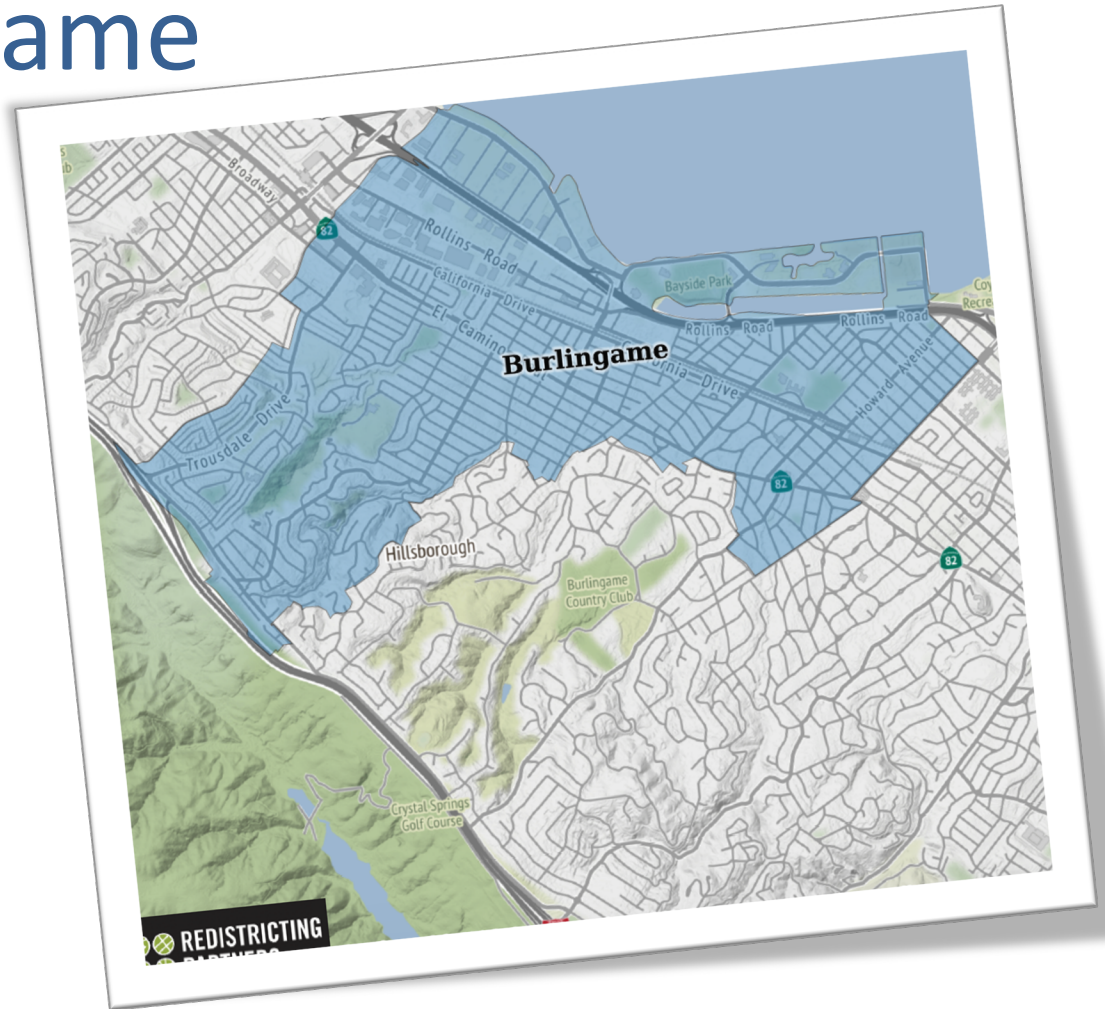


# City of Burlingame Districting



# Overview

This presentation will cover a range of topics to facilitate a process of public education and involvement in a transparent and fair districting process.

- The California Voting Rights Act
- Districting vs. Redistricting vs. Gerrymandering
- Traditional Districting/Redistricting Principles
- Population and Composition
- Mapping of the City of Burlingame

# What is the CVRA?

The California Voting Rights Act is a state law that prohibits the use of At Large Election Systems in local government if there is Racially Polarized Voting.

“At Large” is defined as anything other than a system in which an elected official lives in a district, and is only elected by members of that district.

“Racially Polarized Voting” is defined as differences in voting patterns which can be shown to be correlated to race, religion, national origin, or membership in any other protected class.

