



COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: 11/9/2021

TO: Board of Directors

SUBJECT:

Redistricting of District division boundaries as required by Election Code Section 22000 et seq.

FOR: Action

Public Hearing

Ordinance

Presentation/Recognition

Informational Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: *It is recommended that the Board of Directors:*

Receive a report from the District's redistricting consultant- Best Best & Krieger on the redistricting process and permissible criteria to be considered to redraw Agency Division Election District Boundaries.

SUMMARY: *This request consists of:*

Every ten years, agencies with by-district election systems must use new census data to review and, if needed, redraw electoral division lines to reflect how local populations have changed. This process, called redistricting, ensures all divisions comply with both the California and federal Voting Rights Acts.

Requirements for redistricting include:

- Revised electoral districts must be “substantially equal in population as required by U.S. Constitution.”
 - Balance must comply with US and Calif. Constitutions and Federal Voting Rights Act (FVRA) Section 10301 of Title 52 of the United States Code, as amended.
 - Population equality is based on total population of District residents (not customers) per U.S. Census
 - Incarcerated persons only counted if last known residence may be assigned to a City census block
 - In adjusting the boundaries of the divisions, the board may give consideration to the following factors:
 - (1) topography,
 - (2) geography,
 - (3) cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory, and
 - (4) community of interests of the division.
 - This section does not apply to divisions in which only landowners vote for directors or whose directors are all elected at large or appointed.
- Boundaries shall not be drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party.
- Change of boundaries shall not affect the unexpired term of office of any elected Board member.

Prior to considering specific maps adjusting division boundaries, the Agency must conduct at least one public hearing to receive testimony and comments from Agency members and the public. The first hearing is scheduled for January 11, 2022 to receive public input and review draft maps



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prepared by the District’s redistricting consultant, BBK reflecting the 2020 census data and considering any comments received. A second public hearing is scheduled for March 8, 2022 to consider the proposed division boundary adjustments and adoption of revised boundary maps.

The current redistricting process for CVWD must be completed by April 17, 2022. This date was established by the passage of SB 594, enacted earlier this month, which consolidated the redistricting deadline for all municipalities and most special districts onto a single date. Previous to SB 594, the deadline for special districts was May 12, 2022 (180 days before the November 8, 2022 general election). However, certain types of districts had deadlines as early as November 1, 2021, and with the delay of census data from the US Census Bureau as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, that deadline was impossible to meet. To accommodate those districts, and at the request of county Registrar of Voters statewide, the deadline for special districts was moved up 25 days to April 17th, while the November 1st deadline was extended to April 17th.

The proposed redistricting timeline is as follows:

- January 11, 2022 – First Public Hearing (board provides input on data, ideas for potential changes, etc.)
- February 8, 2022 – Follow up; provide map draft options to the Board
- March 8, 2022 – Second Public Hearing – Board may adopt maps if no changes requested
- March 22, 2022 - *If needed*- tentative date for additional changes to proposed maps
- April 12 – *If needed*- tentative date for additional changes to proposed maps and approval of maps, before the April 17 deadline.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

No, this item is not a “project” as defined by CEQA; therefore, approval does not require any CEQA action.

Yes, see below.

N/A

LEGAL REVIEW: Yes – Reviewed by Counsel No – Not Applicable

FIRM: Best Best & Krieger

Prepared by: Sylvia Bermudez
Clerk of the Board

Submitted by: Sylvia Bermudez
Clerk of the Board



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. M. Barrett', written over a horizontal line.

Approved by:

J. M. Barrett
General Manager

ATTACHMENTS:
FILE: .
PROJECT ID NO: N/A



**COACHELLA VALLEY
WATER DISTRICT**

Coachella Valley Water District - Redistricting 2021



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2021 Coachella Valley Water District - Redistricting

The 2021 redistricting process

- Project timelines
- Key deadlines
- Next steps and hearings



Coachella Valley Water District

Board Members hold 4-year terms

- Districts 1, 3 & 5 terms elected in November 2022
- District 2 & 4 terms elected in November 2024



Redistricting Process

Step	Description
Initial Pre-Draft Meeting	Held prior to release of draft maps. Education and to solicit input from the community Identify “neighborhoods,” “communities of interest,” and “secondary areas.”
Initial deadline for draft maps	Deadline for the public to submit draft maps for inclusion in the next hearing packet and presentation
Release draft maps	Draft maps posted to project website
Public Hearings (post-map)	Public Hearing to discuss and revise or adopt the draft map(s)
Map adoption	Map adopted via ordinance or resolution. Final map must be posted at least 7 days prior to adoption.



