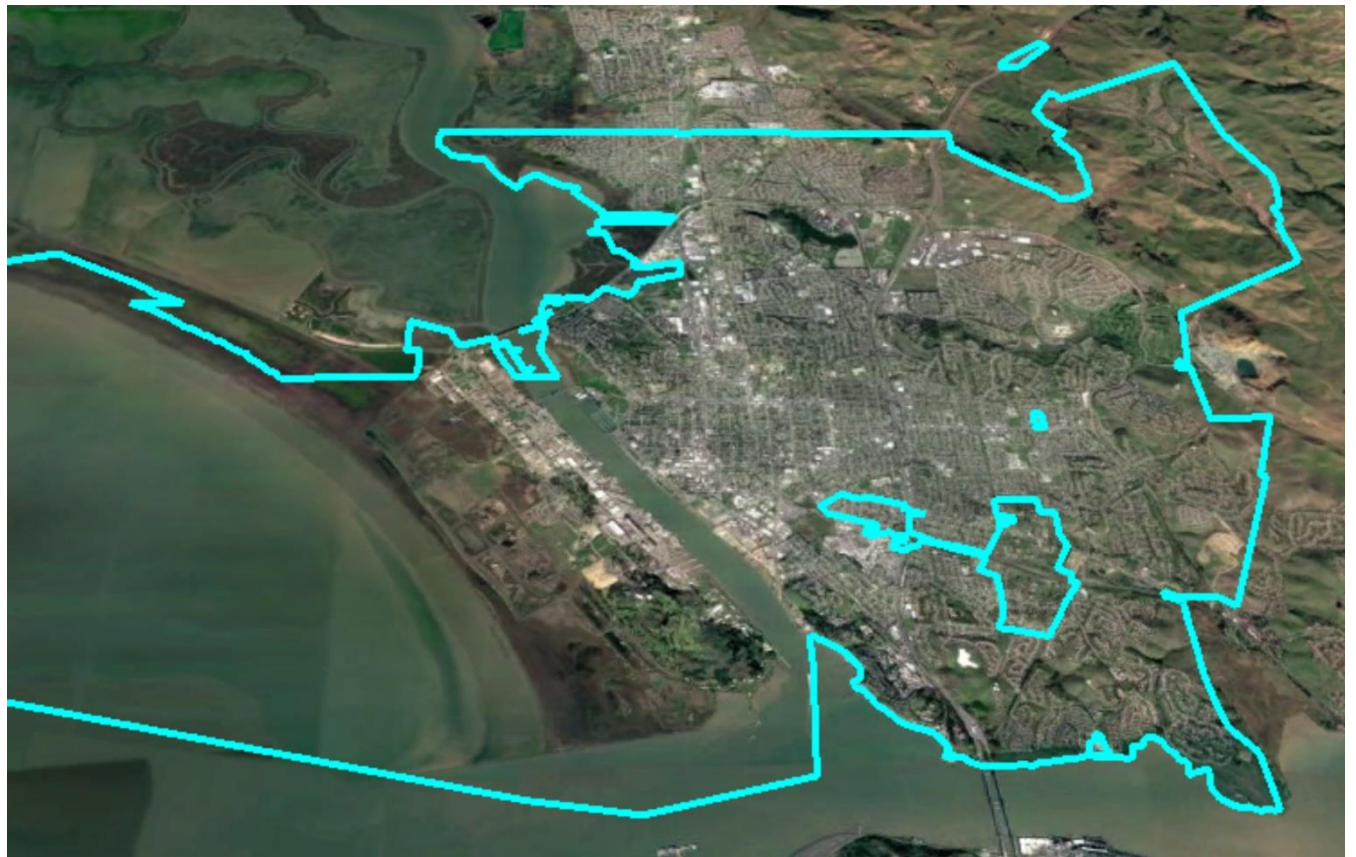CITY OF VALLEJO
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL
MEETING:
ACTION ITEM A

City of Vallejo Districting
Criteria and Process

December 19, 2018

Election Systems

1. **"At Large"**

2. **"From District" or "Residence" Districts**

3. **"By District"**

The California Voting Rights Act was written to specifically require by-district elections.

California Voting Rights Act (CVRA)

- Under the Federal Voting Rights Act (passed in 1965), a jurisdiction must fail 4 factual tests before it is in violation of the law.

- The California VRA makes it significantly easier for plaintiffs to force jurisdictions into "by-district" election systems by eliminating two of the US Supreme Court *Gingles* tests:
  1. ~~Can the protected class constitute the majority of a district?~~
  2. Does the protected class vote as a bloc?
  3. Do the voters who are not in the protected class vote in a bloc to defeat the preferred candidates of the protected class?
  4. ~~Do the "totality of circumstances" indicate race is a factor in elections?~~

- Liability is now determined only by the presence of racially polarized voting

CVRA Impact

- Switched (or in the process of switching) as a result of CVRA:
  - At least 165 school districts
  - 28 Community College Districts
  - 100+ cities
  - 1 County Board of Supervisors
  - 10 water and other special districts.