# What is the CVRA?

The California Voting Rights Act takes the principles of the Federal Voting Rights Act and expands it regarding districted elections in two key ways:

While Federal law uses “majority minority” districts as a standard for vulnerability, the CVRA only requires “ability to influence.”

The CVRA requires that plaintiffs get full reimbursement for legal fees associated with any successful challenge.



# What is the CVRA?

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While Federal law uses “majority minority” districts as a standard for vulnerability, the CVRA only requires “ability to influence.”

The CVRA requires that plaintiffs get full reimbursement for legal fees associated with any successful challenge. ***These can be lessened or eliminated if the district follows a strict and prompt process for districting.***

# What is Districting

## definition

Districting is the initial process of creating election district boundaries.

These boundaries determine:

- Eligibility to run for office – must live within boundaries to qualify for election.
- Who votes in the election – only voters within the district vote for their councilmember.

# What is Districting

## definition

Districting is the initial process of creating election district boundaries.

These boundaries do not determine:

- How the city decides to govern. The city can still work to achieve goals that benefit the city as a whole rather than the interests of any single district.
- How services or relationships between the city and the public are managed.

# What is Redistricting

## Definition

Redistricting is the process of adjusting district lines every 10 years after the release of the U.S. Census. The well known examples are Congress and the legislature.

Within the U.S., redistricting has become an extremely politicized process and been the subject of more high-profile Supreme Court decisions than any other part of our elections system.

# What is Gerrymandering

## The Gerrymander

The term Gerrymander came from a cartoon depicting a rather serpentine looking district created by Governor Elbridge Gerry in Massachusetts.

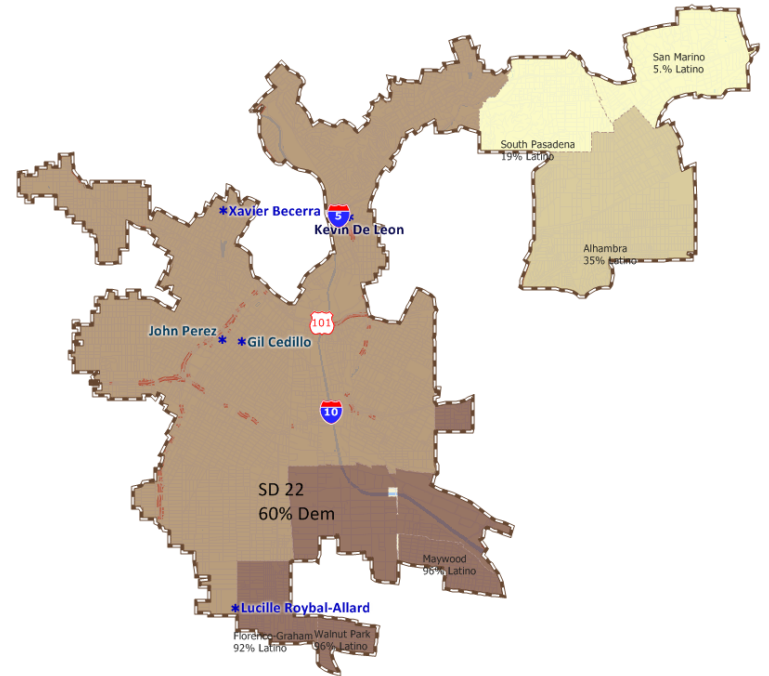


# What is Gerrymandering

## the Gerrymander

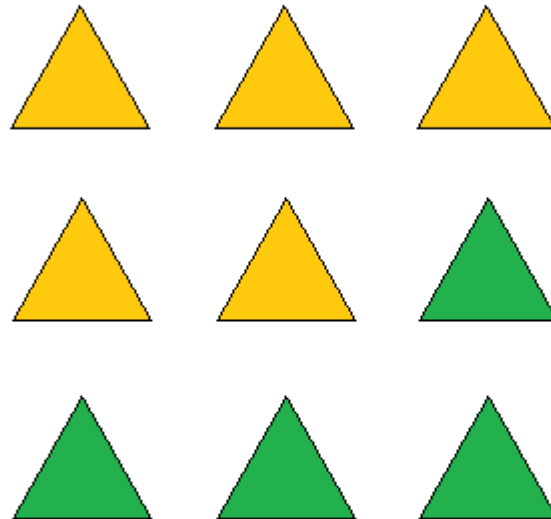
There are more recent examples of gerrymandering, even in California.

This 2001 Senate District is a great example.



