

City of Chowchilla

Elections Code Section 21130f Disclosure Report

2024

Elections Code Section 21130(f) language:

f)... the districting body shall issue a report that explains the basis on which the districting body made its decisions in achieving compliance with the requirements and criteria described in this section, including, as to each neighborhood, community of interest, city, or census designated place that was split into two or more districts, the reason for that split.

Disclosure:

National Demographics Corporation (NDC), on behalf of the City of Chowchilla, has analyzed the City's adopted map and prepared the following analysis of the map's compliance with the criteria of Elections Code Section 21130:

21130(a): Population Equality

The ideal population in a 4-district map for Chowchilla is 3,357. In the adopted map, the largest district has a population of 3,408 (1.52% over the ideal) and the smallest district has a population of 3,232 (3.72% under the target population). At a total difference of 5.24% between the largest and smallest districts, the districts in the adopted map are well within the "presumed constitutional" 10% range of state and federal law.

21130(b): Voting Rights Act reports

The City fully complied with the reporting requirements of Section 21130(b). That report is posted to the City's districting project website.

21130(c)(1): Contiguity

All of the districts are contiguous "To the maximum extent practicable" as required by law (it is impossible to have a contiguous connection to the non-contiguous portion of the city).

21130(c)(2): Minimize divisions of each "local neighborhood or local communities of interest"

Public comment and review of the city's geography identified five local neighborhoods or local communities of interest, each was mapped, and the map was shared publicly during the districting process.

1. The Greenhills neighborhood is entirely in one district.
2. The "north of Ventura" neighborhood is entirely in one district.
3. The "Presidents Streets" neighborhood is entirely in one district.
4. The downtown neighborhood is slightly larger than the allowed population for a district, so it must be divided, but one district is entirely contained within the downtown neighborhood.
5. The "concentration of Arab-American businesses" local community of interest generally in the area around Oleander Drive and Parkridge Drive is kept together. Depending exactly on where one defines the eastern boundary of this community, it is kept together either entirely or as much as possible while avoiding divisions of the local neighborhoods listed above.

21130(c)(3) does not apply to a city

21130(c)(4): Follow easily identifiable boundaries

"To the maximum extent practicable" the boundaries of the adopted districts follow easily-recognized roads: Monterey Avenue, N 1st Street, Colusa Avenue, N 15th Street, Robertson Boulevard, Avenue 25, Sonoma Avenue and N 3rd Street. The only border that jogs back and forth along smaller roads is the boundary between districts 1 and 3, which does so to meet the requirements of two higher-ranked criteria: the 21130(b) requirement for population equality, and the 21130(c)(2) requirement to avoid (or minimize if it is not possible to avoid) a split in a local community of interest.

21130(c)(5): Compactness

The only population “bypassed in favor of more distant populations” is in District 2, as the southern portion of that district bypasses population in District 1 to reach the northwestern portion of District 2. This one bypass is done to comply with the higher-ranked criterion 21130(c)(2) as the shape of District 2 avoids (or at least minimizes) the division of a local community of interest that is unified in District 1.

21130(d): No purpose of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party

The map does not favor or discriminate against any incumbent, political candidate, or political party. The four incumbents who end up together in District 4 all reside in the Greenhills neighborhood, and any map that complies with the 21130(c)(2) requirement to avoid dividing a neighborhood is going to place them all in one district.

21130(e): Do not prioritize any criterion over the criteria listed in Section (c) of the statute

The adopted map does not prioritize any criterion over the criteria listed in Section (c) of the statute.