

Redistricting 2021

Presented to Board of Supervisors
on February 2, 2021
County Administrator's Office/County Counsel





Status of 2020 Census

- **2020 Census concluded on October 15, 2020.**
- **US Census Bureau was required to present data to President on or about December 31, 2020.**
 - US Census Bureau is now reporting that data may not be released until ***April 30, 2021.***
- **Data is supposed to be provided to the States and Counties on or about April 1, 2021.**



Supervisory District Boundaries

- Must comply with the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965
 - Prohibits the dilution of racial and language minority voting rights by drawing boundaries that deny them an equal opportunity to nominate and elect candidates of their choice
 - Restricts the use of race as the “predominate” criteria in drawing districts
- Must be based on total population equality (less non-resident incarcerated population)



Redistricting 2021

- New state law added known as the **Fair And Inclusive Redistricting for Municipalities and Political Subdivisions (FAIR MAPS) Act** (*see* Assem. Bills 849, 1276 (2019-2020), (2020-2021)).
- FAIR MAPS Act:
 - Revises and standardized redistricting for cities and counties;
 - Establishes new mandatory requirements for process and public outreach;
 - Establishes new deadline for adoption and limits the ability to change mid-decade



Redistricting Criteria

- THEN
 - Communities of interest
 - Compact
 - Contiguous
 - Visible (natural and/or man-made) boundaries
 - Respect voter's choices
 - Planned future growth
- NOW – in order of priority:
 - Geographically contiguous
 - Geographic integrity of neighborhoods and “communities of interest”
 - Minimizes division of cities or census designated places
 - Easily identifiable boundaries
 - Geographically compact
 - Shall not favor or discriminate against a political party.



Who can draw district maps?

THEN

- Board of Supervisors with the assistance of Technical Advisory Committee

NOW

- Board of Supervisors with the assistance of Technical Advisory Committee; or
- Redistricting Commission:
 - A. Independent with authority to create boundaries;
 - B. Advisory – makes recommendations to the BOS; or
 - C. Hybrid approach



When to draw district maps?

THEN

- Before the first day of November of the year following the year in which each decennial federal census is taken

NOW

- Not later than 174 days before the next regular County election occurring after January 1, 2022 and before July 1, 2022
- ***December 15, 2021*** is 174 days before ***June 7, 2022 Primary***



PUBLIC HEARINGS REQUIRED

- THEN

- One public hearing on the proposal prior to the public hearing at which the governing body votes to approve the proposal

- NOW

- At least four (4) public hearings
 - One before draft maps are drawn
 - At least two after the maps are drawn
 - At least one on a Saturday, Sunday or after 6:00 pm Monday through Friday



Public Outreach

- Must encourage public participation through:
 - Publication of draft map at least seven days before adoption
 - Media outreach
 - Outreach to community groups, good government groups, civil rights groups and other civil engagement groups
 - Live translation (if requested 72 hours in advance of meeting)
 - Publication of Notices on the Internet
 - Publication of relevant demographics data
 - Consideration and/or receipt of maps or testimony from the public in writing or electronically



2021 Redistricting Recordkeeping Requirements

- Record of every public comment and governing body made available to the public within two weeks.
- Webpage maintained for ten years in multiple languages:
 - Must contain the following
 - Explanation of the redistricting process
 - Procedures for testifying or submitting written testimony
 - Calendar of all hearings and workshops
 - Notice and agenda for each hearing and workshop
 - Recording or written summary of each hearing and workshop
 - All draft maps and adopted map



Mid-Decade Changes

- THEN

- Any time, based on a mid-decade Census or population estimated prepared by the State Department of Finance

- NOW

- Never, unless in conjunction with judicial proceedings, or jurisdictional boundary change, and then with qualifications



Proposed Technical Advisory Committee

As with prior years, staff is recommending the formation of a Technical Advisory Committee consisting of:

- Director of Information Technology (or designees(s) – example, GIS, Assistant Registrar of Voters);
- Resource Management Director (or designee – example, County Surveyor, Planning Manager);
- County Counsel (or designee);
- County Administrator (or designee); and
- The retention of a demographer or experienced consultant to assist with the census data.



Next Steps

- Provide direction on the formation of a Redistricting Commission
- Convene Technical Advisory Committee
- Engage demographic consultant
- Develop timeline for public hearings
- Prepare outreach and advertising plan
- Develop website