

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: November 5, 2021

TO: Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso *SMT*
Chief Legislative Analyst

Assignment No: 21-11-0830
Council File No: 20-0668-S6

REDISTRICTING PLAN FOR THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUMMARY

As required by the City Charter, the Los Angeles Unified School District Redistricting Commission (Commission) has submitted a proposed plan recommending revisions to the boundaries of the districts of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). This office, in consultation with the City Attorney, has reviewed the plan submitted for consideration. This report provides a summary review of the Commission's proposed plan, including District-level population data.

In addition, this office requested all Council and School Board members to submit to us any proposed adjustments to the Commission's recommended boundaries to allow for analysis and presentation to your Committee. We received and reviewed four proposed adjustments. Of these proposed adjustments, one is a technical change that is endorsed by the Board Members of the Districts affected by the adjustments. The remaining three adjustments require consideration by your Committee.

After reviewing the Commission's proposed plan, the City Attorney has determined that the proposed plan is legally defensible based on the record of the Commission's proceeding and the information and rationales provided in the Commission's report.

As is explained below, the proposed adjustment for Districts 5 and 7 can be done independently, as it does not result in a significant change in deviation from ideal equal population in the Commission's plan. However, the proposed adjustment for Districts 2 and 5 would require other changes in the Commission's plan as the proposal would result in a total deviation that exceeds 10%. The proposed adjustment as introduced by Council District 3, which moves the Woodland Hills community into Board District 3, would also require other adjustments in the Commission's plan. The proposed Alternative Map, as proposed by Board District 1, significantly alters the Commission's plan, and would significantly impacts several Board Districts and would require further analysis.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

1. Adopt the LAUSD Redistricting Commission's plan, as proposed in the Commission's report, "Report and Recommendations of the Los Angeles Unified School District Redistricting Commission;
2. Adopt the following agreed-upon adjustments as noted in this report and detailed in Appendix A that would adjust the boundaries between Board Districts 5 and 7 to keep Carver Middle School on McKinley Avenue and Sally Ride Elementary School on 46th Street in Board District 5, and schools south of Slauson Avenue and west of Compton Avenue in Board District 7, including Edison Middle School, Miramonte Elementary School, Moore Math/Science/Technology Academy and the Diego Rivera Learning Complex schools;
3. Refer the recommendations concerning future redistricting processes proposed by of the Los Angeles Unified School District Redistricting Commission to the Rules and Elections Committee for further consideration;
4. Instruct the Bureau of Engineering to prepare the metes and bounds for the adopted map and submit them to the City Attorney to support the necessary ordinance by November 29, 2021; and
5. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the necessary ordinance, no later than November 30, 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund resulting from the recommendations in this report.

BACKGROUND

The City Charter approved by the voters in 1999 requires that the boundaries of LAUSD Board districts be reviewed and adjusted at least every ten years by an independent commission upon the release of decennial census data. The Commission is required to prepare and present proposed LAUSD district boundaries that conform with state and federal law and, where possible, keep neighborhoods and communities intact, use natural boundaries and streets, respect high school attendance areas, and be geographically compact.

With the delayed release of the 2020 decennial census data in 2021, the City Council initiated the current redistricting process in compliance with the Charter. The 2020-2021 Commission held its first meeting on November 17, 2020, initiating a process that involved hiring staff, establishing a Commission office, holding public hearings, conducting public outreach, and preparing a proposed redistricting plan for the LAUSD.

As required by the Los Angeles Administrative Code, the Commission submitted a final proposal on October 29, 2021 for Council consideration. It should be noted that the Commission serves in an advisory capacity and the Council is not required to adopt the Commission's proposal. As a result, the Council may make adjustments and amendments, or adopt an entirely different plan.

The Charter does require that the Council adopt a final plan by ordinance no later than December 31, 2021.

The redistricting ordinance will contain a detailed metes-and-bounds description of the final LAUSD Board District boundaries. Preparation of this document is a technical process that must be completed by the Bureau of Engineering to ensure that the boundaries as adopted are accurate for use in drawing voter precincts and other relevant program boundaries. Council must adopt a final map in a timely manner to ensure that the redistricting ordinance can be prepared, considered, and approved before the December 31, 2021 deadline.

Required Population Adjustments

The primary consideration in redistricting is the U.S. Constitutional requirement for upholding the principle of one-person, one-vote. To apply that principle to the redistricting process for the LAUSD, it is necessary to determine the ideal size of a Board District. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the area covered by the LAUSD has a population of 4,662,161. The City Charter requires the creation of 7 LAUSD Board Districts. Therefore, the ideal population for each district would be 666,023.

The following table provides population figures for LAUSD Board Districts in their current configuration, as well as the percent deviation from an ideal population of 666,023 people. Based on the 2020 Census data, changes to the LAUSD Board District boundaries are necessary to create a population balance between the districts.

Population of Existing Board Districts		
District	Population	% Deviation
1	659,160	-1.0%
2	644,859	-3.2%
3	697,257	4.7%
4	703,171	5.6%
5	611,883	-8.1%
6	666,995	0.1%
7	661,602	-0.7%

THE COMMISSION PLAN

The plan submitted by the Commission was based upon analysis of socio-demographic data, neighborhood and community boundaries, high school attendance zones, school feeder patterns, public testimony (verbal and written), and public debate among the Commissioners. The Commission also received and reviewed plan proposals from the public. Additionally, the transcripts of the hearings and meetings, written testimony, and proposed district plans on the Commission's website provide a record of the concerns and ideas of those living in LAUSD boundaries with regard to individual Board District boundaries.

To support its work effort, the Commission used a data set that contained a wide range of information for use in the redistricting process. Data was compiled from the U.S. Census Bureau,

the Los Angeles Unified School District, and many other City departments. Base layers included census blocks and census tracts, and additional layers included existing district lines, high school attendance areas, and transportation corridors and areas.

Public Outreach and Participation

The Commission held ten meetings dedicated to hearing public testimony regarding redistricting. It also held 22 additional business meetings to consider matters before the Commission, during which opportunity for public testimony was offered. The Commission also worked with various grassroots organizations, communications firms, and outreach consultants to provide outreach to the seven Board Districts and various communities of interest in LAUSD's boundaries.

