

# Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting (CRC) Commission

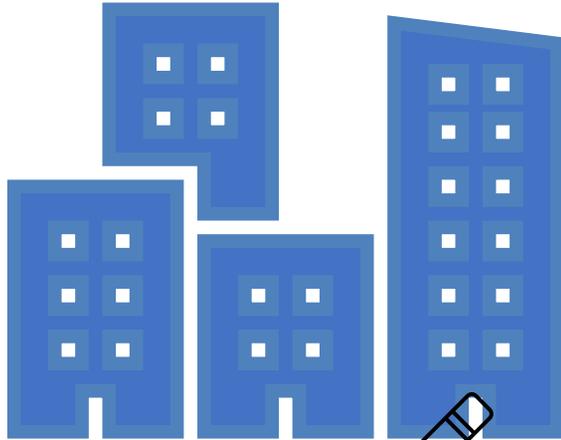


## LOS ANGELES COUNTY **REDISTRICTING** 2021



# 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 Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appointed an advisory-only 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





# 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.

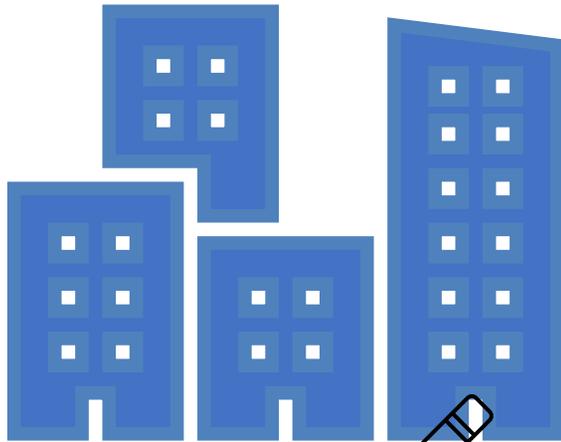
**Integrity:** We are honest, truthful, ethical, principled, respectful, and professional.

**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.



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# 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
  - Vote for the supervisor of your choice
  - Enable you to vote for the supervisor of your choice

