



2021 Redistricting Webinar | Part 2

April 16, 2021



Rural County
Representatives of
California

California State
Association of
Counties





Prior Presentation

RCRC and CSAC produced an excellent overview of the redistricting requirements and legal issues. This can be found on the RCRC Website and YouTube.

- Chris Skinnell and Marguerite Leoni
Nielsen Merksamer
- Douglas Johnson
National Demographics Corporation

This is a follow-up presentation focusing on implementation of these rules in your redistricting.



Overview

This presentation will cover a range of topics to build upon the prior workshop and presentation.

- Understanding Redistricting Criteria (*review*)
- Working with Census Data
- Soliciting / Receiving Public Input
- Methods for Line Drawing



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Criteria for Redistricting

Ranked Criteria to follow in your redistricting

The FAIR MAPS Act has ranked criteria for your 2021 redistricting process.

- Population Equality
- Use of Prison Population adjusted data from UC Berkeley Statewide Database
- Federal Voting Rights Act
- Contiguous



Criteria for Redistricting

Ranked Criteria to follow in your redistricting

The FAIR MAPS Act has ranked criteria for your 2021 redistricting process.

- Protect geography of neighborhoods
- Communities of Interest
- Geographic integrity of “Census Places”
- Easily identifiable and understood by residents



Criteria for Redistricting

Ranked Criteria to follow in your redistricting

The FAIR MAPS Act has ranked criteria for your 2021 redistricting process.

- Follow barriers, streets, geography
- Compactness – “nearby populations” criteria



Criteria for Redistricting

Ranked Criteria to follow in your redistricting

The FAIR MAPS Act has ranked criteria for your 2021 redistricting process.

- Follow barriers, streets, geography
- **Compactness – “nearby populations” criteria**

Compactness

Determining what is “compact”

The measure of compactness can get complicated.

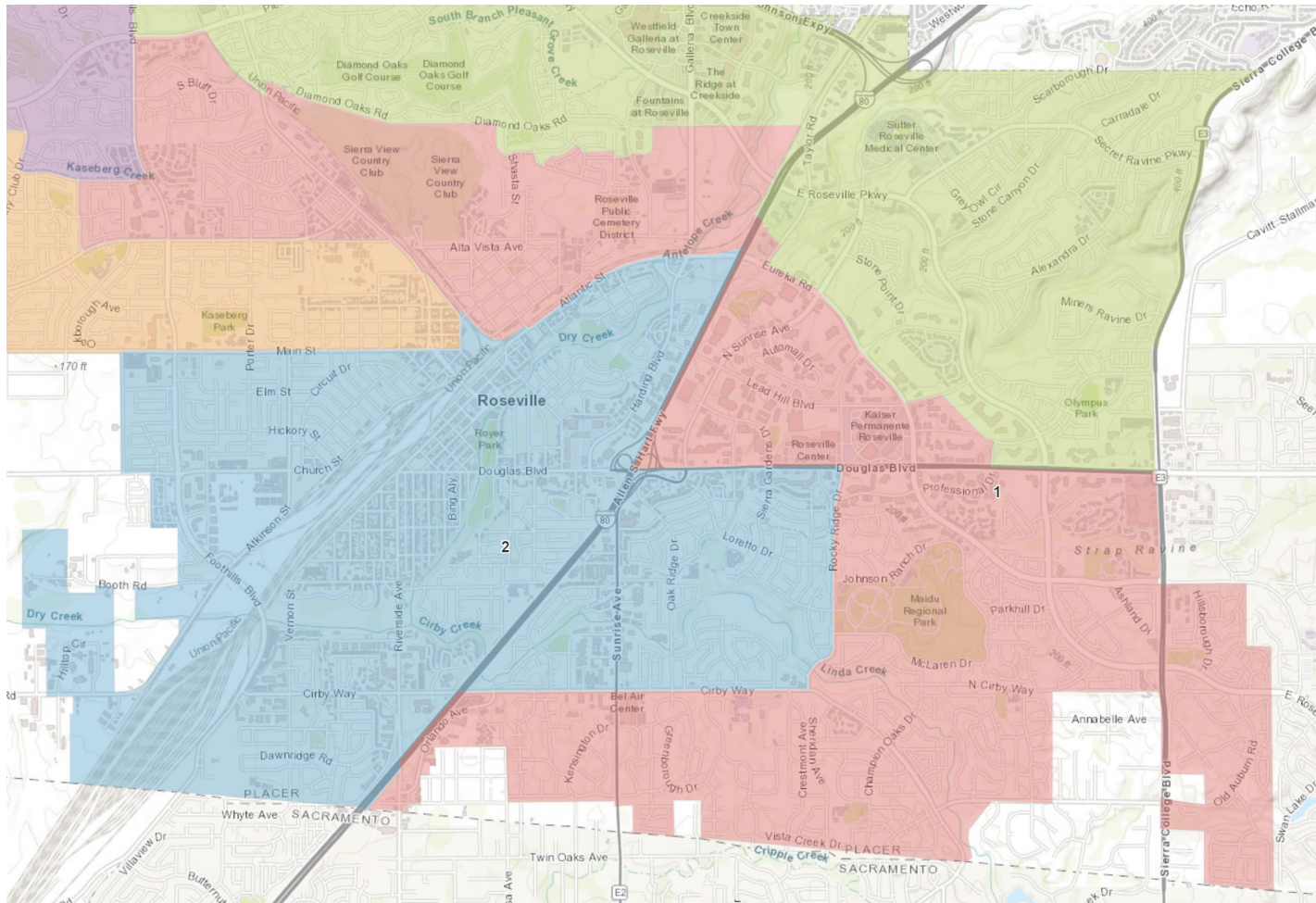
- Ratio of the circumference of a district and the area of a district.
- Measuring the number of distinct shapes and the number of kinks and bends.
- Simply outlawing funny shapes.