Redistricting Rules and Goals

Federal Law

Equal Population
Federal Voting Rights Act
No Racial Gerrymandering

California Criteria for Districts

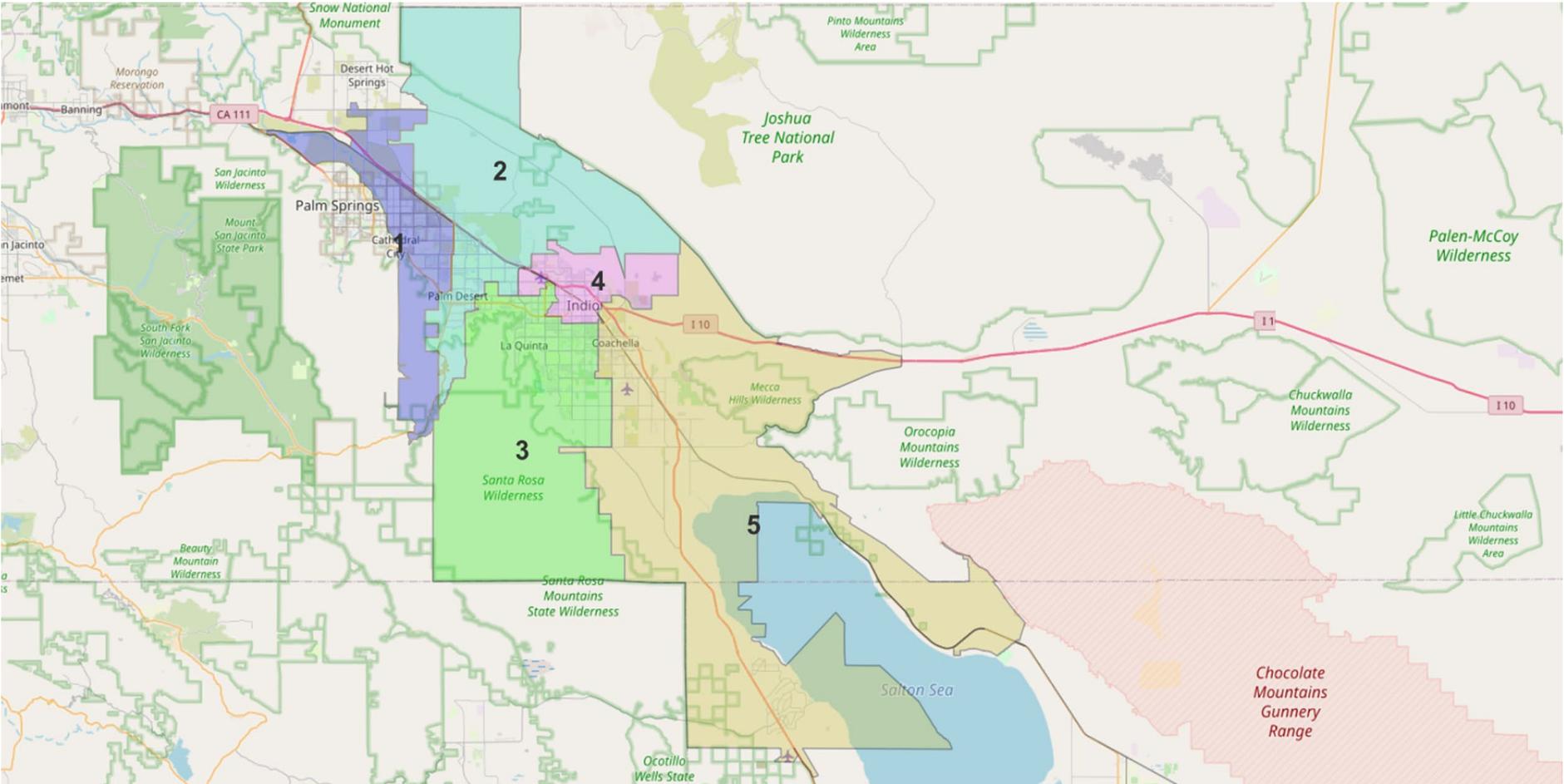
Topography
Geography
Cohesiveness, Contiguity,
Integrity of territory
Communities of Interest