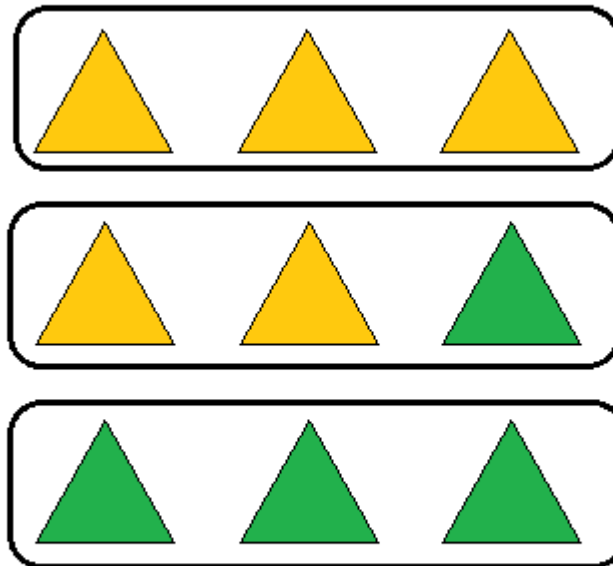
# What is Gerrymandering

How does gerrymandering work?



# What is Gerrymandering

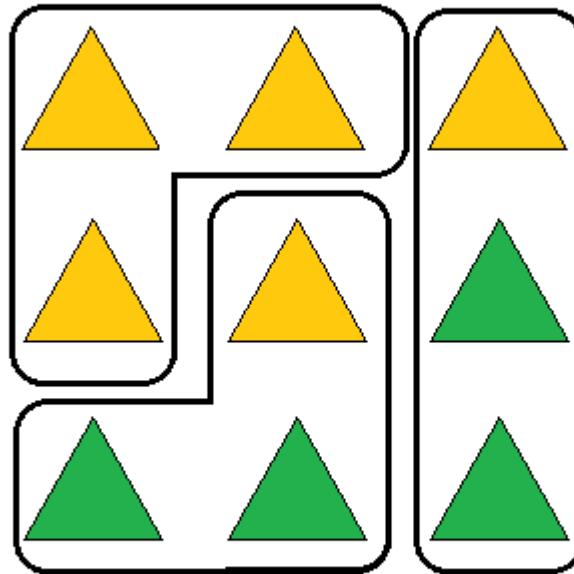
How does gerrymandering work?





# What is Gerrymandering

How does gerrymandering work?



# Traditional Redistricting Principles

Preventing a Districting from becoming a Gerrymander

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

- Relatively equal size - people, not citizens
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- Maintain “*communities of interest*”
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function

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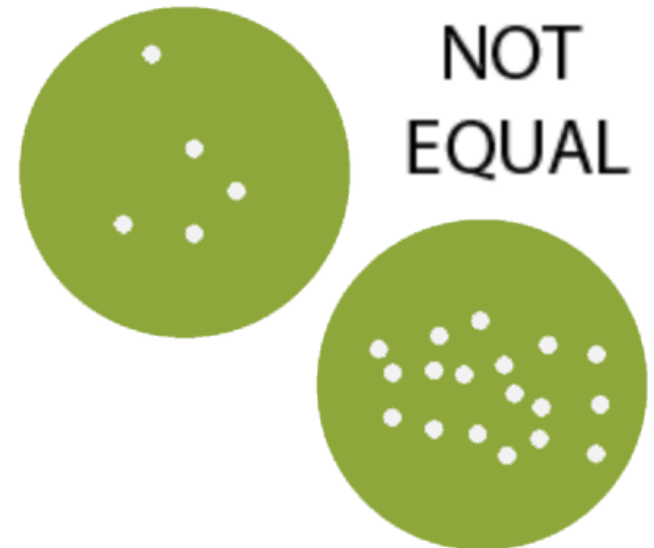
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# Equal Population

## Utilizing the U.S. Census Decennial File

What is “equal” population has been a key subject in redistricting litigation.

- Population Equality is based on “People” not citizens or voters or other metrics.
- 10% or smaller deviation.



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# Contiguity

Two definitions for what is contiguous

Contiguity should be thought of as “literal” and “functional.”

- An area that is one whole piece is “literally contiguous.”
- An area that represents how the population functions or how people are connected is “functionally contiguous.”



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# Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

What is a community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Communities covered by the Voting Rights Act
  - Latinos
  - Asians
  - African Americans

While race is a community of interest, it cannot be the *predominant factor* in drawing districts.



# Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

What is a community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Other Communities, example are:
  - People living near an industry (farming, higher education, manufacturing)
  - Senior Citizens or Students
  - Downtown / Urban
  - Rural or Agricultural
  - Homeowners or Renters

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- **Keep districts compact – appearance/function**

# Compactness

Determining what is “compact”

The measure of compactness can get complicated.

- Ratio of the circumference of a district and the area of a district.
- Measuring the number of distinct shapes and the number of kinks and bends.
- Simply outlawing funny shapes.

NOT  
COMPACT

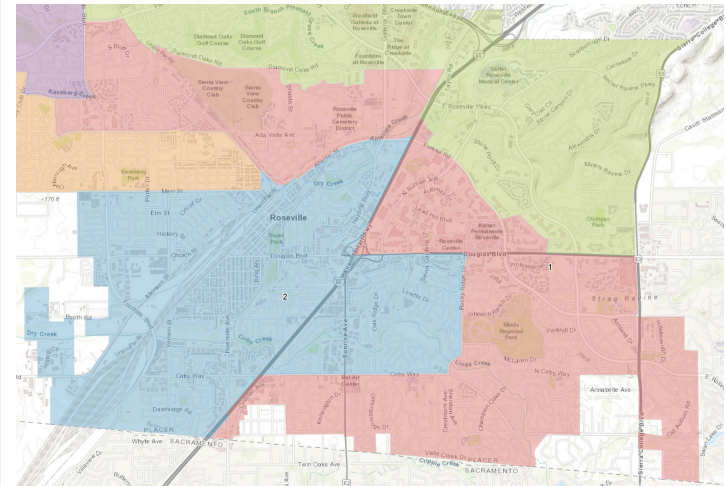
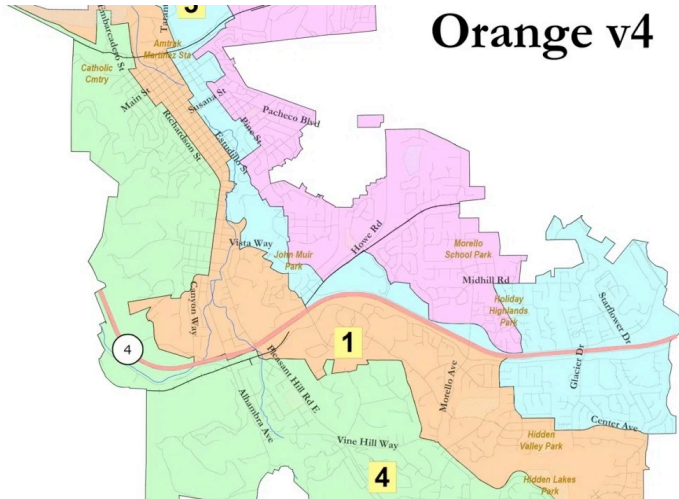


# Compactness

Determining what is “compact”

