

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority 2021 Redistricting

January 27, 2022



Overview

This presentation is designed to provide an overview of the redistricting process:

- Current Lines
- Traditional Redistricting Principles
- Principles of the Fair Maps Act
- From COI to Draft Plans
- Timeline

What is Redistricting

Definition

Redistricting is the process of adjusting district lines every 10 years after the release of the U.S. Census. The well-known examples are Congress and the legislature.

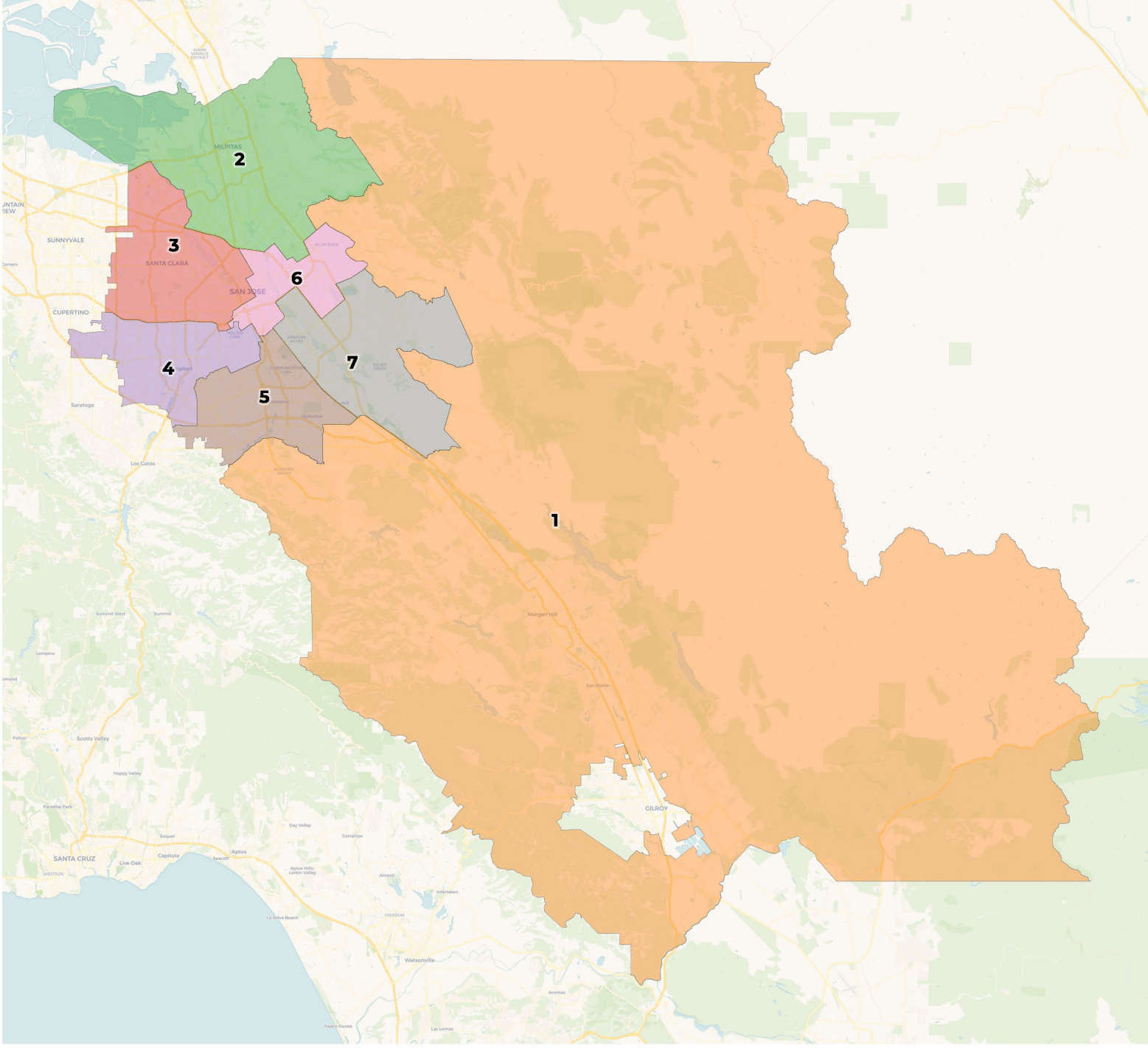
Within the U.S., redistricting has become an extremely politicized process and been the subject of more high-profile Supreme Court decisions than any other part of our elections system.



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Santa Clara Valley OSA

Current Lines



2020 Census

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Population	192,214	224,718	209,833	191,538	188,146	176,009	191,937
Deviation	-4,128	28,376	13,491	-4,804	-8,196	-20,333	-4,405
Deviation %	-2.1%	14.5%	6.9%	-2.4%	-4.2%	-10.4%	-2.2%
Other	87,350	33,827	73,826	82,548	84,076	25,680	20,874
Other %	45.4%	15.1%	35.2%	43.1%	44.7%	14.6%	10.9%
Latino	Total Deviation of 24.9%						64,671
Latino %							33.7%
Asian	49,593	148,888	82,813	63,283	48,544	37,320	102,029
Asian %	25.8%	66.3%	39.5%	33.0%	25.8%	21.2%	53.2%
Black	4,030	4,690	6,115	5,213	5,743	4,688	4,363
Black %	2.1%	2.1%	2.9%	2.7%	3.1%	2.7%	2.3%

Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total CVAP	127,918	125,555	124,875	120,172	123,326	102,385	121,442
Other CVAP	70,438	26,419	62,027	70,001	70,622	22,043	18,249
Other CVAP %	55.1%	21.0%	49.7%	58.3%	57.3%	21.5%	15.0%
Latino CVAP	27,323	20,142	24,828	17,471	24,364	51,918	34,044
Latino CVAP %	21.4%	16.0%	19.9%	14.5%	19.8%	50.7%	28.0%
Asian CVAP	27,130	75,048	32,553	28,843	24,158	25,452	65,382
Asian CVAP %	21.2%	59.8%	26.1%	24.0%	19.6%	24.9%	53.8%
Black CVAP	3,026	3,946	5,467	3,856	4,182	2,972	3,767
Black CVAP %	2.4%	3.1%	4.4%	3.2%	3.4%	2.9%	3.1%

Traditional Redistricting Principles

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

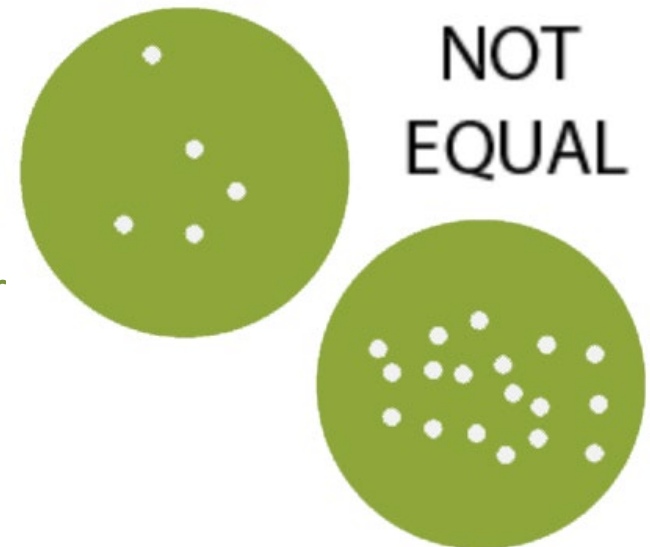
- **Relatively equal size - people, not citizens**
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- Maintain “*communities of interest*”
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function

Equal Population

Utilizing the U.S. Census Decennial File

What is “equal” population has been a key subject in redistricting litigation.

- Population Equality is based on “People” not citizens or voters or other metrics
- 10% or smaller total deviation
- A smaller total deviation is neither required nor necessarily better



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Contiguity

Two definitions for what is contiguous

Contiguity should be thought of as “literal” and “functional.”

- An area that is one whole piece is “literally contiguous.”
- An area that represents how the population functions or how people are connected is “functionally contiguous.”



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Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

A community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

Communities covered by the Voting Rights Act

- Latinos
- Asians
- African Americans

While race is a community of interest, it cannot be the *predominant factor* in drawing district boundaries.

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Other Communities, example are:

- Where campuses are located
- Senior citizens or student populations
- Downtown / urban
- Rural or agricultural
- Homeowners or renters

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Compactness

Determining what is “compact”

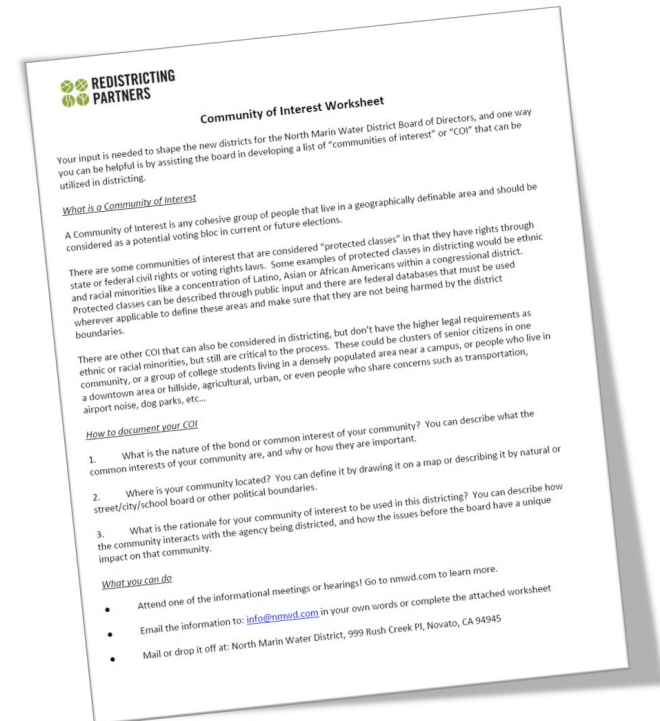
California has a rather elegant/simple definition.

- Not bypassing nearby populated areas in favor of more distant populated areas

From COI to Draft Maps

Submitting Your COI Form

Input can be provided in public hearings or by using our “Community of Interest Survey Form” on the Authority’s redistricting website.



From COI to Draft Maps

Drawing YOUR Communities of Interest

The Open Space Authority will be using DistrictR as a public mapping tool to allow residents to draw their own Communities of Interest and Draft Plans.



You draw the lines.

<https://districtr.org/>

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

Redistricting Timeline

Jan. 27	Redistricting 101 Presentation
Feb. 11	Deadline for the public to submit plans for consideration in the Feb. 24 Draft Plans
Feb. 24	Public Hearing on Draft Plans
Mar. 3	Deadline for the public to submit plans for consideration in the Feb. 24 Draft Plans
March 10	Public Hearing on Revised Draft Plan(s)
April 14	Public Hearing to pass final plan
April 17	Legal Deadline for completion of the redistricting process



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