NOT
COMPACT



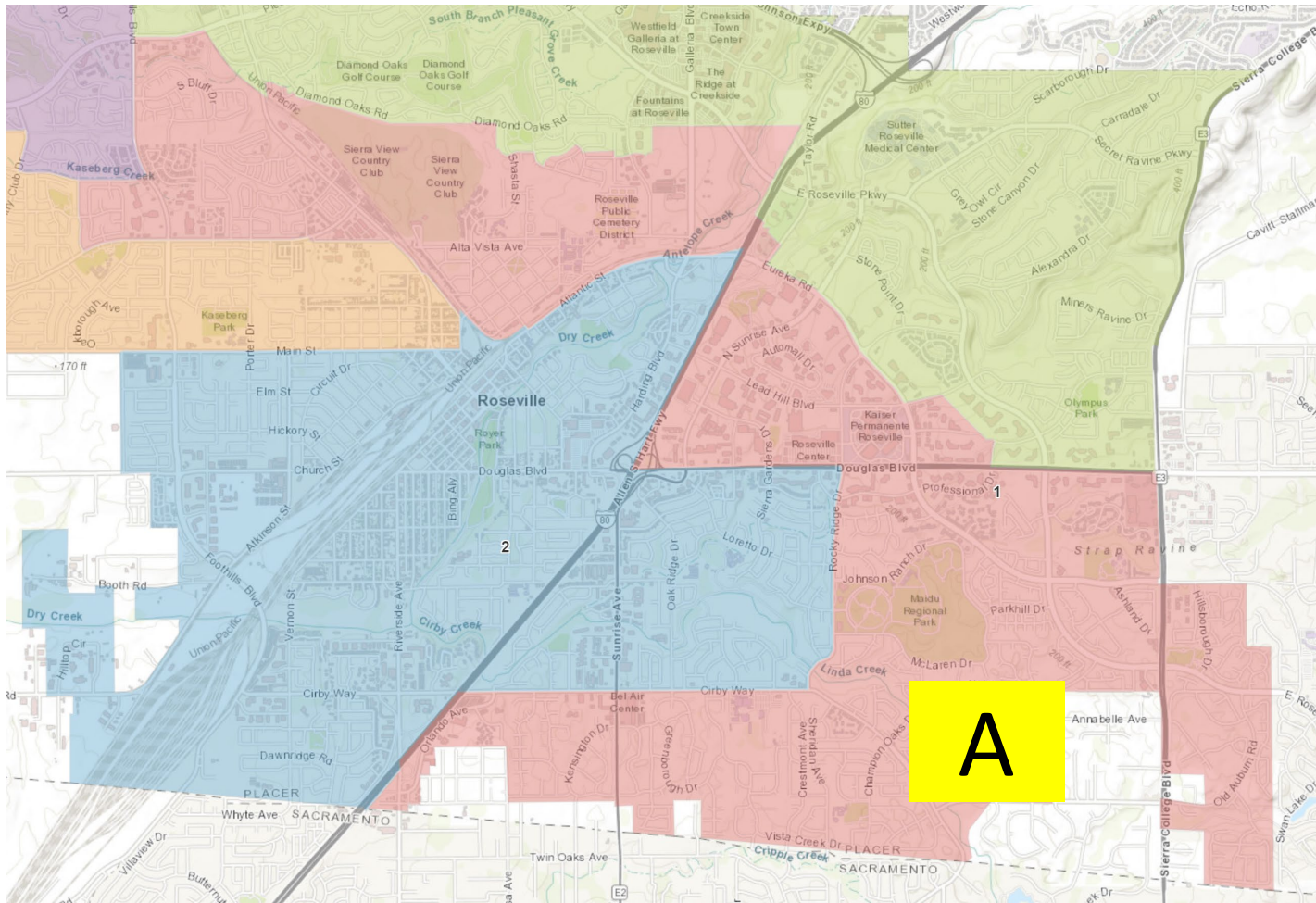
Compactness

Determining what is “compact”



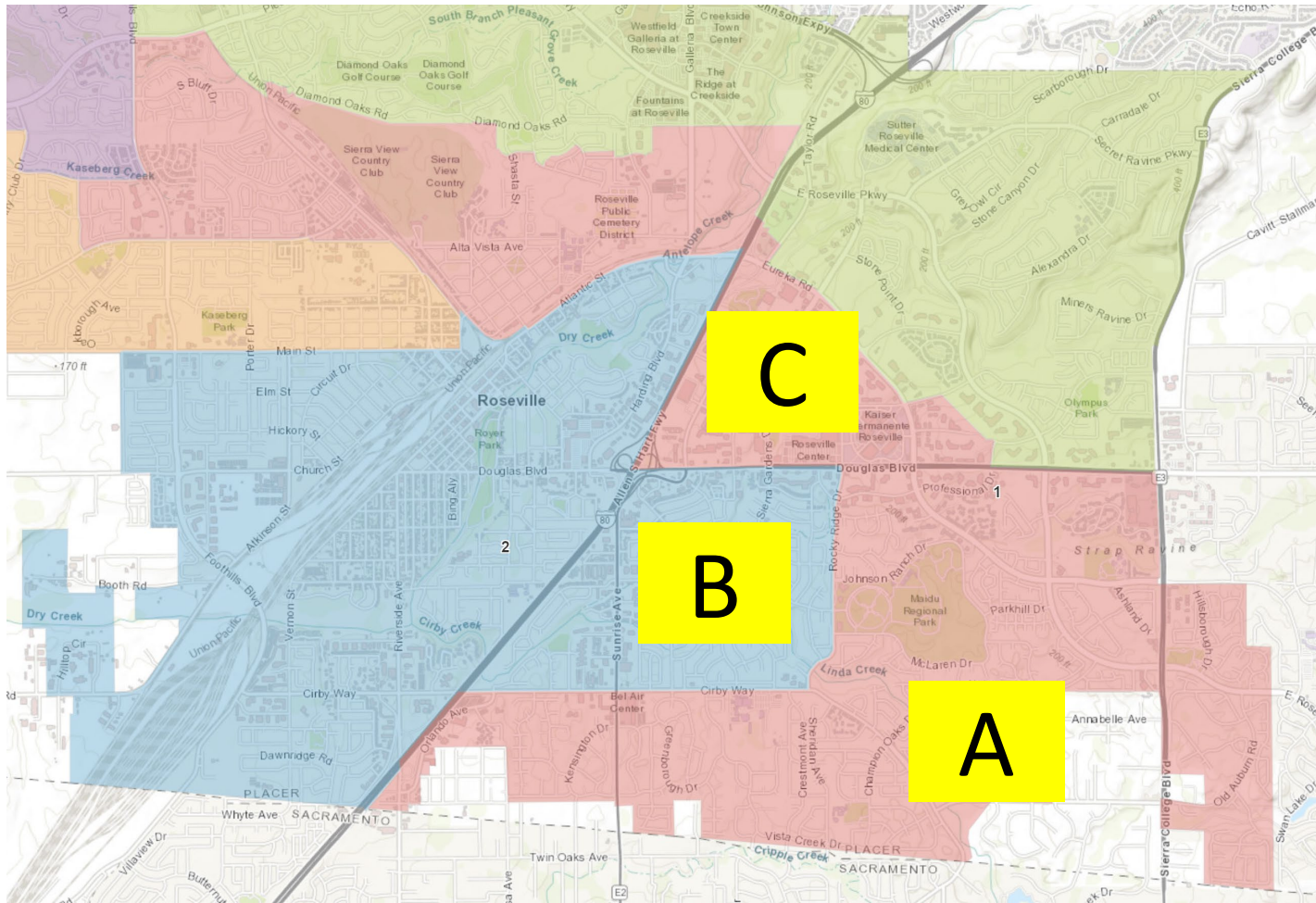
Compactness

Determining what is “compact”



