

# The City of Oakland & City Council want your input!

## Redistricting Oakland's Council Districts

Every 10 years, the Oakland City Charter requires the City to adjust the City Council District boundaries to equalize each district's population according to U.S. Census data. This process is called Redistricting. Over the summer, the City, in partnership with Councilmembers, will hold Redistricting Town Hall Meetings in each of the seven Council Districts to gather input from Oakland residents. All interested parties are welcome at each meeting, regardless of where they reside. In October, the City Council will hold public hearings to deliberate on the proposed redistricting maps that result from these Town Hall Meetings. The Council will make a final selection of the boundaries during public hearings in November.

**Wednesday, July 10, 6 - 8 pm**

81st Avenue Branch Library, 1021 81st Avenue

**Thursday, July 11, 6:30 - 8:30 pm**

Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

Interpretation services will be provided in Cantonese, Vietnamese and Spanish.

**Saturday, July 13, 10 am - Noon**

Dimond Recreation Center, 3860 Hanly Road

**Thursday, September 5, 6:30 - 8:30 pm**

Cesar Chavez Education Center, 2825 International Boulevard

Interpretation services will be provided in Spanish.

**Saturday, September 7, 10 am - Noon**

Frick Middle School, 2845 64th Avenue

**Saturday, September 7, 2 - 4 pm**

Oakland Public Library, Main Library Auditorium, 125 14th Street

Interpretation services will be provided in Cantonese and Vietnamese.

**Sunday, September 8, 3 - 5 pm**

Claremont Middle School, 5750 College Avenue

**Every meeting is open to all interested parties and members of the Oakland community.** No R.S.V.P. required. Visit [mapgis.oaklandnet.com/councildistricts](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](mailto:SSanmiguel@oaklandnet.com).

**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](mailto:DReiff@oaklandnet.com) at least three business days in advance. Please refrain from wearing scented products to these meetings. All meeting locations are wheelchair accessible.

**Visit [www.oaklandnet.com/redistricting](http://www.oaklandnet.com/redistricting) for more information on Oakland's redistricting process,** including a map of current Council Districts, relevant legislation, upcoming Council meeting dates and more.

For those unable to attend one of the above meetings, **there are more ways for you to participate:**

- Use the interactive mapping software at <http://www.onlineredistricting.com/Oakland2/redist/>
- Visit the City's newly launched open data platform, [data.oaklandnet.com](http://data.oaklandnet.com), to explore and visualize population data
- Engage in the discussion online at [EngageOakland.com](http://EngageOakland.com)
- Email suggestions and comments to [strategicplanning@oaklandnet.com](mailto:strategicplanning@oaklandnet.com)
- Leave a voice message on the redistricting hotline at **(510) 238-3079**.



## What is Redistricting?

Redistricting is the process of drawing new electoral district boundaries in order to equalize district populations. Since the 1993, redistricting of City Council Districts has been done every ten years. The overall purpose of redistricting is to review districts and, where necessary, redraw districts in order to address any changes in population concentration.

## Why do we have to change City Council district lines?

After the U.S. Census data is released, we can see how district populations have changed. Sometimes districts that were equal ten years before, have become mal-apportioned due to population changes. That is, some districts have too many people while others have too few people.

Jurisdictions must redistrict in order to make the populations in districts equal again and ensure they are complying with “one person, one vote” requirements.

*Adapted from redistrictingca.org*

## Why is Redistricting Important?

Participating in the Redistricting Town Hall Meetings provides Oaklanders 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. In Oakland, the City Council Districts also serve as the districts for the Governing Board for the Oakland Unified School District (a.k.a. the Board of Education).

*Adapted from Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund’s Redistricting Manual 2010*

## What criteria will be used for the 2013 Redistricting?

At its meeting on June 4, 2013, the Oakland City Council adopted the following Redistricting criteria (in order of priority) with the passage of Resolution No. 84443 C.M.S.

1. Each Council District shall contain a nearly equal number of inhabitants.
2. Council District borders shall be drawn in a manner that complies with the U.S. Constitution and the Federal Voting Rights Act.
3. Council Districts shall respect community of interest as much as possible.
4. Council Districts shall consist of contiguous territory in a reasonably compact form.
5. Council District borders shall follow visible natural and man-made geographical and topographical features as much as possible.
6. The population and territory of each existing Council District shall be considered when drawing each corresponding new Council District.
7. Council Districts should avoid displacing any incumbent City Councilmember or Oakland Unified School District Board member from the district he/she was elected to represent.

## Key Dates:

Beyond the Redistricting Town Hall Meetings listed on the back, key legislative dates for the Redistricting process include:

- October 3 - City Council Rules Committee
- October 15 - City Council Hearing to select from alternative maps
- November 15 - City Council Hearing – First Reading of Redistricting Ordinance and preferred mapping boundaries
- November 19 - Final City Council Hearing/Adoption of Redistricting Ordinance, and adoption of new council district boundaries

## Get involved!

- Identify and map local communities of interest
- Use online mapping tools to draw your own map with new district borders
- Attend the Redistricting Town Hall Meetings and hearings
- Alert your friends and family living in Oakland of the importance of Redistricting and how they can get involved