- Cases So Far:
  - Palmdale, Santa Clara and Santa Monica went to trial on the merits. Palmdale, Santa Clara, and Santa Monica lost. Santa Monica will appeal.
  - Modesto and Palmdale each spent about $1.8 million on their defense (in addition to the attorney fee awards in those cases). Santa Monica has spent an estimated $5 million so far.

- Key settlements:
  - Palmdale: $4.7 million
  - Modesto: $3 million
  - Highland: $1.3 million
  - Anaheim: $1.1 million
  - Whittier: $1 million
  - Santa Barbara: $600,000
  - Tulare Hospital: $500,000
  - Madera Unified: about $170,000
  - Hanford Joint Union Schools: $118,000
  - Merced City: $42,000
- An estimated $16 million in total settlements and court awards so far.

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Districting Process

Step	Description
Nov. 8	Community Forum held.
Two Initial Hearings: Nov. 27 and Dec. 19	Held prior to release of draft maps. Education and to solicit input on the communities in the District.
Release draft maps	Maps must be posted at least 7 days prior to 3rd hearing.
Jan. 5	Community Forum
Two hearings on draft maps: Jan. 22 and Feb. 26	Two meetings to discuss and revise the draft maps and to discuss the election sequence.
Map adoption: March 26 and April 9	Map adopted via ordinance. Final map must be posted at least 7 days prior to adoption.

Traditional Districting Criteria

Federal Laws

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

Traditional Criteria

- Communities of interest
- Compact
- Contiguous
- Visible (Natural & man-made) boundaries
- Respect for voters' wishes and continuity in office
- *Planned future growth*

Demographic Summary

Each of six Council districts will need about 19,324 residents.

All of these data categories can be mapped.

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Category	Field	Count	Pct	Category	Field	Count	Pct
	Total Pop	115,942		ACS Pop. Est.	Total	119,653	
Total Pop	Hisp	26,165	23%	Age	age0-19	27,759	23%
	NH White	28,946	25%		age20-60	66,499	56%
	NH Black	25,937	22%		age60plus	25,395	21%
	Asian-American	29,887	26%	Immigration	immigrants	32,467	27%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	82,805			naturalized	19,837	61%
	Hisp	13,960	17%	Language spoken at home	english	70,722	63%
	NH White	26,542	32%		spanish	19,760	18%
	NH Black	19,436	23%		asian-lang	18,634	17%
	Asian/Pac.Isl.	20,249	26%		other lang	2,956	3%
Voter Registration (Nov 2016)	Total	62,899		Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	15,649	14%
	Latino est.	14,669	23%	Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	52,008	63%
	Spanish-Surnamed	13,178	21%		bachelor	14,948	18%
	Asian-Surnamed	1,742	3%		graduatedegree	5,122	6%
	Filipino-Surnamed	5,070	8%	Child in Household	child-under18	11,486	28%
	NH White est.	23,682	38%	Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	53,750	55%
	NH Black	17,362	28%	Household Income	income 0-25k	9,130	22%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2016)	Total	43,912			income 25-50k	8,779	21%
	Latino est.	9,986	23%		income 50-75k	7,278	18%
	Spanish-Surnamed	8,970	20%		income 75-200k	14,810	36%
	Asian-Surnamed	1,189	3%		income 200k-plus	1,583	4%
	Filipino-Surnamed	3,441	8%	Housing Stats	single family	33,348	73%
	NH White est.	16,933	39%		multi-family	12,323	27%
	NH Black	12,098	28%		rented	18,842	45%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2014)	Total	21,725			owned	22,738	55%
	Latino est.	3,655	17%				
	Spanish-Surnamed	3,283	15%				
	Asian-Surnamed	455	2%				
	Filipino-Surnamed	1,603	7%				
	NH White est.	9,685	45%				
	NH Black est.	6,380	29%				

Latino CVAP

The main concentration of Latinos is along Solano Rd.

