

LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE
ARTICLE XXV. - COUNCILMANIC DISTRICTS AND REDISTRICTING

Sec. 2506. - REDISTRICTING REQUIREMENTS AND CRITERIA.

Requirements

- (a) The Commission shall draw its final map so that:
 - (1) Council districts are as nearly equal as practicable in total population;
 - (2) The final map complies with the U.S. Constitution; the Federal Voting Rights Act, the California Constitution; and any other requirement of federal or state law applicable to charter cities; and
 - (3) Each Council district is geographically contiguous, to the extent practicable, and has a clearly defined boundary.

Criteria in order of Priority

- (b) In addition to following the requirements of subsection (a), the Commission shall consider the following **criteria** when drawing the final map, in **order of priority**:
 - (1) The geographic integrity of a neighborhood should be respected in a manner that minimizes its division.
 - (2) Communities of interest. The geographic integrity of a community of interest should be respected in a manner that minimizes its division. A community of interest is a contiguous population that shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation;
 - (3) Neighborhoods and communities sharing a common language, history, culture and identity should not be divided so as to dilute their voting power;
 - (4) Geography and topography: Districts should respect major topographic and geographic features of the City;
 - (5) District boundaries should be easily identifiable and understandable by voters. Districts should be bounded by natural and artificial barriers, by street lines, and/or by]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; and
 - (8) Other Commission may adopt other criteria that do not conflict with the other requirements and criteria listed in this section or with state or federal law.