

Mariposa County Redistricting:

2021 COMMUNITY OF INTEREST WORKSHEET

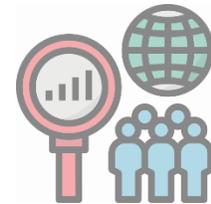
Released: **19 May 2021**

2021 brings mandated redistricting and we need you to help with the process for the County!

Your input is being sought to help shape the new voting districts for the County of Mariposa. Please fill out and submit this brief worksheet and tell us about your “communities of interest” (or “COIs”) for use in the process.

What is Redistricting?

Redistricting occurs every ten years and is triggered by the completion of the U.S. Census. Using the population numbers from the 2020 census, and following legally mandated criteria, we must now redraw district lines, as necessary, so that each supervisor’s district contains approximately 1/5th of the County’s population.



However, population is not the only criteria for districts that must be considered for the final maps. State law also requires that districts consider other criteria in the following ranked order:

- Geographically contiguous;
- Must respect “**Communities of Interest**” (a population group that shares common social or economic interests);
- Must maintain “Census Designated Places”;
- Uses streets, natural barriers, and other features that are easily identifiable to residents as the district borders; and
- Are geographically compact (when it does not conflict with any of the above criteria.)

What is a Community of Interest?

A Community of Interest is any cohesive group of people that live in a geographically definable area and should be considered as a potential voting bloc in current or future elections.

There are some Communities of Interest that are considered “protected classes” in that they have rights through state or federal civil rights or voting rights laws. Some examples of protected classes in districting would be ethnic and racial minorities such as a concentration of Latinx, Asian, or African American people. Protected classes can be described through public input, and there is information that must be used wherever applicable to define these areas and make sure that they are not being harmed by the district boundaries.

There are other Communities of Interest that can also be considered in districting but do not have the higher legal requirements as ethnic or racial minorities.



Identifying these other COI are still critical to the process. These could be clusters of senior citizens in one community, a group of college students living in a densely populated area near a campus, people who live in a downtown area or a specific neighborhood, or even people who share concerns such as parents

with young children, bicycle enthusiasts, topic interest groups, etc.

What do we need from you?

As you can see above, “Communities of Interest” are an important criteria to be considered during the redistricting process but only YOU can tell us what you consider to be your Community of Interest.

Consequently, we are asking you to help with the process by filling out and submitting the brief worksheet (only 8 questions) that starts on page 5. (Or, you can fill it out online at <http://www.mariposacounty.org/COIs>)

Doing so will not only help us with the process, but will make sure that your district adequately represents you and your interests.

How can you participate in the process?

- 1) Tell us about your Communities of Interest by completing the worksheet that begins on page 5 of this packet.

You can submit your completed form in multiple ways:

- a) By Emailing it to redistricting@mariposacounty.org - OR -
- b) Send via USPS to the Clerk of the Board, PO Box 784, Mariposa, California 95338 - OR -
- c) Deliver your completed form to the Clerk of the Board at the Mariposa County Government Center, 5100 Bullion Street, 2nd Floor, Mariposa, California.

OR,

You can also complete the form online at:

<http://www.mariposacounty.org/COIs>

- 2) Attend, or submit comments, to one of the County’s public meetings!

Public Hearing Schedule

Location for all meetings will be the Mariposa County Government Center, 5100 Bullion Street, Mariposa, CA



Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 2:00 PM – Public Hearing #1
Staff will review the existing district boundary map, present process, review state criteria for redistricting, solicit public input, etc. Map alternatives cannot be developed until after this Public Hearing.
Saturday, July 17, 2021 at 10:00 AM – Public Hearing #2
Staff will provide a brief review of the process, review criteria, report on any public input received since the last public hearing, and solicit public input and Board comments. (If the county-level census data has been released, draft maps will be presented first.)
Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 2:00 PM – Public Hearing #3
Staff will provide a brief review of the process, review criteria, report on any public input received since the last public hearing, and solicit public input and Board comments. (If draftmaps are available, they will be presented first.)

Monday, November 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM – Public Hearing #4

Staff will provide a brief review of the process, review criteria, report on any public input received since the last public hearing, present draft maps with overview of any changes since last hearing, solicit public input and Board comments.

Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 2:00 PM – Public Hearing #5

Staff will provide a brief review of the process, review criteria, report on any public input received since the last public hearing, present draft maps with overview of any changes since last hearing, solicit public input and Board comments. Board will be asked to indicate a final choice.

Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 2:00 PM – Ordinance Introduction

Staff will provide a brief review of the process to date, review criteria, report on any public input received since the last public hearing, present draft maps with overview of any changes since last hearing, solicit public input and Board comments, and request ordinance introduction.

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 2:00 PM – Ordinance Adoption

Staff will provide a brief review of the process to date, review criteria, and request ordinance adoption.

Questions?

You can get more information on the redistricting process at <http://www.mariposacounty.org/redistricting>.

If you have any questions, please email redistricting@mariposacounty.org,

or call the Clerk of the Board at (209) 966-3222, option 2.



6. What is the rationale for your Community of Interest to be used in this districting?

(Please describe how the issues before the Board of Supervisors have a unique impact on your group. Use additional paper, if necessary.)

7. What do you like or dislike about the current district lines? *(Use additional paper, if necessary.)*

8. Is there anything else you would like us to consider? *(Use additional paper, if necessary.)*

*Thank!
You!*

When completed, return your form:

1. Via USPS to the Clerk of the Board, PO Box 784, Mariposa, California 95338 ;
2. Deliver your completed form to the Clerk of the Board at the Mariposa County Government Center, 5100 Bullion Street, 2nd Floor, Mariposa, California; –OR–
3. Email a scan to redistricting@mariposacounty.org