SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS I Office of the City Clerk

City Council of the City of Napa Special Meeting March 4, 2020

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:

EVENING SESSION:

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEALS:

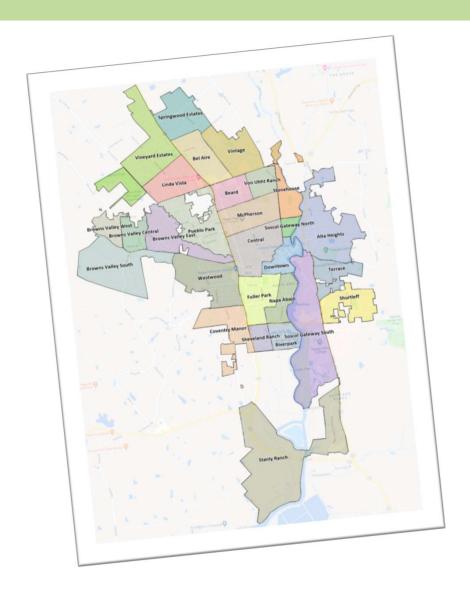
3.A. Transition to District-Based Elections for Councilmembers.

- PowerPoint presentation from City Staff.
- Historic District Maps from City Staff.
- "Community of Interest Worksheet" from:
 - O Merle Smith received on March 1, 2020.
 - O Elizabeth McKinne received on March 1, 2020.
 - O Maria Bowen received on March 2, 2020.
 - O Christine Benz received on March 2, 2020.
 - O Suzanne Shiff received on March 3, 2020.
 - O Steven Rosen received on March 3, 2020.
 - O Steven Rosen received on March 3, 2020.
 - O Eduardo Dingler received on March 4, 2020.



CVRA and **Districting**

City of Napa





Our Background

Redistricting Partners has been working for more than 10 years conducting CVRA conversion and redistricting.

Clients include dozens of municipalities, most recently cities of Santa Ana and Davis.

Also include non-profits and community organizations, including ACLU, Irvine Foundation, Equality California and affiliated groups.



Ensuring a fair and open districting process

- Relatively equal size people, not citizens
- Contiguous districts should not hop/jump
- Maintain "communities of interest"
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact appearance/function



Ensuring a fair and open districting process

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Ensuring a fair and open districting process

Population for the purposes of determining district size is drawn from the most recent decennial census.

2010 Census Population: 76,915

Ideal Population: 19,229

Maximum deviation of 10% from largest to smallest, a band that ranges from around 18,300 – 20,200



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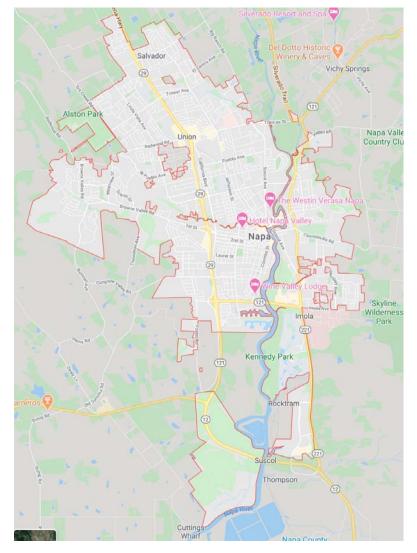
Ensuring a fair and open districting process

What is Contiguous?

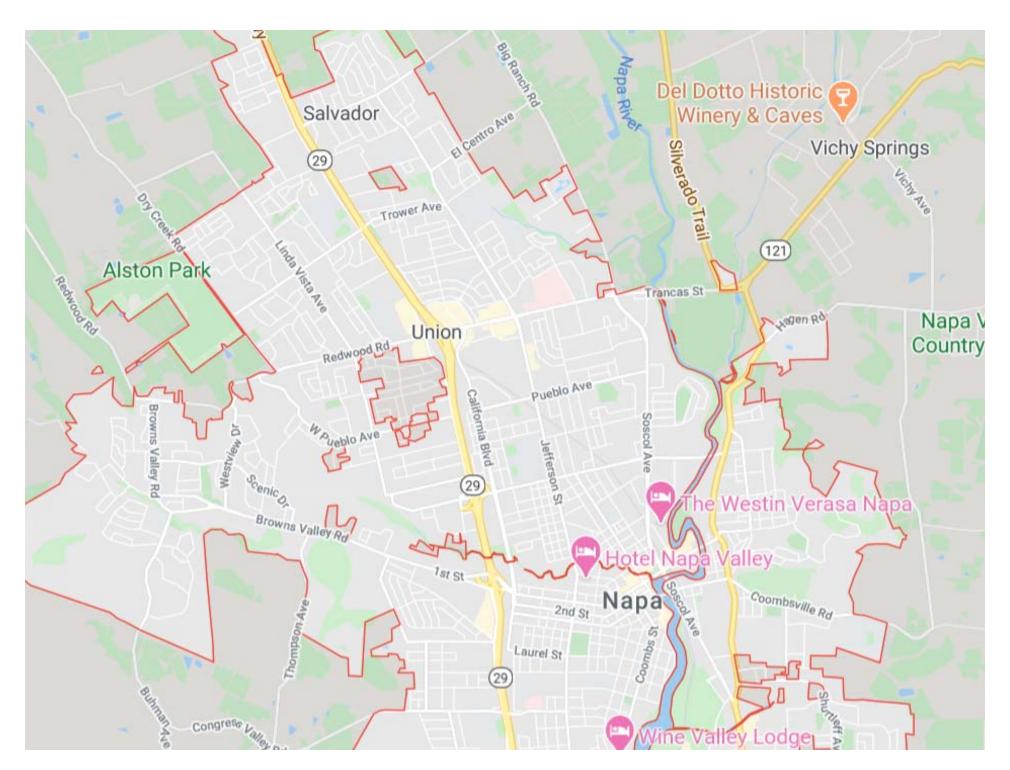
- Whole Pieces
- Functionally contiguous
 - Area closest to an "island"
 - How areas relate to each other how you get from one place to another.



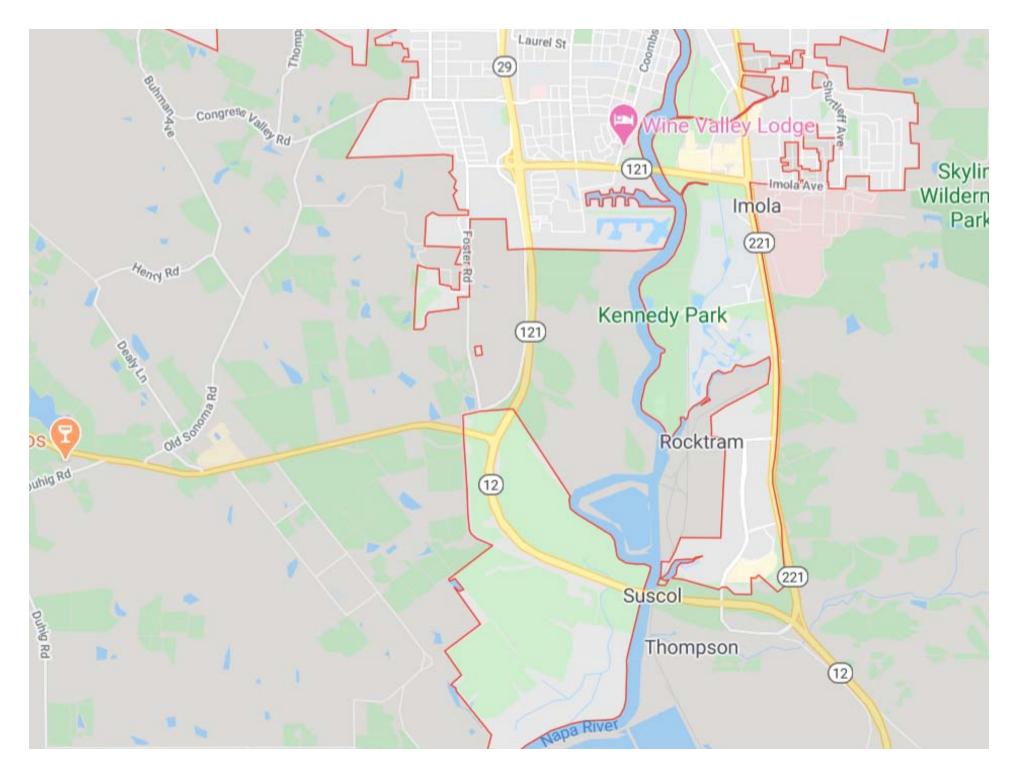
Contiguous?



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Ensuring a fair and open districting process

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Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

What is a community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Communities covered by the Voting Rights Act
 - Latinos
 - Asians
 - African Americans

While race is a community of interest, it cannot be the *predominant factor* in drawing districts.



Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

What is a community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

For these populations we will use another dataset from the American Community Survey of the Census which gives us Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)

Latino CVAP: 12,586 (25%)

Asian CVAP: 1,436 (3%)

Black CVAP: 426 (1%)



Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

What is a community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Other Communities, example are:
 - People living near an industry (farming, higher education, manufacturing)
 - Senior Citizens or Students
 - Downtown / Urban
 - Rural or Agricultural
 - Homeowners or Renters



Ensuring a fair and open districting process

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- Keep districts compact appearance/function



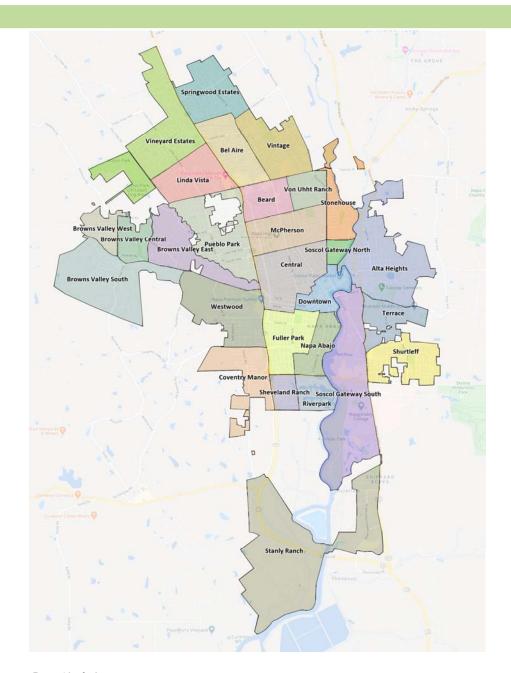
Ensuring a fair and open districting process

Existing municipal boundaries, overlapping jurisdictions, other physical demarcations can be utilized as a kind of de-facto community of interest designation.

