

Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting (CRC) Commission



LOS ANGELES COUNTY **REDISTRICTING** 2021





Welcome!

Meet the Commissioners

Type into Chat:



YOUR NAME



YOUR ORGANIZATION



YOUR ORGANIZATION'S
FOCUS





Poll #1

Level of understanding regarding redistricting:

Scale:

4=Extremely knowledgeable

3=Knowledgeable

2=Somewhat knowledgeable

1=Here to learn



Poll #2

Importance of redistricting for representation:

Scale:

4=Extremely Important

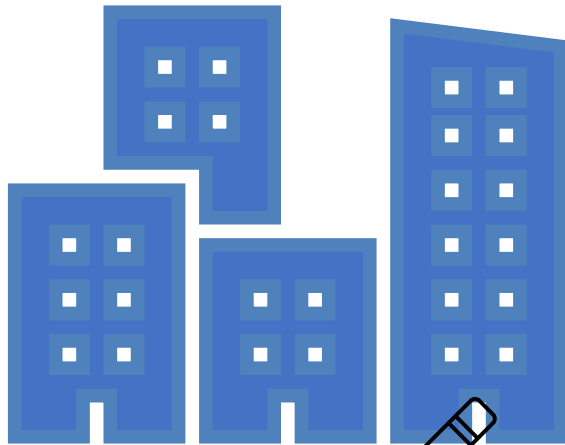
3=Important

2=Somewhat Important

1=Not Important

Topics

- New Approach with LA County Citizens Redistricting Commission (CRC)
- Significance, diversity, and size of Los Angeles County
- Redistricting overview
- What your organization can do

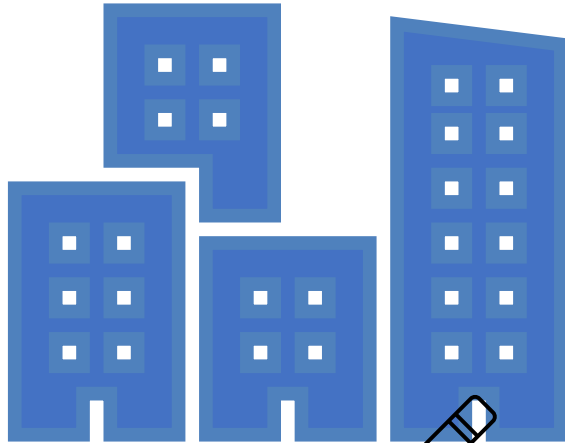


5 newly drawn
Supervisory Districts



Topics

- **New Approach with LA County CRC**
- Significance, diversity, and size of Los Angeles County
- Redistricting overview
- What your organization can do



5 newly drawn
Supervisory Districts





LA County Redistricting Approach

Past Approach

- The Board of Supervisors appointed an advisory Boundary Redistricting Committee (BRC) to study proposed changes to the boundaries.
- The Board of Supervisors could make revisions before adopting the final redistricted boundaries.

New Approach with California SB 2016

- Formation of Citizens Redistricting Commission to draw the boundary lines of the five single-member supervisorial districts for the next 10 years
- **Independent** from the influence of the Board
- Reasonably representative of the County's diversity





CALIFORNIA



Trend for California cities and counties to move to independent commissions

Oakland
Berkeley

Sacramento
Roseville

Santa Barbara County

Los Angeles County
Long Beach

San Diego County
Escondido
Chula Vista
San Diego





Commissioner Qualifications

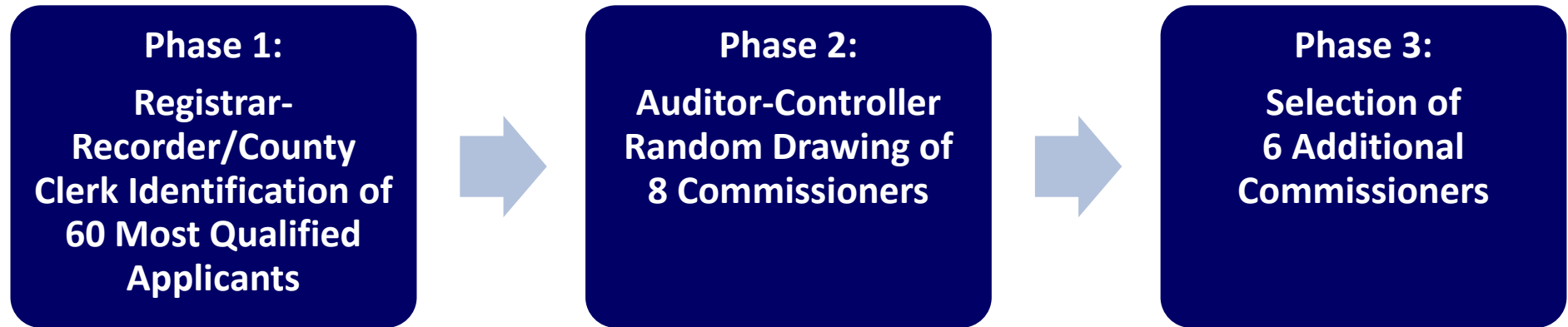
- Reflect the County's diversity, including racial, ethnic, geographic, and gender diversity
- Demonstrate they possess the following experience:
 - Analytical skills relevant to the redistricting process and voting rights
 - An ability to comprehend and apply the applicable State and Federal legal requirements
 - Ability to be impartial
 - An appreciation for the diverse demographics and geography of Los Angeles County

Note: Political party preferences not required to be exactly the same as the proportion of political party preferences among the registered voters of Los Angeles County; however, they must be as proportionate as possible.





Our Independence: Commissioner Selection Process



- 741 applications
- 533 qualified applicants
- 60 most qualified

- 1 randomly drawn per Supervisorial District
- 3 randomly drawn from remaining 55 applicants

- Ratings of all 60 applications
 - Holistic approach
 - Scale of 1-10
- List narrowed to reflect:
 - Political party affiliations
 - Diverse demographics
- Slate of 6





Who We Are: Our CRC Commissioners

Race/Ethnicity	# CRC Commissioners	% CRC (rounded)	% of LA County
Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Latinx	6	43%	46%
Asian (incl. Pacific Islander)	3	21%	15%
White (Not of Hispanic Origin)	3	21%	25%
Black/African American	2	14%	9%
Other (incl. American Indian/Alaskan Native)		0%	5%

Gender	# CRC Commissioners	% CRC	% of LA County
Female	6	43%	50%
Male	8	57%	50%
Non-Binary	0		

Age ranges between 31 and 73

Political Party Affiliation	Percent of Registered Voters	Percentages Applied to 14	Commissioners Selected	
			Number	Percent
Democratic	52.449%	7.343	8	57%
NDR	30.400%	4.256	4	29%
Republican	17.151%	2.401	2	14%
Totals	100.000%	14.000	14	100%





Our Values

Accountability: We are accountable to the process and each other to serve all the constituents of Los Angeles County.

Transparency: We are committed to openness in all aspects of the redistricting process.

Objectivity: We are careful, intentional, fair-minded, and impartial and will actively resist undue influence in establishing supervisorial district boundaries in an equitable manner.

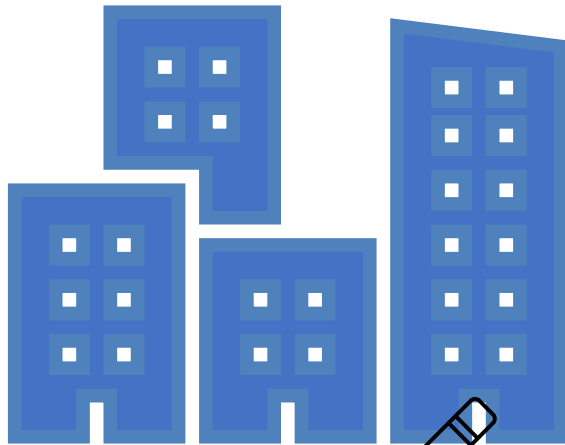
Integrity: We are honest, truthful, ethical, principled, respectful, and professional.

Inclusion & Equity: We seek to create and foster a true sense of belonging and eliminate potential barriers by being purposeful, deliberate, and effective in comprehensive public outreach, engagement, and feedback.