Initial Draft Maps

The Commission held seven hearings (one in each existing Board district) to hear from the public on what factors and criteria the Commission should take into account when drawing proposed maps, and to hear from residents and stakeholders on how to maintain the integrity of defined communities of interest. The Commission created three Ad Hoc Regional Communities-of-Interest and Census Analysis Committees based upon regions of the School District. These regions are: LAUSD North (Board Districts 3 and 6), LAUSD Central and West (Board Districts 1 and 4), and LAUSD East and South (Board Districts 2, 5, and 7). Each Ad Hoc Committee was responsible for reviewing concepts, census data, Communities-of-Interest testimony, submitted maps, and made recommendations to the full Commission via a final report compiled by staff.

The Ad Hoc Committees' recommendations were presented to the full Commission at a meeting on September 10th, 2021, accompanied by a report as described above. At this meeting, the Commission gave direction to staff on the concepts and recommendations to include in a Draft map, or maps for public comment. The Commission reviewed concepts and further directed staff to prepare three Draft Maps for public consideration. At a meeting on September 29th, 2021, the Commission adopted three Draft Maps proposed for new Board of Education Districts for the purpose of obtaining additional public comment.

Final Map and Report Approval

After approval of the three Draft Maps, the Commission held three regional public testimony hearings virtually to hear public comment on the prepared draft maps. After the second series of public testimony hearings, each Commissioner was given an opportunity to make suggested adjustments to the Draft Maps. On October 27th, the Commission debated the three Draft Maps before them and adopted its Final Map Recommendations by a vote of 8-5.

At the October 27th meeting, the Commission also adopted a recommendation that authorized the Chair and Vice Chair to review and release the Commission's final report to the City Council. The Commission's report, *Report and Recommendations of the Los Angeles Unified School District Redistricting Commission*, dated October 29th, was submitted to the City Council for its consideration. The report describes the process by which the Commission conducted its work, provides a review of the recommended plan, identifies major issues considered by the Commission, and presents detailed maps and data describing the proposed districts.

District-by-District Review

The Commission adopted a plan that has a total deviation from ideal population of no more than 9.66%, with individual population variances ranging from -3.77% to 5.89%. For local governments and municipalities, courts have allowed for a maximum population deviation from ideal population of less than 10%. More recently, the U.S. Supreme Court reaffirmed that plans with a population deviation under 10% are constitutional when drawn based on traditional districting criteria. The Commission has explained that they have deviated from the ideal equal population among all districts by no more than 9.66% in order to follow traditional redistricting criteria, including compliance with the Voting Rights Act and consideration of communities of interest, existing boundaries and geographic compactness.

The Commission's report indicates that the Final Map Recommendation has made good faith efforts to draw equipopulous districts with slight deviations based on the public policy rationales of: keeping High School Attendance Zones whole where practicable; maintaining and respecting school feeder patterns that had been identified by the LAUSD as practicable; and utilizing natural boundaries like freeways.

The following provides basic population figures derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's PL-94 database for each District as reported in the Commission's report. In addition, data also summarize general voting age population and citizen voting age population in each Board District by race.

Population of Proposed Board Districts		
District	Population	% Deviation
1	647,874	-2.7%
2	640,891	-3.8%
3	675,018	1.4%
4	705,231	5.9%
5	679,363	2.0%
6	669,918	0.6%
7	643,854	-3.3%

District 1

As proposed by the Commission, LAUSD Board District 1 would have a population of 647,874, a -2.7% deviation from ideal. The district's proposed configuration represents a reduction in population of 11,286 from the existing district.

	% Voting Population	% Citizen Voting Age
Latino	41.82%	31.46%
African American	28.44%	39.60%
Asian	10.24%	8.80%
White	16.33%	18.79%

District 2

As proposed by the Commission, LAUSD Board District 2 would have a population of 640,891, a -3.8% deviation from ideal. The district's proposed configuration represents a reduction in population of 3,968 from the existing district.

	% Voting Population	% Citizen Voting Age
Latino	60.52%	55.16%
African American	5.34%	6.94%
Asian	15.74%	16.16%
White	16.56%	20.51%

District 3

As proposed by the Commission, LAUSD Board District 3 would have a population of 675,018, a 1.4% deviation from ideal. The district's proposed configuration represents a reduction in population of 22,239 from the existing district.

	% Voting Population	% Citizen Voting Age
Latino	32.01%	26.31%
African American	5.38%	6.07%
Asian	15.58%	13.90%
White	44.54%	52.55%

District 4

As proposed by the Commission, LAUSD Board District 4 would have a population of 705,231, a 5.9% deviation from ideal. The district's proposed configuration represents an increase in population of 2,060 from the existing district.

	% Voting Population	% Citizen Voting Age
Latino	16.54%	14.63%
African American	5.00%	5.60%
Asian	14.97%	12.53%
White	60.54%	66.04%

District 5

As proposed by the Commission, LAUSD Board District 5 would have a population of 679,363, a 2.0% deviation from ideal. The district's proposed configuration represents an increase in population of 67,480 from the existing district.

	% Voting Population	% Citizen Voting Age
Latino	65.93%	59.22%
African American	4.16%	5.46%
Asian	12.20%	12.80%
White	16.15%	21.28%

District 6

As proposed by the Commission, LAUSD Board District 6 would have a population of 669,918, a 0.6% deviation from ideal. The district's proposed configuration represents an increase in population of 2,923 from the existing district.

	% Voting Population	% Citizen Voting Age
Latino	60.25%	53.60%
African American	3.99%	5.00%
Asian	9.14%	9.30%
White	24.87%	31.20%

District 7

As proposed by the Commission, LAUSD Board District 7 would have a population of 643,854, a -3.3% deviation from ideal. The district's proposed configuration represents a reduction in population of 17,748 from the existing district.

	% Voting Population	% Citizen Voting Age
Latino	56.46%	47.83%
African American	15.56%	20.77%
Asian	13.48%	13.65%
White	11.84%	15.67%

PLAN ADJUSTMENTS

On October 28th and 29th, 2021, the Chief Legislative Analyst released memos that requested Councilmembers to submit amending motions and Board Members to submit letters proposing adjustments to the Commission Plan for review. Submissions were due by November 2nd, 2021. A total of four submissions were received, of which two were jointly approved by Board Members of the affected districts.

Following submission, each proposed adjustment was reviewed for its impact on population distribution and deviation, impacts on neighborhoods and high school attendance boundaries, and compliance with federal, state, and local redistricting requirements. Results of this analysis are provided below.