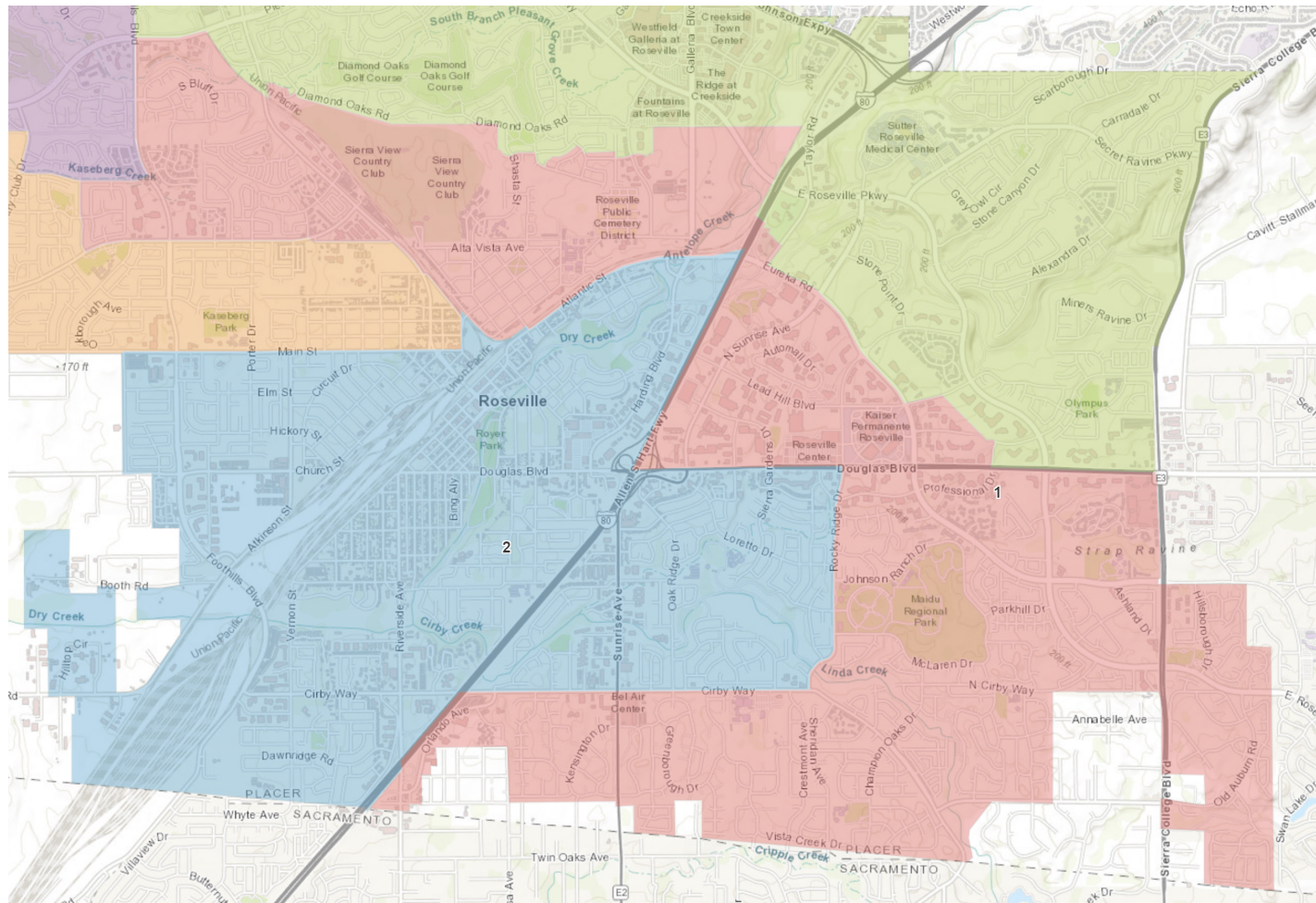
California has a rather elegant/simple definition.

- Not bypassing nearby populated areas in favor of more distant populated areas



# Compactness

Determining what is “compact”