Topics

- New Approach with LA County CRC
- **Significance, diversity, and size of Los Angeles County**
- Redistricting overview
- What your organization can do



5 newly drawn
Supervisory Districts





Why Redistricting is Important

- At the local level, periodic redistricting and redrawing of the boundaries are important to:
 - Rebalance district populations
 - Ensure the Board of Supervisors fairly reflects the County's diverse population
 - Design districts that are reasonably equal in population
 - Meet the constitutional principal of “one person, one vote”
 - Vote for the supervisor of your choice
 - Ensure your voice is heard and that your voices are not divided

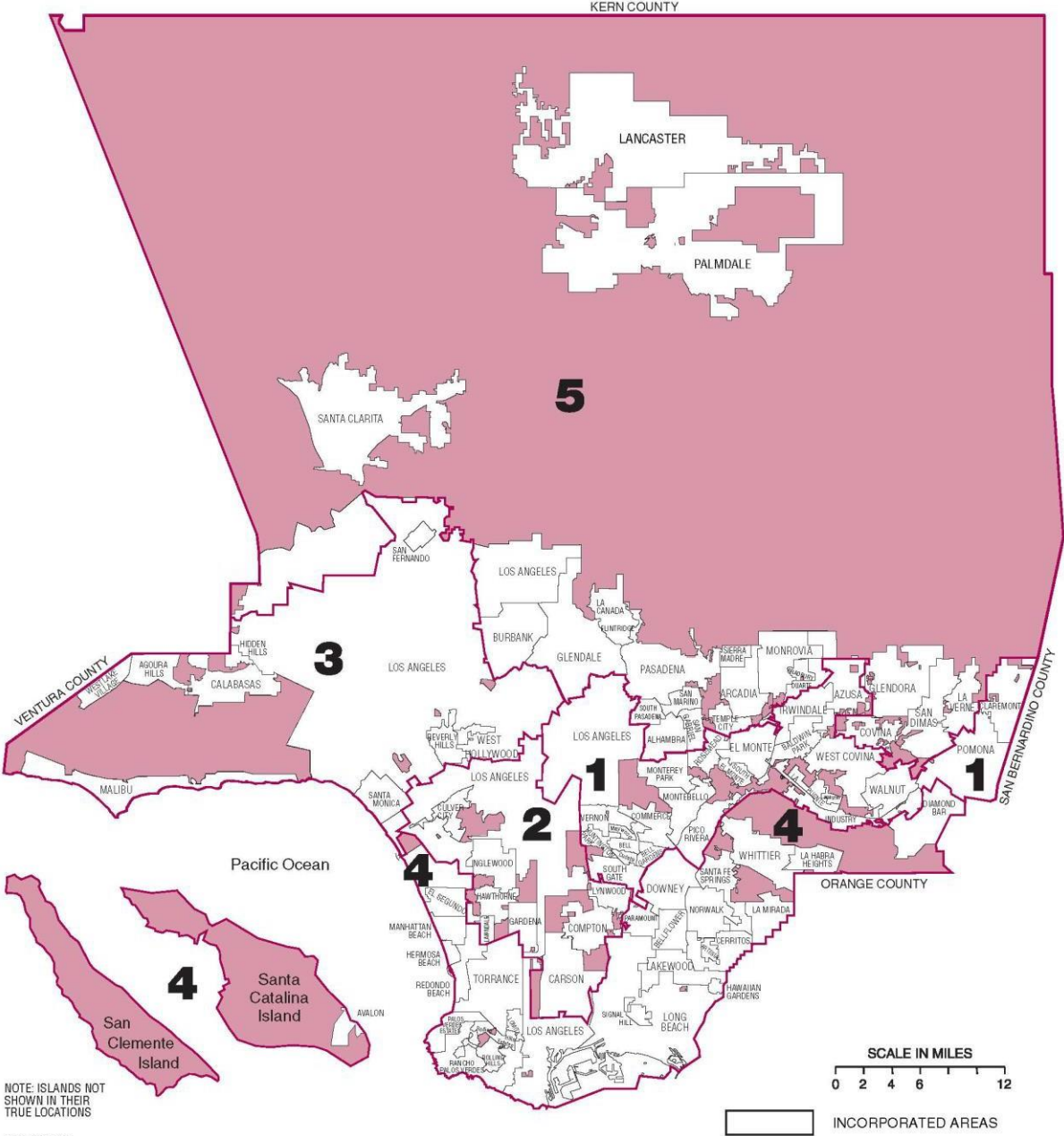




Why Redistricting is Important

- Board of Supervisors should be responsive to the preferences and needs of residents:
 - Public policies to improve lives
 - Services provided and resources in your community
 - Public health and public medical centers
 - Tax assessments
 - Public social services
 - Sheriff
 - Municipal services to unincorporated areas and contract cities
 - ...and many other public services

Complexity of Los Angeles County



Most populous U.S. county: 10 million people

- **25% of California's population**
- Population greater than 41 individual U.S. states

3rd largest metropolitan economy in the world

- **88 cities and 100+ unincorporated areas**
- Los Angeles City is the 2nd most populous city with 4 million residents

One of the **most ethnically diverse** U.S. counties

Current Supervisorial Districts

U.S. Census Population estimates,
July 1, 2019, (V2019)

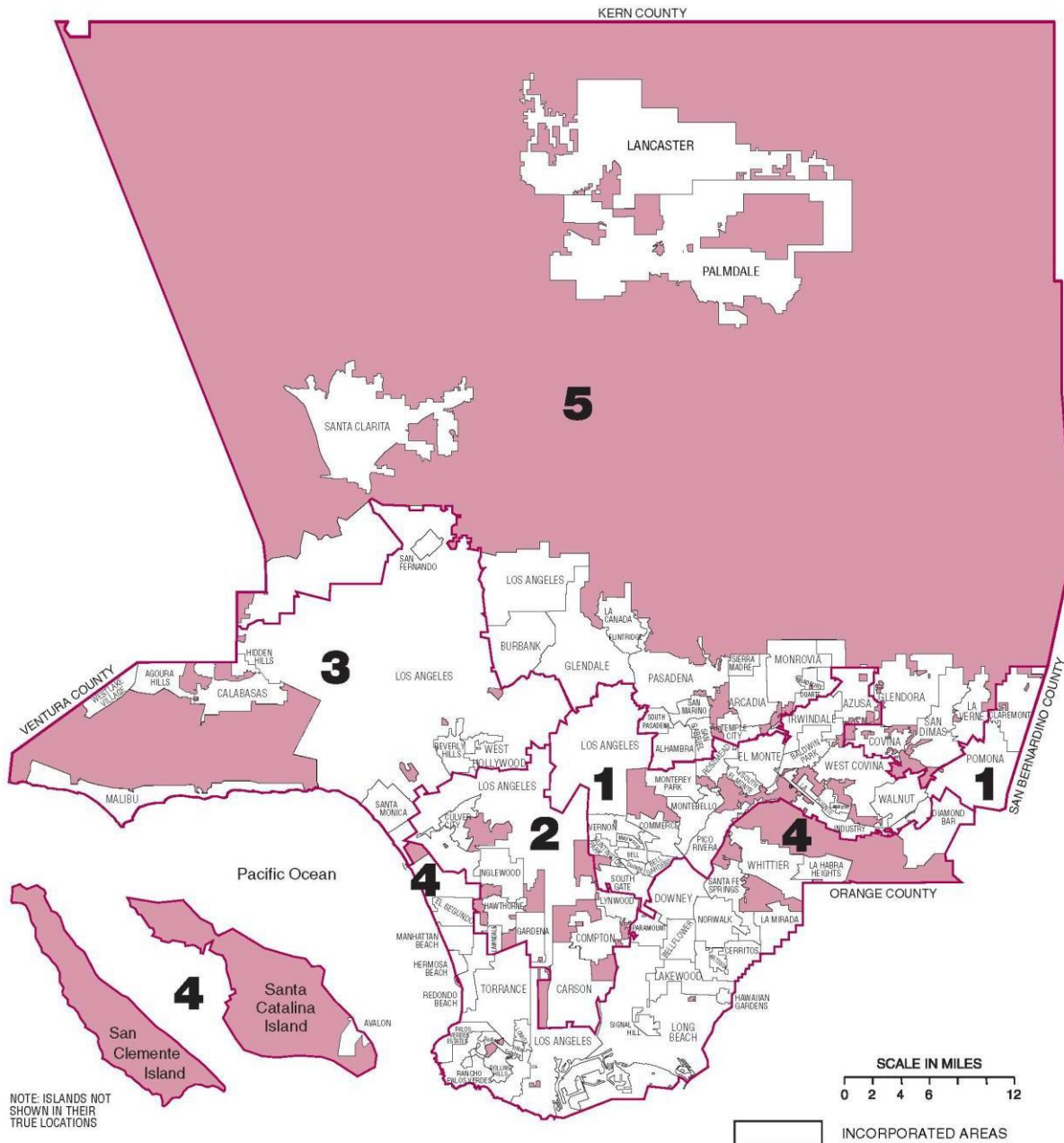
10,039,107

5 supervisorial districts – about
2 million people per district

Each with an elected Board of
Supervisor to represent the
residents in their supervisorial
district

Supervisors must reside in their
districts during their
incumbency

**LA County will continue to
have 5 supervisorial districts**
for redistricting in 2021. (Any
change would require voter
approval.)



