



**DATE:** January 19, 2022

**TO:** Mayor and Members of the 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 #3** - 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)

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**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. At least two public hearings must occur 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 two hearings were held on September 15 and November 3, 2021. Recordings of those hearings are available at [www.drawrc.org](http://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 #3 include:

- Reviewing our demographer’s preliminary analysis of the Census 2020 demographic data, including the prisoner-adjusted data released by the State of California on September 20, 2021
- Review of 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
- Review of any map drafts received from the public to date
- 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 and staff will review maps that have been developed to date, and any public map submittals. As of this writing, no map submittals from the public have been received.

As noted prior to the last hearing, 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 submitted a draft map to the Plaintiffs for discussion and consideration by November 12, 2021.

To that end, Draft Map 103 was provided to the Plaintiffs on October 29, 2021, and then presented as one of three draft maps at the redistricting public hearing on November 3, 2021. This draft meets the required federal and state criteria, and would make minimal changes to the existing City Council District boundaries. Since that time, discussions with the Plaintiffs have been ongoing. Other draft maps are being prepared for consideration that will be presented at the January 19 public hearing, with the goal of reaching an agreement between the parties on a single map.

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 continue to be conducted concurrently.

No further public comments have been received since the last hearing date. The public is encouraged to participate in the hearing.

Residents are encouraged to visit [www.drawrc.org](http://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, February 2, 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:**

N/A