Election Systems

1. “At Large”

2. “From District” or “Residence” Districts

3. “By District”

4. Alternative Systems
   - Cumulative Voting
   - Ranked Choice Voting
   - Others

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

- Neighborhood Associations
- 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?
Regional: Glendale Unified

Multiple Representatives: Pasadena

GUSD Facilities
- Continuation / Indep. (2)
- Elementary (27)
- High (6)
- Middle (4)
- Other (12)

Colorado Blvd.
The City’s Neighborhood Associations map makes a logical starting point for a discussion about communities of interest for districting.
Though school district boundaries do not match city boundaries, trustee election area lines may be useful to follow where possible.
Redwood City 2018/2019 Districting

Public Participation Kit

Target Population Per District:
7-district map: 10,974, with no more than a 1,097 person difference between the largest and smallest districts.
6-district map: 12,803, with no more than a 1,280 person difference between the largest and smallest.

Map Author's Name:

Email:

Phone:

An online version of this map that allows you to zoom in and out for more detail is available as a link from the City website.

Please use a thick dark-colored pen to draw your map, then submit it at City Hall or directly to our project consultants: RedwoodCity@NDCresearch.com, PO Box 5271, Glendale, CA 91221. You can hand-deliver, mail, fax, scan and email, or photograph and email your map.
Community Outreach

- City webpage, blog posts, FAQs and social media push
- Dedicated City email address for feedback – Districtelections@redwoodcity.org
- Public map-drawing tools (mapping kits) to empower residents to draw their own map proposals
- Mapping kits will be made available online and will be published in the *San Mateo Daily Journal* and *Redwood Shores Pilot Newsletter*
- Mapping kits will also be available at City facilities and distributed at all regular City/Neighborhood Association meetings
- The City will host three community forums across the city on Jan. 15. This is in addition to the required five formal Public Hearings
- Materials will be translated in Spanish – largest population of monolingual residents (12,483)
## District Elections Transition Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 8, 2018</td>
<td>• City receives a letter from Kevin Shenkman asserting that the City’s at-large council electoral system violates the California Voting Rights Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24, 2018</td>
<td>• Council approved a Resolution of Intent to transition to District Elections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| October 2018 – January 2019 | • Ongoing Outreach and Education Efforts  
• First two Public Hearings for Public to provide input regarding the composition of Districts – Oct. 22 and Nov. 19  
• Time for residents to draft and submit mapping proposals  
• 3 Community Workshops – Jan. 15 |
## District Elections Transition Timeline Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 18, 2019</td>
<td>• Deadline for initial public map proposals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| February – March 2019 | • Two public hearings Feb. 11 and Feb. 25 to discuss draft maps and election sequencing.  
|                   | • Council adoption of ordinance with map and election years – March 11      |
|                   | • Second Reading of Ordinance - March 25                                    |
| March 31, 2019   | • Deadline to adopt ordinance                                              |
| March 2020       | • Community Vote on Charter Revision, if necessary                         |
| Nov. 2020 and 2022 | • First by-district elections                                               |
| 2021            | • Districts redrawn using 2020 Census Data                                  |
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. How many districts would you prefer? Six districts with a citywide, separately elected Mayor, or seven districts with a rotating Mayor?