Current Supervisorial
Districts



Historical Context in Los Angeles County

Garza v. County of Los Angeles, 918 F. 2d 763 (9th Cir. 1990)

- 1959 Intentional discrimination against Latino community
- 1965 Intentional discrimination against Latino community
- 1971 Intentional discrimination against Latino community
- 1981 Intentional discrimination against Latino community
- 1990 Intentional discrimination against Latino community
- **2001 Redistricting under supervision of U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)**
- 2010 Redistricting plan approved over objections; 4th Board of Supervisors' vote provided to expedite Federal court action – no Federal court action occurred

Source: Justin Levitt, Esq., Loyola Law School faculty:

https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Justin_L_presentation_03_10_21.pdf





Historical Context in Los Angeles County

Garza v. County of Los Angeles, 918 F. 2d 763 (9th Cir. 1990)

For decades, the County:

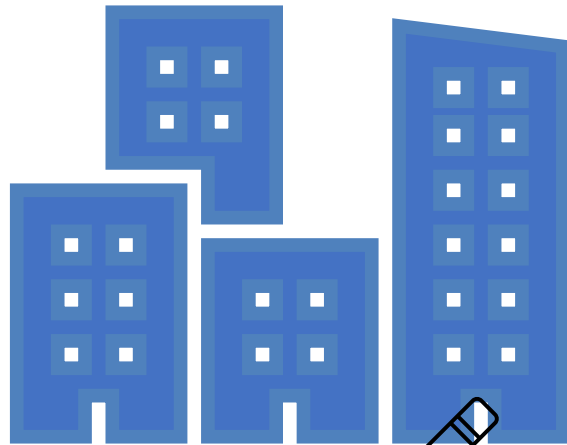
“...intentionally fragmented the Hispanic population among the various districts in order to dilute the effect of the Hispanic vote in future elections and preserve incumbencies of the Anglo members of the Board of Supervisors.”

“When the dust has settled and local passions have cooled, this case will be remembered for its lucid demonstration that elected officials engaged in the single-minded pursuit of incumbency can run roughshod over the rights of protected minorities.... The record is littered with telltale signs that reapportionments going back at least as far as 1959 were motivated, to no small degree, by the desire to assure that no supervisorial district would include too much of the burgeoning Hispanic population.”

Source: Justin Levitt, Esq., Loyola Law School faculty:

https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Justin_L_presentation_03_10_21.pdf





5 newly drawn
Supervisory Districts

Topics

- New Approach with LA County CRC
- Significance, diversity, and size of Los Angeles County
- **Redistricting overview**
- What your organization can do



Where to draw the lines?

U.S. Constitution, 52 U.S.C. § 10301, Cal. Election Code § 21534

District lines will be adopted using the following criteria in order of priority:

1. Each district shall be reasonably equal in total resident population to the other districts, except where deviation is required to comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 or allowable by law.
2. Districts shall comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.
3. Districts shall be geographically contiguous.
4. The geographic integrity of city, local neighborhood, or community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division.
5. To the extent practicable, and where it does not conflict with numbers 1-4 above, districts shall be drawn to encourage geographic compactness.

Besides the above criteria, districts shall not be drawn for purposes of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party.



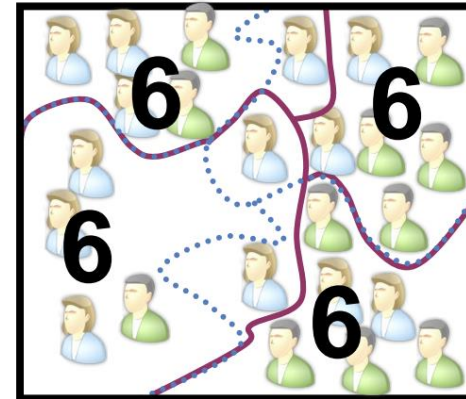


Where to draw the lines?

U.S. Constitution, 52 U.S.C. § 10301, Cal. Election Code § 21534

Simply put:

- **Equal population**
 - **Every 10 years, the district lines have to be redrawn to make each district even in size again.**
 - **Based on U.S. Census 2020 data**
 - **In LA County, about 2 million people per supervisorial district**
- Race and ethnicity
- Contiguity
- Cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest
- Compactness
- Partisan favoritism



Graphic Source: Common Cause of California,
<https://www.commoncause.org/california/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2021/01/Kathay-Redistricting-101.pdf>



Where to draw the lines?

U.S. Constitution, 52 U.S.C. § 10301, Cal. Election Code § 21534

Simply put:

- Equal population
- **Race and ethnicity**
- Contiguity
- Cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest
- Compactness
- Partisan favoritism

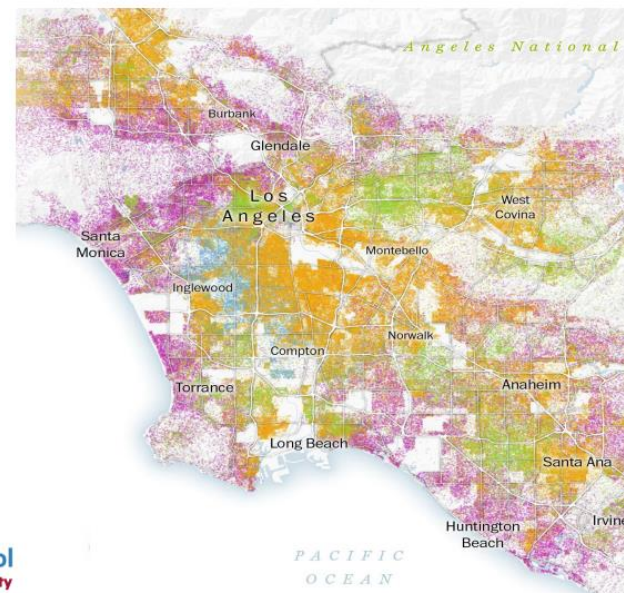


Voting Rights Act implications, given demographic shifts since 2011...

- Are there sizable, relatively concentrated minority communities?
- Do the minority communities have distinct electoral preferences?
- Did (or do) underrepresented minorities face discrimination?
- Can we design districts to give minorities a fair shot?

