



**STAFF REPORT  
CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH**

**TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council**  
**FROM: Andy Hall, City Manager**  
**MEETING DATE: 10/20/2021**  
**ORIGINATING DEPT: City Clerk**  
**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING TIME CERTAIN FOR 6:00 P.M. - CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL ELECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES, TO INCLUDE PRESENTATION ON THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS AND PERMISSIBLE CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED TO REDRAW DISTRICT BOUNDARIES, AND TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING THE COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL ELECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES. (0430-95)**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Every ten years, cities with geographic election districts (including Imperial Beach) must use new census data to review and, if needed, redraw district lines to reflect how local populations have changed. This process, referred to as redistricting, ensures each district has a nearly equal population as the other districts. Using new 2020 Census data and the requirements of California's new "Fair Maps Act" law, it has been determined that the existing district election areas in Imperial Beach are still balanced.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Open the public hearing and receive a report from NDC, the City's demographic consultant, regarding the redistricting process and permissible criteria to be considered to retain or redraw district boundaries.
2. Invite members of the public to provide input on the district boundaries.
3. Direct staff to hold a total of four public hearings to encourage and provide several opportunities for the public to offer input regarding the composition of Council election district boundaries.

**OPTIONS:**

- Hold the public hearing, receive presentation from NDC, receive public input, and direct staff to hold a total of four public hearings
- Request additional information from staff or the City's consultant
- Provide direction to the City Manager to take an alternative action

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

The City adopted its current district boundaries on December 5, 2018, based on 2010 census data as required by law. On September 27, 2021, the State of California posted the prisoner-adjusted 2020 Census data per Elections Code 21003. For California cities, these figures are deemed to be the final numbers to balance in the redistricting process (Elections Code 21601).

NDC processed these numbers for the current Imperial Beach Council election districts (Attachment 1). NDC finds that the City's current population deviation - the difference between the most populous and least populous districts - is 9.1%. This value is within the 10% threshold where a map is considered "presumptively constitutional" (Harris v Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission), and thus the districts do not need to be redrawn to comply with the federal equal population requirement.

In October 2019, Assembly Bill No. 849, known as the Fair Maps Act, was approved which now requires cities to ensure maps comply with set redistricting criteria. AB 849 further outlines the specified steps a jurisdiction must take to encourage public participation of its residents and the deadlines for the adoption of new boundaries by a governing body. If the City Council finds the current districts meet the requirements of California's new "Fair Maps Act," the election district lines may be retained at the conclusion of the Fair Maps Act hearing and outreach process. The redistricting process for the City of Imperial Beach must be completed by April 17, 2022.

### **Fair Maps Act:**

Under the Act, the City Council shall draw and adopt boundaries using the following criteria in the listed order of priority (Elections Code 21601(c) for general law cities / 21621(c) for charter cities):

1. Comply with the federal requirements of equal population and the Voting Rights Act
2. Geographically contiguous
3. Undivided neighborhoods and "communities of interest" (socio-economic geographic areas that should be kept together)
4. Easily identifiable boundaries
5. Compact (do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people)
6. Shall not favor or discriminate against a political party

Once the prioritized criteria are met, other traditional districting principles can be considered, such as:

1. Minimize the number of voters delayed from voting in 2022 to 2024
2. Respect voters' choices / continuity in office
3. Future population growth

To comply with the Fair Maps Act, cities should hold at least four public hearings that enable community members to provide input on the drawing of district maps.

- At least one hearing must occur before the city prepares draft maps.
- At least two hearings must happen after the draft maps have been prepared.
- The fourth hearing can happen either before or after the draft maps have been prepared.
- City staff or consultants may hold a public workshop instead of one of the required public redistricting hearings.

To increase the accessibility of these hearings, cities must take the following steps:

- At least one hearing must occur on a Saturday, Sunday, or after 6 p.m. on a weekday.
- If a redistricting hearing is consolidated with another local government meeting, the redistricting hearing portion must begin at a pre-designated time.
- Local public redistricting hearings should be made accessible to people with disabilities.

