Redistricting

Watsonville

January 6, 2022

WAGAMAN STRATEGIES

Actions Requested

Conduct hearing to familiarize with redistricting concepts and receive public input

Review plans, including recommendation of Community Redistricting Advisory Committee
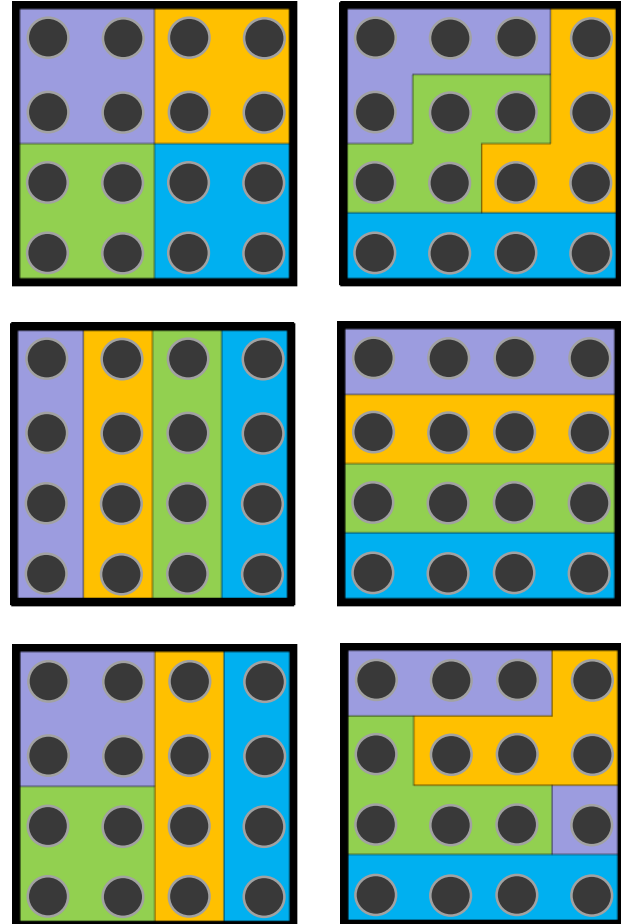
Select or amend final plan

What is Redistricting?

Members elected from districts

Populations shift over time

Redistricting the act of redrawing those lines

How those lines are drawn affects how people are represented

Why Redistrict?

New Data: Census conducted every ten years

Evolving Rules: Federal/state law continue to change. Both through legislation and the courts

Public Input: Communities change over time. New opportunities to engage public

Committee Timeline

Hearing	Purpose	Date
1	• Education • Public input	September 9
2	• Updated census data • Public input	October 14
3	• Public input • Initial direction	October 28
4	• Review plans (public & draft) • Provide additional direction	November 18
5	• Review plans (public & revised) • Provide additional direction	November 30
6	• Review plans • Finalize and recommend	December 9

