County Administrator's Office

Office of County Counsel

Redistricting 2021

June 8, 2021

Advisory Redistricting Commission (ARC)

- ARC's role is to advise and assist the Board with redrawing supervisorial district boundaries

- Board decided at 2/23/21 Board meeting to have 15 commissioners, comprised of:
  - 2 appointees per supervisorial district
  - 5 at-large positions

- Initial ARC discussion at April 20, 2021 meeting
  - Adopted resolution to establish stipend of $100 per half day and $200 per day for ARC members

ARC Member Appointment

- Two appointees per district (Attachment 1)

- 5 at-large members to be discussed and appointed today
  - Remaining applications comprise the pool of at-large applications

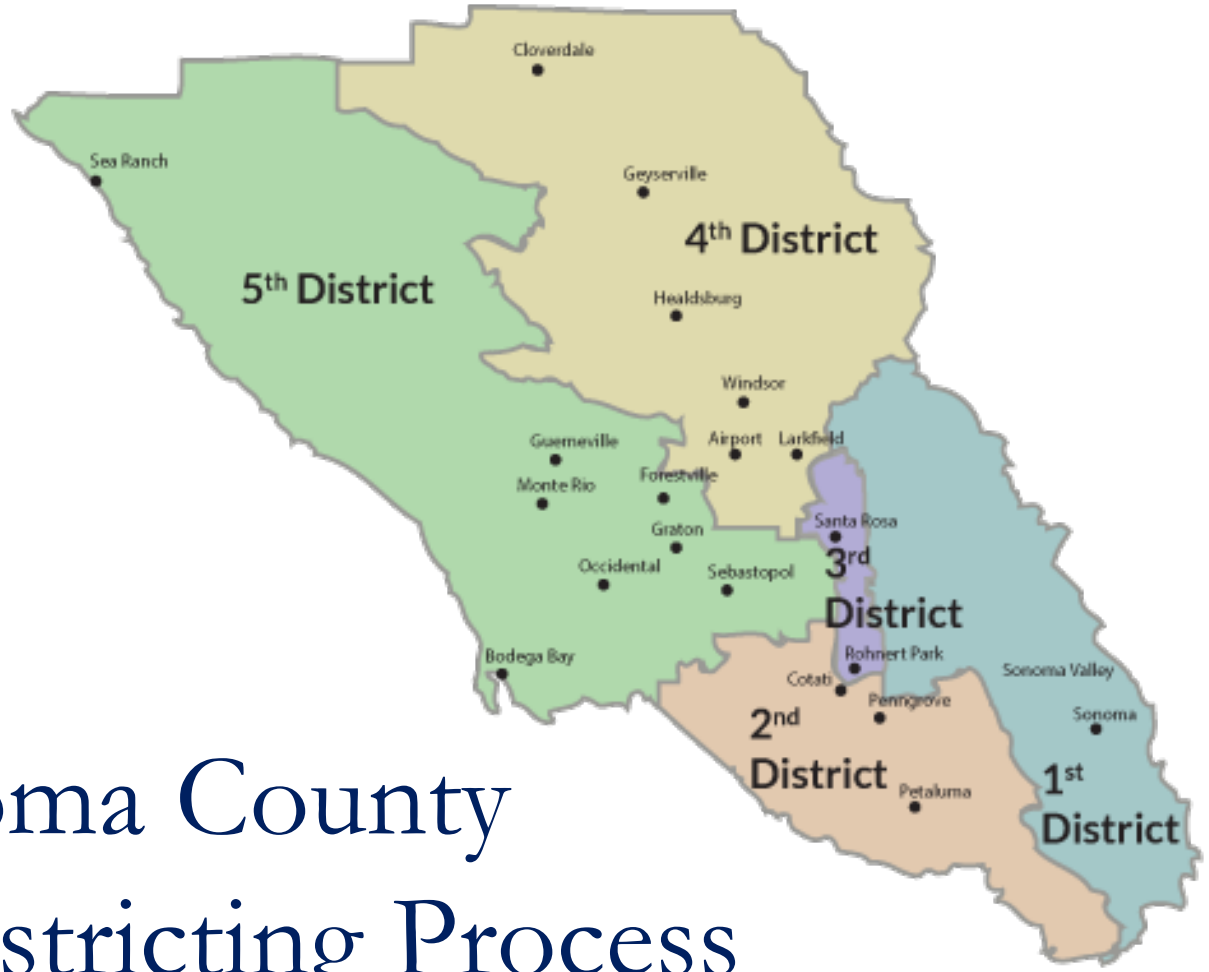
Recommended Actions

1. Appoint members to the 2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission;
2. Authorize the use of $20,000 from contingency funds for ARC stipend expenditures for up to 12 half-day meetings (4/5th);

After discussion:

3. Receive overview of redistricting process from National Demographics Corporation (NDC)

National Demographics Corporation



Sonoma County
2021 Redistricting Process

June 8, 2021

Redistricting Timeline Part I

Date	Mtg Type	Event
June 8	BOS	Board review of schedule and decision on commission
June 8	ARC	ARC initial meeting, redistricting overview
July 26	ARC	Workshop to receive public input on communities of interest and other community mapping priorities, mapping tools training
August 23	ARC	First Official Hearing to receive public input on communities of interest and other community mapping priorities, mapping tools training
July-September		*Public begins drafting maps based on estimated population totals*
Mid- or Late-August		*Census Bureau releases 2020 Census data*
Four to Six weeks later		*Official California Redistricting Data Released*

Redistricting Timeline Part II

Date	Mtg Type	Event
October 5	BOS	Hearing to review 2020 data and existing districts for population balance
October 8		*Deadline for initial draft maps from the public*
October 18	ARC	Presentation of draft maps, identify 3-5 focus maps, direction on any map modifications
