



County of El Dorado

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Legislation Text

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HEARING - El Dorado County Surveyor, Registrar of Voters, County Counsel, and the Chief Administrative Office providing a Public Workshop on the 2021 Redistricting Process (Redistricting Public Hearing #1).

The United States Constitution requires a count every ten (10) years of everyone residing in the United States. Census data is used for geographically defining state legislative districts in the year following a census.

At the conclusion of each United States of America Census process, the County must conduct a process to analyze population data in order to redraw district boundaries to ensure that districts are substantially equal in population as required by the United States Constitution and in compliance with the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In doing so, the County must consider the following factors in order of priority:

1. Geographic contiguity
2. Geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local communities of interest.
3. Geographic integrity of any cities or census-designated places.
4. Easily identifiable and understandable districts bound by natural and artificial barriers, including streets and boundaries of the county when practicable.
5. Encouraging geographical compactness so that nearby areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations.

The Elections Code also specifies that the Board shall not adopt supervisorial district boundaries for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against a political party. Additional criteria can be considered, as long as they are not in conflict with or outweigh the criteria required by the State and Federal laws.

In order to meet these requirements, the County undergoes a process to redistrict following the conclusion of each Census.

Before adopting new Boundaries, the Board must hold at least four public hearings or public workshops at which the public can provide input on the composition of the Districts.

In accordance with California Elections Code Sec. 21507.1:

- At least one public hearing shall be held before the board draws draft maps of the proposed

supervisory district boundaries.

- At least two public hearings shall be held after the board has drawn a draft map or maps of the proposed supervisory district boundaries.
- At least one public hearing or public workshop shall be held on a Saturday, on a Sunday, or after 6 p.m. on a weekday Monday through Friday.
- Public hearing buildings shall be accessible to persons with disabilities.

In accordance with California Elections Code Sec. 21508:

Residents, including those in underrepresented communities and non-English speaking communities, are encouraged to participate in the redistricting public review process.

- A press release was issued on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 with information about the process, a link to the redistricting webpage, and the date and time of this first public workshop.
- The date, time, and access information for the workshop is being provided by the agenda and on the redistricting webpage more than five days before the hearing or workshop.
- Public testimony in writing is encouraged, and public comment will take place as part of the workshop.
- The workshop will be recorded and the recording will be available to the public on the webpage within two weeks after the public workshop.

This is the first in a series of public workshops to inform the community and to receive public input on the redistricting process. Three more workshops are scheduled as follows:

Workshop #2: Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 6:00pm, via Zoom and with an in-person option, Covid-19 restrictions permitting.

Workshop #3: Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 6:00pm, via Zoom and with an in-person option, Covid-19 restrictions permitting.

Workshop #4: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 9:00am, via Zoom and with an in-person option, Covid-19 restrictions permitting.

Following the workshops and the finalization of map alternatives, maps will be presented for the Board's consideration and an ordinance for map adoption will be recommended for approval at a regular Board meeting.