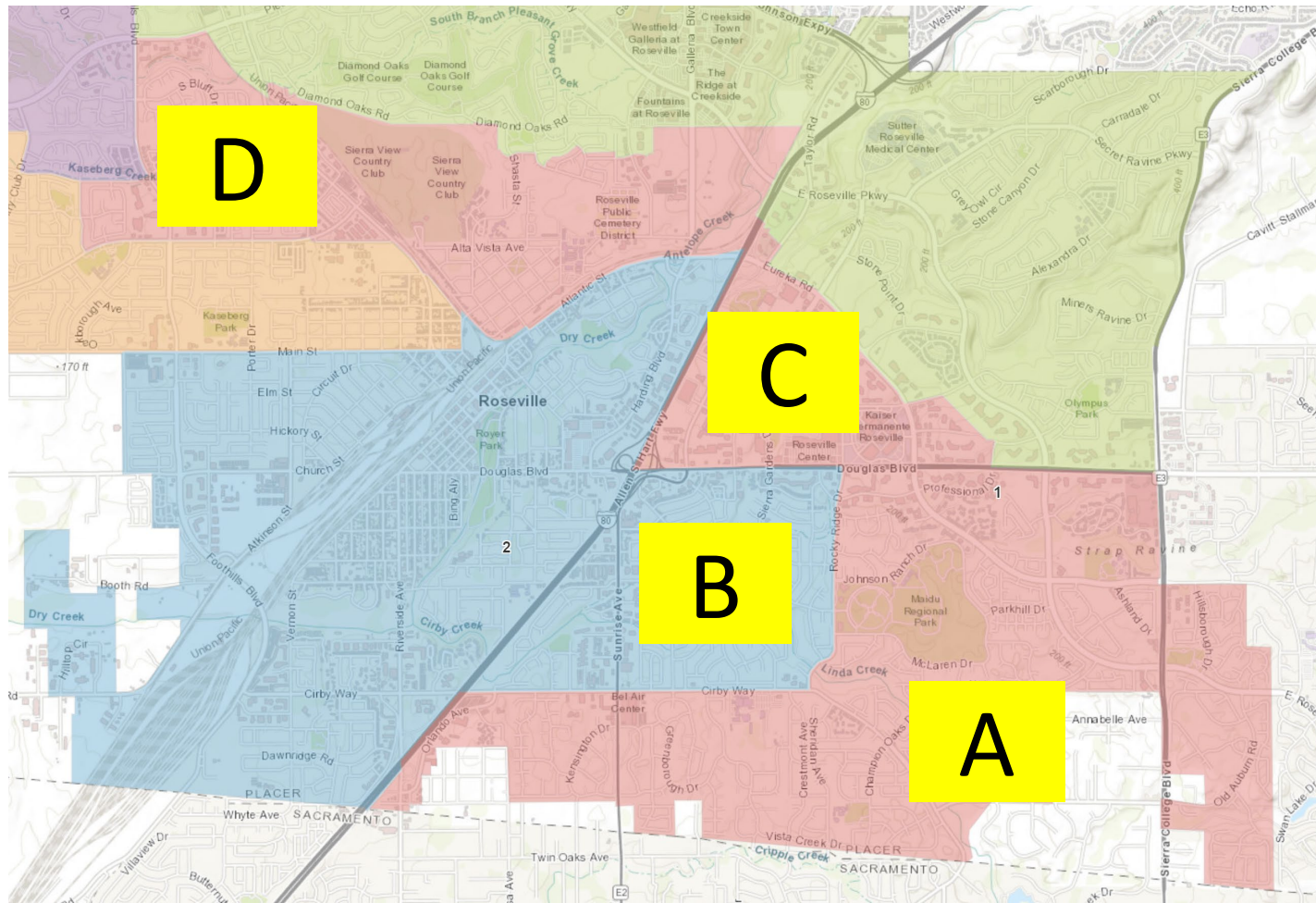
Compactness

Determining what is “compact”



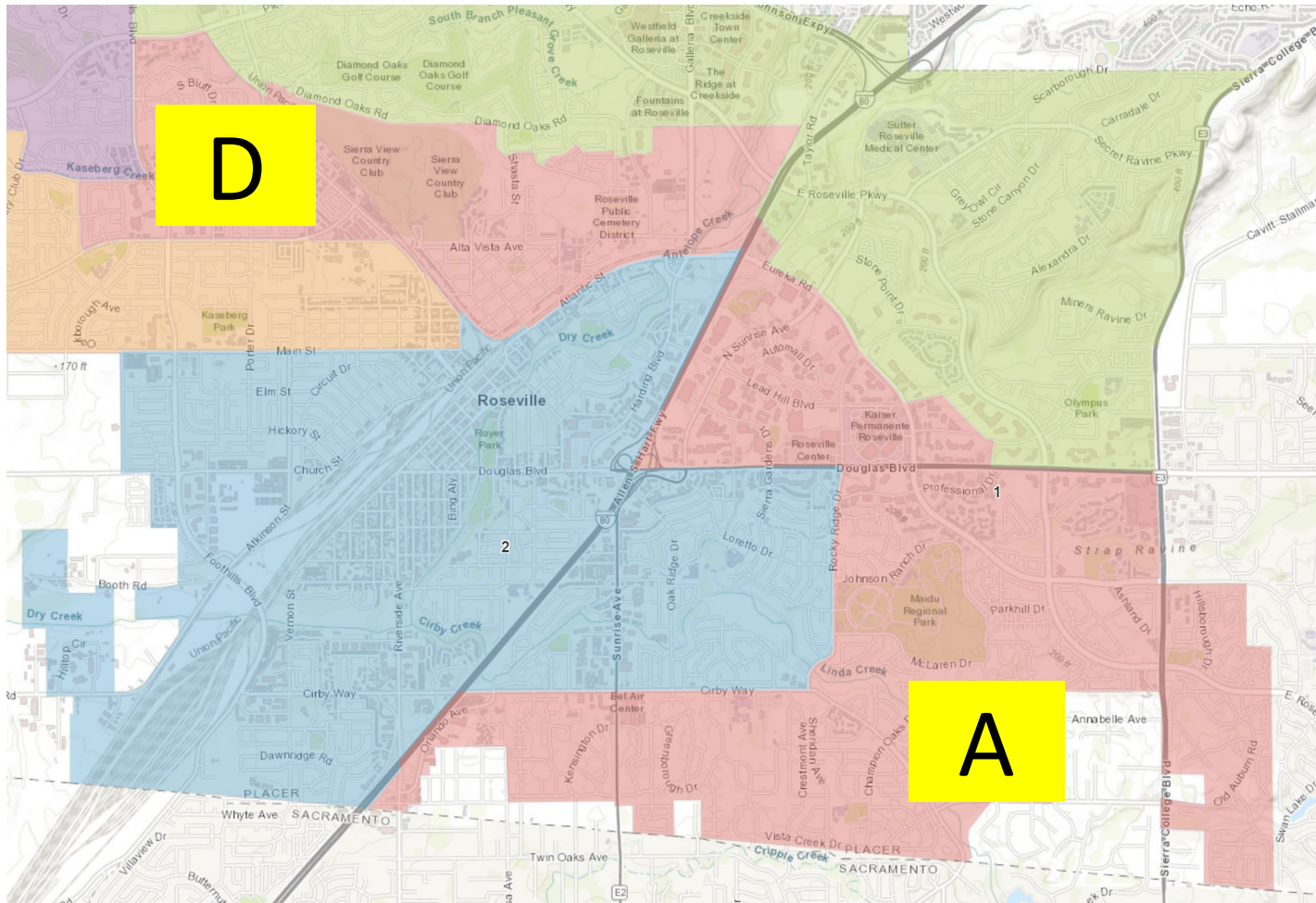
Compactness

Determining what is “compact”