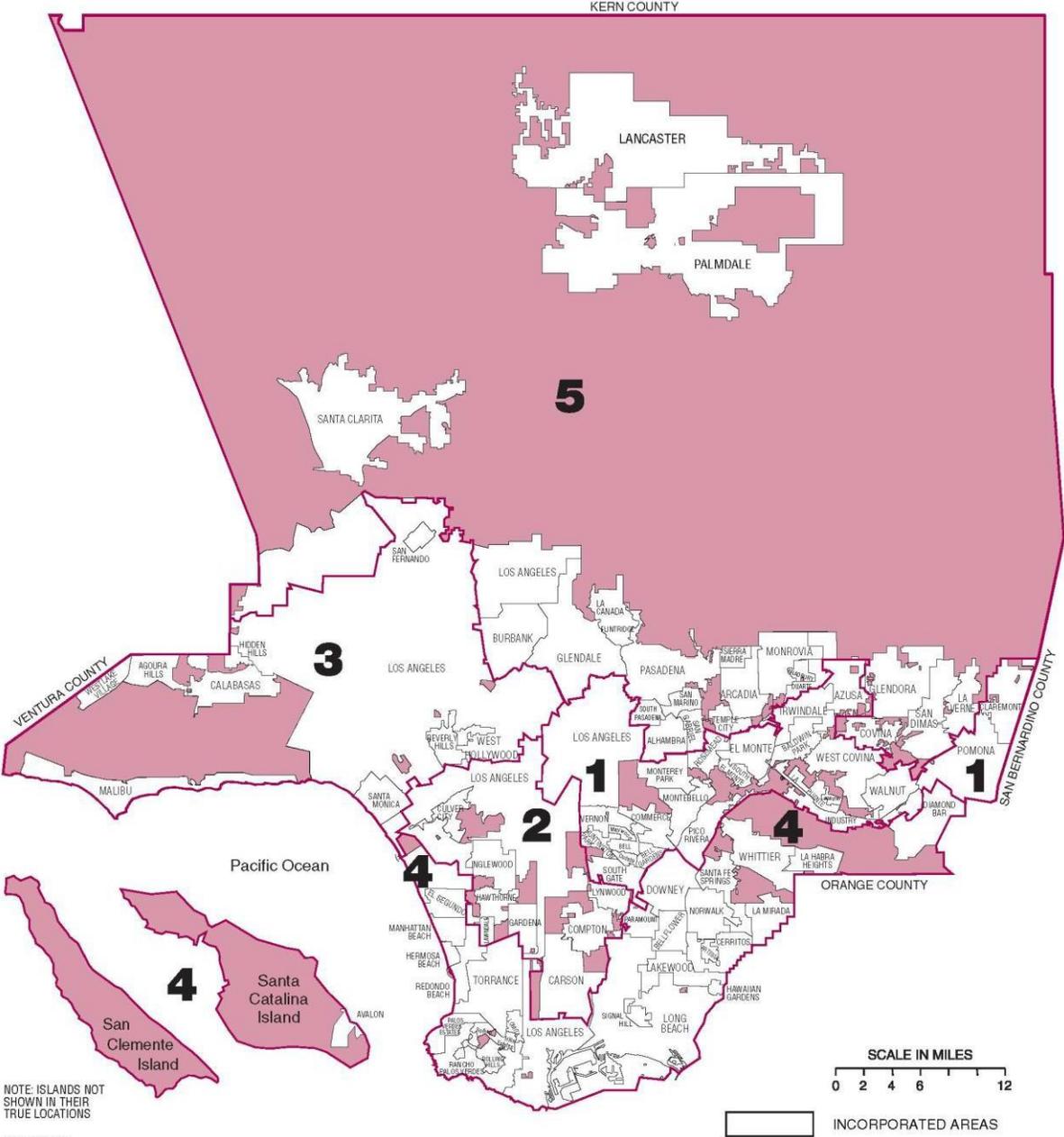




# Why Redistricting is Important

- 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

3<sup>rd</sup> largest metropolitan economy in the world

- **88 cities and 100+ unincorporated areas**
- Los Angeles City is the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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)

