



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: County Executive
Office
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: October 15, 2019
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 20 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s) Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Contact Info: Dennis Bozanich, Deputy County Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Update on the Santa Barbara County Independent Redistricting Commission

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: County Election Official

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors (Board):

- A. Receive and file this update on the schedule and next steps for establishing the Santa Barbara County Redistricting Commission;
- B. Determine, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines 15378(b)(5), that the above actions are not a project subject to CEQA review because they are administrative activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

Santa Barbara County voters approved Measure G at the November 2018 Statewide General Election. Measure G (County Code Section 2-10.9A) establishes an eleven person Redistricting Commission to adjust the boundaries of the supervisorial districts through an open and transparent process in accordance with federal and State criteria. The text of the code section is attached. While the initiative included certain dates for key milestones, timelines for development phases to meet the required milestones were not specified. This report outlines the estimated timelines to meet the required dates over the next 24 months.

Background:

Under provisions of County Code Section 2-10.9A, the Santa Barbara County Redistricting Commission is required to be established by December 31, 2020; roughly 15 months from now and new redistricting plan adoption by September 2021.

The County Independent Redistricting Commission will move through the following development phases within the recommended timeline based on requirements of the voter approved County Code. County staff support is expected to be provided by the Clerk- Recorder-Assessor Election Division staff and County Executive Office staff.

Phase	Lead Entity	Estimated Timeline
Application Phase for members of the County Redistricting Commission	County Executive Office staff	November 15, 2019 to January 31, 2020
Applicant Review Phase	Clerk-Recorder-Assessor	February 3, 2020 to April 1, 2020
Census Day 2020	US Census Bureau	April 1, 2020
Commissioner Selection	Board and Commission	May1, 2020 to September 15, 2020
Census 2020 population data released to State and local jurisdictions	US Census Bureau	March 2021
Commission Redistricting Process including Orientation, Public Hearings (two rounds), map development	Commission with County staff support	September 15, 2020 to June 2021
Redistricting Plan Adoption and Submission to the Elections Official	Commission with County staff support	Not before August 1, 2021 to September 2021
California Statewide Primary Election	Clerk-Recorder-Assessor	March 8, 2022

The application to become a member of the County’s Independent Redistricting Commission will be available online and will be advertised through the Clerk of the Board’s office, in local print media and posted through the County’s website.

The County Redistricting Commission must complete adoption of the redistricting plan within six months of receiving the final 2020 Census data but not later than the requirements in the California Elections Code. Additionally, Assembly Bill 849 was signed into law last month and states that county redistricting plans cannot be adopted before August 1 of the year following the census. The final plan must be adopted prior to December 31, 2021.

Complicating the Redistricting Commission work is the election calendar for the March 8, 2022 statewide Primary Election. The draft schedule prepared by the County elections official for that election would require the opening of the candidate petition process on September 10, 2021. Candidates and petition signers would need established district boundaries prior to September 10, 2021. This overlap of redistricting processes and 2022 Primary Election preparation is going to affect nearly every jurisdiction in the state including the work of the State’s Redistricting Commission on legislative district boundaries.

A legislative remedy, perhaps moving the primary back to June in non-Presidential election years, seems warranted. The Legislative Program Committee will monitor any proposals.

At least seven of the eleven Redistricting Commissioners must approve adoption of the Redistricting Plan. Due to the movement of the State’s Primary Election from June to March of even number years, the Elections official may have an expedited timeline for this process. The Commission may also be required to meet an expedited timeline for approval of the redistricting plan to meet the Elections official candidacy process.

Performance Measure:

NA

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:

NA

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes for FY 2019-20.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative: In FY 2020-21 and the following year, additional financial resources will be needed to support the work of the Independent Redistricting Commission. The Fiscal Impact Statement prepared for the 2018 sample ballot indicated General Fund costs of \$700,000 to \$1,000,000.

Key Contract Risks:

NA

Staffing Impacts: NA

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

NA

Attachments:

Attachment A: County Code Section 2-10.9A – Citizens’ Independent Redistricting Commission

Authored by: Dennis Bozanich, Deputy County Executive Officer, 805-568-3400

cc: