



## **Districting for City Council Election - Community of Interest Worksheet**

Your input is needed to shape the new voting districts for the City Council, and one way you can participate is by assisting the City in developing a list of “communities of interest” or “COI” that can be utilized in the process to develop districts.

### **What is a Community of Interest?**

A Community of Interest is any cohesive group of people that live in a geographically definable area and should be considered as a potential voting bloc in current or future elections.

There are some communities of interest that are considered “protected classes” in that they have rights through state or federal civil rights or voting rights laws. Some examples of protected classes in districting would be ethnic and racial minorities such as a concentration of Latino, Asian, or African American people. Protected classes can be described through public input, and there are federal databases that must be used wherever applicable to define these areas and make sure that they are not being harmed by the district boundaries.

There are other COI that can also be considered in districting, but don’t have the higher legal requirements as ethnic or racial minorities. Identifying these other COI are still critical to the process. These could be clusters of senior citizens in one community, a group of college students living in a densely populated area near a campus, people who live in the downtown area or a specific neighborhood, or even people who share concerns such as parents with young children, bicycle enthusiasts, topic interest group, etc.

### **How to Document Your Community of Interest**

1. What is the nature of the bond or common interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, a key landmark such as school or church, or other boundaries.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.

### **What You Can Do to Participate in the Process**

1. Provide your comments on your community of interest. Please complete this worksheet and return it by email to [districts@cityofdavis.org](mailto:districts@cityofdavis.org), complete the online form on our website [www.cityofdavis.org/districts](http://www.cityofdavis.org/districts), or pick up and drop off a hard copy to City Hall, City Manager's Office, 23 Russell Blvd. Davis.
2. Attend one of the City public meetings!

<b>Tuesday, September 3</b>	Public Hearing at City Council meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Chambers at City Hall, 23 Russell Boulevard. Receive general input, identify communities of interest, consider district criteria.
<b>Tuesday, September 10</b>	Public Hearing at City Council meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Chambers at City Hall, 23 Russell Boulevard. Receive general input, identify communities of interest, consider district criteria.
<b>Saturday, September 21</b>	Community Workshops at the Davis Senior Center, 646 A Street. Drop by any time between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. There will be presentations on the process at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, October 8</b>	Public Hearing at City Council meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Chambers at City Hall, 23 Russell Boulevard. Initial draft of district maps will be reviewed.
<b>Tuesday, October 22</b>	Public Hearing at City Council meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Chambers at City Hall, 23 Russell Boulevard. Selection of district maps.
<b>Tuesday, November 5</b>	Public Hearing at City Council meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Chambers at City Hall, 23 Russell Boulevard. Vote to adopt ordinance establishing district elections

Providing the following information is optional. If you provide an email address, we will send you updates on the process.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a resident of Davis?    Yes / No

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_