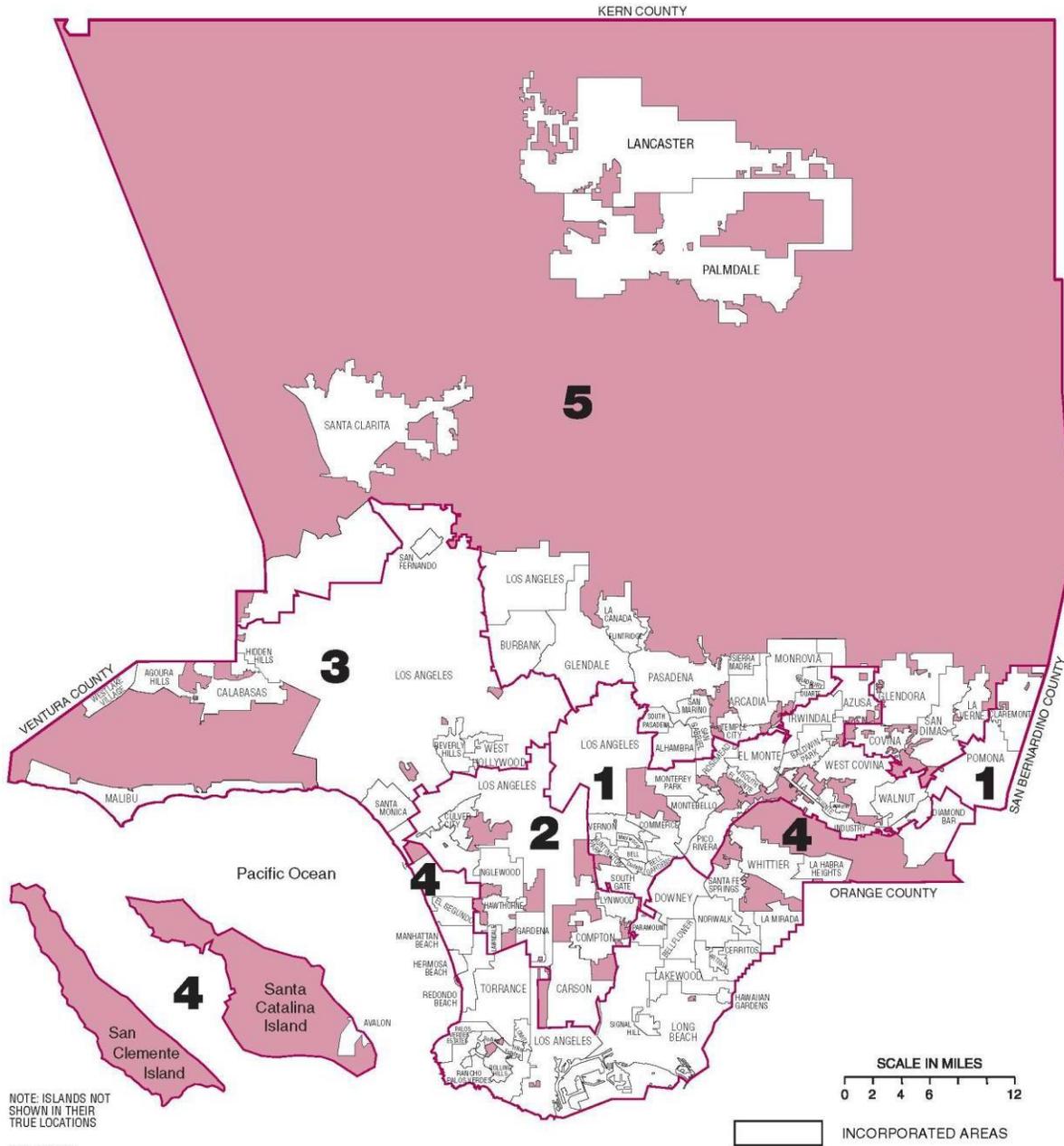
10,039,107

**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)**

For decades, the County:

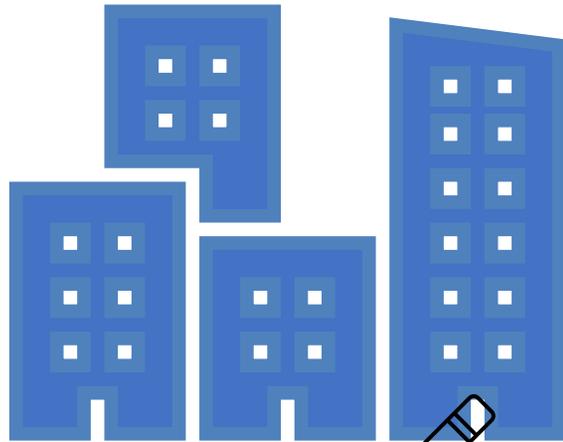
*“...intentionally fragmented the Hispanic population among the various districts in order to dilute the effect of the Hispanic vote in future elections and preserve incumbencies of the Anglo members of the Board of Supervisors.”*

*“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](https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Justin_L_presentation_03_10_21.pdf)





5 newly drawn  
Supervisory Districts



# Topics

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- **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.



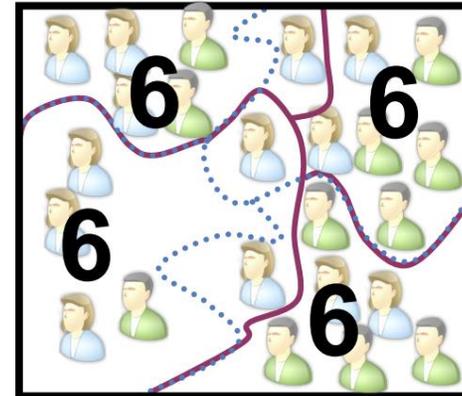


# Where to draw the lines?

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

Simply put:

- **Establish reasonably 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**
- Give racial and ethnic groups a fair shot
- Connect all parts of a district (geographic contiguity)
- Preserve geographic integrity of cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest
- Don't bypass nearby populations in drawing districts (compactness)
- Avoid 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?

