

R-19

December 10, 2019

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file a report on the status of the Independent Redistricting Commission Plan.

DISCUSSION

On November 6, 2018, Long Beach voters approved Measure DDD – City of Long Beach Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The measure amended the City Charter (Charter) to create an Independent Redistricting Commission (Commission) of Long Beach residents to determine the boundaries of Council districts every ten years after the national census.

This report is required by the Charter to update the Mayor and the City Council on the Commission plan (Attachment) by January 1, 2020.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Amy R. Webber on November 26, 2019 and by Budget Analysis Officer Julissa José-Murray on December 2, 2019.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on December 10, 2020, to meet the City Charter requirement of a report to the Mayor and the City Council by January 1, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed redistricting plan spans three fiscal years at an estimated cost of \$1.2 million. The FY 20 Adopted Budget included \$250,000 to initiate the proposed work plan. The City Clerk Department is working with City Manager's Office to identify funding sources for the remaining unfunded balance remaining in FY 20 and will return to the City Council for a budget adjustment during FY 20 to fully fund this year's costs. Funding for the FY 21 and FY 22 redistricting costs will be identified as part of those respective budget development processes. The recommended action has a moderate staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with City Council priorities. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
December 10, 2019
Page 2

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



MONIQUE DE LA GARZA
CITY CLERK



THOMAS B. MODICA
ACTING CITY MANAGER

MD:jn
Attachment





CITY OF LONG BEACH



INDEPENDENT REDISTRICING COMMISSION PLAN

THOMAS B. MODICA
ACTING CITY MANAGER

CHARLES PARKIN
CITY ATTORNEY

MONIQUE DE LA GARZA
CITY CLERK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
SUMMARY MILESTONES.....	3
OUTREACH	6
DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITES	7
APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS	7
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION APPLICATION.....	9
WEBSITE.....	11
CONSULTANT RFP	12
COMMISSION MEETINGS	12
MAP REQUIREMENTS.....	14
FINAL MAP	14
EXHIBIT A.....	15
EXHIBIT B	16

INTRODUCTION

On November 6, 2018, voters approved Measure DDD – City of Long Beach Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The measure amended the Long Beach City Charter (Charter) to establish an Independent Redistricting Commission (Commission) of Long Beach residents to determine the boundaries of City Council (Council) Districts every ten years after the national census. The Commission has been given the exclusive authority to redraw the nine Council district boundaries through an open and transparent process. Within six months after the census data is released by the federal government, the Commission will adopt a final map establishing new Council District boundaries and create a final report explaining its decision.

The last time redistricting occurred was in 2011, the redistricting process was mandated by the Council. The previous Charter Section provided the opportunity for redistricting every five years. The process began with the Planning Commission, which certified the Federal Census Data and recommended a need for redistricting to the Council. The Council held public meetings and directed City staff to conduct the redistricting process. Following the public input and the Council deliberations, the final map with new district boundaries was adopted by an ordinance on August 2, 2011.

The new Charter sections create an Independent Redistricting Commission to determine the boundaries through a process that is separated into two different components. The first component is the recruitment and selection of Commission members and the second component is the Commission meetings to redraw the Council district boundaries.

SUMMARY MILESTONES

The summary milestones represent a timeline of the two components of the redistricting process outlined by the Charter. A general timeline of the process is available in Exhibit A.

COMMISSIONER RECRUITMENT

The application period will be from April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. The communication and outreach plans will facilitate the recruitment of a qualified applicant pool reflecting the diversity of the City.



COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Commission will meet from December 2020 through September 2021 to complete the redistricting process. The City Attorney and LBTv will review all proposed meeting locations to ensure ADA compliance, ample parking, and access to technological requirements. The City Attorney requested all offsite meetings to vary in time to encourage participation.