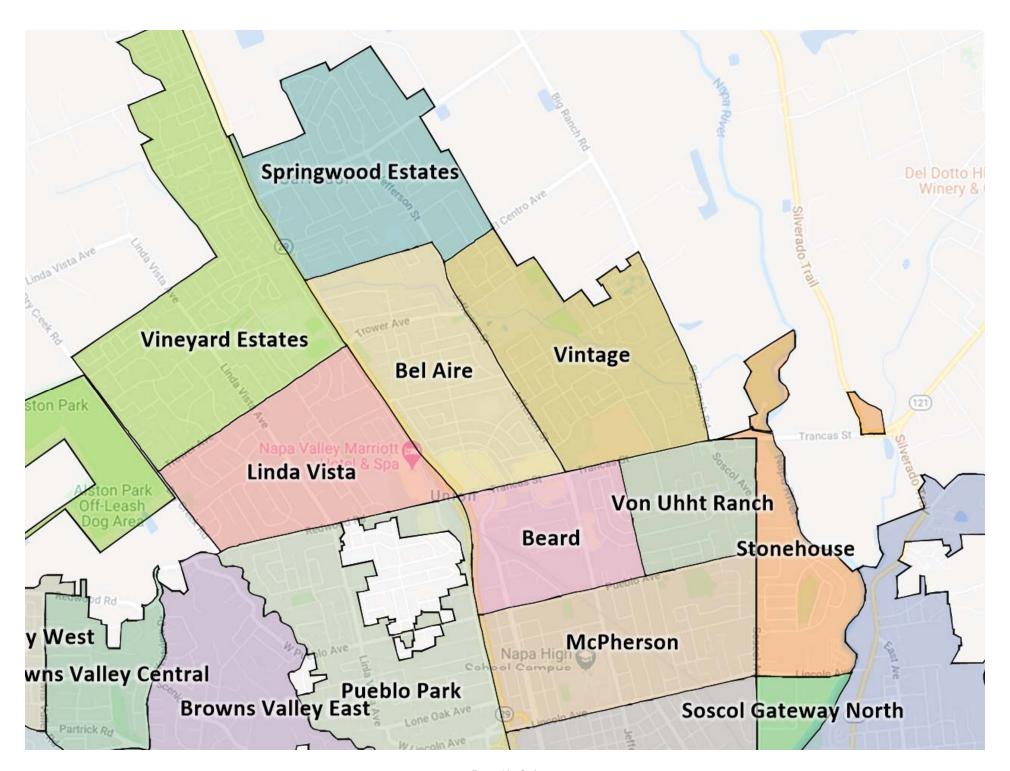
- Neighborhoods
- Supervisor Districts
- Fire/Police service areas
- Precincts



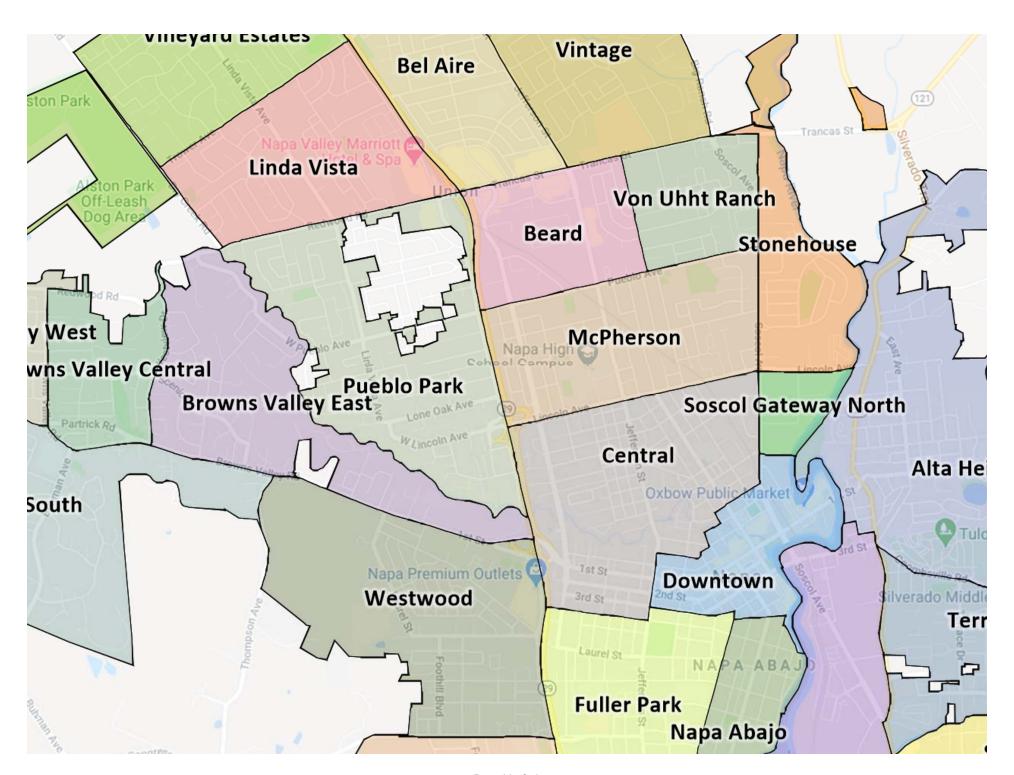
Neighborhoods

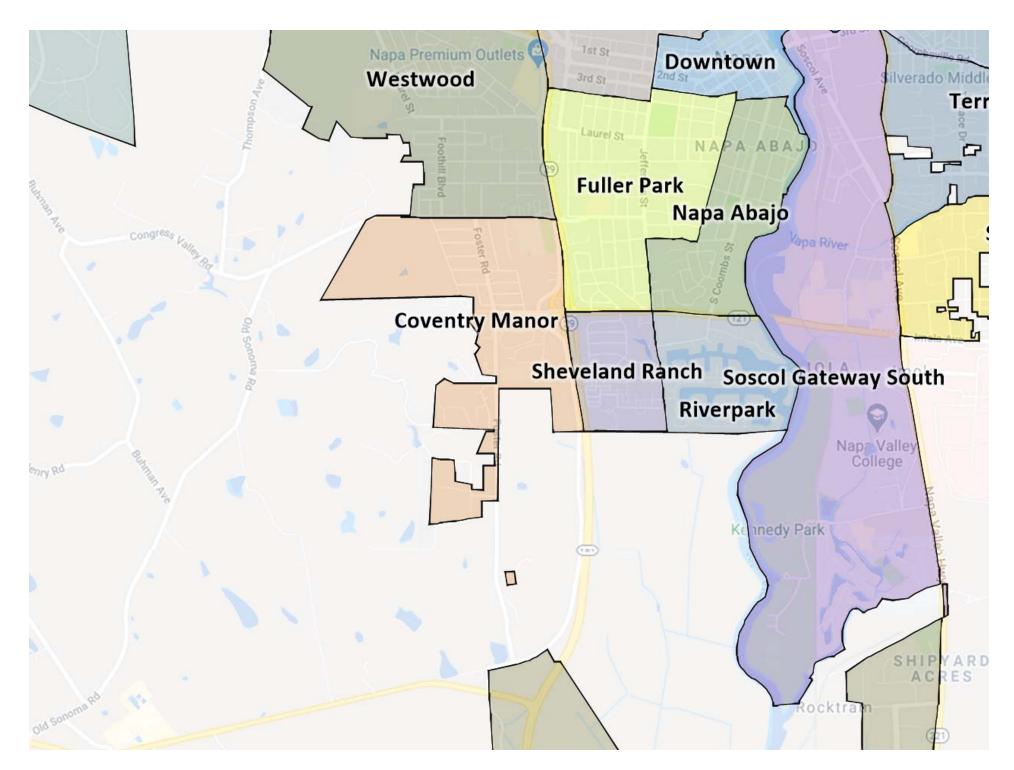


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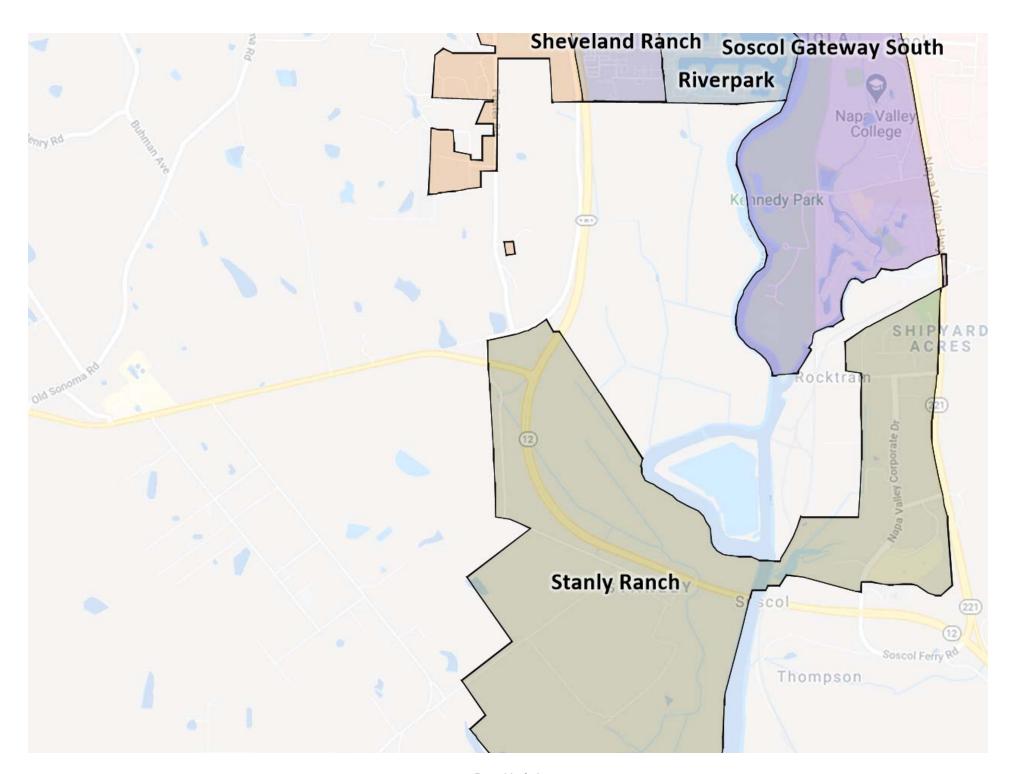


