



City Council Redistricting

Redistricting Commission Hearing

July 22, 2021

District mapping, again?

- » Redistricting occurs every 10 years, after each Census
- » Sunnyvale's Council districts based on 2010 Census population data and must be updated



Redistricting Criteria

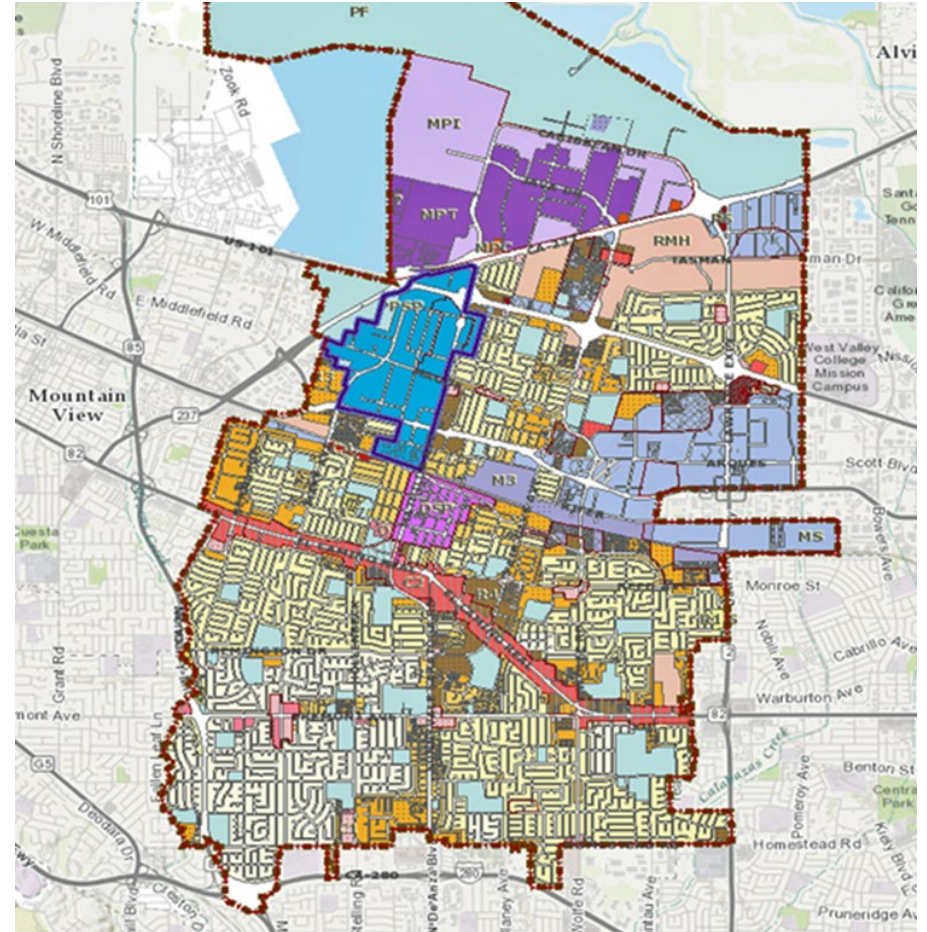
» Federal Criteria

1. Population equality
2. Federal Voting Rights Act
 - No racial gerrymandering

» State Criteria

3. Geographic contiguity
4. Communities of interest
5. Easily identifiable boundaries
6. Compactness

*No favoring or discriminating against a political party



Population Equality

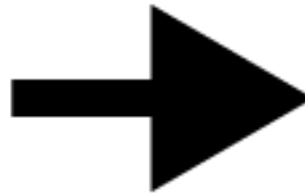
- » Total population equality (2020 Census), *not just* eligible voters
- » Some deviation acceptable to serve governmental interests in local electoral districts
- » Total deviation less than 10%

Why every 10 years?

Over time, districts become uneven and must be rebalanced



Population in 2010



Population in 2020

Population Equality

- » Total Sunnyvale Population (NDC estimate):
156,158
- » Ideal Population Six Council Districts: **26,026**

Federal Voting Rights Act

- » Prohibits vote dilution of racial and language minorities.
- » “Language minorities” - persons of American Indian, Asian American, Alaskan Natives or Spanish heritage.
- » Creation of minority districts required only if majority-minority district is possible.