The purpose of this public hearing is to inform the public about the districting process and to hear from the community on what factors should be taken into consideration when evaluating current districts and considering potential changes to them. The public is requested to provide input regarding communities of interest and other local factors as well as feedback about the current district map. A community of interest under the relevant Elections Code for cities (Section 21601(c) / 21621(c)) is "a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation."

**Next Steps:**

Because the census results showed that the recently adopted districts are still population-balanced, the City of Imperial Beach has the option to simply retain the existing map without preparing and holding hearings on alternative maps. Staff is recommending the four-public hearing process to encourage and provide several opportunities for the public to offer input regarding the composition of Council election district boundaries. At the conclusion of the four-public hearing process, the City Council can take the appropriate action on the districts.

On November 17, 2021, the City Council will conduct Public Hearing #2 to seek additional public input on the current map or any proposed amendments.

The dates for Public Hearings #3 and #4 to consider draft maps are yet to be determined.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:**

Not a project as defined by CEQA.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact associated with this item.

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**Attachments**

1. Population by District
2. Current City Council District Map

Imperial Beach - Existing Districts

District		1	2	3	4	Total
	Total Pop	6,701	6,784	6,558	6,187	26,230
	Deviation from ideal	143	226		-371	597
	% Deviation	2.18%	3.45%	0.00%	-5.66%	9.10%
Total Pop	% Hisp	59.1%	48%	35%	63%	51%
	% NH White	25%	38%	49%	20%	33%
	% NH Black	5%	3%	4%	4%	4%
	% Asian-American	7%	6%	8%	10%	8%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	4,305	4,304	5,847	3,538	17,994
	% Hisp	54%	36%	29%	55%	42%
	% NH White	30%	48%	50%	24%	40%
	% NH Black	9%	6%	7%	7%	7%
	% Asian/Pac.Isl.	6%	9%	12%	12%	10%
Voter Registration (Nov 2020)	Total	3,470	4,094	3,876	3,120	14,560
	% Latino est.	56%	39%	28%	57%	44%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	51%	36%	26%	52%	40%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
	% NH White est.	35%	55%	63%	33%	48%
	% NH Black	9%	5%	8%	10%	8%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2020)	Total	2,278	3,125	3,145	2,070	10,618
	% Latino est.	52%	35%	25%	52%	39%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	48%	33%	24%	48%	36%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%
	% NH White est.	37%	58%	65%	38%	52%
	% NH Black	9%	5%	7%	8%	7%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2018)	Total	1,330	2,173	2,262	1,190	6,955
	% Latino est.	47%	31%	21%	46%	33%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	45%	29%	20%	43%	32%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%
	% NH White est.	39%	62%	69%	41%	56%
	% NH Black est.	10%	4%	7%	10%	7%
ACS Pop. Est.	Total	6,550	6,461	7,865	6,563	27,440
Age	age0-19		26%	26%	31%	28%
	age20-60	57%	56%	54%	59%	56%
	age60plus	15%	19%	19%	11%	16%
Immigration	immigrants		19%	14%	32%	21%
	naturalized	51%	53%	55%	42%	49%
Language spoken at home	english		60%	74%	34%	55%
	spanish	47%	34%	22%	54%	39%
	asian-lang	3%	4%	3%	9%	5%
	other lang	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%
Language Fluency Education (among those age 25+)	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	13%	14%	7%	23%	14%
	hs-grad		55%	47%	50%	52%
	bachelor	10%	15%	19%	13%	14%
	graduatedegree	2%	8%	17%	2%	8%
Child in Household	child-under18	34%	33%	25%	41%	33%
Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	72%	67%	55%	68%	65%
Household Income	income 0-25k	17%	25%	13%	19%	18%
	income 25-50k	34%	25%	24%	34%	29%
	income 50-75k	28%	18%	14%	21%	20%
	income 75-200k	18%	29%	44%	26%	30%
	income 200k-plus	3%	4%	5%	1%	3%
Housing Stats	single family	45%	66%	58%	48%	55%
	multi-family	55%	34%	42%	52%	45%
	rented	84%	66%	50%	83%	69%
	owned	16%	34%	50%	17%	31%

Total population data from the 2020 Decennial Census.

Surname-based Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database.