LatinoCVAP
- 0% to 25%
- 25% to 35%
- 35% to 50%
- 50% to 65%
- 65% to 75%
- 75% to 100%
- No Population
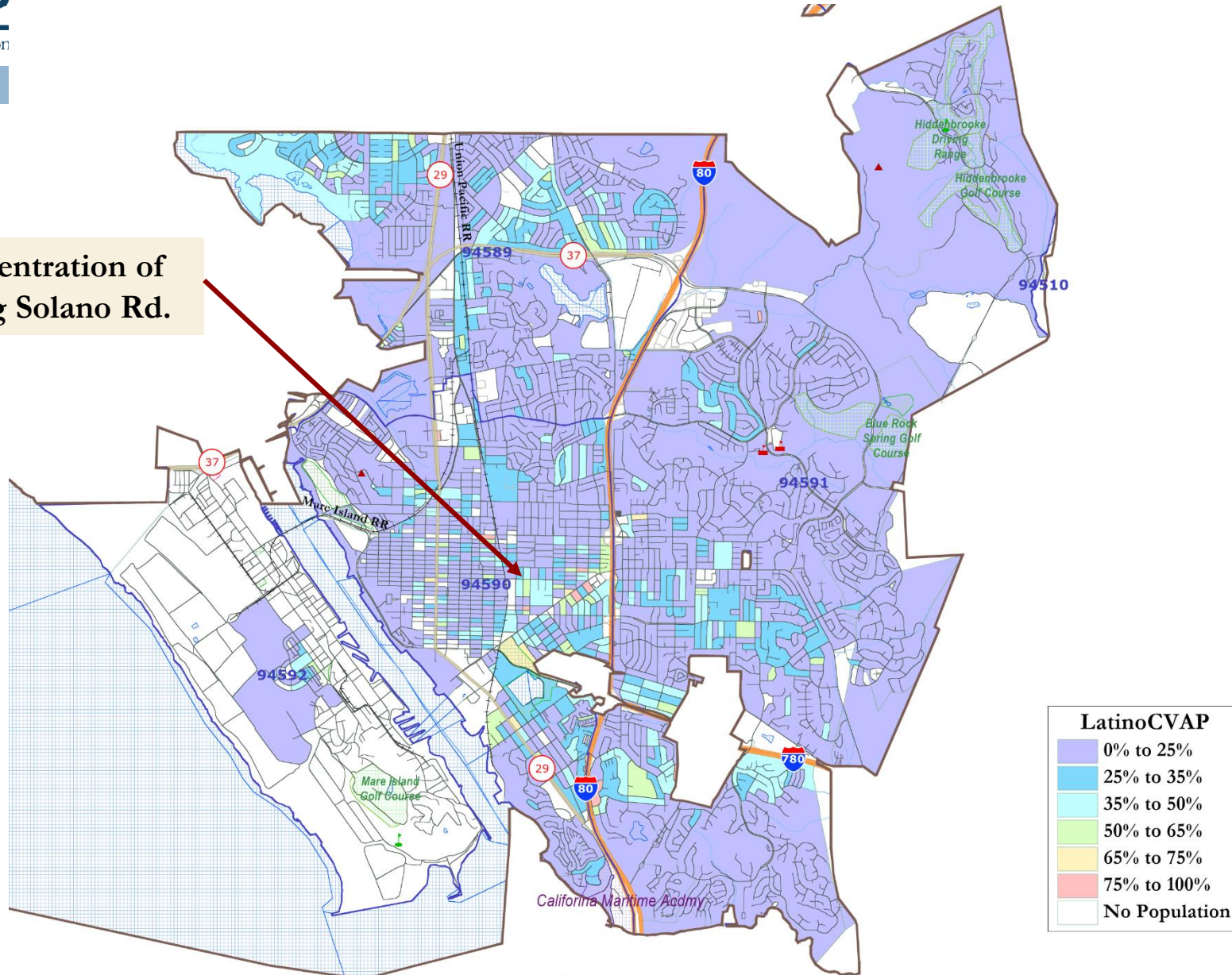
Asian CVAP

Asian-American voters are particularly concentrated in the northwest and in the east.

AsnCVAP
- 0% to 25%
- 25% to 35%
- 35% to 50%
- 50% to 65%
- 65% to 75%
- 75% to 100%
- Other
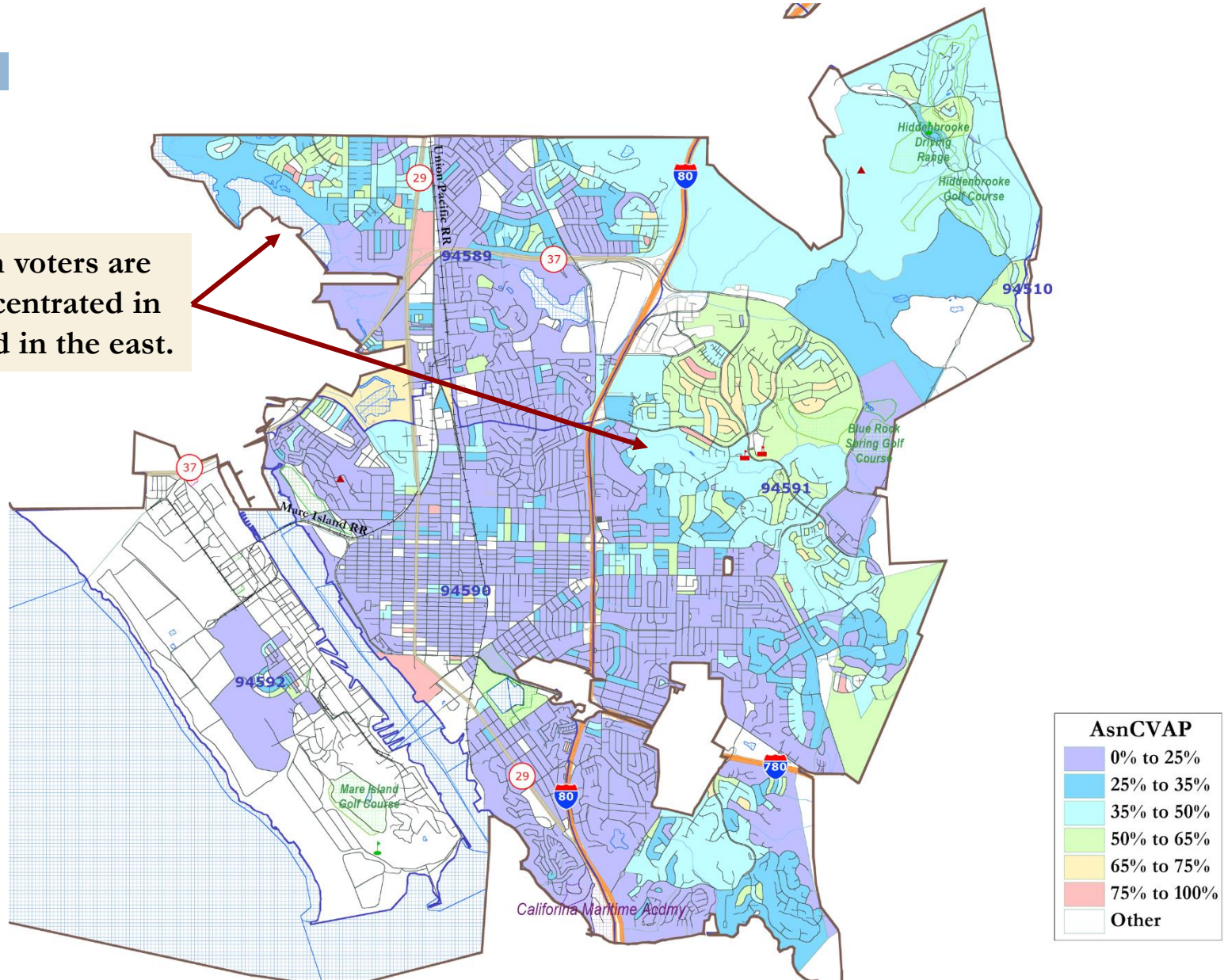
African-American CVAP

