



## City Council Agenda Item

**City Council Meeting Date:** February 16, 2022

**TO:** Dean Albro, City Manager

**FROM:** Stacey Haddon, City Clerk  
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**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to Receive Community Input on the Composition of Districts for City Council Offices and the Redrawing of Election District Boundaries; and Introduce Ordinance No. 1690(22), Amending Section 2.06.030 of the Lompoc Municipal Code to Adopt a City Council Electoral Districts Map based on the 2020 Census.

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### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the City Council:

- 1) Receive a presentation from National Demographic Corporation (NDC);
- 2) Hold the Public Hearing to receive public input on proposed election district boundary draft maps;
- 3) Provide direction on any revisions to the draft maps; and
- 4) Select a map and introduce by title only with further reading waived, Ordinance No. 1690(22), amending Section 2.06.030 of the Municipal Code to adopt a City Council Electoral Districts Map based on the 2020 Census.

### **Background:**

Every 10 years, cities with by-district election systems must use new census data to review and, if needed, redraw, district lines to reflect how local populations have changed. This process, called redistricting, ensures all districts have nearly equal population. The redistricting process for Lompoc must be completed by April 17, 2022. This hearing is the fourth of four public hearings regarding the redistricting process.

**Discussion:**

Every 10 years, jurisdictions that have district-based elections are required to review district boundaries based on the results of the decennial Census to ensure equal representation based on population growth and to adjust district boundaries, if necessary, to reflect changes. The districts must now be redrawn using the 2020 census data and in compliance with the Fair Maps Act, which was adopted by the California legislature as AB 849 and took effect January 1, 2020. NDC was again contracted to assist the City with the redistricting process.

By law, the City must hold at least four Public Hearings that enable community members to provide input on the drawing of district maps:

<b>Hearing Requirements</b>	<b>Date of Meeting</b>
At least one Public Hearing must occur before the City draws draft maps	July 6, 2021
One Public Hearing can happen either before or after the drawing of draft maps	July 20, 2021
First Public Hearing after the drawing of draft maps	February 2, 2022
Second Public Hearing after the drawing of draft maps	February 16, 2022

In accordance with the FAIR MAPS Act, the City created a dedicated webpage and translated specific materials into Spanish.

The FAIR MAPS Act specifies that the following prioritized criteria must be met in adopting an election district boundary map: (1) it complies with the Voting Rights Act and its equal population requirement; (2) it is geographically contiguous; (3) it is made up of undivided "neighborhoods of interest"; (4) it has easily identifiable boundaries; and (5) it is compact; and prohibits discrimination against a political party. The federal Voting Rights Act prohibits "gerrymandering" based on race. Several traditional districting principles should also be considered, including minimizing voter sifts to different election years, respecting voters' choices, and future population growth.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Funds for the redistricting process have been approved in the Biennial Budget Fiscal Years 2021-22.

**Conclusion:**

This evening's public hearing represents the fourth in the series of hearings required under the Fair Maps Act in order to complete the redistricting process for the City. The goals of this public hearing include: 1) reviewing any and all proposed district maps; 2) conducting the fourth public hearing to receive testimony from residents on redistricting criteria including "communities of interest" and on the proposed draft maps for consideration; 3) receiving feedback from the City Council on proposed draft maps that are legally compliant with the Fair Maps Act requirements, and direction on any desired refinements; and 4) select a map and introduce Ordinance No. 1690(22)

Respectfully submitted,

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Stacey Haddon, City Clerk

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:**

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Dean Albro, City Manager

Attachments:

1. National Demographic Corporation Power Point Presentation
2. Draft Maps
3. Ordinance No. 1690(22)