



AGENDA REPORT

City Council

MEETING DATE: November 17, 2021

PREPARED BY: Shelley Wecker
Christopher Skinnell

DEPT. DIRECTOR: Jace Schwarm

DEPARTMENT: Risk Management

CITY MANAGER: Pamela Antil

SUBJECT:

Second Public Hearing in the redistricting process to begin at 6:30 pm.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Open the public hearing 6:30 p.m.
2. Conduct a public hearing to solicit further public testimony regarding the current districts, communities of interest, and possible changes.
3. Receive updated information about the current council districts in light of the newly released, final, prisoner-adjusted Census data.
4. Direct the demographic consultants to prepare draft district maps for initial presentation to the Council at the third public hearing to be held on January 19, 2022.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The cost of redistricting is estimated to be \$180,000 and has been included in the fiscal year 2021-22 budget.

BACKGROUND:

Following every federal decennial census, local governments that conduct elections using district-based voting are required to commence a formal redistricting process as prescribed by the California Elections Code, based upon that new Census. As a consequence of the Legislature's significant revisions to the FAIR MAPS Act in 2020, Encinitas must follow a somewhat different process and different substantive criteria than those used to establish its current voting districts in 2017. It is therefore necessary for Encinitas to undertake a redistricting effort following the federal 2020 census that uses the specific procedures California law now requires. The Council adopted a timeline and process for the redistricting at its September 22, 2021 meeting.

The City has engaged assistance from Christopher Skinnell, a partner at the law firm of Nielsen Merksamer, and demographers Douglas Johnson and Shannon Kelly from National Demographics Corporation (NDC), to assist with the process.

Redistricting public workshop #2

The second redistricting public workshop took place on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at the Encinitas Community and Senior Center between 10 – 2:00 p.m. City staff and demographer were on site to meet with the public to answer questions, provide information and demonstrate the *DistrictR* mapping tool and Paper Mapping Kits. While public attendance at the prior public hearing and workshops have been light, participation on the City’s redistricting website and use of the *DistrictR* mapping tool has produced a lot of activity with 39 draft maps submitted for review. The demographer will begin to evaluate all draft maps based on the substantive criteria and population allocations as outlined in the analysis below. The demographer will present the viable draft maps to City Council at the January 19, 2022 meeting.

ANALYSIS:

Updated demographic analysis

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Census Bureau released its initial census data in August 2021 rather than its statutory deadline of March 31, 2021. Changes to state law now require cities to base their redistricting on data that has been adjusted by the California Statewide Database which reassigned incarcerated residents back to their last known place of residence. The adjusted data was finally released by the Census Bureau on September 27, 2021. Based on this new state census data, NDC has provided the following demographic analysis of the existing council districts:

City of Encinitas Current District Official Demographics						
District:	1	2	3	4	Total	
Total Population:	15,306	15,076	16,580	15,145	62,107	
Deviation from Ideal:	-221	-451	1,053	-382	1,504	
Pct. Deviation:	-1.42%	-2.90%	6.78%	-2.46%	9.69%	
Citizen Voting Age Population	Total:	11,221	11,710	13,117	11,454	47,502
	% Latino	5%	17%	8%	12%	11%
	% NH White	85%	77%	86%	81%	82%
	% NH Black	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% NH Asian/Pac. Islander	7%	4%	4%	6%	5%

Under Supreme Court case law, “total deviation” under 10% is regarded as presumptively compliant with constitutional equal population requirements. Due to recent state law changes, it is necessary for the City as part of the redistricting process to review the existing districts under the following criteria:

Revised district boundaries substantive criteria

As previously presented, California Elections Code Section 21621(c) requires the City Council to adopt district boundaries using the following criteria, in the following order of priority:

- To the extent practicable, council districts shall be geographically contiguous.
- To the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division. A “community of interest” is a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposed of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents or political candidates.
- Districts must be easily identifiable and understandable by residents.

- To the extent practicable, districts shall be defined by natural and artificial barriers, by streets or by the boundaries of the city.
- To the extent practicable, boundaries must be drawn to encourage geographical compactness in a manner that nearby areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations.
- May not adopt district boundaries for the purpose of favoring or discrimination against a political party.