Other traditional principles

Minimize voters shifted to
different election years
Respect voters' choices /
continuity in office
Future population growth
Preserving the core of
existing districts



Existing Districts



Housing Stats



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Existing Division Boundaries with 2020 Census Data

District	Total Population	Raw Deviation	% Deviation	Latino	CVAP19 Total	CVAP19 NL White	CVAP19 NL Black	CVAP Hispanic	CVAP19 Not Hispanic	CVAP19 NL AIAN	CVAP19 NL ASIAN	CVAP19 NL Hawaiian	CVAP19 NL Other
1	68,758	(2,319)	-3.26%	33,073	47,953	28,002	1,313	15,093	32,864	381	2,473	70	155
2	72,422	1,345	1.89%	21,527	57,020	41,728	1,531	11,041	45,869	74	1,624	38	92
3	67,169	(3,908)	-5.50%	29,606	52,483	31,193	1,045	18,165	34,376	115	1,319	17	125
4	80,498	9,421	13.26%	56,672	51,000	17,570	1,447	30,879	20,178	55	738	-	116
5	66,536	(4,541)	-6.39%	62,714	28,434	2,608	359	25,018	3,374	84	175	8	45

Total Population: 355,383

Ideal Population: 71,076.6

Total Deviation: **19.65%**



Housing Stats



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Findings

- Total Deviation is above the 10% “acceptable” range at 19.65%
- Drawing majority/minority districts *are* possible based on the overall percentage of minority residents (Districts 4 & 5 are already majority/minority Hispanic districts)
- Current district boundaries must be adjusted for population balance



Preeminent Considerations

- Equal population (one person/one vote)
- Geographically contiguous districts
- Geographically compact
- Measured objectively



Important Considerations

"Communities of Interest"

- Physical boundaries
 - Natural or artificial barriers
 - Roadways, rivers, railways
 - Parks, schools, and other landmarks
- Geographic integrity
- Minority voice



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Important Considerations "Communities of Interest"

- Political boundaries
 - School attendance areas
 - Special district service areas
 - Federal, state, and county divisions



Important Considerations "Communities of Interest"

- Not:
 - Incumbents' residences
 - Political affiliations



Discussion Points

- What is your neighborhood and what are its boundaries?
- What other notable areas are in the jurisdiction, and what are their boundaries?
- Inform the public on how they can participate



Discussion Points

- Any questions about what's next?

Following today's Meeting, BB&K will begin drawing maps for consideration at the Public Hearings.



Sources of Information

- Demographic data
- Staff expertise
- Public input



Timeline & Next Steps

- The prisoner-adjusted census data was released by the state on September 20, 2021.
- Two public hearings must be held before the Board may vote on a proposed final boundary map.
- The approved map must be submitted to the Registrar of Voters' no later than April 17, 2022.



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Timeline & Next Steps

- We'll spend the next few weeks/month or so drawing draft maps that are in compliance with both the FVRA and the CVRA.



Timeline & Next Steps

September 20, 2021	Adjusted Census Data released to the public
November 9, 2021	Information Meeting to introduce the topic of redistricting to the community.
Winter 2021/22	BB&K to prepare draft maps using 2020 census data
January 11, 2022	1 st Public Hearing Board to consider and provide input on draft maps.
March 8, 2022	2 nd Public Hearing and Board to adopt District map. Must be completed no later than April 17, 2022
4/17/2022	District deadline to adopt and submit map to Registrar
November 2022	2022 Election

