

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Redistricting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed District Maps
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 12:57:33 AM

<https://davesredistricting.org/join/b8dcb621-07e4-4510-8cf8-45af692ee8a0>

Dear City Staff,

I am submitting the proposed district maps for your consideration. My proposed maps basically maintain the current district maps. The city switched to district elections in 2017. The current maps were approved by the 2017 city council as being the best to redress the concerns expressed by the proponents.

The 2020 census shows that there were fairly even population increases across the four districts. So the current districts meet the paramount criteria that they have equal population, within an acceptable deviation. The maximum allowed population deviation across the districts is 10%. The current maps with the 2020 census data have a 5.7% population deviation, which falls in the acceptable range.

The City has expressed concerns about the lack of contiguity of the two large parts that comprise District D, there being county land between the parts. It makes sense if that was the only criteria to apply. That is not the case. The CA Election Code 21601 requires a weighing of a multiple of factors, and contiguity is one such factor but there are many more that are just as important, based on both state and federal law.

I believe that the reasons for creating District B that existed in 2017 are as valid now for keeping the District as it currently is. To break up the unique community of interest in both District B and D, to discontinue the geographical landmarks that are currently in place north and south along highway 101, Monterey Road, and Butterfield Road, and to dilute the 50% minority voting power in District B, raises serious concerns.

There is no doubt that District B and D have unique communities of interests that the majority of citizens in each District would probably prefer to keep intact, whether they be geographical boundaries (north and south major traffic thoroughfares) or social economic (i.e. income and educational levels, the amount of high density housing vs. single family housing in each district, the percentage of citizens who rent vs those who purchase their homes, the level of children who need and receive educational support, the level of reliance on public transportation, the accessibility to communication technology among others). In my opinion, the four maps each reflect clearly distinct communities of interests and geographical distinctions that should be preserved.

Please publish my proposed maps so that they can be considered along with any other maps submitted.

Regards,
Armando Benavides

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