Amador County Redistricting 2021

January 26, 2021 (Updated April 7, 2021)

Chuck Iley, County Administrative Officer

Redistricting Basics

- Redistricting occurs every ten years following the results of the Census
- California has passed some new laws affecting the methods and requirements of redistricting for this cycle and future cycles
- Counties should be getting the census data April 1, but the Federal Government has already
 acknowledged that it would probably not occur on time. Federal Government will deliver data to
 States by end of September. California will reallocate prison population, resulting in data to
 counties by end of October.
- There are extensive requirements to allow for and encourage participation by the public, and staff will adhere to these requirements
- The County is required to hold a minimum of four public hearings to discuss the redistricting plan.
 - One of the four meetings must occur before a plan is drafted and two meetings after
 - One of the four must be held at night after 6pm or on a weekend
 - One of the four can be held as a workshop if desired

Redistricting Basics

- The process must be complete and in place by December 15, 2021, which is 174 days (required by law) before the June 7, 2022 Statewide Primary Election. The BOS can pass a resolution to enact the new districts.
- There are proposals to postpone this primary, which results in more time for redistricting, but nothing has been approved
- The Board has the option to utilize and advisory commission, an independent commission, or a hybrid commission
 - An advisory commission simply makes suggestions to the Board
 - An independent commission would have the authority to enact the redistricting plan without further approval by the BOS
 - A hybrid commission would give two or more alternates to the BOS, which would choose
 one of them without the option to modify it further.

What are the requirements for the new districts?

- The five supervisorial districts must be reshaped to districts that deviate from the mean by no more than 5% (largest district can be no more than 10% larger than smallest), utilizing the following priorities:
- First, to the extent practicable, Supervisorial districts must be geographically contiguous;
- Second, to the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest must be respected in a manner that minimizes its division;
- Third, to the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of a city or census designated place must be respected in a manner that minimizes its division;
- Fourth, district boundaries should be easily identifiable and understandable by residents;
 and
- Fifth, to the extent practicable, and where it does not conflict with the above criteria, districts must be drawn to encourage geographical compactness in a manner that nearly areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations.

How does the BOS want to Approach the Redistricting?

- Staff will bring forth the information received from the Feds as soon as possible for the public to evaluate on its own before any hearings/meetings are held.
- The Board can set an advisory/independent/hybrid board
- The Board can name itself as a commission.
- The Board can simply hold a series of hearings/workshops to make decisions
- The Board can appoint an ad-hoc committee to work with staff to bring forth some options
- Other options?

• Questions?