October 22 & 25	ARC	Workshops to receive public input on focus maps
November 2	BOS	Second Official Hearing to review ARC's focus maps and provide direction on map modifications, if any
November 16	BOS	Third Official Hearing to identify preferred map and provide direction on map modifications, if any
December 7		Fourth Official Hearing to adopt map by resolution (SB 594) or introduce ordinance
Dec. 14	BOS	Ordinance to adopt (if not adopted by resolution)
Dec. 15		Statutory deadline to adopt map

Redistricting Rules and Goals

1. Federal Laws

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

2. California Criteria for Counties

1. Geographically contiguous
2. Undivided neighborhoods and "communities of interest"
   (Socio-economic geographic areas that should be kept together)
3. Cities and CDP's
4. Easily identifiable boundaries
5. Compact
   (Do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people)

Prohibited:

"Shall not favor or discriminate against a political party."

3. Other Traditional Redistricting Principles

- Minimize voters shifted to different election years
- Respect voters' choices / continuity in office
- Future population growth
- Preserving the core of existing districts

Defining Neighborhoods

1st Question: what is your neighborhood?

2nd Question: what are its geographic boundaries?

Examples of physical features defining a neighborhood boundary:

- Natural neighborhood dividing lines, such as highway or major roads, rivers, canals and/or hills
- Areas around parks or schools
- Other neighborhood landmarks

In the absence of public testimony, planning records and other similar documents may provide definition.

Beyond Neighborhoods: Defining Communities of Interest

1st Question: what defines your community?

- Geographic Area, plus
- Shared issue or characteristic
  - *Shared social or economic interest*
  - *Impacted by county policies*
- Tell us "your community's story"

2nd Question:

Would this community benefit from being "included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation"?

- Or would it benefit more from having multiple representatives?

