



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 West Ocean Blvd., 5th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 570-6194 FAX (562) 570-6068

March 2, 2017

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Transmit to the City Council the Census population totals by Council District for use in the Councilmanic Redistricting process. (Citywide)

APPLICANT: City of Long Beach
333 West Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90802
(Application No. 1701-35)

DISCUSSION

The City Council is authorized by the City Charter to review the City population by Council District and enter into a redistricting process if there is an uneven distribution of residents. Every five years the Planning Commission has the role of reviewing the population figures by Council District and forwarding that information to the City Council. The last redistricting process occurred in 2011 and was done based on 2010 census data.

Section 103 of the Long Beach City Charter reads in part:

The City shall be divided, for electoral purposes, into nine (9) Councilmanic Districts approximately equal in population. Commencing the second quarter of 1981 and at intervals of five (5) years, or at any other time the City Council may direct, the Planning Commission shall ascertain the number of inhabitants in each Councilmanic District and report its findings to the City Council. If the report shows that the Councilmanic Districts are not approximately equal in number of inhabitants, the City Council shall, by ordinance, redistrict the City into nine (9) Councilmanic Districts, each having approximately an equal number of inhabitants.

The City Manager's Office and Department of Development Services are coordinating the compilation and review of census data to be used in the 2017 Councilmanic Redistricting process. The City Council will use this data to determine if there is a significant imbalance between Council District populations that would prompt the need to redistrict. The Council District ideal population (citywide population divided by nine) and the percentage difference from the ideal population are key factors in making this determination.

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Every ten years, the U. S. Census Bureau conducts a “point in time” count of every person in the United States. When the census data is first released, it is the most accurate population data available. However, the data continually ages and becomes less accurate year after year. In the intervening years, the U. S. Census Bureau completes a 5-year estimate of population known as the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS data are time period estimates, not a complete population count. The Census Bureau mails a survey to a random sample of addresses to collect population and other demographic data. The survey is sent to approximately one in 38 households per year.

For this mid-decade redistricting process, the 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates data were used to estimate population for each Council District. Though the ACS data is the best available data source for mid-decade population estimates, the data is reported at the census block group level which does not align with Council District boundaries. Because of this, using ACS data poses challenges for assigning population estimates for block groups that are located within two Council Districts. In order to best estimate population in these scenarios, block group population estimates were split and assigned to Council Districts based on the relative population during the 2010 decennial census. Table 1 depicts the population by Council District in 2010, estimates for 2015, and the percent difference from the ideal population.

Table 1: Population by Council District

<i>Council District</i>	<i>2010 Total Population</i>	<i>Percent Difference from 2010 Ideal Population</i>	<i>2015 Estimate Total Population</i>	<i>Percent Difference from 2015 Ideal Population</i>
1	49,117	4.37	49,051	-6.59
2	51,218	0.28	51,106	-2.68
3	52,371	-1.96	53,298	1.50
4	51,405	-0.08	52,249	-0.50
5	49,852	2.94	50,732	-3.39
6	49,444	3.73	49,310	-6.10
7	52,013	-1.27	56,075	6.78
8	53,009	-3.21	56,090	6.81
9	53,828	-4.80	54,702	4.17
Total	462,257	-	472,613	-
Ideal Distribution	51,362	-	52,513	-

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According to the ACS data, Long Beach's population increased by 2.19 percent between April 2010 and December 2015. Population change varied by Council District, with six Districts increasing and three Districts decreasing. The percent difference from the ideal population varies between 0.5 and 6.81 percent among the nine districts. The estimated population changes are shown in the attached map (Exhibit A – Population change map by block group).

To fulfill its City Charter-mandated role in the Councilmanic Redistricting process, the Planning Commission is requested to transmit to the City Council the updated Council District populations, based on the 2011-2015 ACS 5-year estimates.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

This item is not a public hearing therefore, no public hearing notice is required. The item appears on the agenda for this meeting, which was posted in accordance with the Municipal Code.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires analysis of discretionary projects carried out or approved by public agencies. Transmitting data to the City Council and the subsequent review of the data by the City Council are not defined as a “project” pursuant to Section 21065 of the CEQA guidelines.