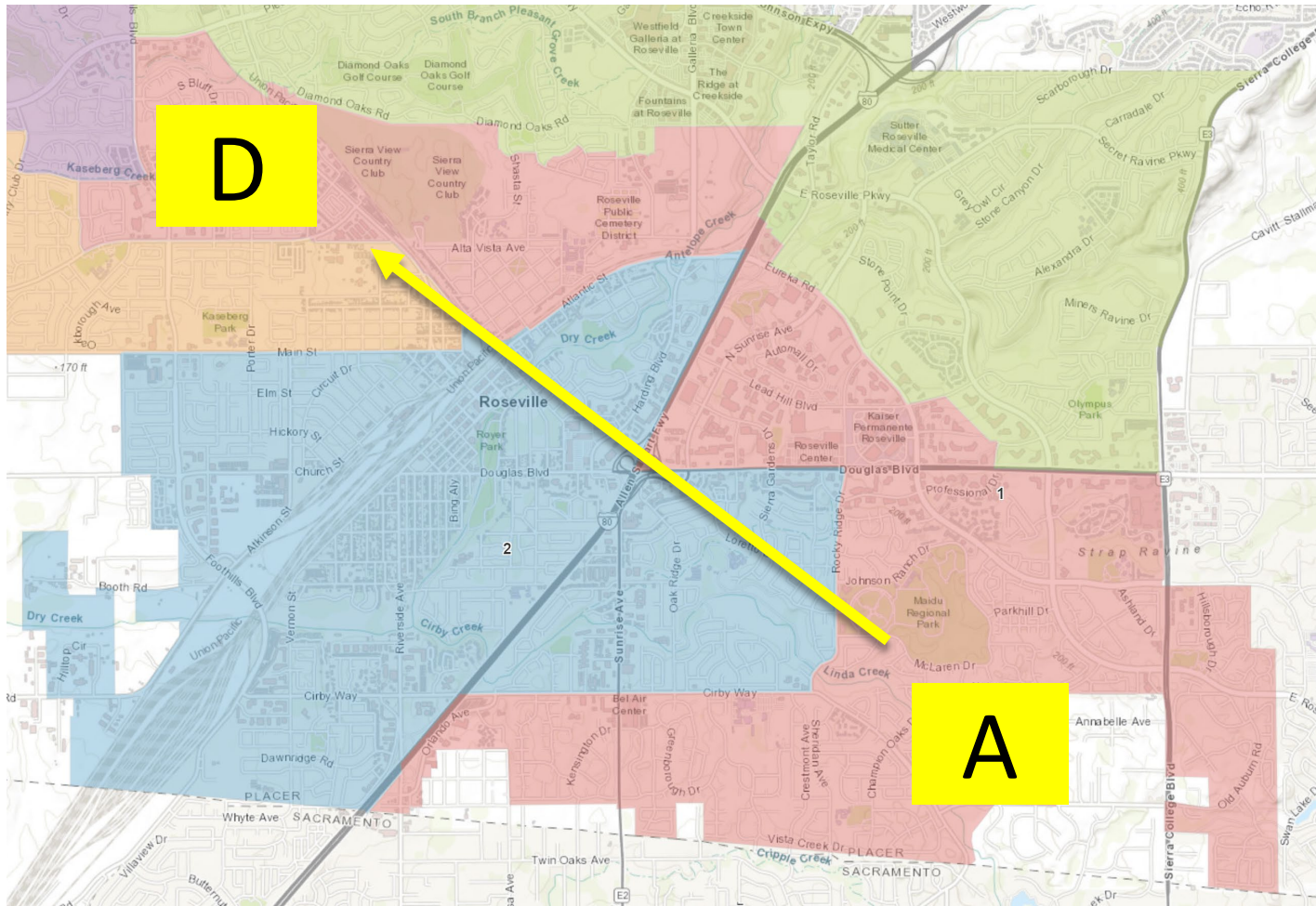
Compactness

Determining what is “compact”



Compactness

Determining what is “compact”





Criteria for Redistricting

Criteria you cannot consider.

The FAIR MAPS Act also removes some potential criteria to the process.

- Not consider Incumbents / Candidates as a community of interest.
- Not draw districts to advantage or disadvantage a political party.



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The data of Redistricting

Census Data

Census Files come in two parts:

Geography – the underlying framework of the data

Data – the counts of population and demographics

And they can convey different information:

