

**The meeting will
begin at 6:05 pm**

**La junta
comenzará a las
6:05 pm**

www.ventura.org/redistricting
www.ventura.org/redistribucion
805-654-2998 | redistricting@ventura.org



COUNTY *of*
VENTURA

**Redistricting Community
Meeting**

**Reunión comunitaria sobre la
redistribución de distritos**

Welcome & Introductions

- Welcome! Thank you for joining us.
- Please select your preferred language in the menu bar below
- If you have questions during the presentations, web participants can type them to the Q&A section of Zoom.

Phone participants can raise their hand by dialing *9



Agenda

Background and
Review of
Meeting
Protocols

Redistricting 101
and Q&A

DistrictR
Presentation and
Q&A

Public Comment





Ventura County
2021 Redistricting
Community Outreach
Meetings



COUNTY *of* VENTURA



Welcome

Agenda

Things we will cover:

- Census & Redistricting Basics
- Traditional Redistricting Principles
- Communities of Interest
- Map Tool Demonstration
- Public Testimony on Communities of Interest
- Public Hearing Schedule

What is the Census

Definition

Every 10 years, the federal government asks everyone who lives in the country to answer questions about their household – this is called the Census. This year, the Census was delayed because of COVID-19.



What is the Census

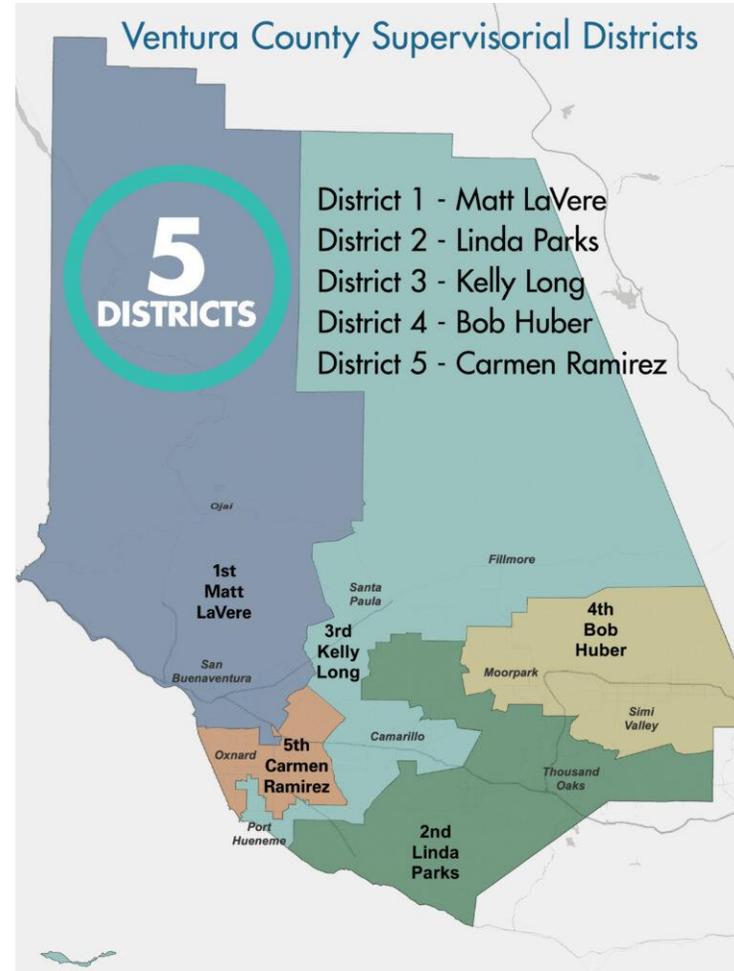
Definition

- The information collected helps determine key data such as population, race and ethnicity of the population, and the number of people who can vote.
- The county must use Census data after it is released every ten years to make sure that each District is equal in population.

What is Redistricting

Definition

Redistricting is the process of adjusting district lines every 10 years after the release of the U.S. Census. The well-known examples are Congressional and State Legislative Districts, but local governments also must do redistricting.



What is Redistricting

Definition

- The County of Ventura also must go through this process, as it did in 2011, to ensure the supervisorial districts are rebalanced after the decennial census.
- Beyond creating districts of equal population, redistricting also serves to empower local communities and preserve voting rights.

Ventura County Redistricting

Structure

The redistricting process is completed under the direction of the Board of Supervisors. The **Fair Maps Act (2019)** requires the County to hold at least four public hearings, host community meetings, and ensure all public information and meetings are available online.