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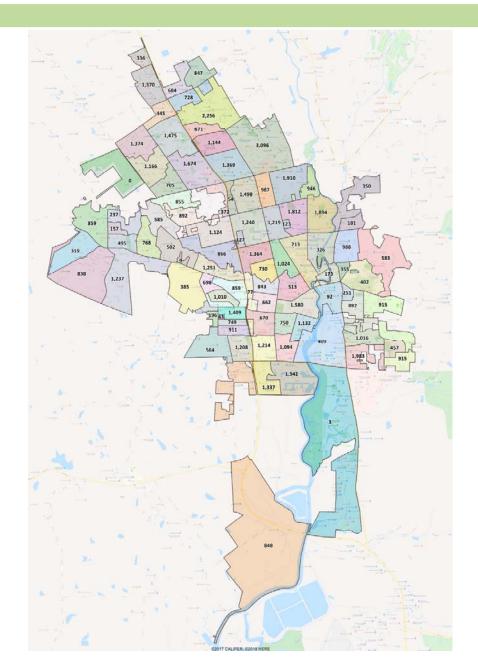
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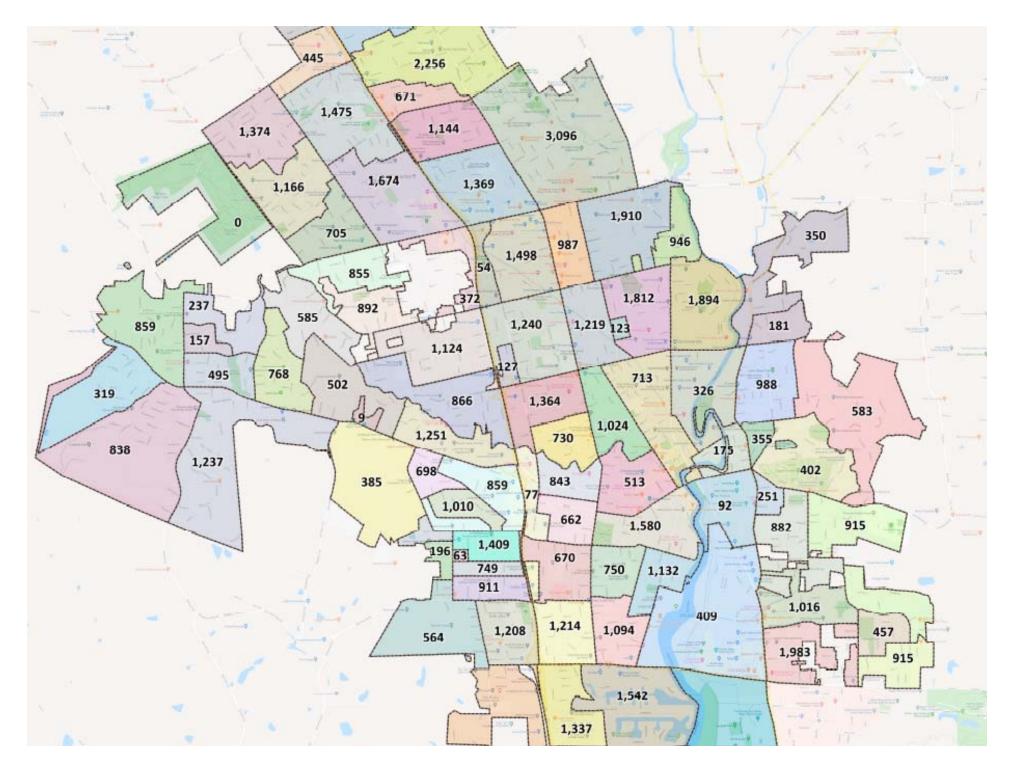
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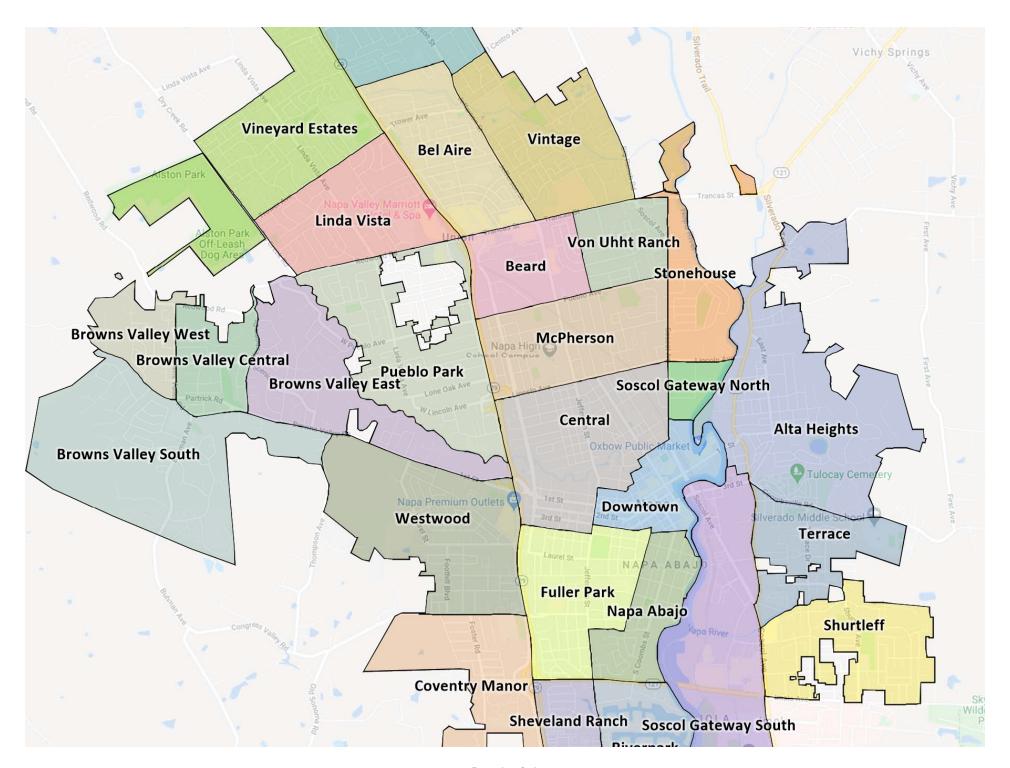
Precinct Boundaries



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Ensuring a fair and open districting process

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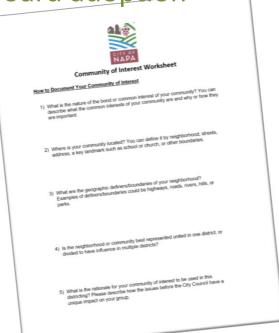


City of Napa

What's Next

Public hearings will be held to obtain input on communities of interest before any map is drafted and receive feedback on potential districting plans prior to board adoption

Input can be provided in public hearings or using our "Community of Interest Worksheet."





City of Napa

What's Next

Public hearings are scheduled to engage the public in the process.

- First Hearing Public Information / Feedback
- Second Hearing Public Information / Feedback
- Outreach Meeting Public Map Drawing Exercises

Release of maps 7 days before next hearing

Third Hearing – Discussion of Maps

Release of Amended Maps 7 days before next hearing

Fourth Hearing – Selection of Map

Release of final map 7 days before next hearing

• Final Vote on plan – (up or down, no significant changes)



Timeline

Sunday March 8 – Community Workshops **REVISED TIME/LOCATION**

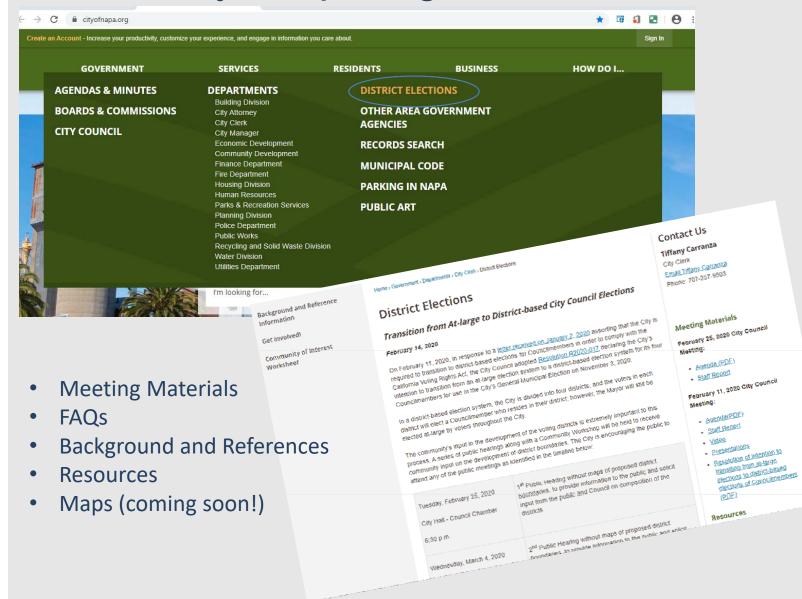
10:00 a.m. - McPherson Elementary School (2670 Yajome St) 2:00 p.m. - John's Baptist Catholic Church Parish Hall (924 Napa St)

The City's demographer will provide presentations at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., with hands-on exercises to draw sample maps after each presentation. A summary of the comments received at the Community Workshop will be presented to the City Council at the public hearing held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

- Tuesday March 17 6:30 p.m. City Hall Council Chamber, 955 School Street
 3rd Public hearing 1st hearing with maps of proposed district boundaries produced by the demographer and published seven days in advance, and with a summary of comments received during the Community Workshop, for consideration and feedback by the public and Council
- Tuesday April 7 6:30 p.m. City Hall Council Chamber, 955 School Street
 4th public hearing with revised map(s) of proposed district boundaries produced by
 the demographer and published seven days in advance; consideration of public
 input regarding the revised map(s), and introduction an ordinance establishing a
 district-based election system and map of district boundaries for Councilmembers
- Tuesday April 21 6:30 p.m. City Hall Council Chamber, 955 School Street 5th public hearing to adopt an ordinance establishing a district-based election system and map of district boundaries for Councilmembers



www.cityofnapa.org/districtelections





Community of Interest Worksheet (English and Spanish)

Background and Reference Information

Get Involved!