African-Americans are particularly concentrated in the north of the city, along Sonoma Ave, and on the north side of Solano Ave.

BlkCVAP

	0% to 25%
	25% to 35%
	35% to 50%
	50% to 65%
	65% to 75%
	75% to 100%
	Other

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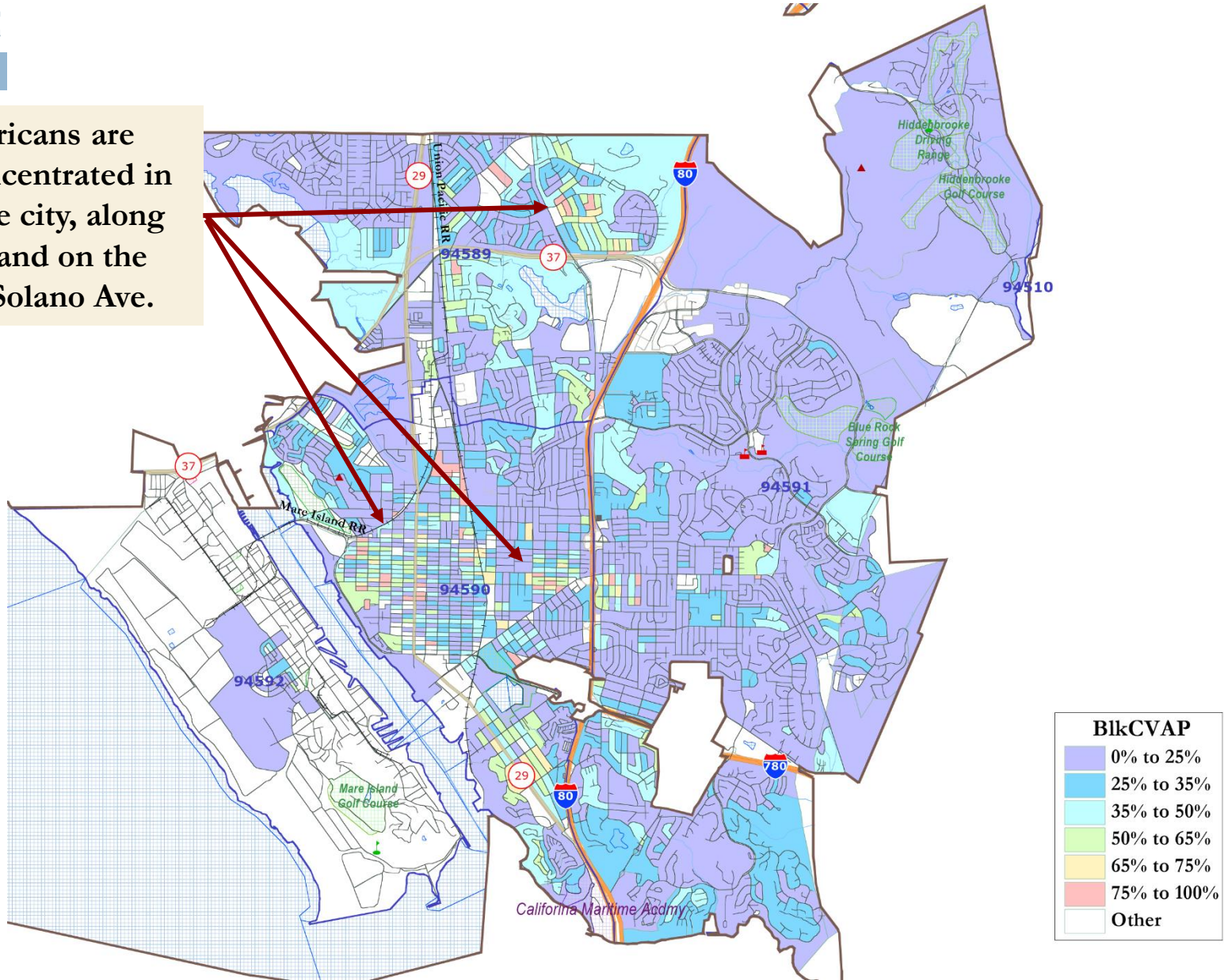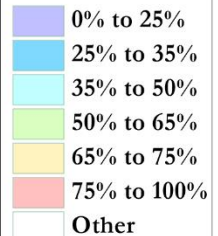
Percent Renters