During this process, staff and Board members will:

- Conduct Community Outreach Hearings
- Identify communities of interest from public input
- Draft and present supervisorial district maps for the Board's consideration

Traditional Redistricting Principles

Preventing a District from becoming a Gerrymander

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

- Relatively equal size - people, not citizens
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- Maintain “*communities of interest*”
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function

Traditional Redistricting Principles

Drawing New Board of Supervisor Lines for Fair Representation

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

- Relatively equal size - people, not citizens
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- **Maintain “*communities of interest*”**
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function

Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

Communities of interest are the building blocks of districts.

A community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Subjective
- Open-ended to be as inclusive as possible

Communities covered by the Voting Rights Act

- Latinos
- Asians
- African Americans

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While communities of interest may include race, it cannot be the *predominant factor* in drawing district boundaries.

Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

- Historical communities
- Economic interests
- Racial composition
- Ethnic Areas
- Cultural amenities
- Religious facilities
- Immigrant communities
- Languages spoken
- Geographic features
- Neighborhoods
- Economic opportunity zones
- Tourism Areas
- School districts
- Outdoor recreation areas
- Communities defined by natural resource features
- Downtown / Urban
- Rural or Agricultural
- Homeowner or Renters
- Creative arts communities
- Media markets
- *Many, many more*

What is NOT a Community of Interest

Preventing a Districting from becoming a Gerrymander

The Fair Maps Act explicitly prohibits these groups from being considered as communities of interest

- Political party affiliation
- Incumbents
- Political candidates

It also is hard, in redistricting to truly consider:

- *Groups of similarly minded people who do not share a similar geographic location.*
- *Communities of Interest that are county-wide.*

Communities of Interest

Three Critical Things to Think About When Defining YOUR Community

- Does the community have a shared culture, characteristics or bond?
- Is the community geographic in nature? Is the community able to be mapped?
- Describe the community's relationship with the jurisdiction and how it is affected by the policy decisions made by the elected officials.

Is this a Community of Interest?

A group of renters who live in downtown Oxnard testifies to the county's Board of Supervisors.

Would this be considered a *Community of Interest*?

Is this a Community of Interest?

A group of renters who live in downtown Oxnard testifies to the county's Board of Supervisors.

Would this be considered a *Community of Interest*?

YES! This group of residents can easily to be mapped in a distinct area AND they share a common policy interest, which can be addressed through legislation or public services.

Is this a Community of Interest?

A group of winery owners, operating wineries in the rural areas of the County, focused on ensuring they have enough water for their grapes.

Would the supervisors consider this a community of interest?

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A group of winery owners, operating wineries in the rural areas of the County, focused on ensuring they have enough water for their grapes.

Would the supervisors consider this a community of interest?

YES! This is a group of people in a shared geographic location who have similar needs for public services.

Is this a Community of Interest?

A statewide group for people who are fans of the Los Angeles Dodgers testifies to the Board of Supervisors.

Is this a Community of Interest?

Is this a Community of Interest?

A statewide group for people who are fans of the Los Angeles Dodgers testifies to the Board of Supervisors.

Is this a Community of Interest?

NO! It is important that a community of interest is distinct enough to draw on a map. This group overlaps throughout the entire state, and it is unlikely that a governing agency has any say over these issues.

Community of Interest Forms

Submitting Your COI Form

- Input can be provided in public hearings or using the Community Input Form on the website.

 Email: redistricting@ventura.org
 Phone: 805-654-2998
 Mail: Redistricting, 800 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura, CA 93009-1940



Community Input Form Tell us About Your Community

1. What are the common interests in your community? Describe why they are important to you.
2. Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood? (For example, intersections, roads, rivers, etc.)
3. Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process? Please describe how the issues that the Board of Supervisors considers have an impact on your community.
4. What else would you like to tell us about your community?

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Email: _____

Which district do you live in?

District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5

Unsure? Find which district you live in at www.ventura.org/redistricting

Learn more at www.ventura.org/redistricting

Map Submissions

Online Map Submissions will be available in the coming week.

Two types of expected input:

- Community of Interest Maps (now – End of Process)
- District Plans Based on 2020 Data (Release of Data – Final Adoption)

Communities of Interest

Drawing YOUR Communities of Interest

The County of Ventura will be using DistrictR as a public mapping tool to allow residents to draw their own Communities of Interest.