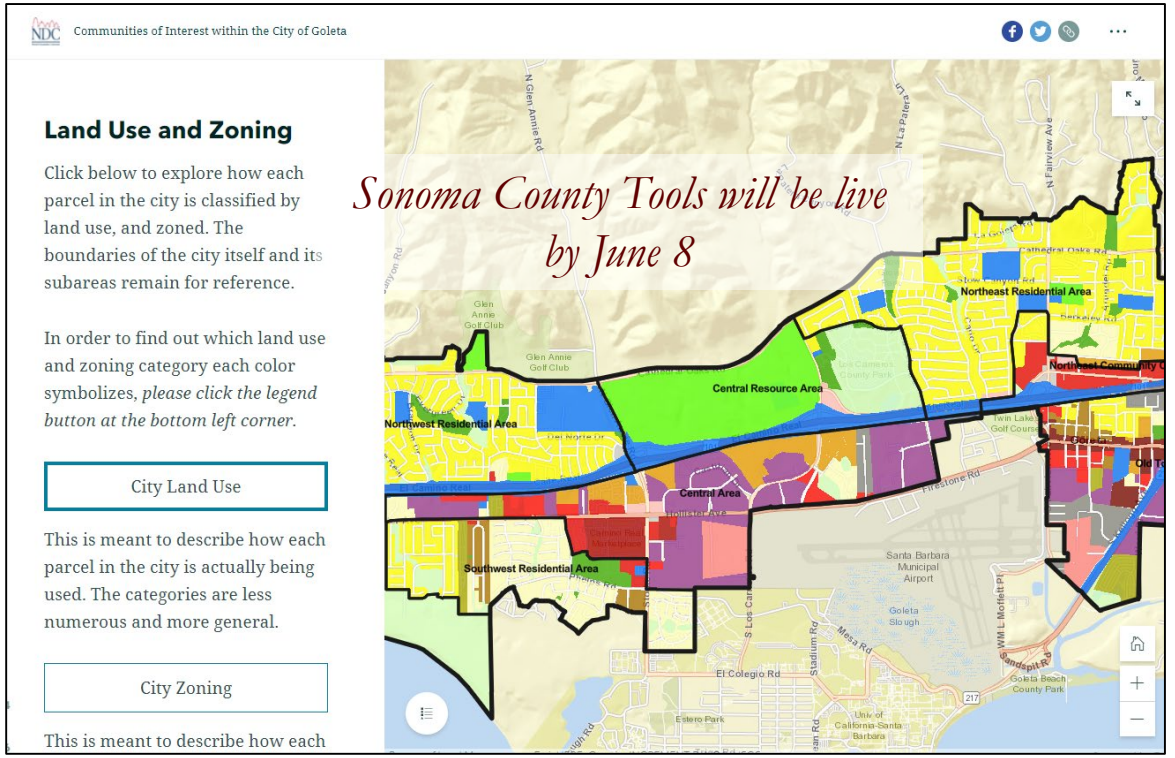
Definitions of Communities of Interest may <u>not</u> include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

Public Mapping and Map Review Tools

- Different tools for different purposes
- Different tools for different levels of technical skill and interest
  - *Simple "learn about your community" map*
  - *Simple "review draft maps" tool*
  - *Easy-to-use "Draw your neighborhood" tool*
  - *Paper- and Excel-based simple "Draw a draft map" tools*
  - *Powerful, data-rich "Draw a draft map" tool*