Renter and other ACS data are available by Census Tract (outlined by the thicker black lines), not the smaller Census Blocks.

Renters
- 0% to 25%
- 25% to 35%
- 35% to 50%
- 50% to 65%
- 65% to 75%
- 75% to 100%
- Other
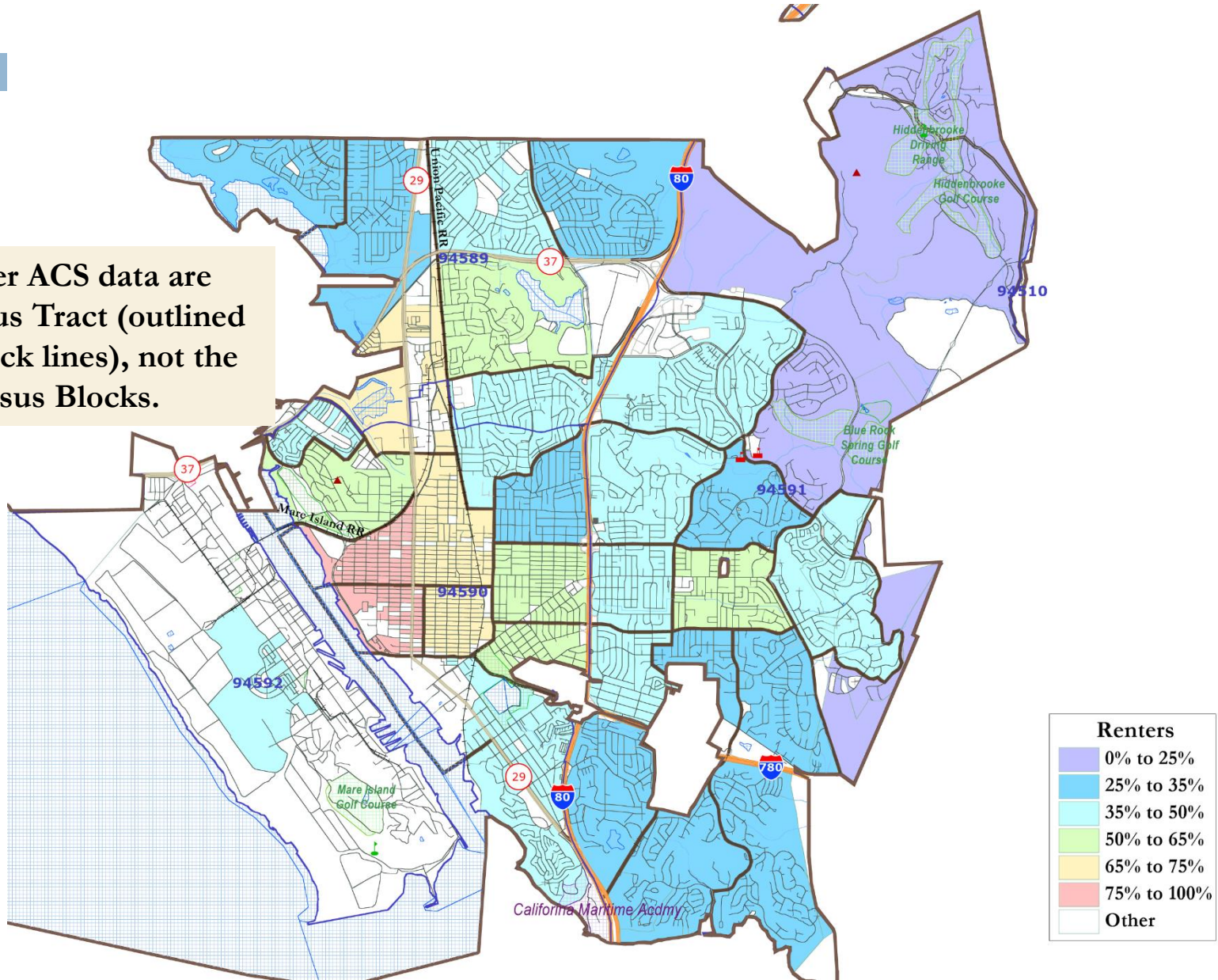
Defining Communities of Interest

1st Question: what is your neighborhood or community of interest?

