



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Independent Redistricting Commission

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County of San Diego Redistricting Process

Every ten years, local governments use new census data to redraw their district lines to reflect how local populations have changed. [Assembly Bill 849 \(2019\)](#) requires cities and counties to engage communities in the redistricting process by holding public hearings and/or workshops and doing public outreach, including to non-English-speaking communities.

What is redistricting?

Every ten years, districts must be redrawn so that each district is substantially equal in population. This process, called redistricting, is important in ensuring that each board member represents about the same number of constituents. In San Diego, the Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) is responsible for drawing supervisorial districts. Redistricting is done using U.S. Census data, which is now anticipated to be released by September 30, 2021. For the County of San Diego, current state law requires the redistricting process to be completed by December 15, 2021. The release of Census has been substantially delayed due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The impact of this delay on the redistricting process and timeline will be closely monitored.

Why does redistricting matter to me?

County redistricting determines which neighborhoods and communities are grouped together into a district for purposes of electing a member of the Board of Supervisors.

The IRC will seek input in selecting the next district map for San Diego County's supervisorial districts. You have an opportunity to share with the IRC how you think district boundaries should be drawn to best represent your community.

You can email redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov to find out more about how the process works.

What do the existing supervisorial districts look like?

You can find a map of the county's current supervisorial districts here: www.sandiegocounty.gov/general/bos

What criteria will the IRC use when drawing district lines?

The IRC will comply with criteria set forth in the federal constitution and statutes including creating districts with relatively equal populations and complying with the federal Voting Rights Act. In addition, to the extent practicable, district lines will be adopted using the following criteria: (1) geographically contiguous districts (each supervisorial district should share a common border with the next), (2) the geographic integrity of local neighborhoods or communities shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division, (3) geographic integrity of a city shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division, (4) easily identifiable boundaries that follow natural or artificial barriers (rivers, streets, highways, rail lines, etc.), and (5) lines shall be drawn to encourage geographic compactness. In addition, the place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate will not be considered and district boundaries shall not be drawn for purposes of favoring or discriminating against a political party. Finally, the County Charter requires that at least three districts include unincorporated territory with two of the districts having geographic area that is predominantly outside of the incorporated cities.

How will the IRC notify the public about redistricting?

The IRC, with the support of a public outreach and engagement consultant, will publicize the redistricting process. In addition, the IRC will make a good faith effort to notify community groups of various kinds about the redistricting process. Public meetings of the IRC will be provided in applicable languages (Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Filipino, Arabic, Japanese, Korean, and Laotian), if a request for translation is submitted in advance. The IRC will notify the public about redistricting hearings, post maps online before adoption, and create a dedicated web page for all relevant information about the redistricting process.

How can I get involved?

The IRC will be holding public hearings in each of the supervisorial districts to receive public input on where district lines should be drawn. In addition, information will be posted on county's redistricting webpage.

You can also submit public comments to the IRC, including suggested draft maps, by emailing: redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov

Where can I find out more?

The webpage on the county's redistricting process can be found here: www.sandiegocounty.gov/redistricting/.

Any questions can be sent by email to: redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov

If you would like to receive updates about the Independent Redistricting Commission's work to redraw the Supervisorial boundaries, please sign up here: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CASAND/subscriber/new?topic_id=CASAND_406