Story Map

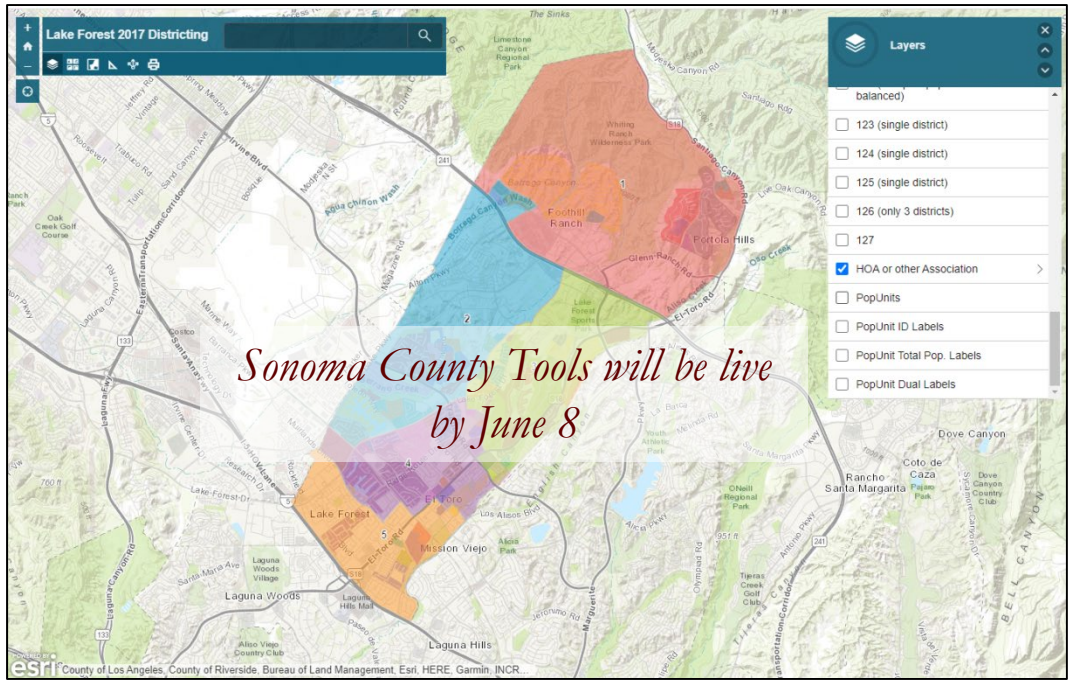
- Easy to use "story" of demographic and other data
  - *Similar to PowerPoint, but interactive*
  - *Used to identify "communities of interest"*
  - *Sample map from Goleta*



