

Eden Health District

Districting 2022: Frequently Asked Questions

What is districting?

The Eden Health District (EHD) currently utilizes an at-large election system for its Board of Directors, which means that voters from the entire District elect all of the five Board members. The Board members are eligible to hold office no matter where in the District they reside. A by-district election system, in contrast, is one in which the entire EHD is delineated into separate electoral districts or zones, each with one Board member who resides in the zone and is chosen by the voters residing in that particular zone. Districting is the process to transition to a by-district (zones) election system.

How can I get involved in the districting process?

The districting process is designed to be as transparent and accessible as possible. You are invited to attend one or more of the 5 Board meetings to provide input. Please see below for the schedule. You can also provide input by email or phone. Please see below for contact information.

How are the districts drawn?

Generally, the following criteria are used to draw special districts, like the Eden Health District:

- Equal Population
- Compliance with the Federal Voting Rights Act (FVRA)
- Contiguity
- Compactness
- Respect for Communities of Interest (COIs)

In summary, this means the following:

- We will use a mapping program to construct districts (zones) after any public input has been received.
- Census data will be used to find out how many people live in each part of the District and ensure that each zone contains roughly the same number of people.
- Census geography will be used to ensure that the zones are compact and contiguous
- We will collect and utilize Community of Interest data from the residents of EHD in the drawing of electoral zones.

How many people should be in each district?

As counted by the 2020 Census, the EHD had a total population of 397,425. There will be 5 electoral zones. To figure out the 'ideal population' for each zone, take the total population and divide it by the number of zones (5), which equals approximately 79,485 persons per zone.

Do we use the number of voters to draw districts?

Districts or zones are drawn using the total population as counted by the last census and adjusted by California's Statewide Database. Everyone who was counted, irrespective of age, residency status or other demographics has to be assigned to a zone. Zones are not equalized using voters, registered voters or citizens.

What information do we need from the public?

One of the criteria to draw maps is called "Communities of Interest" or COI. Because there are no datasets available for Communities of Interest, we appreciate your help to define them for the Eden Health District. A COI is a group of people in a defined geographic location that share a common bond or interest. Please tell us what defines your Community of Interest, where it is located and why it should stay together.

We have other helpful materials on submitting COIs, please see the districting website for more information. Please submit your COI by February 2, 2022 in order to be considered in the first draft map(s). We welcome input on the maps or districting generally at any point throughout the process.

Why should I get involved in the districting process?

We would like to hear from you so we can make informed decisions about where to draw the new zone lines. Specifically, we need information from you about your neighborhoods and Communities of Interest. You are the expert who knows your community and neighborhood! If we know the geographic locations of the Communities of Interest, we can consider them when drawing lines and we won't inadvertently split them! Keeping communities together in the same zone can help to get more responsive representation.

How do I get answers to additional questions?

If you have more questions, we are available to answer them!

- You can attend the Board hearings
- Or email your question to: districting@ethd.org
- Or call us: (510) 538-2031

What is the timeline and when are the meetings?

<i>Date and Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Description</i>
January 19, 2022, 5:30pm	Meeting 1: Regular Board Meeting	Overview and training on the process and criteria. Receive public comment and Board direction on mapping and Communities of Interest.
February 2, 2022 6:30pm	Meeting 2: Special Board Meeting	Show 2-3 visualizations, Receive public input and Board direction, and potentially conduct live mapping to create draft map(s).
By February 4, 2022	Draft map(s) posted online for public comment	
February 16, 2022 5:30pm	Meeting 3: Regular Board Meeting	Receive feedback on the draft map(s), make adjustments live as necessary.
March 2, 2022 6:30pm	Meeting 4: Special Board Meeting	Receive feedback on the draft map(s), make adjustments live as necessary.
March 16, 2022 5:30pm	Meeting 5: Regular Board Meeting	Vote on the final map.