At the September 22, 2021 public hearing, the Council identified the City's five historical neighborhoods, (Old Encinitas, New Encinitas, Olivenhain, Leucadia, and Cardiff-by-the-Sea) as communities of interest to be taken into consideration in this process. This evening's public hearing is to give the Council and the public an additional opportunity to provide any further guidance regarding the current district lines or communities of interest to guide the preparation of draft maps for consideration at future public hearings in accordance with the adopted timeline.

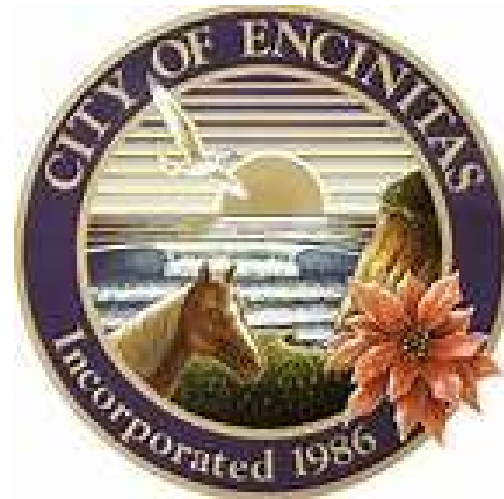
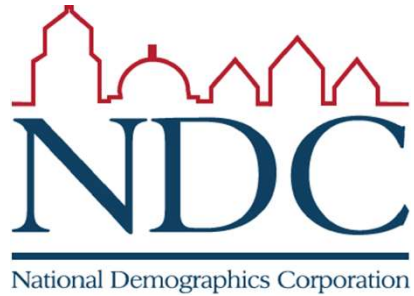
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The action being considered by the Council is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a "project" under Section 15378(b) of CEQA Guidelines. The action involves organizational or administrative activity of government that will not result in the direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment 1: Detailed demographic spreadsheet – 2020 Census Data
- Attachment 2: Demographer Power Point

<i>City of Encinitas - Current Districts</i>						
District		1	2	3	4	Total
2020	2020 Est. Total Pop	15,306	15,076	16,580	15,145	62,107
	Deviation from ideal	-221	-451	1,053	-382	1,504
	% Deviation	-1.42%	-2.90%	6.78%	-2.46%	9.69%
2010 Total Pop	% Hisp	13%	22%	15%	11%	15%
	% NH White	75%	67%	75%	77%	74%
	% NH Black	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Asian-American	7%	6%	6%	7%	7%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	11,221	11,710	13,117	11,454	47,502
	% Hisp	5%	17%	8%	12%	11%
	% NH White	85%	77%	86%	81%	82%
	% NH Black	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Asian/Pac.Isl.	7%	4%	4%	6%	5%
Voter Registration (Nov 2020)	Total	11,191	10,404	11,936	11,631	45,162
	% Latino est.	6%	11%	8%	6%	8%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	6%	10%	7%	6%	7%
	% Asian-Surnamed	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%
	% NH White est.	90%	85%	89%	89%	88%
	% NH Black	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2018)	Total	8,304	7,340	8,771	8,745	33,160
	% Latino est.	5%	9%	6%	5%	6%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Asian-Surnamed	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
	% NH White est.	5%	9%	6%	6%	7%
	% NH Black	90%	87%	90%	90%	90%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2020)	Total	10,183	9,243	10,792	10,599	40,817
	% Latino est.	6%	11%	7%	6%	7%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	5%	10%	7%	6%	7%
	% Asian-Surnamed	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%
	% NH White est.	90%	86%	89%	90%	89%
	% NH Black est.	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
ACS Pop. Est.	Total	15,373	15,606	17,224	14,964	63,167
Age	age0-19	22%	20%	21%	24%	22%
	age20-60	49%	57%	50%	49%	51%
	age60plus	28%	23%	30%	27%	27%
Immigration	immigrants	13%	15%	12%	10%	13%
	naturalized	59%	52%	64%	74%	61%
Language spoken at home	english	82%	79%	88%	84%	84%
	spanish	9%	17%	7%	10%	10%
	asian-lang	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%
	other lang	6%	3%	3%	4%	4%
Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	6%	7%	4%	3%	5%
Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	26%	25%	30%	24%	26%
	bachelor	36%	36%	35%	35%	36%
	graduatedegree	27%	23%	24%	30%	26%
Child in Household	child-under18	28%	28%	26%	32%	28%
Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	58%	73%	62%	66%	65%
Household Income	income 0-25k	14%	12%	11%	6%	11%
	income 25-50k	12%	13%	14%	8%	12%
	income 50-75k	14%	11%	12%	12%	12%
	income 75-200k	36%	41%	40%	42%	40%
	income 200k-plus	24%	22%	24%	32%	25%
Housing Stats	single family	73%	68%	71%	89%	75%
	multi-family	27%	32%	29%	11%	25%
	rented	38%	48%	43%	21%	38%
	owned	62%	52%	57%	79%	62%



