EL CAJON
CITY COUNCIL

Kennedy Recreation Center
1675 E. Madison Avenue
El Cajon, CA 92019

Joint Special Meeting
Agenda
NOVEMBER 4, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Bill Wells, Mayor

Gary Kendrick, Mayor Pro Tem

Michelle Metschel, Councilmember

Steve Goble, Councilmember

Phil Ortiz, Councilmember

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bill Wells

ROLL CALL: City Clerk Angela Cortez

PUBLIC HEARING:

1.   Public Hearing to Receive Input from the Community Regarding Redistricting

RECOMMENDATION:
That the City Council:
   1. Receives a report from City staff about redistricting;
   2. Receives an overview about federal, state and local redistricting criteria;
   3. Receives an overview of El Cajon's U.S. Census Data;
   4. Opens the Public Hearing and receives testimony; and
   5. Closes the Public Hearing.

ADJOURNMENT: The Meeting of the El Cajon City Council held this 4th day of November 2021, is adjourned.

City Council
Agenda Report

DATE: 11/04/2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Dave Richards, Assistant to the City Manager

SUBJECT: Public Hearing to Receive Input from the Community Regarding Redistricting

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That the City Council:
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BACKGROUND:

Overview:
This agenda report provides an overview of the redistricting process, redistricting criteria, and U.S. Census data for El Cajon. This report also opens the third of at least four public hearings to gather public input about El Cajon's City Council district election boundaries.

Redistricting Background:
Redistricting is the process of adjusting City Council voting districts so that each district has substantially the same number of residents. Cities with voting districts are required to update their district election map following the release of the U.S. Census data. Cities that experience little change in district populations can choose to identify the existing district boundaries as the map selected for consideration at the conclusion of the required public hearings.

El Cajon transitioned from an at-large election process for City Councilmembers with the passage of Measure S in November 2016. The Mayor remains elected at-large.

Following the passage of Measure S, the City retained National Demographic Corporation (NDC) to develop voting district maps and facilitate public hearings. In June 2017, the City Council approved the current district election map (Attachment 1). The current map was developed using the 2010 U.S. Census data with 2017 demographic estimates (Attachment 2).

Redistricting Process:
The transition to City Council districts means that the City must evaluate its voting districts based on the 2020 state-adjusted Census data. On September 27, 2021, the State of California posted the 2020 U.S. Census data. For California cities, these figures are the final numbers

needed to determine if district boundaries need to be adjusted.

NDC processed these numbers for the current El Cajon election districts (Attachment 3). NDC found that the City's current population deviation – the difference between the most populous and least populous districts – is 5.35%. This value is within the 10% threshold where a map is considered "presumptively constitutional," and thus the districts do not need to be redrawn to comply with the federal equal population requirement, although different boundaries may be considered. The final election district map must be approved by April 17, 2022, to comply with election laws.

In October 2019, the California Legislature passed AB 849, the Fair and Inclusive Redistricting for Municipal and Political Subdivisions (FAIR MAPS) Act, which requires cities to ensure maps comply with set redistricting criteria. The Act further outlines the specified steps a jurisdiction must take to encourage public participation of its residents and the deadlines for the adoption of new boundaries by a governing body. If after receiving public testimony through outreach and the required public hearings, and considering any alternative district boundaries, the City Council elects to maintain the current election districts without further adjustment then the election district lines may be retained.

Redistricting Criteria:
Under the FAIR MAPS Act, the City Council shall draw and adopt election districting boundaries using the following criteria in the listed order of priority:

1. Comply with the federal requirements of equal population and the Voting Rights Act;
2. Geographically contiguous;
3. Undivided neighborhoods and "communities of interest";
4. Easily identifiable boundaries;
5. Compact; and
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 of office; and
3. Future population growth.

In February 2017, the City Council passed Resolution 006-17. In addition to affirming the state and federal redistricting criteria, the Resolution established the following criteria:

1. To the extent it does not conflict with federal or state law, an effort should be made to establish boundaries so that at least two council districts include voters in similar numbers residing in the City's central business district (also known as downtown El Cajon as described by the boundaries of Specific Plan 182); and
2. These council districts should also include comparable geographic area and land uses.