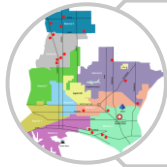
COMMISSION MEETINGS CONTINUED



April 2021 - September 2021
Commission Meeting Activation Outreach Phase



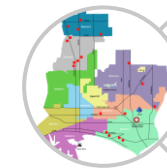
April 2021 - June 2021
Commission holds nine public meetings
(one in each district)



June 2021 - September 2021
Commission Meetings to Discuss & Adopt the Final Map



September 2021
Deadline for Final Map and Report
(Based on release of Census Data in March 2021)



September 2021
Final Map approved becomes new boundaries



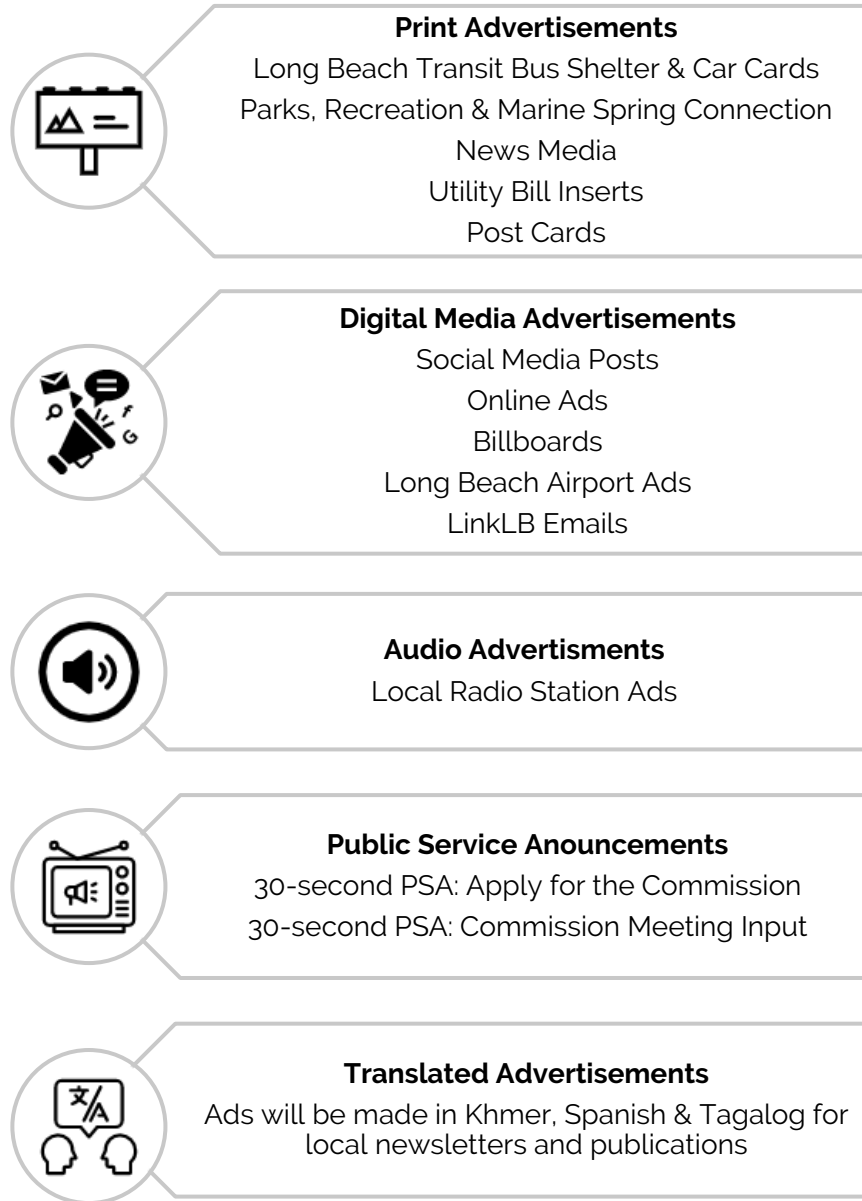
October 2021
New Map Awareness Outreach



November 2021
Commission transmits report to Mayor & City Council with
recommended changes for future redistricting processes

OUTREACH

The outreach for the Commission will consist of several different advertisement campaigns using Print, Digital, Video, and Public Service Announcements. The advertisements will also be translated in Khmer, Spanish, and Tagalog to recruit and notify the City's diverse communities. The Commission will use advertisements with the 2020 Census campaign to reduce costs and promote the relationship between both efforts.



DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Department(s)	Responsibility
City Clerk	Recruitment of Commissioners
City Clerk	Application Form
City Clerk	Website
City Clerk/City Manager	Meeting Support
City Clerk/City Manager	Communications Plan
City Clerk/City Manager	Council Presentation
City Clerk/City Manager	Offsite Meeting Locations
City Manager	Consultant RFP (General)
City Attorney	Consultant RFP (Legal)
City Attorney/Consultant	Commissioner Training
Consultant/City Manager	Online Mapping Tool
Consultant/Commissioners	Final Map & Report to Council

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

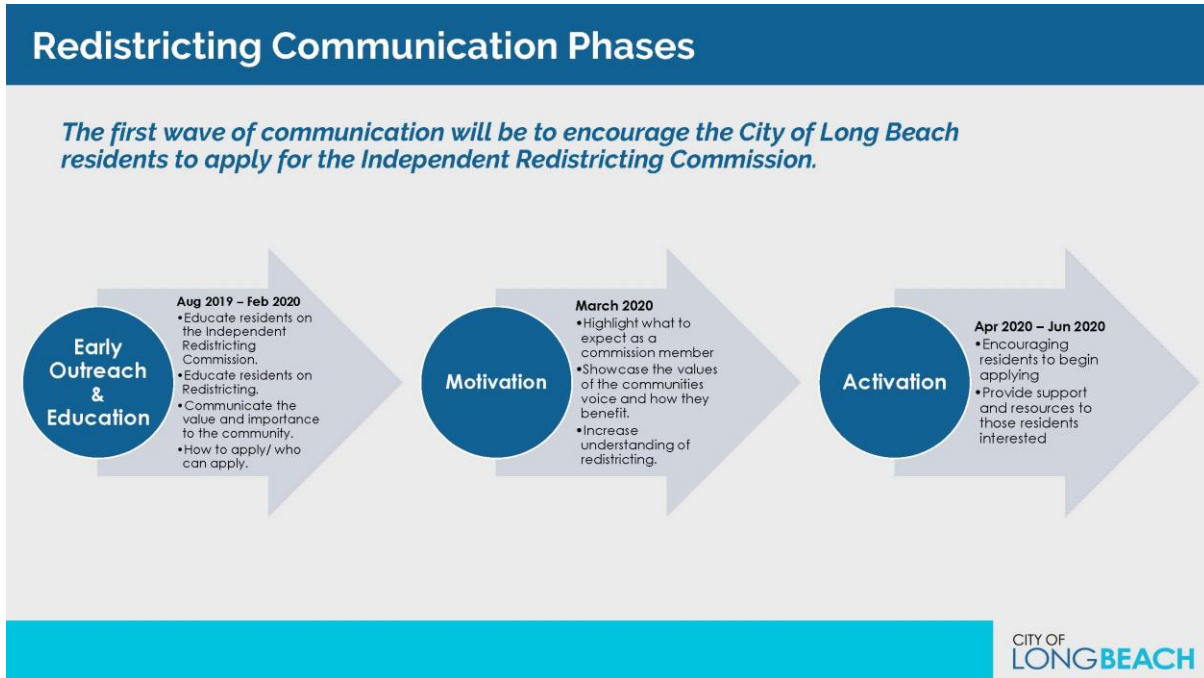
The Commission will consist of 13 commissioners and two alternates. The alternates may fully participate in commission deliberations but may not vote. The members will be selected through an application and selection process, where they will be subject to the qualifications and conflicts of interests outlined in the Charter Section 2504. See Exhibit B for conflicts of interests.

The City Clerk will coordinate the recruitment of the commissioners, beginning with the initial application period opening from April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020. If the applicant pool, by June 30, 2020, does not have at least 35 qualified applicants, including three qualified applicants from each existing Council District, the application period will be reopened for an additional month until July 31, 2020.