Respectfully submitted,



LINDA F. TATUM, AICP
PLANNING BUREAU MANAGER

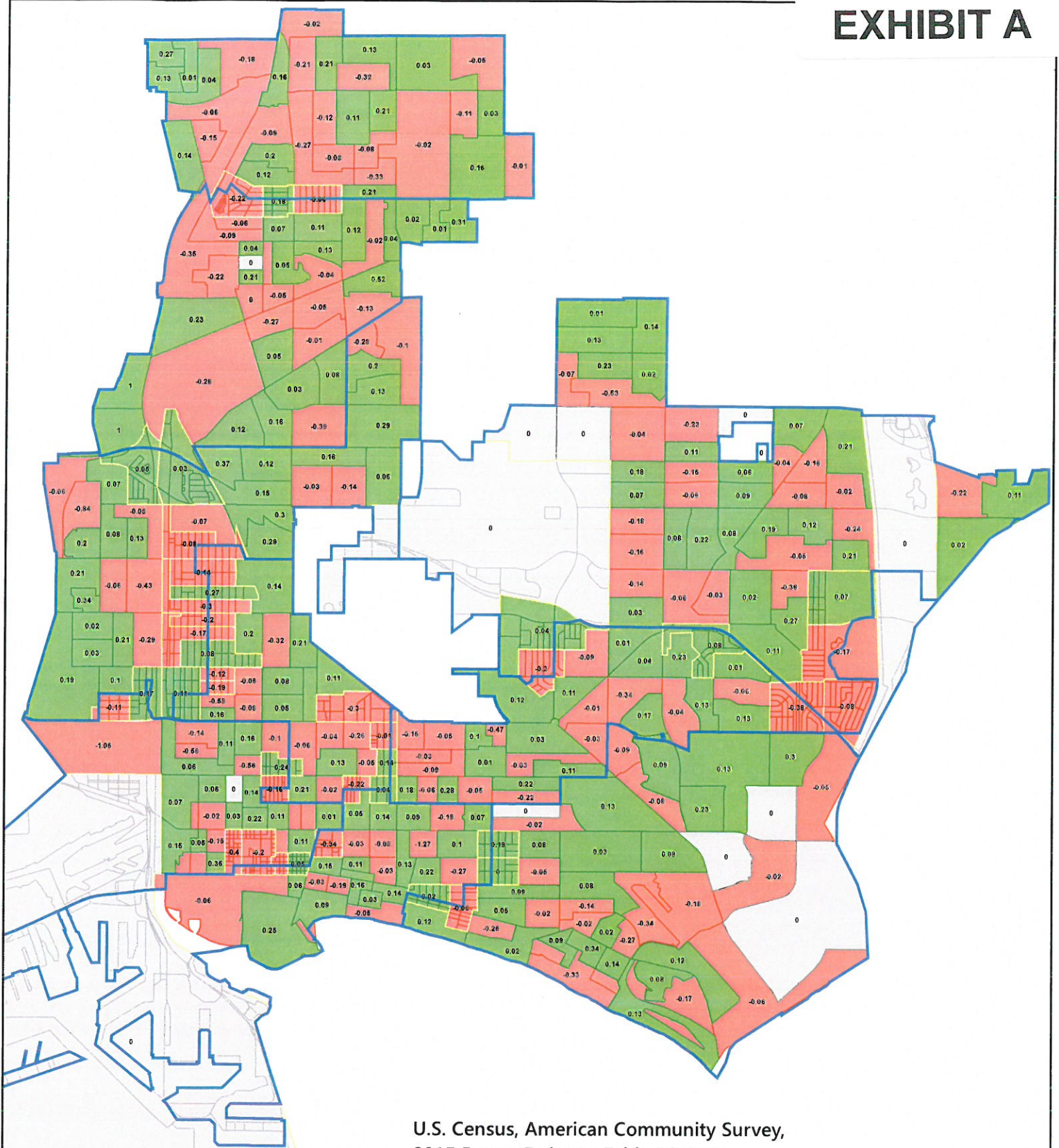


AMY J. BODEK, AICP
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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Attachments: Exhibit A – Population change map by block group




EXHIBIT A



U.S. Census, American Community Survey,
2015 5-year Estimate Table B03002

-  Council Districts
-  Census Block Groups Split by Council Districts

Census Block Groups and Census Blocks

-  Census Block Groups and Census Blocks with % Increase
-  Census Block Groups and Census Blocks with 0 Population or Zero % Change
-  Census Block Groups and Census Blocks with % Decrease