Simple Map **Review** Tool

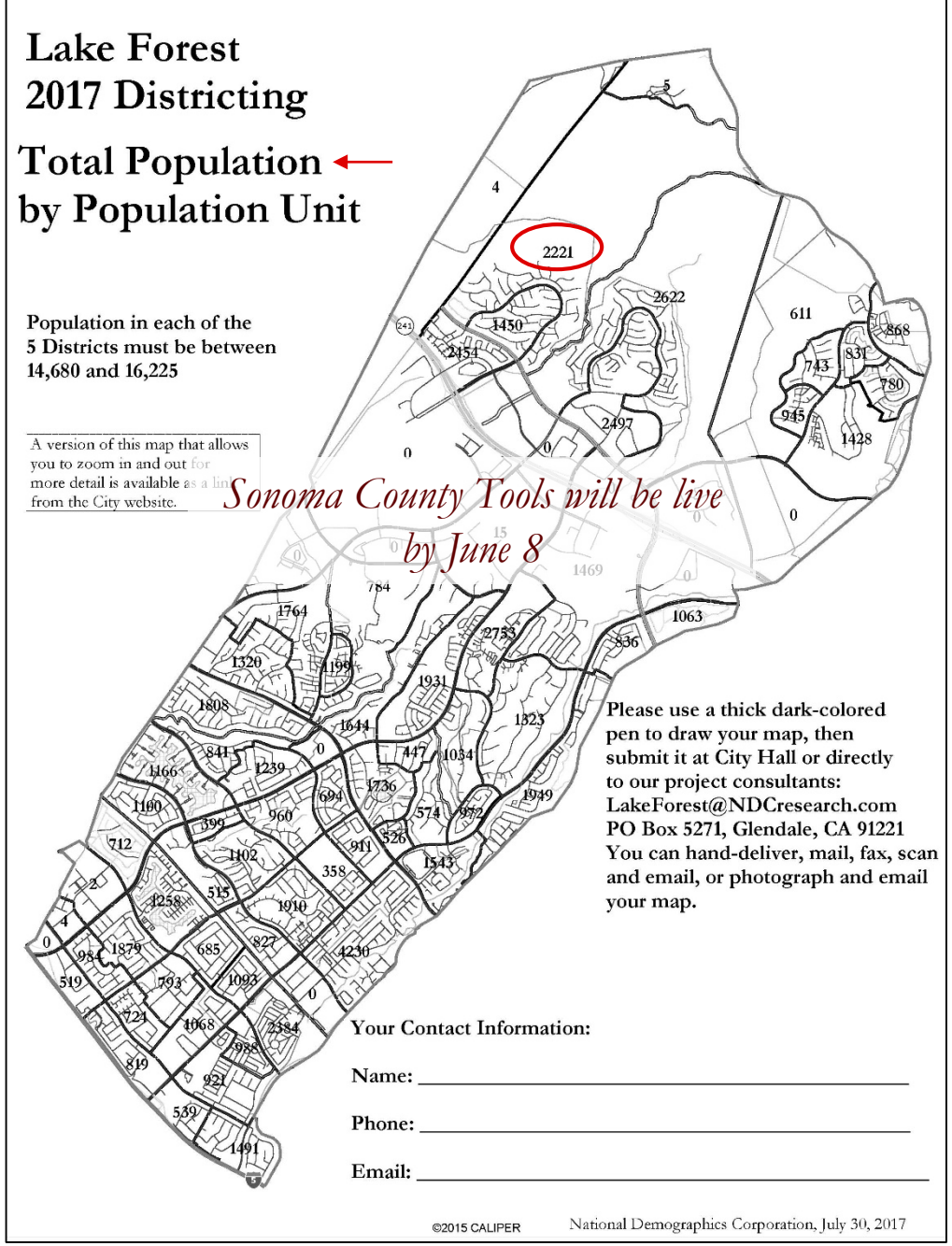
Online Interactive Review Map

- *ESRI's "ArcGIS Online" – similar to Google Maps in ease of use*
- *Used to review, analyze and compare maps, not to create them*
- *Includes overlays of "community of interest" and other Story Map data*
- *Sample map from Lake Forest*



