

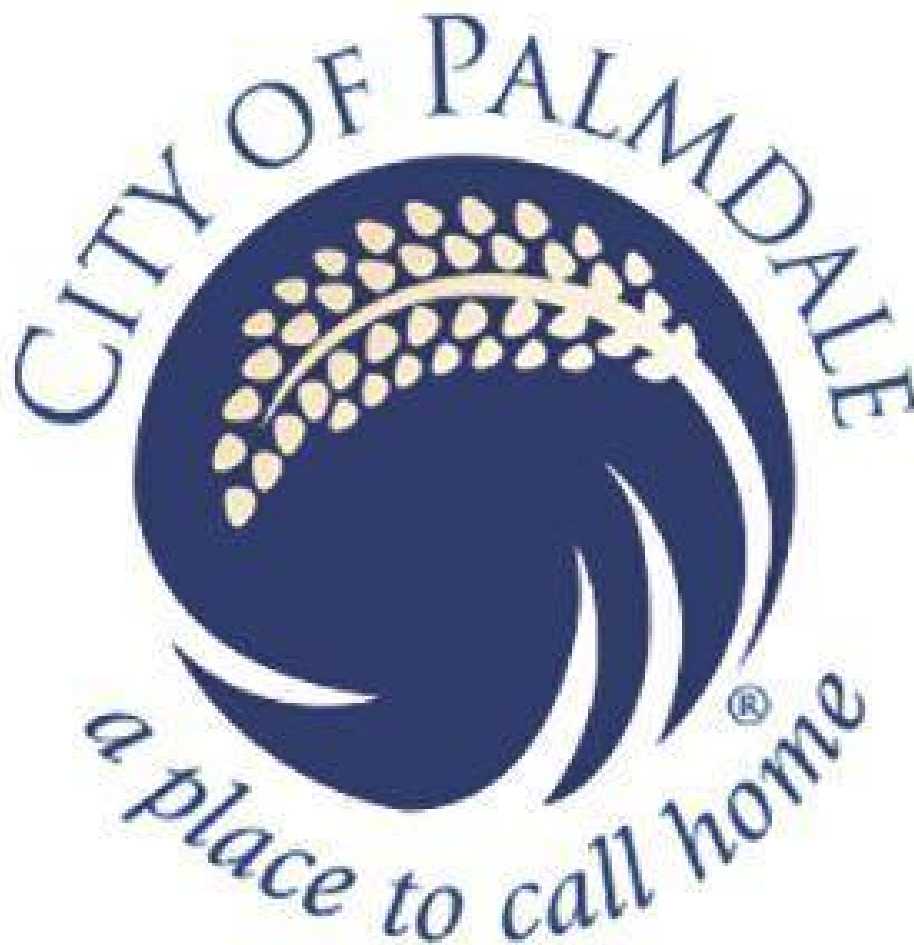
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## Redistricting workshops set around city

Next one takes place Saturday at Knight High

VALLEY PRESS STAFF REPORT

Oct 15, 2021



PALMDALE — Residents will have the opportunity to lend their voices to the process of reviewing and possibly redrawing the lines for the city's four Council districts during a pair of workshops, Saturday.

The city, along with other governmental bodies at all levels, is involved in the once-a-decade process of redrawing district lines based on the latest data from the 2020 Census.

Palmdale transitioned to by-district Council elections in November 2016, in which the four Council members are elected by voters from within the district they reside. The mayor is elected by voters citywide.

Saturday's workshops will cover District 4, at 1 p.m. at Knight High School, 37423 70th St. East; and District 3, at 5 p.m. at Palmdale Oasis Park Recreation Center, 3850 East Ave. S.

At the workshop, residents will be able to learn about mapping tools and ensure their community is fairly represented.

The meetings will also be available via Zoom. For links to the Zoom meetings and agendas, visit [www.DrawPalmdale.org](http://www.DrawPalmdale.org) and search under "Schedule."

Comments may also be emailed to [Redistrict2021@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:Redistrict2021@cityofpalmdale.org) up until 24 hours before the scheduled meeting.



Creating the district maps is assigned to the 11-member Advisory Redistricting Commission. It is tasked with reviewing data from the 2020 Census and, if necessary, adjusting the boundaries of the four Council districts to keep them as equal in population as possible. They will then recommend boundaries to the City Council for adoption.

Public input is integral to that process, with four scheduled workshops as one avenue to collect it.

The final community workshop, in District 2, will be at 6 p.m., on Oct. 25, at Marie Kerr Park Recreation Center, 2723-A West Rancho Vista Blvd. (Ave. P).

There will also be three more public hearings with the City Council before any maps are approved.

The federal Voting Rights Act and the California Voting Rights Act must be followed as part of the criteria to drawing district lines.

A newer state law, the Fair Maps Act, created standardized redistricting criteria aimed at keeping communities together and prohibiting partisan gerrymandering. It also expanded community outreach and public hearing requirements and timelines, which coincide with the state redistricting schedule.

Visit [www.DrawPalmdale.org](http://www.DrawPalmdale.org) to learn more about the redistricting process and future public participation opportunities.



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