Agreed-Upon Adjustment

The following proposed changes to the Commission's plan were agreed to mutually by all Board Members affected. The following provides analysis of population, neighborhood, and high school attendance area impacts to aid in proposal consideration

Board Districts 5 and 7 – Carver Middle School, Sally Ride Elementary, and Schools South of Slauson Avenue

The Board Members of Districts 5 and 7, Jackie Goldberg and Tanya Ortiz Franklin, have submitted a proposed adjustment that would keep Carver Middle School on McKinley Avenue and Sally Ride Elementary School on 46th Street in Board District 5 and schools south of Slauson

Avenue and west of Compton Avenue in Board District 7, including Edison Middle School, Miramonte Elementary School, Moore Math/Science/Technology Academy and the Diego Rivera Learning Complex schools.

Review of the demographic and geographic characteristics of this change indicates that it does not create any concerns with the integrity of the overall plan. It does not significantly increase the deviation from ideal equal population as proposed in this Commission's plan. Maps showing the adjustments are provided in Appendix A to this report.

Unresolved Adjustments

The following proposed changes to the Commission's plan were not agreed to mutually by all Board Members affected or result in a total deviation from ideal population that exceeds 10%. The following provides analysis of population, neighborhood, and high school attendance area impacts to aid in proposal consideration. Maps showing the areas affected by these adjustments are included in Appendix B below.

B.1 Board Districts 2 and 5 – Re-Alignment of Echo Park Boundaries

The Board Members of Districts 2 and 5, Monica Garcia and Jackie Goldberg, have submitted a proposed adjustment in the Echo Park neighborhood where the districts adjoin that moves the western boundary to Echo Park Avenue, the southern boundary to Sunset Boulevard and the northern boundary to Morton Avenue.

This adjustment would increase total population deviation in the Commission's map from 9.66% to 10.03%, resulting in a total deviation from ideal population that exceeds the maximum population deviation. Additional adjustments would need to be made elsewhere in the Commission's proposed map in order to reduce total deviation and accommodate the proposed adjustment in the Echo Park neighborhood.

B.2 Amending Motion (Blumenfield) – Woodland Hills Community into Board District 3

Council District 3 has submitted an amending motion that proposes moving the entire Woodland Hills community (as defined by the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council and roughly bordered by the City's limits in the west, Victory Blvd. in the north, Corbin Ave. in the east, and Mulholland Dr. in the south) into Board District 3, which would allow for the area to be represented by one School Board Member. The area under the map proposed by the Commission is split between Board Districts 3 and 4.

This proposed adjustment would affect Board District 3's deviation from an ideal population by increasing the deviation from 1.35% in the Commission's plan to 6.77%. This would affect total population deviation by increasing the total deviation to 10.54%, exceeding the maximum total deviation. Additional adjustments would need to be made elsewhere in the Commission's proposed map in order to reduce the total deviation.

B.3 Alternate LAUSD Map Proposed by Board District 1

The Board Member of District 1, George McKenna, has submitted an alternative LAUSD redistricting plan, and states that their proposal strives to achieve equity for the entire School District. According to the letter submitted by Board Member McKenna, the Alternative Map addresses the following challenges:

- The Commission's Final Map creates a land bridge between Board Districts 2 and 5, linking the communities of Northeast and Southeast LA. The letter indicates that shifting the land bridge to west of Downtown does not alter the discontinuity of the proposed districts and hinders the potential for its equitable consideration.
- The wilderness area in Board District 4 should not straddle the Santa Monica Mountains as there is no human population in this area. The letter indicates that Mulholland Drive should be the barrier delineating the southern border of Districts 3 and the northwestern border of District 4.

This proposed adjustment would affect total population deviation by decreasing the total deviation from 9.66% in the Commission's plan to 3.12%. This Alternative Map proposes a significantly altered mapping concept that would impact several Board Districts and requires further analysis from this office.

Attachments:

- (1) Appendix A: Agreed-Upon Adjustment (Border of Board Districts 5 and 7)*
- (2) Appendix B: Unresolved Adjustments*

APPENDIX A:
AGREED-UPON ADJUSTMENT



JACKIE GOLDBERG
BOARD DISTRICT 5



**TANYA ORTIZ
FRANKLIN**
BOARD DISTRICT 7

November 1, 2021

Hon. Nury Martinez, President and Councilwoman
Los Angeles City Council, 6th District
200 N Spring St, Ste 470,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear President Nury Martinez,

Thank you for giving the Los Angeles Unified Board of Education the opportunity to offer feedback on the proposed redistricting map for LA Unified brought forth by the Redistricting Commission.

As the representatives of Board District 5 (BD5) and Board District 7 (BD7), we are writing to express our overall support of the proposed map with a slight adjustment to keep Carver Middle School on McKinley Avenue and Sally Ride Elementary School on 46th Street in BD5 and schools South of Slauson Avenue and West of Compton Avenue in BD7, including Edison Middle School, Miramonte Elementary School, Moore Math/Science/Technology Academy and the Diego Rivera Learning Complex schools.

For three months, thousands of residents shared the importance of school feeder patterns (that have recently been established as "Communities of Schools"), keeping High School Attendance Zones whole, and reflecting ethnic diversity and demographic changes. While the proposed map successfully brings together some High School Attendance Zones, it also breaks up the Fremont High School Attendance boundary and disrupts the continuity of Board support across some of the District's highest-need communities.

During the pandemic, the "Communities of Schools" model has allowed for cross-collaboration between principals and leadership teams to meet the needs of their communities. Creating a pathway across grade levels reinforces the progression of learning and allows for students to have access to specialty offerings like that of visual and performing arts. Communities of Schools build relationships across school sites fostering better communication and coordination to individualize learning for students during the important transition years.

We support the redistricting commissioners' commitment to ground recommendations in priorities lifted up by community members and wish to especially thank the commission for listening to the voices of BD5 and BD7 residents. As the second-largest school district in the nation, it is important that our diverse communities get access to political representation that is reflective and inclusive of their values.

