



City of Victorville
2021 Districting
Community Outreach



Welcome

Agenda

Things we will cover:

- California Voting Rights Act (CVRA)
- Districting Basics
- Traditional Redistricting Principles
- Communities of Interest
- Public Testimony on Communities of Interest
- Public Hearing Schedule

What is the CVRA?

The California Voting Rights Act takes the principles of the Federal Voting Rights Act and expands it regarding districted elections in two key ways:

While Federal law uses “majority minority” districts as a standard for vulnerability, the CVRA only requires “ability to influence.”

The CVRA requires that plaintiffs get full reimbursement for legal fees associated with any successful challenge.

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The CVRA requires that plaintiffs get full reimbursement for legal fees associated with any successful challenge. ***These can be lessened or eliminated if the district follows a strict and prompt process for districting.***

What is Districting

Definition

Districting is the initial process of creating election district boundaries.

These boundaries do not determine:

- How the city decides to govern. The city can still work to achieve goals that benefit the city as a whole rather than the interests of any single district.
- How services or relationships between the city and the public are managed.

What is Districting

Definition

Districting is the initial process of creating election district boundaries.

These boundaries do determine:

- Eligibility to run for office – must live within boundaries to qualify for election.
- Who votes in the election – only voters within the zone vote for their board member.

What is Redistricting

Definition

Redistricting is the process of adjusting district lines every 10 years after the release of the US Census. The best known examples are Congress and the legislature.

Within the US, redistricting has become an extremely politicized process and been the subject of more high-profile Supreme Court decisions than any other part of our elections system.

Traditional Redistricting Principles

Preventing a District from becoming a Gerrymander

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

- Relatively equal size - people, not citizens
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- Maintain “*communities of interest*”
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function

Traditional Redistricting Principles

Drawing New City Council Lines for Fair Representation

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Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

Communities of interest are the building blocks of districts.

A community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Subjective
- Open-ended to be as inclusive as possible

Communities covered by the Voting Rights Act

- Latinos
- Asians
- African Americans

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While communities of interest may include race, it cannot be the *predominant factor* in drawing district boundaries.

Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

- Historical communities
- Economic interests
- Racial composition
- Ethnic Areas
- Cultural amenities
- Religious facilities
- Immigrant communities
- Languages spoken
- Geographic features
- Neighborhoods
- Economic opportunity zones
- Tourism Areas
- School districts
- Outdoor recreation areas
- Communities defined by natural resource features
- Downtown / Urban
- Rural or Agricultural
- Homeowner or Renters
- Creative arts communities
- Media markets
- *Many, many more*

What is NOT a Community of Interest

Preventing a Districting from becoming a Gerrymander

The Fair Maps Act explicitly prohibits these groups from being considered as communities of interest

- Political party affiliation
- Incumbents
- Political candidates

It also is hard, in redistricting to truly utilize:

- *Groups of similarly minded people who do not share a similar geographic location or are citywide.*

Communities of Interest

Three Critical Questions in Defining YOUR Community

- Does the community have a shared culture, characteristics or bond?
- Is the community geographic in nature? Is the community able to be mapped?
- Describe the community's relationship with the jurisdiction and how it is affected by the policy decisions made by the elected officials.

Is this a Community of Interest?

A group of renters who live downtown testifies to the city council.

Would this be considered a *Community of Interest*?

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Would this be considered a *Community of Interest*?

YES! This group of residents can easily to be mapped in a distinct area AND they share a common policy interest, which can be addressed through legislation or public services.

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Is this a Community of Interest?

NO! It is important that a community of interest is distinct enough to draw on a map. This group overlaps throughout the entire state, and it is unlikely that a governing agency has any say over these issues.

City of Victorville

What's Next

Public hearings will be held to obtain input on communities of interest and receive feedback on potential districting plans prior to board adoption

Input can be provided in public hearings or using Community of Interest Worksheets and/or paper or online maps.



City of Victorville

What's Next

Public hearings will be held to obtain input on communities of interest and receive feedback

November 6, 2021

November 9, 2021

November 15, 2021

7 Days before Hearing

November 30, 2021

7 Days before Hearing

December 8, 2021

7 Days before adoption

December 16, 2021

December 21, 2021

December 26, 2021

Community Outreach Meeting

Community Outreach Meeting (Spanish)

Community Outreach Meeting

Initial draft maps published

1st Map Hearing

Publish amended draft maps (if any)

2nd Map Hearing

Publish final map

Introduce Ordinance to establish districts/approve maps

2nd Reading of Ordinance

Deadline to pass maps



**REDISTRICTING
PARTNERS**