Minority Vote Dilution: Cracking



 = Minority Voters

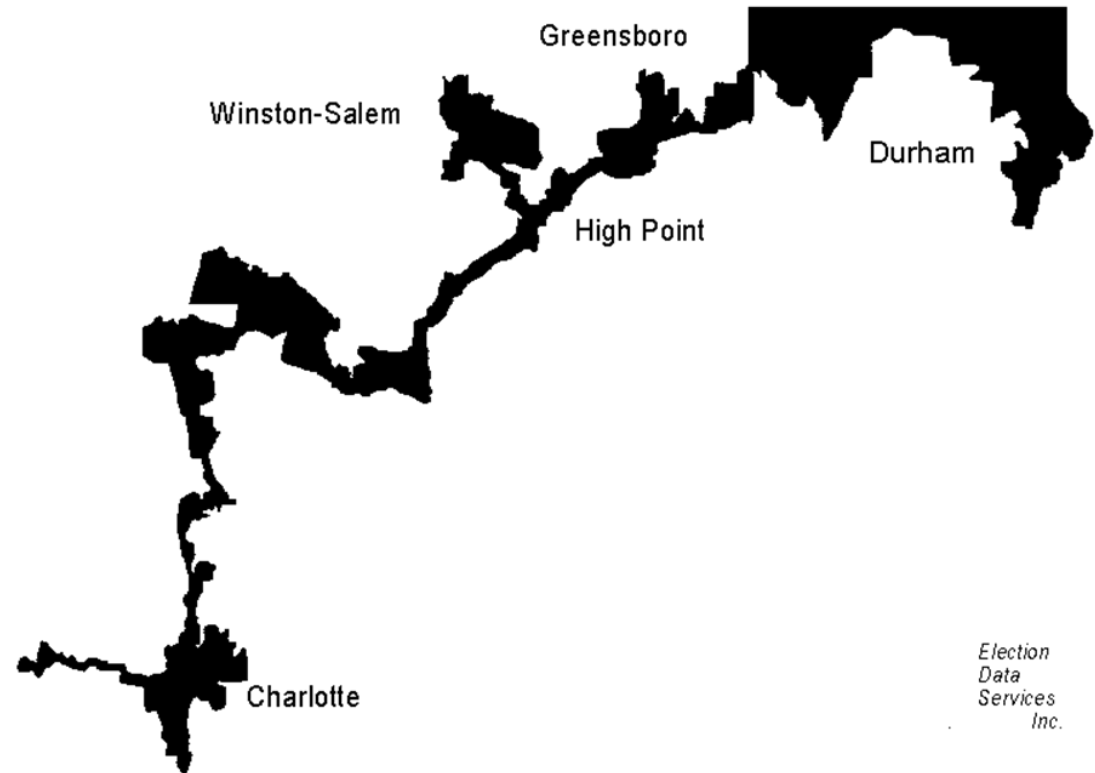
Minority Vote Dilution: Packing



 = Minority Voters

No Racial Gerrymandering

- » Fourteenth Amendment restricts the use of race as the “predominant” criterion



- » Bizarrely shaped electoral districts can be evidence that racial considerations predominate.

California Elections Code

- » Priority order (AB 849):
 1. Geographic contiguity
 2. Communities of interest
 3. Natural and artificial boundaries
 4. Compactness

