



Independent Redistricting Commission

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 2/10/2022
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom

Regular Session

A. Call To Order

Chair Arellano called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Arellano, Erhart, Gilmer, Hill, Kissel, Marquardt, Saad, Wolter

Absent: Bahles

Staff: City Clerk Judi A. Herren, Administrative Assistant Sarah Sandoval, Assistant City Attorney Denise Bazzano

C. Public Comment

None.

D. Consent Calendar

D1. Accept the Independent Redistricting Commission minutes for January 27, 2022 (Attachment)

ACTION: Motion and second (Erhart/ Saad), to accept the Independent Redistricting Commission meeting minutes for January 27, 2022, passed 6-0 (Bahles absent).

E. Regular Business

E1. Add a hybrid mapping tool workshop to the Independent Redistricting Commission meeting schedule and approve proposed hybrid meeting dates (Staff Report #22-004-IRC)

City Clerk Herren introduced the item.

ACTION: Motion and second (Saad/ Erhart), to add a hybrid mapping tool workshop to the Independent Redistricting Commission meeting schedule and approve proposed hybrid meeting dates, passed 6-0 (Bahles absent).

Recess

The Independent Redistricting Commission took a recess at 6:15 p.m.

The Independent Redistricting Commission reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

F. Public Hearing – 6:30 p.m.

F1. Second public hearing to receive input regarding the composition of the City's Districts (Staff Report #22-005-IRC)

Assistant City Attorney Denise Bazzano introduced the item.

Demographer from GEOinovo, Alex Sainz, made a presentation (Attachment).

Chair Arellano opened the public hearing.

- Karen Grove spoke on school districts and dog park users as communities of interest.
- Pam Jones thanked the IRC for the work they are doing, expressed excitement for the library computer stations dedicated to map submissions, and informed the Commission that she has already shared her thoughts on communities of interest using the Districtr tool.

Chair Arellano closed the public hearing.

The IRC received further clarification from GEOinovo staff regarding communities of interest and additional information on how to use the Districtr mapping tool.

G. Reports and Announcements

G1. Commissioner reports

The Commission received clarification on the level of engagement with individual City Councilmembers.

H. Adjournment

Chair Arellano adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Sarah Sandoval, Administrative Assistant



Communities of Interest Review: Menlo Park Independent Redistricting Commission

Presentation

February 10, 2022



Agenda

- Communities of Interest review
- Definitions and examples for Independent Redistricting Commission and the public
- What qualifies as a COI? What does not?
- Map Tips
- Q&A



Community of Interest (COI)

- *A “community of interest” is a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation.*
- Source: [California Elections Code, Section 21601](#)

What is a COI?

- Geographically identifiable for consideration in redistricting
- Geographic extent is subjective and open-ended
- Examples of Voting Rights Act communities: Protected-class ethnic, nationality, and language groups.

Communities of Interest

- Cultural areas
- Religious communities
- Immigrant communities
- Language groups
- Neighborhoods
- Elderly community
- Homeowner or Renter
- Downtown
- Art district / area
- Economic / Business zones
- *Much more*

