



News from: Office of the City Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2013

City Seeks Public Input at Series of Meetings on Council Redistricting

Citizen Input will Help Shape Council Districts

Oakland, CA — As mandated by the City Charter every 10 years, the City of Oakland must review and revise City Council District boundaries to equalize each district's population according to U.S. Census data. At its meeting on Tuesday, June 4, the Oakland City Council provided specific direction to City staff and established the criteria to be used in reviewing the Council District boundaries. (To view the reports, resolution and video of the meeting, please visit <http://bit.ly/103avDM>.) The public is invited to engage in the redistricting process through a series of Town Hall Meetings. Additional opportunities for input and feedback are also available.

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The Oakland City Council Districts also serve as the districts for the Governing Board for the Oakland Unified School District, commonly called the Board of Education. Any changes made to the Council Districts will also change the boundaries for the areas represented by the elected members of the Board of Education. However, boundary changes will not impact school enrollment choices.

Redistricting Town Hall Meetings will be held in each of the seven Council Districts from July through September. Oakland residents are encouraged to attend the meetings to learn more about the process and provide comment and input on District boundaries. Simultaneous interpretation in select languages will be provided as noted. The dates and locations for the Redistricting Town Hall Meetings are:

- **Wednesday, July 10, 6 - 8 p.m.**
81st Avenue Branch Library, 1021 81st Avenue
- **Thursday, July 11, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**
Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
Interpretation in Cantonese, Vietnamese and Spanish will be provided.
- **Saturday, July 13, 10 a.m. - noon**
Dimond Recreation Center, 3860 Hanly Road
- **Thursday, September 5, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**
Caesar Chavez Education Center, 2825 International Boulevard
Interpretation in Spanish will be provided.
- **Saturday, September 7, 10 a.m. - noon**
Frick Middle School, 2845 64th Avenue
- **Saturday, September 7, 2 - 4 p.m.**
Oakland Public Library, Main Library Auditorium, 125 14th Street
Interpretation in Cantonese and Vietnamese will be provided.

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- **Sunday, September 8, 3 - 5 p.m.**
Claremont Middle School, 5750 College Avenue

Every meeting is open to all interested parties and members of the Oakland community regardless of which Council District people live in. Visit <http://mapgis.oaklandnet.com/councildistricts> for a map of Council Districts and locator tool.

To request interpretation services in languages other than English, Cantonese, Spanish or Vietnamese, please contact Silvia San Miguel, at least five business days prior to the meeting date, at (510) 238-6448 or ssanmiguel@oaklandnet.com. All meeting locations are wheelchair accessible.

To request a sign language interpreter or any other disability accommodation, please contact Devan Reiff at (510) 238-3550, TTY: (510) 238-3254 or dreiff@oaklandnet.com at least three business days in advance. Please refrain from wearing scented products to these meetings.

Participating in the Redistricting Town Hall Meetings gives members of the public an opportunity to voice concerns and suggestions, which is critical to ensuring that they have equal access to the political process. This participation can also encourage citizens to register, vote and remain politically engaged. It can also help lead to the adoption of redistricting plans that provide communities of interest a meaningful opportunity to elect candidates who represent their interests on issues that are important to their lives.

For those unable to attend one of the above meetings, the City is offering a variety of other engagement and feedback opportunities including:

- Using the interactive mapping software at <http://www.onlineredistricting.com/Oakland2/redist/>
- Visiting the City's newly launched open data platform, <http://data.oaklandnet.com>, to explore and visualize population data – starting July 1
- Engaging in the discussion online at <http://www.EngageOakland.com> – starting July 1
- Emailing suggestions and comments to strategicplanning@oaklandnet.com
- Leaving a voice message on the redistricting hotline at (510) 238-3079

In October, the City Council will begin holding public hearings to deliberate on the proposed redistricting maps that result from the summer's Town Hall Meetings. The Council will make a final selection of the Council District boundaries in November.

To assist in the Redistricting process, the City of Oakland has retained the services of National Demographics Corporation (NDC). NDC has extensive experience in redistricting, having served as consultants for local and regional redistricting efforts in Modesto, Los Angeles County and Santa Rosa.

For more information on Oakland's redistricting process including a map of current Council Districts, relevant legislation, upcoming Council meeting dates and more, visit www.oaklandnet.com/redistricting.