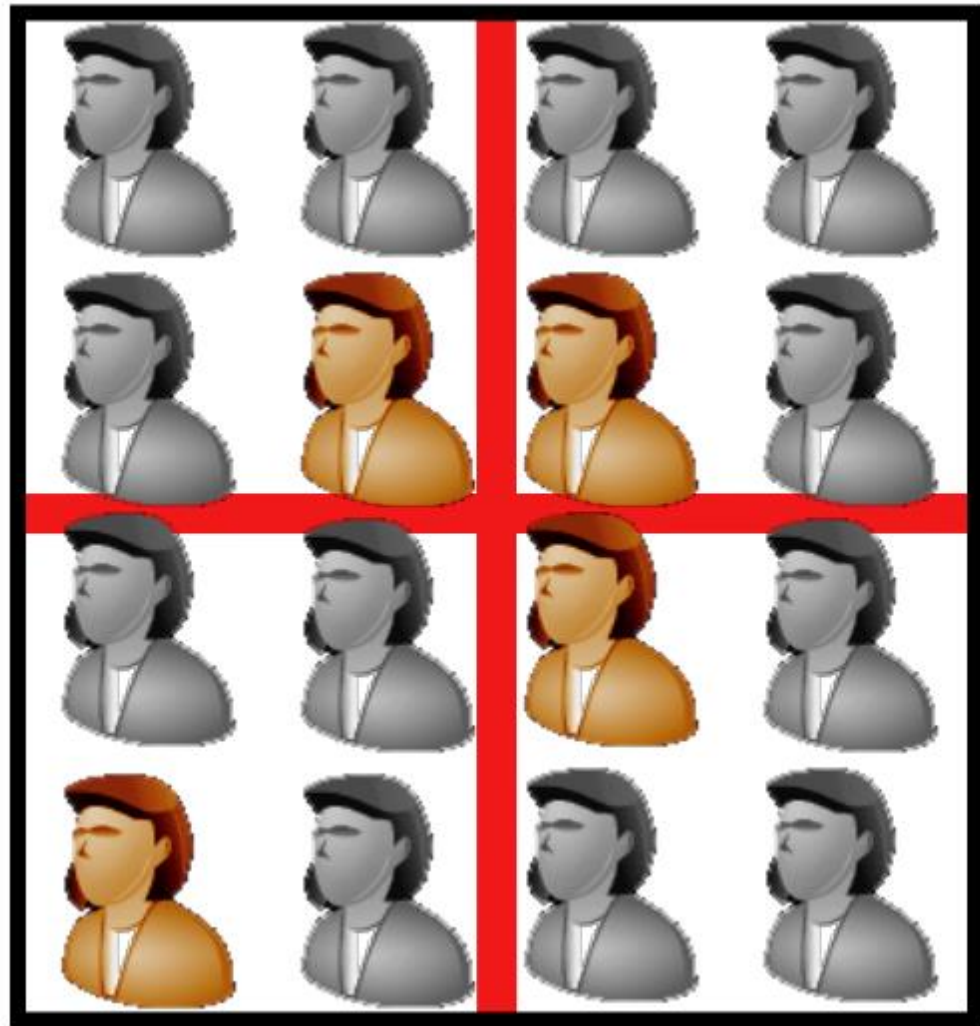
Voting Rights Act predicate

Are there sizable, relatively concentrated minority communities?



**Example of how
redistricting can
take away the
minority voting
rights.**

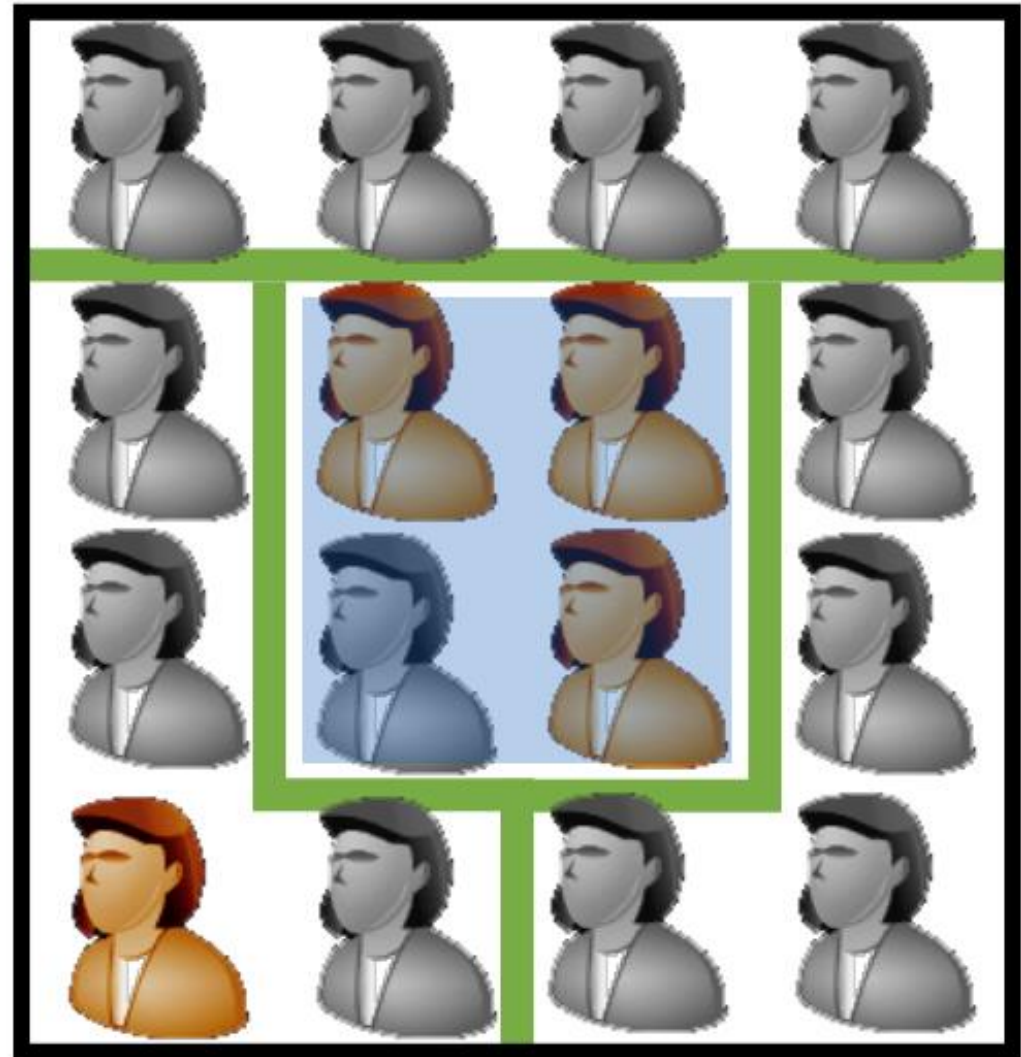
**Minorities make up only
 $\frac{1}{4}$ in all 4 districts.**



If a majority can be drawn, the Voting Rights Act requires it.

Example of how redistricting can allow communities to elect candidates of their choice.

Minorities make up only $\frac{3}{4}$ of this district.





Where to draw the lines?

U.S. Constitution, 52 U.S.C. § 10301, Cal. Election Code § 21534

Simply put:

- Equal population
- Race and ethnicity
- **Contiguity – All parts of a district must be connected to each other**
- Cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest
- Compactness
- Partisan favoritism

NON-CONTIGUOUS



CONTIGUOUS



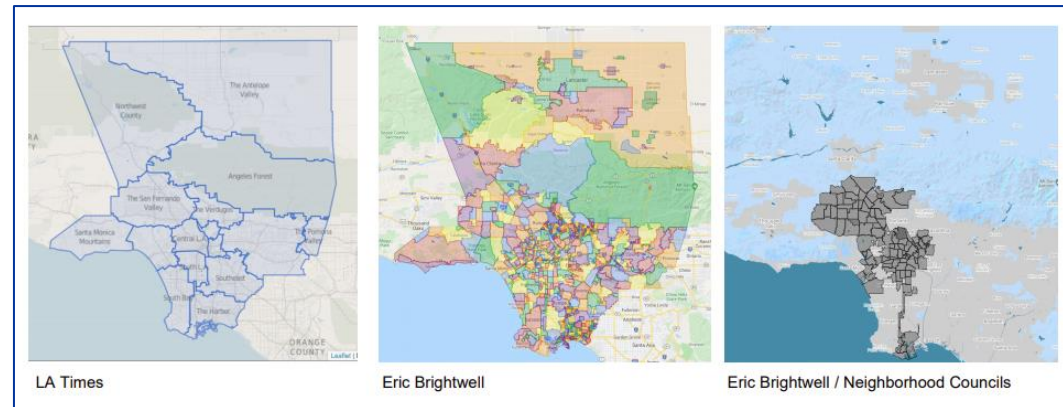


Where to draw the lines?

U.S. Constitution, 52 U.S.C. § 10301, Cal. Election Code § 21534

Simply put:

- Equal population
- Race and ethnicity
- Contiguity
- **Cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest**
- Compactness
- Partisan favoritism



Minimize division of a city, local neighborhood, or local community of interest:

“A community of interest is a contiguous population that shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest shall not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.”