City of Encinitas

Public Hearing #2

November 17,
2021

Shannon Kelly
National Demographics Corporation

Redistricting Rules and Goals

1. Federal Laws

Equal Population
Federal Voting Rights Act
No Racial Gerrymandering



2. California Criteria for Cities

1. Geographically contiguous
2. Undivided neighborhoods and “communities of interest”
(Socio-economic geographic areas that should be kept together)
3. Easily identifiable boundaries
4. Compact
(Do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people)

Prohibited:

“Shall not favor or discriminate against a political party.”

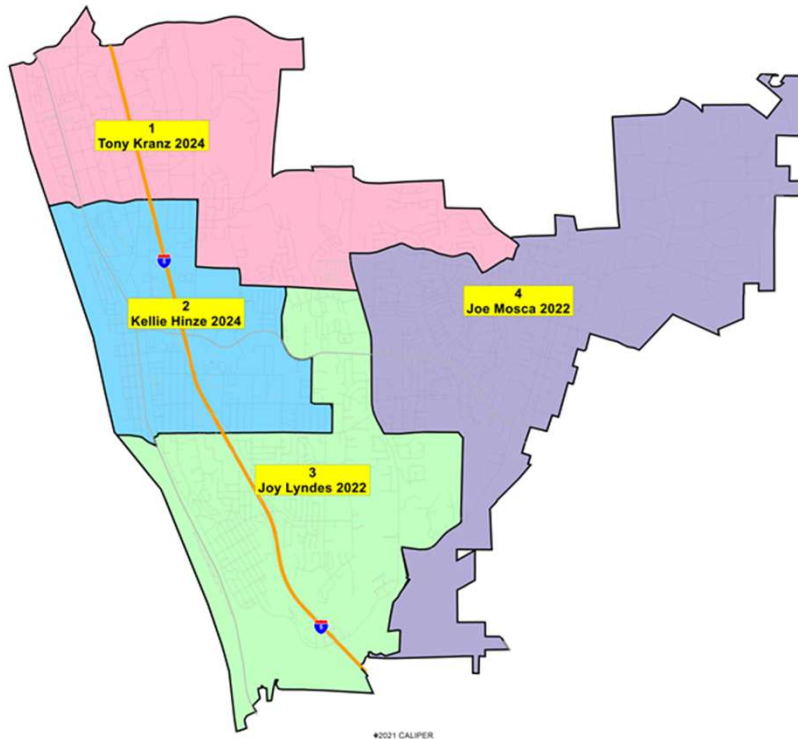
3. Other Traditional Redistricting Principles

Minimize voters shifted to different election years
Respect voters’ choices / continuity in office
Future population growth
Preserving the core of existing districts