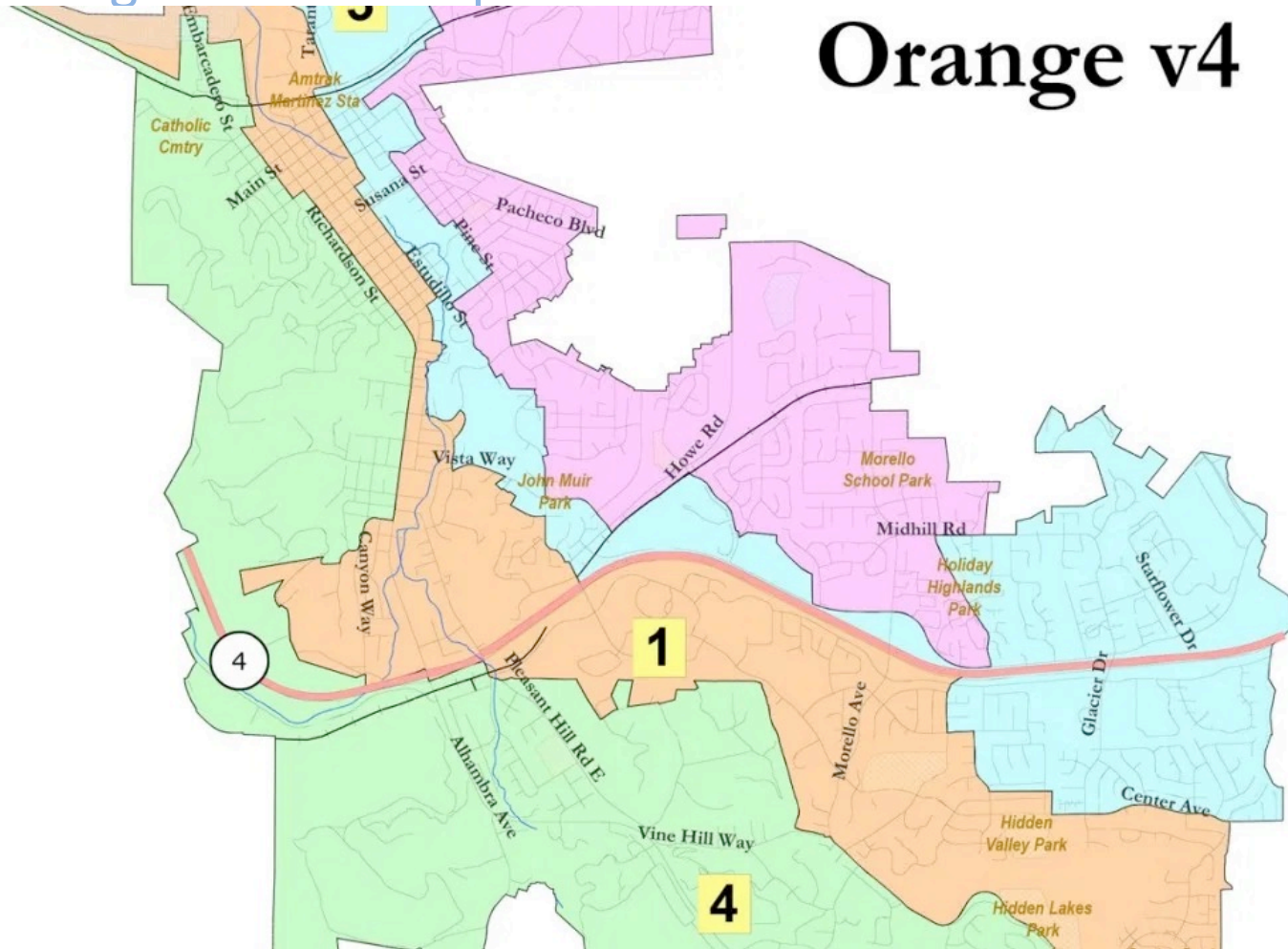




# Compactness

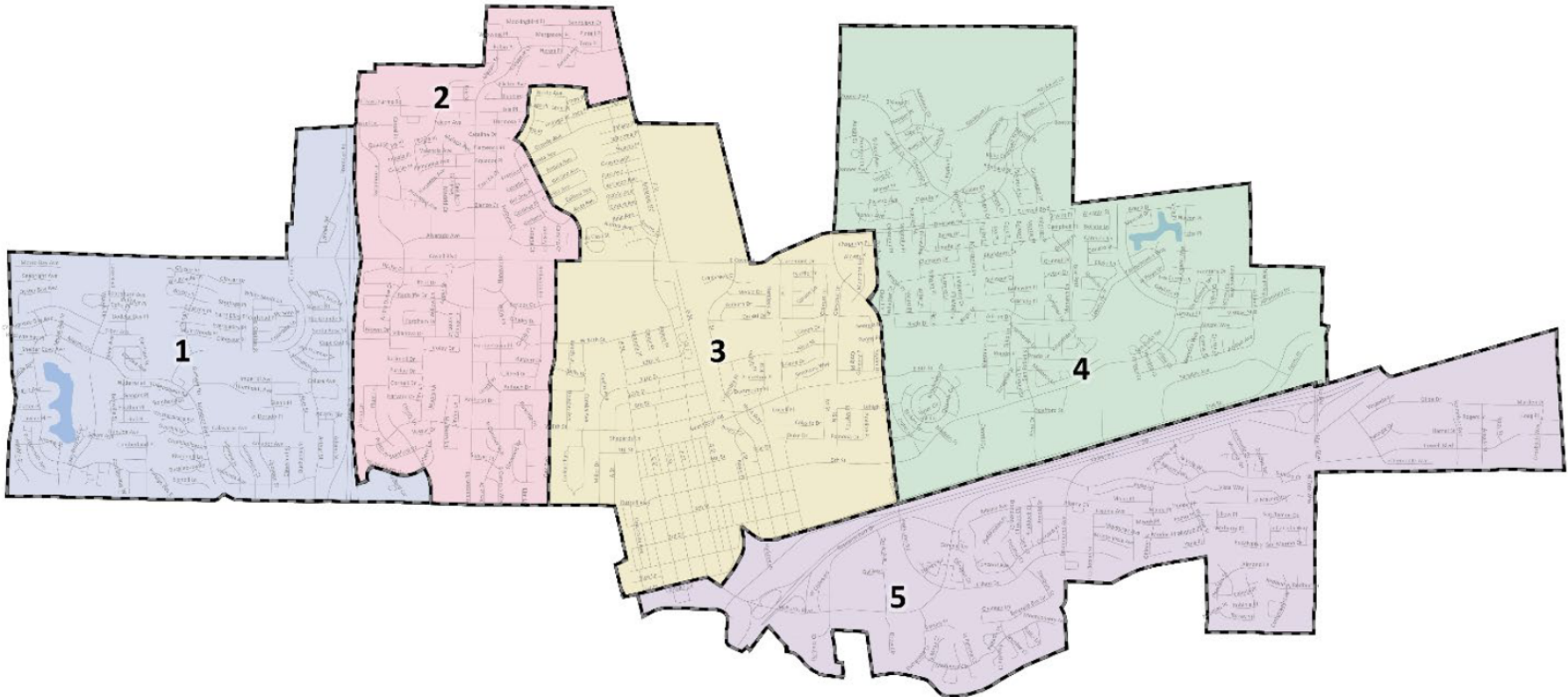
Determining what is “compact”