Point in Time – Decennial Census

Multi-year Averages – Trends/Estimates

The data of Redistricting

Census Data

The Geography is called the
TIGER Files

- *Topologically Integrated Geographic
Encoding and Referencing*

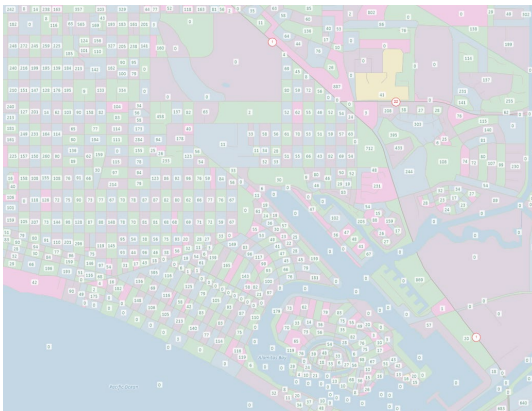
- *Nested geographic units*

- *Block*
- *Block Group*
- *Tract*

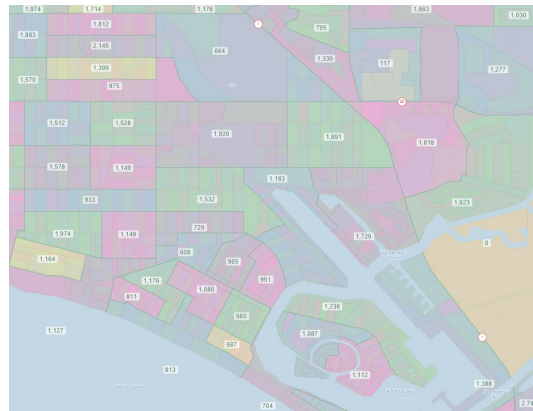


The data of Redistricting

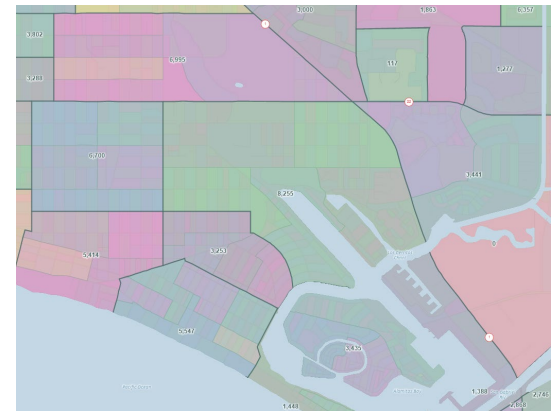
Census Data



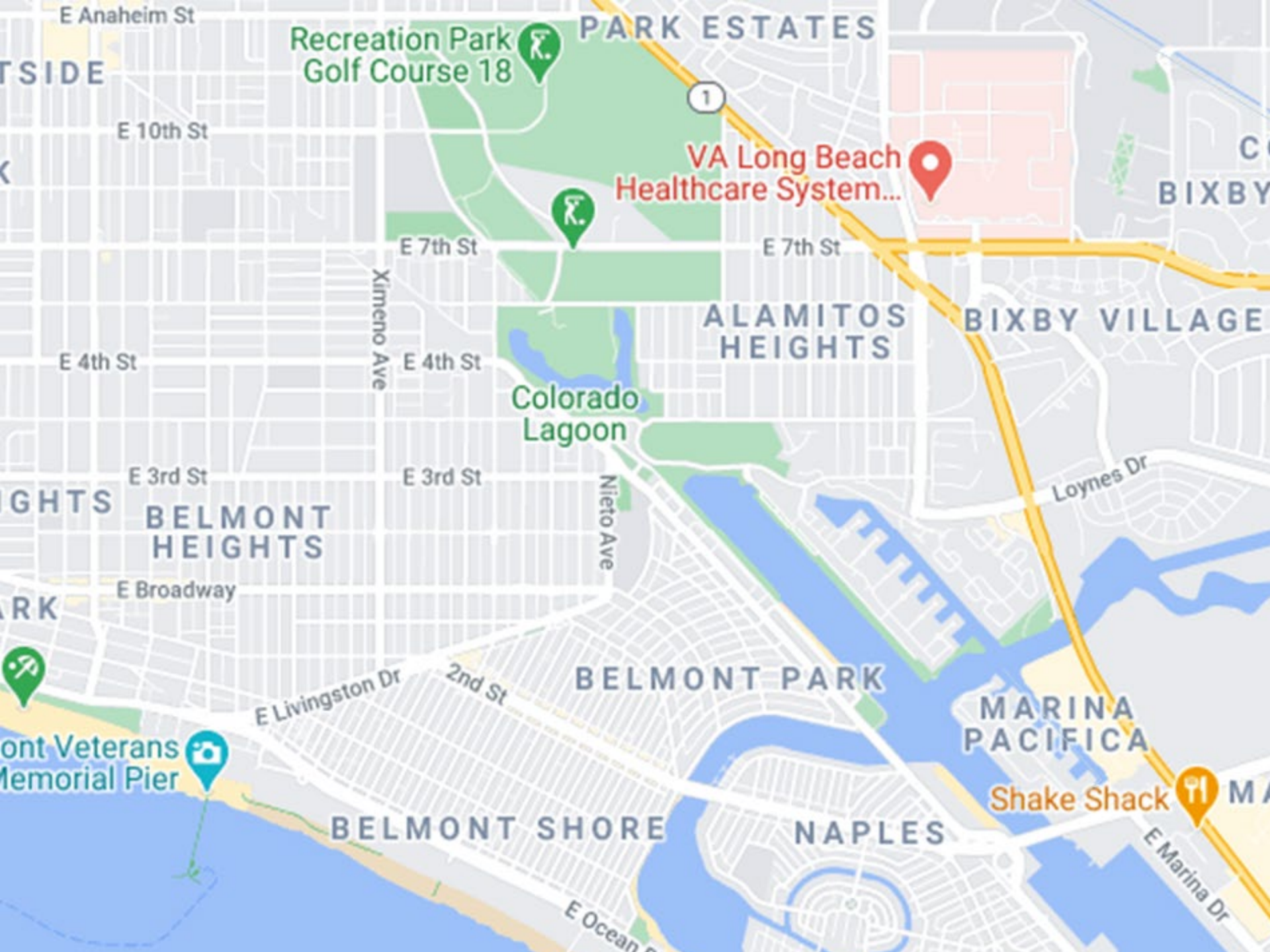
Census Blocks



Census Block Groups



Census Tracts



Recreation Park
Golf Course 18

PARK ESTATES



VA Long Beach
Healthcare System...