Community of Interest Worksheet Home > Government > Departments > City Clerk > District Elections

District Elections

Transition from At-large to District-based City

February 14, 2020

On February 11, 2020, in response to a <u>letter received on January 2</u> required to transition to district-based elections for Councilmembers California Voting Rights Act, the City Council adopted <u>Resolution R2</u> intention to transition from an at-large election system to a district-based Councilmembers for use in the City's General Municipal Election on

In a district-based election system, the City is divided into four district district will elect a Councilmember who resides in their district; howe elected at-large by voters throughout the City.

The community's input in the development of the voting districts is e process. A series of public hearings along with a Community Worksl community input on the development of district boundaries. The City attend any of the public meetings as identified in the timeline below:





Community of Interest Worksheet

How to Document Your Community of Interest

- What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.
- Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries.
- What are the geographic definers/boundaries of your neighborhood?
 Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.
- 4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.



Formulario de Comunidad de interés

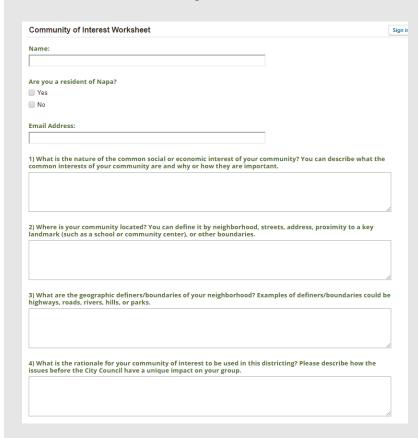
Cómo documentar su comunidad de interés

- ¿Cuál es el interés social o económico común de su comunidad? Describa cuáles son los intereses comunes de su comunidad y porqué, o cómo son importantes.
- ¿Dónde está ubicada su comunidad? Puede definirlo por vecindario, calles, dirección, proximidad a un punto de referencia clave (como una escuela o centro comunitario), u otros límites.
- ¿Cuáles son las fronteras/límites geográficos de su vecindario? Ejemplos de fronteras/límites pueden ser carreteras, caminos, ríos, colinas o parques.
- ¿Cuál es el fundamento de su comunidad de interés para ser utilizada en este distrito? Describa cómo los temas ante el Consejo Municipal tienen un impacto único en su grupo.

Email completed COI Worksheet to <u>districts@cityofnapa.org</u>, or drop off to the City Clerk Department at 955 School Street.



Complete an online COI Worksheet



Formulario de Comunidad de interés	
Nombre:	
¿Es residente de Napa?	
□ Sí	
□ No	
Dirección de correo electrónico:	
1) ¿Cuál es el interés social o económico común de su comunidad? Describa cuáles s su comunidad y porqué, o cómo son importantes.	on los intereses comunes de
	11
2) ¿Dónde está ubicada su comunidad? Puede definirlo por vecindario, calles, direcc referencia clave (como una escuela o centro comunitario), u otros límites.	ión, proximidad a un punto de
	//
3) ¿Cuáles son las fronteras/límites geográficos de su vecindario? Ejemplos de front- carreteras, caminos, ríos, colinas o parques.	eras/límites pueden ser
 ¿Cuál es el fundamento de su comunidad de interés para ser utilizada en este distemas ante el Consejo Municipal tienen un impacto único en su grupo. 	crito? Describa cómo los





The City of Napa has initiated the legal process to transition to district-based elections for Councilmembers and asks for your help in designing voting districts. A series of Public Hearings will be held to receive community input on the development of district boundaries.

Join us for a COMMUNITY WORKSHOP on Sunday, March 8, 2020

McPherson Elementary School 2670 Yajome Street, Napa, CA 94558

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

St. John's Baptist Catholic Church Parish Hall 924 Napa Street, Napa, CA 94559 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

All Public Hearings will take place in the Council Chamber located inside City Hall at 955 School Street

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 6:30 PM

1st Public Hearing without maps to receive community input regarding boundaries and composition of districts

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 6:30 PM

2nd Public Hearing without maps to receive additional community input regarding boundaries and composition

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 6:30 PM

3rd Public Hearing with maps for consideration and feedback by the public and Council

Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 6:30 PM

4th Public Hearing with maps for further consideration and feedback by the public and Council

Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 6:30 PM

5th Public Hearing to adopt a district-based election system and map of district boundaries for



ELECCIONES DEL DISTRITO DEL AYUNTAMIENTO



La Cuidad de Napa ha iniciado el proceso legal para la transición a elecciones distritales para miembros del Consejo y solicita su ayuda para diseñar distritos electorales. Una serie de audiencias públicas se llevará a cabo para recibir consideración de la opinión de la comunidad sobre el desarrollo de los límites del distrito.

Únete con nosotros para un TALLER COMUNITARIO

El Domingo, 8 de marzo de 2020

Escuela Primaria McPherson 2670 Yajome Street, Napa, CA 94558 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

En el Salon Parroquial de San Juan Bautista 924 Napa Street, Napa, CA 94559 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Martes 25 de febrero de 2020 a las 6:30 p.m.

Ayuntamiento en 955 School Street

Primera audiencia pública sin mapas de los límites del distrito propuestos, para proporcionar información al público y solicitar aportes del público y el Consejo sobre la composición de los

Miércoles 4 de marzo de 2020 a las 6:30 p.m.

Segunda audiencia pública sin mapas de los límites del distrito propuestos, para proporcionar más información al público y solicitar aportes del público y el Consejo sobre la composición de los

Martes 17 de marzo de 2020 a las 6:30 p.m.

Tercera audiencia pública con mapas de los límites del distrito para consideración y comentarios del público y el Consejo

Martes 7 de abril de 2020 a las 6:30 p.m.

Cuarta audiencia pública con mapas de los límites del distrito para mayor consideración y comentarios del público y el Consejo

Martes 21 de abril de 2020 a las 6:30 p.m.

Quinta audiencia pública para adoptar una ordenanza que establezca un sistema electoral basado en el distrito y un mapa de los límites del distrito para los miembros del Consejo



www.cityofnapa.org/districtelections



Spreading The Word



On February 11, 2920, in response to a letter received on January 2, 2020 on February 11, 2920, in response to a letter received on January 2, 2020 on February 11, 2920, in response to a letter received on January 2, 2020 on February 11, 2920, on The City of the California's electoral rights law for council members to comply with the California's electoral rights law intention of the city adopted resolution (2020-017 which declares the intention of the city adopted resolution 2020-017 which declares the intention of the city on wave from a general electoral system to that its council members can use in the general based electoral system to that its council members 2, 2020. In A District-based municipal election of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal election of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal election of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city of November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city of November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A District-based municipal elector of the city On November 3, 2020. In A Distric

The Mayor (sa) were commonly in the development of the community in the development of electoral districts is extremely important for this process. A series of electoral districts is extremely important for this process. A series of contributions from the community on the development contributions from the community on the development of the community of of the community

See original Rate this translation



Napa, CA

Social Media

Napa News Weekly

City of Napa to Explore By-District Elections

On February 11, 2020, in response to a letter received on January 2, 2020 asserting that the City is required to transition to district-based elections for Councilmembers in order to comply with the California Voting Rights Act, the City Council adopted Resolution R2020-017 declaring the City's intention to transition from an atlarge election system to a district-based election system for its four Councilmembers for use in the City's General

Municipal Election on November 3, 2020.

In a district-based election system, the City is divided into four districts, and the voters in each district will elect a Councilmember who resides in their district; however, the Mayor will still be elected at-large by voters throughout the City.

The community's input in the development of the voting districts is extremely important to this process. A series of public hearings along with a Community Workshop will be held to receive community input on the development of district boundaries. The City is encouraging the public to attend any of the public meetings as identified in the timeline below:

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

City Hall - Council Chamber

6:30 p.m

1st Public Hearing without maps of proposed district boundaries, to provide information to the public and solicit input from the public and Council on composition of the districts

Public Hearing

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

City Hall - Council Chamber

6:30 p.n

2nd Public Hearing without maps of proposed district boundaries, to provide information to the public and solicit input from the public and Council on composition of the districts

Community Workshop



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 14, 2020 MAIN CONTACT Tiffany Carranza, City Clerk (707) 257-9503

City of Napa's Transition to District-Based Elections

NAPA, California - On February 11, 2020, in response to a <u>letter received on January 2</u>, 2020 asserting that the City is required to transition to district-based elections for Councilmembers in order to comply with the California Volting Rights Act, the City Council adopted <u>Resolution R2020-017</u> declaring the City's intention to transition from an at-large election system to a district-based election system for its four Councilmembers for use in the City's General Municipal Election on November 3, 2020.

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iesday, February 25, 2020 ty Hall - Council Chamber 30 p.m.	1 st Public Hearing without maps of proposed district boundaries, to provide information to the public and solicit input from the public and Council on composition of the districts	
ednesday, March 4, 2020 ty Hall - Council Chamber 30 p.m.	2 nd Public Hearing without maps of proposed district boundaries, to provide information to the public and solicit input from the public and Council on composition of the districts	
inday, March 8, 2020 cPherson Elementary School :00 a.m 3:30 p.m.	Community Workshop where Demographer will provide a presentation to the public, and solicit input from the public regarding proposed district boundaries	

Media Releases



Questions?

