

Every ten years, local governments use new census data to redraw their district lines to reflect how local populations have changed. 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 adopting boundaries for supervisorial districts following the federal decennial census.

At the September 28, 2021, Board meeting, the Board adopted an updated calendar and timeline which allowed for a public submission period for map proposals from October 1, 2021, through October 15, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time.

On October 1, 2021, the County opened the public submission period and made the web-based Esri Redistricting software available on its www.ocgov.com/redistricting website. A press release was sent to the media and the County's redistricting distribution list announcing the public submission period. On September 29, 2021, prior to the opening of the submission period, the County conducted a virtual public workshop to provide an overview of the 2021 redistricting data and an overview of the redistricting software tool.

After the closure of the public submission period on October 15, County staff reviewed the proposals for compliance with the law (e.g., Supervisorial Districts are contiguous and population deviation between districts is less than 10 percent) and assembled the proposals for publication.

Specifically, Section 21500 of the Election Code requires that Supervisorial Districts be substantially equal in population (i.e., population deviation between districts is less than 10 percent) and that district boundaries comply with the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10301 et seq.). In addition, the Election Code requires that Supervisorial District boundaries be adopted based on the following criteria as set forth in the following order of priority:

1. To the extent practicable, Supervisorial Districts shall be geographically contiguous.
2. To the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division.
3. To the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of a city or census designated place shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division.
4. Supervisorial District boundaries should be easily identifiable and understandable by residents. To the extent practicable, Supervisorial Districts shall be bounded by natural and artificial barriers, by streets or by the boundaries of the county.
5. To the extent practicable, and where it does not conflict with the preceding criteria in this subdivision, Supervisorial Districts shall be drawn to encourage geographical compactness in a manner that nearby areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations.

All maps received during the public submission period will be posted by October 29, 2021, on the County's redistricting website.

The upcoming calendar and timeline items for 2021 Redistricting Process are as follows:

- November 9, 2021: Board Public Hearing regarding map revisions and map selection.
- November 16, 2021: Last possible date for the Board to hold Public Hearing to select a map (if

necessary)

- November 24, 2021, through November 30, 2021: Staff prepares the redistricting ordinance
- December 7, 2021: Board conducts Public Hearing to consider adoption of redistricting ordinance
- December 15, 2021: Statutory deadline to approve redistricting ordinance maps for the June 7, 2022, Primary Election.

The Board received updates on the 2021 Redistricting Process at its February 23, 2021, 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