

**CITY OF YUCAIPA  
AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Jennifer Crawford, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk  
Tammy Vaughan, Deputy City Clerk/IS Technician 

**FOR:** City Council Meeting of October 11, 2021

**SUBJECT:** 6:10 P.M. TIME CERTAIN - Public Hearing No. 1: Consideration of City Council election district boundaries to include discussion regarding the redistricting process, review of permissible criteria to be considered to redraw City Council election district boundaries, and to receive public input on Communities of Interest and potential district boundaries

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

That City Council conduct a Public Hearing and:

1. Receive a report on the redistricting process and permissible criteria to be considered to redraw City Council election district boundaries; and
2. Receive public input regarding the potential composition of City Council district boundaries.

**DISCUSSION:**

On June 27, 2016, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 348, providing for the election of five members of the City Council by five districts, establishing district boundaries, and scheduling elections within the districts. At that time, the Council districts were drawn using the 2010 census data as required by law.

Every ten years (and with a new census), cities with by-district election systems are required to review and, if needed, redraw district boundaries in conjunction with each decennial Census. This process, called redistricting, ensures all districts remain numerically and demographically balanced. The districts must now be redrawn using the 2020 census data.

City Council was presented with redistricting options for consideration at the May 24, 2021, City Council meeting. The City Council voted unanimously to select Option A (City Council performs the redistricting), directed staff to move forward with the redistricting process, authorized the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with National Demographics Corporation (NDC), and allocated \$26,000 from the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 General Fund to accomplish this effort.

Per the Election's Code, the City Council is required to adopt a new or readopt the existing map, if appropriate, by Ordinance following a series of public hearings, to include at least one hearing

before the City draws draft maps; at least two hearings after the drawing of draft maps; and a fourth hearing either before or after the drawing of draft maps.

The City has proposed the following four public hearing dates for the Council redistricting process, including this October 11<sup>th</sup>:

- Monday, October 11, 2021
- Monday, November 8, 2021
- Monday, January 24, 2022
- Monday February 28, 2022

The districts must also be in compliance with the Fair Maps Act (“Act”), which was adopted by the California legislature as AB 849 and took effect January 1, 2020. Under the Act, the City Council must draw and adopt City Council district boundaries using the following criteria in the listed order of priority (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 from 2022 to 2024
2. Respect voters’ choices / continuity in office
3. Future population growth

The purpose of this public hearing is to inform the public about the districting process and to provide the members of the community an opportunity to voice their opinions about which factors should be taken into consideration while creating district boundaries. The City has not yet drafted maps for consideration of the Council and the public.

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 Section 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.” In general, possible features defining community of interest might include, but are not limited to:

1. School attendance areas;
2. Natural dividing lines such as major roads, hills, or highways;
3. Areas around parks and other neighborhood landmarks;
4. Common issues, neighborhood activities, or legislative/election concerns; and

5. Shared demographic characteristics, such as:
- a) Similar levels of income, education, or linguistic insolation;
  - b) Languages spoken at home; and
  - c) Single-family and multi-family housing unit areas.

National Demographics Corporation (the City's demographic consultant), will provide a presentation at this hearing and discuss possible communities of interest in the City of Yucaipa that may be considered during the redistricting process.

Over the coming months, residents are encouraged to visit <https://yucaipa.org/yucaipa-redistricting/> to follow updates on the redistricting process, review data and materials as they become available, and participate in the process by offering comments and submitting maps for consideration (the U.S. Census data is delayed and will be available on the City's website upon release to the public). The next scheduled public meeting will be held on Monday, November 8, 2021.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no impact to the General Fund as a result of this public hearing.

Attachment - National Demographics Cooperation Presentation (Under Separate Cover)

Approved by: 