



## City Council Agenda Report

Meeting Date: July 9, 2024

Prepared By: Jon Maginot

Approved By: Gabriel Engeland

**Subject: Transition from At-Large to District Elections Calendar**

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### **COUNCIL PRIORITY AREA**

- Business Communities
- Circulation Safety and Efficiency
- Environmental Sustainability
- Housing
- Neighborhood Safety Infrastructure
- General Government

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the calendar for the transition to district elections

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There will be costs associated with the process to transition from at-large to district elections, however, there is no fiscal impact to the recommended action

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Not applicable

### **PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

On May 28, 2024, the City Council adopted a Resolution indicating intent to transition to district elections. On June 11, 2024, the City Council held its first of five required public meetings.

### **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

On April 18, 2024, the City received a Notice of Violation of the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) alleging that the City's at large election system is characterized by racially polarized voting. The City Council adopted a resolution on May 28, 2024 declaring its intention to transition to district elections.

The City must transition to district elections by October 31, 2024. State law requires the City to hold at least five public meetings before adopting a map of districts. The first two meetings are for the purpose of receiving input on communities of interest within the City and must be held prior to any maps being drawn. The City held the first of these meetings on June 11, 2024. The second meeting will be held on July 13, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at Grant Park.

To facilitate the transition from at-large to district elections, staff recommends the following calendar for the process:

- Districting Meeting #1 – June 11, 2024 (Completed)
- Districting Meeting #2 – July 13, 2024 10:00 a.m. Grant Park
- Development of draft maps
- Districting Meeting #3 (presentation of draft maps) – August 27, 2024
- Community outreach and feedback on draft maps
- Districting Meeting #4 (presentation of results of community outreach) – September 24, 2024
- Revision of maps as needed
- Districting Meeting #5 (adoption of final map) – October 8, 2024

As part of the outreach process, the City will notice each meeting in multiple ways including ads in the local newspaper, social media posts, flyers within the community, etc. During the community outreach and feedback on the draft maps portion of the process, staff will conduct an extensive outreach campaign including meetings with community groups, tables at the Farmers Market, events at the Senior Center and Grant Park Senior Program, a mailing to the entire community, etc.

Staff recommends Council approve the calendar for the transition to district elections.

**ATTACHMENTS:** None