

**SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Loch Dreizler, General Manager
DATE: October 25, 2023
SUBJECT: District Voting Divisions – Map Selection, Implementation Date, and determining the Resolution approval process, if necessary.

Proposed Motion / Recommendation

- Staff recommends choosing one of the three map options as outlined by Planwest Partners in previous public meetings (see attached)
- Staff recommends choosing an implementation date from one of the following:
 - Postpone voting using District divisions until obtaining 2030 Census results.
 - Postpone voting using District divisions until the election in 2028.
 - Postpone voting using District divisions until the election in 2026.
 - Implement voting District divisions for the 2024 elections.

Proposed Motion: approve draft option # ____, as presented by Planwest Partners, for creating voting divisions and that Staff works with the Santa Barbara County Elections Office for voting by division for the _____(date) election. Providing that there is adequate time for Staff to fulfill all local, county, and state requirements.

Policy Implications

The California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (CVRA) is a state law that makes it easier for minority groups in California to minimize the potential undesirable voting impacts of at-large elections.

The District determined that the public interest would be served by adopting resolution 22-06 on March 18, 2022, and began efforts to transition to division-based elections.

Fiscal Implications

1. Not complying with the California Voter's Rights Act (CVRA) might trigger legal costs.
2. Complying with county election costs/requirements are being determined.

History

1. On June 21 and July 19, 2023, the District Board held "pre-map" public hearings to receive input from the community on the district-based map creation process and criteria to be used when drawing division boundaries before the drawing of draft maps under the Elections Code section 10010, subdivision (a)(1).
2. Public hearings have been held to receive input from the community on the content of the maps under Elections Code section 10010, subdivision (a)(2).
3. After conducting the pre-map hearings, the District's consulting demographers will present draft division area boundary maps for the public's consideration on September 20 and October 18. They will be available to view on the District's website.

Attachments: (3) mapping options





