



REPORT TO

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City of Sacramento Sacramento Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2671

[www. CityofSacramento.org](http://www.CityofSacramento.org)

Discussion
May 2, 2011

Members of the Sacramento Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee

Title: Review of Committee Schedule

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Retain the schedule outlined in the April 25th staff report.

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Presenter: Scot Mende, Principal Planner, (916) 808-4756

Department: Community Development Department

Organization No: 21001223

Background: Following last week's staff presentation of the work program and schedule for the Committee, discussion ensued regarding the deadline for the public to submit redistricting map proposals. The Committee requested that this item be agendaized for the May 2nd Committee agenda. At issue is whether to extend the deadline for public submittal of redistricting map proposals.

The following key dates should be considered in the Committee discussion whether to extend the deadline for submittal of maps:

- March 8: Data Released by Census
- April 5: Map Software Available on City's web site
- April 5 – mid-May: Census Data, Tools, and Outreach/Training
- May 16: Scheduled deadline for map submittal
- June 14: SRCAC Progress Report to City Council
- July 12: SRCAC final report to City Council
- September 6: Council Adopts Final Ordinance for New Boundaries

Community Outreach to Date:

- Outreach meetings pre-release of Census data
- Press Releases and media articles
- Numerous outreach / training sessions following release of redistricting software
- At least 4 Council meetings (01/18, 02/08, 03/29, 04/12) focused on redistricting
- Extensive e-mail notification of software tool availability
- Featured on City's website portal

In each of the above outreach communications, staff identified that following the release of census data and availability of the software tools, the public would have 6 weeks to submit maps.

The map software was extensively announced and published to the City's website on April 5th. The deadline for map submittal is scheduled for May 16th. The current schedule provides the public exactly 6 weeks to prepare and submit maps. It should be noted that during the 2001 redistricting process, the public was also provided with a 6 week period in which to submit maps.

Extending the deadline for public submittal of maps would provide more time for the public to prepare the maps. However, recognizing the fixed deadline (September 6th) for completing the redistricting process, the trade-offs would include:

- Less time for staff to analyze and synthesize the maps
- Less time for the Committee to deliberate on the maps
- Less time for the public to think about / comment on maps
- Less detail and depth of analysis and debate; and
- Increased effort by staff to notify the community that the original - and well advertised - deadline would be amended.

In summary, staff suggests that the Committee's role (Council Resolution 2011-203) is to review the council district boundaries, review boundary change proposals submitted by the public, and make recommendations to the Council regarding boundary change proposals. The Council's direction on January 18th was for staff to provide clear communication, encourage public participation, and provide tools and information to facilitate understanding throughout the process. Staff has given thorough consideration to the schedule; timelines were set based on staff's judgment about the time necessary to meet each of the key tasks. Finally, when staff demonstrated the software tool to the City Council on March 29, staff provided the Council and the public with an updated schedule specifying the May 16 map submission deadline.

However, in the event that a majority of the Committee members feel strongly that the public should be given additional time to prepare maps, staff offers an alternate schedule that extends the map submittal deadline by nearly 1 week to midnight Sunday May 22nd (see Attachment A).

Respectfully Submitted by:



Scot Mende, AICP, Principal Planner

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Contingency Plan – Alternate Schedule

EVENT / TASK	STAFF RECOMMENDATION	ALTERNATE SCHEDULE
Map Submittal Deadline	Monday, May 16 th	Sunday, May 22 nd
Staff Summary of Proposals	Monday, May 23 rd	Special Meeting during the week of Memorial Day
SRCAC Progress Report to City Council	Tuesday, June 14 th	Tuesday, June 14 th
SRCAC Final Report to City Council	Tuesday, July 12 th	Tuesday, July 12 th
Council Adoption of Boundaries	Tuesday, Sept 6 th	Tuesday, Sept 6 th

Notes:

1. The alternate schedule provides for an additional 6 days of time for the public to prepare, collaborate, and submit redistricting plans to the City.
2. Providing a close date of Sunday at midnight still provides the public with the opportunity to work on the final weekend and provides staff with a full week (including a Monday) to summarize the proposals.
3. The meeting date one week following the May 22nd submittal date would normally fall on Monday May 30th – which is Memorial Day. To maintain the overall schedule, the Committee would need to meet at a special date/time during the week of May 30th.
4. The schedule provides for 3 Committee meetings to discuss the maps prior to presenting the Progress Report to the City Council.