

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino
www.sbcounty.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 14, 2011

For more information, contact
David Wert, Public Information Officer
(909) 387-4717
dwert@sbcounty.gov

County Redistricting public hearing slated for Friday

The Board of Supervisors will conduct its fifth public meeting on the 2011 redistricting of supervisorial districts and consider adoption of a plan on Friday, September 16, at noon in the Covington Chambers of the County Government Center, 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., San Bernardino.

According to state law, Board-approved boundaries must be in effect by November 1. The Board must conduct a first-reading of an ordinance and then adopt it no sooner than 10 days later during a regular meeting. It could go into effect no sooner than 30 days later, so Friday's meeting is an important step toward meeting the state deadline.

The ordinance being presented for the Board's consideration on Friday is based upon the Part-Mountain-Upland-Desert plan favored by the Board on August 9. It addresses a population deficit in the Fourth District by moving the Fourth District into Upland south of Foothill Boulevard. It addresses a resulting population deficit in the Second District by moving the Second District into the Lake Arrowhead, Running Springs, Green Valley Lake, and Arrowbear areas. The plan addresses overpopulation in the First District by moving Barstow, Twentynine Palms, and Lucerne Valley into the Third District.

The County's redistricting consultant, National Demographics Corporation, a nationally recognized authority on redistricting, has analyzed the proposed plan and has found it to be in compliance with the criteria established by the Board on May 24, 2011, as follows:

- The population deviation between the most-populous and least-populous districts is less than 3 percent.
- The plan complies with Section 2 of the Federal Voting Rights Act.

-MORE-

Redistricting
September 14, 2011
Page 2

- Each district consists of contiguous territory.
- To the degree possible, given the total criteria, each district is as compact as possible; respects communities of interest; follows visible natural and man-made geographical and topographical features; and preserves the current district's population and territory.

The Board has conducted four public meetings on the 2011 County Redistricting, which the law requires at the conclusion of each U.S. Census to ensure that each district has approximately the same number of residents.

On May 24, the Board of Supervisors received public testimony and adopted criteria for the 2011 Redistricting. On June 17, the Board received a presentation on discussion draft plans that complied with the Board-adopted criteria, received additional public testimony, and conducted a discussion about possible features of the 2011 Redistricting. On July 20, the Board reviewed additional and revised discussion draft plans, received additional public testimony, and discussed revisions to the discussion drafts. On August 9, the Board reviewed additional and revised discussion draft plans, received additional public testimony, and directed staff to prepare the Part-Mountain-Upland-Desert redistricting map for adoption as a final redistricting map at a future Board meeting.

The Board has encouraged the public to become involved in the process by viewing plans, demographic data, and other redistricting tools at www.sbcounty.gov/redistrict. The site also includes a link to previous drafts, space for the public to make suggestions about redistricting, and a link to a special e-mail address to which the public can submit actual redistricting proposals. The public can also "subscribe" to the website and receive e-mail updates when new information is placed on the site.