



DATE: November 3, 2021

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: John R. Gillison, City Manager

INITIATED BY: Lori Sassoon, Deputy City Manager/Administrative Services

SUBJECT: **8:00 PM TIME CERTAIN: PUBLIC HEARING #2** - Consideration of City Council District Boundaries, to Include Review of the Demographer's Preliminary Analysis; Review of the Public Mapping Tool and Inviting the Community to Submit Maps; Review of Staff's Presentation of Maps Prepared Using the Discussed Criteria; and Receipt of Public Input on Communities of Interest and Potential District Boundaries. (CITY)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council receive a report from staff, and conduct a public hearing to receive public input.

BACKGROUND:

On November 8, 2016, the voters of Rancho Cucamonga approved Ordinance 887, providing for the election of four members of the City Council by four districts, with a Mayor elected at large, and establishing the boundaries and election order of each district. At that time, the Council districts were drawn using the 2010 Census data as was required by law.

Following each U.S. Census, which occurs every ten years, cities with by-district election systems must use the 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.

By law, the City must hold at least four(4) public hearings that enable community members to provide input on the drawing of district maps. At least one hearing must occur before the city or county draws draft maps. The fourth hearing can happen either before or after the drawing of draft maps. The Government Code requires that a final map be adopted and submitted to the County no later than April 18, 2022.

The City has scheduled five (5) hearing dates for the Council Redistricting process. All hearings are scheduled to take place at 8:00 pm in the City Council Chambers:

- Wednesday, September 15, 2021
- Wednesday, November 3, 2021
- Wednesday, January 19, 2022
- Wednesday, February 2, 2022
- Wednesday, March 2, 2022

The first hearing was held on September 15, 2021. A recording of that hearing is available at www.drawrc.org.

The districts must now be redrawn using the 2020 census data and in compliance with the FAIR MAPS Act, which was adopted by the California legislature as AB 849 and took effect January 1, 2020. Under the Act, the council shall draw and adopt boundaries using the following criteria in the listed order of priority in accordance with Elections Code 21601(c):

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. Compact (do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people)
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
3. Future population growth

ANALYSIS:

The purposes for Public Hearing #2 include:

- Reviewing our demographer’s preliminary analysis of the Census 2020 demographic data. The prisoner-adjusted data was released by the State of California on September 20, 2021, making the final numbers available for all stakeholders to being formal analysis.
- Introducing the public mapping tool that is available for members of the public to consider the data and submit their own City Council District maps for consideration
- Reviewing the draft map(s) that have been developed to date in conjunction with the demographer
- Receiving public input in communities of interest and potential district boundaries

At the hearing, National Demographics Corporation, the City’s demographic consultant assisting with the redistricting effort, will provide a presentation regarding the updated demographic data.

Importantly, the Council will recall that in November 2017, the City entered into a Mutual Release and Settlement Agreement with the Southwest Voter Registration Project (“SVREP”) and Louisa Ollague (collectively “Plaintiff”), settling a lawsuit alleging a violation of the California Voting Rights

Act. Among other terms, that Agreement and its subsequent Amendment No. 1 provide for Plaintiffs' participation in the redistricting process to occur following the 2020 Census, and specifying certain timelines for that participation. In accordance with that settlement agreement and amendment, the City is required to submit a draft map to the Plaintiffs for discussion and consideration by November 12, 2021. To that end, a draft map is under development and will be provided to the Plaintiffs that meets the required federal and state criteria. This map would make minimal changes to the existing City Council District boundaries. A copy of that map will be shared with the Council and the public at the hearing.

While discussions with the Plaintiffs are ongoing, the City Council will continue to receive public input on this matter, including map submissions from the public, for further consideration at the subsequent public hearings. These two processes – the public input and hearing process, and the timelines and processes contained in the settlement agreement - will be conducted concurrently.

With regard to public comment, since the last hearing the City received two comments in writing regarding this process. Those comments are attached (Attachment 1). No further comments have been received to date. The public is encouraged to participate in the hearing on November 3.

Residents are encouraged to visit www.drawrc.org to follow updates on the redistricting process, review data and materials, and participate in the process by offering comments and submitting maps for consideration. The next scheduled public hearing will be held on Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

COUNCIL MISSION / VISION / GOAL(S) ADDRESSED:

Conducting this public hearing is in keeping with the City Council's mission to ensure and advance the quality of life for the community through inclusive decision making.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Public Input Since September 15, 2021

Sassoon, Lori

From: DaShawn Parker <flamingo331@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 7:52 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Redistricting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: This email is from outside our Corporate network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening,

Couple of items I would like to address. During the hearing last night in the chambers it was simply RC staff and maybe 4 community members present. I was one of them. I truly think you need to do more advertising so that you can truly get input from the community members. Mail flyers, actual council walking their districts and speaking to the community. When Lynn Kennedy was elected she did come to my home and discussed traffic in my neighborhood and how she would help. That is the last time I saw her. The original districting has now placed with Sam. Whom appeared last night that he has not walked the city in many decades. I am sure she does not know his constituents that live in where he represents. I am not an artist and have lived in the community for over 30 years and have raised two kids here. But I live on the old side of town and would like to continue to have money for two parks that are in my area Beryl Park and Redhill. My neighborhood is very walkable and has several businesses to North and the South. It is a great area for families. The schools are walkable for families that have kids. That is why I love my part of my neighborhood.

Thank you

DaShawn Parker

Please rate your experience with our website today.

City of Rancho Cucamonga Web Smiley



2021-09-15 2:46 PM

I would like to see the map of the CURRENT city council districts in order to better evaluate whether they need to change. The information sent out says that it's evaluated every 10 years yet the last one was done in only 2016!!!

ATTACHMENT 1