Redistricting Hearings:
To gather community input in the redistricting process, and as required by the FAIR MAPS Act, four public hearings were scheduled. These hearings were located in different City Council Districts to ensure the City receives a wide variety of community input. The hearings are scheduled on:

- Wednesday, July 14, 2021, 6:30 p.m. at Hillside Recreation Center;
- Wednesday, September 8, 2021, 6:30 p.m. at Renette Recreation Center;
- Thursday, November 4, 2021, 7:00 p.m. at Kennedy Recreation Center; and
- Saturday, January 22, 2022, 10:30 a.m. at El Cajon Valley High School.

During the first hearing, staff provided an overview of the redistricting process and gathered input about communities of interest. During the second hearing, staff introduced online and paper mapping tools. Several participants of the second hearing also identified the middle-eastern community of interest generally within the following geographic boundaries:

- Broadway to the north;
- Jamacha Road and 2nd Street to the east;
- Washington Avenue to the south; and
- Magnolia Avenue to the west.

During tonight's public hearing City staff will provide an overview of the redistricting process, redistricting criteria, and provide a summary of El Cajon's U.S. Census data. In addition, the City Council will have the opportunity to confirm that the City's current election district map still conforms to the mapping criteria.

The fourth public hearing is scheduled on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 10:30 a.m., at El Cajon Valley High School. It is anticipated that during this hearing, the City Council will select and potentially approve its final District Election Map for adoption at a later date, but not later than April 17, 2022.

Draft Map
Based on the 2020 U.S. Census data, the current El Cajon City Council district election map remains balanced. Furthermore, the map meets the FAIR MAPS Act, Federal Voting Rights Act, and City of El Cajon mapping criteria. During its October 26, 2021, the City Council found that the existing district map met the legal criteria to remain in place. The City Council also suspended additional demographer services from NCD and allowed for additional maps to be submitted to be considered at future public hearings.

The City will continue to accept draft maps from the public for consideration through Friday, January 14, 2022, at 12 p.m. Staff will evaluate each map against the criteria and principles outlined in this report. The City Council will be presented with all draft maps during its November 4, and January 22, hearings for consideration.

Prepared By: David Richards, Assistant to the City Manager

Reviewed By: Vince DiMaggio, Assistant City Manager

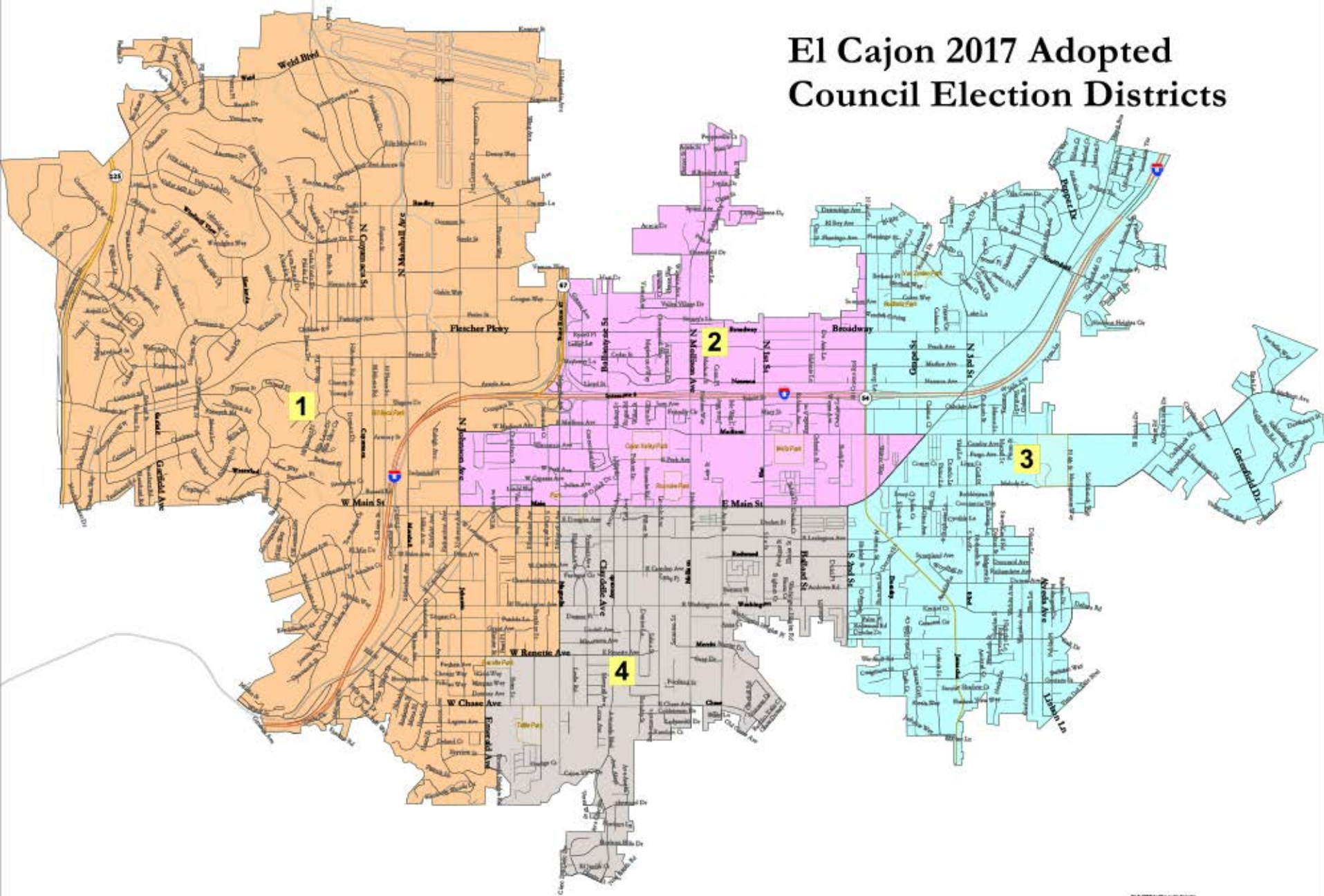Approved By: Graham Mitchell, City Manager