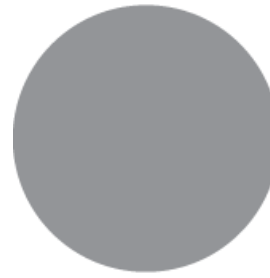
Where to draw the lines?

U.S. Constitution, 52 U.S.C. § 10301, Cal. Election Code § 21534

Simply put:

- Equal population
- Race and ethnicity
- Contiguity
- Cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest
- **Compactness**
- Partisan favoritism

COMPACT



CONTORTED



DISPERSED



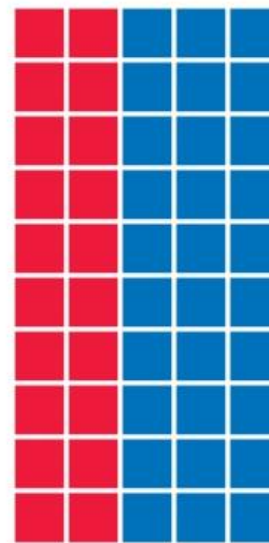


Where to draw the lines?

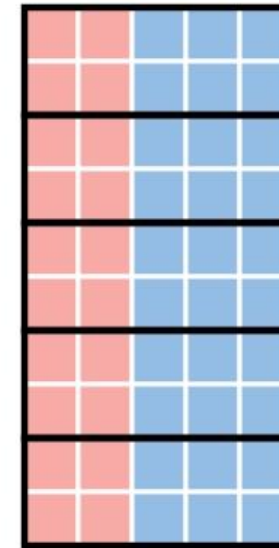
U.S. Constitution, 52 U.S.C. § 10301, Cal. Election Code § 21534

Simply put:

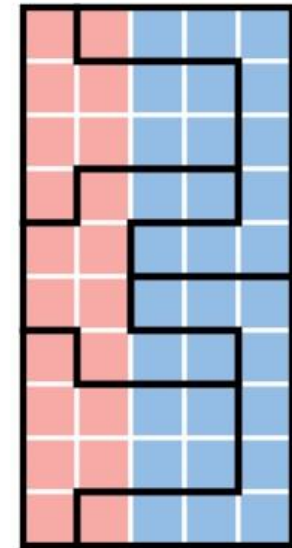
- Equal population
- Race and ethnicity
- Contiguity
- Cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest
- Compactness
- **Partisan favoritism – where you draw the lines matters**



50 PRECINCTS
60% BLUE
40% RED



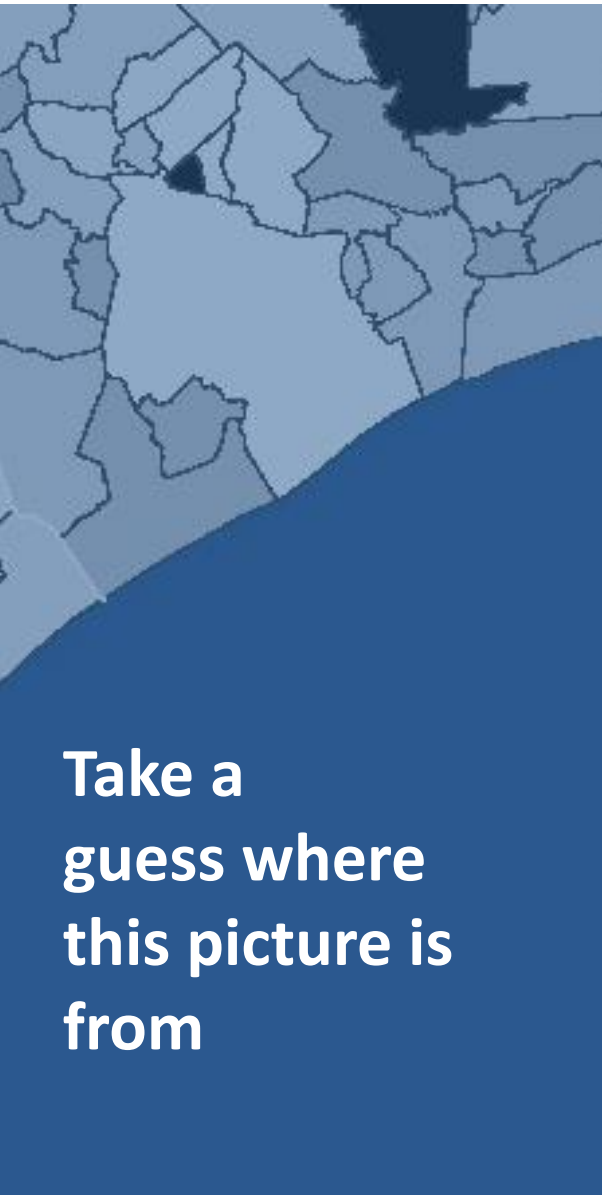
5 DISTRICTS
5 BLUE
0 RED
BLUE WINS



5 DISTRICTS
3 RED
2 BLUE
RED WINS

Graphic Source: League of Women Voters of Georgia,
<https://my.lwv.org/georgia/redistricting>

Common Cause Example

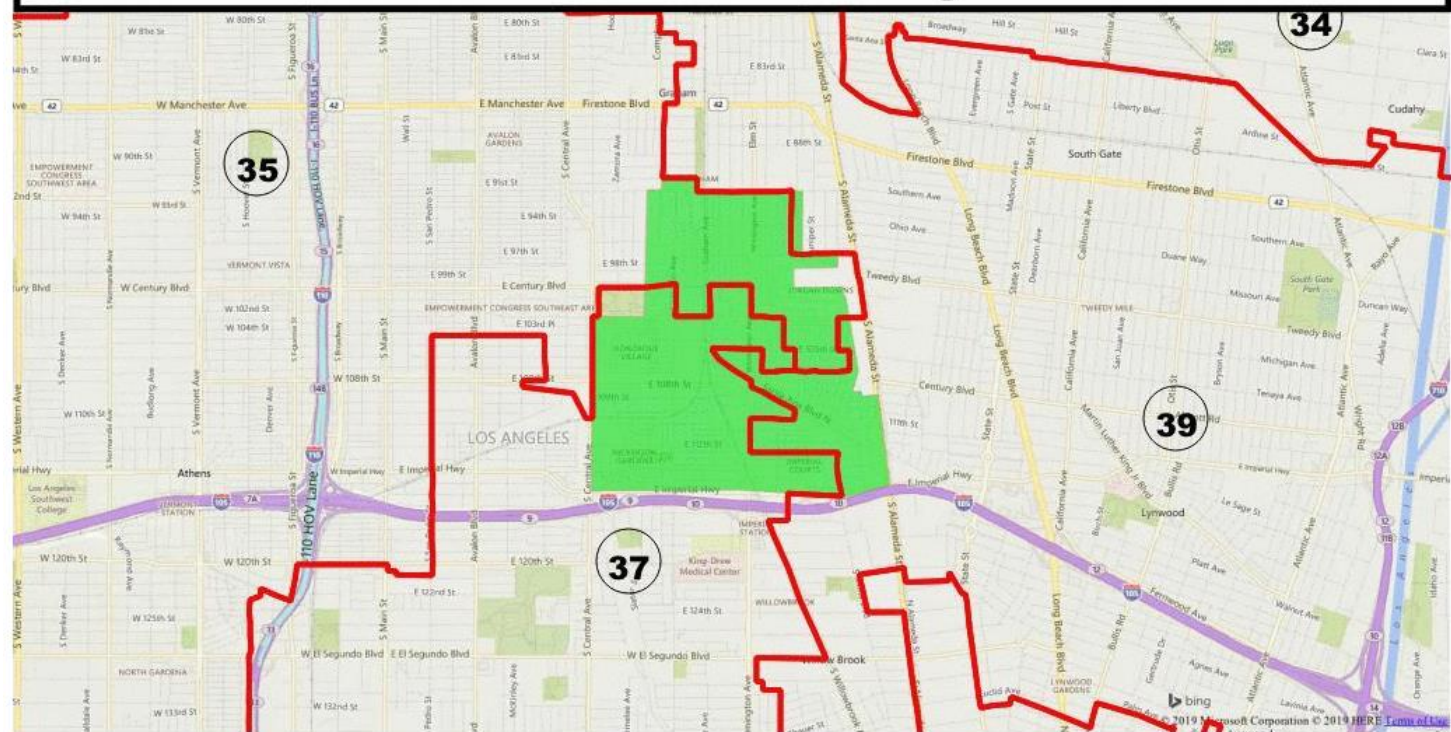


Source: Common Cause of California, <https://www.commoncause.org/california/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2021/01/Kathay-Redistricting-101.pdf>

Common Cause Example

In 2001, Watts was split by incumbents into 3 districts at the Congressional level.