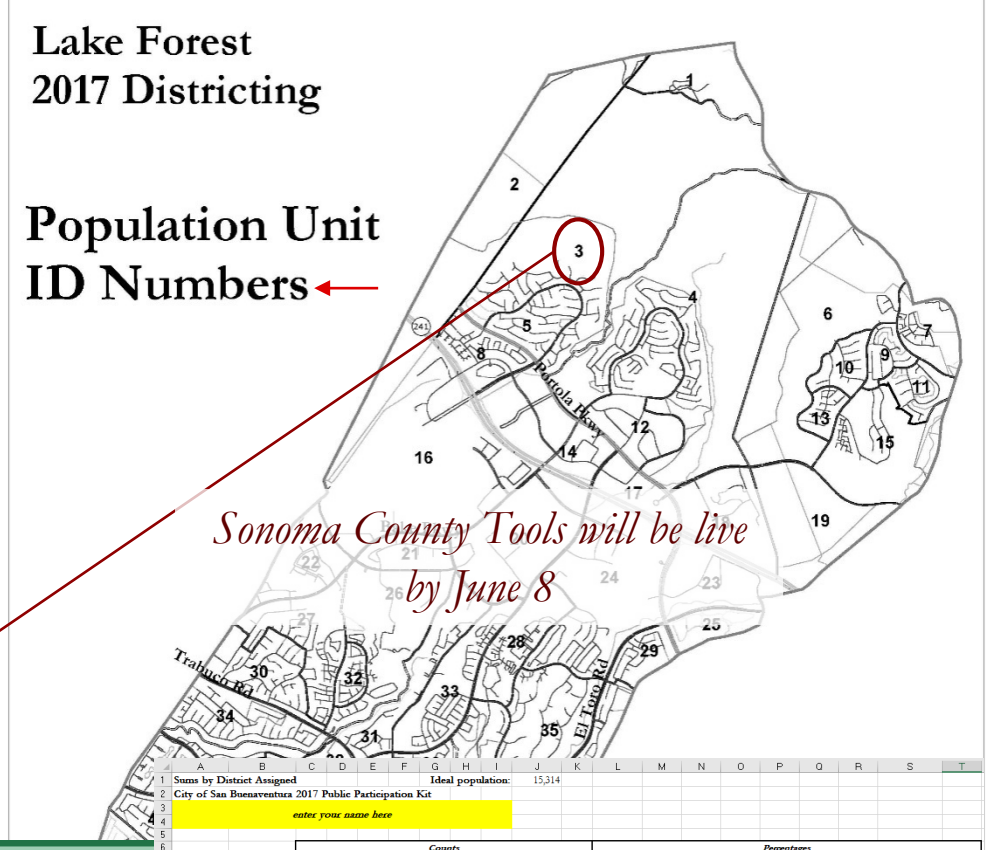
Simple Map Drawing Tool

- Paper "Public Participation Kit"
  - *For those without internet access or who prefer paper*
  - *Total Population Counts only – no demographic numbers*
  - *Geographic units would be tracts, CDP's and smaller cities*

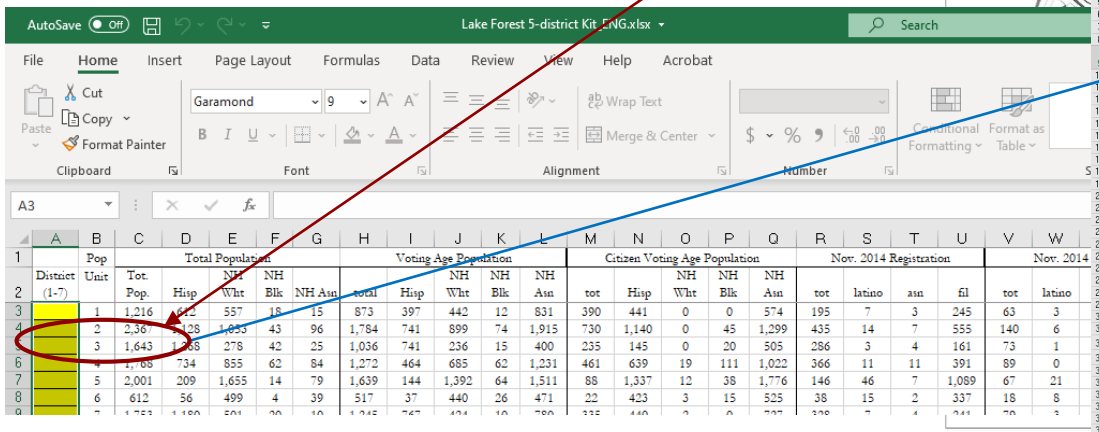


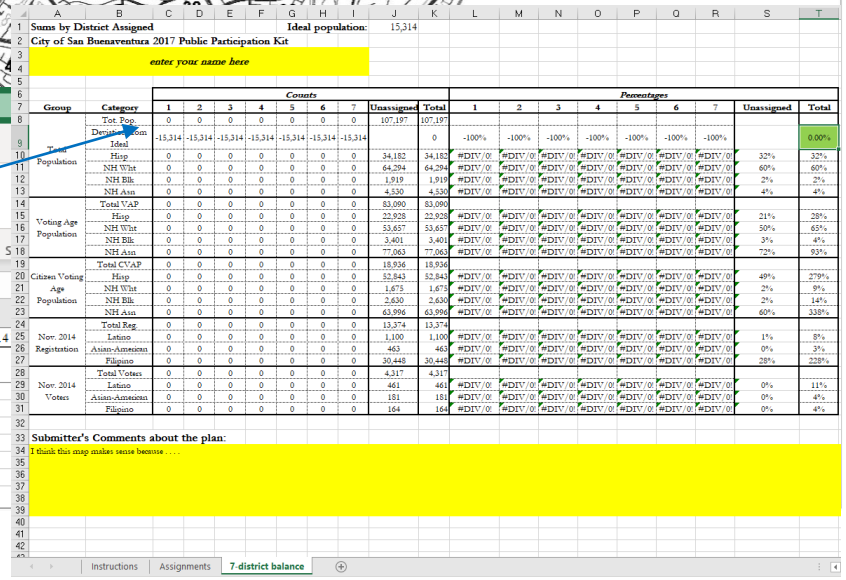
Simple Map Drawing Tool + Excel Supplement

