



Item No. 6(A)

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: OCTOBER 16, 2021

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: STEVEN ADAMS, CITY MANAGER

RE: CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING MAPS AND BOUNDARIES

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the City Council: 1) receive a presentation from the City's demographic consultant on the redistricting map boundary alternatives and issues; 2) open the public hearing and allow for public testimony; 3) close the public hearing; and 4) provide initial feedback regarding alternative map boundaries.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2016, following an extensive public participation process, the City Council adopted an Ordinance establishing a City Council by-district electoral system and the City Council district map. At that time, the City had received requests from community groups, as well as threats of litigation from outside organizations.

Some of the key advantages that led to City Council's action included that: 1) it helped unite and build trust in the community by making those who felt underrepresented in the past to feel the system would be more fair and accessible in the future; and 2) taking Council action to establish district elections rather than the potential of a ballot initiative or court action maintained more flexibility for the City in case the new system was unsuccessful or no longer deemed necessary in the future. Staff believes these advantages are even more relevant at this time. Therefore, no change to the district electoral system is recommended.

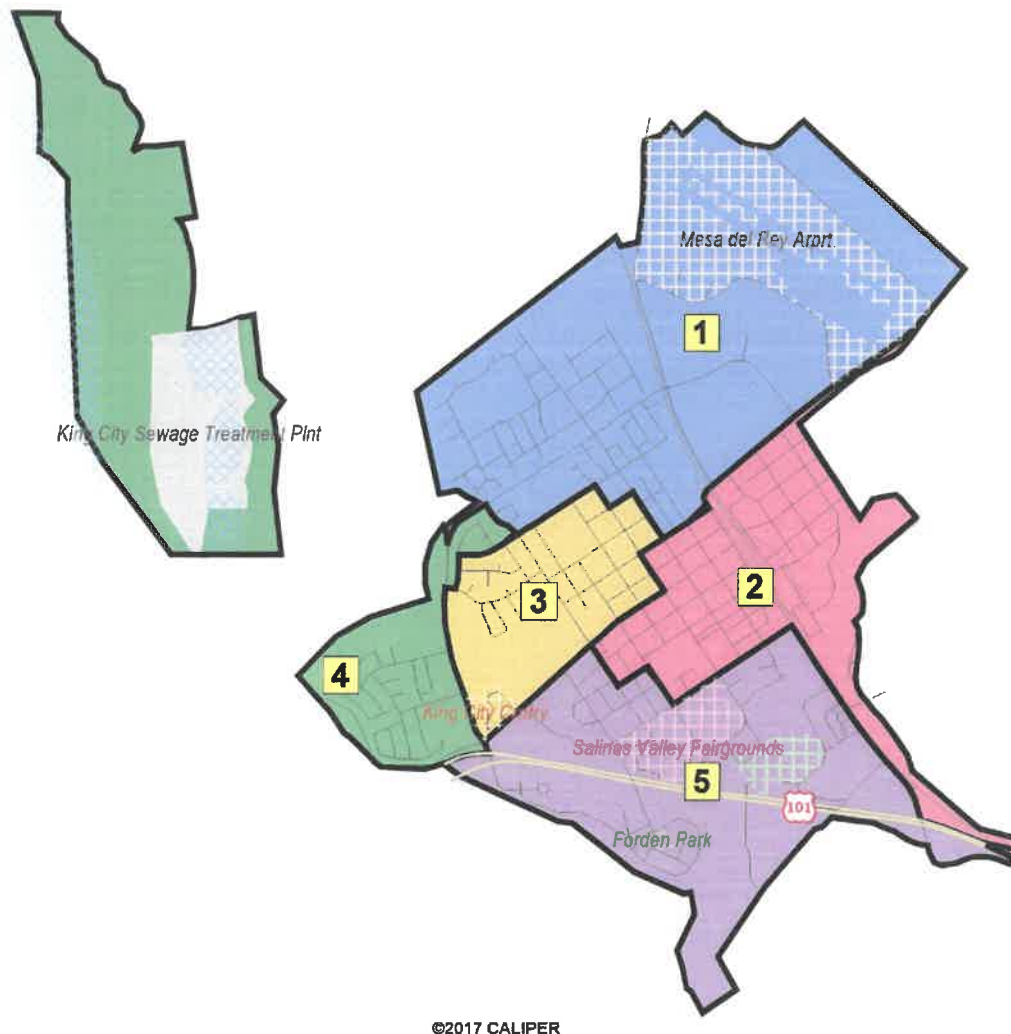
To assist in developing the district boundaries, the City contracted with National Demographics Corporation (NDC). The 2020 Census data is now available. As a result, the City is required to review and update its districts to ensure they continue to comply with State requirements.

