

Handy information for redistricting outreach and advocacy

Slides from talk

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o7LoEYGyKYJ6w4DBBlwlgOzWpMkPy9Wk/view?usp=sharing>

LA County Redistricting Commission

<https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/>

Technical Stuff:

ESRI is the vendor for online GIS software tools for redistricting at multiple levels of government, including LA County. LA County has made it free for all county residents and governments to use in drawing their own districts.

Visit <https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/mapping-software/> to create your own free account.

Quick Start Guide with links to helpful videos:

https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Map_steps.pdf

Census demographic variables explained

<https://doc.arcgis.com/en/redistricting/analyze/understanding-demographic-variables.htm>

GIS software has a steep learning curve. Many colleges and universities require GIS skills for social, physical, biological and natural science majors. So ask your student or recent grad members for help.

If you love data and maps, you can learn to make your own with the LAC ESRI Redistricting website: <https://redistricting-lacounty.esriemcs.com/redistricting/index.html>

Grace Peng is holding office hours via Zoom. Selected weeknights 7-8:30 pm or mornings 9-10:30. RSVP (perhaps with friends) so we can share our screens and make some maps.

The importance of keeping Communities of Interest (COI) together

Ensure that the political power of vulnerable groups is not diluted.

Cautionary Tale:

<https://www.propublica.org/article/how-democrats-fooled-californias-redistricting-commission>

Excellent Redistricting Background Information with links to guides in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Simplified and Traditional Chinese

Common Cause, NAACP, MALDEF, LDF, AAAJ, & others in a coalition

<https://www.advancingjustice-aaajc.org/redistricting>

Article about Redistricting to help Black, Latino and AAPI communities navigate redistricting

<https://advancingjustice-aajc.org/press-release/civil-rights-organizations-release-redistricting-guide-support-black-latino-and-aapi>

Power on the Line(s): Making Redistricting Work for Us

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WgdKc1dk-CEZbFkay0mKJ4cBBGUuwMrs/view>

Fact Sheet Assuming No Prior Knowledge

<https://www.advancingjustice-aajc.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/Redistricting%20Fact%20Sheet%208-12-2021-compressed.pdf>

Workshop slides: why and how to define a Community of Interest (COI)

https://www.advancingjustice-alc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Module_-_Mapping-Communities-of-Interest.pdf

Short AAAJ COI Guide to giving Community of Interest Testimony (includes template)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GVpqFhkFY3uFC4NVXhT831qgn7ZWVhb5w/view?usp=sharing>

Preparing your testimony, a longer guide

<https://advancingjustice-aajc.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/8%20-%20Preparing%20Your%20Testimony.pdf>

Communities can be bound by hazards: pollution, fire/flood/earthquake risk, watershed

AFFH Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing from HCD

<https://affh-data-resources-cahcd.hub.arcgis.com/>

CalEnviroScreen from CA EPA

<https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/draft-calenviroscreen-40>

CDC US Life Expectancy at Birth

<https://www.naphsis.org/usaleep>

Draw a map or describe in words (using roads as boundaries) your COI.

You can submit your own draft map through the ESRI interface if you are comfortable with it.

Submit it to the redistricting commission or other appropriate body. Do it in writing, and follow up with oral testimony if you can. Demographers and the commissions are required to address submitted requests or explain why they were unable to fulfill the request to keep a COI together.

Examine draft maps and critique, suggest changes if goals are not met.

Examples:

- Victims of lead poisoning from the car battery smelters fall right on the boundary between LABOS SD1 and SD4. They feel that they have no champion.
- SFV (Population 1.8 M) is bisected into SD3 and SD5. Latinos in SFV feel drowned out by wealthy white NIMBYs in Malibu, Agoura Hills, and Calabasas. A SFV district could potentially provide a majority Latino district.
- Huge Chinese American community, neatly bisected into SD1 and SD5, wants to stay together.
- SGV (2+ M) is largely Latino and AAPI, bound together by air pollution, traffic, and economy; want to stay in one district instead of three.
- Armenian American community in Glendale & Burbank want to stay together