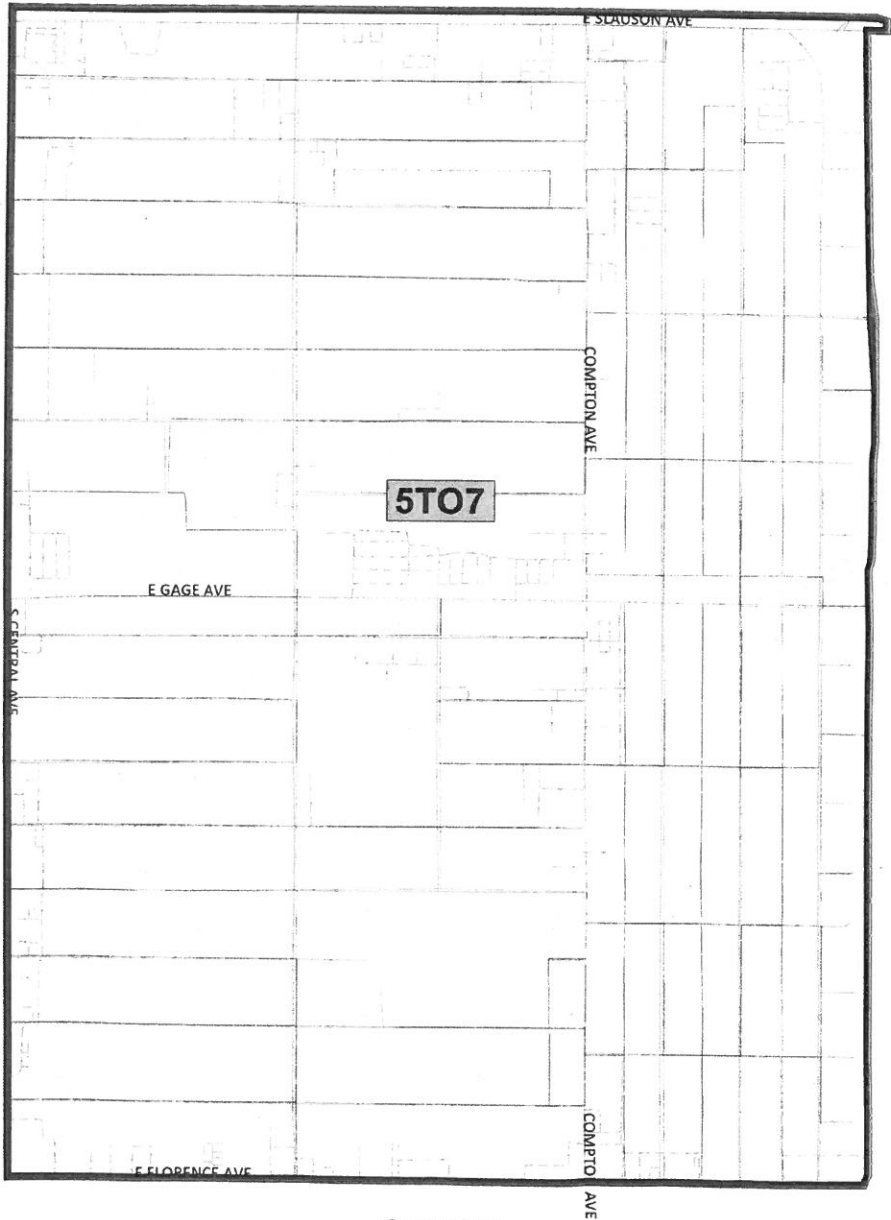
As a former LA Unified Board Member, we know you recognize the incredibly difficult task of ensuring there is fair representation across the entire school district and incorporating diverse feedback. Thank you for your commitment toward ensuring our scholars thrive in the college, career and life of their choice, and we look forward to your approval of the redistricting map.

In partnership,

Jackie Goldberg
LA Unified Board Member, Board District 5

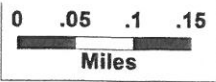
Tanya Ortiz Franklin
LA Unified Board Member, Board District 7

