

BOARD REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Stephanie Smith – Best, Best & Krieger

DATE: January 24, 2022

SUBJECT: Redistricting of Director Division Boundaries

Recommendation:

The board receive a presentation regarding potential redistricting of director divisions and provide direction to the district's demographic consultant regarding proposed division boundary changes.

Background:

Every ten years, agencies with by-district election systems must use new census data to review and, if needed, redraw electoral division lines to reflect how local populations have changed. This process, called redistricting, ensures all divisions comply with both the California and federal Voting Rights Acts. Requirements for redistricting are as follows:

- Revised electoral districts must be “substantially equal in population as required by U.S. Constitution.”
 - Balance must comply with U.S. and California constitutions, and the federal Voting Rights Act per United States Code Section 10301 of Title 52, as amended.
 - Population equality is based on total population of district residents, not customers, per the U.S. Census.
 - Incarcerated persons are only counted if the last known residence may be assigned to a city census block.
 - In adjusting the boundaries of the divisions, the board may give consideration to the following factors:
 - Topography.
 - Geography.
 - Cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity and compactness of territory.
 - Community of interests of the division.
 - This section does not apply to divisions in which only landowners vote for directors or whose directors are all elected at large or appointed.

- Boundaries shall not be drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party.
- Change in boundaries shall not affect the unexpired term of office of any elected board member.

Analysis of the district's current division boundaries, adjusted for the 2020 Census data, shows the divisions are no longer population-balanced. The district's population is 107,120. The ideal division population is one-fifth of that number, or 21,424.

Determining population balance is done by measuring the spread, or deviation, between the least populated division and the greatest populated division. Deviations of 10% or less are generally considered acceptable under U.S. Supreme Court rulings on the equal population standard under the U.S. Constitution.

The District's current division boundaries are being analyzed with the 2020 Census data, and although the final analysis is not complete, a preliminary look at the data suggests a deviation well above the 10% threshold. This was not surprising, given the significant development growth in the western portion of the District. If, in the final analysis, the division deviation exceeds 10%, the Division boundaries will need to be adjusted for population balance.

Another consideration is the distribution of minority voters throughout the agency, and whether there is a possibility of creating a majority/minority voting district as addressed in the federal Voting Rights Act. This analysis involves reviewing the ethnicity demographics from the census data, specifically citizens of voting age populations (CVAP). Upon review of the district's CVAP data, creation of a majority/minority voting district (a division in which an identified minority comprises the majority of voting age population) may be possible. Although Division 1 currently is a majority/minority Hispanic voting division, the considerable shifts that must occur in the division boundaries to achieve population balance may move the minority population to a different Division. It may be possible to re-create a single majority/minority Hispanic voting district. Further analysis will be conducted following the drafting of revised division boundaries to determine if this is possible.

At the meeting, the public and board may offer input as to how that population balance may be achieved, or if there are any specific neighborhoods or communities of interest they would prefer to remain together in one division. In the absence of public or board input, draft maps that balance the population objectively, using existing identifiable communities of interest and incorporated municipalities as a guide, may be prepared for the board's consideration.

Following the meeting, the district's redistricting consultant, Best Best & Krieger, will prepare map(s), as directed by the board, and will analyze any maps submitted by members of the public in advance of the first public hearing, scheduled for February 14, 2022. A second public hearing is scheduled for February 28, 2022 to consider the proposed division boundary adjustments and to adopt revised boundary maps. The current redistricting process for San Geronio Pass Water Agency must be completed by April 17, 2022, to comply with state law.

Therefore, the board shall receive a presentation from Best Best & Krieger on the redistricting process, review the current Agency Election Division Boundaries report, and receive comments regarding agency division boundaries. At the conclusion of the agenda item discussion, the board may offer specific mapping instructions or objective population-balancing instructions to the district's consultant.

