



Agenda Report

City Council

Date: September 13, 2022

To: Brian Saeki, City Manager

From: Rigoberto Garcia, City Clerk

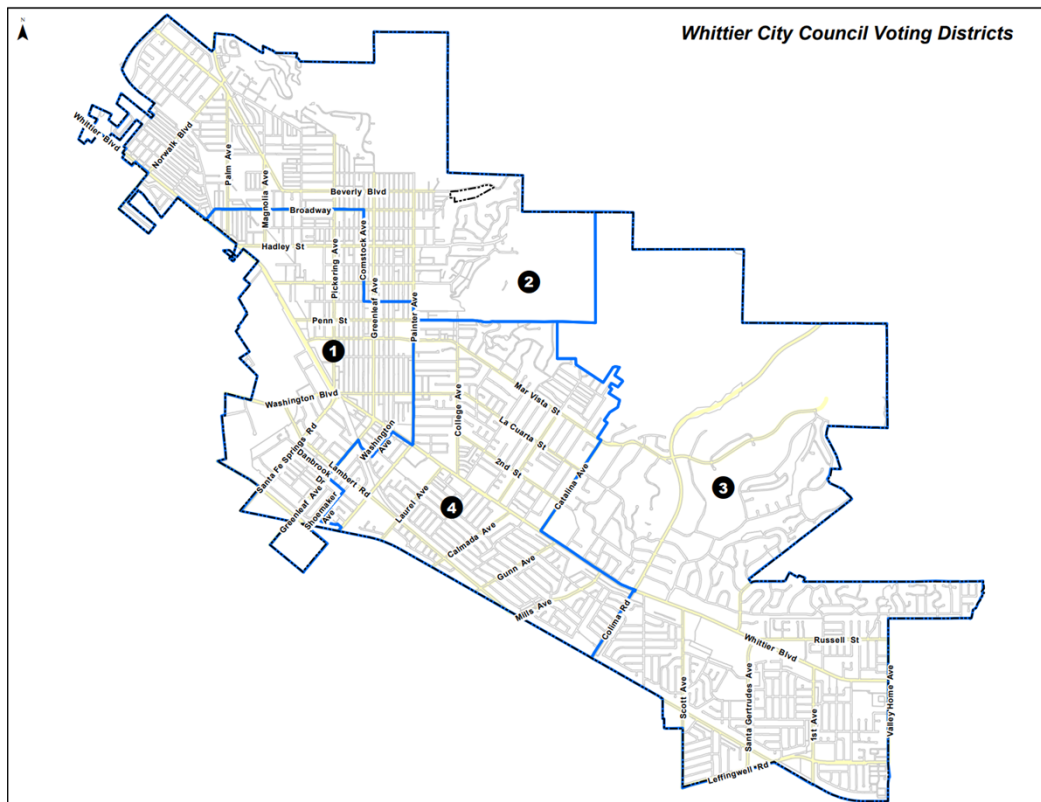
Subject: Redistricting - 2020 US Census Data

RECOMMENDATION

Conduct a public hearing to consider testimony on the 2020 US Census data and receive a report on the population balance of existing districts, redistricting process, and redistricting criteria.

BACKGROUND

On June 3, 2014, Whittier voters approved a Charter amendment calling for four Council Members elected by and from geographically defined districts and a citywide mayor position elected at-large. On June 9, 2015, after considering public testimony, studying communities of public interest, natural boundaries, geographic, topographic and population data, contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory, City Council adopted district boundaries as shown below:



According to the Charter, Council Member terms are four years, and the Mayor's term is two years. In 2016 the City held its first district-based election with District 1, District 3 and Mayor on the ballot. In 2018 the City held a district-based election for District 2, District 4 and Mayor on the ballot. Elections continue to be staggered so that two Council Members and Mayor are selected at one election and the remaining two Council Members and the Mayor are selected at the next election.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the US Census was delayed in providing census data in time for the City to conduct the redistricting process before the 2022 General Municipal Election. Any changes to the district boundaries will be applicable to the 2024 General Municipal Election. The 2020 US Census officially began on April 1, 2020, and ended on October 16, 2020.