Committee Plans

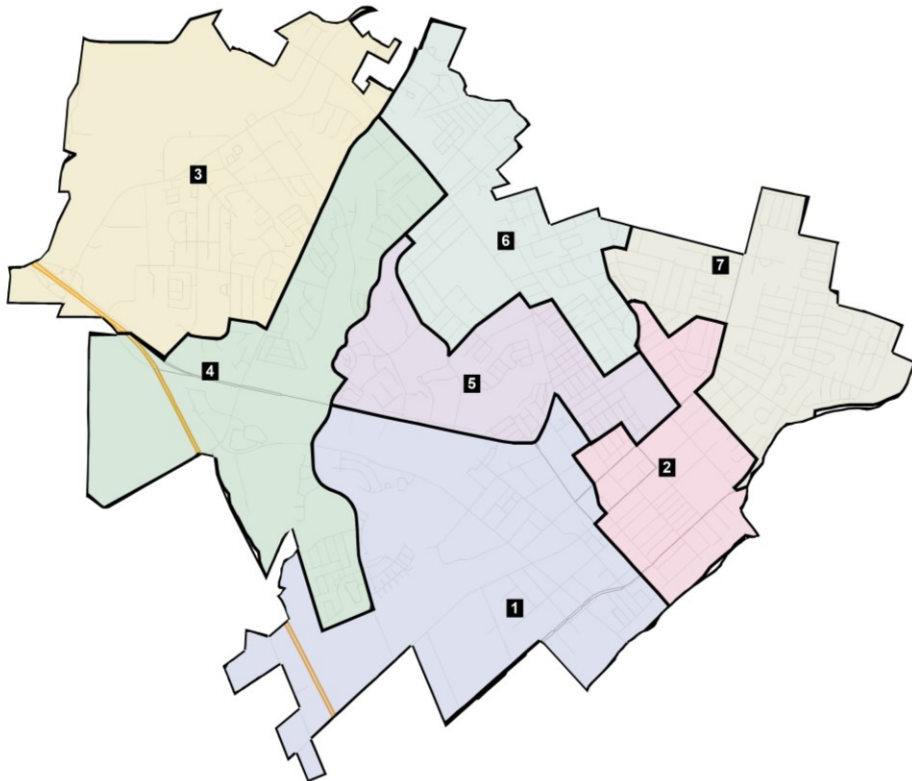**Current (1):** Conforming to 2020 census geography

Initial (3): Green, Red, Blue

Public (2): Hurst, Rodriguez
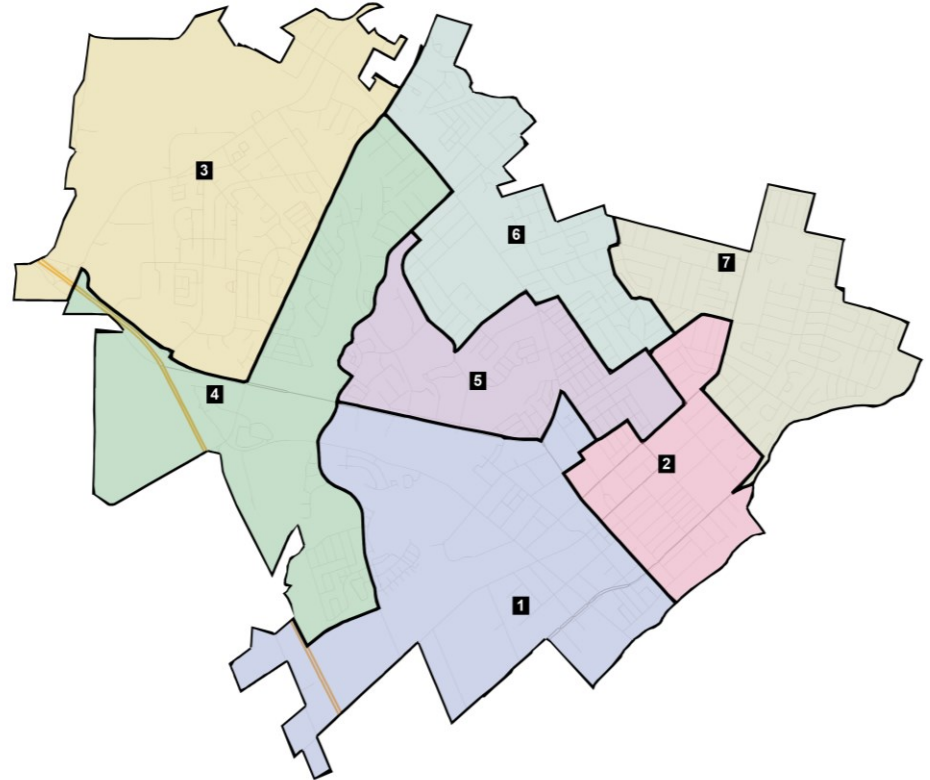
Revised (3): Emerald, Lime, Pine

Recommended (1): Rivera

Rivera Plan

Current*

Rivera

Council Timeline

Hearing	Purpose	Date
7	• Review plans & recommendations • Select or amend final plan	January 20
8	• Adopt final plan	February 8