Attachment:

None



SAN GORGONIO PASS
WATER AGENCY

• *Established 1961* •

Redistricting 2021/2022 Public Meeting

January 24, 2021



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San Geronio Pass Water Agency

2021/22 Redistricting Process

AGENDA

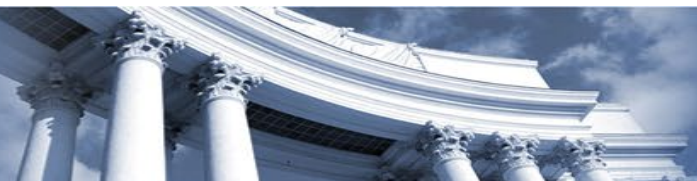
- 01 Redistricting Process
- 02 Status of Current Districts
- 03 Next steps and hearings

San Geronio Pass Water Agency District Board Terms



Board Members hold 4-year terms

- Divisions 3 & 4 terms elected in November 2022
 - 1 At-Large term elected in November 2022
- Divisions 1, 2 & 5 terms elected in November 2024
 - 1 At-large term elected in November 2024



Redistricting Process

STEPS	DESCRIPTION
1. Information Meeting	Introduce the redistricting topic and solicit community and board input on Communities of Interest
2. Prepare Draft Maps	Consultant will draft proposed maps based on Public Hearing input and staff consultation
3. Public Hearing No. 1	Review Draft Maps; take public input; consider communities of interest
4. Public Hearing No. 2	Review Draft maps May consider adopting Resolution of approval for final map
5. Map adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map adopted via ordinance or resolution • Final map must be posted at least 7 days prior to adoption

Redistricting Rules & Goals

Federal Law

- Equal Population
- Federal Voting Rights Act
- No Racial Gerrymandering

California Criteria for Special Districts

- Topography
- Geography
- Cohesiveness, Contiguity, Integrity of territory
- Communities of Interest