District: 5TO7

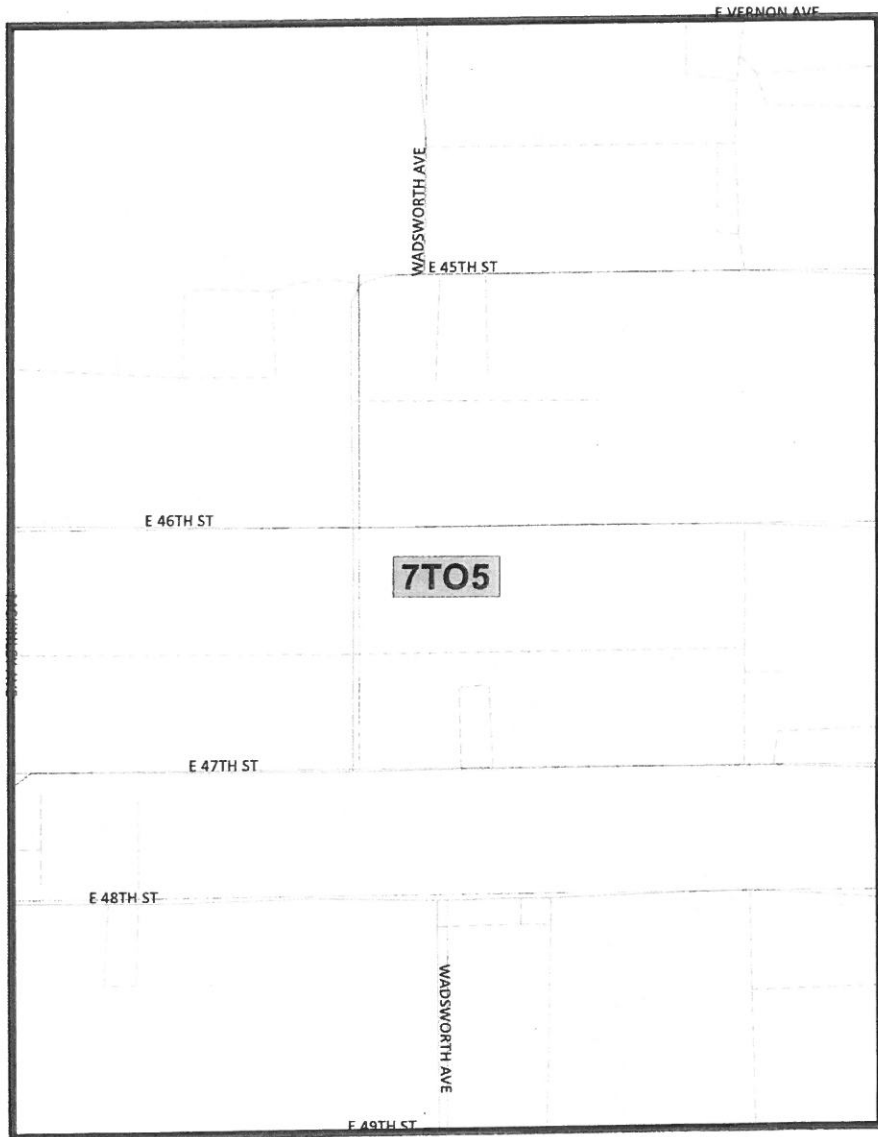


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Field	Value
District	5TO7
Population_B20	16296
% lcvar_D19	86.61%
% wcvap_D19	1.61%
% bcvar_D19	11.68%
% acvar_D19	0.25%
% inc_lt35k	43.07%
% inc_35_75K	38.91%
% inc_75_150K	14.06%
% inc_150plus	3.97%
% ed_nhd	56.71%
% ed_ncd	35.44%
% ed_cd	7.85%
% oh_own	29.71%
% oh_rent	70.29%
% lh_english	10.93%
% lh_spanish	88.98%
% lh_asianlng	0.09%
% lh_othlng	0%
% pov_below	27.92%
% emp_unemp	7.58%
% emp_civ_emp	92.42%
% emp_military	0%

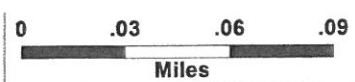


District: 7TO5



Field	Value
District	7TO5
Population_B20	1681
% lcvap_D19	68.49%
% wcvap_D19	0.46%
% bcvap_D19	23.83%
% acvap_D19	6.72%
% inc_lt35k	45.22%
% inc_35_75K	31.62%
% inc_75_150K	18.9%
% inc_150plus	4.26%
% ed_nhd	67.7%
% ed_ncd	25.33%
% ed_cd	6.97%
% oh_own	27.95%
% oh_rent	72.05%
% lh_english	10.18%
% lh_spanish	89.17%
% lh_asianIng	0.6%
% lh_othing	0.04%
% pov_below	30.65%
% emp_unemp	10.27%
% emp_civ_emp	89.73%
% emp_military	0%

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APPENDIX B:
UNRESOLVED ADJUSTMENTS

B.1 - Board Districts 2 and 5 – Re-Alignment of Echo Park Boundaries

*Angeles Unified School District
Board of Education*



JACKIE GOLDBERG
Board Member, District 5

November 1, 2021

Hon. Nury Martinez
President and Council Member
Los Angeles City Council, 6th District
200 N Spring St, Ste 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear President Nury Martinez,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer feedback on the proposed LAUSD redistricting map.

We are working with Board District 2 to make a slight change in the boundaries in the Echo Park neighborhood where our districts adjoin. We propose an adjustment that moves the western boundary to Echo Park Avenue, the southern boundary to Sunset Boulevard and the northern boundary to Morton Avenue, which result in a net difference of about 2,400 people.

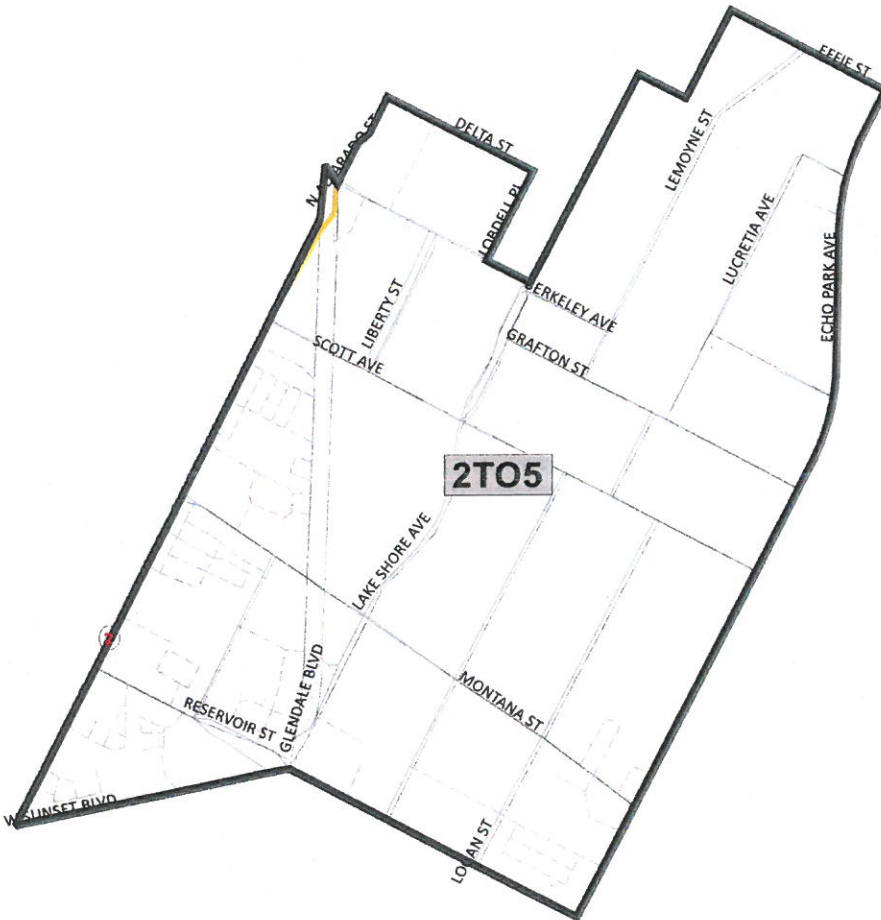
We support the redistricting commissioners' commitment to complying with the Voting Rights Act and keeping communities of interest together.

Thank you for considering our request as we work with Board Member Monica Garcia and the City's demographer to ensure a fair and reasonable redrawing of those lines.