Visit: www.cityofnapa.org/districtelections

Email: districts@cityofnapa.org



City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020

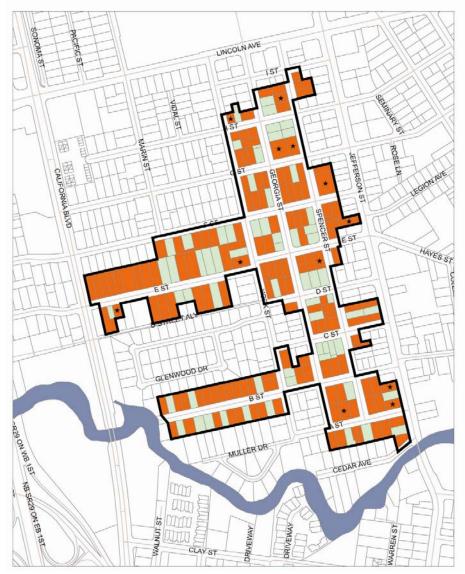
Supplemental I - 3.A. - Historic District Maps from City Staff

State of California & The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary#	
HRI#	
Trinomial	

Page 10 of 19 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Spencer's Addition Historic District

*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull *Date 10 Sept. 2010 ☑ Continuation ☐ Update



Spencer's Addition Historic District Map, 2010.

Outline indicates Historic District boundaries.

Orange shaded parcels indicate District Contributors (assigned a CHRSC of 5D3). Light green shaded parcels indicate Non-Contributors (assigned a CHRSC of 6Z). Starred parcels indicate Individually Eligible parcels (assigned a CHRSC of 5B).

State of California & The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION CONTINUATION SHEET

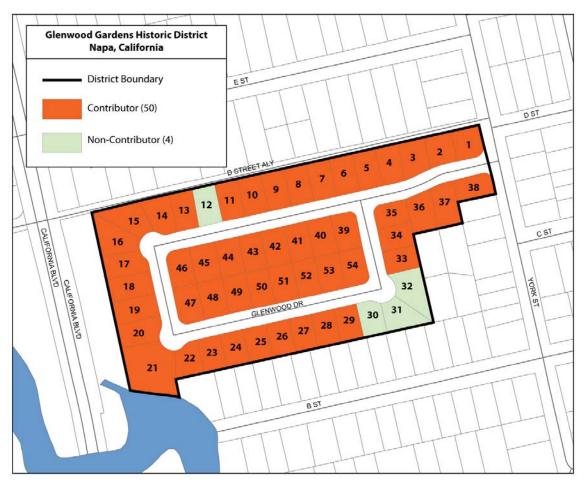
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Page	4	of	10	*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)	Glenwood Gardens Historic District
raye	4	Oi	10	resource Name of # (Assigned by recorder)	Gleriwood Gardens Historic

*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull *Date 10 Sept. 2010 ☑ Continuation ☐ Update

Lot No.	CHRSC	APN	Address	Street	Туре	Constr. Date	Original Occupant Information
49	3D, 5D3	,5D3 002083014000 48 GLENWOOD DR 1952		Mrs. Arretta M. King,			
50	3D, 5D3	002083013000	50	GLENWOOD	DR	1952	Richard Whitney (Myra L.), salesman
51	3D, 5D3	002083012000	52	GLENWOOD	DR	1952	Paul VanMeter, US Air Force (Rose, teacher, Salvador Union School)
52	3D, 5D3	002083011000	000 54 GLENWOOD DR 1951		1951	Angelo J. Montalbano (Madge), rigger, Mare Island	
53	3D, 5D3	002083010000	56	GLENWOOD	DR	1952	Leo Trepp, teacher, Napa College
54	3D, 5D3	002083009000	58	GLENWOOD	DR	1952	Glen E. Davidson, manager, Busby's Furniture (Lillian, bookkeeper, American Trust Co.)

D4. Boundary Description (continued)

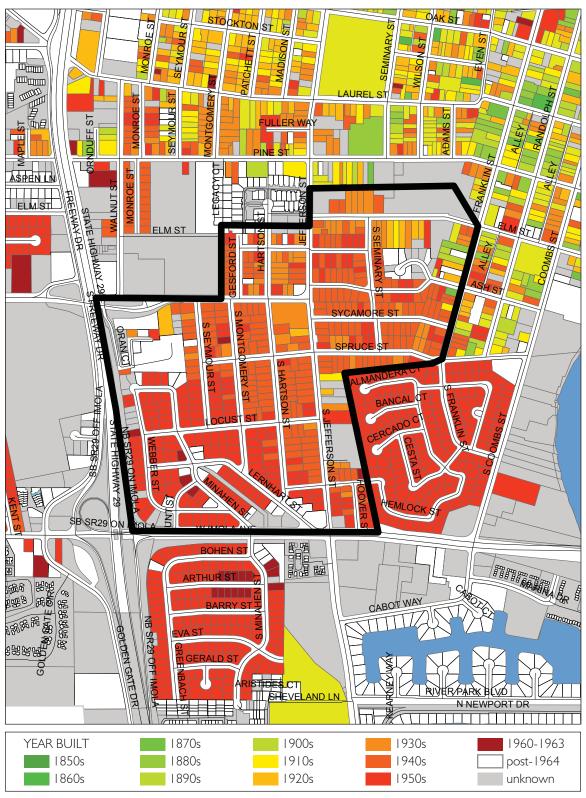


Glenwood Gardens Historic District Map, 2010.

Outline indicates Historic District boundaries.

Orange shaded parcels indicate District Contributors (assigned a CHRSC of 3D and 5D3). Light green shaded parcels indicate Non-Contributors (assigned a CHRSC of 6Z).

FULLER SOUTH (MAP 2)



Recommendations are intended for planning purposes only, and do not represent an intensive architectural historic resource survey. Sub-area boundaries are intentionally broad, and should not be used to define historic districts without further research.

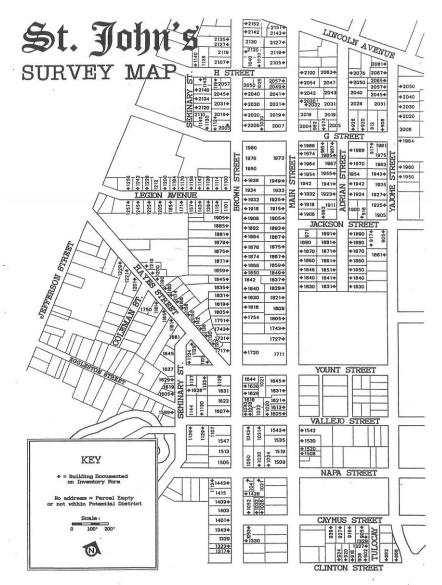


Figure 5. St. John's Survey Map. (City of Napa Planning Department, "St. John's Historic Resources Inventory Final Report," 31 August 1995.)

Calistoga Avenue Historic District

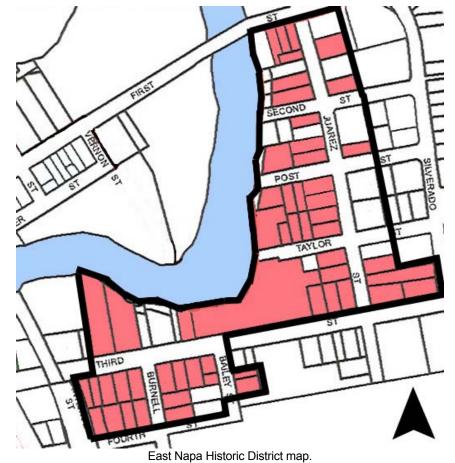
The Calistoga Avenue Historic District is the only locally-designated historic district in the City of Napa. Centered on Calistoga Avenue, the district primarily features residential buildings from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and was strongly influenced by the development of the electric railway in 1905. The Calistoga Avenue Historic District was surveyed and designated as a local landmark district in 1988. Alterations and demolitions within the district are subject to design review by the Cultural Heritage Commission.¹⁵ The district is not listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

1 September 2009 Page & Turnbull, Inc.

¹⁵ Napa County Historical Society, "Calistoga Avenue Historic Landmark District," http://sites.google.com/site/calistogaavehistory/ (accessed 2 January 2009). Winter & Company and Racestudio, "Design Guidelines for the Napa Abajo/Fuller Park Historic District, 4. Also at www.cityofnapa.org (accessed 2 January 2009).

State of California & The Resources DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND REC	REATION	Primary# HRI # Trinomial	
Page 5 of 11	*Resource Name o	r # (Assigned by recorder)	East Napa Historic District
*Recorded by: Page & Turnhull	*Date 13 Novem	her 2009 X Continu	ation Undate

D4. Boundary Description (continued)



Outline indicates Historic District boundaries. Shaded parcels indicate District Contributors.

D5. Boundary Justification (continued)

The boundary of the East Napa Historic District is inclusive of contributing properties that have proximity to one another, and is exclusive of non-contributing properties that lack association to the historic themes or the period of significance, while maintaining a coherent, regular boundary.

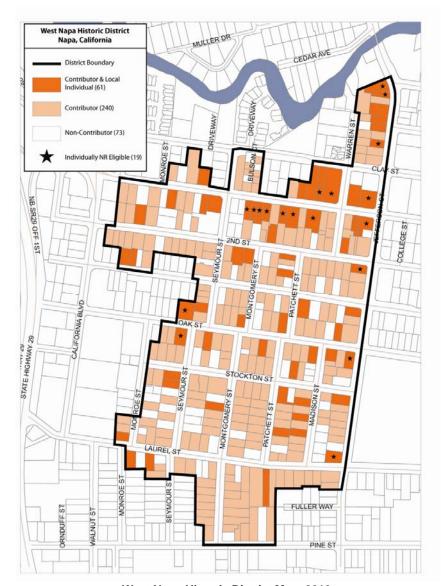
The boundary coincides with the extent of the East Napa/Soscol Gateway Redevelopment Area boundary and the boundary of the East Napa/Soscol Gateway Historic Resources Survey. For this reason, the district area does not extend north of First Street or west of the Napa River, which creates an extremely effective physical boundary. On the east, the boundary includes those properties that front on Juarez Street, but excludes those that front on Silverado Trail because they are generally commercial in nature and oriented away from the core residential area along Juarez Street. One exception to this trend is the property at the northwest corner of Silverado Trail and Third Street, which is residential. The Napa Valley Expo property dominates the south side of Third Street between Silverado Trail and Bailey Street and has therefore been excluded from the district.