DISCUSSION

The City contracted with National Demographics Corporation to provide an initial analysis of 2020 US Census data to identify and create a redistricting database that includes socio-economic data, matching demographic data to existing district boundaries, and preparing a report on demographics and its compliance to state and federal criteria including identifying protected class populations and other socio-economic data such as income, education level, children at home, language spoken at home, home-ownership, and renters.

State Law requires at least four public hearings for the redistricting process. The proposed schedule is provided below:

Date	Event
September 13, 2022	<p>Council Meeting Public Hearing 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Report on population balance of existing districts, redistricting process, and criteria. b) After receiving analysis, City Council can either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Express preference for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) use current districts as “proposed plan” (or with minor changes); (b) request multiple map options from NDC and residents and conduct Public Forums. 2) Express tentative preference for (a) or (b) but delay final decision on preference to Council Meeting #2
To be determined	<p>Council Meeting Public Hearing 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Presentation on redistricting process and criteria b) Consider public testimony on “proposed plan” (per Council’s expressed preference at meeting #1) c) If applicable; presentation on how to use public mapping tools and deadlines for public to submit draft maps
To be determined	<p>Council Meeting Public Hearing 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Presentation of “proposed plan” and if applicable any public map submissions and public comments b) Consider public testimony on “proposed plan” c) Possible Council direction on any desired new or revised maps d) If no further modifications are requested by City Council, introduce an ordinance codifying the “proposed plan”.
To be determined	<p>Council Meeting Public Hearing 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Presentation of “proposed plan(s)” and if applicable any public map submissions b) Consider public testimony on “proposed plan” c) Presentation of any Council-requested new or revised maps d) Selection of preferred map e) Adoption of ordinance with preferred map.

Douglas Johnson of National Demographics Corporation provided the following report analysis:

State law¹ requires that each city that uses district-based elections review their current council districts following the receipt of new decennial Census data to ensure that districts remain compliant with Federal and State requirements. For 2021, California enacted new

¹ Elections Code 21621

requirements on the population counts (the realignment of incarcerated persons²) and the criteria³ used to draw and select the districts.

NDC finds the existing district map appears to be in compliance with Federal and State law. Using the official 2021 redistricting data, the map has a total deviation between its largest and smallest districts of 7.48%, which puts it within the 10% maximum deviation allowed by the federal courts. The map has three majority-Latino districts, proportional to the Latino share of the eligible voter population. The map is contiguous, has easily understood boundaries between districts, and is compact.

Regardless of whether the existing map is population balanced and otherwise meets legal requirements, California's new Fair Maps Act⁴ requires every City going through redistricting to launch a redistricting website, share information with the community about redistricting, consider any alternative maps the community may propose, and hold at a minimum four hearings or public workshops on redistricting.

Given the population balance and general Fair Maps Act compliance of the current map, the City has two options going forward:

- 1) Keep the current Council District map as the primary "proposed map" for redistricting and hold the required four number of hearings / workshops;
- 2) Direct the drawing of a number of brand-new proposed maps and conduct a more extensive public engagement effort.

Table 1 below summarizes the significant differences in time and costs between the two options.

If the Council decides on Option 1 and keeps the current council district map as its proposed redistricting map, it could hold the four required hearings concurrently with Council meetings, or the City can hold one staff/NDC hosted public workshop and three formal Council hearings. This option would not require additional mapping tools, extensive outreach beyond the Fair Maps Act requirements, or additional community workshops. If the first public hearing is held in September, the process could be finished by December.

If the Council decides on Option 2 and directs the creation of new proposed maps and provision of public mapping opportunities, each current district would likely host at least one workshop. Tools, training, and considerable time would be provided for the public to draw and submit proposed maps. In-district workshops might be held both before and after the drawing of draft maps. Additional Council hearings beyond the required three may be needed to review, select and finalize a new map. Typically, a more extensive publicity effort would accompany an Option 2 project, including expanded social media and other public communications.

