

RESOLUTION NO. 006-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL CAJON  
ADOPTING LINE DRAWING CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING  
AND ADJUSTING COUNCIL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of El Cajon (the "City") was elected under an "at-large" election system where Councilmembers were elected by voters of the entire City; and

WHEREAS, the "at-large" election system was first established by application of the general laws of the State of California, and was continued in Section 201 of the El Cajon Charter when the Charter was first adopted in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Council has approved an amendment to Section 201 (the "Charter Amendment") and submitted the Charter Amendment to the electors of the City at the November 8, 2016 general municipal election; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Amendment was approved by the City's electors and has been filed with the Secretary of State thereby changing the selection of Councilmembers to "by district" elections; including requiring that each Councilmember must reside within the designated district boundary and is elected only by the voters in that district; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Voting Rights Act (42 U.S.C. section 1973) prohibits the use of any voting qualification, or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure, in a manner which results in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color; and

WHEREAS, federal law and the Equal Protection Clause require that each district be equal in population to ensure compliance with the "one person, one vote" rule; however, deviations (less than five percent (5%) greater than or less than the ideal, for a total of ten percent (10%) deviation) are presumptively constitutional under the Equal Protection Clause where required to meet an official criteria; and

WHEREAS, the Council has instructed its demographer and City staff to develop draft maps to create district maps that fully comply with legal requirements and wishes to provide official criteria for any needed deviations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL CAJON AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The following criteria to guide the establishment of districts for Council elections is hereby adopted:

- A. Each council district shall contain a nearly equal number of inhabitants;
- B. Council district borders shall be drawn in a manner that complies with the Federal Voting Rights Act;
- C. Council districts shall consist of contiguous territory in as compact form as possible;
- D. Council districts shall respect communities of interest as much as possible;
- E. Council district borders shall follow visible natural and man-made geographical and topographical features as much as possible;
- F. In adjusting boundaries following their initial establishment each new council district shall preserve the corresponding existing council district's population and territory as much as possible;
- G. Council districts known to be areas of higher-than-average population growth in the two to five (2–5) years following this boundary line adjustment may be under populated within the population deviation amounts allowed by law; and
- H. To the extent it does not conflict with federal or state law an effort should be made to establish boundaries so that at least two council districts include voters in similar numbers residing in the City's central business district (also known as downtown El Cajon, as described by the boundaries of Specific Plan 182) and these council districts should also include comparable geographic area and land uses.

Section 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager or his designee shall be authorized to take any additional acts needed to effectuate the purpose and intent of this resolution.

Section 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Attorney is hereby directed to prepare an amendment to the El Cajon Municipal Code in order to establish the procedures for conducting district elections of Councilmembers, and to establish the procedures for adopting the criteria for adjusting district boundaries following each decennial census.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Cajon, California at an Adjourned Regular Joint City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency Meeting held this 14th day of February 2017, by the following vote to wit:


AYES : Goble, Kalasho, Kendrick, McClellan, Wells  
NOES : None  
ABSENT : None  
DISQUALIFY: None

BILL WELLS  
Mayor of the City of El Cajon

ATTEST:

BELINDA A. HAWLEY, CMC  
City Clerk

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a full and true copy of Resolution No. 006-17 of the Resolutions of the City of El Cajon, California, as adopted by the City Council at the Adjourned Regular Joint Meeting of the City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency on the 14th day of February 2017.

  
Belinda A. Hawley, CMC, City Clerk

02/14/17 (Item No. 100)

Approving Criteria for Establishing and Adjusting Boundaries 011917