After the close of the application period, the City Clerk will review and remove individuals who do not meet the requirements set in the Charter. The Ethics Commission will create a subpool of 20 to 30 potential commissioners, including two from each existing Council District by November 1, 2020. Once the subpool has been created, the Chair of the Ethics Commission will randomly select nine names, one from each Council District, who will serve as Redistricting Commissioners. The remaining four Redistricting Commissioners and two alternates will be selected by the first nine Commissioners appointed. The Commission must be fully established no later than December 1, 2020.

COMMUNICATION PLAN – RECRUITMENT PHASE

The first wave of communication will be to encourage the City of Long Beach residents to apply for the Independent Redistricting Commission.



Recruitment Education

The education phase for the 2020 Commission recruitment portion began in August 2019 and will run through February 2020. Early education and outreach are intended to increase the understanding of why the Independent Redistricting Commission happens, giving residents background of the process and the value of its importance for the community. Residents will also begin to be informed of when and how to apply during this phase.

Recruitment Motivation


The motivation phase will be in the month of March 2020, the purpose of this phase is to ensure residents understand how important their voice is for the community. To keep residents engaged, this phase will provide education on the community benefits gained from joining the commission. Residents will receive more information on what to expect when applying as well as eligibility requirements.

Recruitment Activation

The activation phase will run from April 2020 to June 2020, with the purpose of encouraging residents to begin applying to the Commission. Residents will be actively reminded to apply as well as providing those residents with support when needed.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION APPLICATION

Applicants will use the following application to apply online, by mail, or in person and will be translated in Khmer, Spanish, and Tagalog.

 <p>OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK SERVING LONG BEACH SINCE 1897</p>		For Official Use Only Page 1 of 2
<p>INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION APPLICATION Due by June 30, 2020 Office of the City Clerk, 411 W. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802</p>		
SECTION I		
<i>First Name</i>	<i>Middle Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>
<i>Registered Address, City, State, Zip Code</i>		
<i>Mailing Address (if different)</i>		
<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>	
SECTION II		
I am registered to vote in the City of Long Beach. <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">You <u>MUST</u> be registered to vote in the City of Long Beach <u>AND</u> meet at least one (1) of the following requirements below.</p> I voted in the City of Long Beach March 3, 2020 Primary Nominating Election. <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Or I have been a resident of the City of Long Beach for at least one (1) year. <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
If you do not meet the criteria in Section II, you are NOT eligible to apply.		
SECTION III		
<p>Note: For Section III, "elected office/official" refers to Mayor, City Attorney, City Auditor, City Prosecutor, City Councilmember, Long Beach Unified School District Board Member, and Long Beach City College Trustee.</p> <p>Since March 31, 2012, I, my spouse, registered domestic partner, or child have/has: Contributed to a candidate for City of Long Beach elective office more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250) in a single year. <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p> <p>Since March 31, 2016, I, my spouse, registered domestic partner, or child have/has: Been a paid employee of the City of Long Beach, including those employed by an elected official. <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Been a registered City of Long Beach lobbyist, or someone who was required to be a registered City of Long Beach lobbyist. <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Been a paid employee of any redistricting contractor or consultant. <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>		

INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION APPLICATION

Due by **June 30, 2020**

Page 2 of 2

Office of the City Clerk, 411 W. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802

SECTION III (Continued)

Since March 31, 2012, I, my spouse, registered domestic partner, parent, sibling, or child is/has:

Been elected to or appointed to, or been a candidate for, City of Long Beach elective office.

Yes No

Been an officer, employee of, or paid consultant or contractor to a campaign committee or a candidate for City of Long Beach elective office.

Yes No

Been a staff member, paid employee of, a consultant to, or someone under contract with any City of Long Beach elected official.

Yes No

Been a principal officer of an active campaign committee domiciled in the County of Los Angeles that has made expenditures on candidate elections for a City of Long Beach elective office.

Yes No

If you answered "Yes" to any questions in Section III, you are NOT eligible to apply.

SECTION IV

Please initial next to each statement.

___ I will complete and submit a supplemental questionnaire if I am determined to be eligible to become a Commissioner.

___ If appointed, I shall be ineligible to serve on another City of Long Beach Commission for a period of four (4) years.