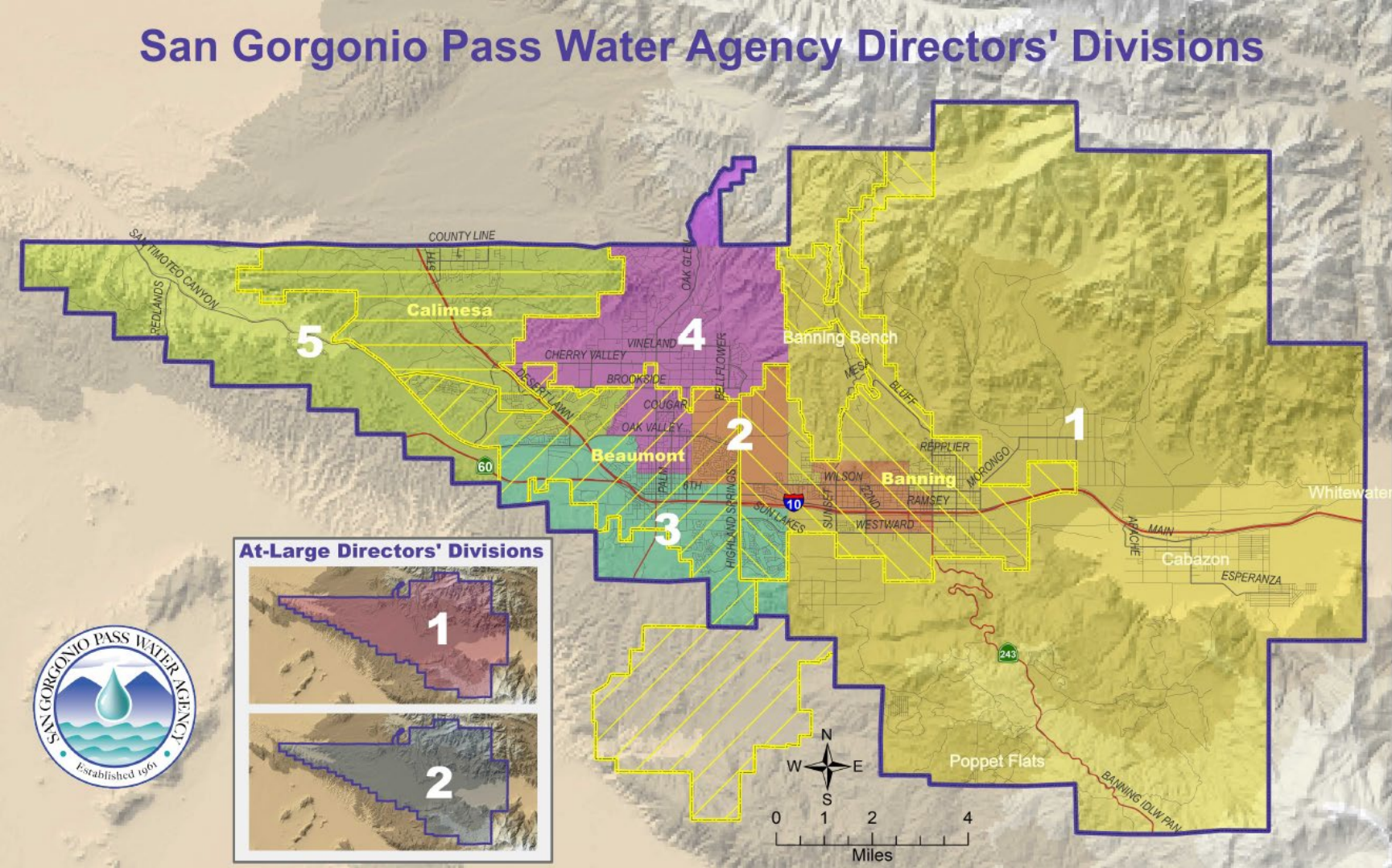
Other traditional principles

- Minimize voters shifted to different election years
- Respect voters' choices / continuity in office
- Future population growth
- Preserving the core of existing divisions

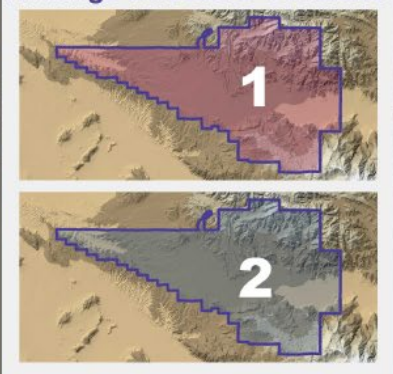


EXISTING DISTRICTS

San Geronio Pass Water Agency Directors' Divisions



At-Large Directors' Divisions



Preeminent Considerations

- Equal population (one person/one vote)
- Geographically contiguous divisions
- Geographically compact
- Measured objectively



Important Considerations

- “Communities of Interest”
 - Physical boundaries
 - Natural or artificial barriers
 - Roadways, rivers, railways
 - Parks, schools, and other landmarks
 - Geographic integrity
 - Minority voice



Important Considerations

- “Communities of Interest”
 - Political boundaries
 - School attendance areas
 - Special district service areas
 - Federal, state, and county divisions



Important Considerations

- “Communities of Interest”
 - NOT:
 - Incumbents’ residences
 - Political affiliations

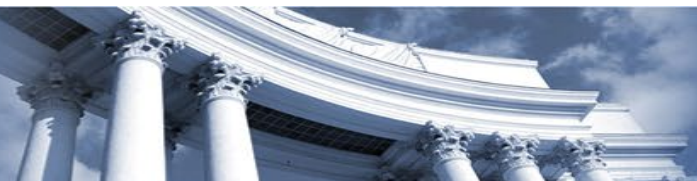


Discussion

1. What is your neighborhood and what are its boundaries?
2. What other notable areas are in the jurisdiction, and what are their boundaries?

Inform the public on how they can participate

Ask for comment on the proposed maps



Sources of Information



Demographic Data



Public Input



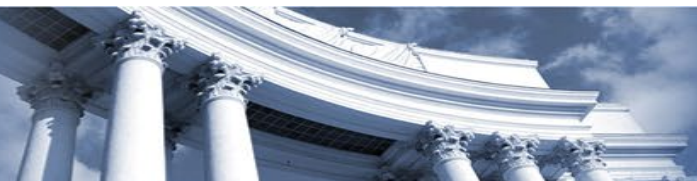
Staff Expertise



Council Input

Timeline & Next Steps

- BB&K will prepare draft maps based on Board input
- Return at Public Hearing #1 with draft maps for Board consideration
- Revise maps following Public Hearing 1 as directed by Board



Timeline & Next Steps

September 20, 2021	Adjusted Census Data released to the public
February 14, 2022	Public Hearing No. 1
February 2022	BB&K to revise draft maps based on Board input
February 28, 2022	Public Hearing No. 2 Consideration of Maps for approval – additional Public Hearings may be held to consider revised maps
April 17, 2022	Deadline to adopt and submit map to Registrar of Voters
November 8, 2022	2022 Election