Agenda Item 36



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

ASR Control 21-000784

| MEETING DATE: |
|--------------------------------------|
| LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION: |
| BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S): |
| SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: |
| DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S): |

09/28/21 Board of Supervisors All Districts County Executive Office (Approved) Jessica Witt (714) 834-7250 Nicole Walsh (714) 834-6257

SUBJECT: 2021 Redistricting Calendar and Timeline Update

| CEO CONCUR Concur | COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW No Legal Objection | CLERK OF THE BOARD Public Hearing 3 Votes Board Majority |
|---|---|---|
| Budgeted: N/A | Current Year Cost: N/A | Annual Cost: N/A |
| Staffing Impact: No Current Fiscal Year Revenu | # of Positions: e: N/A | Sole Source: N/A |
| Funding Source: N/A | County Audit in last 3 years: No | |

Prior Board Action: 7/27/2021 #42, 6/22/2021 #73, 5/25/2021 #50

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- 1. Open public hearing to allow public to provide input on composition of supervisorial districts and proposed 2021 Redistricting Public Participation Plan, take public testimony and close the public hearing.
- 2. Approve updated 2021 Redistricting Calendar and Timeline.

SUMMARY:

Conducting a public hearing and approval of the updates to the 2021 Redistricting Calendar and Timeline will allow for additional public participation and feedback and timely compliance with redistricting deadlines.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Every 10 years, local governments redraw their district lines to reflect how local populations have changed based on the new census data. This process, called redistricting, is important in ensuring that

each board member represents about the same number of constituents. In Orange County, the Board of Supervisors (Board) is responsible for drawing supervisorial districts.

Under Assembly Bill (AB) 849, cities and counties are required to engage communities in the redistricting process by holding a minimum of four public meetings and/or workshops and doing public outreach, including to non-English-speaking communities. The County recently conducted five successful redistricting workshops throughout Orange County in early August.

On August 12, 2021, four days earlier than expected, the Federal Government released the Legacy-format P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file. California's Statewide Database announced that it anticipates releasing the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data, adjusted for incarcerated individuals, to counties on September 20, 2021, which is also ten days earlier than scheduled.

As a result of these changes and public comment received at the August workshops held in each supervisorial district, at which members of the public requested additional opportunities for public input, staff reviewed the timeline to search for additional opportunities for public engagement in an already compressed timeline. Although the County's current redistricting calendar exceeds the requirements, staff is recommending the addition of one public hearing and an extended submission period for maps.

Also, staff is proposing to adopt as part of the ordinance census block data for each supervisorial district instead of lengthy legal descriptions to describe each district, which saves an additional week of staff time. Although this would be new for the County of Orange, several other counties, including Los Angeles and San Diego, use this method, which is allowable under the law.

County staff is recommending the following additions and updates to the current 2021 Redistricting Calendar and Timeline. The complete 2021 Redistricting Calendar and Timeline is available as Attachment A and will be updated on the www.ocgov.com/redistricting website, if approved by the Board.

• September 29, 2021 – Conduct an evening virtual public workshop to receive public comment and provide additional information on the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc.'s (ESRI, Inc.) software and the public submission period.

• October 1 - 15, 2021 - Modify the public submission period of proposed maps to begin on October 1 instead of October 4 to allow the public an additional weekend to develop and submit proposed maps.

• November 24-30, 2021 – OC Public Works prepares census block data by supervisorial district for ordinance.

• December 7, 2021 - Board reads and considers ordinance approving supervisorial district boundaries.

The Board received updates on the 2021 Redistricting Process at its February 23 and June 22, 2021, Board meetings. The Board also adopted the 2021 Public Participation Plan on July 27, 2021.

Other prior actions taken by the Board related to the 2021 redistricting include approval of a contract for Redistricting Support Services with CSU Fullerton Auxiliary Services Corporation on December 8, 2020, and a contract amendment with ESRI, Inc. for the Redistricting Solution on May 25, 2021.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFFING IMPACT:

N/A

ATTACHMENT(S):

Attachment A – Updated 2021 Redistricting Calendar and Timeline Attachment B – AB 849