BIXBY

E 7th St

E 7th St

E 4th St

E 4th St

ALAMITOS
HEIGHTS

BIXBY VILLAGE

Colorado
Lagoon

Nieto Ave

E 3rd St

E 3rd St

BELMONT
HEIGHTS

Loynes Dr

E Broadway

PARK

BELMONT PARK

MARINA
PACIFICA

Mont Veterans
Memorial Pier



E Livingston Dr

2nd St

BELMONT SHORE

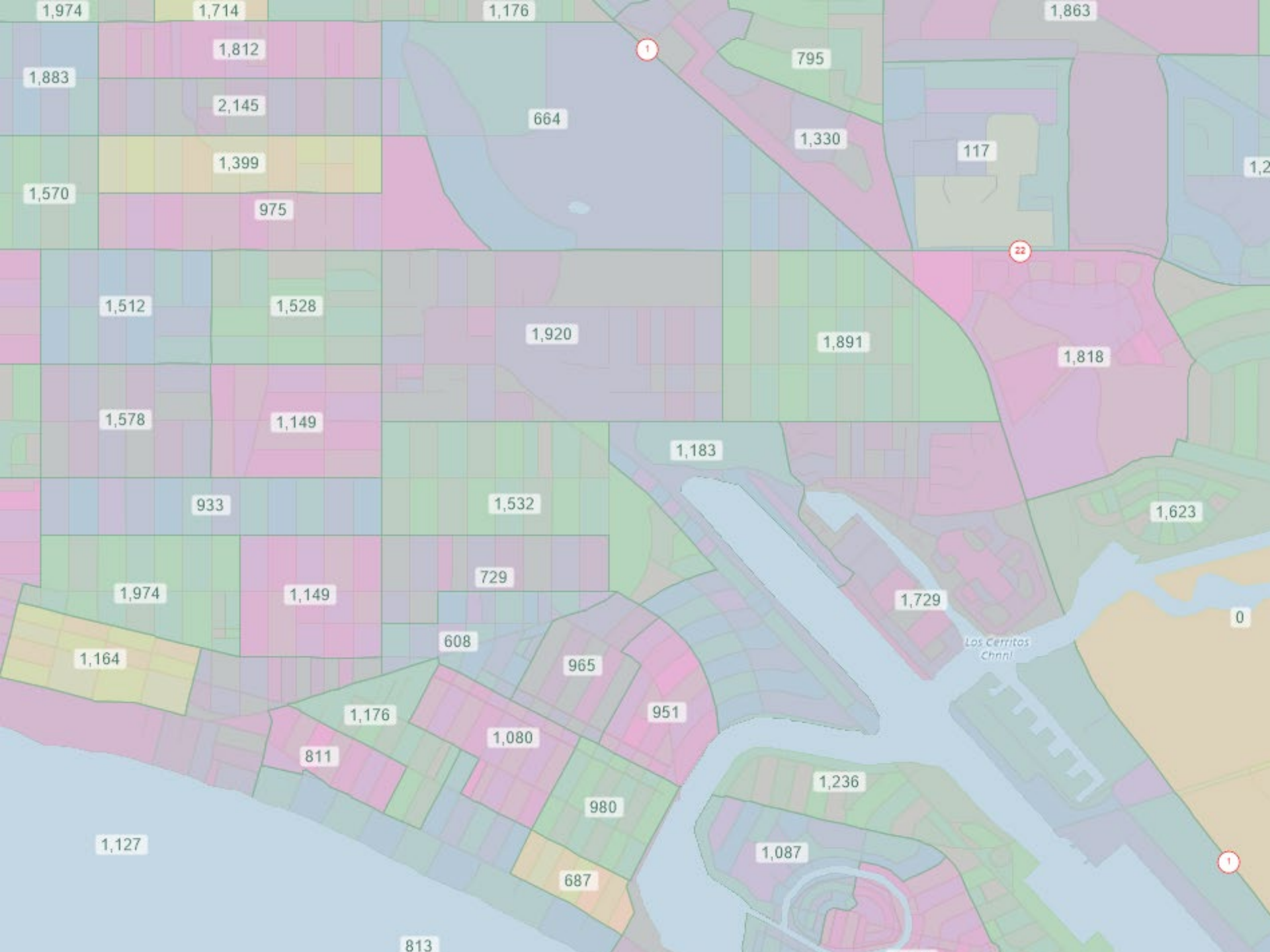
NAPLES

Shake Shack



E Ocean Blvd

E Marina Dr



1,974

1,714

1,176

1,863

1,883

1,812

2,145

664

795

1,570

1,399

975

1,330

117

1,2

1,512

1,528

1,920

1,891

1,818

1,578

1,149

1,183

933

1,532

1,623

1,974

1,149

729

1,729

0

1,164

608

965

Los Cerritos Chnnl

1,176

1,080

951

811

980

1,236

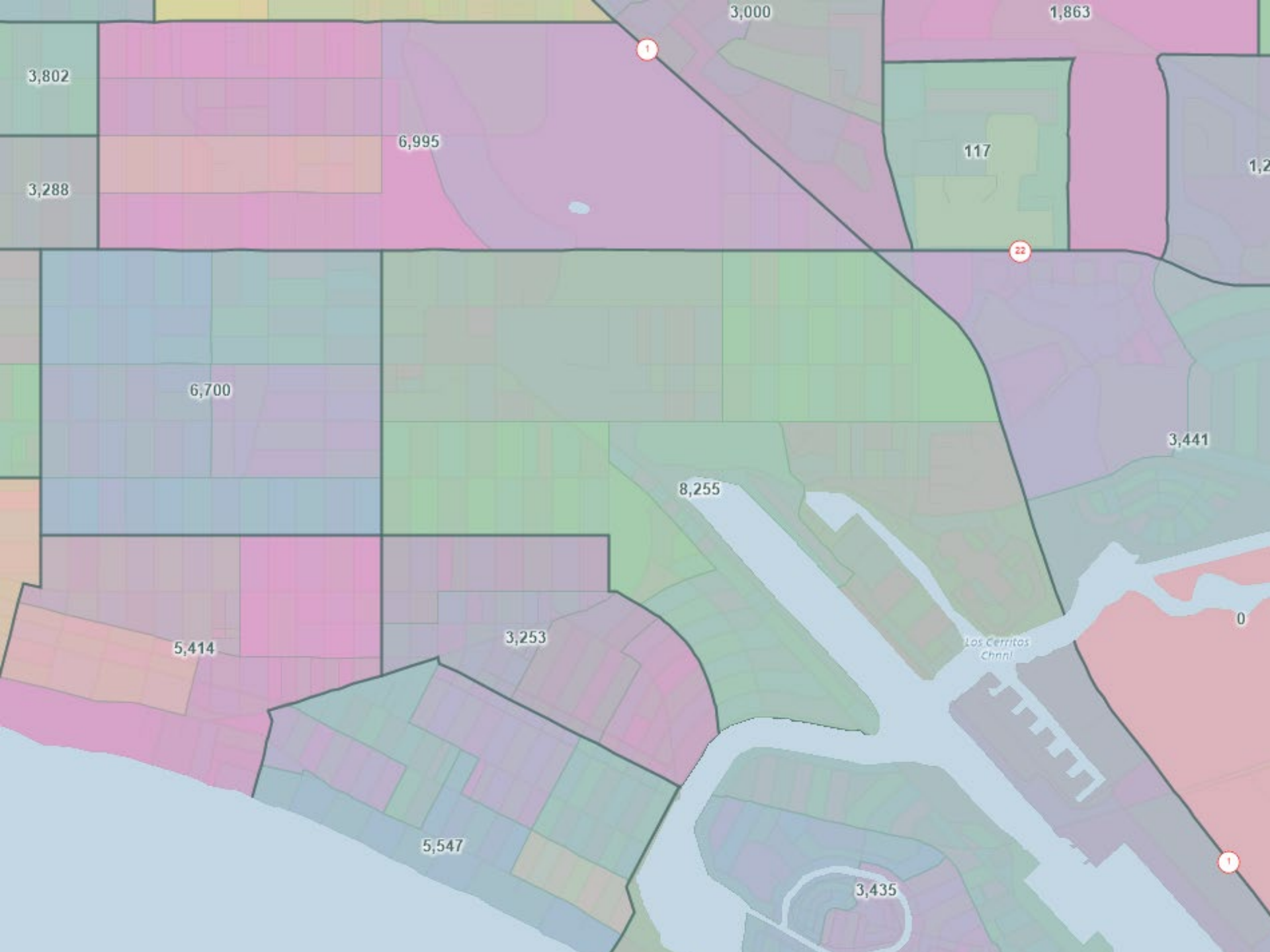
1,127

687

1,087

813

1





The data of Redistricting

Census Data

Two different datasets most commonly used in redistricting:

- PL 94-171 - the Decennial Census File
 - Census Block Geography
 - Total Population Counts for April 1, 2020, used to determine the size of each district.
 - Required to be released before April 1, 2021, but delayed until September 30th, with a “legacy” dataset in mid to late August.



The data of Redistricting

Census Data

Two different datasets most commonly used in redistricting:

- American Community Survey (ACS)
 - Census Block Group and Census Tract or larger geographies
 - Is estimated data that provides more context to the Census counts with demographic and socioeconomic info.
 - Provides Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)



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Public Input

Windows for public input

Community of Interest testimony is critical to an open/transparent redistricting process. There are three timeframes to be thinking of:

Pre-data – from now until release of the PL files. Opportunity for COI testimony.