² Elections Code 21003

³ Elections Code 21621(c)

⁴ Elections Code 21627.1, 21628

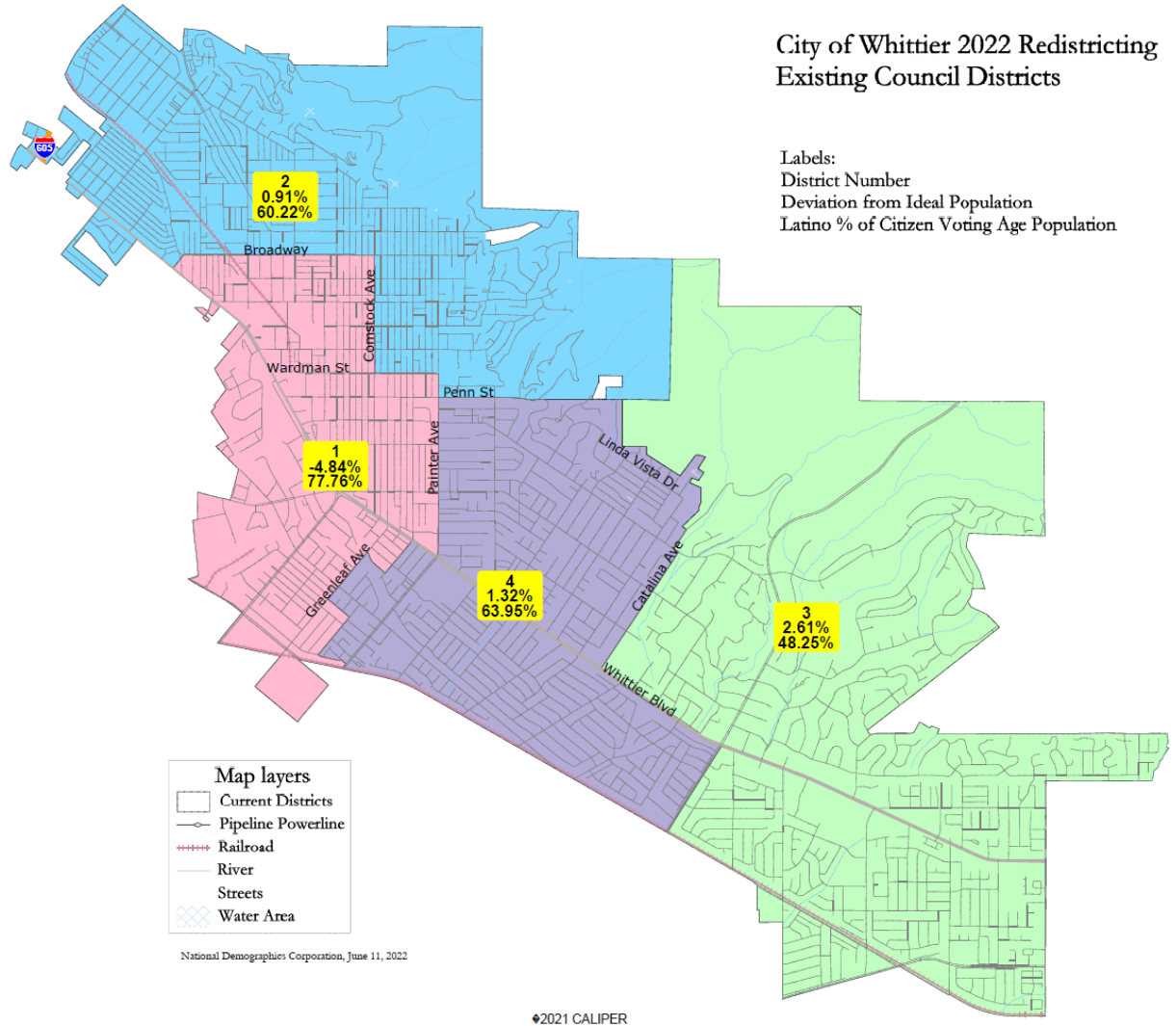
Table 1. Comparison of scope

Component	Option 1: Use Current Districts as Proposed Map	Option 2: Direct Creation of a set of New Map Options
Basic Demographer Services <i>(Same for both options)</i>	Create block database, produce report on existing districts, all technical work in the final submission	
Workshops / Public Forums	0 or 1	0, 1, 4 or 8
Council Hearings	3 or 4	3 or 4
Additional Demographic Services	n/a	Develop 3-4 NDC maps and process all community maps
Tools	n/a	Paper & Online
Outreach	Essential	Extensive, especially for community workshops
Staffing and facilities	Marginal	Substantial –need locations and staff for community workshops
Timeframe	2 or 3 months	3 to 8 months, with time for developing materials and allowing residents time to draw and submit maps