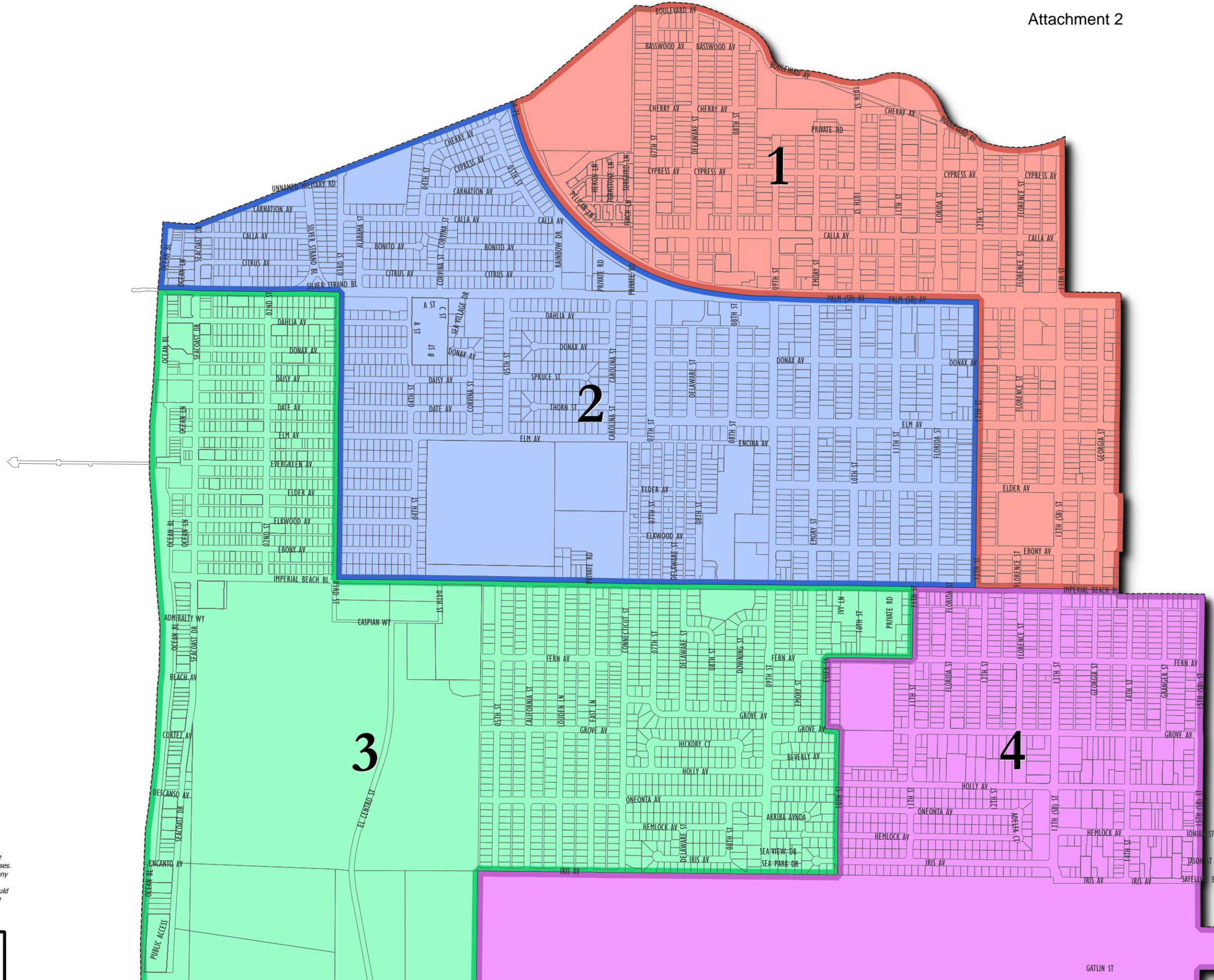
Latino voter registration and turnout data are Spanish-surname counts adjusted using Census Population Department undercount estimates. NH White and NH Black registration and turnout counts estimated by NDC. Citizen Voting Age Pop., Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2015-2019 American Community Survey and Special Tabulation 5-year data.

### Legend

-  City Boundary
-  IB Parcels

### Council Districts

-  1
-  2
-  3
-  4



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**City of Imperial Beach**  
**City Council Districts**