Post-data, pre draft lines – after release, but before you can draw lines. Community gets to draft plans.

After draft lines – Community feedback, suggestions for changes, alternate plans, more COI Testimony

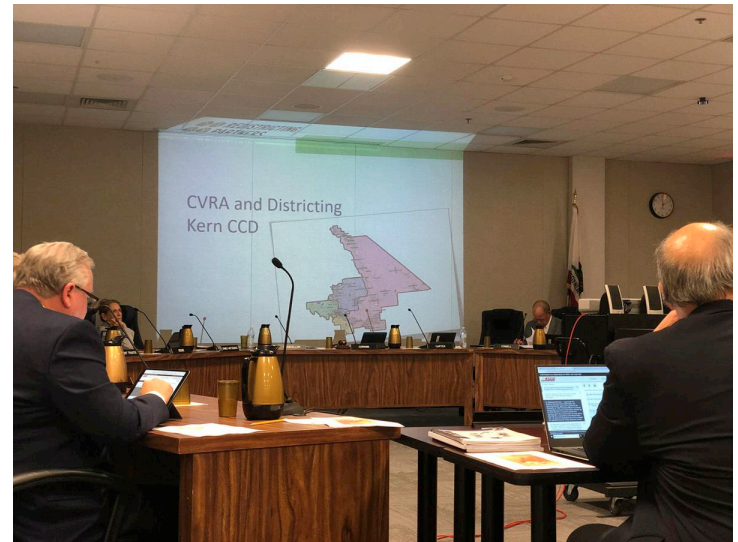
Input at Public Hearings

Multiple methods for obtaining input

Online / In person hearings – should be seen as avenues for public engagement.

The County should work with consultants to develop and implement public engagement during redistricting hearings.

Hearings are to have a specific starting time.



Community of Interest Forms

Multiple methods for obtaining input

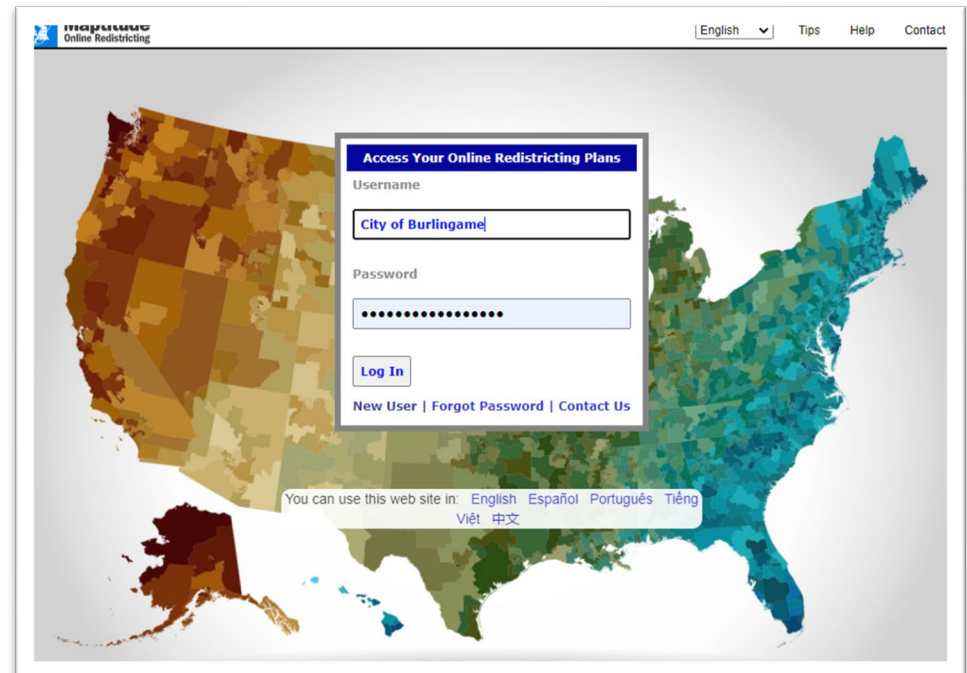
- Input can be provided in public hearings or using our “Community of Interest Worksheet.”
- This can be provided on the website as a part of overall community engagement strategy.
- Some agencies convert these to a webform or survey instrument.



Online Mapping

Multiple methods for obtaining input

Online Mapping tools will be available for the community to draw their community of interest or potential maps for the county to consider.





Online Mapping

Multiple methods for obtaining input

There are other mapping tools the public may use.

- These tools are *perfectly appropriate* for the community to use as input.
- Data and maps from these programs can be imported to our tools and reviewed by the county.





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- **Methods for Line Drawing**

The Methods for Line Drawing

Multiple Options

Once the county can draw draft lines, there are three primary methods, and they can overlap.

- 1) Start with a selection of Public Maps that you make your draft maps.
- 2) Direct staff to produce multiple draft maps.
- 3) Perform live line-drawing during a public hearing.



The Methods for Line Drawing

Multiple Options

Counties can determine their own relationship to the line drawing process.

- In some cases agencies are not drawing the lines but weighing different public options.
- In other cases members are actively drawing plans.
- Do not draw lines until it is time.



The Methods for Line Drawing

Multiple Options

The line drawing process does not end with the publishing of initial draft plans

- Community input on draft plans is critical.
- The county will notice a change in the kinds of input and map feedback it receives on actual maps.
- 7-Day posting requirement.



Completion of Redistricting

Late Census is complicating process

The current deadline for final passage of plans is December 15th as set forth in the FAIR MAPS Act.

- This deadline set by the Legislature may change.
- Need to proceed under the assumption that this deadline will not change as if you miss it, the courts will step in and draw the county supervisor districts
- *We will be updating if/when there are any changes.*



**REDISTRICTING
PARTNERS**

**CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
and
RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES OF CALIFORNIA**

REDISTRICTING WEBINAR
(PART II)
APRIL 16, 2021

David Twa
Contra Costa County
David.twa@cao.cccounty.us

GOVERNING LAW

- ❑ **14TH Amendment, Equal Protection Clause, U.S. Constitution – “one person, one vote”**
- ❑ **California Elections Code, Sections 21500-21509**
- ❑ **Voting Rights Act of 1965**
- ❑ **Fair Maps Act (AB 849-Oct 2019; Modified By AB 1276-Sept 2020)**

CALIFORNIA LAW

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

- **Strict Time Limits** – Elections Code section 21501 requires that the boundaries of the supervisorial districts shall be adopted by the board no later than **December 15, 2021**
- Before adopting a final map, the board shall hold at least **four** (4) Public Hearings
- One before draft maps are drawn
- At least two (2) after the maps are drawn
- At least one on a Saturday, Sunday or after 6:00 PM Monday through Friday
- Public Hearings at a fixed time regardless of other agenda items, but Board may first conclude any item being discussed

