



**DATE:** June 22, 2021  
**TO:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** Veronica A.F. Nebb, City Attorney  
Dawn G. Abrahamson, City Clerk  
**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY REGARDING THE REDRAWING OF ELECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES - THIS PUBLIC HEARING WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 8:00 P.M.**

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council: 1) receive a report from staff and the demographer on the redistricting process and permissible criteria to be considered to redraw district boundaries; and 2) conduct a public hearing to receive public input on district boundaries.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Every ten years, cities with by-district election systems must use 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. The redistricting process for the City of Vallejo must be completed by April 17, 2022.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The City adopted its current district boundaries on July 23, 2019, based on 2010 census data as required by law. 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 must draw and adopt boundaries using the following criteria in the listed order of priority (Elections Code 21601 (c), for general law cities/21621(c) for charter cities):

1. Comply with 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 from 2022 to 2024
2. Respect voters' choices/continuity in office

**Subject: PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY REGARDING THE REDRAWING OF ELECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES - THIS PUBLIC HEARING WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 8:00 P.M.**

3. Future population growth

By law, the City must hold at least four 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 hearings must happen after the drawing of draft maps
- The fourth hearing can happen either before or after the drawing of draft maps
- City or county staff or consultants may hold a public workshop instead of one of the required public redistricting hearings

The purpose of this public hearing is to inform the public about the districting process and to hear from the community about which factors should be taken into consideration while creating district boundaries. The public is requested to provide input regarding communities of interest and other local factors that should be considered while drafting district maps. A community of interest under the relevant Elections Code for cities (Section 21601(c)/21621(c)) 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.”

Possible features defining community of interest might include, but are not limited to:

- School attendance areas;
- Natural dividing lines such as major roads, hills, or highways;
- Areas around parks and other neighborhood landmarks;
- Common issues, neighborhood activities, or legislative/election concerns; and
- Shared demographic characteristics, such as:
  - Similar levels of income, education, or linguistic insolation;
  - Languages spoken at home; and
  - Single-family and multi-family housing unit areas

The public is encouraged to provide input via e-mail to [mapvallejo@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:mapvallejo@cityofvallejo.net) or to receive more information at the City’s website at [www.mapvallejo.org](http://www.mapvallejo.org). Written input may also be dropped off or mailed to the City Clerk at City Hall, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA, 94590.

Redistricting Timeline:

The public hearing schedule for the redistricting process is set forth in the chart below. In addition, workshops will be scheduled in each of the Council districts. There will be Spanish/Tagalog interpreter services provided at the four public hearings and the workshops held in each council district. Additional language interpretation services may be requested at [dawn.abrahamson@cityofvallejonet](mailto:dawn.abrahamson@cityofvallejonet).

**Subject: PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY REGARDING THE REDRAWING OF ELECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES - THIS PUBLIC HEARING WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 8:00 P.M.**

---

---

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Details</b>
June 22, 2021 @ 8 p.m.	City Council Chambers, City Hall	Public Hearing (Pre-Map) #1
July 27, 2021 @ 8 p.m.	City Council Chambers, City Hall	Public Hearing (Pre-Map) #2
January 8, 2022 @ 8 p.m.	City Council Chambers, City Hall	Public Hearing (Draft Map Hearing) #3
February 8, 2022 @ 8 p.m.	City Council Chambers, City Hall	Public Hearing (Draft Map Hearing) #4. Adoption of preferred map at this hearing.

Next Steps

On July 22, 2021, the City Council will conduct Public Hearing #2 to seek additional public input on communities of interest, the composition of maps, and to review the available public mapping tools. Following that hearing, members of the public can begin drafting maps using the public mapping tools which will be posted to the City website and available at City Hall. To assist in drawing maps, the City’s demographer will provide estimated population counts until the final prisoner-adjusted population counts are released by the state, which is expected to be in October.

Staff will be working with each councilmember to solicit feedback and schedule workshops in each of the current 6 Districts which will be added to the timeline that will be updated on the City’s website at [www.mapvallejo.org](http://www.mapvallejo.org).

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with holding this First Hearing.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1.	00161644_Final Selection Map 616
----	----------------------------------

**CONTACT**

Veronica A.F. Nebb, City Attorney (707) 648-4545

[Veronica.Nebb@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:Veronica.Nebb@cityofvallejo.net)

Dawn G. Abrahamson, City Clerk (707) 648-4527

Date: June 22, 2021

**Subject: PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY REGARDING THE  
REDRAWING OF ELECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES - THIS PUBLIC HEARING WILL  
BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 8:00 P.M.**

**Page 4**

---

[Dawn.Abrahamson@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:Dawn.Abrahamson@cityofvallejo.net)