State of California & The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary#	
HRI#	
Trinomial	

Page 14 of 25 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) West Napa Historic District

*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull *Date 10 Sept. 2010 ☑ Continuation ☐ Update



West Napa Historic District Map, 2010.

Outline indicates West Napa Historic District boundaries.

Starred parcels indicate Individually Eligible for National Register (assigned a CHRSC of 3B or 3S).

Orange shaded parcels indicate National Resgister/Local Landmark District Contributors that are also individually eligible locally as Landmark Properties (assigned a CHRSC of 3D and 5B).

Light orange shaded parcels indicate District Contributors (assigned a CHRSC of 3D and 5D3).

Blank parcels indicate Non-Contributors (assigned a CHRSC of 6Z).

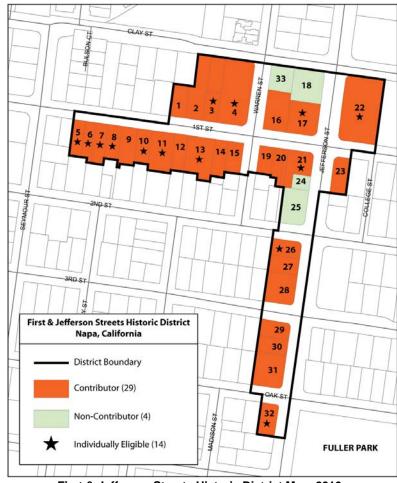
State of California & The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary#	
HRI#	
Trinomial	

Page	4	of	11		*Resou	rce Nar	ne or # (Assi	gned by reco	rder)	First	t & Jefferson St	reets Historic	c District	
*D			_	 	*D-1-									

*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull *Date 10 Sept. 2010 Sontinuation Update

D4. Boundary Description (continued)



First & Jefferson Streets Historic District Map, 2010.

Outline indicates Historic District boundaries.

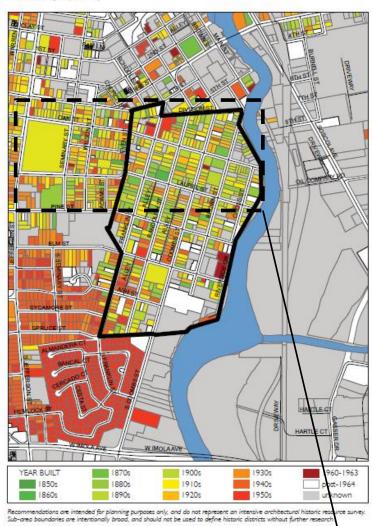
Orange shaded parcels indicate District Contributors (assigned a CHRSC of 3D and 5D3). Light green shaded parcels indicate Non-Contributors (assigned a CHRSC of 6Z). Starred parcels indicate Individually Eligible parcels (assigned a CHRSC of 3B and 5B)

Napa-Abajo Area

-VS-

Napa Abajo – Fuller Park National District

NAPA ABAJO (MAP 3)



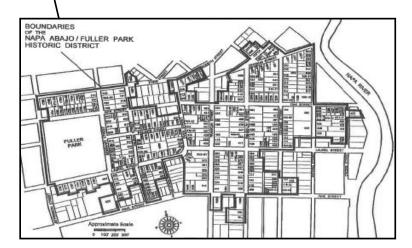


EXHIBIT B THE CALISTOGA AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

ADDRESS	APN	ADDRESS	APN
1405 Behrens Street	03-124-04	1404 Center Street	03-127-01
1411 Behrens Street	03-124-03	1416 Center Street	03-127-02
1419 Behrens Street	03-124-02	1421 Center Street	03-151-07
1325 Calistoga Avenue	03-153-07	1433 Center Street	03-151-06
1328 Calistoga Avenue	03-133-16	1434 Center Street	03-127-03
1334-36 Calistoga Ave.	03-133-17	1440 Center Street	03-127-04
1335 Calistoga Avenue	03-153-06	1441 Center Street	03-151-05
1346 Calistoga Avenue	03-133-18	1450 Center Street	03-127-05
1347 Calistoga Avenue	03-153-05	1455 Center Street	03-151-04
1356 Calistoga Avenue	03-133-19	1469 Center Street	03-151-03
1357 Calistoga Avenue	03-153-04	1481 Center Street	03-151-02
1362 Calistoga Avenue	03-133-20	1484 Center Street	03-124-05
1377 Calistoga Avenue	03-153-03	1492 Center Street	03-124-01
1381-83 Calistoga Ave.	03-153-02	1493 Center Street	03-151-01
1386 Calistoga Avenue	03-133-22	1498 Center Street	03-151-22
1406 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-11	1200 Jefferson Street	03-152-27
1411-17 Calistoga Ave.	03-152-12	1230 Jefferson Street	03-152-28
1418 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-12	1530 Polk Street	03-152-15
1426 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-13	1540 Polk Street	03-152-16
1433 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-11	1552 Polk Street	03-152-17
1437 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-10	1556 Polk Street	03-152-18
1438 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-14	1558 Polk Street	03-152-19
1441 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-09	1560 Polk Street	03-152-20
1446 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-15	1564 Polk Street	03-152-21
1447 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-08	1570 Polk Street	03-152-22
1453 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-07	1590 Polk Street	03-152-23
1456 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-15	1203 Seminary Street	03-152-14
1457 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-06	1221 Seminary Street	03-152-13
1463 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-05	1232 Seminary Street	03-153-01
1466 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-16	1316 Seminary Street	03-133-23
1469 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-04	1318 Seminary Street	03-133-24
1475 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-03	1327 Seminary Street	03-151-09
1476 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-17	1335 Seminary Street	03-151-10
1484 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-18	1340 Seminary Street	03-133-25
1487 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-02	1341 Seminary Street	03-151-08
1488 Calistoga Avenue	03-151-19	1348 Seminary Street	03-133-26
1495 Calistoga Avenue	03-152-26	1400 Seminary Street	03-133-27
		1410 Seminary Street	03-133-28

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020 Supplemental I - 3.A. From: Merle Smith

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: <u>Districts</u>

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Community of Interest Worksheet

Date: Sunday, March 1, 2020 12:39:16 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Community of Interest Worksheet

Name: Merle Smith

Are you a resident of Napa?

Yes

Email Address:

1) What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.

I always wanted to give back to my community but working full time, commuting almost 4 hours a day and raising 2 children did not leave me time to volunteer. Now that I am retired I volunteer for 3 Napa Non-profits, NVCF, NEWS, and COPE.I feel it is important to take care of people in need and I want to do what I can to assist.

- 2) Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries.
- I View my community as the city of Napa itself, not a more specific area. I spent most of my life int he New York City tri-state area. Hence I am used to large populations. Given Napa's geographic size and population, I do not define my neighborhood as a smaller area.

3) What are the geographic definers/boundaries of your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.

Tulocay Cemetery on one side and Coombsville Road on the other.

4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in

I would hope that the non-profits are not negatively impacted from a financial perspective of this new districting..

this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020 Supplemental I - 3.A. From: Elizabeth McKinne

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: <u>Districts</u>

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Community of Interest Worksheet

Date: Sunday, March 1, 2020 4:13:00 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Community of Interest Worksheet

Name: Elizabeth McKinne

Are you a resident of Napa?

Yes

Email Address:

1) What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.

I live in Old Town, Napa's beautiful historic district. My specific neighborhood within the larger whole of Old Town is Napa Abajo, which along with The Fuller Park neighborhood is Napa's only recognized National Register Historic District. But to be clear, the residents of Napa Abajo and surrounding historic neighborhoods refer to the entire area as Old Town and we feel a oneness with each other because of our history, our architecture and our vibrant, walk-able community with big shade trees. We are a diverse neighborhood ethnically and economically. We have grand mansions and small worker cottages side by side. We have home owners and renters. We have a neighborhood elementary school, historic churches and a synagogue. We celebrate our community with Porchfest every summer, welcoming people to enjoy the individuality of our homes and our neighborhood. Many of us share an interest in historic preservation and architecture, mature shade trees and perennial gardens. We value being able to walk our dogs and stroll our children in a neighborhood with sidewalks, and the ability to talk to our neighbors. While we enjoy our proximity to downtown and are gracious to the visitors in our neighborhood, we do not want to become a commercial district that loses a sense of local residential community. We want to protect our historic neighborhood and maintain its fabric as a whole. We are a valuable contributor to the City of Napa and are proud to be one of the largest historic neighborhoods in California.

2) Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other

I live on Randolph Street in Napa Abajo near the Methodist Church, but I consider my community to be the greater historic district, which encompasses several "named" neighborhoods. They include Napa Abajo, Fuller Park, the Downtown neighborhood, Central neighborhood with the ABC streets, and the Calistoga District, the area north of downtown. Our historic district surrounds the downtown area as the city originally grew along the port of the Napa River.

boundaries.

3) What are the geographic definers/boundaries of your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.

We are bordered by Lincoln Avenue to the north, California Boulevard and the highway to the west, the Napa River to the east, and Imola Avenue to the south.

4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

We are one of the largest historic districts in California and share an appreciation of that distinction. All of the individual neighborhoods within Old Town are in close proximity to the commercial area of downtown. We have a large number of B&B's and a large number of Airbnb's, both legal and illegal. We are a densely populated residential neighborhood which is primarily single family housing with some multifamily introduced when the neighborhood was up-zoned in the 60s and 70s. Downtown issues become our issues. Tourism issues affect us directly. As an historic district our housing/building concerns are somewhat different from other neighborhoods. We look upon ourselves as a neighborhood distinct from other neighborhoods.

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020
Supplemental I - 3.A.

Supplemental I - 3.A.
From: Marie Bowen

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: <u>Districts</u>

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Community of Interest Worksheet

Date: Monday, March 2, 2020 8:40:52 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Community of Interest Worksheet

Name: Marie Bowen

Are you a resident of Napa?

Yes

Email Address:

1) What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.

I am a long-time resident of Rohlffs Manor (population ca 300, maybe) and am also within walking distance of several other 'senior' residences (55+ or 62+): The Vintage, Redwood Retirement Center, and Aegis Living--all on Redwood Road as it heads east to Hwy 29. The most common 'interest' of all these residences is our age.

2) Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries.