- "Public Participation Kit"
  - *For those who know Excel and do not wish to use online tools*
  - *Adds CVAP data*
  - *Excel does the math*
  - *Geographic units would be tracts, CDP's and smaller cities*



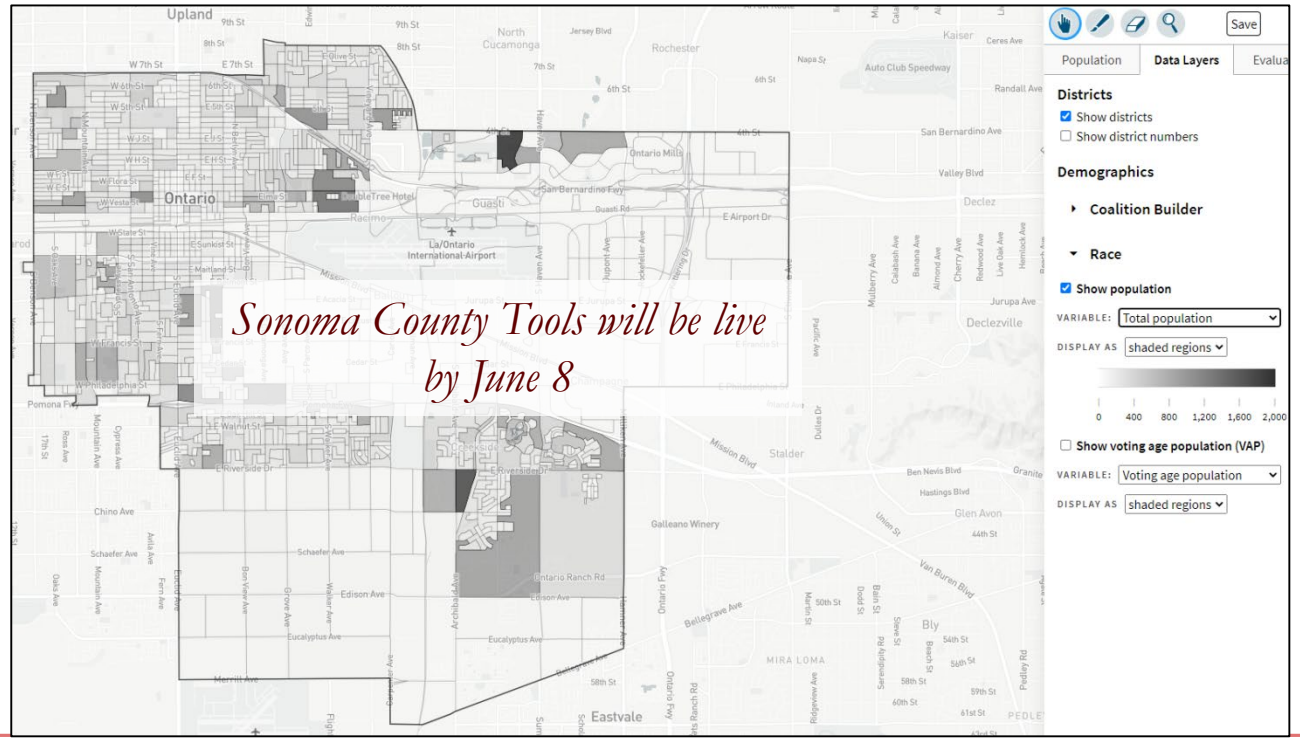
Sonoma County Tools will be live by June 8





