



## Board of Harbor Commissioners

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# Staff Report

**TO:** Board of Harbor Commissioners

**FROM:** James B. Pruett, General Manager

**DATE:** February 16, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing on Voting District Boundaries for a District-Based Election System Following the 2020 Census and consideration of a Resolution adopting the official district map to establish voting district boundaries for the Board of Harbor Commissioners following the decennial federal census

**Issue:**

As required by Cal. Election Code §22000, the Harbor District is required to review and adopt election districts following the 2020 Census.

**Recommendation/Motion:**

A Select either: (i) the map with the existing voting district boundaries, or (ii) the map entitled "Draft Plan A" and approve Resolution No. 22-08 adopting the official district map to establish voting district boundaries for the Board of Harbor Commissioners following the decennial federal census, with the selected map being attached as Exhibit A to the resolution.

**California Election Code:**

Cal. Election Code §22000: "(a) Each district required by its authorizing act to adjust division boundaries pursuant to this section shall, by resolution, after each federal decennial census, and using that census as a basis, adjust the boundaries of any divisions so that the divisions are, as far as practicable, equal in population and in compliance with Section 10301 of Title 52 of the United States Code....

(e) (1) A change in division boundaries shall not affect the term of office of any director.  
(2) If division boundaries are adjusted, the director of the division whose boundaries have been adjusted shall continue to be the director of the division bearing the number of his or her division as formerly comprised until the office becomes vacant by means of term expiration or otherwise, whether or not the director is a resident within the boundaries of the division as adjusted.

(f) The successor to the office in a division whose boundaries have been adjusted shall be a resident and voter of that division.”

Cal. Election Code §22000.1(b): “The governing board of a district that has a regular election to elect members of its governing board on the same date as the 2022 statewide general election shall adopt adjusted division boundaries no later than April 17, 2022.”

Cal. Election Code §22001: “Before adjusting the boundaries of a division pursuant to Section 22000 or for any other reason, the governing body of the district shall hold at least one public hearing on the proposal to adjust the boundaries of the division prior to the public hearing at which the governing body votes to approve or defeat the proposal.”

### **Alignment with to District Strategic Plan:**

#### District Goals and Objectives:

Goal 5: Ensure That the Public Is Well Informed about the District

Goal 6: Ensure Good Governance and Administration

#### **Background:**

Every ten years, following each federal census, California special districts that use district-based election systems must adjust the boundaries of those voting based on current census data. The purpose of this process is to ensure that voting districts remain substantially equal in population. The Elections Code Sections 22000 through 22002 prescribe the requirements that govern the review and adjustment of district boundaries following the census.

On August 3, 2021, the District received a letter from the San Mateo County Officer of Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder & Elections with the subject line of “Redistricting after the census- Special Districts”. The letter provides “Special districts that are adjusting their district boundaries after the Census and will have candidates in the November 8, 2022 Election need to submit their shapefile with the updated boundaries to the Registration & Elections Division no later than May 12, 2022.”

On November 3, 2021, the District received a letter from the San Mateo County Officer of Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder & Elections with the subject line of “Redistricting after the census- Special Districts”. The letter moved up the deadline to submit the shapefile to the County to April 18, 2022.

On December 15, 2021, Redistricting Partners, the contracted consultants, presented the 2020 Post- Census Data Release to the Harbor Commission on existing districts and new populations.

On January 19, 2022, Redistricting Partners, four different maps, including our existing boundaries, for consideration that could meet State and Federal requirements. Of the four maps, the Board of Harbor Commissioners selected the map of the existing boundaries and Draft Plan A (Map A) to be further reviewed and considered on the February 16, 2022 Board Meeting.

At today's meeting the Board will hold a public hearing to review and consider selecting: (i) Draft Plan A or (ii) the Map of the existing voting district boundaries, or if further information is required, will provide Staff with direction.

**The 10% Rule:**

Section 22000 of the Elections Code requires district boundaries to be "equal in population and in compliance with Section 10301 of Title 52 of the United States Code," which is the United States Voting Rights Act. A district map will satisfy this requirement if its overall range for population differences among voting districts is less than ten percent.

Based on the Harbor District's current boundaries for voting districts, the population shifts have not exceeded the 10% range, thus the District could adopt a map the existing boundaries for districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

**Election Terms:**

Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 22000(e), the term of office of any Harbor Commissioner who has been elected and whose term of office has not expired is not affected by any change in the boundaries of the voting district from which such Harbor Commissioner was elected. At the first election for a voting district following the adoption of the voting district boundaries, a person meeting the requirements of Section Code Section 22000(f) will be elected for such voting district.

**Attachments:**

- 1) [Map of Existing Districts](#)
- 2) [Draft Plan A](#)
- 3) [Resolution No. 22-08](#)