

Amended Proposal re Section 200

Article II

The Political (Election) Districts

Section 200. Districts.

The City of Stockton is divided into ~~six (6)~~ **nine (9)** political divisions, which shall be known as districts. Following adoption **or amendment** of this Section, the City Clerk shall redistrict the city into nine (9) numbered districts using the guidelines set forth in paragraphs e and f of this section. ~~and~~ Thereafter, following each decennial Federal census, **and using the census as a basis, the City Clerk shall adjust the boundaries of any or all of the districts of the City so that the districts shall be as nearly equal in population as may be according to the latest Federal decennial census. The City Clerk shall adjust the boundary lines of the districts in conformance** the Council shall, by ordinance, redistrict the City into ~~six (6)~~ nine (9) numbered districts with the following standards:

- ~~(a) Every district shall be congruous.~~
 - ~~(b) District boundaries should not cross census tract lines, except to the extent necessary to ensure that the districts are as nearly equal in population as many according to the latest Federal decennial census.~~
 - ~~(c) District shall be numbered consecutively commencing at the northern boundary of the City and ending at the southern boundary~~
 - ~~(d) District number one shall be composed of the northern most census tracts in the City that contain one sixth (1/6) of the population of the City. For purposes of this Section a census tract shall be considered to be the north of other census tracts if it contains any area that is farther to the north than all areas contained within the other census tracts. In the event that two (2) or more census tracts are equally northern by this definition, the City Clerk shall select the western most census tract.~~
- a. By no later than February 1 in the year following the decennial census, the Council shall appoint an Advisory Commission whose purpose shall be to study and make appropriate recommendations with respect to such redistricting. The Advisory Commission shall consist of one (1) member from each district, who shall be nominated by the Council member from that district. Each nominee shall become a member of the Commission upon ratification by a majority vote of the city council.
 - b. The Advisory commission shall conduct public hearings at various locations and districts in the City concerning its recommendations regarding district boundaries, and shall submit its report and recommendations to the Council within one hundred twenty (120) days following its receipt of the decennial Federal census data.
 - c. The Council shall duly consider the report and recommendations of the Advisory commission in adopting any redistricting ordinance. However, the Council is required to adopt an ordinance by November 30th under this Section, even if the Advisory commission fails to provide recommendations or reports as specified in this Section.
 - d. Any ordinance adopted by the Council and establishing, changing or altering the boundaries of any district shall describe the new boundaries by reference to a map on file in the office of the City Clerk and/or by a metes-and-bounds description.

- e. All districts shall be drawn in conformance with the requirements of state and federal law. The City Clerk and, thereafter, the Council shall make the districts as nearly equal in population as may be practicable, and may, in establishing the boundaries of the districts, give consideration to
- i. Natural boundaries, street lines, and/or City boundaries;
 - ii. Geography;
 - iii. Cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity and compactness of territory;
 - iv. Community of interests within each district.
- f. District number one shall be **generally** composed of the ~~northern~~ north-eastern most census tracts in the City, ~~excluding district number one,~~ that contain ~~one sixth (1/6)~~ one ninth (1/9) of the population of the City. ~~The Districts shall be numbered one through six~~ nine and shall be determined in the same manner, contain one-ninth (1/9) of the population of the City so that the entire City is divided into six (6) nine (9) districts.

Upon any redistricting pursuant to the provisions of this Charter, each incumbent member of the Council will continue, during the remainder of the member's term, to hold office and to represent the district by which the member was elected prior to redistricting, notwithstanding any provision of Section 601 of Article VI requiring a member to be a resident of the district represented by such member

Any territory which is annexed to or consolidated with the City but not included within a district shall, prior to or concurrently with completion of proceedings, be added to an adjacent district or districts by the Council by ordinance, which shall become effective after adoption and shall apply to all elections held on and after the effective dates.