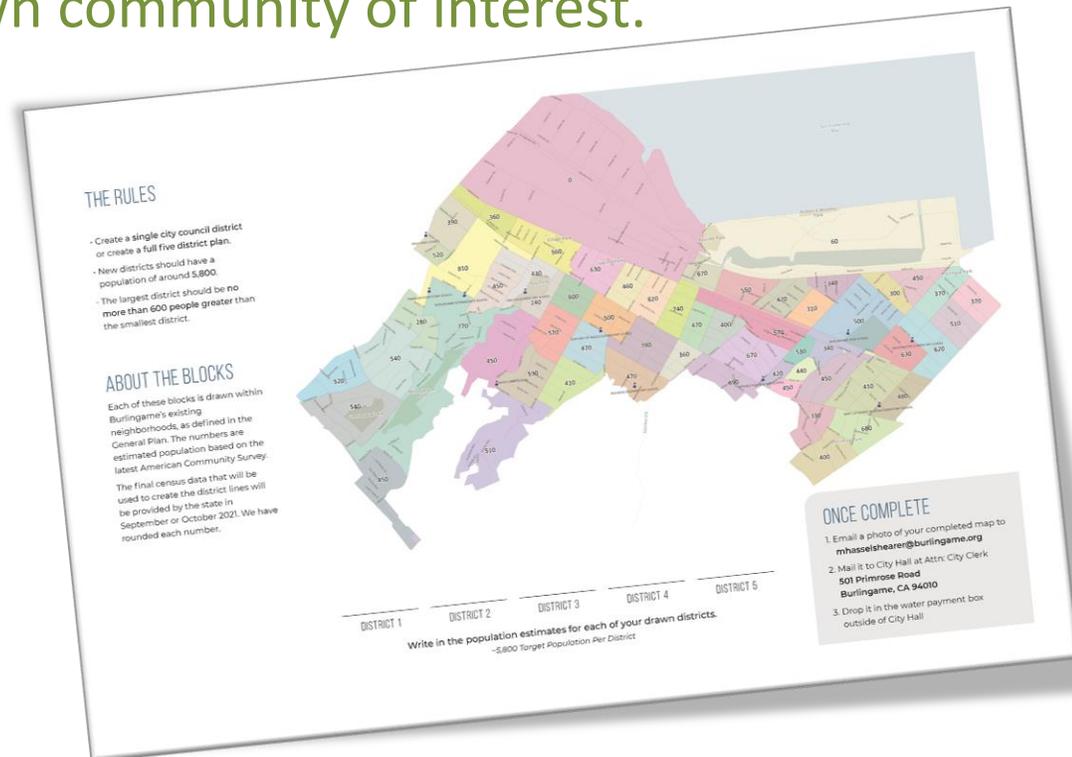
You draw the lines.

https://districtr.org/tag/Ventura_County

Communities of Interest

Drawing YOUR Communities of Interest

There will also be laminated paper maps for the public to use to draw their own community of interest.



Ventura County Redistricting Program

Timeline for Upcoming Community Input Workshops

Sept 9th, 6 pm	Community Input Workshop (Virtual)
Sept 11th, 10 am	Community Input Workshop (Virtual)
Sept 13th, 6 pm	Community Input Workshop (Virtual)
Sept. 21 st	Board of Supervisor Hearing
<i>Sept. 23rd</i>	<i>Probable Release of the final 2020 Census</i>
Oct. 19 th	Board of Supervisor Hearing
Nov. 9 th	Board of Supervisor Hearing
TBD	Board of Supervisor Hearing (if necessary)
Dec. 15 th	Deadline for passage of final plan



Ventura County Redistricting Website

<https://www.ventura.org/redistricting/>



**REDISTRICTING
PARTNERS**

Get Involved

- **Submit** a map or community input form at ventura.org/redistricting
- **Email** redistricting@ventura.org
- **Call** 805-654-2998 to share comments or request an in person appointment
- **Visit** Ventura County Libraries, Oxnard Libraries and the Blanchard Community Library to provide input
- **Attend** a virtual Redistricting Community Meeting or three Board of Supervisors Public Hearings



Public Comment

- What are the common interests in your community?
- Where is your community? What are the cross streets and/or landmarks in your neighborhood?
- Why is it important for your community to be included in the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors redistricting process?



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THANK YOU!

Go to
ventura.org/redistricting
to subscribe for updates

For any further questions
or comments contact us at
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