DistrictR

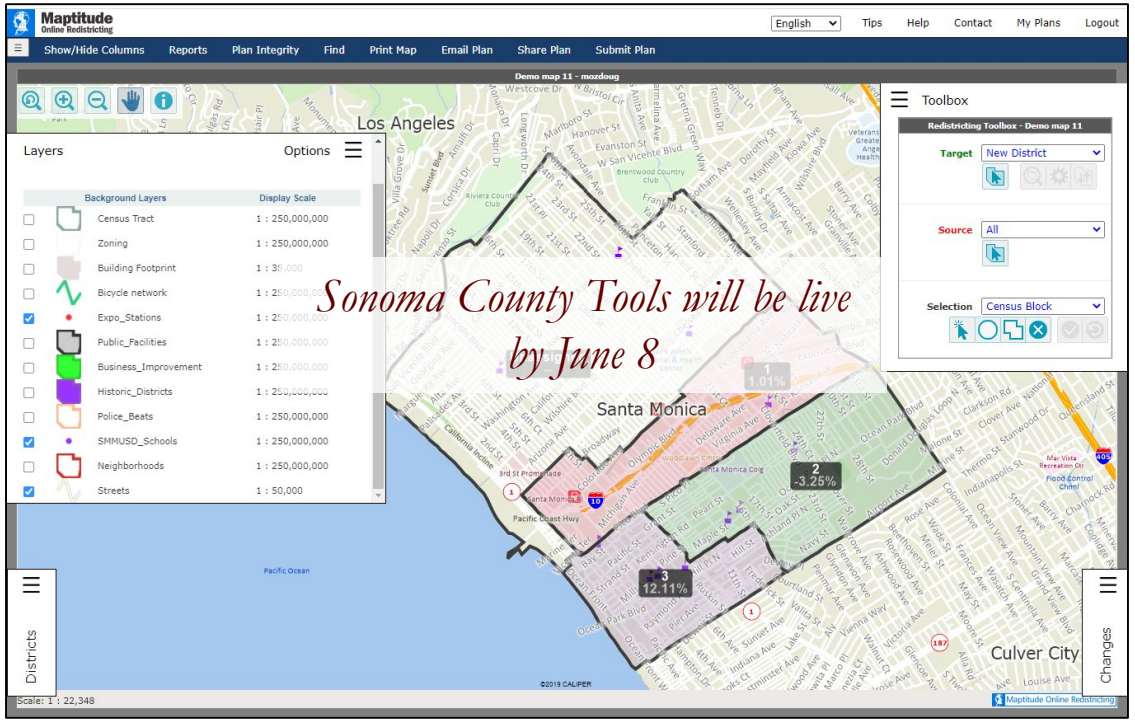
- "Draw Your Community of Interest" focus
  - *Also includes simple district-mapping tool*
  - *Only available in English*
  - *Similar external options: Representable.org, DrawMyCACommunity.org*



Sonoma County Tools will be live by June 8

Caliper's "Maptitude Online Redistricting"

- Full Database, Powerful Online Mapping Tool
  - *Powerful, common, data-rich online tool*
  - *Six language options: English, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Mandarin and Korean*
  - *Quick Start Guide*



Outreach

- Extensive Outreach aimed at engaging people at hearings and online
- County of Sonoma Redistricting 2021 Website
- Social Media
- County Newsletters and Regular County Update

Questions to Redistricting2021@sonoma-county.org

Sonoma County Redistricting

Condado de Sonoma Redistribución de Distritos