City of Encinitas Redistricting Timeline

Month(s)	Event	
Initial Public Workshop August 16	Provide introduction of redistricting process to the public Do initial online mapping tool demo	✓
Census Data Release August 12	Census Bureau releases official 2020 Census population data	✓
Public Hearing #1 September 22	Education about the process and communities of interest Initial public testimony about communities of interest	✓
California Data Release Late September	California releases official “prisoner adjusted” redistricting data	✓
Public Mapping Workshop October 16	Workshop to allow members of the public to view and use mapping tools Demos of mapping tools	✓
Public Hearing #2 November 17	Continue education about process and solicit feedback on communities of interest Hear public testimony about existing map and communities of interest	
Public Hearing #3 January 20	Discuss and review draft maps Solicit feedback from the public about draft maps	
Public Hearing #4 March 9	Revised maps posted online and available at Encinitas City Hall Discuss, revise and adopt recommended final map and discuss election sequence	
April 17, 2022	(Election Minus 205) Statutory deadline to adopt map ordinance	

Final California-Adjusted Data Shows Districts are Balanced



Ideal population is per district is 15,527

District 1: -221

District 2: -451

District 3: +1053

District 4: -382

Total Deviation +9.69%

Defining Communities of Interest

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

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.**

Communities of interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

(emphasis added)

Describing your Community of Interest

1st Question: What defines your community?

- Geographic Area, plus
- Shared issue or characteristic
 - Shared social or economic interest
 - Impacted by county policies
- Tell us “your community’s story”

2nd Question: Would this community benefit from being “included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation”?

- Or would it benefit more from having multiple representatives?

Definitions of Communities of Interest may not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

Public Mapping Tools

Tools for drawing your own maps are available on the City of Encinitas Redistricting Page:

[City Council Redistricting \(encinitasca.gov\)](http://encinitasca.gov)

The screenshot shows the online redistricting tool interface. On the left, a map of Chula Vista is displayed with district boundaries. The main area shows an Excel spreadsheet titled "Chula Vista 2021 Public Participation Kit". The spreadsheet includes a table with columns for "Group", "Category", "City", "Population", and "Percentages". The "City" column lists various categories like "2020 Est.", "Deviations Best", "Total CV/AF", "Census Voting", "NH Title", "NH Bldg", "NH Assn", "Total Reg.", "Non-2020", "Registration", "Non-2020", "Total Votes", "Non-2020", and "Votes". The "Population" column shows values for each category, and the "Percentages" column shows percentages for each category. The spreadsheet also includes a section for "Submitter's Comments about the plan:".

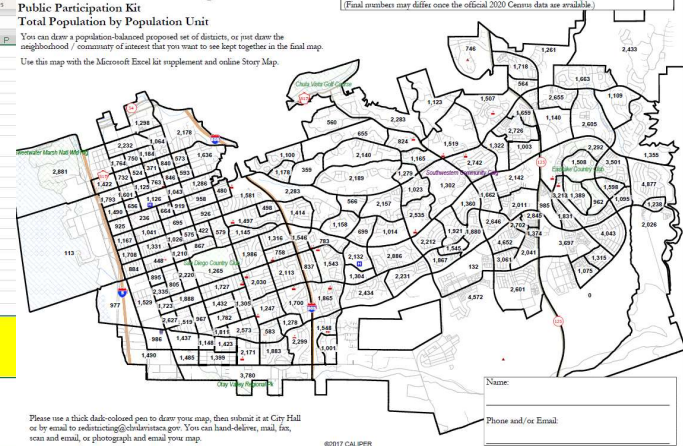
Chula Vista Redistricting 2021

Public Participation Kit

Total Population by Population Unit

You can draw a population-balanced proposed set of districts, or just draw the neighborhood / community of interest that you want to see kept together in the final map. Use this map with the Microsoft Excel kit spreadsheet and online Story Map.

Each number indicates the total population of that area. Each district must have approximately 65,507 residents, with no more than a 6.5% difference between the largest and smallest. (Final numbers may differ once the official 2020 Census data are available.)



Next Steps

Provide comments:

- Participate in any of the remaining Public Hearings
- Submit feedback through the website

Tools for drawing your own maps will be available on the City of Encinitas Redistricting Page:

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Public Hearing Topics

- What is your neighborhood and what are its boundaries?
- What other notable areas are in the City, and what are the boundaries?
- What are the important communities of interest in Encinitas that should be kept together to ensure “effective and fair representation?”
- How well do the current districts serve the needs of the City of Encinitas?