*No favoring or discriminating against a political party



Communities of Interest

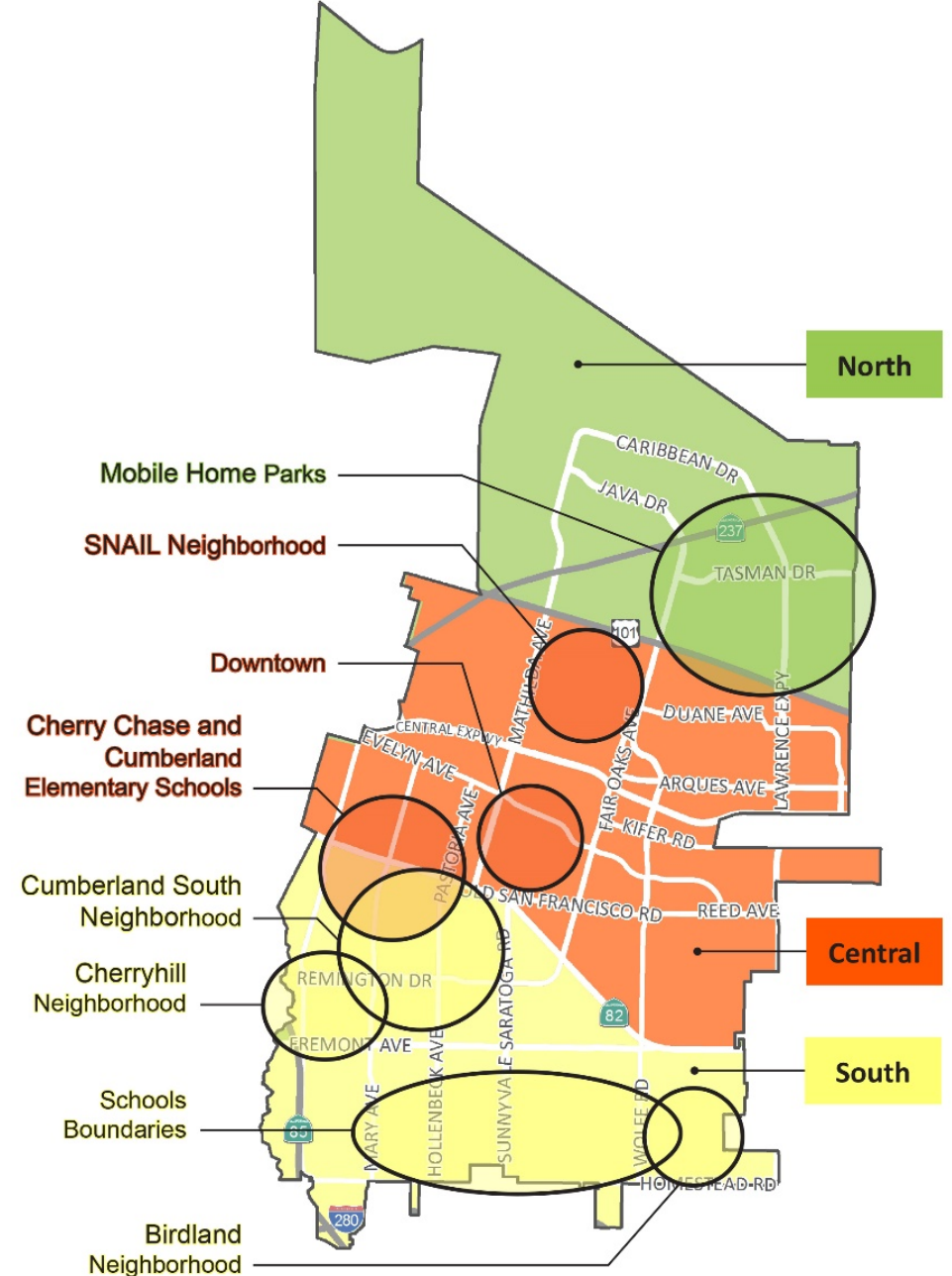
» California Elections Code:

A population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation.

Communities of interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

Sunnyvale's 2019 Communities of Interest

- Homeowners Associations (HOAs)
- Mobile Home Parks
- Residential Neighborhoods
- Physical boundaries
 - Across Highway 101
 - Fremont Avenue
 - Fair Oaks Avenue
- School Boundaries



