



City Council Staff Report

DATE: MARCH 2, 2022
TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER DEPARTMENT, CITY CLERK DIVISION
CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
DISTRICT: ALL
SUBJECT: ORDINANCE NO. 1579, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF PALMDALE ADOPTING A MAP DESCRIBING VOTING
DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND AMENDING CHAPTER 4.10 OF TITLE
4 OF THE PALMDALE MUNICIPAL CODE

ISSUE

Adopt Ordinance No. 1579 adopting a map describing voting district boundaries and amending Chapter 4.10 of Title 4 of the Palmdale Municipal Code.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council:

1. Introduce Proposed Ordinance No. 1579;
2. Receive public testimony regarding Proposed Ordinance No. 1579; and
3. Adopt Ordinance No. 1579

BACKGROUND

Every ten years, California cities with by-district election systems must use new census data to review and, if needed redraw district lines to reflect how local populations have changed. This process, called redistricting, ensures all districts have nearly equal population. **Pursuant to *California Elections Code §21622*, the redistricting process for the City of Palmdale must be completed by April 17, 2022.**

The City of Palmdale adopted its current district boundaries in 2016 based on 2010 census data, as required by law. The district boundaries must now be reconsidered using the 2020 census data and in compliance with the Fair and Inclusive Redistricting for Municipalities and Political Subdivisions ("FAIR MAPS") Act, which was adopted by the California legislature as AB 849 and took effect January 1, 2020. AB 1276 is a subsequent clean-up of AB 849 and took effect on January 1, 2021.

FAIR MAPS ACT and REDISTRICTING REQUIREMENTS:

Under the Act, the City shall draw and adopt district boundaries using the following criteria, in the listed order of priority (*See, California Elections Code §21621, et. al.*):

- 1) Comply with the federal requirements of equal population and the Voting Rights Act;
- 2) Geographically contiguous;
- 3) Undivided neighborhoods and “communities of interest” (socio-economic geographic areas that should be kept together);
- 4) Easily identifiable boundaries;
- 5) Geographic compactness (do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people); and,
- 6) Shall not favor or discriminate against a political party.

Once the prioritized criteria are met, other traditional districting principles can be considered, such as:

- 1) Minimize the number of voters delayed from voting in 2022 to 2024;
- 2) Respect voters’ choices / continuity in office; and
- 3) Future population growth.

By law, the City must hold at least four public hearings that enable community members to provide input on the drawing of district boundary maps:

- At least one public hearing must be held before the City Council or Advisory Redistricting Commission draws a draft map or maps of the proposed district boundaries;
- At least two of the public hearings shall be held after the City Council or Advisory Redistricting Commission has drawn a draft map or maps of the proposed district boundaries; and
- At least one public hearing or public workshop shall be held on a Saturday, on a Sunday, or after 6 p.m. on a weekday Monday through Friday.

To increase the accessibility of these hearings, the City of Palmdale must additionally take the following steps:

- At least one public hearing or public workshop shall be held on a Saturday, on a Sunday, or after 6 p.m. on a weekday Monday through Friday;
- Public hearings shall be accessible to persons with disabilities; and
- If a public hearing is consolidated with a regular or special meeting of the council that includes other substantive agenda items, the public hearing must begin at a fixed time regardless of its order on the agenda.

In accordance with the requirements of the FAIR MAPS Act, the City of Palmdale conducted the following Public Hearings and Community Workshops:

September 14, 2021	First Meeting Public Hearing Council Chamber, 38300 Sierra Highway, Suite B, Palmdale
October 12, 2021	District 1 Community Workshop Holiday Inn, 38630 5th Street West, Palmdale
October 16, 2021	District 4 Community Workshop Knight High School – Theater, 37423 70th Street East, Palmdale
October 16, 2021	District 3 Community Workshop Palmdale Oasis Park Recreation Center – Gymnasium, 3850 East Avenue S, Palmdale
October 25, 2021	District 2 Community Workshop Marie Kerr Park Recreation Center, 2723-A West Rancho Vista Blvd., Palmdale
November 3, 2021	Second Public Hearing City Council Meeting in the Council Chamber, 38300 Sierra Highway, Suite B, Palmdale
January 12, 2022	Third Public Hearing City Council Meeting in the Council Chamber, 38300 Sierra Highway, Suite B, Palmdale
February 2, 2022	Fourth Public Hearing City Council Meeting in the Council Chamber, 38300 Sierra Highway, Suite B, Palmdale
February 16, 2022	Fifth Public Hearing City Council Meeting in the Council Chamber, 38300 Sierra Highway, Suite B, Palmdale

