

**ITEM 2**

# 2010 Redistricting and U.S. Census Data Overview



## 2010 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Midori Wong, Chief of Staff  
Pre-Map Public Hearings – 2011  
Item 2

## What is redistricting?



- Drawing of district boundaries for elected office
- Happens every 10 years at all levels of government
- City process is different

## Why does it happen?



- Account for population changes
- “One person, one vote”
- Ensure equal access to political representation

3

## What’s different this time around?



- New ninth Council District
- Proposition D (2010) – Strong Mayor Form of Governance
- First new district since 1960s

4

## Who are the decision-makers?



- **2010 Redistricting Commission**
  - 7 appointed members
  - Sole and exclusive authority to adopt plans that specify boundaries
- Rely on input from residents and stakeholders

5

## When is this happening?



- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| • <i>March:</i> | <i>Census data released</i><br><i>Introductory hearings</i> |
| <hr/>           |   |
| • April/May:    | Public hearings   |
| • May/June:     | Develop preliminary plan                                    |
| • July:         | Public hearings   |
| • August:       | Adopt final plan  |
| • Fall:         | File final report   |

6

## What is the end result?



- “Redistricting Plan” that uses:
- U.S. Census data
- Public testimony
- Applicable legal criteria

7

## What can the Census tell us?



- City grew 6.4%; second most populous incorporated place in California
- Districts grew at different paces
- Population by:
  - Race/ethnicity
  - Voting age
  - Housing units and occupancy status

8

## How can I comment?



- **Public hearings:** at least 20 throughout City
- **Comment in writing or by telephone**
- **Contact our office any time**

9

## How do I stay involved?



- **Commission meetings:**
  - 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 4 p.m., 12th Floor, City Hall
  - Broadcast and archived on CityTV
- **Email distribution list:** send request to [redistricting\\_2010@san Diego.gov](mailto:redistricting_2010@san Diego.gov)
- **Presentations to community meetings**

10

## 2010 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO



Anisha Dalal, Chair  
Carlos Marquez, Vice Chair  
Frederick Kosmo  
Ani Morrow  
Arthur Nishioka  
Dave Potter  
Theresa Quiroz

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11

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## ITEM 3

# Overview of Redistricting Criteria

## 2010 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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Pre-Map Public Hearings – 2011  
Item 3

13

## Legal Requirements

- **Redistricting Plan must comply with:**
  - U.S. Constitution
  - San Diego City Charter §§ 5 and 5.1
  - Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965
  - Related statutes and case law interpreting redistricting plans and criteria

14

## Legal Requirements

The plan “shall provide fair and effective representation for all citizens of the City, including racial, ethnic, and language minorities, and be in conformance with the requirements of the United States Constitution and Federal statutes.”

- San Diego City Charter § 5.1

15

## City Charter Section 5.1 Requirements

- Nine districts to be created
- Composed of whole Census units, as developed by U.S. Bureau of the Census
- Each has one-ninth of City’s population
  - ✦ Goal is **144,624 people per district**
  - ✦ Goal is zero deviation from this number, but standard is as little deviation as possible
- Lines not drawn for the purpose of advantaging or protecting incumbents

16



## City Charter Section 5.1 Requirements

- Districts are to:
  - ✦ Be geographically compact
  - ✦ Be composed of contiguous territory
  - ✦ Preserve “identifiable communities of interest”
  - ✦ Have reasonable access between population centers
  - ✦ Be bounded by natural boundaries, street lines and/or by City boundary lines

17

## “Communities of Interest”

- Residents of City to assist in identifying and preserving “communities of interest” in order to retain common activities, social and lifestyle patterns typical and desired by members of the area.
- Hearings to gather information
- U.S. Census data used to support the plan and any such findings

18

## Key Principles

- Avoid diluting voting strength of protected classes, as set forth in Voting Rights Act of 1965; but accomplish this without race being a predominant motive
- Must justify, in good faith, any deviation from districts having equal population
- Conform with principles of federal Constitutional requirement of “one man, one vote”
- Keep communities united

19

## Upcoming Hearings

- **Public Hearing Requirements**
  - ✦ **Preliminary Plan:** Commission required to have at least 4 public hearings in various geographic areas of the City before completing Preliminary Plan
  - ✦ **Final Plan:** Commission required to have at least 3 public hearings in various geographic areas of the City before adopting Final Plan

20

## More than a map!



- **Redistricting Plan is a legal document, with supporting evidence**
- **Preliminary Plan to include:**
  - Written statement of findings
  - Reasons for adoption
  - Notation of criteria used in the process, with analysis and explanation of decisions made by the Commission
- **Final Plan**
  - Effective 30 days after adoption
  - If final plan is rejected by referendum of the people, the same Commission shall create a new plan pursuant to the Charter.

21

## Pre-Map Public Hearings



### ITEM 4. Public comment regarding preparation of a preliminary redistricting plan.

*The Redistricting Commission will accept public comment and suggestions. Comments are limited to no more than three minutes per speaker. Submit requests to speak to the Commission's Chief of Staff before the item is called.*

22