Demographic Summary of Existing Districts

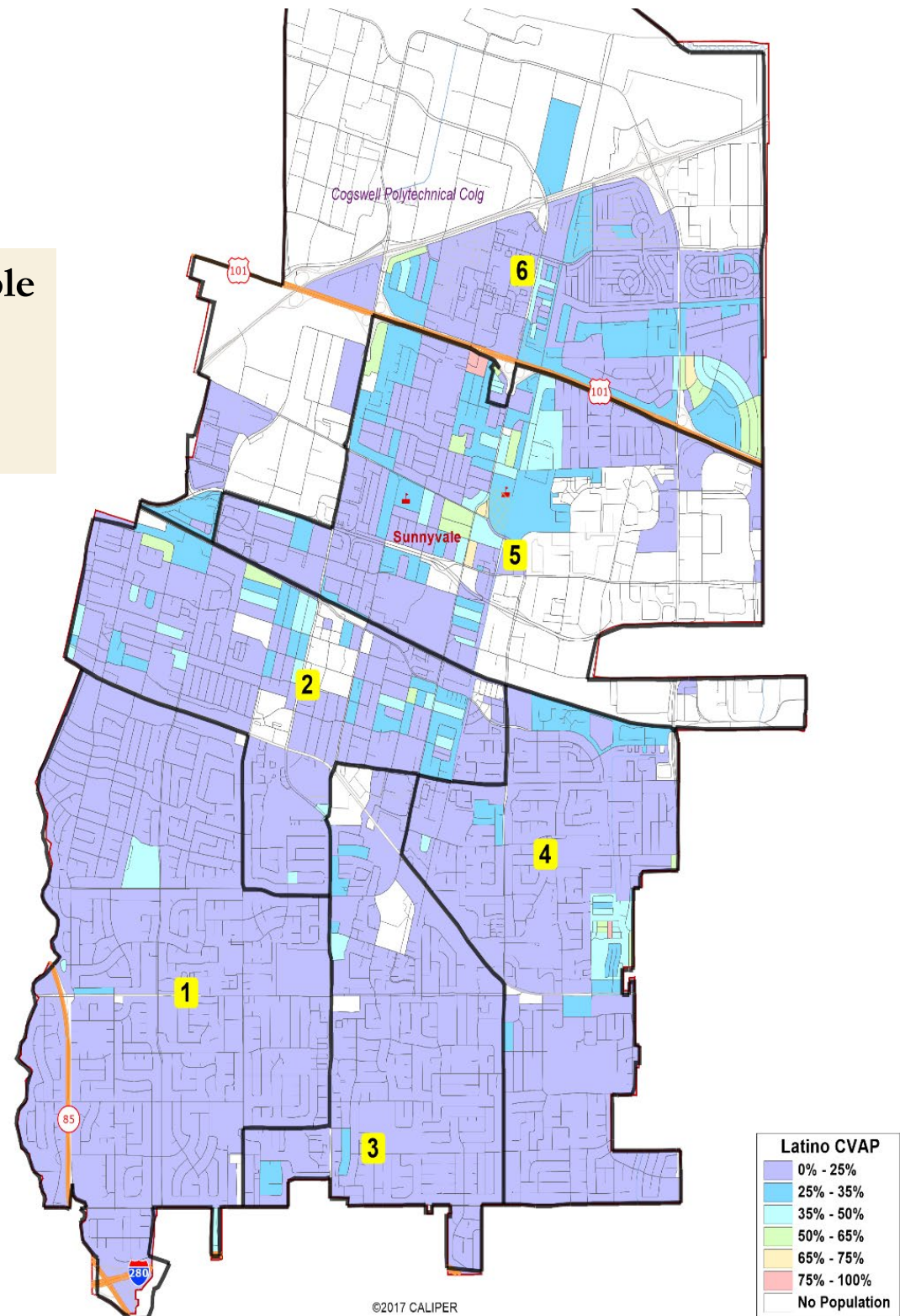
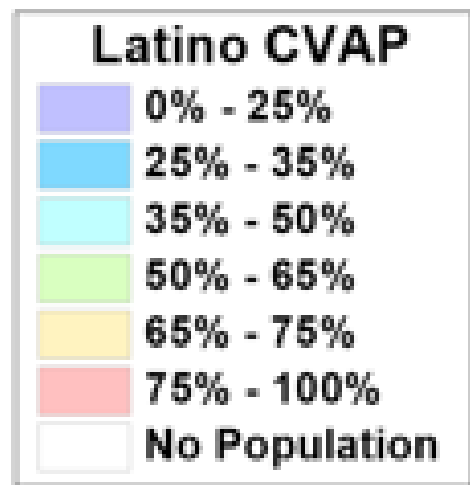
<i>City of Sunnyvale - Current Districts</i>								
District		1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
2020	2020 Est. Total Pop	24,255	27,298	24,075	26,342	27,431	26,757	156,158
	Deviation from ideal	-1,771	1,271	-1,951	315	1,405	730	3,356
	% Deviation	-6.80%	4.88%	-7.50%	1.21%	5.40%	2.81%	12.90%
2010 Total Pop	% Hisp	7%	22%	10%	17%	37%	21%	19%
	% NH White	52%	34%	31%	33%	26%	32%	35%
	% NH Black	1%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	% Asian-American	39%	39%	56%	45%	33%	43%	42%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	14,218	12,979	10,167	13,208	13,051	14,490	78,113
	% Hisp	6%	16%	9%	12%	21%	20%	14%
	% NH White	55%	49%	44%	43%	38%	37%	44%
	% NH Black	1%	3%	3%	2%	4%	3%	3%
	% Asian/Pac.Isl.	38%	30%	43%	42%	35%	39%	38%

Estimates using official 2020 demographic data and NDC's estimated total population figures.