DISCUSSION

On February 16, 2022, the City Council held the Fifth Public Hearing to discuss and consider the three proposed district boundary maps (ALVA Map, Public Map 208, NDC Purple Map) recommended by the Advisory Redistricting Commission. After receiving input from the public, the City Council voted to adopt the NDC Pink map and directed staff to return to the March 2, 2022 City Council meeting to introduce Ordinance No. 1579, An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Palmdale Adopting a Map

Describing Voting Boundaries and Amending Chapter 4.10 of Title 4 of the Palmdale Municipal Code.

FISCAL IMPACT

Proposed Ordinance No. 1579 does not have any direct financial impact.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal I: Maintain effective public safety and protection for life, property, and the environment.

- C. Use a variety of methods to communicate timely, useful, and trusted information about city programs, services, and policies.

Goal II: Ensure long-term fiscal health of the City and maintain funding for services.

- C. Involve and expand engagement to enhance public oversight and transparency.

Prepared by:	Andrew S. Pletcher, Deputy City Attorney
Certified as to availability of Funds:	Keith Kang, Finance Manager
Approved by:	Ronda Perez, Interim City Manager
Approved as to form:	Christopher Beck, City Attorney

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ordinance No. 1579

CITY OF PALMDALE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
ORDINANCE NO. 1579

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALMDALE
ADOPTING A MAP DESCRIBING VOTING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND
AMENDING CHAPTER 4.10 OF TITLE 4 OF THE PALMDALE MUNICIPAL
CODE**

WHEREAS, California Elections Code Section 21601 requires that following each decennial federal census, and using that census as a basis, the City Council shall, if necessary, adjust the boundaries of any or all of the Council districts of the City so that the districts shall be as nearly equal in population as may be and shall comply with the applicable provisions of federal and state legal or other requirements;

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2021, the California Statewide Database provided the City of Palmdale ("City") with an official population estimate of 170,394; and

WHEREAS, throughout the foregoing process, the City engaged in public outreach and engagement, as required by California Elections Code Section 21608; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2021, pursuant to California Elections Code Section 21627.1, the Palmdale Advisory Redistricting Commission held the First Public Hearing on the redistricting process where the public was invited to provide input for the redrawing of election district boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2021, pursuant to California Elections Code Section 21627.1, the City Council held a Second Public Hearing on the redistricting process where the public was invited to provide input for the redrawing of election district boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2022, pursuant to California Elections Code Section 21627.1, the City Council held a Third Public Hearing on the redistricting process where the public was invited to provide input for the redrawing of election district boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on February 2, 2022, the City Council held a Fourth Public Hearing to review the two proposed district boundary maps recommended by the Advisory Redistricting Commission and receive input from the public; and

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2022, the City Council held a Fifth Public Hearing to review the three proposed district boundary maps recommended by the Advisory Redistricting Commission, receive input from the public, and adopt a map to bring back formal adoption; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now desires to adopt this Ordinance No. 1579 adopting the map as attached hereto describing the boundaries of each City Council district in the City to comply with the timeline proscribed by California Election Code Section 21622.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALMDALE DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. The adopted map describing the City of Palmdale's boundaries following the 2020 federal decennial census in accordance with California Elections Code Section 21601 is Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

SECTION 3. Section 4.10.010 of the Palmdale Municipal Code is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

4.10.010 District Boundaries/Map

The following district boundaries are set forth in a map attached to the ordinance codified in this chapter as Exhibit "A" and incorporated into this chapter by this reference.

SECTION 4. Section 4.10.020 of the Palmdale Municipal Code is deleted in its entirety.