___ If appointed, I shall be ineligible to serve as a paid staff for or as a paid consultant to any City of Long Beach elected official or candidate for City of Long Beach elective office for a period of four (4) years.

___ If appointed, I shall be ineligible to receive a non-competitively bid contract with the City of Long Beach, or to register as a City of Long Beach lobbyist.

___ While serving on the Commission, I shall not endorse, work for, volunteer for, or contribute to any candidate campaign for a City of Long Beach elective office. Shall I choose to engage in such activity, I shall immediately resign (including after the approval of a final map) to ensure that I no longer serve shall the Commission reconvene to redraw districts.

___ I understand my application is a public record. If disqualified, the Office of the City Clerk shall maintain a public record of my name and the reason for my disqualification. If qualified, the City Clerk shall publish and transmit my name to the Ethics Commission for consideration to be added to the subpool (only the most qualified applicants shall be considered for the subpool).

___ If appointed, I agree to complete a Live Scan Background Check, Ethics Training, Written Ethics Pledge, and Oath of Office. I also agree to file a Form 700 Statement of Economic Interest, which is a public record, within 30 days of accepting my appointment.

___ By submitting this application, I grant to permission to the City of Long Beach to verify my answers to the questions in Section II using voter registration records.

I certify under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature:

Date:

Visit www.longbeach.gov/redistricting for additional information.

Please call the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 570-6101 or email Redistricting@LongBeach.Gov with any questions or concerns.

This application is also available in Khmer, Spanish, and Tagalog upon request.

WEBSITE

The Commission website was published in November 2019. The website has information for the public to learn about the Commission and will facilitate participation in the process through the mapping tool and making outreach materials available.



CONSULTANT RFP

The request for proposal (RFP) for a redistricting consultant is scheduled to be released in December 2019. The consultant will assist with Commission staff with the redistricting process and provide advice to the Commissioners during deliberations to redraw the district boundaries. The RFP also included an online mapping tool to create draft maps for the public to submit to the Commission. An additional consultant will be hired by the City Attorney's Office to provide legal advice to the Commission.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

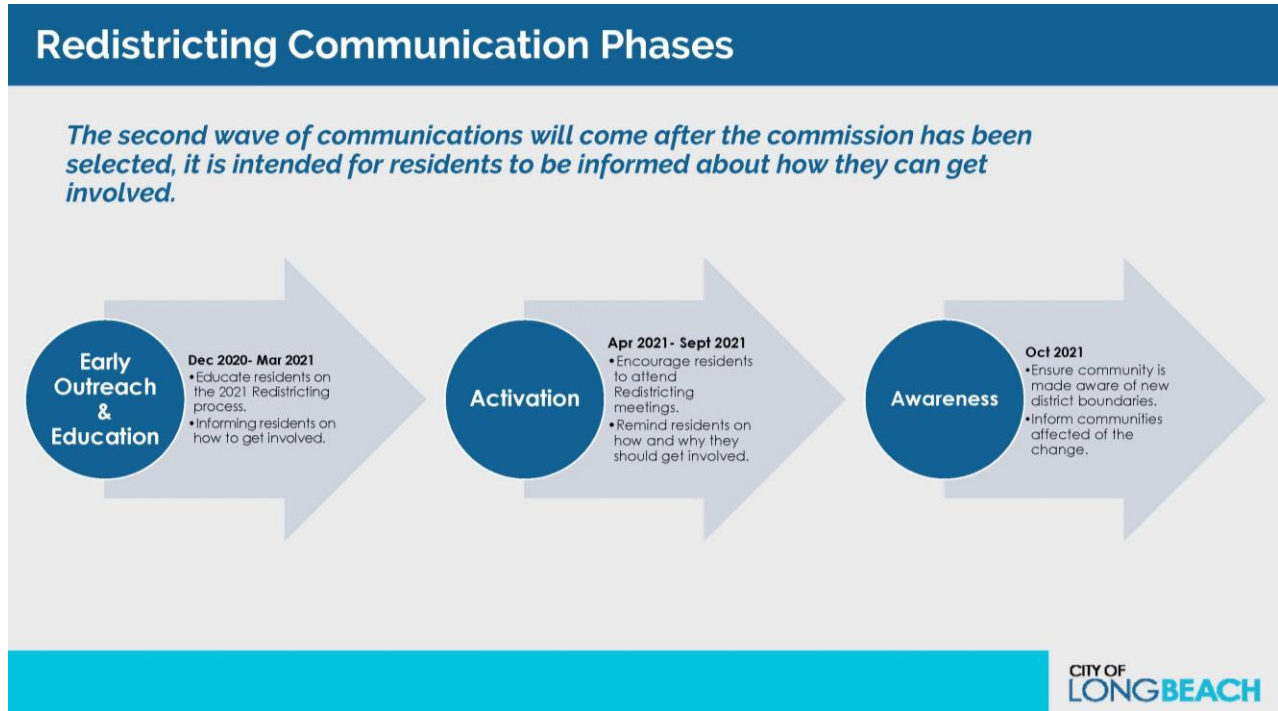
The Commission will meet approximately 20 times beginning in December 2020 through September 2021. At the initial meetings, the commissioners will be trained on the requirements of the Charter, federal and state law, the Brown Act and open meeting requirements, and general rules of parliamentary procedure.