Each of the six Council districts must contain about 26,026 people.

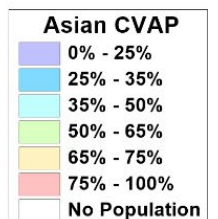
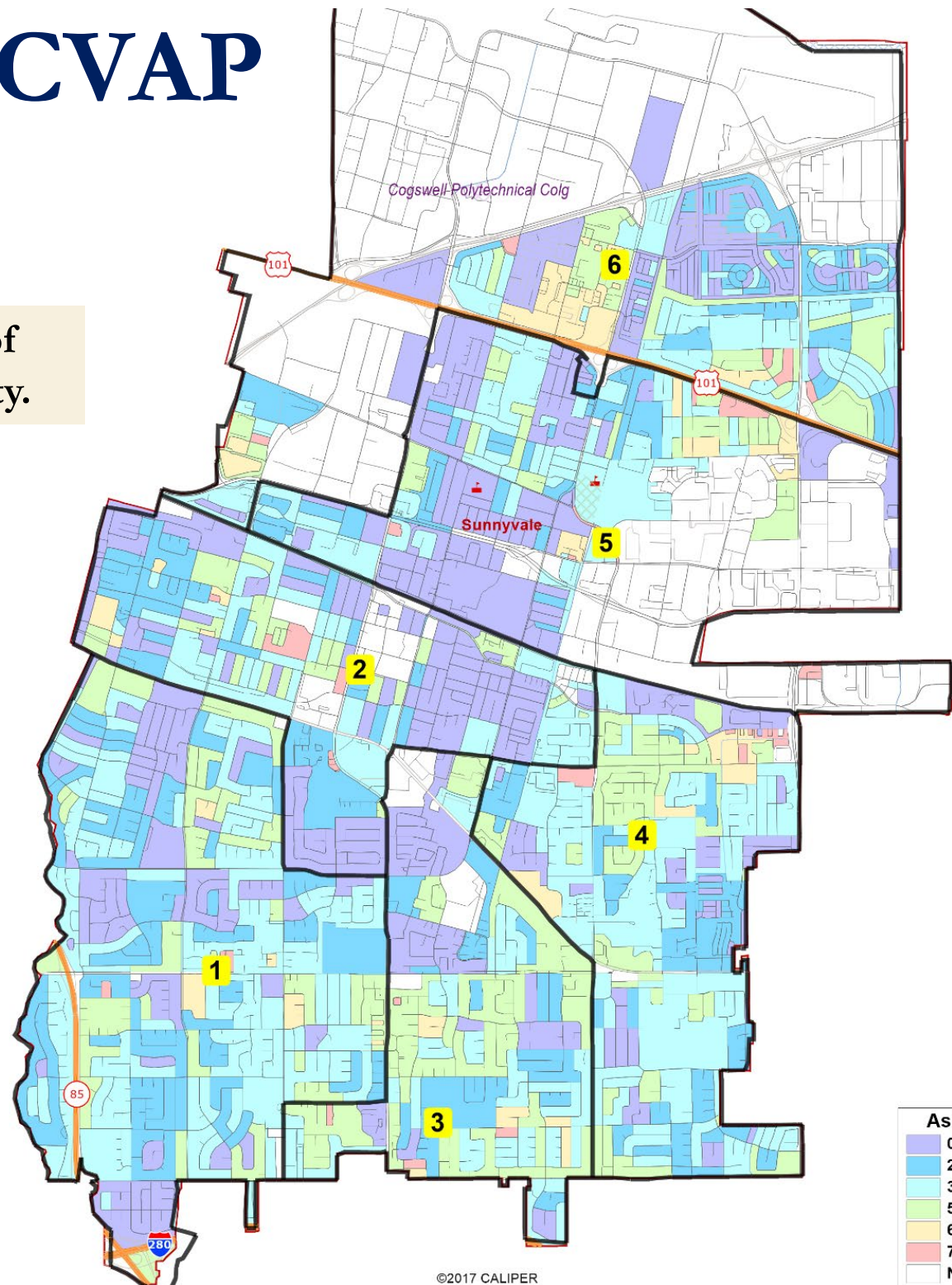
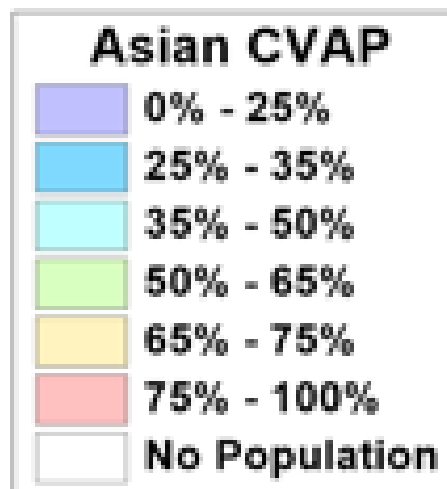
Latino CVAP