Criteria

Equal Population

Federal Law

Contiguous

Communities of interest

Compactness

Geography, Natural boundaries, and Streets
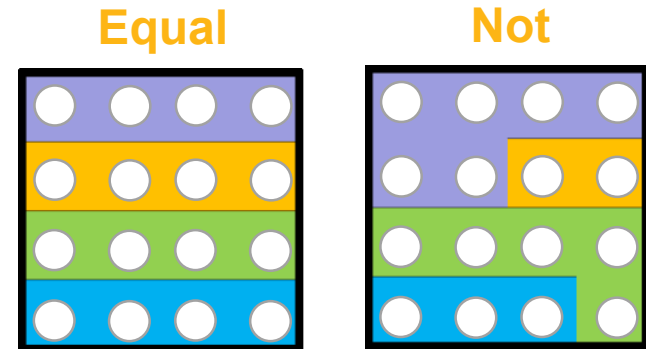
Equal Population:
"Substantially equal in population as required by U.S. Constitution"

Exact: no. Good faith: yes
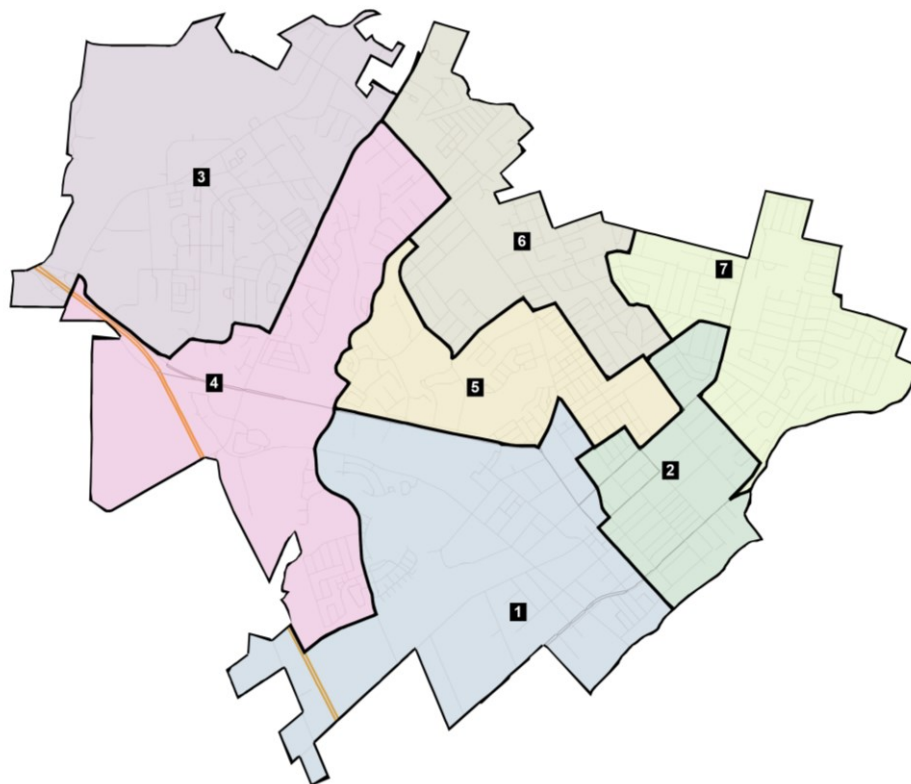
Deviation: Difference between actual & ideal size

10% no longer clear "safe harbor"

CA adjusts for incarcerated populations

Equal   **Not**

Current Lines

#	Population^	
	Total	Deviation
1	7,731	+2.6%
2	7,108	-5.7%
3	7,338	-2.6%
4	7,862	+4.3%
5	7,568	+0.4%
6	7,835	+4.0%
7	7,318	-2.9%
Total	52,760	10.0%
Ideal	7,537	

^ 2020 Census Redistricting Data. Adjusted for incarcerated populations
+ Boundaries adjusted to conform to 2020 Census geography when necessary