Redistricting Guidelines

- Population equality (deviation from the mean of not more than +/- 5%)
- Compliance with Federal law
- Compliance with State Law- **AB 1276 Ranked Priorities**
 - Districts shall be geographically contiguous
 - Geographic integrity of local neighborhood or local Community of Interest (COI) shall be respected
 - Geographic integrity of a city or census designated place shall be respected
 - District boundaries should be easily identifiable and understandable by residents
 - Geographic compactness of populations
- At least Four (4) Public Hearings with specific meeting requirements
- Specific timelines for adoption of a plan

POPULATION GROWTH

- ❑ Official 2020 U.S. Census data must be used as basis for the Board's redistricting

- ❑ The California Redistricting Database is responsible for redistricting data and will include incarcerated population reallocation numbers

- ❑ Census 2020 redistricting data
 - Legacy Data available mid-late August
 - Final Data may not be available until mid-late September

Contra Costa County WORK PLAN

- **Guiding Principles / Criteria**
- **Interdepartmental Leadership Group**
- **Data Analysis and Mapping**
- **Public Outreach**
- **Public Hearings and Ordinance Adoption**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES / CRITERIA

- **Achieve near equal population for each district – within +/- 5% deviation from the mean**
- **Use easily identifiable geographic features and topography to achieve compact and contiguous district boundaries**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES / CRITERIA - continued

- **Maintain communities of interest in a single district and avoid splitting communities.**
- **Communities of interest may be defined by existing boundaries for**
 - **Cities**
 - **School Districts**
 - **Special Districts**
 - **Unincorporated communities**

INTERDEPARTMENTAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

DEPARTMENT

ROLE

County Administrator's Office

Facilitate the redistricting process, Provides oversight and, direction to DCD in the development of the maps and public outreach

Clerk of the Board

Publishes Agenda, schedules workshops, monitors the required notice, hearing, and record keeping requirements

Public Relations/Media

Provides media coverage through CCTV; regular updates to Board, media and public on process; how to be involved; and scheduled public hearings and workshops

Conservation & Development

Provides data analysis, prepares mapping, coordinates public outreach efforts (maintains website and prepares outreach material)

County Counsel

Provides legal advice and assistance to County staff

County Clerk-Recorders Office

Provides information and procedural guidance

DATA ANALYSIS & MAPPING

- ❑ **Existing Department of Conservation and Development (DCD) staffing and resources, including GIS mapping program, will be used to map district boundaries**
- ❑ **DCD will begin mapping district boundary alternatives, with an anticipated 3-6 map alternatives, when census data is available**
- ❑ **DCD will require 3-4 weeks to review new census data and geography and mapping of district boundary alternatives**
- ❑ **2021 redistricting requirements include the ability of residents be able to submit maps. There are a number of available mapping applications that can support the process and allow the public to create and submit maps on line for consideration.**

PUBLIC OUTREACH

“insure transparent process, providing exceptional public access to information”

- Establish Redistricting webpage on County website as primary portal for public information/access with up-to-date information and ability for public to provide feedback and comments
- Critical Recording requirements:
 - Record of every public comment at hearings and workshops
 - Record of governing body deliberations (including Workshops)
 - Must be available to public within 2 weeks
- Critical Webpage Recordkeeping requirements:
 - Webpage must be maintained for 10 years in multiple languages
 - Webpage 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
 - Receipt of maps and/or testimony from the public in writing or electronically
 - All draft maps and the adopted map

PUBLIC OUTREACH

“insure transparent process, providing exceptional public access to information”

- Subject to any modifications required by COVID 19 The County Administrator’s Office and DCD will support virtual or in person County wide public workshops to provide background, present boundary changes, answer questions, and receive input

- PREPARING FOR HYBRID PUBLIC MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS
(blending virtual and in-person)

- AV requirements for connecting the virtual conference to in-person meetings
 - a. Workshop locations if not in the Board Room

- Facilitating the queue of public speakers for both virtual and in-person attendees
 - a. Establishing the queue
 - b. Registration through one portal or process

- Ensuring record retention and Brown Act compliance across the multiple formats
 - a. Capturing each comment card and individual speakers comments

- Providing multiple language and ADA compliance across the multiple formats
 - a. Real time closed captioning
 - b. Multiple language translations

PUBLIC OUTREACH

“insure transparent process, providing exceptional public access to information”

- Other outreach efforts will include: press releases, public notice in newspapers, CCTV

- Robust civic engagement to public; Community Based Organizations; and other active community groups
 - League of Women Voters
 - Census 2020 Complete Count Committees
 - Existing community networks
 - Civic engagement groups; good government groups; civil rights groups, etc.

PROPOSED TIMELINE/ MILESTONES

Milestone: January 2021	Board Retreat reviewed work program
Milestone: February 2021	Board adopted work program
Milestone: May/June/July	Develop Website and Public Outreach Plans
Milestone: Mid-Late August	Anticipated release of “Legacy” redistricting dataset
Milestone: August/September	Implement public outreach plan; promote public participation tools; identify Communities of Interest (COI)
Milestone: August/September	<u>Board Public Hearing #1</u> Must be held before the Board draws a draft map or maps of the proposed district boundaries

PROPOSED TIMELINE/ MILESTONES

Milestone: Mid-Late September

Census Bureau scheduled release 2021 Census Redistricting Data with Summary File to states and local government agencies.

Milestone: TBD

DCD staff reviews new geography, reviews data, and prepares draft maps. Requires a minimum of 3-4 weeks to complete this process.

Milestone: TBD

Board Public Hearing #2: Draft map alternatives (scenarios) and confirm public workshops/meetings. **Draft map cannot be released to the public until at least three weeks after the Legislature makes block-level redistricting data publicly available**

PROPOSED TIMELINE/ MILESTONES - continued

Milestone: One/two Week period TBD Subject to COVID 19 restrictions, Virtual or in person County wide Public workshops to review redistricting process, identify Communities of Interest (COI) present map alternatives, and receive comments.

Milestone: TBD

Board Public Hearing#3:
Present and Consider Redistricting Map Proposals; receive public comment

PROPOSED TIMELINE/ MILESTONES - continued

Milestone: TBD

Board Public Hearing #4:

Redistricting Ordinance introduced

Milestone: TBD

Redistricting Ordinance set for adoption

Milestone: TBD

Statute of limitations to challenge adopted district boundaries expires (30 days after adoption)

Milestones: December 15, 2021

Statutory deadline to complete redistricting (CA Elections Code section 21501) Not later than 174 days prior to the June 7, 2022 primary election. However, the Clerk-Recorder has requested that they have the adopted maps by Mid-Nov 2021.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Do as much as possible before Legacy or final Census Data released
 - Build your Website & create public outreach plan
 - Do FIRST Public Hearing even before data is available in August or September
 - Consider possible impacts if changes in current Communities of Interest (COI)
 - Start collecting public comment from community based organizations and others
- Remain flexible about possible hearing and workshop schedules
- Support legislative efforts to insure time to complete redistricting in a timely manor
- Be aware of other possible impacts of State and Federal action
- Make sure comply with all the publication and hearing timelines
- Critical December 15, 2021 Deadline or Superior Court assumes process

QUESTIONS?