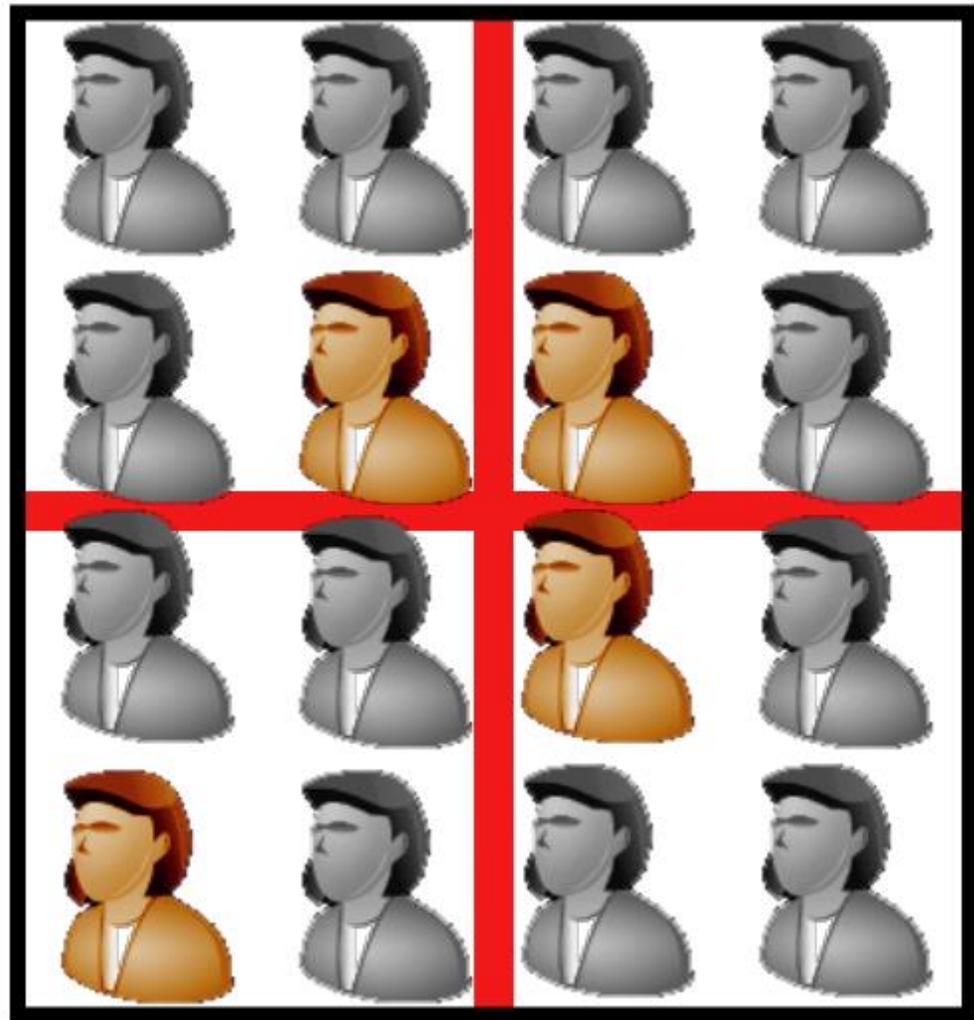
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**Example of how  
redistricting can  
take away the  
minority voting  
rights.**

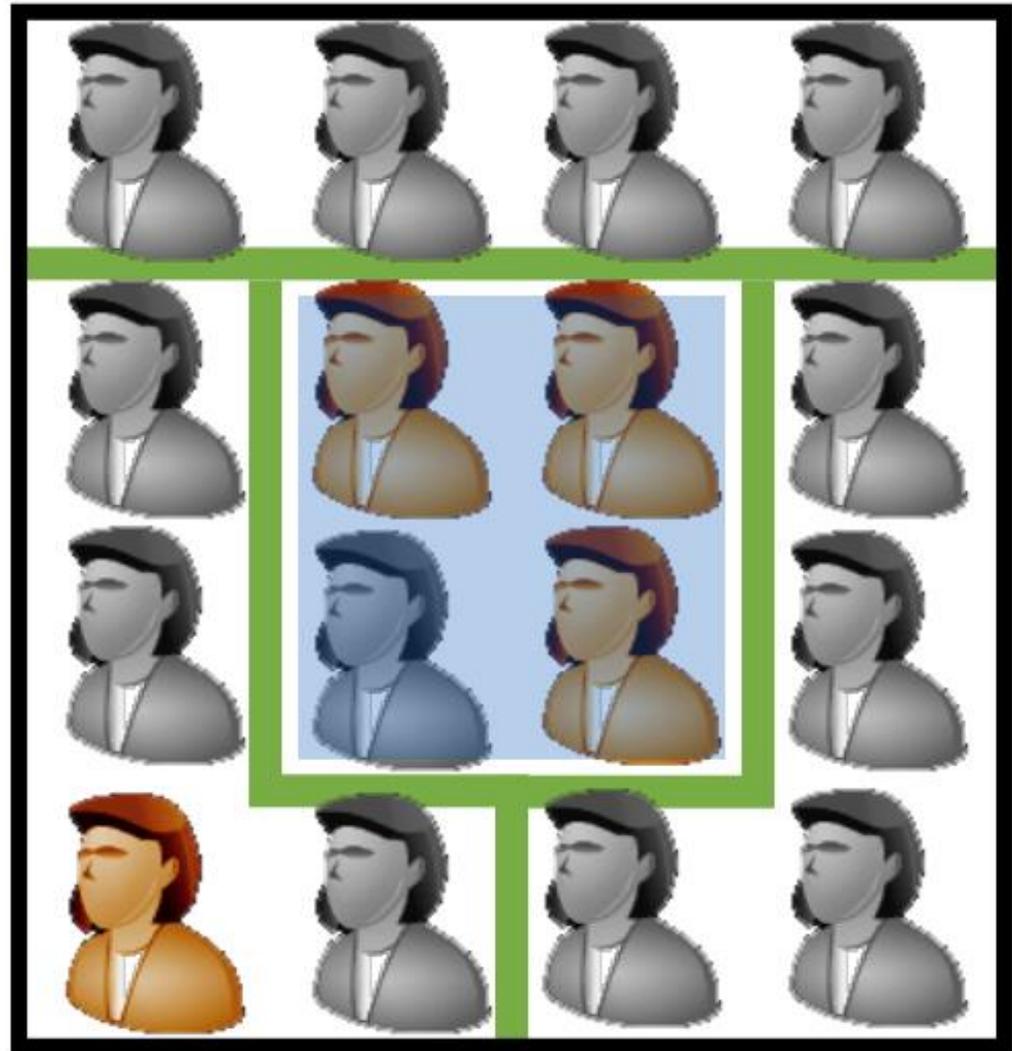
**Minorities make up only  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  in all 4 districts.**



