City of Palmdale

Introduction to Redistricting
National Demographics Corp.
# Redistricting Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 23, 2021</td>
<td>Initial meeting of <strong>Advisory Redistricting Commission</strong> (ARC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2021</td>
<td><strong>Public hearing #1</strong> to educate the public and solicit input on communities of interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-September</td>
<td>California releases official redistricting data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12, 2021</td>
<td><strong>Workshops</strong> in each district to demo mapping tools and receive public input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 16, 2021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 25, 2021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2, 2021</td>
<td><strong>Public hearing #2</strong> to present demographic analysis of current districts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 11, 2022</td>
<td><strong>Public hearing #3</strong> to review draft maps submitted by the public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 21, 2022</td>
<td>Deadline for ARC to recommend map to City Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1, 2022</td>
<td><strong>Public hearing #4</strong> City Council adopts preferred map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17, 2022</td>
<td>Legal deadline for Council to adopt new map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 8, 2022</td>
<td>First election with new district map</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal Requirements & Other Goals

1. Federal Law
   - Ensure equal population
   - Comply with federal Voting Rights Act
   - Prevent racial gerrymandering

2. California Law
   1. Ensure geographic contiguity
   2. Minimize division of neighborhoods & “communities of interest”
   3. Create easily identifiable boundaries
   4. Maintain compactness
   - Do not “favor or discriminate against a political party”

3. Other Goals
   - Minimize changes to election cycles
   - Respect voters’ choices
   - Preserve core of existing districts
   - Anticipate future growth

Do not bypass a nearby population to take in a more distant population
Defining Neighborhoods

What is your neighborhood?
What are its geographic boundaries?

Examples of physical features defining a neighborhood boundary:

- Natural neighborhood dividing lines, such as highway or major roads, rivers, canals and/or hills
- Areas around parks or schools
- Other neighborhood landmarks

In the absence of public testimony, planning records and other similar documents may provide definition.
Beyond Neighborhoods: Defining “Communities of Interest”

Under California Elections Code, “community of interest” has a very specific definition in the context of redistricting:

A “community of interest” is a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation.

Definitions of “communities of interest” do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.
What Defines My Community?

Ask yourself…

What brings us together?

- Common social or economic interests
- Shared characteristics or experiences
- Similar issues or impacts of city policies

Where are we?

- Physical boundaries, such as highways or major roads, waterways, hills, etc.
- Areas around parks, schools, or other landmarks

Would my community be best represented in a single district?
Possible Communities of Interest

Zoning Areas

School Attendance Areas
Public Mapping Tools

- Different tools for different purposes and different levels of technical skill and interest
  - **DistrictR**: Easy-to-use online map drawing tool
  - **Paper Participation Kit**: Simple paper map drawing tool
- Draw your community of interest, draw the district you want for your area, or draw an entire citywide map

Palmdale’s mapping tools launch in October
Paper Participation Kit

- For those without internet access or who prefer paper
- Also available with Excel supplement
- Example: City of South San Francisco
DistrictR

- Simple online mapping tool
- Example: City of Pasadena

Palmdale’s mapping tools launch in October
Outreach Overview

Outreach and public engagement efforts include:

- Four public hearings, as required by law
- Four community workshops about redistricting, mapping tools, and communities of interest
- Social media, phone and email outreach promoting educational material on redistricting and encouraging participation by attending public meetings, drawing maps and sharing input on communities of interest.