

**M E M O R A N D U M  
CITY OF CHINO  
ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

**TO: MATTHEW C. BALLANTYNE, CITY MANAGER**  
**FROM: JACK MORGAN, MANAGEMENT ANALYST**  
**SUBJECT: 2021-2022 REDISTRICTING PROCESS PUBLIC HEARING.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Consider, discuss, and vote to define Chino’s “neighborhoods” and “communities of interest” per the requirements of California Assembly Bill (AB) 849.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact associated with this action.

Revenue:	Expenditure:
Transfer In:	Transfer Out:

## **BACKGROUND**

On July 7, 2021, the Chino City Council held its first 2021-2022 Redistricting Public Hearing. At this public hearing, the City Council received a presentation from the City's redistricting consultant, National Demographics Corporation ("NDC"). NDC's presentation detailed a tentative schedule which highlighted AB 849's requirement that the City conduct four public hearings prior to adopting a final voting district map. While AB 849 allows the option for the City to create a redistricting commission, it is planned that the City Council will conduct all public hearings. Additionally, NDC also elaborated on general redistricting principles while highlighting the nuanced requirements of AB 849. In particular, NDC noted that the City must use the following criteria (listed by order of priority) to redraw the City's district lines:

1. To the extent practicable, districts must be geographically contiguous. As an example, areas that meet only at the points of adjoining corners are not contiguous.
2. To the extent practicable, geographic integrity of any local "neighborhoods" or local "communities of interest" must be respected to minimize division. A "community of interest" is a population sharing social or economic interests that should be kept together in a single district for the purposes of effective/fair representation, but does not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates. This is further discussed later in the report.
3. Easily identifiable and understandable boundaries. That is, to the extent practicable, districts must be bounded by natural and artificial barriers, by streets, or by the boundaries of the City.
4. To the extent practicable and where it does not conflict with the above criteria, districts must be drawn to encourage geographic compactness (e.g., do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people).

Tonight, it is anticipated that the City Council will discuss, consider, and vote to formally define Chino's "neighborhoods" and "communities of interest" pursuant to the second criterion. Once the City Council defines Chino's "neighborhoods" and "communities of interest," those areas will be included on the City's public mapping tools so they can be easily identified and preserved in a single district. The City's selected public mapping tools are discussed in greater detail below.

## **ISSUES/ANALYSIS**

### ***Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest:***

Prior to detailing Chino's "neighborhoods" and "communities of interest," it is necessary to revisit these concepts and differentiate their meaning.

To begin, a *neighborhood* within the context of this discussion describes a geographic location. That is, are there neighborhoods defined by clear boundaries? These can be natural (e.g., rivers, mountains, etc.) or man-made (e.g., major thoroughfares, freeways, locations around parks or schools, etc.).

A discussion on Chino's "communities of interest" takes this conversation further. A *community of interest* under the relevant Elections Code for general law cities (Section 21601(c)(2)) 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."

It should be noted that a community of interest does not include, and cannot be based on, relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

Possible features defining communities of interest might include, but are not limited to:

- A. School attendance areas;
- B. Common issues, neighborhood activities, recreational interests, shared environmental concerns, or legislative/election concerns; and
- C. Shared demographic characteristics, such as:
  - (1) Similar levels of income, education, or linguistic isolation;
  - (2) Languages spoken at home; and
  - (3) Single-family and multi-family housing unit areas.

**Potential Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest (See Exhibit A for a visual illustration):**

As noted in the July 6, 2021, Public Hearing, based on AB 849's definitions of "neighborhoods" and "communities of interest," the following locations appear to meet AB 849's intent and address the AB 849 requirement that the population of each district be substantially equal per the 2020 Census. The September 7<sup>th</sup> hearing will ask the Council and public whether they would like to include these communities of interest in the redistricting process:

- The Preserve at Chino area - South of Kimball Avenue, North of Chino-Corona Road (not including the area south of west Pine Avenue), West of Hellman Avenue, East of Euclid Avenue)
- College Park area - South of Edison Avenue, North of the California Institution for Men, West of Cypress Trail and San Antonio and Euclid Avenues, East of Oaks, Eucalyptus, and Marquette Avenues.
- Downtown Chino, Civic Center, and neighborhoods around City Hall - South of Riverside Drive, North of Schaefer Avenue, East of Monte Vista Avenue, West of Benson Avenue.
- Lower density residential/agricultural neighborhoods north of the State Route 60 Freeway- South of Phillips Boulevard, North of Philadelphia Street, West of Benson Avenue, East of Central Avenue.
- Park East Communities - East of East End Avenue, South of Chino Avenue, North of Schaefer Avenue, West of Ramona Avenue.

It should be noted that these potential "neighborhoods" and "communities of interest" do not constitute an exhaustive list. Other areas can certainly be considered and formerly identified. However, the above locations constitute areas that the Council may want to consider as a series of locations with clear boundaries and similar issues that would stand to possibly benefit being included in a single voting district.

**Public Input Received on or since the July 6<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing:**

**Chino Town Proper:**

At the July 6<sup>th</sup> public hearing, it was recommended that Chino's original "Town Proper" area be identified as a "community of interest." As described at the meeting, this area extends from Riverside Avenue on the north, Chino Avenue on the south, Monte Vista Avenue to the west, and Benson Avenue to the east. Currently, this potential "community of interest" and "neighborhood" is separated by Central Avenue. At the suggestion of the member of the public, it is recommended that this area be identified as a "neighborhood" and "community of interest." Staff has incorporated this location into the "Downtown Chino" previously described.

**District Four Evaluation:**

On August 5, 2021, the City received an email suggesting that District Four be reconfigured to not include both newer homes in southeast Chino (i.e., The Preserve at Chino) and older developments/neighborhoods to the north (e.g., Walnut and Pipeline Avenues) (See Exhibit B).

**Public Mapping Tools**

Finally, staff and NDC stated at the July 6<sup>th</sup> public hearing that public mapping tools would be identified at tonight's meeting. After considering the different options NDC proposed, it was determined that the third-party vendor, DistrictR combined with NDC's "Public Participation Kit" would create the most inclusive and accessible alternatives. DistrictR is an online platform that will allow users to easily draw maps and submit them to [Districts@cityofchino.org](mailto:Districts@cityofchino.org) so they may be considered at the City Council public hearings scheduled for early 2022. Instructions on how to use DistrictR will be made available on the City's Redistricting webpage at: [www.cityofchino.org/redistricting](http://www.cityofchino.org/redistricting).

However, please note that while the map is available on DistrictR, the 2020 redistricting data has not been uploaded yet. Also, it should be noted that when the Council identifies its "neighborhoods" and "communities of interest," those areas will be defined on the public mapping tools. Likewise, the 2020 Redistricting Data will be uploaded to the program once received from the state. NDC anticipates that the adjusted Census data will become available from the State in early October.

NDC's "Public Participation Kit" allows users who are not necessarily comfortable with using an online program to submit drawn maps. The "Public Participation Kit" offers a one-page map that will show streets, borders, Chino's "neighborhoods" and "communities of interests," as well as population counts. The map comes with a pre-formatted Microsoft Excel Sheet so users can easily add up "Population Units" and know if their proposed map reflects districts with substantially equal population. Instructions for this mapping tool will be made available on the City's redistricting webpage as well as the preformatted Microsoft Excel file.

**Conclusion and Next Steps:**

The intent of tonight's public hearing is to consider, discuss, and formerly vote to define Chino's "neighborhoods" and "communities of interest." It is anticipated that staff will bring back a resolution at the September 21, 2021, City Council Regular meeting. This resolution will memorialize the direction given to staff during the public hearing, and in doing so, will further establish the parameters that the City will need to consider as Chino continues through its

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redistricting process. Again, should the Council define its “neighborhoods” and “communities of interest,” then these locations will be overlaid on public mapping tools so users may consider them when drawing draft maps.

It is anticipated that the redistricting data will be released to Chino by October 2021. Once received, this data will be uploaded to the aforementioned public mapping tools. Through November and December 2021, it is anticipated the public will be able to submit draft maps to the City through the online mapping tool, by emailing them to [Districts@cityofchino.org](mailto:Districts@cityofchino.org) or by issuing them in-person at the Administration Department in City Hall. Given the time it takes to prepare the maps, maps will need to be submitted to the City by 5:30 p.m. on Monday, January 3, 2022 to be included in the next public hearing agenda packet.

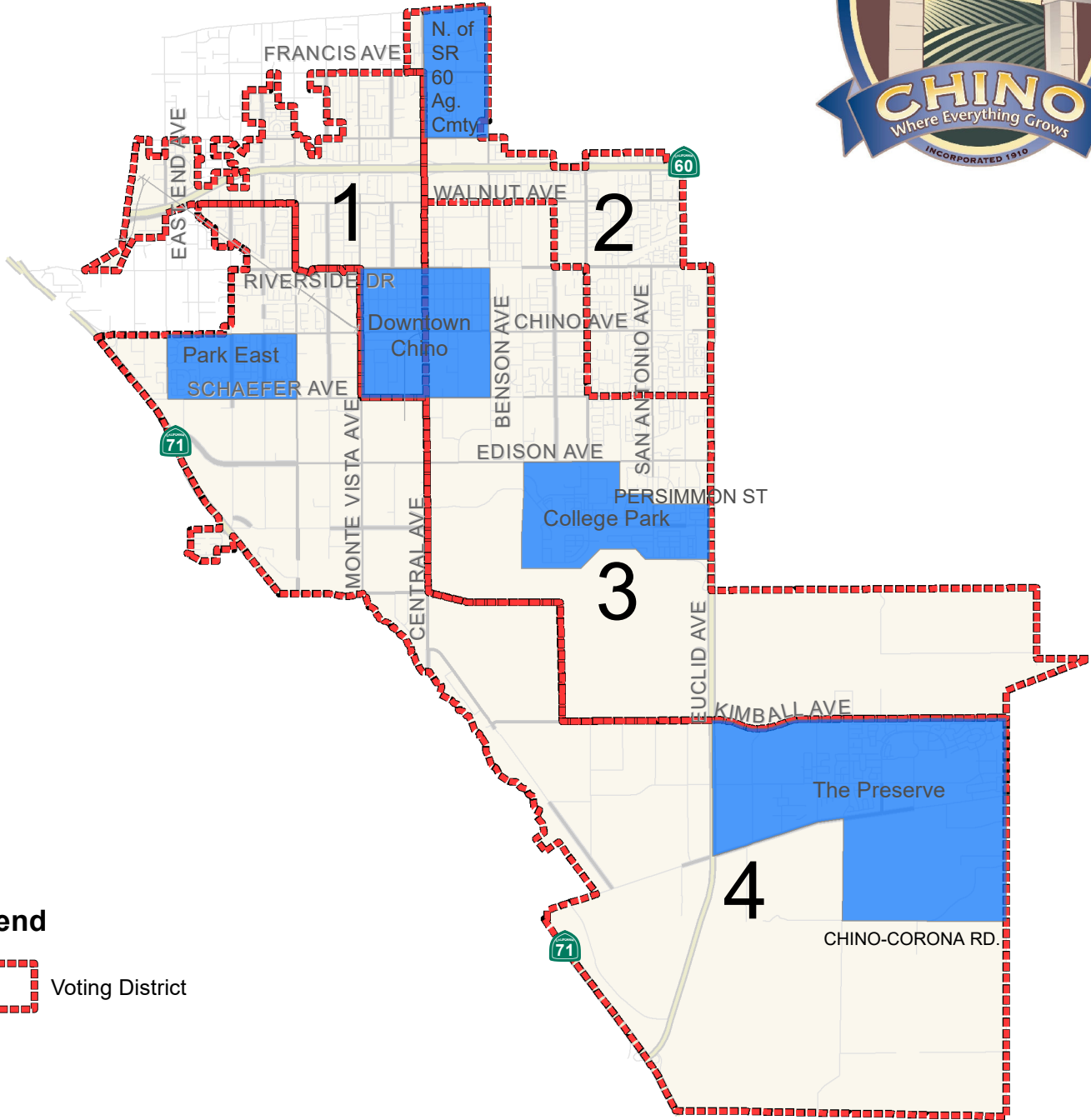
On January 18, 2022, it is tentatively scheduled that the City Council will conduct a public hearing (Third Public Hearing) to consider Council drawn maps and the draft maps received. At this meeting, after receiving public input, it is anticipated the City Council will narrow the pool of maps to a select few for final consideration.

Then, on February 15, 2022, the City Council is tentatively scheduled to hold its last public hearing (Fourth Public Hearing) to consider the final maps and recommend a selected map for adoption. On March 1, 2022, NDC and staff will introduce an ordinance adopting the selected map. Should the City Council approve the ordinance introduction on March 1, 2022, then the ordinance will be brought back for second reading on March 15, 2022. The ordinance and map will formerly go into effect 30 days thereafter on April 15, 2022. Please note that this schedule may change depending on when the redistricting data is released to cities.

Attachment: Exhibit A: Potential Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest Map.  
Exhibit B: “District Four Evaluation” correspondence.

# City of Chino

## Potential "Communities of Interest" and "Neighborhoods"



### Legend

 Voting District



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Chino Districts](#)  
**Subject:** [EXT EMAIL] Redistricting  
**Date:** Thursday, August 5, 2021 8:54:32 PM

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Hello,

I was writing in regarding the re-districting of our city. I would highly recommend that the City evaluate how district 4 includes the preserve and homes on the complete opposite end of the city in areas like walnut and pipeline.

Residents on the south end of chino should not be represented with those located in the northern part of the city. They are miles apart and have needs that are on complete opposite ends of the spectrum. You have half the district represented by new homes and Neighbors's while the others are in areas that are underserved and aging.

Please correct this issue. Us on the north end do not want our council member representing us from the opposite end of the city.

Thanks

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please verify sender email. If unknown, DO NOT open links/attachments. NEVER give out your user ID or password for any reason!