Following the commissioner training, the Commission will meet once in every district after the release of the Census Data in March 2021. The list of potential offsite meeting locations in each District is below.

Council District 1	Chavez Elementary Chavez Park
Council District 2	City Hall Main Library
Council District 3	Bruin Den - Rec Park Fire Station 14
Council District 4	Whaley Park Fire Station Training Room
Council District 5	El Dorado Senior Center McBride HS
Council District 6	Veterans Park McArthur Park
Council District 7	Silverado Park Cabrillo HS
Council District 8	Expo Arts Center
Council District 9	Houghton Park Obama Library

COMMUNICATION PLAN – COMMISSION MEETING PHASE

The second wave of communications will come after the commission has been selected, it is intended for residents to be informed about how they can get involved.



Redistricting Education

This phase will run from December 2020 to March 2021, while the Commission is training, residents will be informed of what is to be expected during the 2021 Redistricting process. Residents will be informed on how they can get involved and when the meetings will take place.

Redistricting Motivation/Activation

This phase will run from April 2021 to September 2021 to get residents in the community interest in attending the meetings. These meetings will be hosted around the city and community representation will be encouraged.

Awareness

The final phase will be used to notify residents of the updates as well as informing communities that are affected by the changes of their new district through outreach efforts.

MAP REQUIREMENTS

The Commission is subject to the criteria outlined in Charter Section 2506. The final map will be drawn so that the Council districts are nearly equal as practicable in total population, complies with federal and state laws, and each Council district is geographically contiguous.

The Commission must consider the criteria in the following order of priority when drawing the final map:

1. The geographic integrity of a neighborhood that minimizes its division.
2. Communities of interest that are a contiguous population that shares common social and economic interests.
3. Neighborhoods and communities sharing a common language, history, culture and identity.
4. Geography and topography.
5. District boundaries that are easily identifiable and understandable. Districts should be bounded by natural and artificial barriers, by street lines, and/or City boundary lines.
6. Districts should be geographically compact such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for more distant population.
7. All lines must correspond to census blocks in order to preserve the validity of data and avoid arbitrary boundaries.
8. Other criteria that do not conflict with the other requirements and criteria listed in the City Charter or with state or federal law.

In addition, the Commission will number each Council district to keep as many residents as possible in the Council district they currently reside, must not consider the residence of any individual, or draw districts to favor or discriminate against a political party.

FINAL MAP

The final map adopted by the Commission will go into effect immediately upon adoption and include an explanation of how the map complies with the redistricting requirements and criteria outlined in the Charter along with justifications of any boundaries that do not comply. The final map must be adopted within six months after the 2020 Census data is release and will be sent to the Los Angeles Register Recorder's Office once adopted.

