



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee

**TO: INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE**

**DATE: OCTOBER 5, 2022**

**FROM: CITY CLERK**

**WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING - RESHAPE RIVERSIDE REDISTRICTING UPDATE**

## **ISSUE:**

Conduct the second of a series of Public Hearings on the Reshape Riverside Redistricting Process.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee:

1. Conduct a Public Hearing on Reshape Riverside Redistricting Process;
2. Consider Community of Interest Testimony and Draft Redistricting Maps;
3. Receive and file an update on the Reshape Riverside Redistricting Plan; and
4. Provide further direction to Redistricting Partners and City staff as the Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee deems appropriate while implementing the City's Reshape Riverside Redistricting Plan.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Riverside City Charter Section 402 requires City Council, by ordinance, to divide the city boundaries into seven wards, review the boundary limits of the wards every ten years, and adjust, by ordinance, those boundaries to provide for a substantially equal number of residents in each Ward. The City must adopt its ward boundaries no later than August 2023.

On January 11, 2022, after consideration of the various redistricting approaches, the City Council determined that the Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee (ICGC) oversee and advise staff on the Redistricting process and approved the tentative timeline for the City's Reshape Riverside Redistricting Outreach Plan (Outreach Plan).

On August 3, 2022, the ICGC hosted its first public hearing. During the hearing, the Committee received public testimony. It directed staff to add two in-person Saturday meetings to the City's outreach plan to be inclusive of the working community who cannot attend the meetings that occur during the week.

Due to the truncated schedule, staff could include one additional in-person meeting, scheduled Saturday, October 29, 2022, which will also be the finale for all the Community Workshops within the City's current Outreach Plan.

**DISCUSSION:**

The eighteen Pre map community workshops throughout the City culminated Saturday, September 17, 2022, in alignment with the Reshape Riverside outreach plan.

As of Wednesday, September 28, 2022, four maps were introduced and elevated for the Committee's consideration. All submitted maps (by community members, organizations and, Redistricting Partners) were available on the Reshape Riverside website for public review in alignment with the California Fair Maps Act.

The narrative for the submitted maps is as follows:

**Draft Map A: minimal neighborhood splits (Redistricting Partners)**

Draft A was created based on Community of Interest (COI) testimony while maintaining as many neighborhoods as possible.

Ward 2 has the least number of residents, with a negative deviation of 3.3%, and Ward 5 has the largest deviation at 2.5%

**Total deviation: 5.8%**

- 19 neighborhoods kept together (Arlington South, Presidential Park, and Arlington Heights were slightly split due to the neighborhood lines and census geography not lining up)
- 8 neighborhoods splits
- The COI "South rural Riverside" as described in DistrictR ID: 141787 and the Equestrian Community from the COI Form submission by "Anna" is kept whole
- The majority of Casa Blanca was swapped from Ward 4 to Ward 5, which reflects COI testimony received in public outreach meetings.

**Draft Map B: minimum change (Redistricting Partners)**

Draft B was created to establish a smaller total deviation while maintaining the current lines as much as possible. Boundaries between wards 1 and 2 were adjusted to smooth out the boundaries and maintain more of the University neighborhood in Ward 2. Changes in Wards 3 and 4 naturally occurred due to the changes in the census geography data between 2010 and 2020. Changes in Ward 6 occurred to smooth out the lines and follow the highway when possible. Ward 2 has the least number of residents with a deviation of -2.6%, and Ward 5 has the largest deviation at 1.3%.

**Total Deviation: 3.9%**

Neighborhoods that were previously split continue to be split.

- 14 neighborhoods kept whole
- 13 neighborhoods split

### **Draft Map C: DistrictR 141291 (Community Plan)**

Draft C was created by a community member and submitted on DistrictR (ID: 141291). It was slightly edited by Redistricting Partners to ensure contiguity and to make the boundary lines easier to understand. The map was uplifted due to it maintaining important communities of interest and neighborhoods and having compact wards and appropriate population deviations. Ward 6 has the lowest deviation at -2.8%, and Ward 5 has the highest deviation at 3.4%.

#### **Total deviation: 6.2%**

- 16 neighborhoods kept together (Arlington Heights and Hunter Industrial Park neighborhoods are slightly split due to neighborhood lines and census geography data not lining up)
- 11 neighborhoods split
- The majority of Casa Blanca was swapped from Ward 4 to Ward 3, which reflects COI testimony received in public outreach meetings
- Creates a similarly shaped ward (Ward 4) to the COI testimony submitted in DistrictR 139474, to maintain similar neighborhoods

### **Draft Map D: Brown and Black Redistricting Alliance (Community Plan)**

Draft D was submitted by the community organization Brown and Black Redistricting Alliance, a group that has been active in this redistricting cycle. They will be presenting a map narrative for the committee hearing. The map was selected for minimizing neighborhood and communities of interest splits and for having appropriate population deviations. Ward 2 has the lowest deviation at -3.1%, and Ward 1 has the highest deviation at 2%.

#### **Total Deviation: 5.1%**

- 18 neighborhoods were kept whole (Presidential Park, Downtown, Eastside, and Arlington Heights were slightly split due to the neighborhood lines and census geography data not lining up)
- 9 neighborhoods split
- Swaps Casa Blanca from Ward 4 to Ward 2, which reflects COI testimony received in public outreach meetings

### **2<sup>ND</sup> PUBLIC HEARING**

During the Public Hearing, Redistricting Partners will provide the Committee with information on the following:

1. Required Redistricting Criteria;
2. Census Data;
3. Communities of Interest Testimony and Public Maps;
4. Draft Maps A, B, C, and D
5. Next steps for the Reshape Riverside Redistricting process; and

6. Post-maps community outreach schedule.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

The City's Redistricting Plan contributes to the City Council's Envision 2025 Strategic Plan Priority and Goals:

**Community Well-Being** – Ensuring safe and inclusive neighborhoods where everyone can thrive with the following goal:

**Goal 2.4** - Support programs and innovations that enhance community safety, encourage neighborhood engagement, and build public trust; and,

**High Performing Government** – Providing world-class public service that is efficient, accessible, and responsible to all, with the following goals:

**Goal 5.2** - Utilize technology, data, and process improvement strategies to increase efficiencies, guide decision making, and ensure services are accessible and distributed equitably throughout all geographic areas of the City.

**Goal 5.3** - Enhance communication and collaboration with community members to improve transparency, build public trust, and encourage shared decision-making.

The proposed Redistricting format, public outreach, and marketing strategy align with the Envision 2025 Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – The establishment of a redistricting format and the outreach strategy that includes workshops in every ward to draft new Ward boundaries are resident-led participation and public input, creating sound policy, inclusive of community engagement in the decision-making process.
2. **Equity** – Community members will utilize interactive tools. Some may participate in a redistricting commission to ensure that newly established ward boundaries comply with federal and state laws that encourage equity for all stakeholders.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – Riverside is a prudent steward of public funds and ensures responsible management of the City's financial resources while providing quality public services to all. The City Clerk's Office is committed to exploring services provided internally instead of consultants and looking for creative ways to reduce the redistricting program's fiscal impact and outreach efforts.
4. **Innovation**– The redistricting website will host interactive tools promoting collaborative public partnerships with redrawing ward boundaries. Riverside's Redistricting Framework includes a marketing strategy that will consist of non-English languages, including American Sign Language
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – Riverside is committed to meeting the present needs without compromising the needs of the future and ensuring the City's capacity to persevere, adapt and grow during fluctuating times alike. Reviewing the ward boundaries every ten

years is essential to maintain sustainable and resilient representation for a more sustainable future.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Donesia Gause, City Clerk

Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

**Attachments:**

1. Advisory Committee on Redistricting First Draft Map presentation
2. Draft Maps A, B, C and D including Neighborhood and Current Lines Overlays
  - a. Draft A - Minimal Neighborhood Splits
  - b. Draft A – Neighborhoods Overlay
  - c. Draft A – Current Lines Overlay
  - d. Draft B – Minimum Change
  - e. Draft B – Neighborhoods Overlay
  - f. Draft B – Current Lines Overlay
  - g. Draft C – DistrictR 141291
  - h. Draft C – Neighborhoods Overlay
  - i. Draft C – Current Lines Overlay
  - j. Draft D – BBRA 9.28.22
  - k. Draft D – Neighborhoods Overlay
  - l. Draft D – Current Lines Overlay
3. DistrictR Communities of Interest Summary
4. Public Testimony provided at the community workshops and Reshape Riverside
5. Submitted Maps and Communities of Interest Forms
6. List of Communities of Interest and Narrative
7. Notice