A Community of Interest is generally defined as a neighborhood or community of shared interests, views, problems, or characteristics.

Possible community feature/boundary definitions include:

- School attendance areas

- Natural neighborhood dividing lines, such as highway or major roads, rivers, canals, and/or hills

- Areas around parks and other neighborhood landmarks

- Common issues, neighborhood activities, or legislative/election concerns

- Shared demographic characteristics

  - Such as similar levels of income, education, or linguistic isolation

2nd Question: Does a Community of Interest want to be united in one district, or to be divided to have a voice in multiple elections?

Sample Compact Maps

National Demographics Corporation

Compton

Glendale Unified

City of Compton
2012 Redistricting
Plan Adopted Oct. 23

Map layers
Adopted Oct 23
Landmark Area
Pipeline/Power Line
Railroad
River
Streets
Water Area
Major Streets

Areas

GUSD Facilities
Continuation / Indep. (2)
Elementary (21)
High (4)
Middle (4)
Other (12)
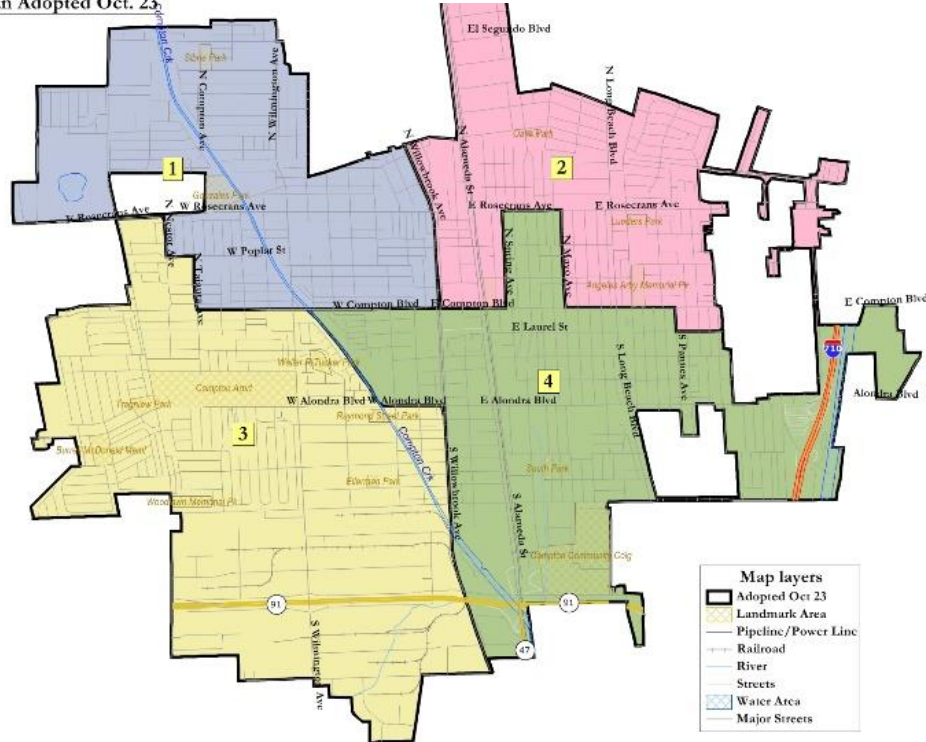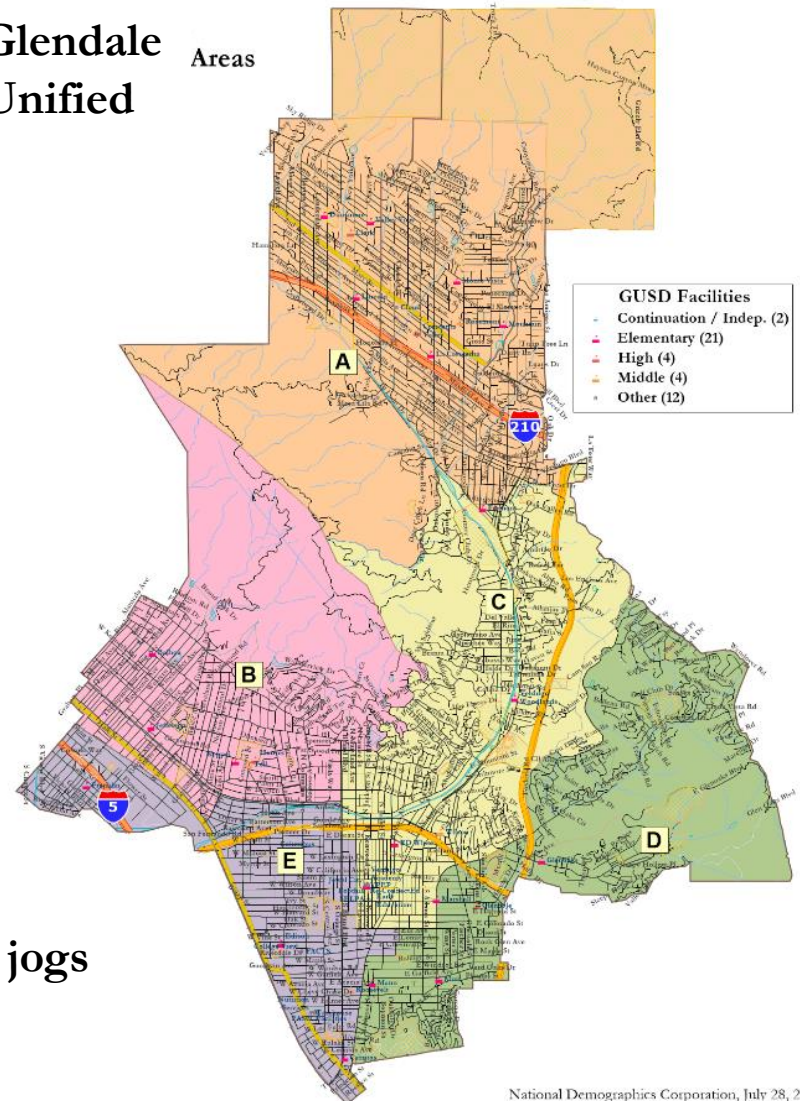
Examples of highly compact maps, with nooks and jogs driven only by equal population requirements.