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.





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**NON-CONTIGUOUS**



**CONTIGUOUS**



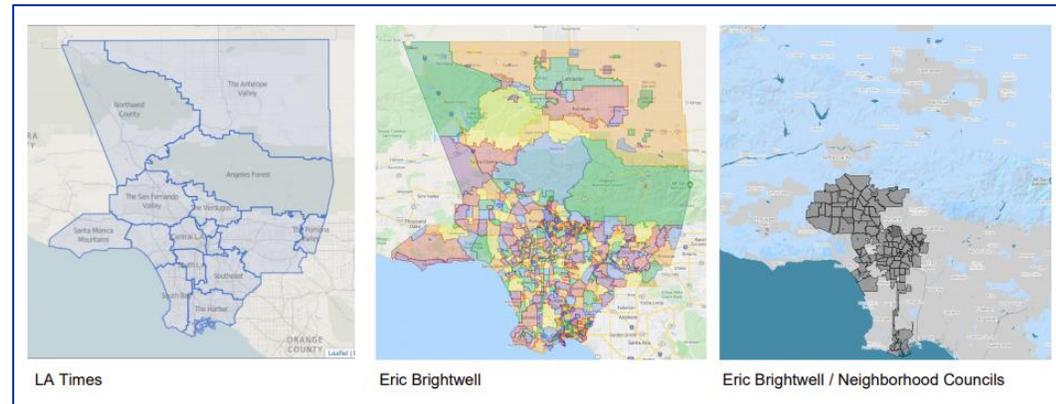


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- **Preserve geographic integrity of cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest**
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## **Minimize division of a city, local neighborhood, or local community of interest:**

“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.”





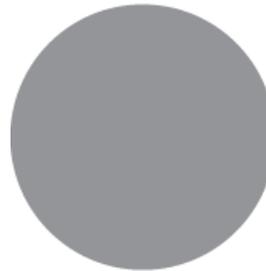
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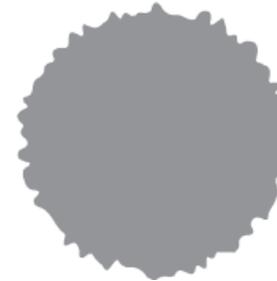
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**COMPACT**



**CONTORTED**



**DISPERSED**



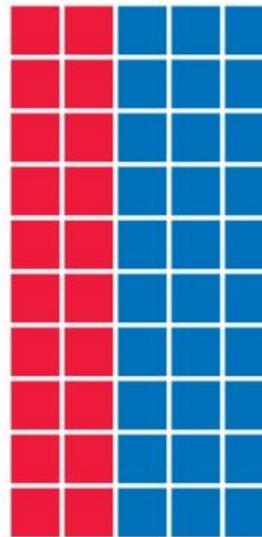


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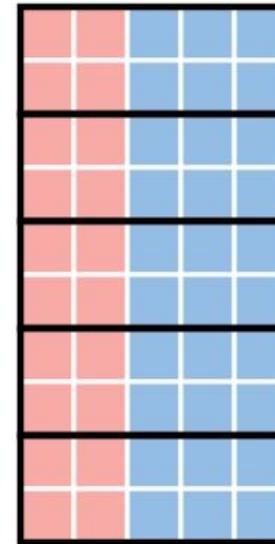
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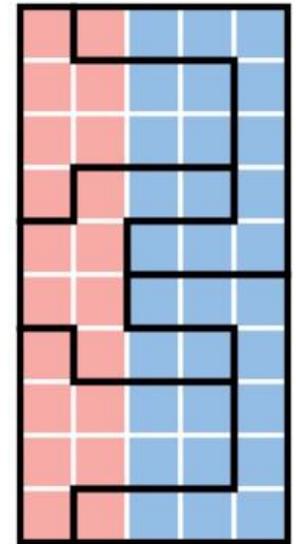
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- Give racial and ethnic groups a fair shot
- Connect all parts of a district (geographic contiguity)
- Preserve geographic integrity of cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest
- Don't bypass nearby populations in drawing districts (compactness)
- **Avoid 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**

