



MEMORANDUM
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE AGENCY
ADMINISTRATION
County of Placer

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors **DATE:** August 31, 2021
FROM: Steve Pedretti, Community Development Resource Agency Director
BY: Nikki Streegan, Senior Planner
SUBJECT: 2021 Redistricting Code Amendment for Timeline Relief and Update

ACTIONS REQUESTED

1. Receive an update on the 2021 redistricting process and approve an updated 2021 redistricting process/timeline.
2. Introduce and waive oral reading of an ordinance to enable Placer County Code, Chapter 1, Article 1.08, Sections 1.08.020 through 1.08.060 to be amended by resolution for purposes of updating the supervisorial district boundaries based upon the 2020 Census data delays.

BACKGROUND

The local redistricting process is underway and County staff is currently managing a community outreach effort while awaiting 2020 Census data from the U.S. Census Bureau to inform redistricting maps. The 2020 Census data is significantly delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the data is expected by the end of September 2021. This delay, coupled with the state deadlines for County redistricting maps, has resulted in a compressed timeline for the process over the ensuing year.

Over the past several months, County staff has worked with Shaw, Yoder, Antwih, Schmelzer & Lange (SYASL), State lobbyists to advise the Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendment Committee and support Senate Bill 594 (Glazer), which would enable a County ordinance to take effect immediately rather than within the requisite 30 days. California State Association of Counties (CSAC), the California Association of Special Districts (CASD), the League of California Cities (CalCities), Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), and Urban Counties of California (UCC) expressed similar concern in support of the bill; however, the State has not been able to provide this relief to date. As stated in prior staff reports, the timeline to provide adequate review of maps and public participation is significantly compressed due to new procedural and review requirements aimed at increasing public participation. As a result, the County is looking into other options to provide timeline relief.

Currently, pursuant to Elections Code section 21500 *et seq.*, the process for redistricting is through adoption of new district boundaries by the Board of Supervisors (Board), either through ordinance or resolution. Government Code Section 25127 through 25130 references that all changes to the County code must be through ordinance; therefore, modifications to supervisorial district boundaries contained in the Placer County code must occur through that process as well. Generally, the adoption of an ordinance requires a two-hearing process set forth in Government Code section 25131, and ordinances are not effective until 30 days after their final passage pursuant to Government Code section 25123. The redistricting process has traditionally occurred over multiple months, but due to delays in the delivery of Census data the timeline for redistricting in 2021 is much more compressed.

Given the abbreviated deadline for redistricting and to incorporate and analyze the 2020 Census data, meet new procedural requirements, and the December 15, 2021 deadline to adopt maps,

staff is proposing an ordinance to provide local relief and adopt redistricting maps by resolution instead of ordinance. Adoption by resolution would allow the maps to be accepted immediately and allow adequate time to meet the December 15, 2021 deadline.

With the Board's approval, the following refined timeline can be achieved with the proposed code change:

June 24, 2021	Advisory Redistricting Commission meeting (completed)
June – Aug 2021	Outreach Briefings to Cities/Subregional Informational Meetings
Sept. 2021	Receipt of Final 2020 U.S. Census Data
Oct. 14, 2021	Advisory Redistricting Commission meeting
Nov. 4, 2021	Advisory Redistricting Commission meeting
Nov. 30, 2021	BOS Consideration/Action on Revised Boundary Map

The above revised timeline allows for the completion of the Placer County 2021 redistricting effort with opportunities for community input/participation, Advisory Redistricting Commission hearings, and Board review/approval, in compliance with Federal/State requirements and the compressed timeline due to Census data delays.

Updates since the May 2021 BOS Report

The last report provided to the Board on the redistricting process was on May 11, 2021. Since the May BOS report, staff began the outreach process and provides the following updates:

- The Redistricting Placer website successfully launched in May 2021, and the Public Information Office has issued four press releases resulting in seven news articles on the topic, as well as subscribed over 300 community members interested in the topic of redistricting.
- Staff presented to the Planning Commission (Advisory Redistricting Commission) on June 24, 2021. Staff provided an overview of the redistricting process, presented an outreach plan, and formally launched a community survey to engage with community stakeholders to help inform the mapping process.
- CEO staff presented to all City and Town Councils throughout the months of June and July to inform the incorporated Cities' residents on the redistricting process, timeline, and ways to participate. The primary concern expressed was for an independent versus advisory redistricting commission, though Cities' elected officials understood the County's different and constrained timeline.
- CEO, CDRA, and Elections staff presented at four sub-regional community meetings, including East Placer (August 2nd), Mid-Placer (August 18th), West Placer – Roseville (August 23rd), West Placer – Granite Bay (August 25th). This final meeting was also available for remote participation via Zoom.
- Staff is providing redistricting information in the August 2021 voter information guide and residents can also find information in their 2021 property tax bill.

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FISCAL IMPACT

There are no additional fiscal impacts to the General Fund expected.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Ordinance to Modify District Boundaries Through a Resolution

Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of:

Ordinance to Modify District Boundaries
Through a Resolution

Ordinance No.: _____

Introduced: _____

The following Ordinance was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held on _____, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, district boundaries are redrawn every 10 years following completion of the United States census and using that census as a basis, the Board of Supervisors (Board) must adjust supervisorial district boundaries within the County so that the supervisorial districts remain substantially equal in population as required by the United States Constitution;

WHEREAS, Placer County Code Chapter 1, Article 1.08 identifies the supervisorial district boundaries for each of the five districts within the County, and the Placer County Charter at Section 202 requires that the boundaries of the supervisorial districts shall only be changed pursuant to the general law;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Elections Code section 21500 *et seq.*, the process for redistricting is through adoption of new district boundaries by the Board, either through ordinance or resolution;

WHEREAS, Government Code sections 25127 through 25130 require that amendments to the county code occur through the adoption of an ordinance, and therefore modifications to

supervisory district boundaries contained in the Placer County Code must occur through that process as well;

WHEREAS, generally the adoption of an ordinance requires a two-hearing process set forth in Government Code section 25131, and ordinances are not effective until 30 days after their final passage pursuant to Government Code section 25123, which ultimately results in ordinance adoption taking roughly 60 days;

WHEREAS, the redistricting process has traditionally occurred over multiple months, but due to delays in the federal census data the timeline for redistricting in 2021 is much more compressed; and

WHEREAS, given the shortened deadline for redistricting, there is a corresponding need to reduce the procedural impediments to provide maximum time for creation, review and approval of new district boundaries, and by adopting an ordinance that allows for modification of the district boundaries through a resolution it would reduce some of those procedural delays.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS of the County of Placer ordains as follows:

1. Placer County Code, Chapter 1, Article 1.08, Sections 1.08.020 through 1.08.060 shall be amended by resolution for purposes of updating the supervisory district boundaries based upon the 2020 census data.
2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after its adoption.