3101 Rohlffs Way

3) What are the geographic definers/boundaries of your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.

Basically, W. Pueblo to the south; Linda Vista to the east; Baywood to the west; and Redwood Road to the north. In the case of the other three senior residences I mentioned above, they all front onto Redwood Road, with Linda Vista to the west and Oxford St. to the east.

4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in

We all are aging and, while some of us remain employed, manyperhaps most--are retired and at a distinctly lower-income range than seniors who live, say, at The Meadows or at the beingthis districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

constructed Watermark. I believe that whatever district is created in this area needs to include our four residences. Finally, please, encourage potential candidates for whatever district will include Rohlffs Manor to visit us, either in the form of a general meeting or door to door, as Mark Luce always did when he was our County Supervisor. No one since Mark has ever been here--at any governmental level--other than John Tuteur during election times. Thank you.

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020
Supplemental I - 3.A.
From: Christina Benz

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: <u>Districts</u>

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Community of Interest Worksheet

Date: Monday, March 2, 2020 9:10:01 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Community of Interest Worksheet

Name: Christina Benz Yes Are you a resident of Napa? **Email Address:** Working/middle class. Interested in maintaining city services for 1) What is the nature of disadvantaged groups, rather than providing benefits for visitors. the common social or Need near-by shopping and commercial services and parks. economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important. Green Meadows in South Napa (bordered by Hwy 29 to west, 2) Where is your Imola to north, Jefferson to east, Sheveland Ranch to south) community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries. 3) What are the see above geographic definers/boundaries of your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries

4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in

could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or

parks.

This community should be grouped with other middle class/working class neighborhoods in South Napa because of shared economic interests and shared geographic interests. The

this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

Green Meadows housing tract is 50:50 Anglo/Latino, and probably has more in common with the Shurtleff area than with Foster Road.

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020 Supplemental I - 3.A. From: Suzanne Shiff

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: <u>Districts</u>

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Community of Interest Worksheet

Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 9:48:19 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Community of Interest Worksheet

Name:	Suzanne shiff
Are you a resident of Napa?	Yes
Email Address:	
1) What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.	Social determinants of health: access to food, parks, hospitals, etc. Affects quality of life i Culture/ economic pockets: neighborhood that are primarily Latino or primarily wealthy. (yacht club) Finding common ground and collaboration
2) Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries.	Old town. 2 blocks from Fuller park.
3) What are the geographic definers/boundaries of your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.	Hwy 29, the river, 1st st., old Sonoma road? Or laurel
4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in	I worked with the county , as nonprofit coalition. on assessing the demographics in community on social determinants . I think you would find the current data and Findings to be useful.

this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020 Supplemental I - 3.A. From: Steven Rosen

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: <u>Districts</u>

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Community of Interest Worksheet

Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 9:55:46 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Community of Interest Worksheet

Name: Steven Rosen

Are you a resident of Napa?

Yes

Email Address:

1) What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.

My community of interest is renters. They have been oppressed by a City Council that only represents homeowners because homeowners vote as a bloc for any candidate who promises to constrict the supply of housing. Wealth and poverty are racialized in America, so the addressing the renter/owner divide will also address the over-representation of wealthy white retirees and business owners in the electorate.

Renters benefit from increasing the housing supply. Increasing the housing supply also has local and global positive externalities. Giving renters a voice proportional to their population is the only way to undo 50 years of horrible housing policies and make life better for everyone, including homeowners.

Homeowners are nothing if not rational actors. Homeowners, no matter their race, age, religion, gender, only vote to increase the rate of their property's price appreciation. They do this by voting for candidates who promise to restrict the supply of housing. This is why there is a housing crisis.

2) Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries.

Renters are concentrated in areas with multi-family homes, but are scattered in areas developed with detached dwellings, too.

Multi-family home areas have population that is more compact, so the districts created to give renters adequate representation will appear smaller on the map. Baker v Carr and the rest of the Warren Supreme Court's decisions require districts to be sized based on population, not area.

3) What are the geographic definers/boundaries of

I have been unable to find population by housing occupancy type in the US Census. Maybe you can.

Otherwise, the US Census will tell you the number or percentage

your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.

of housing units within each tract that are renter-occupied. You would then get the population within each tract to find the population who rent.

I hypothesize that you will find that renters have more people per unit given that people who are of child-bearing age cannot afford houses and must pile roommates into rental units to make ends meet.

4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

Homeowners and renters have diametrically opposed interests. Homevoters vote as a bloc to restrict the supply of housing so that their houses will increase in price at an ever increasing rate. They do this in order to make themselves richer without having to work. This is the "Homevoter Hypothesis," proven to exist by Fischel. This imposes suffering on those who were not born at the right time, to the right family, or with the right color skin to benefit from the American midcentury homeownership wealth machine.

Renters seek to increase the supply of housing so that their rent will go down so that they can buy food for their children or have the opportunity to live close to their jobs so that they can spend more time with their families or participating in their community and enjoying the product of their labor.

Poverty and wealth are racialized. People born before 1970 made home ownership impossibly expensive for people born later. Creating council seats that are beholden to renters will address all identity gaps in representation more effectively than anything else.

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020

Supplemental I - 3.A. From: Steven Rosen

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: **Districts**

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Community of Interest Worksheet

Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 10:49:57 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Community of Interest Worksheet

Name: Steven Rosen

Are you a resident of Napa?

Yes

Email Address:

1) What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.

People who work in but do not live in Napa.

Their interest is that they make Napa a good place by the sweat on their brow but do not see any benefit of their labor as they are thrown out of town at the end of their shift. They are alienated from any of the goodness they produce. Every hour they spend commuting each way is an hour they cannot spend with their families.

Meanwhile, there are people who live in Napa but do not contribute any labor to its loveliness. In their decadence, they only consume and vote to make sure The Help is banished to AmCan, Fairfield, and Vallejo every evening.

18,654* people commute to their primary place of employment in the City of Napa from outside. (Napa has about 80,000 residents, of whom only 10,991 work in the City limits.) This is a significant number of people whose lives are hugely impacted by the City Council but who have no representation.

*Bureau of Economic Statistics

2) Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries.

The 18,654 inbound workers have workplaces scattered citywide. The seat would be an at-large representative for all employees with residences outside the City limits.

3) What are the geographic

They are diffused citywide. The seat reserved for the vote of exiled or displaced workers would have to be a citywide seat so that the representation of this disenfranchised class would not be definers/boundaries of your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.

diluted by the residents who benefit from their labor and whose interest is in reserving the fine living for themselves.

4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

Napa's wealth is in its ability to create fine living through agricultural production, the processing and selling of agricultural goods, and through personal services.

The only sources of wealth are nature and labor.

18,654 people come into Napa from outside to work. Only 10,991 people who live in Napa work here. The rest just hoover up the wealth created by these people. It is appalling that they get to vote to keep the 18,654 out and to impose crushing commutes on them, especially considering that only 24,931 of the rest are employed at all.

People who spend the majority of their waking lives in our City deserve the right to help pick how they are governed. After all, it is their city, too. Considering that they do 2/3 of the work that makes this place what it is, it's fair to say that it is more their City than it is ours.

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020 Supplemental I - 3.A. From: Eduardo Dingler

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: <u>Districts</u>

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Community of Interest Worksheet

Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:59:20 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Community of Interest Worksheet

Name:	Eduardo Dingler
Are you a resident of Napa?	Yes
Email Address:	
1) What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.	Maintain intact current neighborhoods.
2) Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries.	South Central Napa. My boundaries are Hwy 29 and Napa River. River Park and Fuller Park are significant landmarks.
3) What are the geographic definers/boundaries of your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.	Hwy 29 and Napa River are my significant boundaries. Anything east of Napa River I do not consider part of my neighborhood.
4) What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in	We will have a designated representative to my neighborhood.

this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS II Office of the City Clerk

City Council of the City of Napa Special Meeting March 4, 2020

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:

EVENING SESSION:

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEALS:

3.A. Transition to District-Based Elections for Councilmembers.

• Written communication from Robert Van Der Velde received on March 4, 2020 titled "Statement to Napa City Council on Districting".

City Council Special Meeting 3/4/2020 Supplemental II - 3.A. From: Robert Van Der Velde

Statement to Napa City Council on Districting

Robert J. Van Der Velde

March 4, 2020

Mayor and Council,

This is to follow up on my remarks to the February 11, 2020 City Council hearing on districting. This is a topic I have followed closely ever since writing my first law review article more than 35 years ago. ¹

Following your February 11th meeting, I continued to do some research regarding creating municipal districts in California and elsewhere, particularly regarding tools for ordinary citizens to help with this process. I came across Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group (MGGG)², a Boston-based organization whose mission includes building open-source tools and resources to create public access and analytical tools for districting. Led by Professors Moon Duchin of Tufts University and Justin Solomon of MIT, and with support from the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, they created "DistrictR", a simple web-based tool to allow users to create their own districting proposals. At my request, the brilliant Professor Duchin graciously added Napa 2010 census data to the tool in just one day, and this tool is now publicly available for free at http://districtr.org/new/CA.

Napa is not MGGG's first foray into California. In <u>Ladonna Yumori Kaku v. City of Santa Clara</u> plaintiffs contended that at-large elections violated the California Voting Rights Act, citing that Santa Clara had never elected an Asian City Council member despite the fact that nearly 40% of the population is Asian. MGGG analyzed Santa Clara election results as well as several proposed remedies, ultimately recommending development of a transferable vote system where voters would rank their choices and if no one candidate gets a majority, the final selection takes into account second choices and beyond, as is used in San Francisco, Oakland, and Berkeley elections.³ The Santa Clara Superior Court concluded⁴ in May 2018 that Santa Clara's at-large voting for City Council violated the CVRA and ordered establishment of six Council districts for the November 2018 election, notably not including the ranked-choice transferable vote system.

In November 2018, Measure N was adopted to establish a public process to amend the Santa Clara City Charter, a process ending in the March 2, 2020 primary where Santa Clara voters were asked to vote on Measure C, to establish six districts for one council member each, and then in 2022 to establish three

¹ Robert J. Van Der Velde, "One Person, One Vote, Round III: Legal Challenges to the 1980 Redistricting", 34 Cleveland St. L. Rev. 569 (1984).