## Orange v4



# Compactness

Determining what is “compact”





# Traditional Redistricting Principles

Preventing a Districting from becoming a Gerrymander

Starting in 2020, cities and counties doing redistricting have additional criteria they must follow under the California Fair Maps Act.

- Process/transparency when conducting redistricting
- Not using incumbent or candidate residence as a Community of Interest
- Not drawing districts to advantage a political party

# City of Burlingame

## Preliminary Findings

Census population is 28,806 based on the **2010 Census**.

- This population is used for the determination of the target size of a district, and the “equal population” calculations that cannot exceed 10% from the largest to smallest District. Based on 2010 Census data the following would be targets:
  - **5-District Plan: 5,761 residents**
  - **4-District Plan: 7,201 residents**

# City of Burlingame

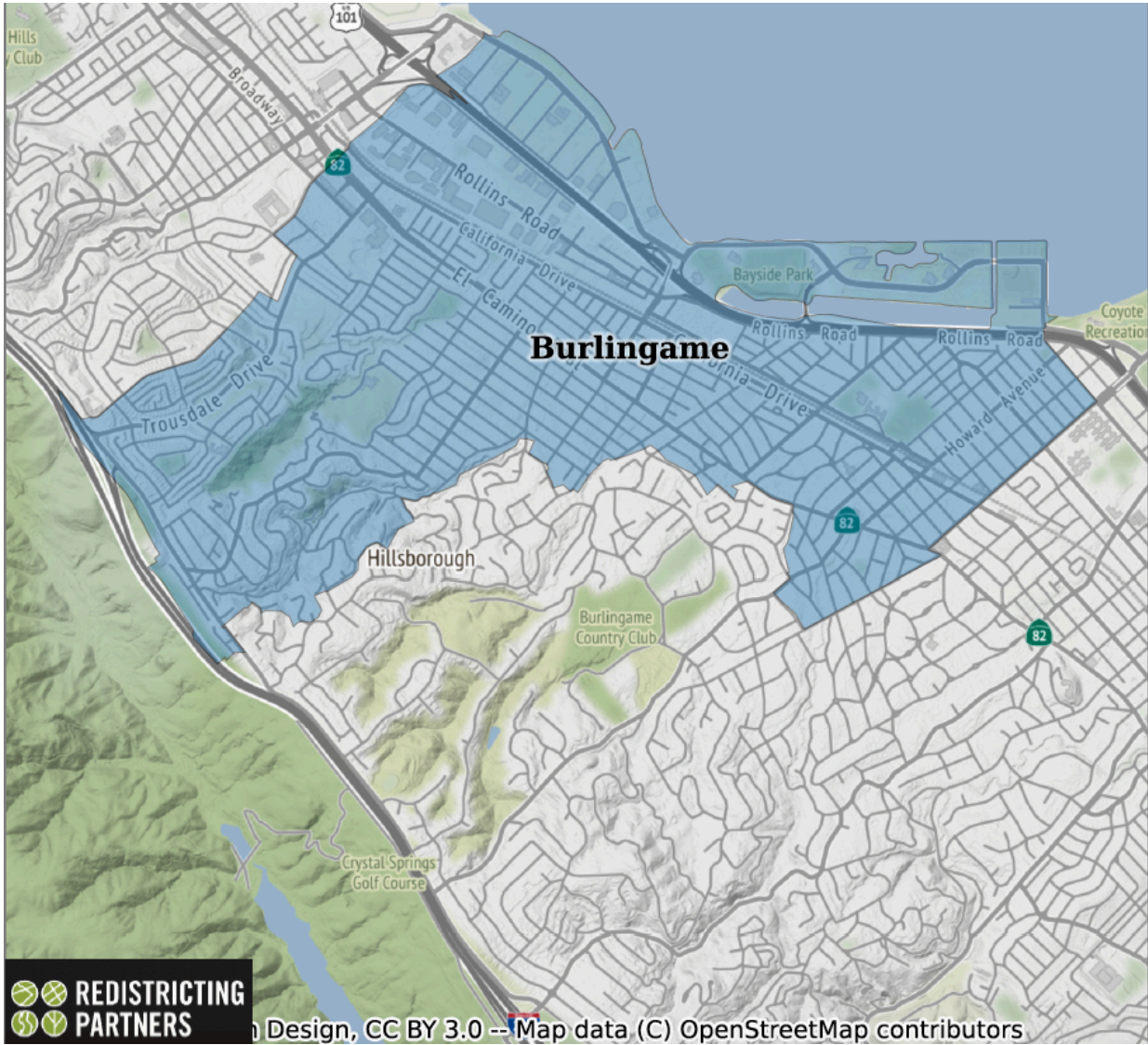
## Preliminary Findings

For determining ethnicity of a district we use the American Community Survey calculations of Citizen Voting Age Population or “CVAP” which is also sometimes called “eligible voter population”

- Total CVAP: 20,275