Sincerely,

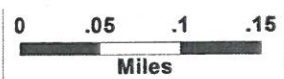
Jackie Goldberg
LA Unified Board Member, Board District 5

District: 2TO5



Field	Value
District	2TO5
Population_B20	2417
% lcvap_D19	38.5%
% wcvap_D19	43.54%
% bcvap_D19	1.37%
% acvap_D19	15%
% inc_lt35k	32.4%
% inc_35_75K	25.63%
% inc_75_150K	28.06%
% inc_150plus	13.91%
% ed_nhd	22.12%
% ed_ncd	28.96%
% ed_cd	48.92%
% oh_own	33.6%
% oh_rent	66.4%
% lh_english	47.08%
% lh_spanish	45.4%
% lh_asianIng	5.74%
% lh_othIng	1.78%
% pov_below	13.88%
% emp_unemp	4.92%
% emp_civ_emp	95.08%
% emp_military	0%

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B.2 - Amending Motion (Blumenfield) – Woodland Hills Community into Board District 3


45-A

MOTION

I MOVE that the matter of the Report and Recommendations of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Redistricting Commission (CF 20-0668-S6) BE AMENDED, as follows:

- Move the entire Woodland Hills community (as defined by the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council and roughly bordered by the City's limits in the west, Victory Blvd. in the north, Corbin Ave. in the east, and Mulholland Dr. in the south), which is currently split between two School Board Districts, into Board District 3, allowing for the area to be represented by one School Board Member, as requested by the community.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:



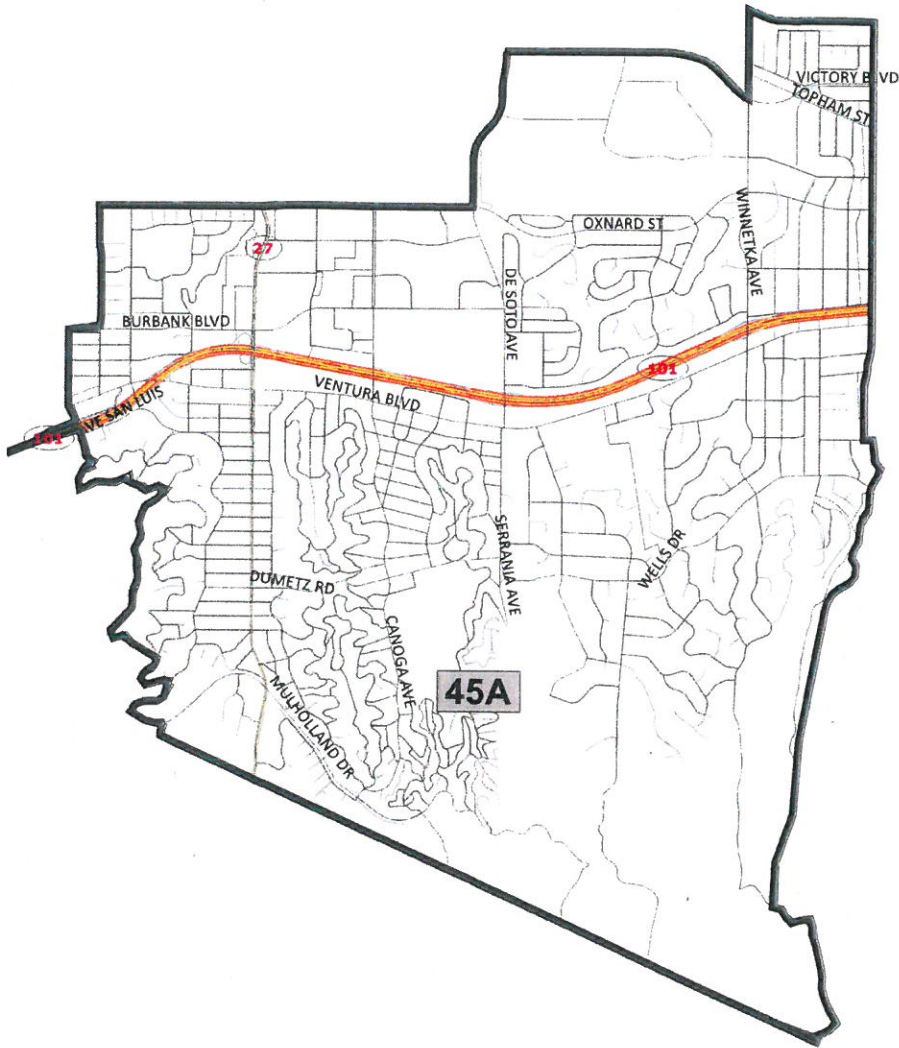
November 2, 2021

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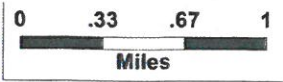
ORIGINAL

District: 45A



Field	Value
District	45A
Population_B20	36112
% lcvar_D19	12.9%
% wcvap_D19	72.87%
% bcvar_D19	5.05%
% acvar_D19	8.52%
% inc_lt35k	17.13%
% inc_35_75K	18.55%
% inc_75_150K	32.26%
% inc_150plus	32.06%
% ed_nhd	5.41%
% ed_ncd	33.54%
% ed_cd	61.05%
% oh_own	59.04%
% oh_rent	40.96%
% lh_english	64.5%
% lh_spanish	8.39%
% lh_asianlng	5.11%
% lh_othlng	22%
% pov_below	7.94%
% emp_unemp	6.12%
% emp_civ_emp	93.88%
% emp_military	0%

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B.3 – Alternative LAUSD Map Proposed by Board District 1

DOWNTOWN OFFICE
333 SOUTH BEAUDRY AVENUE, 24TH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90017
TELEPHONE: (213) 241-6382
FAX: (213) 241-8441

FIELD OFFICE
5120 11TH AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90043
TELEPHONE: (323) 298-3411
FAX: (323) 298-3406



DR. GEORGE J. MCKENNA III
BOARD MEMBER, DISTRICT 1
BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 1, 2021

Mr. Steven Luu
Chief Legislative Analyst
Room 255, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Luu,

Please extend my gratitude to Council President Martinez for providing the opportunity to submit feedback on the proposed LAUSD Redistricting Commission's recommended map to be reviewed at the City Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 2, 2021. I sincerely appreciate her leadership on this issue.

My office has received numerous communications regarding the LAUSD Redistricting process, many of which expressed trepidation about an inability to effectively participate in the hearings due to limited community outreach or advanced notice of discussion items. LAUSD families represent more than 96 different languages spoken at home, thus creating additional barriers to involvement and participation.

Additionally, the Commission met for more than 11 months and has voted by a narrow majority (8-5) to submit a map that fails to uphold the spirit of equity and access, does not contain elementary or middle school attendance or neighborhood council boundaries, school feeder patterns, LAUSD Communities of Schools (COS) catchment areas, or the names or locations of any LAUSD school sites. Without that baseline information, many members of the public and specifically LAUSD families were disadvantaged to provide substantive comments.

