Redistricting in the County of Santa Barbara

What is Redistricting?
Redistricting is the process where the district lines for Congress, state legislatures, county boards of supervisors, city councils, and school boards are redrawn. Every 10 years, the districts are redrawn based on census data. Redistricting ensures every person has fair representation by drawing districts with an equal number of people. How the districts are drawn determines how effectively a community is represented in the halls of government.

How does the County redistrict its supervisorial district maps?
Historically, the County has redrawn districts maps every decade. In 2018, county voters approved Measure G2018 to change the system and establish an 11-person County of Santa Barbara Citizens’ Independent Redistricting Commission tasked with redrawing supervisorial districts.

What is the County of Santa Barbara Citizens’ Independent Redistricting Commission?
The County of Santa Barbara Citizens’ Independent Redistricting Commission will consist of 11 county residents who are not elected officials, their staff, lobbyists, candidates, campaign donors, or their close family members. Consideration is given to create a commission that reflects the diversity of Santa Barbara County.

The commission shall be created no later than Dec. 31, 2020 and tasked with establishing the electoral district boundaries in Santa Barbara County for the upcoming decade following receipt of the 2020 federal census data. The commission will provide an open and transparent process that enables full public consideration and comment on the drawing of district lines. Commissioners will conduct themselves with integrity and fairness to create an independent and unbiased map.

How you can get involved:

- Apply to serve on the Citizens’ Independent Redistricting Commission. Registered voters can apply to serve on the commission. As a commissioner, you will hold public meetings, consider public input, and draft and approve county supervisorial maps. The application period closes at 5 p.m. Friday, August 21, 2020.
- Tell a friend or colleague to consider applying to serve on the commission.
- Provide comment and testimony during the redistricting process in 2021.
- Stay tuned for updates posted at www.countyofsbc.org/redistricting.