Ohlone Community College District
Introduction to Districting

March 10, 2021
Election Systems

1. “At Large”

2. “From District” or “Residence” Districts
   (The current system)

3. “By District”
   (The new system)

The California Voting Rights Act was written to specifically encourage by-district elections.
# Districting Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two Initial Hearings Feb. 10 &amp; March 10</td>
<td>Held prior to release of draft maps. Public education and to solicit input on the communities in the District. Must be held within 30 days of each other.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Work Time</td>
<td>(Tentative) NDC will release mapping tools with population estimates. Public can draft plans and submit community of interest maps.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Census Data Released <em>Date TBD</em></td>
<td>“By September 30th” California will then need to reallocate the state prisoner population.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Release public and NDC draft maps <em>Date TBD</em></td>
<td>Maps must be posted at least 7 days prior to 3rd hearing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two hearings on draft maps <em>Dates TBD</em></td>
<td>Two hearings to discuss and revise the draft maps and to discuss the election sequence. Must be held within 45 days of each other.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map adoption <em>By March 1, 2022</em></td>
<td>Map adopted via resolution. Final map must be posted at least 7 days prior to adoption.</td>
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## Districting Rules and Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Laws</th>
<th>Traditional Redistricting Principles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equal Population</td>
<td>Communities of interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Voting Rights Act</td>
<td>Compact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Racial Gerrymandering</td>
<td>Contiguous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Visible (Natural &amp; man-made) boundaries</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Respect voters’ choices / continuity in office</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Planned future growth</td>
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*Note: cities and counties have different criteria*
Demographic Summary

Each of the 7 trustee areas must contain about 40,000 residents (will be recalculated using 2020 Census data once it is available).

The total population, CVAP, registration and turnout categories will be updated as soon as the 2020 Census, 2015-2019 ACS Special Tabulation and November 2020 election data are available.
Latinos are particularly concentrated around Fremont Blvd between Stevenson and Grimmer and along both sides of Thornton Ave south from Saint James St.
There are no large geographic concentrations of Black/African-American population.

The two red Census Blocks contain a total population of 5 and 2 people, respectively.
Asian-Americans are all areas of the District, but particularly concentrated in the northwest and the east.
Income levels are generally high everywhere, but particularly so in the east and northwest.

Other socio-economic data, including immigration, language spoken at home, education levels, and more, will be available online.
Defining Communities of Interest

**1st Question:** what defines your neighborhood/community of interest?

Examples of physical features defining a neighborhood boundary:

- Natural neighborhood dividing lines, such as highway or major roads, rivers, canals and/or hills
- Areas around parks
- Other neighborhood landmarks
- School attendance areas
- Specific housing types: historic, senior, mobile home, single family, multi-family
- Common issues or shared neighborhood organizations
- Shared demographic characteristics such as similar levels of income or education
- Similar business activities

**2nd Question:** should this area be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation, or would it benefit from a division giving it influence in multiple districts?
Do the Fremont Council districts represent useful “community of interest” boundaries?

(Remember that these lines will be changing too.)

What other lines might be useful guides?
Election Year Sequencing

Once a map is chosen, each trustee area must be assigned an initial election year (either 2022 or 2024)

A move to by-area elections does not impact the current term of a current trustee

Trustee areas come up for election as current terms end

Three current terms end in 2022 and four current terms end in 2024
Assigning Election Years

1. If a trustee area has a single current trustee, that trustee area is assigned the
election year of that trustee

2. If multiple trustees sharing the same election year are in a given trustee area, that
district is assigned the election year of those trustees

3. For trustee areas with multiple trustees who are on different election cycles:
   ▶ Most counties interpret Ed Code Section 5021(a) to dictate sequencing if there is a
     pairing of incumbents. In those counties, if a 2022 and a 2024 school board trustee end
     up in the same trustee area, that area is automatically assigned to a 2024 election
   ▶ In other counties, the Board decides whether the trustee area is up for election in 2022
     or 2024
   ▶ Ed Code Section 5021 (a): “In the event two or more trustee areas are established at
     such election which are not represented in the membership of the governing board of
     the school district, or community college district the county committee shall determine
     by lot the trustee area from which the nomination and election for the next vacancy on
     the governing board shall be made.”
Public Hearing & Discussion

What is your community of interest and what are its boundaries? What are other possible communities of interest in the trustee area?

- Which would benefit from being kept together in one trustee area?
- Which would benefit from multiple representatives?