

City Council Special Meeting Agenda



NOVEMBER 8, 2021

6:00 p.m.

City of Turlock Yosemite Room

156 S. Broadway, Turlock, California

Mayor
Amy Bublak

Interim City Manager
Sarah Tamey Eddy
Interim City Clerk
Kellie E. Weaver
City Attorney
George A. Petrulakis

Council Members

Nicole Larson
Andrew Nosrati
Rebecka Monez
Pam Franco
Vice Mayor

SPEAKER CARDS: To accommodate those wishing to address the Council and allow for staff follow-up, speaker cards are available for any agenda item or any other topic delivered under Public Comment. Please fill out and provide the Comment Card to the City Clerk or Police Officer.

NOTICE REGARDING NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS: The Turlock City Council meetings are conducted in English and translation to other languages is not provided. Please make arrangements for an interpreter if necessary.

EQUAL ACCESS POLICY: If you have a disability which affects your access to public facilities or services, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (209) 668-5540. The City is committed to taking all reasonable measures to provide access to its facilities and services. Please allow sufficient time for the City to process and respond to your request.

NOTICE: Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54954.3, any member of the public may directly address the City Council on any item appearing on the agenda, including Consent Calendar and Public Hearing items, before or during the City Council's consideration of the item. Members of the public will be allowed five (5) minutes for comments.

AGENDA PACKETS: Prior to the City Council meeting, a complete Agenda Packet is available for review on the City's website at www.cityofturlock.org and in the City Clerk's Office at 156 S. Broadway, Suite 230, Turlock, during normal business hours. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Council after distribution of the Agenda Packet are also available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office. Such documents may be available on the City's website subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

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 - A. **CALL TO ORDER**
 - B. **SALUTE TO FLAG**
 - C. **ROLL CALL**
1. **COMMUNITY FORUM – REDISTRICTING:**
 - A. Jeff Tilton from National Demographics Corporation (NDC), will provide background information and updates regarding the City of Turlock Redistricting process.

Recommended Action:
No formal action. Informational item only.

City Council will: 1) receive a report from staff on the redistricting process and permissible criteria to be considered to redraw district boundaries; and 2) conduct a public hearing to receive public input on district boundaries.
2. **ADJOURNMENT**

The foregoing meeting is hereby called by Mayor Amy Bublak at the above mentioned date and time pursuant to California Government Code §54956.

AMY BUBLAK, Mayor

City Council Staff Report

November 8, 2021



From: Kellie E. Weaver, Interim City Clerk

Prepared by: Lisa Schimmelfennig,
Executive Administrative Assistant/City Manager's Office/Deputy City
Clerk

Agendized by: Sarah Tamey Eddy, Interim City Manager

1. ACTION RECOMMENDED:

No formal action. Informational item only.

City Council will: 1) receive a report from staff on the redistricting process and permissible criteria to be considered to redraw district boundaries; and 2) conduct a public hearing to receive public input on district boundaries.

2. SYNOPSIS:

This is a public hearing to receive input from the community regarding identifying "neighborhoods", "communities of interest", and "secondary areas"; as well as having an overview of the mapping tools.

3. DISCUSSION OF ISSUE:

Every ten years, cities with by-district election systems must use new census data to review and, if needed, redraw district lines to reflect how local populations have changed. This process, called redistricting, ensures all districts have nearly equal population. The redistricting process for the City of Turlock must be completed by April 17, 2021.

The City adopted its current district boundaries on June 10, 2014, based on 2010 census data as required by law. The districts must now be redrawn using the 2020 census data and in compliance with the FAIR MAPS Act, which was adopted by the California legislature as AB 849 and took effect January 1, 2020.

Under the Act, the council shall draw and adopt boundaries using the following criteria in the listed order of priority (Elections Code 21601(c) for general law cities / 21621(c) for charter cities):

1. Comply with the federal requirements of equal population and the Voting Rights Act
2. Geographically contiguous
3. Undivided neighborhoods and “communities of interest” (socio-economic geographic areas that should be kept together)
4. Easily identifiable boundaries
5. Compact (do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people)
6. Shall not favor or discriminate against a political party

Once the prioritized criteria are met, other traditional districting principles can be considered, such as:

1. Minimize the number of voters delayed from voting in 2022 to 2024
2. Respect voters’ choices / continuity in office
3. Future population growth

By law, the City must hold at least four public hearings that enable community members to provide input on the drawing of district maps:

- At least one hearing must occur before the city or county draws draft maps
- At least two hearings must happen after the drawing of draft maps
- The fourth hearing can happen either before or after the drawing of draft maps
- City or county staff or consultants may hold a public workshop instead of one of the required public redistricting hearings

To increase the accessibility of these hearings, cities and counties must take the following steps:

- At least one hearing must occur on a Saturday, Sunday, or after 6 p.m. on a weekday
- If a redistricting hearing is consolidated with another local government meeting, the redistricting hearing portion must begin at a pre-designated time
- Local public redistricting hearings should be made accessible to people with disabilities

The purpose of this public hearing is to inform the public about the districting process and to hear from the community on what factors should be taken into consideration while creating district boundaries. The public is requested to provide input regarding communities of interest and other local factors that should be considered while drafting district maps. A *community of interest* under the relevant Elections Code for cities (Section 21601(c) / 21621(c)] 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.”

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

- A. School attendance areas;
- B. Natural dividing lines such as major roads, hills, or highways;
- C. Areas around parks and other neighborhood landmarks;
- D. Common issues, neighborhood activities, or legislative/election concerns; and
- E. Shared demographic characteristics, such as:
 - (1) Similar levels of income, education, or linguistic insolation;
 - (2) Languages spoken at home; and
 - (3) Single-family and multi-family housing unit areas.

4. BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

5. FISCAL IMPACT / BUDGET AMENDMENT:

N/A

6. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

7. CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

N/A

8. ALTERNATIVES / NEXT STEPS:

On January 25, 2022, the City Council will conduct a public hearing to discuss and revise the draft maps, discuss election sequencing, and identify the focus maps.

On March 22, 2022, the City Council will conduct a public hearing which will include identifying the preferred map, determining the sequence, and adopting the map.

The deadline to adopt the map is April 17, 2022.