



# San Mateo County

## Introduction to 2021 Redistricting

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# Timing

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Month(s)	Event
February / March	Project planning.
May (hopefully)	2020 Census data released.
June / July	Time for public to draw draft maps.
August / September	Discuss and revise draft maps.
October	Narrow and revise map options.
November 15	Last day for 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading of ordinance

*Timeline could shift depending on Census data availability, which may be as late as August.*

# Timing Requirements

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- At least four hearings
  - ▣ One prior to drawing any official draft maps
  - ▣ At least two after release of draft maps
  - ▣ Initial “hearing” can be a formal hearing, study session or informal public forum
  - ▣ At least one hearing in the evening or on a weekend
  - ▣ “the public hearing shall begin at a fixed time regardless of its order on the agenda”
  
- Post the final map online at least 7 days prior to adoption
- Adopt as a regular ordinance



- By Statute, Census data should be released by April 1
  - ▣ But it will be late
  
- California requires Census data to be adjusted to relocate prison populations
  - ▣ Projected to take up to two weeks



# Previous (2013) Criteria

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## Federal Laws

- ❑ Equal Population
- ❑ Federal Voting Rights Act
- ❑ No Racial Gerrymandering

## Traditional Redistricting Principles

- ❑ Communities of interest
- ❑ Compact
- ❑ Contiguous
- ❑ Visible (Natural & man-made) boundaries
- ❑ Respect voters' choices / avoid head to head contests
- ❑ Planned future growth



# New “FAIR MAPS Act” Criteria

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## 1. Federal Laws

- Equal Population
- Federal Voting Rights Act
- No Racial Gerrymandering

## 2. California Criteria

1. **Geographically contiguous**
2. **Undivided neighborhoods and “communities of interest”**
3. **Undivided Cities, Towns and Census Designated Places**
4. **Easily identifiable boundaries**
5. **Compact**  
(Do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people)

6. **Shall not favor or**

*A CDP is a Census recognized unincorporated neighborhood, such as North Fair Oaks or Montara.*

**discriminate against a political party.**

## 3. Other Traditional Redistricting Principles

- **Respect voters’ choices / avoid head to head contests**
- **Future population growth**
- **Minimize election year changes**



# “Community of Interest” Defined

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- Elections Code Section 21500(c)(2):
  - To the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its 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.
  
- Boards should now formally identify “Section 21500 Communities of Interest” early in the process.
  - Cities, Towns and Census Designated Places are not “communities of interest”



# Mapping Options

- Historically, most redistricting is run by the elected body
  - ▣ A few included advisory commissions
  - ▣ Independent commissions had to be written into a charter
  
- For 2011, two new state laws allow counties new options without needing a charter amendment:
  1. Keep the typical Board-managed process
  2. An advisory commission
  3. An independent commission
  4. A “hybrid” commission





- Elections Code Section 23000 Authorization
  - Advisory:
    - Appointed by Board
    - No elected officials, family members or paid campaign staff
    - No extra mapping criteria
  
  - Hybrid or Independent:
    - Board sets appointment process, but may not directly appoint
    - Extensive restrictions on commission member qualifications
    - “shall not draw districts for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against a political party or an incumbent or political candidate.”