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National Demographics Corporation, July 28, 2016

Sample Multiple-Representative Maps

National Demographics Corporation

Pasadena

Colorado Blvd.
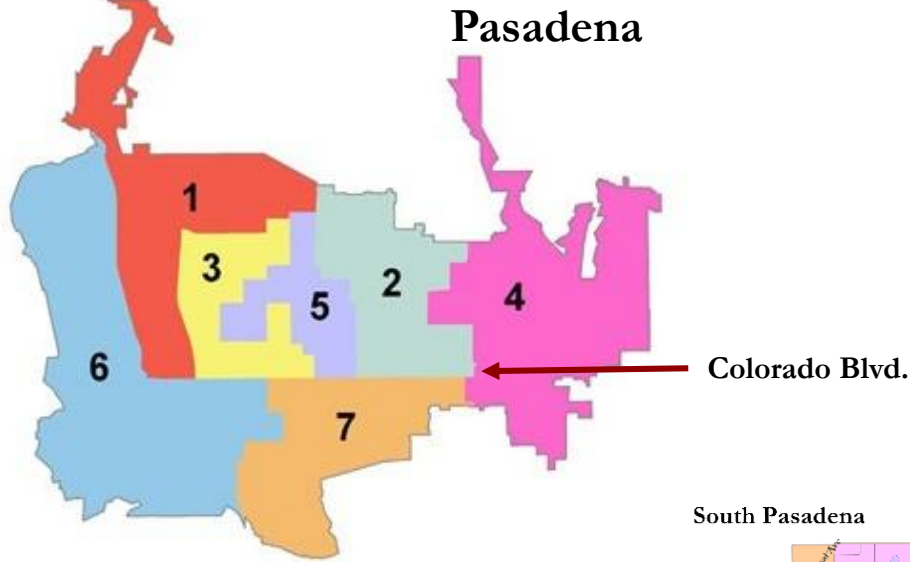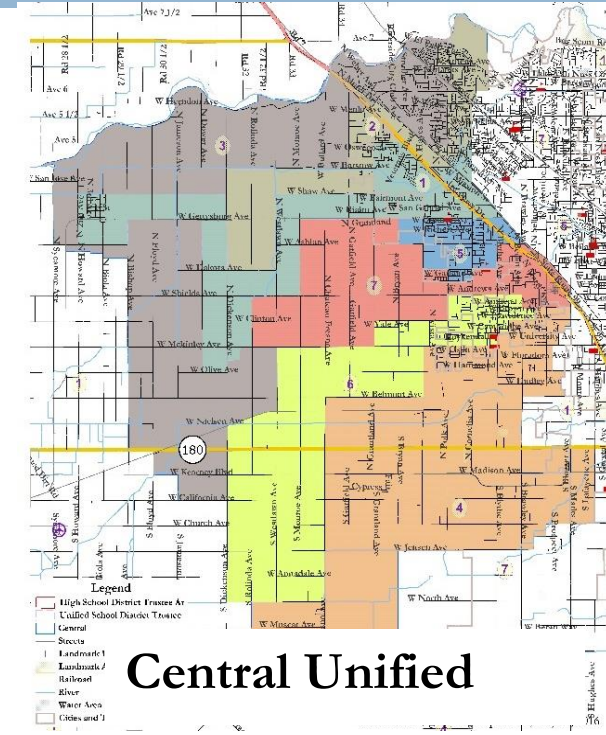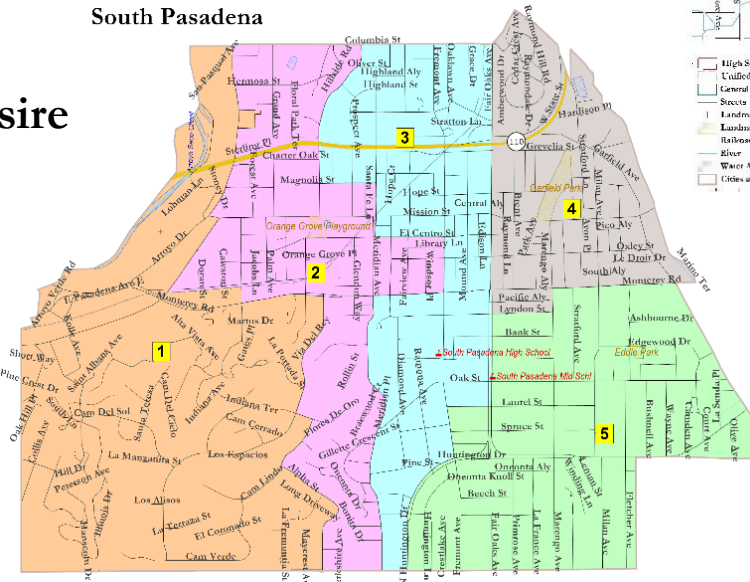
South Pasadena