Division of Watts in 2001: CA Congressional Districts

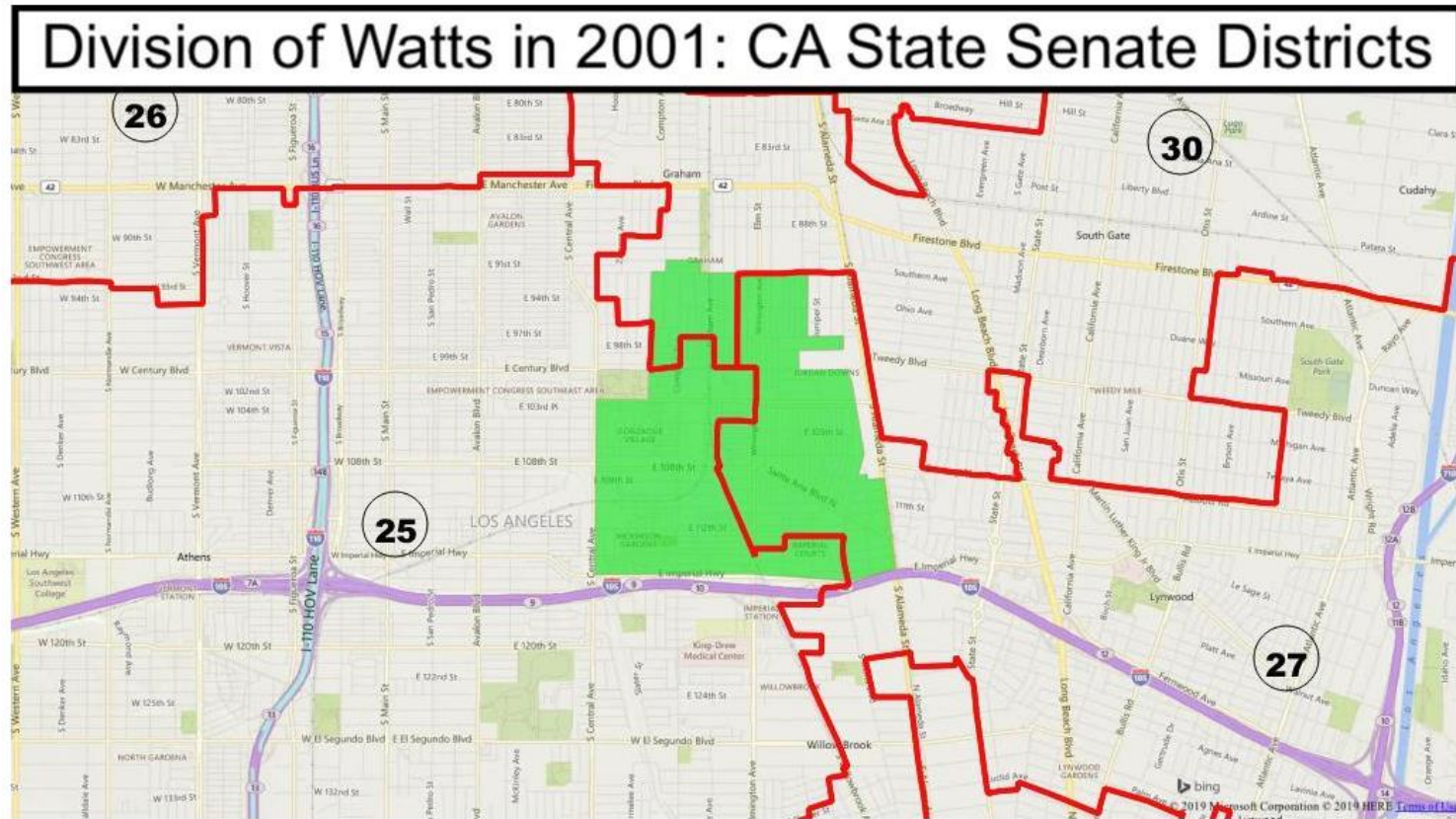


Why? Because the Watts neighborhood was split by district lines

Source: Common Cause of California, <https://www.commoncause.org/california/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2021/01/Kathay-Redistricting-101.pdf>

Common Cause Example

In 2001, Watts was split by incumbents into 3 districts at the state Senate level.



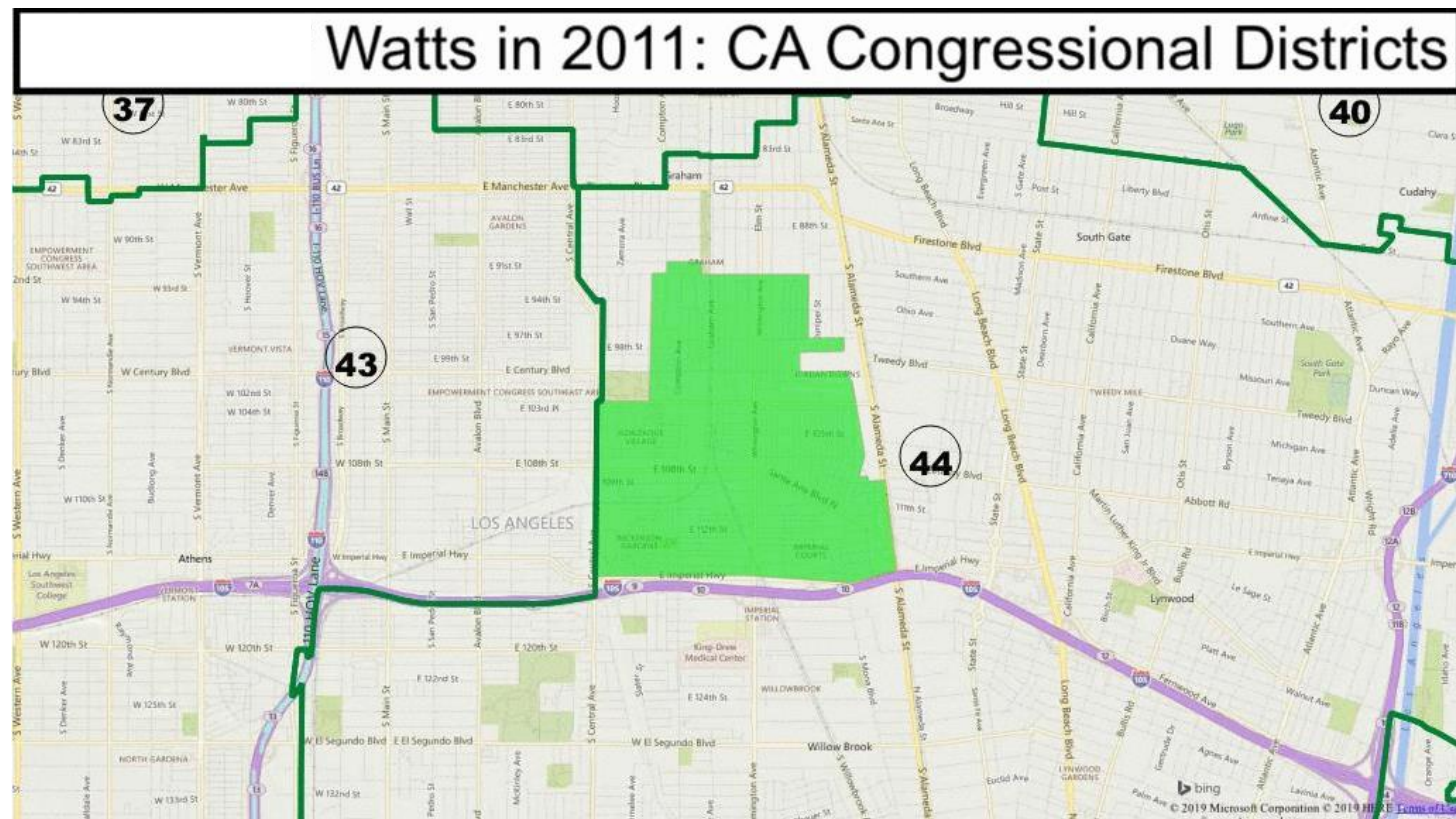
Why? Because the Watts neighborhood was split by district lines