- Asian CVAP: 4,513 (22%)
- Latino CVAP: 2,268 (11%)
- Black CVAP: 290 (1%)
- All Other: 13,204 (65%)



# City Boundaries and Streets



# City of Burlingame

## What's Next

Public hearings will be held to obtain input on communities of interest and receive feedback on potential districting plans prior to board adoption

Input can be provided in public hearings or using our “Community of Interest Worksheet.”

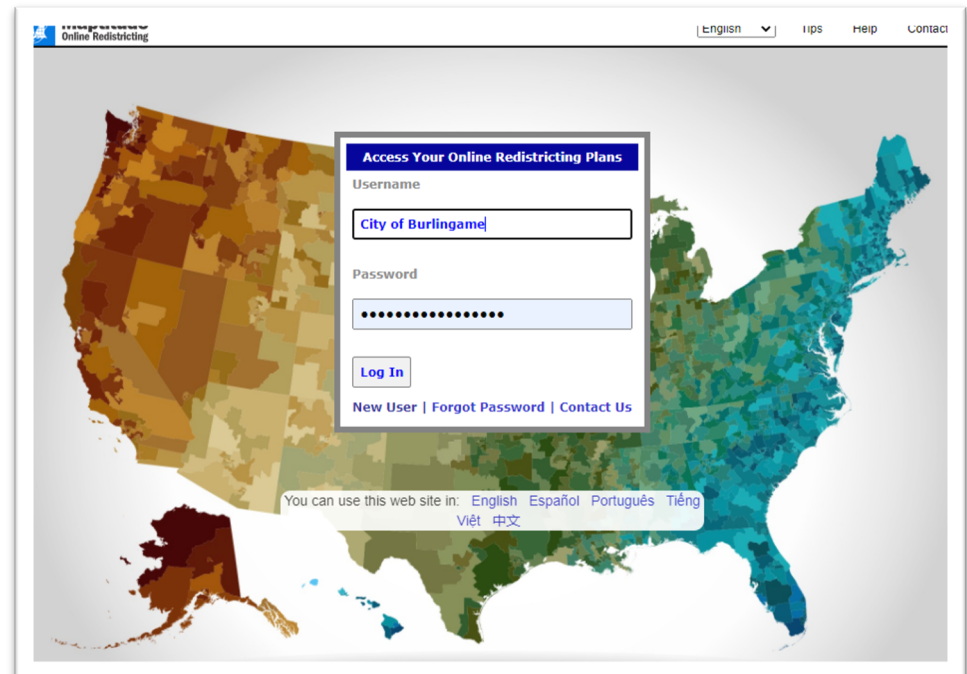


# City of Burlingame

## What's Next

Online Mapping tools will be available for the community to draw their community of interest or potential maps for the city to consider.

Future presentation will show tools in action and allow for broad community input.



# City of Burlingame

## What's Next

Public hearings will be held to obtain input on communities of interest and receive feedback on potential districting plans prior to board adoption

Feb 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Public Hearing
Mar 1	2 <sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing
TBD	Online Outreach / Mapping Tool Demonstration
TBD	3 <sup>rd</sup> Public Hearing. Draft Map Review
TBD	4 <sup>th</sup> Public Hearing
TBD	Adoption



# REDISTRICTING PARTNERS