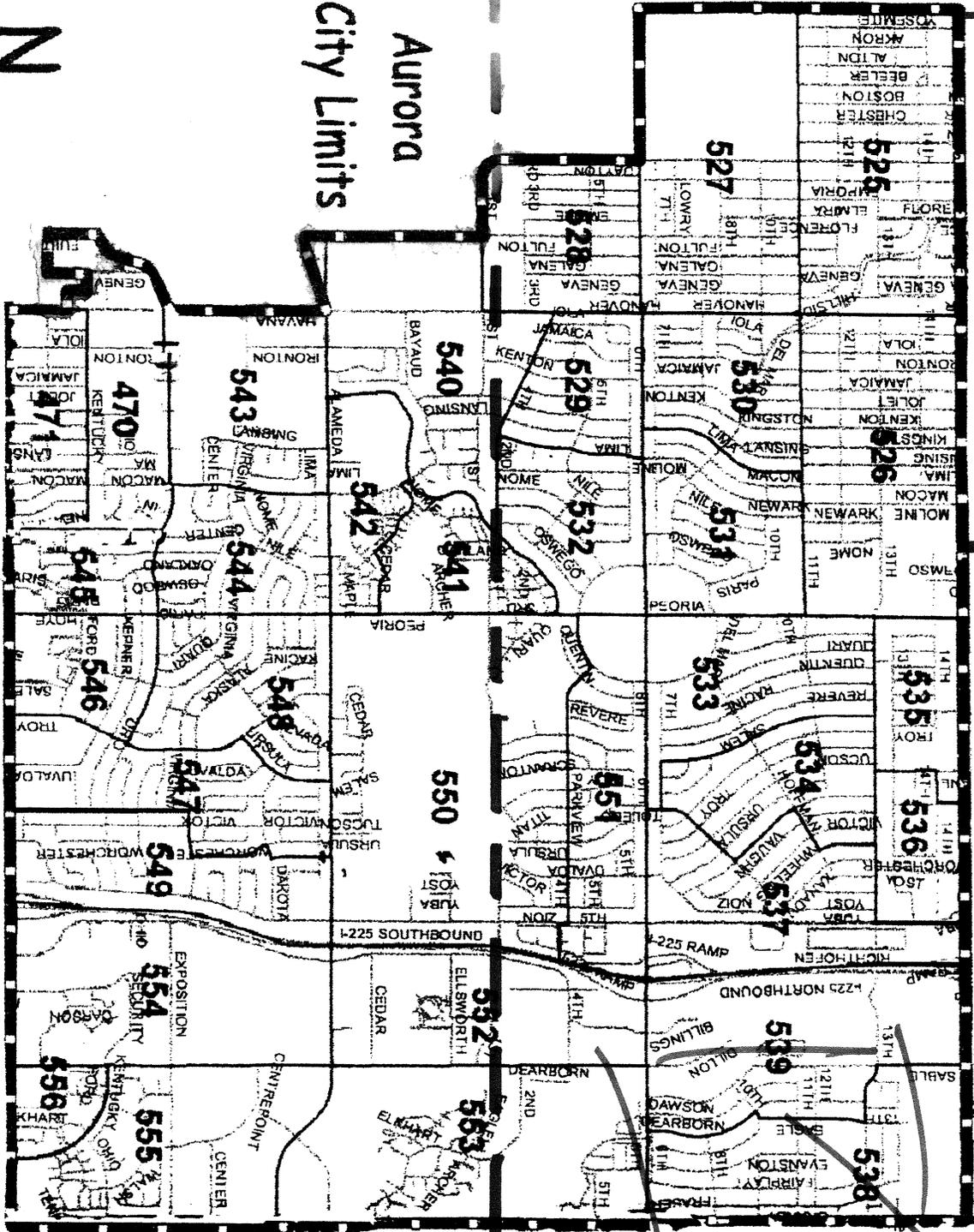
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Aurora
City Limits

Colfax Ave.

House District 42
(GREEN - BLACK)

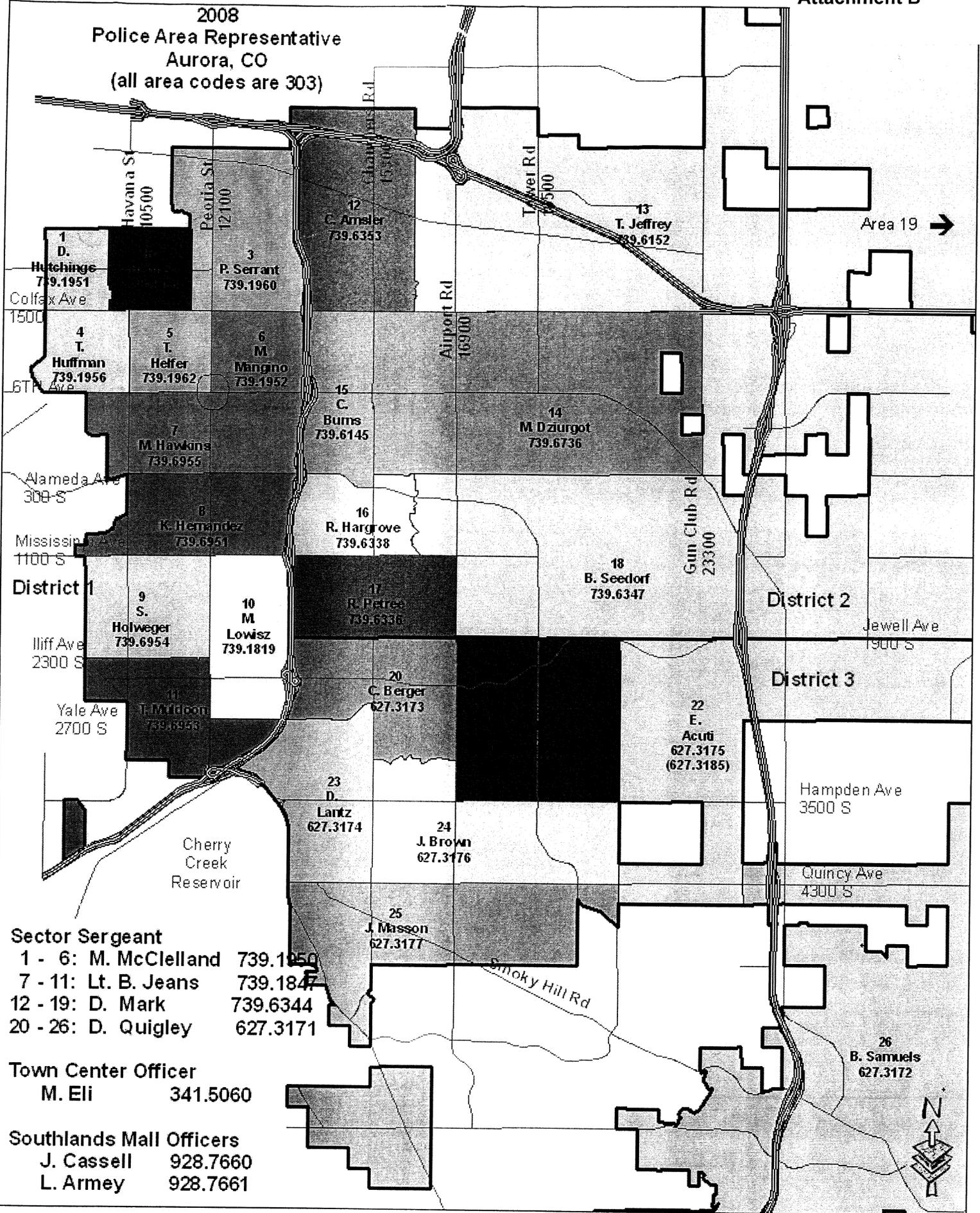
Mississippi Ave.



Chambers

CHAMBERS
HEIGHTS

2008
 Police Area Representative
 Aurora, CO
 (all area codes are 303)



- Sector Sergeant**
 1 - 6: M. McClelland 739.1850
 7 - 11: Lt. B. Jeans 739.1847
 12 - 19: D. Mark 739.6344
 20 - 26: D. Quigley 627.3171

Town Center Officer
 M. Eli 341.5060

Southlands Mall Officers
 J. Cassell 928.7660
 L. Arney 928.7661