- Advisory:
  - ▣ Develops a map or maps that the Board adopts or revises
  
- Hybrid:
  - ▣ Develops two maps and the Board must adopt one or the other
  
- Independent:
  - ▣ Adopts a map with no Board review

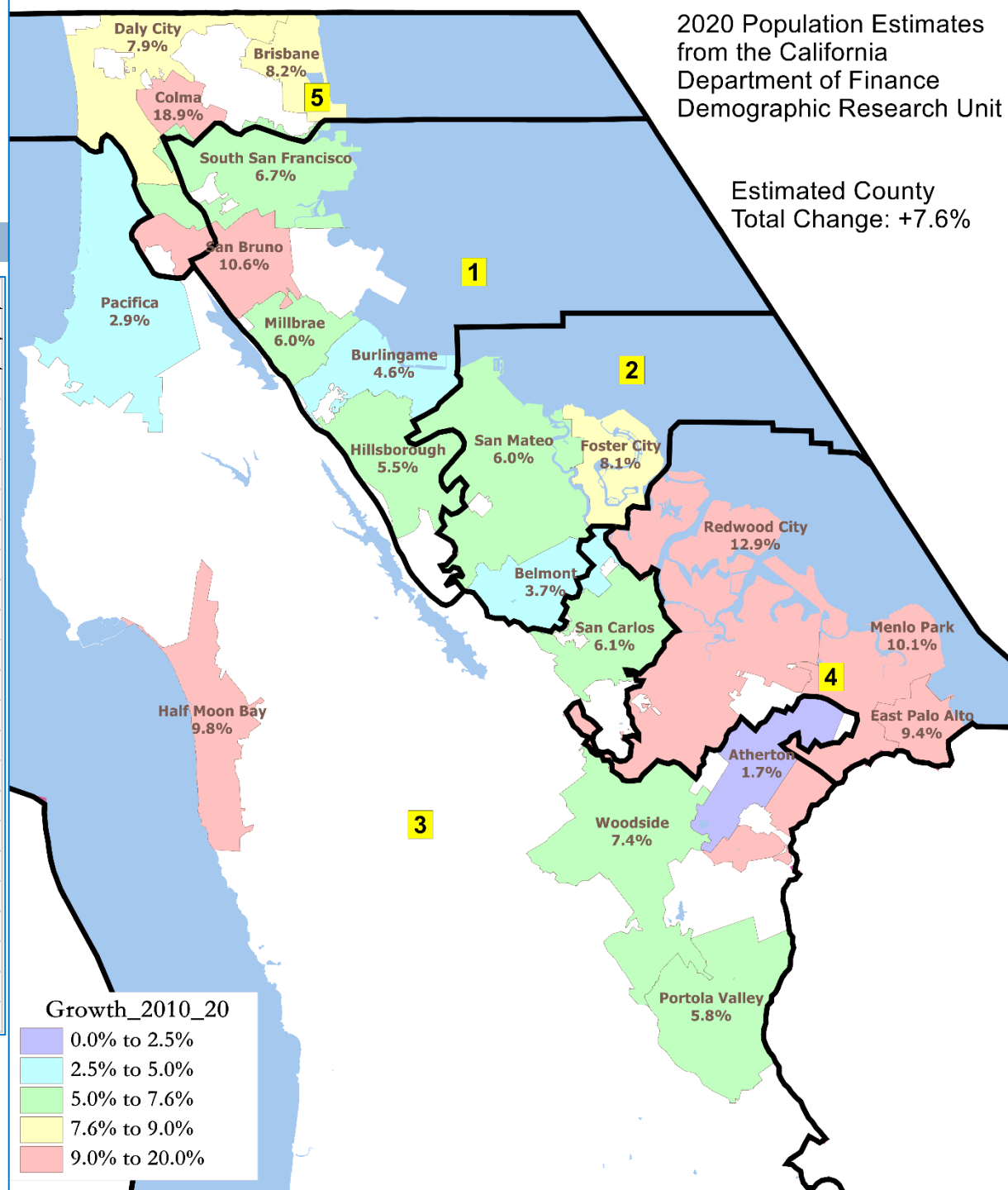
# Outreach Requirements

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- “Good faith effort” to:
  - ▣ Notify all media organizations
  - ▣ Notify “good government, civil rights, civic engagement, or community groups or organizations that are active in the city”
  - ▣ Live translation if requested 72\* hours in advance
  - ▣ Distribute hearing notices at least five\* days in advance
  - ▣ Within two weeks, release either a recording or a written summary of each public comment and council deliberation made at every public hearing or workshop
  - ▣ Provide everything in all “applicable languages”
  
- Secretary of State provided template materials and the list of “applicable languages” for each city