SECTION 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase in this Ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid or ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one (1) or more subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional, or invalid, or ineffective, provided the basic purposes of this Ordinance and the benefits to the City and the public are not substantially impaired.

SECTION 6. The City Council finds the approval of this ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly. Alternatively, the City Council finds the approval of this

ordinance is not a project under CEQA Regulation Section 15061 (b)(3) because it has no potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

SECTION 7. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this ordinance and shall cause this ordinance to be published or posted as required by law.

PASSED, APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this 2nd day of March, 2022.

Approved as to form:

Steven D. Hofbauer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Christopher Beck
City Attorney

Shanae S. Smith, City Clerk

I, Shanae s. Smith, City Clerk of Palmdale, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly introduced, passed, approved, and adopted by the City Council of the City of Palmdale at a regular meeting of said Council held on the _____ day of _____, 20____ effective on the _____ day of _____, 20____ by the following roll call vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSTAIN: _____ ABSENT: _____

Date: _____
Shanae S. Smith, City Clerk

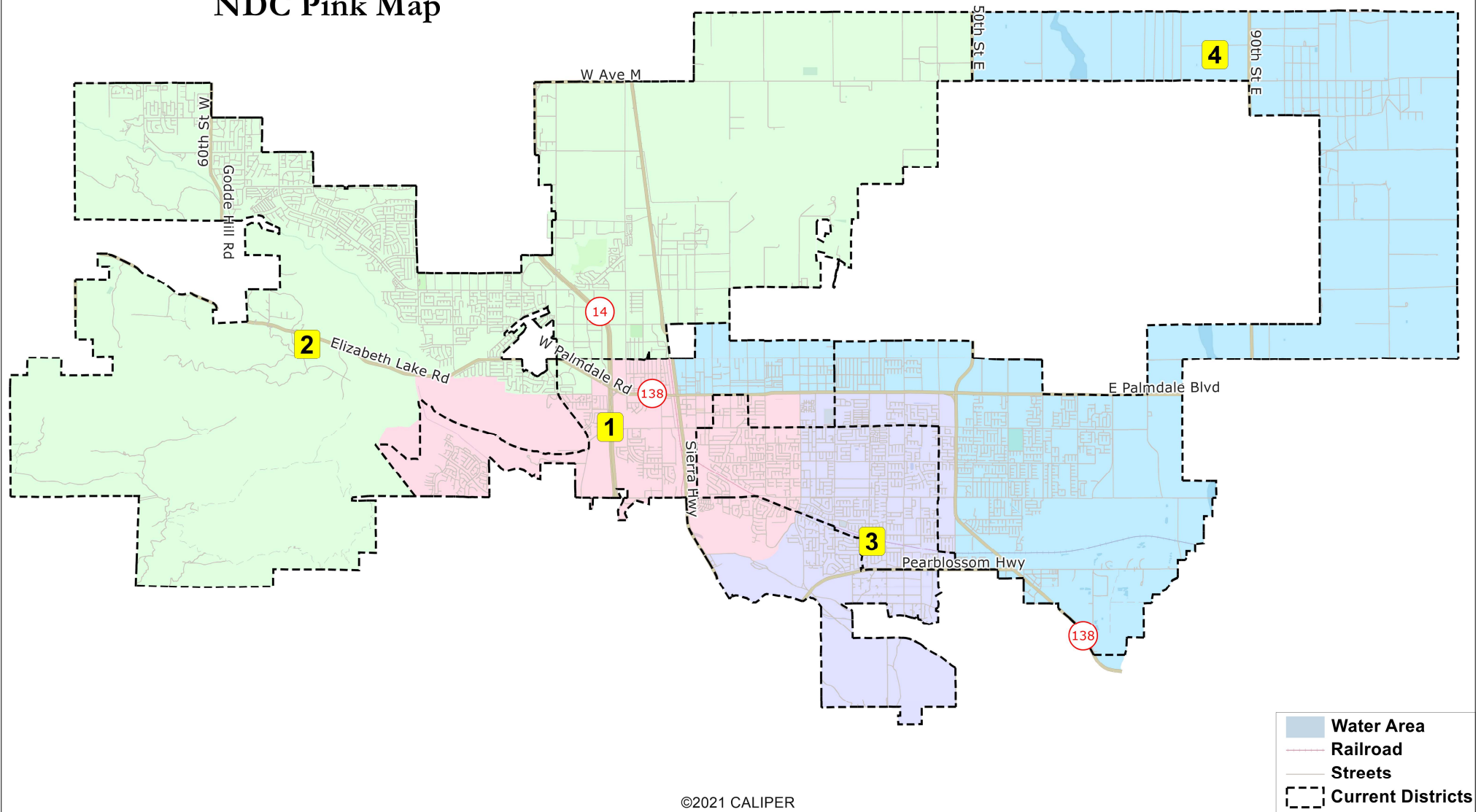
Exhibit A

NDC Pink Map

**Map of City of Palmdale District Boundaries
following Federal Decennial Census of 2020**

Palmdale Redistricting 2021

NDC Pink Map



City of Palmdale - NDC Pink Map						
District		1	2	3	4	Total
2020	2020 Census (Adjusted)	42,089	42,379	43,295	42,631	170,394
	Deviation from ideal	-510	-220	697	33	1,206
	% Deviation	-1.20%	-0.52%	1.64%	0.08%	2.83%
2020 Total Pop	% Hisp	65%	40%	70%	72%	62%
	% NH White	13%	34%	13%	8%	17%
	% NH Black	16%	13%	12%	15%	14%
	% Asian-American	4%	9%	3%	3%	5%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	21,499	26,041	24,004	21,884	93,428
	% Hisp	58%	32%	58%	60%	52%
	% NH White	21%	44%	23%	15%	27%
	% NH Black	14%	13%	13%	21%	15%