The LAUSD Redistricting Commission's proposed map ("Map 2 Final Revision", attached) submitted to the City Council causes me concern regarding the integrity of the final work

product, absence of meaningful community engagement, and insufficient tools for public participation, including but not limited to the following:

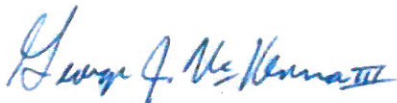
- There was no discussion on any public map submitted.
- There was no clarification on how to make a community map part of the draft map discussion.
- There was never formal conversation on the relative merit of any draft map, even of the Map 2 Final Revision.
- The Commission discussion never involved how schools within Communities of Interest (COI) and CoS's (Communities of Schools) have shifted with demographic changes over the past decade or are reflected in the proposed final map submitted for consideration.
- More than one third (38%) of the 13-member commission did not support the final map.
- The public discussion by commissioners around Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) was confusing as CVAP was not part of the city charter mandate for redistricting.

To that end, I have submitted the attached map ("Alternate Map Proposed by LAUSD BD1") for consideration by the City Council that strives to achieve equity for the entire school district and addresses the following challenges:

- The Sanchez map 2(rev) adopted as Final by the Commission badly gerrymanders District 2 and District 5 just as was done in 2010. A land bridge was artificially constructed linking the heterogeneous communities of Northeast and Southeast LA. Simply shifting the land bridge to just west of downtown does not alter the essential discontinuity of the proposed districts. Severing a community or melding together two disparate communities diminishes both group's power and hinders the potential for its children's equitable consideration.
- A wilderness area should not be rebranded as a physical land bridge to justify District 4 straddling the Santa Monica mountains. There is no human population bridge across this expanse bisected along its ridge by a firebreak. Mulholland Drive is a clear and obvious physical barrier delineating the southern border of Districts 3 and the northwestern border of District 4.

In summary, I ask that you review the map labeled "Alternate map proposed by LAUSD BD1" for your immediate and strongest consideration. Please feel free to contact my Chief of Staff, Dr. Sharon V. Robinson, (sharon.v.robinsin@lausd.net or 832-326-4772) for any additional information or clarification.

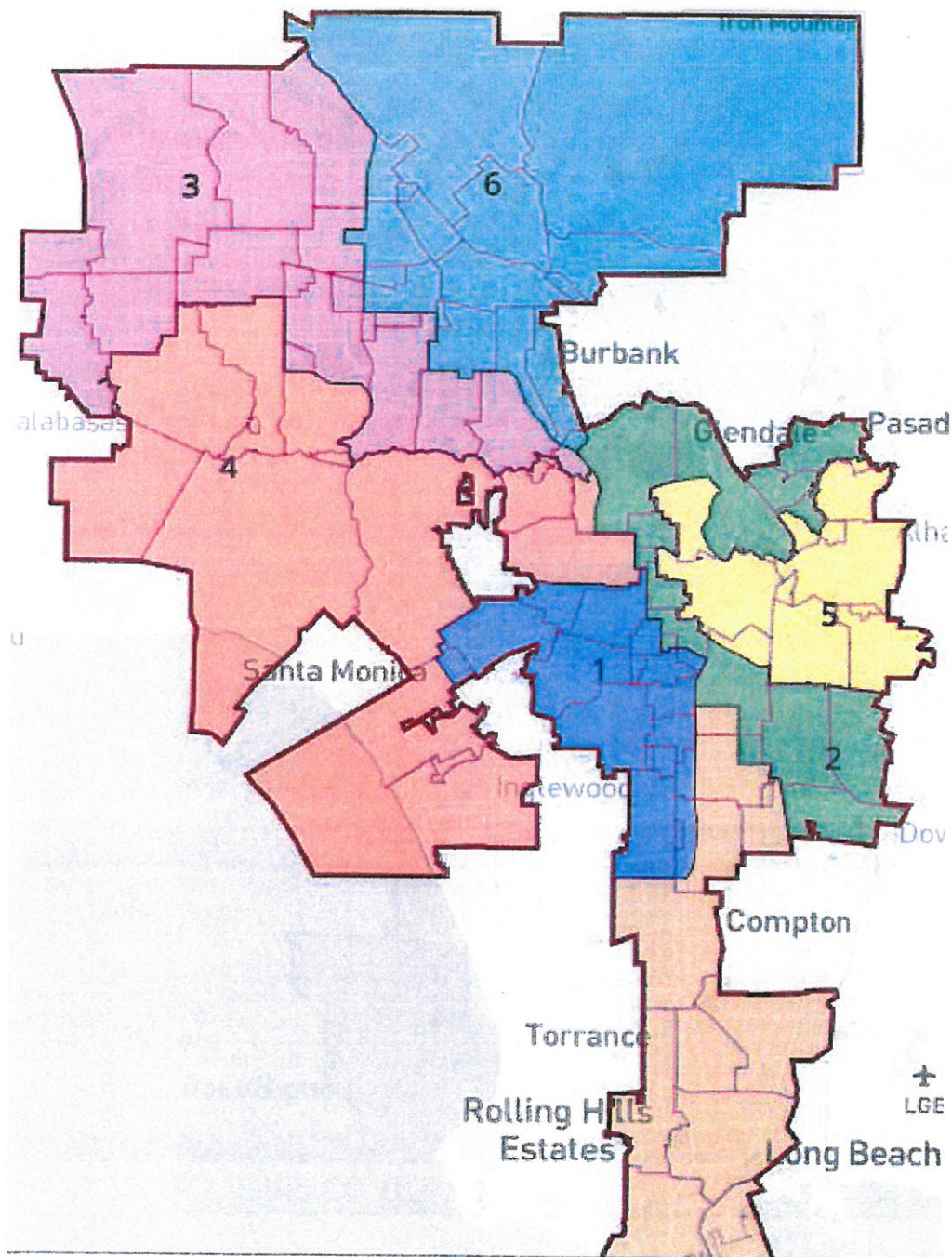
Sincerely,



Dr. George J. McKenna III
Los Angeles Unified School District
Board of Education, District 1