² www.mggg.org

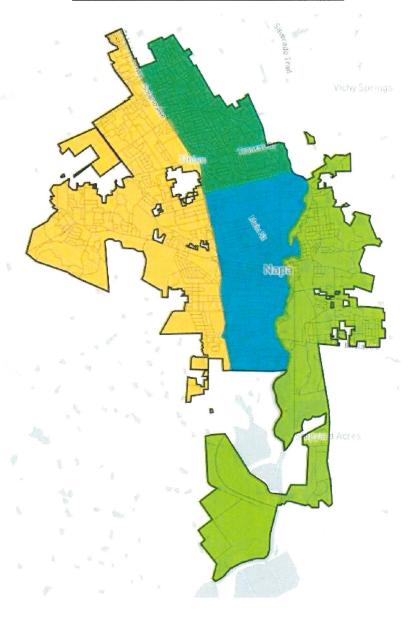
³ Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group, "Study of voting systems for Santa Clara, CA" (February 2018) available at https://mggg.org/SantaClara.pdf (visited March 1, 2020)

⁴ The Proposed Statement of Decision in the Santa Clara case is available at https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/4464238/Santa-Clara-Court-Rules-City-Violated-CVRA.pdf (visited February 29, 2020)

districts with two members each, to be created by an Independent Districting Committee.⁵ Results of that election are not available as of this writing.

Sample Napa Maps

The DistrictR tool is a relatively simple way to create four City Council districts for Napa and analyze the size and racial/ethnic breakdown of proposed districts, using 2010 Census blocks. Map 1 below uses major geographic features as boundaries: one district west of Highway 29, one district east of the Napa River and Soscol Avenue, and the two districts in between divided by Pueblo Avenue.



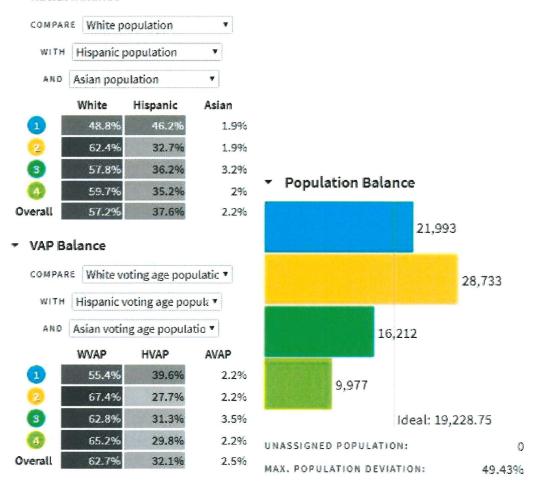
Map 1: Major Geographic Feature Boundaries

⁵ City of Santa Clara, City Clerk's Office, March 3, 2020 Special Election, https://www.santaclaraca.gov/our-city/departments-a-f/city-clerk-s-office/election-information/march-3-2020-special-election (visited March 1, 2020).

This map is available at http://districtr.org/edit/2820. Unfortunately, while the geographic boundaries are well-known and clear, this map creates districts with unconstitutionally large population deviations, with the west-of-29 district more than double the size of the east-of-Soscol district:

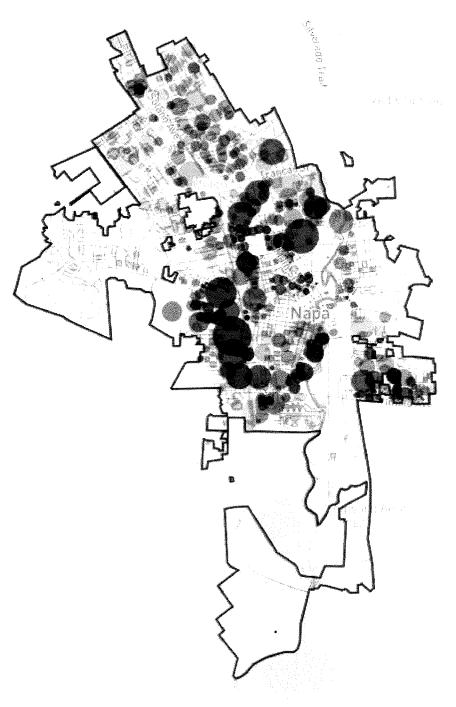
Map 1 analysis:

Racial Balance



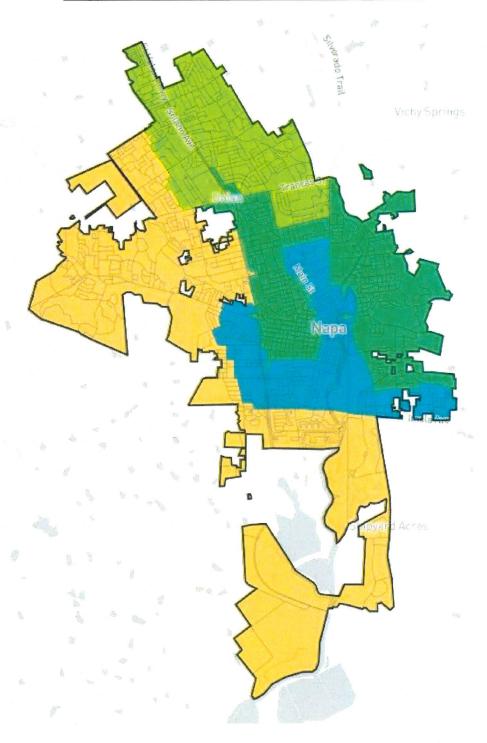
The DistrictR tool also allows the user to display population density by shaded regions or sized circles for Total Population, White, Hispanic, Asian, Two or More Races, Black, American Indian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Populations, as well as the Voting Age Population for the Census demographic groups. Map 2 below shows the total Hispanic Population for the City of Napa, with the larger circles showing the largest number of Hispanic residents and the darker circles showing the larger percentages of Hispanic residents.

Map 2: Total Hispanic Population displayed as Sized Circles



Using these circles as a guide, I drew one district linking large areas of Hispanic population, and three remaining districts generally following major streets and geographic boundaries, with some exceptions to achieve population balance and the required contiguity. (This took about 20 minutes.)

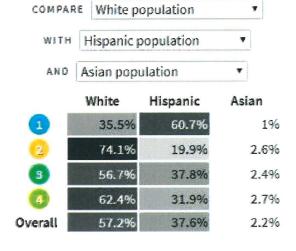
Map 3: Proposed Districts with one Hispanic-Majority District



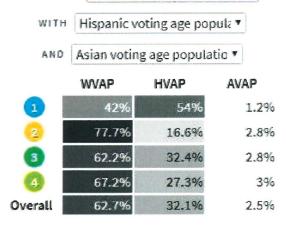
This map achieves near-equality in total population for the four districts, with a population variance of less than 1%. One district achieves a 60.7% Hispanic population and 54% Hispanic Voting Age population. The detailed map is available at http://districtr.org/edit/2801.

Map 3 analysis:

▼ Racial Balance

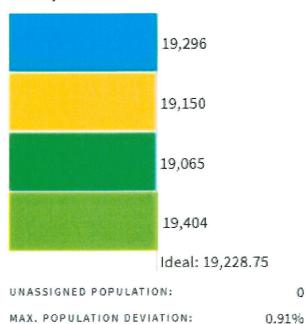


VAP Balance



COMPARE | White voting age populatic ▼

Population Balance



Map 4 shows these same districts overlaid on the Total Hispanic Population map:

Districts
Show district numbers

Demographics
Show demographics

NARIABLE: Hispanic population

DISPLAY AS sized circles

Voting Age Population
Show VAP demographics
VARIABLE: Voting age population

DISPLAY AS shaded regions *

Map 4: Map 3 Districts with Total Hispanic Population indicated by Sized Circles

Note that these data are from the 2010 Census, where race (e.g. White, Black, etc.) and ethnicity (e.g. Hispanic or Latino) were two different questions. The DistrictR tool also allows one to examine the demographics of each individual one of the 885 separate census blocks. Because the data herein reflect the City of Napa population of 2010, they do not include the "unincorporated islands" in any of the calculations, nor any areas incorporated since the 2010 Census.

These maps demonstrate that it is entirely possible to create a majority-Hispanic district, using the 2010 Census data, for Napa City Council elections. The DistrictR tool is simple, easy to use, and could be a valuable tool for our community as we tackle this issue. Many thanks to our friends in Massachusetts at Tufts and MIT for this valuable resource.

⁶ See generally, U.S. Census Bureau, "2010 Census Briefs - Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2010", available at https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-02.pdf (visited March 1, 2020).

Other Important Issues

There are a few other important issues as we move forward with the transition to district-based elections. You should make clear that the non-expiring 4-yr terms (Alessio and Luros) should continue regardless of in which new district those members live. Your transition plan should address this, and not contravene the intent of the voters that the two newest members here were elected to represent the entire City for a four-year term. It also must be clear what happens if one of the continuing term members decides to seek a new four-year term in one of the 2020 districts. Would there then be a city-wide appointment to a resulting vacancy, or a district appointment? Some may be assuming that the newest members would not be affected by the districting plan, but there are many scenarios that could affect them.

It is probably too late for this round unless petitioners and their attorney agree, but we really should have an independent citizens commission drawing these lines. We are blessed with a very engaged community who are more than capable of performing this important task. California voters followed this principle in enacting Proposition 11, the Voters First Act, and Proposition 20, the Voters First Act of Congress, both of which passed in Napa, resulting in an independent commission being used to redistrict state legislative and congressional seats following each Decennial Census.

The DistrictR tool is like any other tool, it can be used for good as well as for ill. With your home addresses, in minutes district lines could be drawn that would result in equal size districts but with four or five current council members in the same one. This possibility for political mischief is an example of why lines should be drawn by an independent body, and why I agree with petitioners that we should not use precinct data, which in any event aren't as relevant in the vote-by-mail elections that we now have.

You shouldn't get to choose your voters, your voters should choose you. I know this year's process is likely to be less than optimal because of the timeline that has been forced upon us, but make some key decisions now, while you are still in these seats, to set us on the path to do it the right way – an independent way – for 2022.

Robert J. Van Der Velde March 4, 2020