Attachments

Current City Council District Election Map

2020 Census Data for Current District Election Map

2010 Census Data with 2017 Demographic Estimates

El Cajon 2017 Adopted Council Election Districts

1

2

3

4

Category	Field	1	2	3	4	Total
	El Cajon - Current Districts					
	Total Population	27,173	27,150	26,514	25,747	106,584
2020 Census	Population Deviation	527	504	-132	-899	1,426
	Pct. Deviation	1.98%	1.89%	-0.50%	-3.37%	5.35%
	Hispanic/Latino	30%	34%	26%	28%	29%
	NH White	52%	44%	59%	56%	53%
Total Pop.	NH Black	6%	11%	5%	7%	7%
	NH Asian/Pac.Isl.	8%	9%	7%	7%	8%
	NH Native Amer.	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Total	17,391	14,852	17,453	14,681	64,376
	Hisp	20%	26%	23%	21%	22%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	NH White	67%	56%	66%	66%	64%
	NH Black	4%	12%	4%	7%	7%
	Asian/Pac.Isl.	7%	6%	6%	5%	6%
	Native Amer.	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%
	Total	15,905	11,173	14,830	10,614	52,522
	Latino est.	20%	28%	21%	23%	22%
Voter Registration (Nov 2020)	Spanish-Surnamed	18%	26%	19%	21%	21%
	Asian-Surnamed	2%	3%	3%	5%	3%
	Filipino-Surnamed	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
	NH White est.	76%	58%	75%	67%	71%
	NH Black	3%	12%	3%	6%	5%
	Total	13,088	8,045	11,735	7,822	40,690
	Latino est.	18%	27%	19%	21%	20%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2020)	Spanish-Surnamed	16%	24%	17%	19%	19%
	Asian-Surnamed	2%	3%	3%	5%	3%
	Filipino-Surnamed	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
	NH White est.	76%	58%	75%	67%	71%
	NH Black	3%	12%	3%	6%	5%
	Total	9,290	4,573	7,476	4,229	25,568
	Latino est.	14%	24%	16%	21%	17%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2018)	Spanish-Surnamed	13%	23%	15%	20%	16%
	Asian-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
	Filipino-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	NH White est.	81%	62%	79%	70%	75%
	NH Black est.	3%	11%	3%	5%	5%
	age0-19	24%	30%	26%	28%	27%
Age	age20-60	55%	57%	54%	54%	55%
	age60plus	21%	12%	20%	18%	18%
Immigration	immigrants	23%	32%	21%	36%	28%
	naturalized	44%	39%	62%	49%	47%
	english	68%	51%	63%	46%	57%
Language spoken at home	spanish	18%	26%	20%	18%	20%
	asian-lang	4%	4%	1%	2%	3%
	other lang	10%	20%	16%	34%	20%
Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	15%	26%	13%	29%	21%
Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	51%	59%	56%	54%	55%
	bachelor	18%	13%	16%	11%	14%
	graduatedegree	9%	4%	7%	6%	6%
Child in Household	child-under18	35%	41%	38%	43%	39%
Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	64%	65%	64%	58%	63%
	income 0-25k	12%	29%	17%	27%	21%
	income 25-50k	22%	28%	20%	24%	24%
Household Income	income 50-75k	18%	17%	16%	20%	18%
	income 75-200k	40%	23%	40%	26%	32%
	income 200k-plus	8%	2%	7%	2%	5%
	single family	67%	30%	67%	38%	50%
Housing Stats	multi-family	33%	70%	33%	62%	50%
	rented	46%	77%	44%	72%	60%
	owned	54%	23%	56%	28%	40%