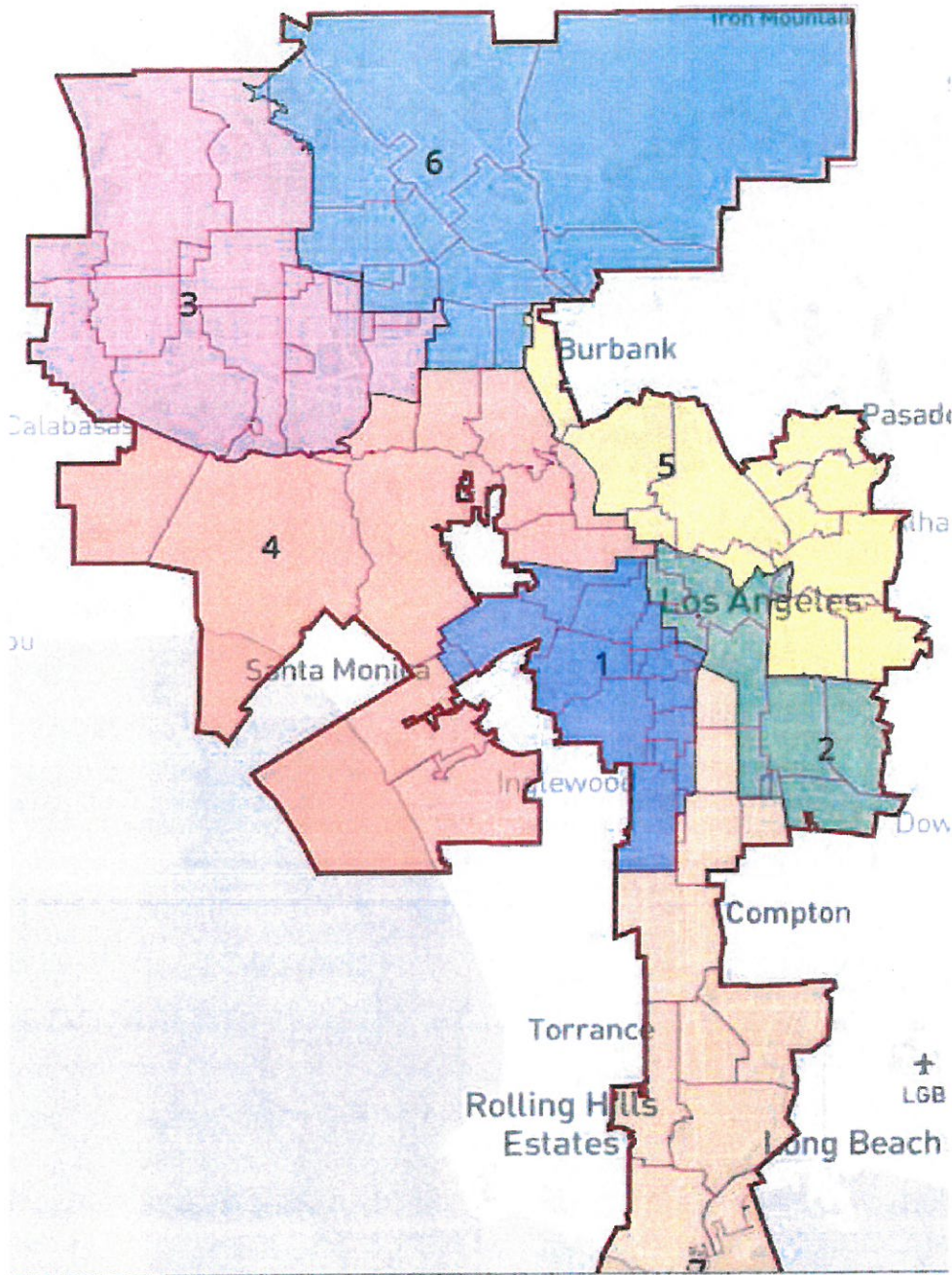
Attachment

Attachment A: Sanchez (rev2) Final



ID	Population		Shapes		Demographics (VAP)							DOWNLOAD	
	Total	+/-			Total	White	Minority	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native	Pacific	
Un	160				160	35.00%	65.00%	36.88%	23.75%	12.50%	0.63%	2.50%	
1	643,841	-2.98%			514,174	16.44%	83.55%	41.92%	30.62%	10.96%	3.30%	0.34%	
2	675,036	1.72%			532,698	16.22%	83.78%	65.97%	4.83%	12.85%	4.22%	0.27%	
3	673,189	1.44%			544,656	44.64%	55.36%	31.96%	6.23%	16.44%	2.45%	0.40%	
4	703,609	6.03%			602,999	60.67%	39.33%	16.47%	5.74%	15.71%	1.73%	0.39%	
5	640,388	-3.50%			520,755	16.62%	83.38%	60.47%	6.24%	16.55%	4.37%	0.34%	
6	667,694	0.62%			524,112	24.94%	75.06%	60.25%	4.69%	9.74%	3.66%	0.32%	
7	641,335	-3.36%			486,814	11.96%	88.04%	56.55%	16.69%	14.58%	3.53%	1.05%	
	663,607	9.53%			532,338	28.32%	71.68%	46.86%	10.47%	13.88%	3.28%	0.44%	

Attachment B: Alternate Map Proposed by LAUSD BD 1



Population			Shapes		Demographics (VAP)						DOWNLOAD	
ID	Total	+/-			Total	White	Minority	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native	Pacific
Un	160				160	35.00%	65.00%	36.88%	23.75%	12.50%	0.69%	2.50%
1	663,380	-0.03%			533,028	18.50%	81.50%	40.27%	26.83%	12.27%	3.24%	0.34%
2	676,850	2.00%			530,095	8.19%	91.81%	70.01%	7.08%	14.79%	4.64%	0.27%
3	665,769	0.33%			535,127	43.49%	56.51%	33.49%	6.17%	16.18%	2.51%	0.37%
4	658,961	-0.70%			571,625	62.09%	37.91%	15.08%	6.09%	15.22%	1.73%	0.41%
5	662,814	-0.12%			542,589	26.08%	73.92%	55.96%	4.17%	13.46%	3.87%	0.34%
6	661,175	-0.97%			515,709	24.37%	75.63%	60.39%	4.14%	10.77%	3.55%	0.32%
7	656,143	-1.12%			498,035	11.76%	88.24%	56.24%	17.48%	14.31%	3.59%	1.04%
	663,607	3.12%			532,338	28.32%	71.68%	46.86%	18.47%	13.68%	3.28%	0.44%