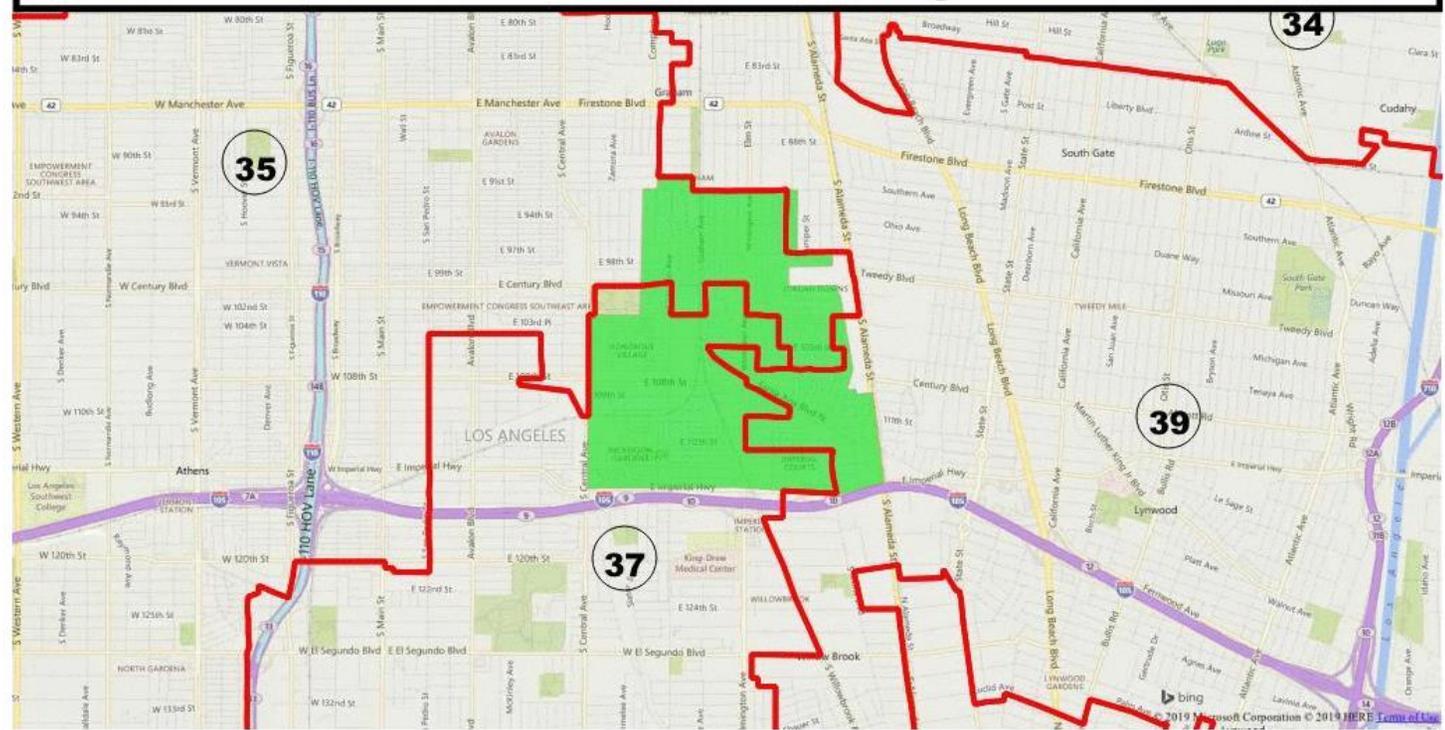
Graphic Source: League of Women Voters of Georgia,  
<https://my.lwv.org/georgia/redistricting>