Finally, the commission will create a report to the Mayor and Council recommending changes, including amendments to the Charter regarding the timeline and deadlines for improvements to the process in the future. The Council can adopt changes suggested by the Commission by an ordinance.

EXHIBIT A

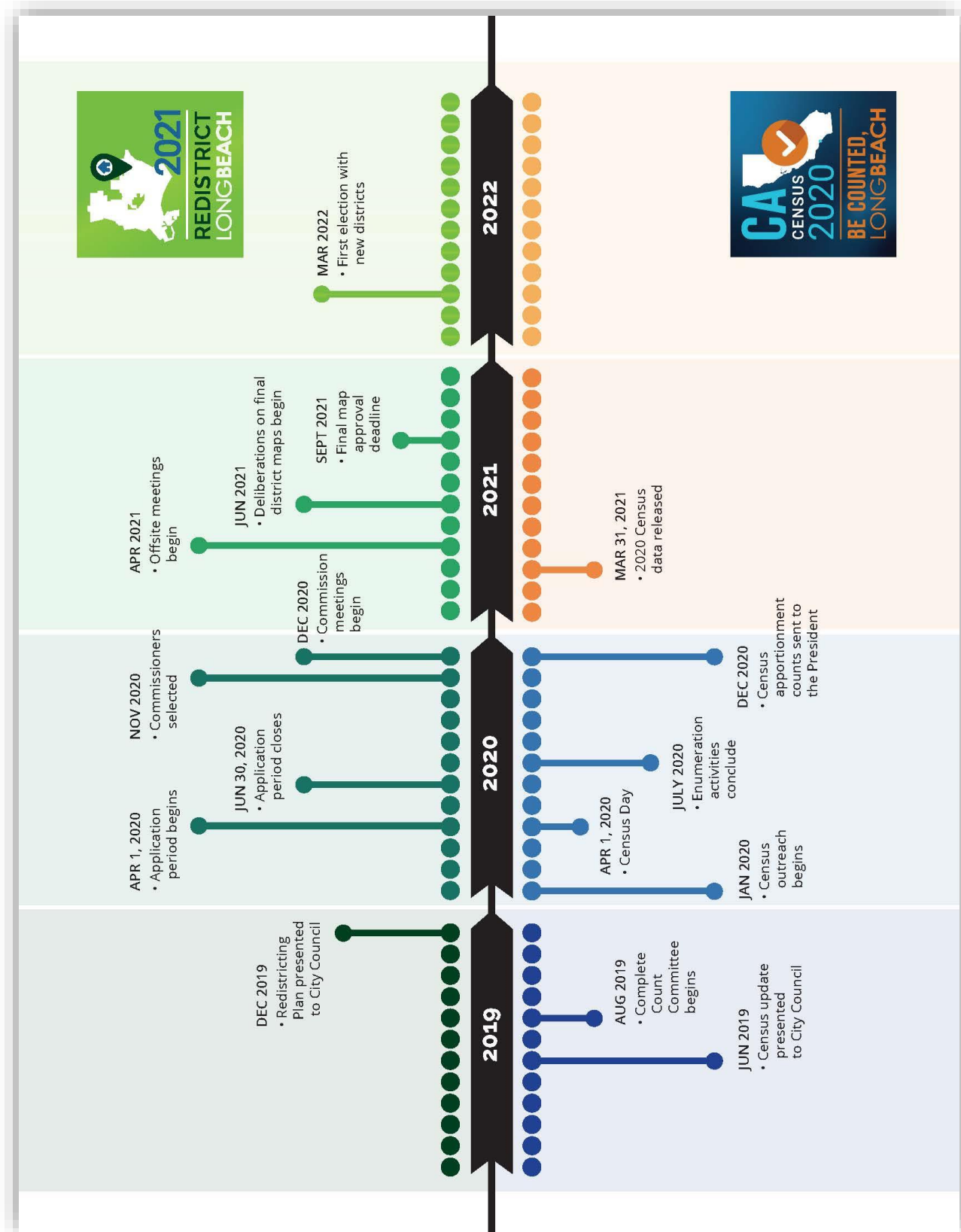


EXHIBIT B