Central Unified

Examples of maps where a desire to have all members touch downtown (Pasadena) or rural areas (Central), or as many neighborhoods as possible (South Pas), led to policy-driven but non-compact maps.

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Map-Drawing Tools

- Use the paper map, the online tool, or any other map

- Draw your neighborhood; draw the district you want for your area; or draw an entire citywide map

Using the One-Page Paper Map

Draw your proposed districts, add up the numbers to be sure they are balanced, and send it in.

If you want to divide a Population Unit, simply note which Unit and the street where you want it divided and we will make that division if possible (divisions must be along Census Block lines, which usually follow streets).

City of Vallejo 2018/2019 Districting Public Participation Kit

Please use a thick dark-colored pen to draw your map, then submit it at City Hall or by email to maps@cityofvallejo.net.

You can hand-deliver, mail, fax, scan and email, or photograph and email your map.
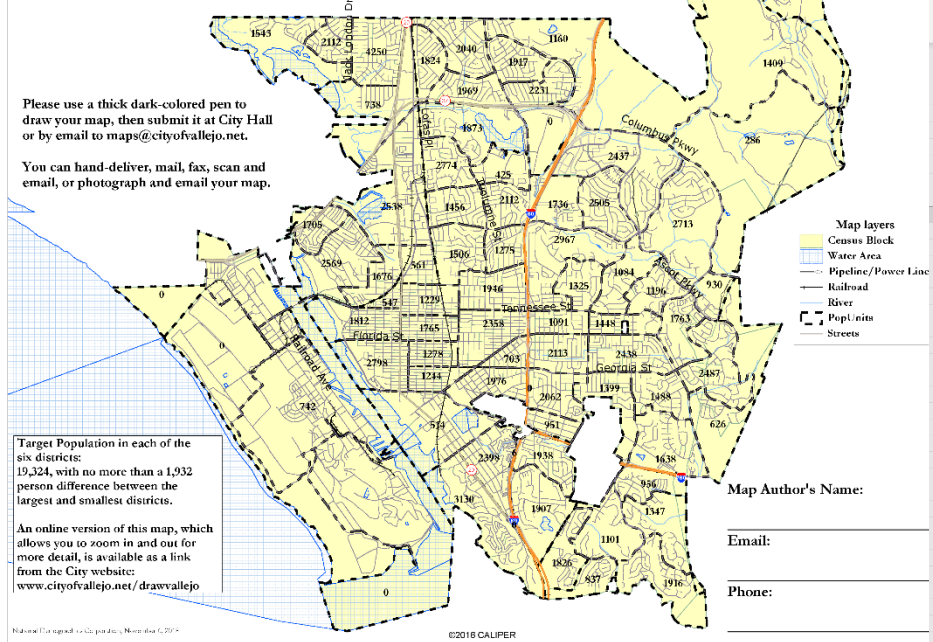
Target Population in each of the six districts:
19,324, with no more than a 1,932 person difference between the largest and smallest districts.

An online version of this map, which allows you to zoom in and out for more detail, is available as a link from the City website:
www.cityofvallejo.net/drawvallejo

Map Author's Name:

Email:

Phone:

October 22, 2018

Project Website

Using the Excel tool

National Demographics Corporation

City of Vallejo 2018/2019 Districting
Population Unit ID Numbers

Use this map with the
Microsoft Excel kit supplement.

An online version of this map that
allows you to zoom in and out for
more detail is available as a link
from the District website.
www.cityofvallejo.net/drawvallejo

Enter the district assignment in the highlighted column, and Excel will calculate the resulting demographic changes.

Discussions

Public Input

1. What are the boundaries of your neighborhood or "community of interest"?

2. Do you want your neighborhood united in one district, or with multiple Councilmembers elected from it?

3. What other "communities of interest" do you see in the City?

Public Participation Tools

www.CityofVallejo.net/drawvallejo

Interactive Review Website

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