# Common Cause Example

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

## Division of Watts in 2001: CA Congressional Districts



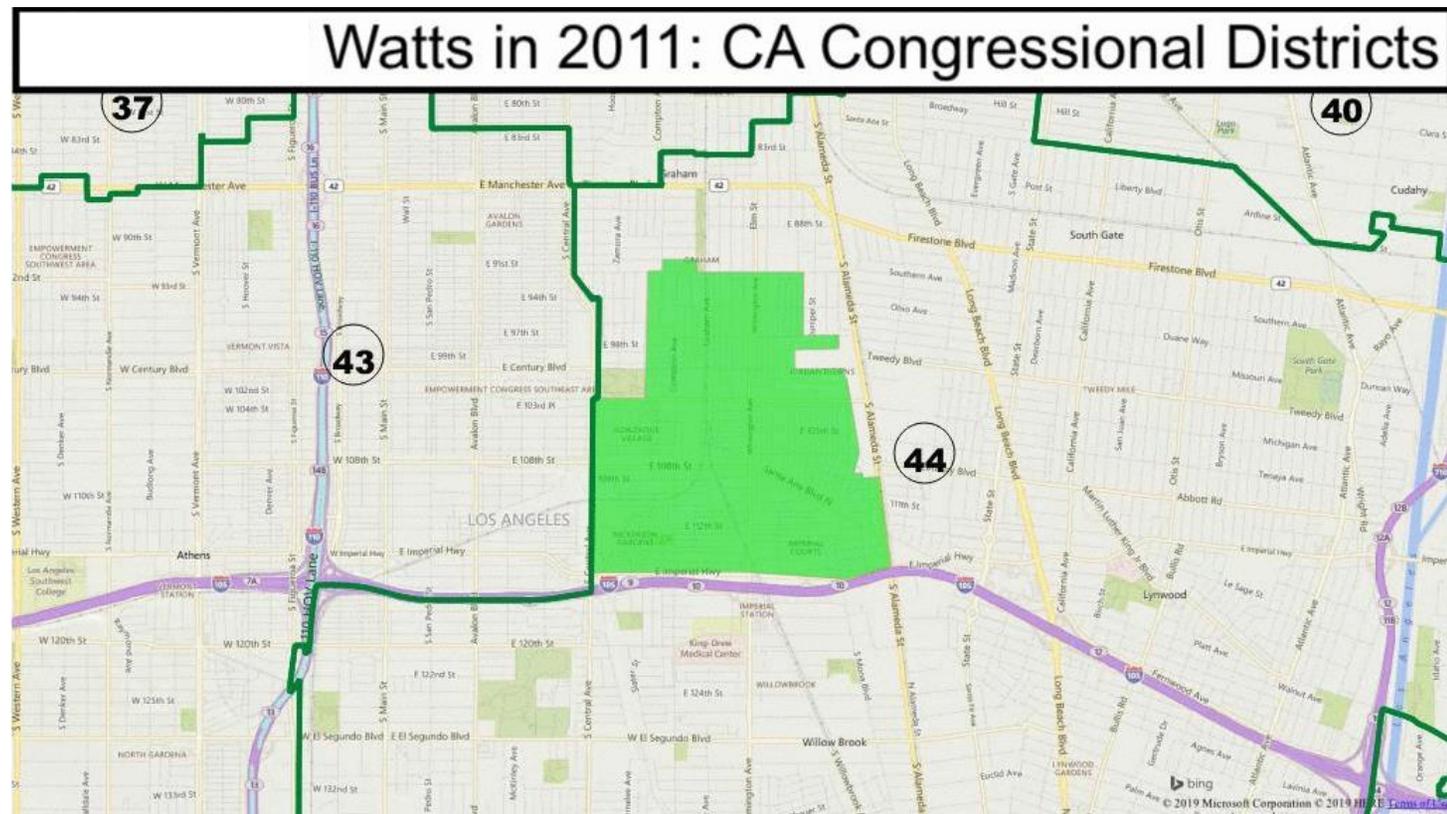
Why? Because the Watts neighborhood was split by district lines

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

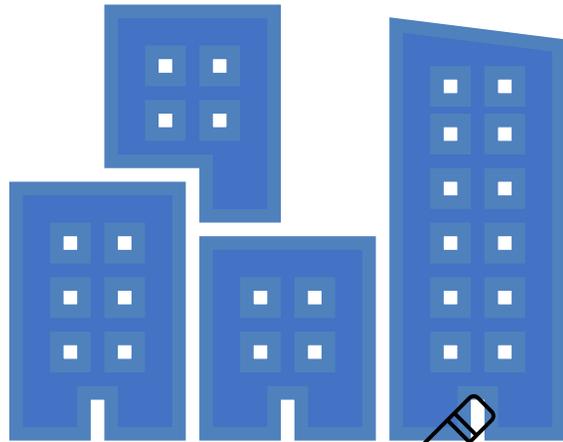
# Common Cause Example

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>



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# 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
- Submit redistricting maps once the Census 2020 data are available

## Workshops and Public Hearings

- Attend workshops
- 10 public forums to be scheduled for June-August before the release of the U.S. Census Bureau data
- 2 public hearings to review proposed CRC Redistricting Plan options in Fall 2021