	% Asian/Pac.Isl.	5%	10%	5%	3%	6%
Voter Registration (Nov 2020)	Total	19,336	26,475	21,264	19,964	87,039
	% Latino est.	54%	32%	58%	61%	50%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	49%	29%	52%	56%	45%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	3%	1%	1%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%
	% NH White est.	30%	52%	28%	18%	33%
	% NH Black	18%	14%	15%	23%	17%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2020)	Total	12,760	20,737	14,632	13,223	61,352
	% Latino est.	52%	30%	57%	61%	48%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	48%	28%	52%	56%	44%
	% Asian-Surnamed	2%	3%	1%	1%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%
	% NH White est.	31%	53%	29%	17%	35%
	% NH Black est.	17%	13%	14%	22%	16%
ACS Pop. Est.	Total	38,088	38,180	39,923	39,703	155,894
Age	age0-19	34%	29%	32%	37%	33%
	age20-60	53%	53%	54%	51%	53%
	age60plus	13%	18%	14%	12%	14%
Immigration	immigrants	26%	20%	27%	26%	25%
	naturalized	50%	70%	57%	51%	56%
Language spoken at home	english	54%	71%	50%	48%	56%
	spanish	43%	21%	45%	49%	39%
	asian-lang	2%	5%	3%	2%	3%
	other lang	1%	4%	2%	1%	2%
Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	20%	11%	22%	24%	19%
Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	52%	49%	53%	52%	52%
	bachelor	8%	18%	8%	8%	11%
	graduatedegree	2%	10%	3%	2%	4%
Child in Household	child-under18	48%	41%	45%	57%	47%
Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	59%	63%	60%	56%	60%
Household Income	income 0-25k	27%	10%	18%	19%	18%
	income 25-50k	24%	16%	25%	26%	23%
	income 50-75k	17%	13%	22%	20%	18%
	income 75-200k	30%	51%	33%	33%	37%
	income 200k-plus	2%	11%	2%	2%	4%
Housing Stats	single family	67%	95%	90%	87%	85%
	multi-family	33%	5%	10%	13%	15%
	rented	51%	23%	32%	34%	35%
	owned	49%	77%	68%	66%	65%

Total population data from the California adjustment to the 2020 Decennial Census. Surname-based Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database. Latino voter registration and turnout data are Spanish-surname counts adjusted using Census Population Department undercount estimates. NH White and NH Black registration and turnout counts estimated by NDC. Citizen Voting Age Pop., Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2015-2019 American Community Survey and Special Tabulation 5-year data.