

California Citizens Redistricting Commission to Host Communities of Interest Virtual Meeting for Central California

SACRAMENTO, CA—On Wednesday, August 4, 2021, the California Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission) will host a Communities of Interest (COI) virtual hearing to capture community specific data that will help the Commissioners respect community boundaries when drawing district lines, as is mandated by California’s line drawing criteria.

WHO: California Citizens Redistricting Commission

WHAT: Communities of Interest Input Meeting (Central California)

WHEN: Wednesday, August 4, 2021 from 4:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

LIVE: <http://videoss.com/CRC/>

INFO: https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/august_4_2021_coi_input_meeting

FLYERS: [English/Spanish](#)

When the Commission begins drawing maps using census data, they will need to follow this set of criteria, in this order, as outlined in the California Constitution.

1.
 1. Districts must be of nearly equal population to comply with the U.S. Constitution.
 2. Districts must comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have a fair opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.
 3. Districts must be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district are connected to each other.
 4. **Districts must minimize the division of counties, cities, neighborhoods, and communities of interest to the extent possible.**
 5. Districts should be geographically compact such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for more distant populations.
 6. Where practicable, each Senate District should consist of two complete and adjacent Assembly Districts, and Board of Equalization districts should consist of ten complete and adjacent State Senate Districts. This is known as nesting.

We can obtain the city and county information from those jurisdictions, but we need the neighborhood and communities of interest information from Californians directly.

During these input meetings, participants will be asked to describe their community and will be encouraged to consider highlighting the following:

1. Begin with your county or city.
2. Mention the street names and significant locations in your neighborhood to help us identify the parameters of your community.
3. What are your shared interests?
4. What brings you together?
5. What is important to your community?
6. Are there nearby areas you want to be in a district with?
7. Nearby areas you don't want to be in a district with? Why or why not?
8. Has your community come together to advocate for important services, better schools, roads, or health centers in your neighborhood?

Registration is not required to participate in these public input meetings. The call-in number for public input on the day of each event will be (877)853-5247.

To view a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit: <https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/meetings>. Additionally, Californians can skip the line and provide their input online by visiting: <https://drawmycommunity.org/>. The online COI tool is available in fourteen languages and includes tutorials.

Every 10 years, after the federal government publishes updated census information, California must redraw the boundaries of its electoral districts so that the state's population is evenly allocated among the new districts.

In 2008, California voters passed the Voters First Act, authorizing the creation of the independent California Citizens Redistricting Commission to draw new State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board of Equalization district lines. In

2010, the Voters First Act for Congress gave the Commission the responsibility of drawing new Congressional districts following every census.

For more information, please visit WeDrawTheLinesCA.org.

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