Source: Common Cause of California, <https://www.commoncause.org/california/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2021/01/Kathay-Redistricting-101.pdf>

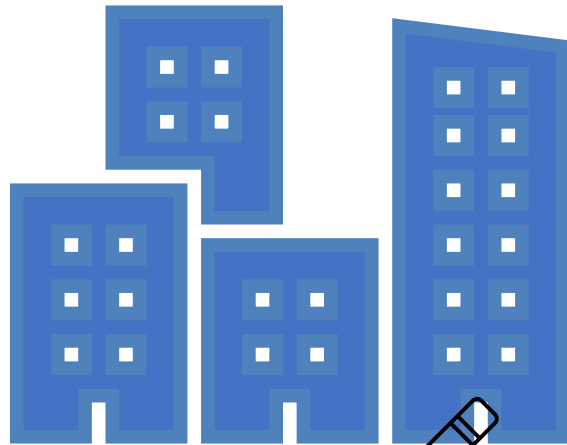
Common Cause Example

After 2011, leaders united to testify about Watts before the CA Citizens Commission.
Watts was made whole.

Redistricting matters because it can lift community voices



Source: Common Cause of California, <https://www.commoncause.org/california/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2021/01/Kathay-Redistricting-101.pdf>



5 newly drawn
Supervisory Districts

Topics

- New Approach with LA County CRC
- Significance, diversity, and size of Los Angeles County
- Redistricting overview
- **What your organization can do**

Public Outreach and Input

Centering

Centering
community input



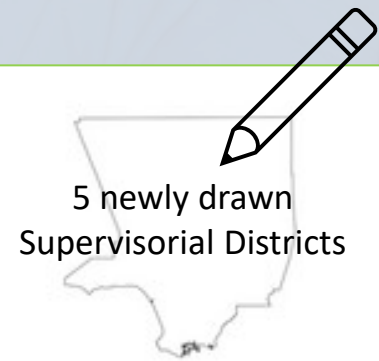
Creating

Creating a
transparent and
inclusive process



Adopting

Adopting equitable
district maps



What your organization can do

- **Inform and educate** residents about redistricting
- **Encourage participation**
- **Work with communities of interest** that are geographically concentrated
- **Collaborate** with residents and other organizations to submit proposed redistricting maps for CRC's consideration
 - LA County is providing free mapping software for the public to use.



How can the public participate in Redistricting?

Get Involved

- Sign up to stay informed about and participate in Redistricting
- Attend CRC virtual meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
- Submit redistricting maps once the Census 2020 data are available

Workshops and Public Hearings

- Attend workshops
- 7 public forums and 7 public hearings in May-July 2021 before the release of the U.S. Census Bureau data in late September 2021
- 2 public hearings to review proposed CRC Redistricting Plan options in Fall 2021

Sign Up and Participate in Redistricting:
<https://redistricting.lacounty.gov>





Upcoming Public Hearings

	Tentative Dates	Public Forum	Public Hearing
SD	Wed., May 19	5:00-6:30 pm	7:00 pm on
SD	Wed., June 2	5:00-6:30 pm	7:00 pm on
SD	Wed., June 16	5:00-6:30 pm	7:00 pm on
SD	Wed., June 30	5:00-6:30 pm	7:00 pm on
SD	Wed., July 7	5:00-6:30 pm	7:00 pm on
General	Sat., June 26	10:00-11:30 am	Noon on
Spanish	Sat., July 17	10:00-11:30 am	Noon on



Toolkits to help you spread the word!

We will provide toolkits in the County's threshold languages:

- Ready-to-use talking points
- Electronic handouts and flyers
- Text to send messages via Twitter, Facebook, and other social media platforms



LA County's 12 Threshold Languages

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| ▪ Armenian | ▪ Tagalog/Filipino |
| ▪ Chinese | ▪ Vietnamese |
| ▪ Cambodian/Khmer | ▪ Hindi |
| ▪ Farsi | ▪ Japanese |
| ▪ Korean | ▪ Thai |
| ▪ Spanish | ▪ Russian |



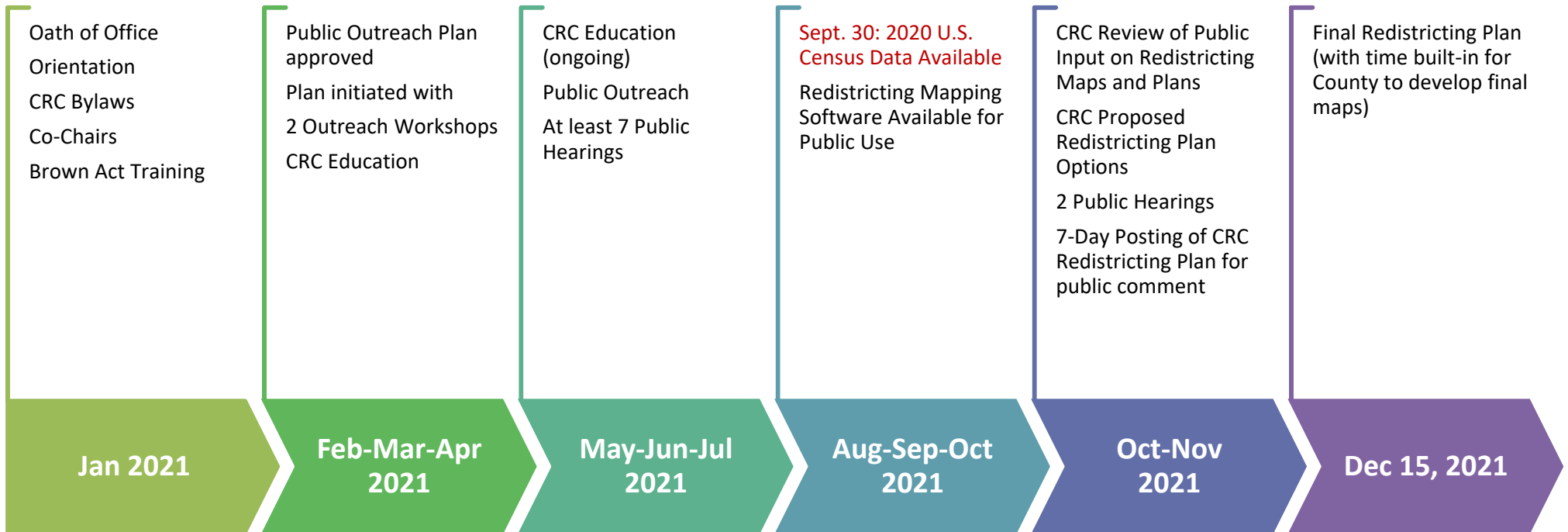
Census 2020 Update

- U.S. Census Bureau provides a snapshot of how many people there are and where they live.
- Every 10 years, the United States attempts to count every person in the country in its Decennial Census, as mandated in the U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 2), to:
 - Determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives (a process called apportionment)
 - Distribute billions in Federal funds to local communities
- Census 2020 was first time done online; therefore, increased County focus to reach out to “Hard to Count” populations.
- **Because of COVID-19, 2020 Decennial Census was extended to October 15, 2020.**
- **Will not know Census 2020 outcomes until September 30, 2021**





CRC 2021 Milestones



Poll #3: How can you help?

1. Stay informed about and participate in Redistricting
2. Attend CRC virtual meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
3. Inform and educate members and residents about redistricting and encourage their participation
4. Work with communities of interest that are geographically concentrated
5. Promote attendance at the public forums and public hearings
 1. 7 public forums and 7 public hearings in May-July 2021
 2. 2 public hearings to review proposed CRC Redistricting Plan options in Fall 2021
6. Collaborate with residents, members, and other organizations to develop and submit redistricting maps for CRC's consideration
7. Other



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
REDISTRICTING 2021

**For more information:
redistricting.lacounty.gov**

Any questions?