Total population data from California's adjusted 2020 Census data. Citizen Voting Age Population, Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2015-2019 American Community Survey and Special Tabulation 5-year data. Turnout and Registration data from California Statewide Database ("Latino" figures calculated by NDC using Census Bureau's Latino undercount by surname estimate).

El Cajon - 2017 Adopted Districts

District		1	2	3	4	Total
	Total Pop	25,559	25,099	24,414	24,406	99,478
	Deviation from ideal	689	229	-456	-464	1,153
	% Deviation	2.77%	0.92%	-1.83%	-1.87%	4.64%
Total Pop	% Hisp	25%	36%	23%	28%	28%
	% NH White	61%	45%	64%	57%	57%
	% NH Black	5%	10%	5%	6%	7%
	% Asian-American	5%	6%	5%	6%	5%
Voting Age Pop	Total	19,530	18,184	18,268	17,925	73,907
	% Hisp	22%	32%	21%	24%	24%
	% NH White	66%	49%	68%	61%	61%
	% NH Black	5%	10%	4%	6%	6%
	% Asian-American	5%	6%	5%	6%	6%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	16,947	13,748	15,732	13,098	59,525
	% Hisp	16%	28%	22%	23%	22%
	% NH White	71%	52%	68%	59%	63%
	% NH Black	5%	13%	4%	8%	7%
	% Asian/Pac.Isl.	4%	5%	4%	8%	4%
Voter Registration (Nov 2014)	Total	13,131	7,982	11,226	7,199	39,538
	% Latino	15%	23%	17%	21%	18%
	% Asian-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Democratic	32%	37%	29%	36%	33%
	% Republican	40%	29%	42%	31%	37%
	% Other	29%	34%	29%	32%	25%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2014)	Total	5,879	2,293	4,557	2,381	15,111
	% Latino	9%	16%	12%	14%	12%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	% Democratic	31%	35%	27%	35%	31%
	% Republican	49%	44%	53%	44%	49%
	% Other	20%	21%	20%	21%	20%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2012)	Total	10,037	5,094	8,062	4,676	27,869
	% Latino	12%	20%	15%	17%	15%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
ACS Pop. Est.	Total	26,035	25,681	25,816	25,323	102,854
Age	age0-19	26%	32%	28%	29%	29%
	age20-60	56%	57%	54%	53%	55%
	age60plus	18%	11%	18%	18%	16%
Immigration	immigrants	22%	33%	21%	36%	28%
	naturalized	37%	26%	44%	31%	33%
Language spoken at home	english	68%	51%	67%	52%	60%
	spanish	16%	30%	19%	18%	21%
	asian-lang	4%	4%	2%	4%	3%
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Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	58%	62%	63%	60%	61%
	bachelor	18%	9%	14%	12%	13%
	graduatedegree	10%	3%	6%	4%	6%
Child in Household	child-under18	30%	39%	37%	36%	35%
Work (percent of pop age 16+)	employed	55%	54%	54%	46%	53%
	Commute on Public Transit	3%	5%	2%	4%	3%
Household Income	income 0-25k	20%	35%	21%	36%	28%
	income 25-50k	19%	32%	23%	24%	24%
	income 50-75k	22%	17%	15%	18%	18%
	income 75-200k	32%	16%	37%	20%	26%
	income 200k-plus	6%	0%	4%	2%	3%
Housing Stats	single family	63%	33%	71%	46%	53%
	multi-family	37%	67%	29%	54%	47%
	rented	51%	79%	42%	65%	59%
	owned	49%	21%	58%	35%	41%

Total and Voting Age population data from the 2010 Decennial Census.

Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database.

Citizen Voting Age Pop., Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year data.