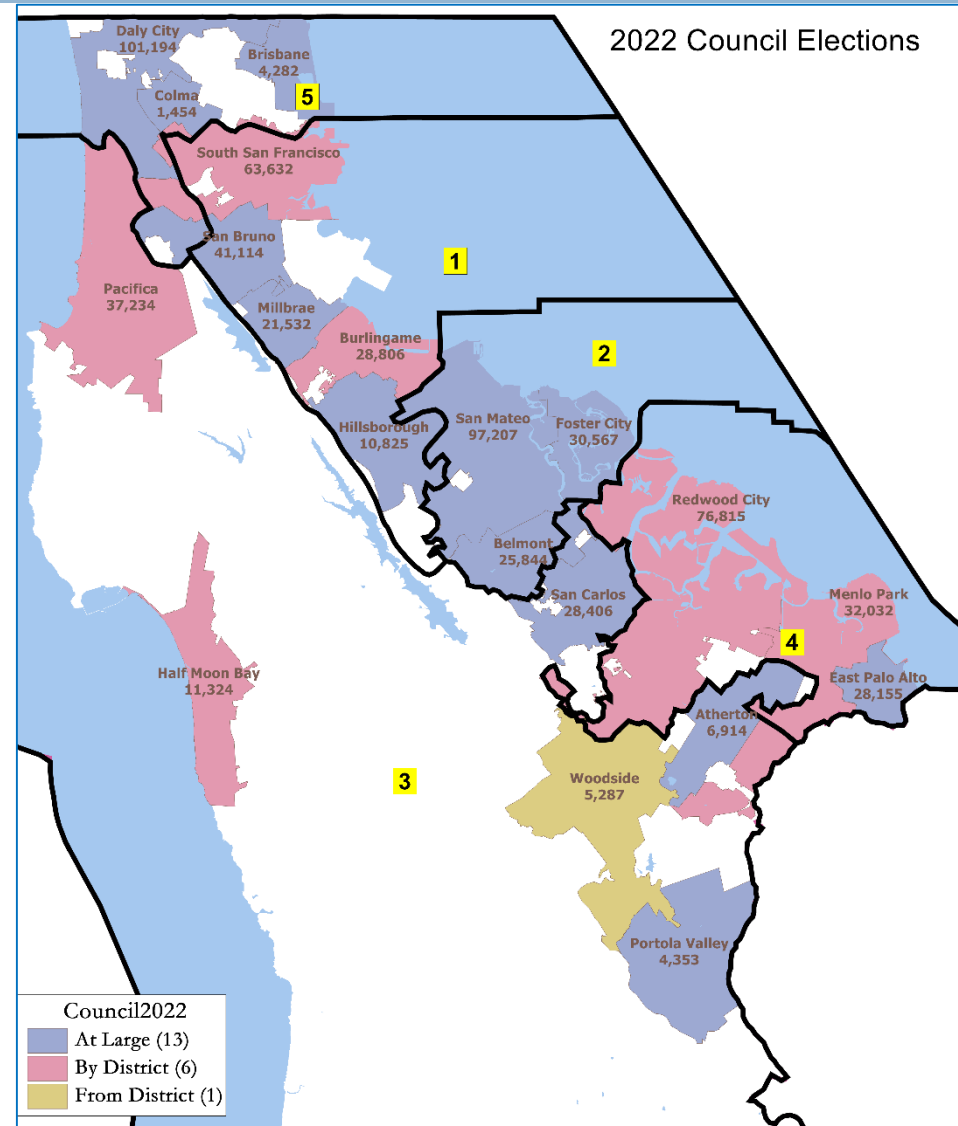
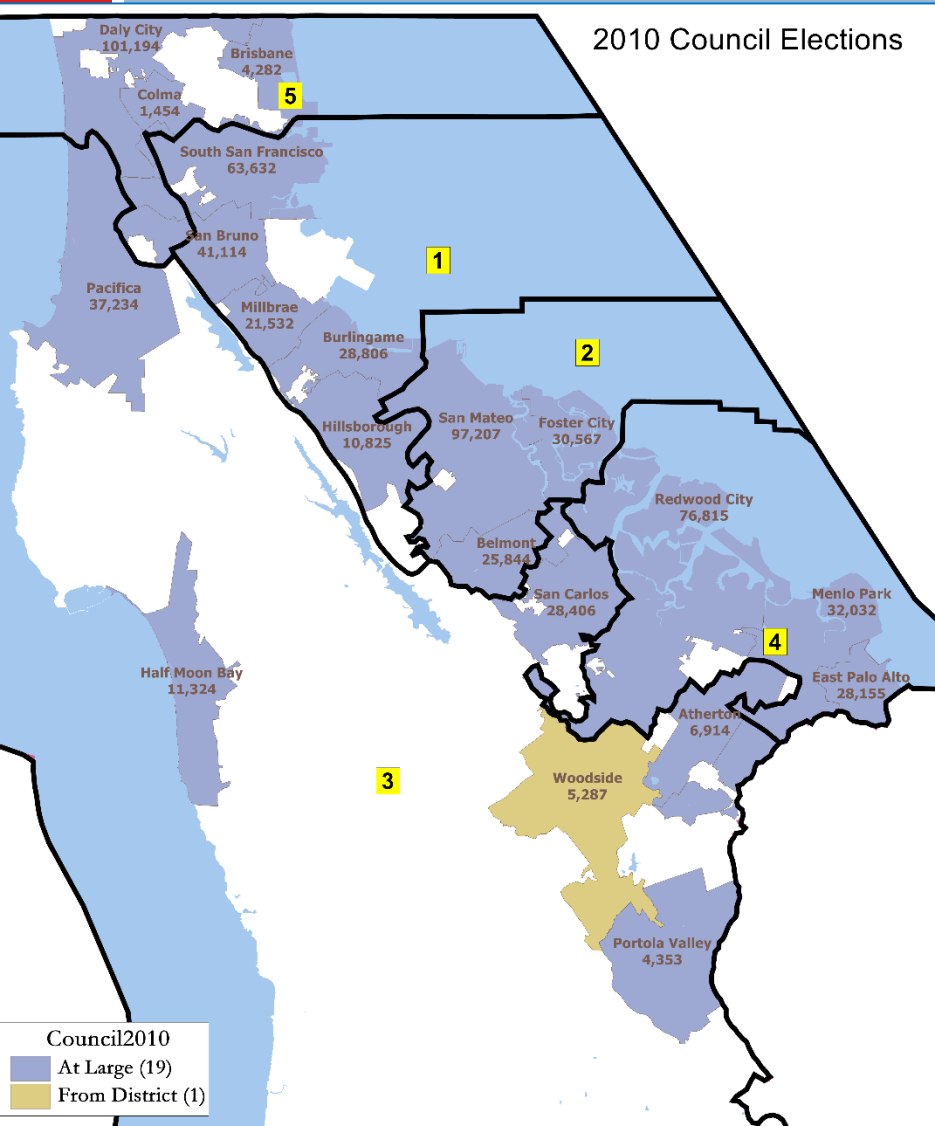
COUNTY	4/1/2010	1/1/2020	Change	Pct
<b>State Total</b>	37,253,956	39,782,870	2,528,914	6.8%
<b>San Mateo County</b>	718,451	773,244	54,793	7.6%
Atherton	6,914	7,031	117	1.7%
Pacifica	37,234	38,331	1,097	2.9%
Belmont	25,835	26,813	978	3.8%
Burlingame	28,806	30,118	1,312	4.6%
Hillsborough	10,825	11,418	593	5.5%
Portola Valley	4,353	4,607	254	5.8%
Millbrae	21,532	22,832	1,300	6.0%
San Mateo	97,207	103,087	5,880	6.0%
San Carlos	28,406	30,145	1,739	6.1%
South San Francisco	63,632	67,879	4,247	6.7%
Woodside	5,287	5,676	389	7.4%
Daly City	101,072	109,142	8,070	8.0%
Foster City	30,567	33,033	2,466	8.1%
Brisbane	4,282	4,633	351	8.2%
East Palo Alto	28,155	30,794	2,639	9.4%
Half Moon Bay	11,324	12,431	1,107	9.8%
Menlo Park	32,026	35,254	3,228	10.1%
San Bruno	41,114	45,454	4,340	10.6%
Redwood City	76,815	86,754	9,939	12.9%
Colma	1,454	1,729	275	18.9%
Unincorporated Areas	61,611	66,083	4,472	7.3%
Incorporated	656,840	707,161	50,321	7.7%



Caution: historically official decennial Census numbers are significantly lower than Dept. of Finance estimates.

# Many Cities Redistricting Too

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Council2022

- At Large (13)
- By District (6)
- From District (1)