DATE: March 1, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: City Clerk’s Office


RECOMMENDATION:
It is recommended that the Mayor and Council Members conduct a public hearing to consider, discuss and draw Draft Council District Maps, and receive and file public comments in accordance with the Fair Maps Act.

BACKGROUND:
The Fair Maps Act was adopted by the California legislature with the passage of AB 849 and took effect January 1, 2020. Under the Act, the City Council shall adopt Council district boundaries that comply with the U.S. Constitution, California Constitution, and Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, using the following criteria in the listed order of priority and to the extent practicable:

1. Council districts shall be geographically contiguous. Areas that meet only at the point of adjoining corners are not contiguous.
2. The geographic integrity of a local neighborhood or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes division. A “community of interest” is a population that shares common social or economic interest that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.
3. Council district boundaries should be easily identifiable and understandable by residents. Council districts shall be bounded by natural and artificial barriers (river, highways, light rails, etc.), by streets, or by the boundaries of the city.
4. Where it does not conflict with the preceding criteria, council districts shall be drawn to encourage geographical compactness in a manner that nearby areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations. (Elections Code Section 21621(c) (1)-(4).)

Under the Fair Maps Act, following each federal decennial census, council districts must be redrawn so that each council district is substantially equal in population, as required by the U.S. Constitution. This process, called redistricting, is important in ensuring that each City Council Member represents about the same number of constituents. The Fair Maps Act requires cities to
engage communities in the redistricting process by holding at least four (4) public hearings, subject to the following:

- At least one (1) public hearing shall be held before the council draws a draft map or maps of the proposed council boundaries;
- At least two (2) public hearings shall be held after the council has drawn a draft map or maps of the proposed council boundaries;
- At least one (1) public hearing or public workshop shall be held on a Saturday, Sunday, or after 6 p.m., on a weekday;
- Alternatively, one (1) or more public workshops may be held in lieu of one (1) public hearing; and
- If a public hearing is consolidated with a regular or special meeting that includes other substantive agenda items, the public hearing shall begin at the fixed time regardless of its order on the agenda, except that the council may first conclude any item being discussed or acted upon, including any associated public comment when that time occurs.

In addition, the public hearing and workshops must be accessible to persons with disabilities and public outreach must be conducted in English and any other applicable language identified by the California Secretary of State. For the City of Inglewood, the other applicable language is Spanish.

Redistricting is done using U.S Census data, which is normally released around March 31st, following each decennial census. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 U.S. Census and the resulting data were significantly delayed. The redistricting data that the City will use to consider changes to the four (4) City Council districts has been made available as of September 30, 2021.

DISCUSSION:
The city of Inglewood created a Redistricting page on the City’s website under the City Clerk’s Office, which will be used as a central repository to catalog all information related to the redistricting process. The website must be maintained for at least ten (10) years after the adoption of new council district boundaries and may be found by visiting the following: http://www.cityofinglewood.org/1608/Redistricting.

A mapping tool is also available to assist the community in submitting its own recommendations for City Council Districts. All draft maps must be submitted by March 10, 2022, no later than 10:00 a.m. All draft maps can be emailed to athompson@cityofinglewood.org or aallen@cityofinglewood.org to be considered in the March 15, 2022, public hearing. The purpose of this hearing is to 1) Consider, discuss, and draw Draft Council Maps, Council District Boundaries, and Communities of Interest; and 2) Receive and file public comments as required by State Law.

A schedule for future public hearings/workshop are listed as follows:

- October 26, 2021 – Held
- January 29, 2022 – (Workshop Held)
Mayor and Council Members  
Public Hearing- Redistricting  
March 1, 2022  
- March 1, 2022  
- March 15, 2022  
- March 22, 2022  
- March 29, 2022 (Non-Public Hearing for Adoption of the Ordinance)

Pursuant to Elections Code Section 21622(a)(3), the City must adopt its final map of the Council District boundaries by April 17, 2022, as the City’s next regular Municipal Election will be held on November 8, 2022. Adhering to the schedule above will ensure the City of Inglewood has enough time to adopt the final map prior to the April 17, 2022, deadline.

DESCRIPTION OF ANY ATTACHMENTS:  
- Draft Maps  
- Exhibit A: Summary of Redistricting Workshop held January 29, 2022  
- Exhibit B: Total Population (Census Data)

FINANCIAL/FUNDING ISSUES AND SOURCES:  
None.
APPROVAL VERIFICATION SHEET

PREPARED BY:
Aisha L. Thompson, City Clerk
Angela Allen, Deputy City Clerk

COUNCIL PRESENTER:
Aisha L. Thompson, City Clerk

DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL: ________________________________
Aisha L. Thompson, City Clerk

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: ________________________________
Artie Fields, City Manager
EXHIBIT A
FAIR MAPS ACT (AB 849)

The Fair Maps Act was adopted by the California legislature with the passage of AB 849 and took effect January 1, 2020. Under the Act, the City Council shall adopt Council district boundaries that comply with the U.S. Constitution, California Constitution, and federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, using the following criteria in the listed order of priority and to the extent practicable:

1. Council districts shall be geographically contiguous. Areas that meet only at the points of adjoining corners are not contiguous.
2. The geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes division. A “community of interest” 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. Communities of interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.
3. Council district boundaries should be easily identifiable and understandable by residents. Council districts shall be bounded by natural and artificial barriers (rivers, highways, light rail, etc.), by streets, or by the boundaries of the city.
4. Where it does not conflict with the preceding criteria, council districts shall be drawn to encourage geographical compactness in a manner that nearby areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations. (Elections Code section 21621 (c)(1)-(4).)
REDISTRICTING – WHAT IS IT?

• Redistricting is the process of redrawing the boundaries of election districts, including congressional and state legislative districts along with local election districts such as city councils, school boards, county governments, and more.

• Governments must redistrict at least once every ten years, based on federal Census data, to reflect changes in population and to ensure that all districts have the same number of residents.

• Redistricting is based on the idea of fair representation, which makes sure that each of our voices can be represented fairly.

• District boundaries are typically drawn by the elected officials who govern those districts.
REDISTRICTING PROCESS

October 26, 2021
Public hearing held to receive public comments regarding the Fair Maps Act.

January 29, 2022
Community Redistricting Workshop held to discuss the draft maps and receive additional public input.

March 1, 2022
Public hearing to consider, discuss, and draw draft Council Districts Maps, Council Districts Boundaries, and Communities of Interest, receive and file public comments.

March 10, 2022
Deadline for the public to submit draft maps

March 15, 2022
Public Hearing to discuss Draft Maps

March 22, 2022
Public hearing to Introduce Ordinance of Final Maps

March 29, 2022
Adoption of Ordinance of Final Maps
EXHIBIT B