Federal Law

Race: Must not be the "predominant" factor

Can consider along with traditional, race-neutral, criteria

Traditional criteria must not be subordinate

Vote Dilution (Voting Rights Act): Avoid depriving minority voters of an equal opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice
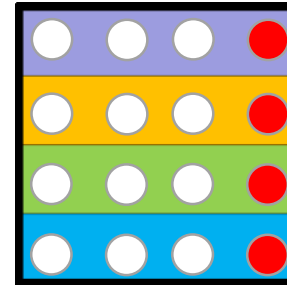
Discriminatory intent not required, only effect
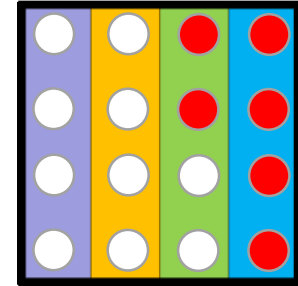
Voting Rights Act

Gingles Criteria:
1. The minority group must be sufficiently large and geographically compact to constitute a majority in a district

2. The minority group must be politically cohesive

3. The white majority votes sufficiently as a block to enable it to usually defeat the minority's preferred candidate

Cracking

Packing

Dispersing into several districts such that a block-voting majority can routinely outvote

Concentrating to minimize influence in other districts

Current Lines

#	Population^		Citizen Voting Age Population+				
	Total	Deviation	Total	Latino*	Asian*	Black*	NH-White
1	7,731	+2.6%	2,732	78.3%	4.6%	0.2%	15.8%
2	7,108	-5.7%	2,803	75.4%	4.7%	0.1%	18.1%
3	7,338	-2.6%	3,705	70.8%	4.8%	3.0%	21.8%
4	7,862	+4.3%	3,559	62.2%	6.5%	0.0%	30.2%
5	7,568	+0.4%	4,073	66.5%	1.8%	1.0%	27.5%
6	7,835	+4.0%	4,312	61.9%	6.4%	1.1%	34.2%
7	7,318	-2.9%	3,931	52.9%	3.7%	1.1%	41.1%
Total	52,760	10.0%		65.9%	4.6%	1.0%	28.0%
Ideal	7,537						

^ 2020 Census Redistricting Data. Adjusted for incarcerated populations
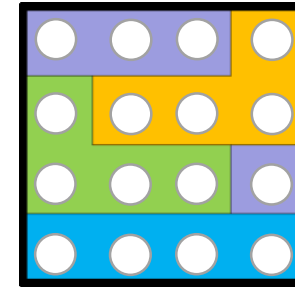*+ Adjusted 2015-2019 American Community Survey Special Tabulation*
* Calculated pursuant to OMB BULLETIN NO. 00-02

Contiguous

Contiguity: All parts should be connected

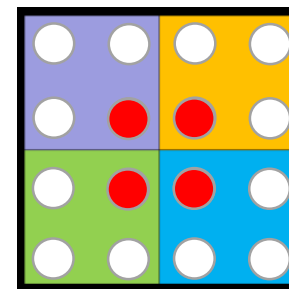**Non-Contiguous**

Communities of Interest

Community of Interest:
Population with common social or economic interests

That should be in a single district for fair/effective representation

Minimize splits of communities of interest into different districts

Split Community

Communities of Interest

Examples: Common assets like schools and shopping areas, housing, culture and language, and employment

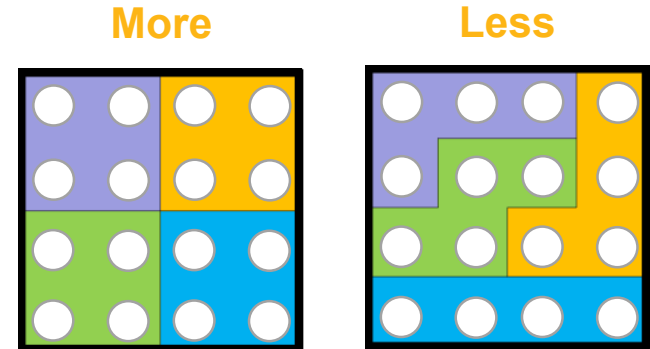Can consider existing data such as city planning information

Law generally does not limit the kinds of interests that may bind a community

No definitive dataset.

Compactness

Compactness: Generally, should be aware of shape and appearance

Does not favor abstract shapes or statistical measure

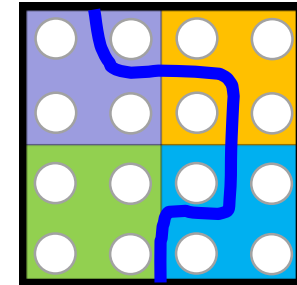# Geography

Geography: Natural boundaries, street lines, and/or city boundaries

Can residents easily identify where the district boundaries are?

Gerrymandering

Gerrymandering: From a cartoon depicting an 1812 Massachusetts district

Shall not adopt for purpose of favoring or discriminating against a political party
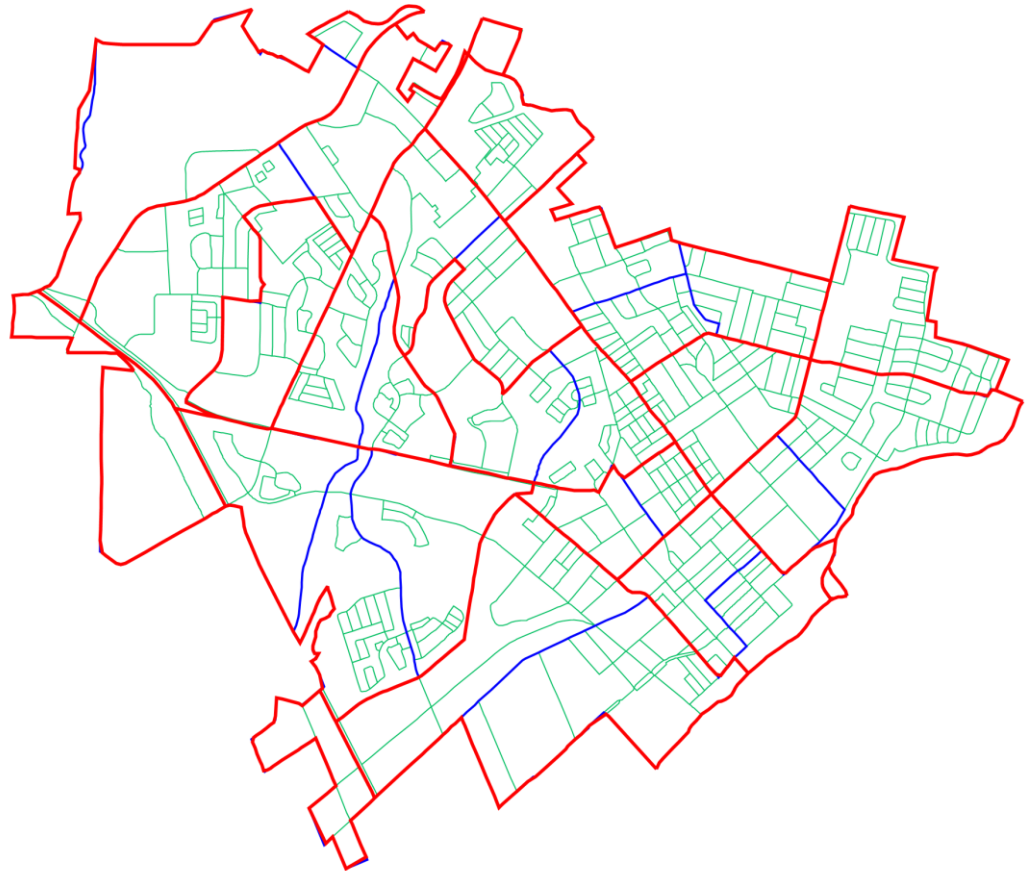
Census Geography

Type	#	Average Pop
Block	453	116
Block Group	35	1,503
Tract	21	2,504

Resources

Webpage

- www.cityofwatsonville.org/2193/Redistricting
- Will be maintained for ten years

Email

- cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org