

County of Santa Clara
2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission



108130

DATE: October 27, 2021

TO: 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission

FROM: Melanie Jimenez Perez, Program Manager II
Danielle Christian, Legislative Manager

SUBJECT: Review Draft Supervisorial District Maps and Recommendation to the Board

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Consider recommendations relating to draft Supervisorial District maps and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Possible action:

- a. Receive report from the Office of the County Executive, Office of the County Counsel, and Redistricting Partners.
- b. Review draft Supervisorial District maps.
- c. Discuss and approve draft Supervisorial District maps for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.
- d. Discuss presentation of recommended drafts maps to the Board of Supervisors at a joint meeting on November 2, 2021.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission has held ten meeting since July 2021 to solicit community input to develop draft Supervisorial District maps. The County's redistricting team's efforts relating to the process include developing a list of community outreach partners, maintaining a website with redistricting information, targeted outreach to increase participation, convening special Saturday sessions, and promoting the use of submissions of Communities of Interest (COI) testimony through a form or the online mapping software to draw points of interest, communities or neighborhoods, or a draft Supervisorial District map. To review Communities of Interest submissions, please visit www.sccgov.org/2021redistricting/COI.

Additionally, the County of Santa Clara has contracted with expert consultants, [Redistricting Partners](#), to assist with the 2021 redistricting process and to prepare draft maps based on Communities of Interest testimony submitted to the 2021 Advisory Redistricting

Commission (Commission). **Maps must be submitted by October 25, 2021 to be considered by the 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission at its final meeting on October 27, 2021.**

Review of Draft Supervisorial District Maps

At the October 27, 2021 meeting of the 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission, the Commission will review maps that have been submitted by the community and developed by Redistricting Partners. The review process has been iterative since the first mapping session on October 13, 2021. Based on Commission direction during the October 20, 2021, and October 23, 2021, Advisory Redistricting Commission meetings, the redistricting team will attach maps still being considered, or that have been submitted by Monday, October 25, 2021 to this report by Tuesday, October 26, 2021.

Select Draft Supervisorial District Maps to recommend to the Board of Supervisors

At the October 27, 2021 meeting of the 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission, the Commission will need to vote on which maps they would like to recommend to the Board of Supervisors. There is not a limit as to the number of maps that the Commission may recommend, and in the event the Commission does not have a recommendation, it can provide the Board of Supervisors with a list of recommendations that should be integrated into the final Supervisorial District map. All COI submissions will be attached to the final recommendation to ensure public awareness of all public testimony received by the Commission.

Review Presentation of recommendation to the Board of Supervisors

On November 2, 2021 there will be a special joint meeting of the Board of Supervisors and the 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission during which the Commission's recommendation will be presented. This item will not be heard before 6:00 pm. The recommendation from the Commission will be published to the Board of Supervisors agenda on October 29, 2021. Given the tight timeline, the redistricting team recommends the Commission discuss at its October 27, 2021 meeting who will be presenting and what topics they will cover at the special joint meeting. For each map that will be recommended to the Board of Supervisors, discussion of the following aspects of each recommended map by the Commissioners will assist with the development of the report to the Board of Supervisors:

- Which of the criteria are incorporated into the recommended draft map?
 - Substantially equal population of total residents for each district
 - Prioritized criteria (in order of priority)
 - Contiguity
 - Communities of Interest and neighborhoods

- Cities and Census designated places
 - Easily Understandable
 - Compactness
- What are the benefits of adopting the recommended draft map?
 - Which communities of interest testimony were incorporated?
 - What are the recommended boundaries between Supervisorial Districts?

Any maps that have been created by Redistricting Partners meet the criteria outlined above.

All maps are prohibited from favoring or disfavoring a political party and factoring incumbency and political candidates into the redistricting process. According to the Elections Code ((Elec Code section 21500[c][2]):

“(2) To the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division. A “community of interest” is a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single supervisorial district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.”

Next Steps

Following the decennial census, the County is required to establish supervisorial district boundaries consistent with federal and state law (Cal. Elec. Code § 21500[a]). The Board of Supervisors must hold two public hearings before adoption of the final Supervisorial District Map and adopt the new boundaries by December 15, 2021. The remaining scheduled Board meetings where maps may be discussed prior to the deadline are:

- November 16, 2021
- December 7, 2021
- December 14, 2021

The new Supervisorial District map will be incorporated into the Registrar of Voters’ process for the June 2022 primary election. In the event a supervisor in office is drawn into a different Supervisorial District, they will remain eligible to complete their term in office. If they were to run for re-election, they would need to run for the district in which they reside to be eligible for office.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on children and youth.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on seniors.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

BACKGROUND

Every 10 years, following the release of data from the decennial Census, jurisdictions that elect members of their legislative body by districts must revise district boundary lines to ensure the districts are consistent with federal, state, and local legal requirements. In April 2021, the Board of Supervisors established a framework for the 2021 Redistricting Process, which included the establishment of a fifteen-member 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission.