



Foothill-De Anza Community College  
2021 District Elections  
Community Outreach Meetings

**FOOTHILL+DE ANZA**

***Your Colleges, Your Voice***

***Moving to Area Elections***

# Welcome

# Agenda

## Things we will cover:

- California Voting Rights Act
- What is Districting
- Traditional Districting/Redistricting Principles
- Districting Timeline
- Communities of Interest
- Map Tool Demonstration
- Public Testimony on Communities of Interest
- District Population
- Public Hearing Schedule

# What is the CVRA?

The California Voting Rights Act is a state law that prohibits the use of At Large Election Systems in local government if there is Racially Polarized Voting.

“At Large” is defined as anything other than a system in which an elected official lives in a district, and is only elected by members of that district.

“Racially Polarized Voting” is defined as differences in voting patterns which can be shown to be correlated to race, religion, national origin, or membership in any other protected class.

# What is the CVRA?

The California Voting Rights Act takes the principles of the Federal Voting Rights Act and expands it regarding districted elections in two key ways:

While Federal law uses “majority minority” districts as a standard for vulnerability, the CVRA only requires “ability to influence.”

The CVRA requires that plaintiffs get full reimbursement for legal fees associated with any successful challenge.

# What is the CVRA?

The California Voting Rights Act takes the principles of the Federal Voting Rights Act and expands it regarding districted elections in two key ways:

While Federal law uses “majority minority” districts as a standard for vulnerability, the CVRA only requires “ability to influence.”

The CVRA requires that plaintiffs get full reimbursement for legal fees associated with any successful challenge. ***These can be lessened or eliminated if the district follows a strict and prompt process for districting.***

# What is Districting

## Definition

Districting is the initial process of creating election district boundaries.

These boundaries determine:

- Eligibility to run for office – must live within boundaries to qualify for election.
- Who votes in the election – only voters within the district vote for their board of trustee.

# What is Districting

## Definition

Districing is the initial process of creating election district boundaries.

These boundaries do not determine:

- How the college decides to govern. The college can still work to achieve goals that benefit the college as a whole rather than the interests of any single district.
- How services or relationships between the college and the public are managed.



# Traditional Districting Principles

## Preventing a District from becoming a Gerrymander

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

- Relatively equal size - people, not citizens
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- Maintain “*communities of interest*”
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function

# Traditional Districting Principles

## Drawing New Board of Trustee Lines for Fair Representation

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

- Relatively equal size - people, not citizens
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- **Maintain “*communities of interest*”**
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function

# Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

Communities of interest are the building blocks of districts.

A community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Subjective
- Open-ended to be as inclusive as possible

Examples of Voting Rights Act Communities

- Latinos
- Asians
- African Americans

# Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

Communities of interest are the building blocks of districts.

A community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Subjective
- Open-ended to be as inclusive as possible

Examples of Voting Rights Act Communities

- Latinos
- Asians
- African Americans

**While communities of interest may include race, it cannot be the *predominant factor* in drawing district boundaries.**

# Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

- Historical communities
- Economic interests
- Racial composition
- Ethnic Areas
- Cultural amenities
- Religious facilities
- Immigrant communities
- Languages spoken
- Geographic features
- Neighborhoods
- Economic opportunity zones
- Tourism Areas
- School districts
- Outdoor recreation areas
- Communities defined by natural resource features
- Downtown / Urban
- Rural or Agricultural
- Homeowner or Renters
- Creative arts communities
- Media markets
- *Many, many more*

# What is NOT a Community of Interest

Preventing a Districting from becoming a Gerrymander

The Fair Maps Act explicitly prohibits these groups from being considered as communities of interest

- Political party affiliation
- Incumbents
- Political candidates

It also is hard, in districting to truly consider:

- *Groups of similarly minded people who do not share a similar geographic location.*
- *Communities of Interest that are district or state wide*

# Communities of Interest

## Three Critical Questions in Defining YOUR Community

Communities can be best described by answering these three questions:

- Does the community have a shared culture, characteristics or bond?
- Is the community geographic in nature? Is the community able to be mapped?
- What is the community's relationship with the jurisdiction being districted? How is it affected by the policy decisions made by the elected officials?

# Is this a Community of Interest?

A group of renters who live downtown testifies to the Board of Trustees.

Would this be considered a *Community of Interest*?



# Is this a Community of Interest?

A group of renters who live downtown testifies to the Board of Trustees.

Would this be considered a *Community of Interest*?

YES! This group of residents can easily to be mapped in a distinct area AND they share a common policy interest, which can be addressed through legislation or public services.

# Is this a Community of Interest?

A statewide group of people who are fans of the San Francisco Giants testifies to the Board of Trustees.

Is this a Community of Interest?

# Is this a Community of Interest?

A statewide group of people who are fans of the San Francisco Giants testifies to the local Board of Trustees.

Is this a Community of Interest?

**NO!** It is important that a community of interest is distinct enough to draw on a map. This group overlaps throughout the entire state, and it is unlikely that a governing agency has any say over these issues.

# Community of Interest Forms

## Submitting Your COI Form

Input can be provided in community workshops, public hearings or using the District's Community of Interest Form.

This form is available at:

<https://www.fhda.edu/trustee-areas/>



FOOTHILL-DE ANZA  
Community College District

### Community of Interest Survey

A community of interest is a group of people who share common social or economic interests and live in a geographically definable area. Some communities of interest are very familiar and have official boundaries, such as a city or school district. Other communities of interest are informal and may not appear on any map or be familiar to people outside those communities.

Communities of interest are best described by the people who are part of them. **Keeping communities of interest together for purposes of effective and fair representation is an important consideration in drawing trustee area boundary lines.** This survey is intended to help identify communities of interest within the Foothill-De Anza Community College District.

#### About you

Your name (required)

Your home zip code (required)

Email address

#### About your community

*Please answer as many questions as you can. It's OK to skip questions if you don't have an answer. However, question #4 is particularly important to this survey.*

If you were drawing a picture of your main community of interest, how would you map it?  
What streets, highways or other boundaries and physical features define its boundaries?

Which existing landmarks within your immediate community are important to you? Please list their names. Landmarks can include things like schools, churches, community centers, libraries, parks and hiking areas, shopping areas, or any other places that are important in your community.

What is the name of your community?

What languages are spoken in your community?

# Map Submissions

Online Map Submissions will be available in the coming month on DistrictR – an online mapping platform that the District will be using.

Two types of expected input:

- Community of Interest Forms (Now – End of Process)
- District Plans Based on 2020 Data (Release of Data – Final Adoption)

# Communities of Interest

## Drawing YOUR Communities of Interest

Foothill- De Anza Community College District will be using DistrictR as a public mapping tool to allow residents to draw their own Communities of Interest.



*You draw the lines.*

<https://districtr.org/california>

# Foothill- De Anza CCD Board of Trustees

## Timeline for Upcoming Public Hearings

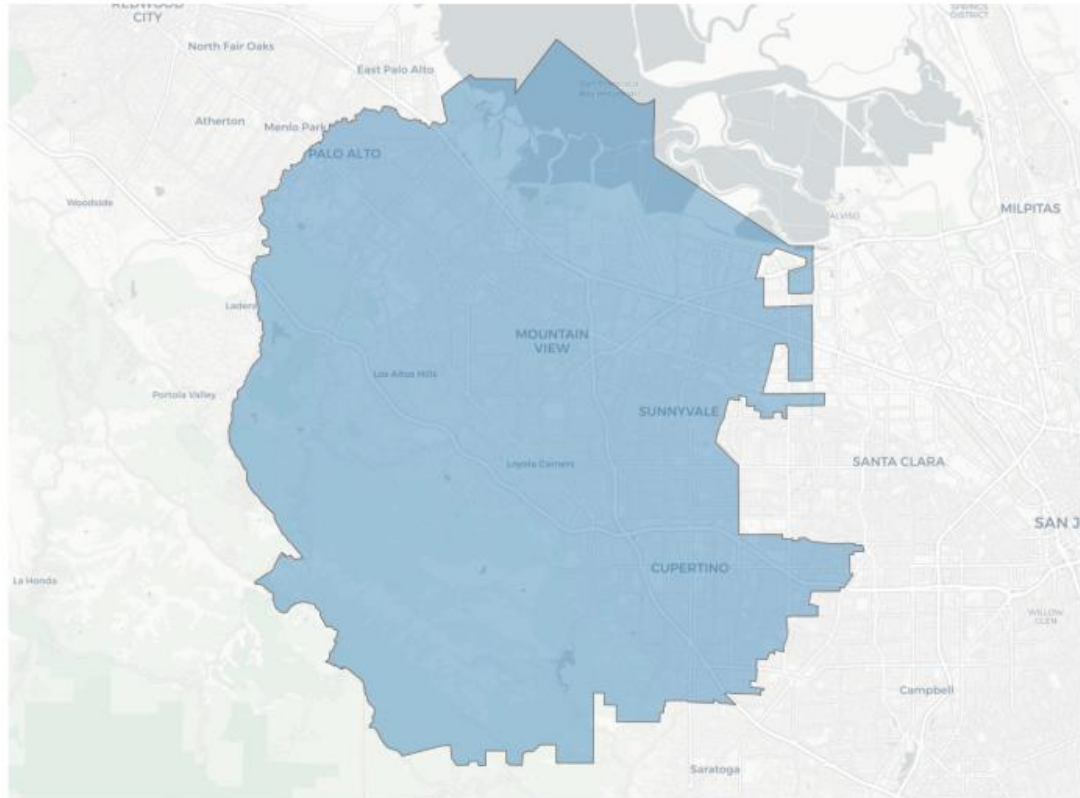
Sept. 13, 2021	Hearing to gather community input
Oct. 4, 2021	Hearing to gather community input
Dec. 13, 2021	Hearing on the draft maps
Jan. 10, 2022	Hearing on the draft maps
Feb. 14, 2022	Hearing to approve final map & sequencing

## Foothill- De Anza Community College District Website

<https://www.fhda.edu/trustee-areas/>



# Foothill- De Anza Community College District Population



Population	Deviation	Deviation %	Other	Other %	Latino	Latino %	Asian	Asian %	Black	Black %
448,859	0	0.0%	182,638	40.7%	49,643	11.1%	210,375	46.9%	6,203	1.4%
Total CVAP	Other CVAP	Other CVAP %	Latino CVAP	Latino CVAP %	Asian CVAP	Asian CVAP %	Black CVAP	Black CVAP %		
248,181	133,784	53.9%	21,848	8.8%	87,741	35.4%	4,807	1.9%		



# REDISTRICTING PARTNERS