

2021
Mendocino County
Advisory Redistricting Commission



Presented By:

Charlotte E. Scott, Assistant County Counsel
Cherie Johnson, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Leif Farr, GIS Administrator

Redistricting Criteria Order of Priority

- ▶ Required Federal Redistricting Criteria: Equal Population + Voting Rights Act (Sec. 2) + no racial gerrymandering
- ▶ Ranked State Criteria
 - ▶ Geographic Contiguity
 - ▶ Keeping together neighborhoods and “communities of interest”
 - ▶ Preserving integrity of cities/census designated places
 - ▶ Bounded by easily identifiable natural/artificial barriers, streets
 - ▶ Compactness – do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people (not as highly ranked)
 - ▶ *Prohibition on favoring or discriminating against political parties*
- ▶ Additional criteria if not in conflict with prioritized criteria



State Criteria

1. **Contiguity:** Trying to keep districts from jumping around and prohibiting “point” contiguity
2. **Minimize Division of Local Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest** “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.”
 - i. Listen to the stories of our communities
 - ii. Communities of interest serve as the building blocks for our districts
 - iii. Connect COI to concerns for County level government
 - iv. COIs do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates Elec. Code 21500(c)(2).



State Criteria (cont'd)

3. **Geographic Integrity of Cities and CDPs**; Note: COIs outrank cities/CDPs
 - i. CDPs include: Albion, Anchor Bay, Boonville, Brooktrails, Calpella, Caspar, Cleone, Comptche, Covelo, Hopland, Laytonville, Leggett, Little River, Manchester, Mendocino, Philo, Potter Valley, Redwood Valley, Talmage
4. **Easily Identifiable Boundaries:**

Natural barriers: rivers canyons mountains

Artificial barriers: freeways/highways, railroad tracks
5. **Geographic Compactness:** trying to maintain areas so not bypassing nearby populated areas in favor of more distant areas; (not as high ranked as other criteria)
6. **Prohibited from considering Political Parties**



Neighborhoods/Communities of Interest

redistricting@mendocinocounty.org

- ▶ What is your neighborhood, what is the boundaries of your neighborhood?
 - ▶ In the absence of public testimony, planning records and other similar documents may identify neighborhoods and their boundaries
- ▶ A community of interest is a neighborhood, community or group of people who have common policy concerns and would benefit from being maintained in a single district.
 - ▶ What defines your community and would this community benefit from being included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation/ would it benefit more from having multiple representatives?

Communities of Interest Mapping

- ▶ When a group of people identify:
 - ▶ WHO you are/ What do the members of this community share in common? What is their history? Shared languages? Shared celebrations/values?
 - ▶ WHAT makes your community unique/ What differentiates the community from surrounding areas?
 - ▶ WHERE does your community live/ What are the physical boundaries of this community? What are the places and landmarks that define the community?
 - ▶ HOW are interests shared/ What are the issues that the community needs attention from local government?
- ▶ Create maps and narrative profiles and provide community stories
- ▶ Is there data to represent the stories? Numbers of people in the community, income levels, distance from critical infrastructure

Census Data

▶ Required Data

- ▶ Public Law 94-171 Decennial 2020 Census File (adjusted by State for inmate population)
 - ▶ This is an actual count of people taken at a specific time used to determine equal population within the supervisorial districts
 - ▶ Data is tabulated down to the block level, i.e., Census Block Geography
- ▶ American Community Survey (ACS) Data derived from surveys averaged over five years; use Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) for analysis in determining requirements for Majority/Minority Districts under the Voting Rights Act
- ▶ Preliminary “Legacy” data was released a couple of weeks ago;
- ▶ Counties are still awaiting the official statewide prisoner reallocated census data in mid-September



Census Data (cont'd)

▶ Geography

- ▶ Census Tracts, Block Groups and Blocks
 - ▶ Nested census geography
 - ▶ Blocks are the smallest area for which population data is tabulated
- ▶ City Boundaries and Census Designated Places (CDPs)
 - ▶ Used in determining Communities of Interest and in following mapping criteria



Options for Community Mapping/ Online Tools

▶ Pre Data Tools

- ▶ Interactive map application on the County's Public GIS Portal: Used for mapping and submitting communities of interest and can be used via screen share during public meetings to view available information

▶ Post Data Tools

- ▶ Interactive map application on the County's Public GIS Portal: Used for mapping and submitting communities of interest and for mapping District boundary lines
- ▶ Interactive GIS mapping tool: Used at public meetings to draw and modify district boundaries on the fly
- ▶ Public Internet District mapping tools: Possible use of internet redistricting tools, e.g., DistrictR mapping application



Communities of Interest Forms

- ▶ Members of the public can submit their proposed communities of interest through forms located here:

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/executive-office/redistricting/submit-community-of-interest-public-comments-and-maps>



Redistricting Timeline

- September 1 First Public Meeting of ARC/Training
- September 7 ARC Public Workshop at 6:15 p.m.
- September 14 BOS Redistricting Hearing #1/ joined by ARC
- September 20*
- September 28* *Official CA Redistricting Data to be released b/w Sept 12 – Oct 12*
one week waiting period before drafting maps
- October 7 ARC Public Workshop
- October 12*
- October 19*
- October 26 BOS Redistricting Hearing #2/ joined by ARC
- October 29 *potential deadline to receive public's draft maps*
- November 3 ARC Public Workshop – ARC to narrow 3-4 draft maps for BOS
- November 4 *Staff to publish 3-4 draft maps*
- November 9 BOS Redistricting Hearing #3/ / joined by ARC – present draft maps & BOS to identify preferred map
- November 11 *Deadline to Publish Final Map to be considered by BOS (7 days before)*
- November 18 Special BOS Redistricting Hearing #4 / joined by ARC BOS to approve final map
- December 7 BOS Redistricting Hearing #5 – Introduce Ordinance
- December 14 BOS Redistricting Hearing – 2nd reading Ordinance

*week of