**CITY COUNCIL
CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING MAPS AND
BOUNDARIES
OCTOBER 16, 2021
PAGE 2 OF 5**

The City has contracted with NDC again to assist with the redistricting process. Four public hearings are required in order to obtain public input. The first public hearing was held at the September 28th meeting. At that meeting, the City Council approved the overall schedule and process. The second public hearing is scheduled at a special public workshop on October 16th.

DISCUSSION:

Below is the existing district map:



A summary of the redistricting process and schedule is as follows:

**CITY COUNCIL
CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING MAPS AND
BOUNDARIES
OCTOBER 16, 2021
PAGE 3 OF 5**

Step	Description
Initial Pre-Draft Hearing: September 28	Held prior to release of draft maps. Education and to solicit input on / identify the “neighborhoods” and “communities of interest” in the City.
Release draft maps: February 23	Draft maps posted to City website
Three hearings on draft maps: October 16, November 23 & February 8	Meetings to present, discuss, and (if necessary) revise the draft maps, and to discuss the election sequence.
Map adoption: February 22	Map adopted via ordinance. Final map must be posted at least 7 days prior to adoption.

There are a number of restrictions the City is required to follow in forming the districts. The City’s consultant will review them as part of the public hearing presentation and the demographic data that will be analyzed.

Staff believes the district process has worked relatively well thus far. As a result, staff recommends changes primarily consist of: 1) adjustments determined necessary to address changes that have occurred in the demographic data from the 2020 Census in order to comply with State and Federal requirements; and 2) any issues or recommendations identified from public feedback. No issues or desired changes have been identified thus far based on staff’s experience with the existing district boundaries.

Each of the five districts will need to contain about 2,666 people with a maximum difference of 10%, or 267 people, between the least and most populated districts. The process will include defining neighborhoods and communities of interest to ensure they are not divided between districts. The City will also want to consider future growth since it is primarily projected in two areas.

NDC will be preparing initial draft map alternatives for presentation, review and discussion at the October 16th public hearing. They will be available for review by Wednesday, October 13th on the City’s website or by accessing the following link:

<https://ndcresearch.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=b1887aa44213414f9cd9f85135f39b3b>)

**CITY COUNCIL
CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING MAPS AND
BOUNDARIES
OCTOBER 16, 2021
PAGE 4 OF 5**

The community has been informed and encouraged to attend the workshop through a variety of outreach efforts, including the following:

- Announcements on City Facebook pages
- Press release
- Front page article in the City newsletter distributed to every household and business
- Commercials on KRKC
- Notification by the Chamber of Commerce
- Article in the Rustler
- Promoted to the King City High School government classes as requested by the City Council

The City has also established a dedicated page in the “Spotlight” section on the City website with information about the process designed to comply with State requirements, which include the following:

1. A general explanation of the redistricting process for the City in English and any applicable language.
2. The procedures for a member of the public to testify during a public hearing or to submit written testimony directly to the Council in English and any applicable language.
3. A calendar of all public hearing and workshop dates. A calendar listing that includes the time and location of the public hearing or workshop that satisfies the notice required by the law.
4. The notice and agenda for each public hearing and workshop.
5. The recording or written summary of each public hearing and workshop.
6. Each draft map considered by the council at a public hearing.
7. The adopted final map of council district boundaries.

State law requires the City to maintain the information on the webpage for a period of 10 years.

COST ANALYSIS:

The estimated cost of the contract with NDC is \$20,000. Funds were included in the General Fund FY 2021-22 budget, so no additional appropriation is necessary.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

This action is not a “project” for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as it does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct

**CITY COUNCIL
CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING MAPS AND
BOUNDARIES
OCTOBER 16, 2021
PAGE 5 OF 5**

physical change to the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. No further action is required under CEQA for City Council action.

ALTERNATIVES:

The following alternatives are provided for City Council consideration:

1. Provide input on draft map boundaries;
2. Request NCD to make changes or develop other alternative maps;
3. Provide other direction to staff, such as pursuing a directly elected Mayor position, reconsider the by-district electoral system or modify the public hearing schedule; or
4. Provide staff other direction.

Prepared and Approved by:



Steven Adams, City Manager