

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM: 3.2
(ID # 11971)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, February 25, 2020

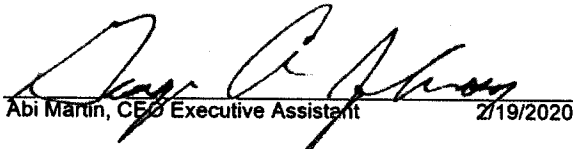
FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

SUBJECT: 2020 Census - Redistricting Recommendations. All Districts. [\$0]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the redistricting structure used by the Board of Supervisors in 2011 with one (1) modification, as outlined in Motion 2;
2. Approve the formation of a Redistricting Committee of eight (8) individuals: Assessor-County Clerk Recorder, Chief Operating Officer, Assistant CEO/Chief Information Officer, and the five (5) Chiefs of Staff for each Supervisor;
3. The Redistricting Committee will make Supervisorial District recommendations to the Board of Supervisors based on 2020 Census data, with the ultimate authority on redistricting made by the Board of Supervisors; and,
4. In accordance with the law, direct that redistricting be adopted by the Board of Supervisors no earlier than August 1, 2021, but no later than 151 days before the county's next regular election occurring after March 1, 2022.


ACTION: Policy


Abi Martin, CEO Executive Assistant 2/19/2020

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Spiegel, seconded by Supervisor Jeffries and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: February 25, 2020
xc: EO

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

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FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A			Budget Adjustment:	No
			For Fiscal Year:	19/20 – 20/21

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

Redistricting is the process by which Supervisorial District boundaries are drawn every 10 years to ensure each district has the same number of people. On October 22, 2019, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors approved Agenda Item 3.30, which directed the Executive Office to review the County’s past redistricting practices and provide redistricting recommendations within 120 calendar days.

Executive Office Recommendation

The Executive Office’s Recommendation to the Board is to use the same structure used by the county during the last redistricting effort in 2011. In 2011, Riverside County’s Redistricting Steering Committee was made up of seven individuals: Assessor/County Clerk-Recorder, Assistant County Executive Officer, and the five chiefs of staff for the respective supervisors of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. The steering committee made recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on redistricting proposals, however the ultimate authority in actual redistricting was made by the Board of Supervisors.

The Executive Office’s recommendation proposes the same/similar positions serve on the Redistricting Committee as the 2011 effort, with the addition of the Assistant CEO/Chief Information Officer (ACEO-CIO) to the committee. The ACEO-CIO position will be an important part of the committee, as his purview includes Geographic Information Systems (GIS) operated by the county, which will be used during this effort.

The Board of Supervisors’ Chiefs of Staff have intimate knowledge of the communities being served and are in a unique position to recommend Supervisorial boundaries that will best serve Riverside County, while respecting existing community boundaries consistent with the intent of the legislation. For these reasons, the Executive Office recommends the Chiefs of Staff are included on the committee.

Additional support will come from the county team in an ex officio status, including the Public Information Officer, County Counsel’s Office, and Transportation and Land Management Agency, to name a few.

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The boundaries of the Supervisorial Districts shall be adopted by the Board no earlier than August 1, 2021, but no later than 151 days before the county's next regular election occurring after March 1, 2022.

Redistricting Policy and AB 849

The policy for establishing the Board of Supervisors Redistricting Committee should rely on the directives outlined in Assembly Bill (AB) 849, the "Fair Inclusive Redistricting for Municipalities and Political Subdivisions Act" (FAIR MAPS Act), which restricts how cities and counties draw districts, imposing procedural and substantive rules.

California's congressional and state legislative districts are drawn by bipartisan commission, which supporters characterize as "the gold standard" for gerrymandering prevention. California is one of four states in the nation that have established an independent redistricting commission that is not controlled by the legislature. California's Redistricting Commission is composed of five Democrats, five Republicans, and four third-party or non-partisan voters, all of whom are chosen through a complex process involving the state auditor and leaders of the state legislature.

Modeled on State redistricting requirements, AB 849 mandates how cities, counties, schools and special districts draw electoral boundaries, requiring they follow criteria that "respect the geographic integrity of local neighborhoods and communities of interest". AB 849 would direct local county and city commissions to become more transparent with the public about the redistricting process by requiring more public input.

Governing bodies must adopt new district boundaries after each federal census that are:

- a. Substantially equal in population;
- b. Compliant with federal and state law; and
- c. Prioritize keeping neighborhoods and diverse communities in common districts.

Public notice and comment requirements are extensive, requiring at least two public hearings before final map adoption. Absent strict compliance with FAIR MAPS' deadlines, any interested resident may seek a court order setting fair boundaries.

Other Southern California Counties

Other than Los Angeles County, the other major Southern California counties including Orange, San Bernardino, and San Diego all follow the current model that Riverside County adheres to, which essentially allows incumbent supervisors to draw their own maps. Maps are approved through a majority vote. Supervisors are required to consider advice from the five to seven member committees that are formed for the purpose of redistricting, but the members of these committees are usually selected by the supervisors themselves. Los Angeles County's Redistricting Commission currently utilizes the same framework as the state's independent redistricting commission.

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Impact on Residents and Businesses

Redistricting efforts after the 2020 Census will have a direct impact on the residents and businesses of Riverside County as the results determine representation at the federal, state, and local level and to maintain a proportionate number of voters between Supervisorial Districts. This item is in reference to redistricting of the County of Riverside Supervisorial Districts only.

Previous Agenda Reference

Item 3.30 of 10/22/19


Lisa D. Brandl 2/19/2020