Suggested Improvements for Future Workshops?

Discussion

Evaluation: Thumbs Up or
Thumbs Down



Our CRC Commissioners

Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda
Co-Chair Carolyn Williams

Commissioner Jean Franklin
Commissioner David Holtzman
Commissioner Mark Mendoza
Commissioner Apolonio Morales
Commissioner Nelson Obregon
Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura

Commissioner Hailes Soto
Commissioner Saira Soto
Commissioner Priya Sridharan
Commissioner Brian Stecher
Commissioner John Vento
Commissioner Doreena Wong



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REDISTRICTING 2021



Sign up and stay informed: <https://redistricting.lacounty.gov>



Attend or participate virtually in CRC meetings and public hearings:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82726060927>



Listen only to CRC meetings and public hearings by calling:
(669) 900-9128, enter: 827 2606 0927#

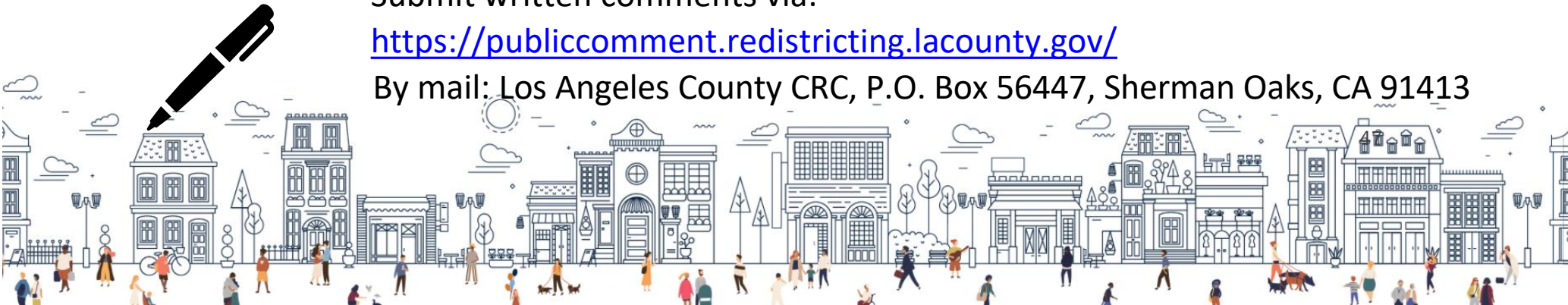


View CRC meetings and public hearings on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/LACountyRedistricting/>

Submit written comments via:

<https://publiccomment.redistricting.lacounty.gov/>

By mail: Los Angeles County CRC, P.O. Box 56447, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413





LA County CRC Staff

Executive Director

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D.
(818) 907-0397
ghartsough@crc.lacounty.gov

CRC Staff

Thai V. Le (Doctoral Candidate, USC)
GIS, Public Policy, and Technical Support

Carlos De Alba
Marketing, Media, and Outreach Consultant

Independent Legal Counsel

Holly O. Whatley, Esq., Shareholder
Pamela Graham, Esq., Senior Counsel

Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC
790 E. Colorado Blvd., Suite 850
Pasadena, CA 91101-2109
(213) 542-5700 tel
(213) 542-5710 fax
hwhatley@chwlaw.us

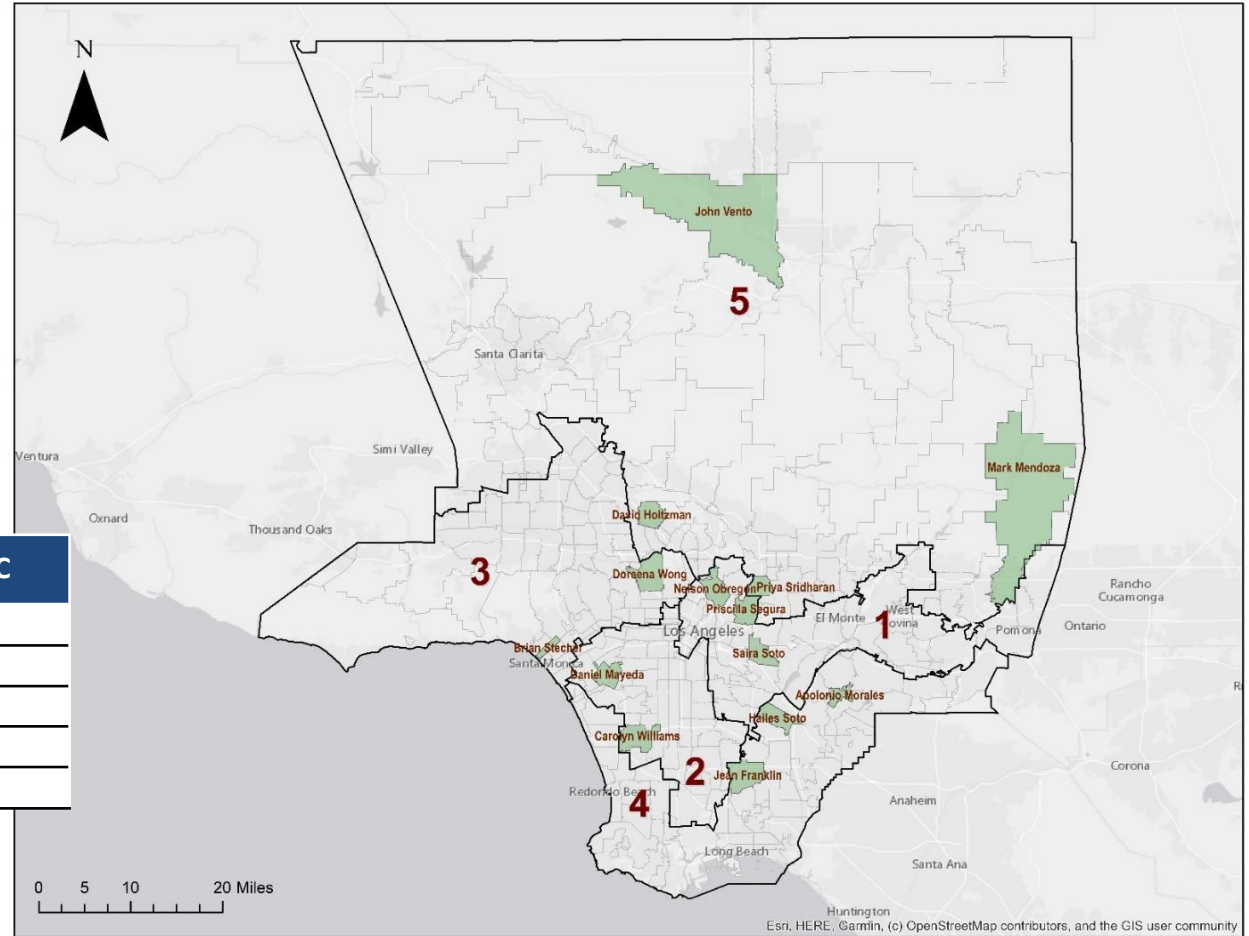




Additional Information



Supervisory District Representation on CRC



Districts	# CRC Commissioners	% CRC
District 1	3	21%
District 2	3	21%
District 3	2	14%
District 4	2	14%
District 5	4	29%





What is Redistricting?

- Process of drawing the lines of legislative districts to ensure equal and equitable political representation of residents
- Occurs once very decade in the year following the decennial census
- Affects political districts at:
 - Federal level – congressional districts
 - State level – assembly and senate districts
 - Local level – county supervisorial, city council, school board, and special districts





Public Outreach Plan

- I. **Overview:** Plan Purpose and Redistricting Overview
- II. **Public Access and Outreach:** Website, Other CRC Communication Vehicles, Building on Existing Organizational Networks, Media Outlets and Media Buys
- III. **Public Involvement:** Overview, Threshold Languages, Timetable, Redistricting Map Submissions, Metrics

Public Outreach Plan available at:

<https://redistricting.lacounty.gov>