Latinos are a particularly large share of the eligible voters in the SNAIL-to-northern-Heritage area, between 101 and the railroad west of Fair Oaks Ave.



Asian-American CVAP

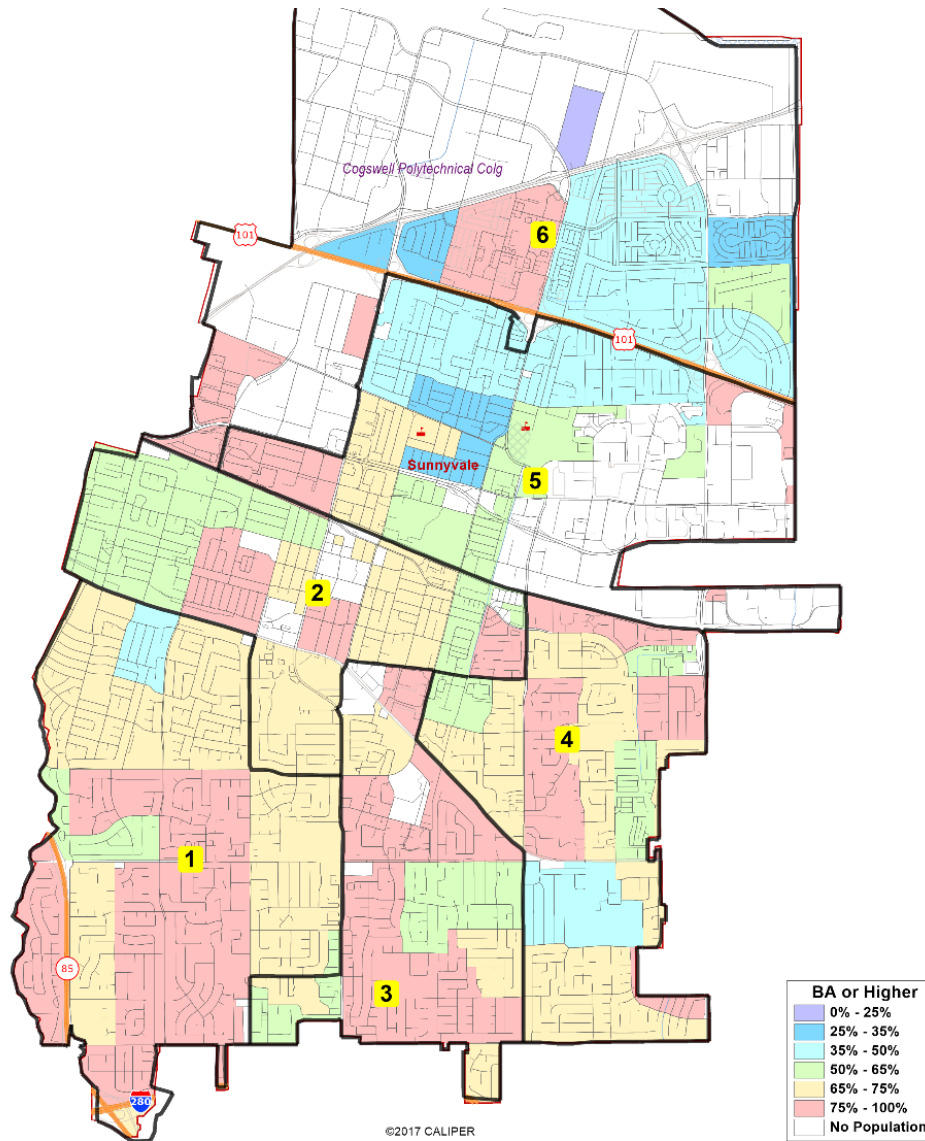
Asian-Americans are a large percentage of the eligible voters in most parts of the City.