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

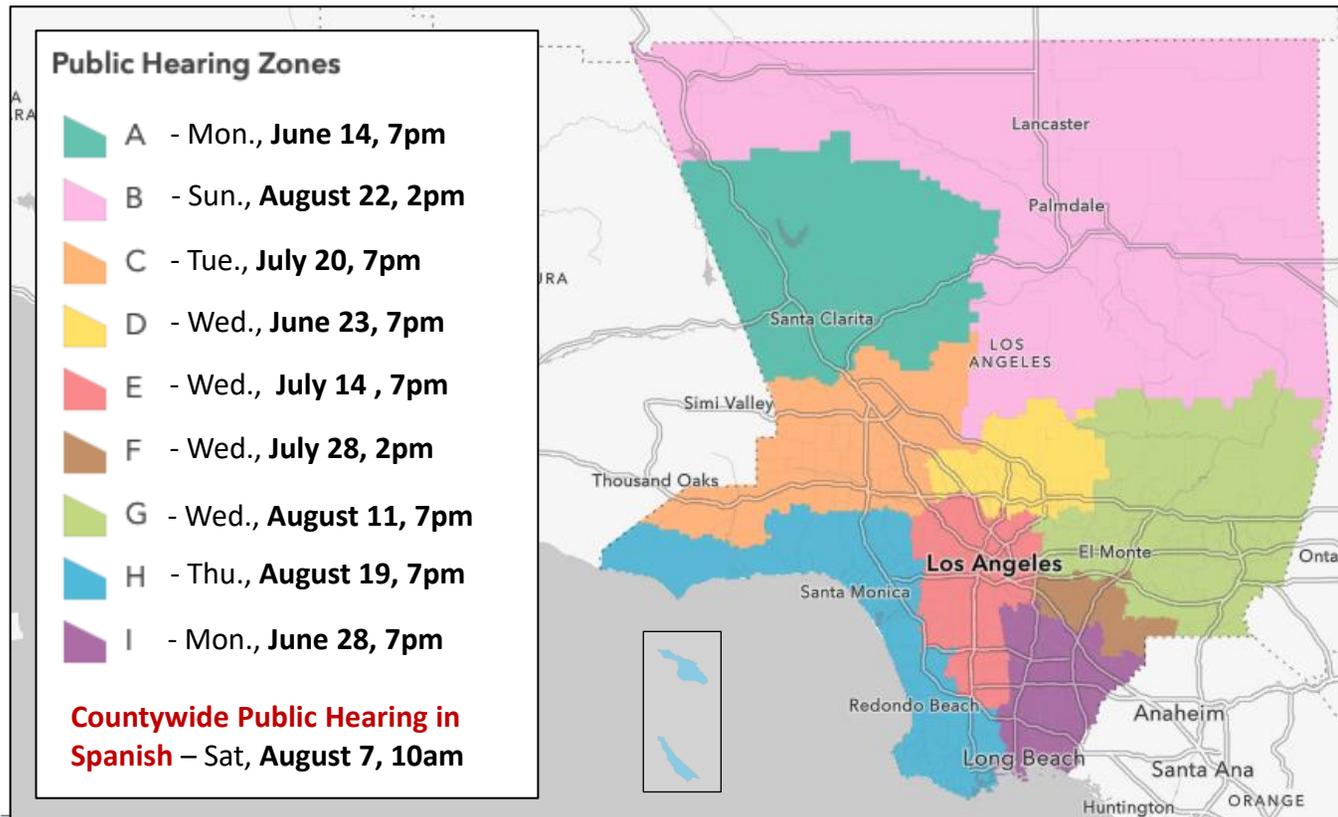




## 10 Public Hearings on Los Angeles County Redistricting

Learn about redistricting. Tell us about your community. Share your ideas on how to draw the 5 Board of Supervisors' districts for the next decade.

[Click here](https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/public-hearings/) to find a public hearing near you or go to:  
<https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/public-hearings/>



# 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          |



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**REDISTRICTING 2021**

**For more information:  
[redistricting.lacounty.gov](https://redistricting.lacounty.gov)**

**Any questions?**





# Our CRC Commissioners

Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda  
Co-Chair Carolyn Williams

Commissioner Jean Franklin  
Commissioner David Holtzman  
Commissioner Mary Kenney  
Commissioner Mark Mendoza  
Commissioner Apolonio Morales  
Commissioner Nelson Obregon

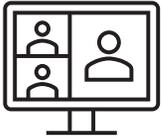
Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura  
Commissioner Hailes Soto  
Commissioner Saira Soto  
Commissioner Brian Stecher  
Commissioner John Vento  
Commissioner Doreena Wong



# 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

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Marketing, Media, and Outreach Consultant

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