NOT a Community of Interest

PROHIBITED

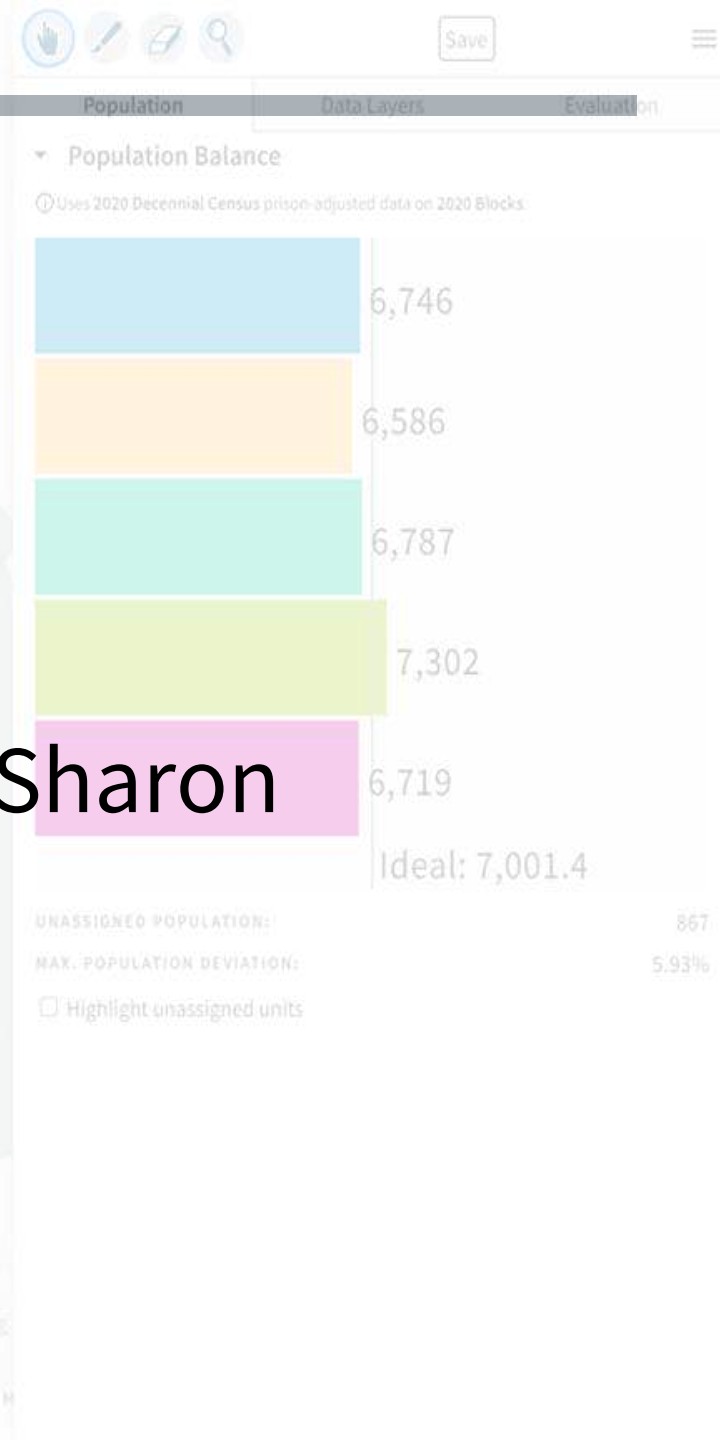
- Political party preference or affiliation
- Association with political incumbents or candidates

DIFFICULT TO CONSIDER

- Groups not defined by a geographic area

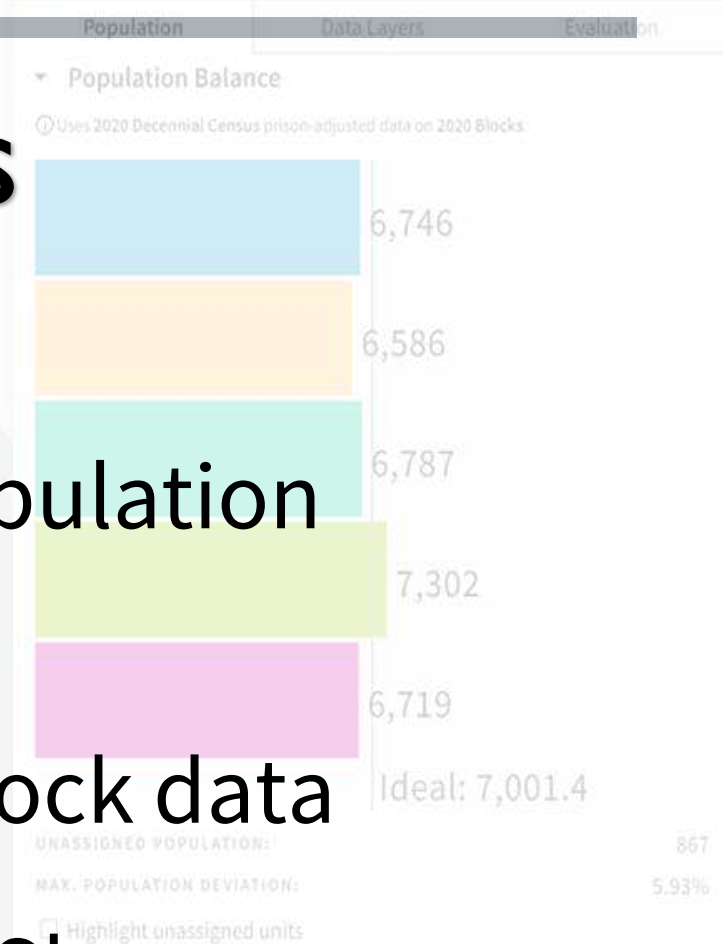
Map Tips - COI

- Start with your neighborhood
- Add community description
- Save your map, give it a name (e.g. Sharon Heights, Fans of Donut Delite, etc)



Map Tips - Districts

- Start with your neighborhood
- Leverage real-time feedback for population balance – keep variance under 10%
- Inspect / info tool to view census block data
- Save your map, give it a name (e.g. Sharon Heights, Fans of Donut Delite, etc)



Technology Update

- DistrictR: ongoing COI and district submission review and analysis
- Demographic Dashboard coming soon
- Menlo Park web map and demographic data coming soon.