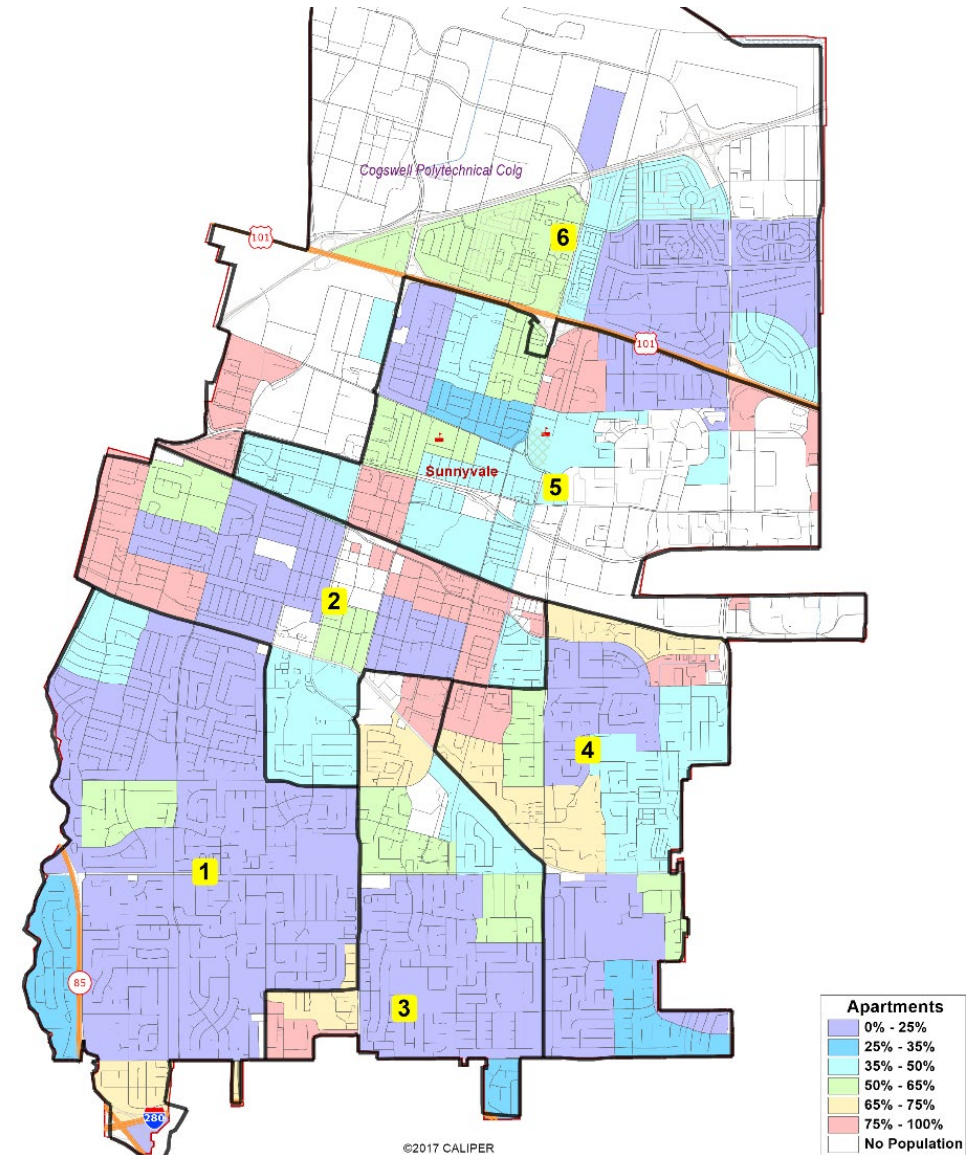
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Other Socio-Economic Demographics

Eligible voters with BA or Higher Degrees



Eligible voters that live in apartments.



Other Criteria Approved by Courts

- » Preserving the core of existing districts
- » Respecting the boundaries of other political subdivisions (e.g., school attendance areas, etc.).
- » Use of whole census geography (e.g., census blocks).
- » Other non-discriminatory considerations unique to the jurisdiction.

Council Redistricting Goals

- » Preserving structure of current districts with minimal changes to meet population equality
- » Minimizing disenfranchisement



What's Next?

Communities of Interest Workshop

- » When: **August 5, 2021**
- » Time: **6:30 p.m.**
- » Location:
 - Columbia Middle School – Staff Lounge
 - Zoom – registration required

Sunnyvale.ca.gov/redistricting



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