Below is the demographic profile of the existing Council Districts and Map Profile:

Current Districts with Splits						
District		1	2	3	4	Total
	Total Pop	20,838	22,098	22,469	22,187	87,592
	Deviation from ideal	-1,060	200	571	289	1,631
	% Deviation	-4.84%	0.91%	2.61%	1.32%	7.45%
Total Pop	% Hisp	84.4%	72%	56%	72%	71%
	% NH White	9%	20%	32%	21%	21%
	% NH Black	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Asian-American	3%	5%	9%	4%	5%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	13,050	16,071	15,977	15,119	60,217
	% Hisp	78%	60%	48%	64%	62%
	% NH White	14%	31%	41%	30%	30%
	% NH Black	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
	% Asian/Pac.Isl.	4%	6%	9%	3%	5%
Voter Registration (Nov 2020)	Total	10,021	14,186	15,659	14,274	54,140
	% Latino est.	81%	66%	49%	65%	64%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	74%	60%	45%	59%	58%
	% Asian-Surnamed	2%	2%	5%	2%	3%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% NH White est.	20%	34%	48%	36%	36%
	% NH Black	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2020)	Total	6,819	11,305	13,035	11,512	42,671
	% Latino est.	80%	66%	49%	64%	63%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	73%	61%	45%	58%	57%
	% Asian-Surnamed	2%	2%	5%	2%	3%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% NH White est.	20%	34%	48%	37%	37%
	% NH Black	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2018)	Total	3,821	7,513	8,856	7,660	27,850
	% Latino est.	78%	62%	45%	58%	58%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	72%	57%	41%	54%	53%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	2%	4%	1%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% NH White est.	22%	37%	53%	42%	41%
	% NH Black est.	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
ACS Pop. Est.	Total	20,226	21,426	21,828	21,450	84,930

Current Districts with Splits						
District		1	2	3	4	Total
Age	age0-19	27%	23%	25%	27%	26%
	age20-60	58%	53%	52%	53%	54%
	age60plus	15%	24%	23%	20%	21%
Immigration	immigrants	22%	16%	15%	14%	17%
	naturalized	52%	67%	72%	69%	64%
Language spoken at home	english	48%	62%	66%	64%	60%
	spanish	50%	32%	23%	31%	34%
	asian-lang	1%	5%	5%	3%	4%
	other lang	1%	1%	5%	2%	3%
Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	19%	10%	8%	8%	11%
Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	67%	63%	55%	64%	62%
	bachelor	9%	18%	22%	16%	16%
	graduatedegree	4%	10%	16%	11%	10%
Child in Household	child-under18	38%	29%	35%	36%	34%
Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	61%	57%	57%	60%	59%
Household Income	income 0-25k	24%	15%	10%	15%	16%
	income 25-50k	27%	21%	14%	15%	19%
	income 50-75k	17%	13%	11%	17%	14%
	income 75-200k	30%	44%	51%	46%	43%
	income 200k-plus	2%	7%	15%	8%	8%
Housing Stats	single family	50%	69%	88%	85%	73%
	multi-family	50%	31%	12%	15%	27%
	rented	73%	44%	18%	31%	42%
	owned	27%	56%	82%	69%	58%
Total population data from the 2020 Decennial Census.						
Surname-based Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database.						
Latino voter registration and turnout data are Spanish-surname counts adjusted using Census Population Department undercount estimates. NH White and NH Black registration and turnout counts estimated by NDC. Citizen Voting Age Pop., Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2015-2019 American Community Survey and Special Tabulation 5-year data.						



FISCAL IMPACT

The City entered into an agreement with NDC for an initial scope of work analysis and report for \$5,000. Based on City Council direction, staff will return with a funding resolution and addendum agreement for optional project elements succinctly described below.

Projected cost:

- Option 1 (current map) is \$17,000 for consulting fees, and \$10,000 for outreach and staffing costs.
- Option 2 (public mapping tools, attend workshops, additional hearings, draw new maps) is projected to be \$45,000 in consulting fees and \$50,000 for outreach and staffing costs.

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL

- Transparent & Open Government

ATTACHMENTS

None.