

Enclosure A

The Development of Alternative Trustee Area Maps for the Sacramento City Unified School District

A Report to the Sacramento County Committee on School District Organization

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In response to a citizen's petition calling for the establishment of seven trustee areas for the election of governing board members in the Sacramento City Unified School District, the Sacramento County Committee on School District Organization has requested the development of alternative trustee area maps. Two methods of election are possible with trustee areas: (a) at-large election by all voters in the district, or (b) trustee-area election by voters who reside in the trustee area. The County Committee requested that the alternative maps be appropriate for either method of election. On May 11, 2005, the County Committee approved the citizens' petition calling for the establishment of trustee areas and trustee-area elections.

Three alternative trustee area maps have been developed for the County Committee's consideration. Maps 1 and 2 were presented at the March 9, April 9, and May 11 public hearings. Map 3 has been developed in response to community input about Maps 1 and 2. The maps are similar in configuration. Map 2, however, incorporates more geographically compact or less irregularly shaped trustee areas than Map 1, and Map 3 avoids the division of the Hollywood Park and Oak Park neighborhoods into different trustee areas.

District Population Characteristics

According to the 2000 Census, Sacramento City Unified School District has a total population of 330,186.² This population includes the following racial and ethnic groups:

Group	Number	Percentage
Latino	67,737	20.5
Black (non-Latino)	42,856	13.0
Asian & Pacific Islander (non-Latino)	56,508	17.1
Combined Latino, Black, Asian, & Pacific Islander	167,101	50.6

¹ This is an updated version of the February 17, 2005, report. This version includes Map 3.

² The total population figure of 330,186 is derived from the 2000 Census. The base map for determining the total population figure was derived from the legal description, which matches the boundary map on the school district's Web site (<http://www.scusd.edu>). This population figure of 330,186 is different from the total population figure listed for the school district by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES; <http://nces.ed.gov>). According to the NCES, the total population figure is 329,449. For the 2000 Census, the Bureau of the Census requested the NCES to publish census data for all school districts. School district boundaries were superimposed upon census geography, and population information was provided for each school district. The difference in population totals (737) results from the difference between (a) the school district boundaries utilized by the NCES and the Bureau of the Census and (b) the actual boundaries of the school district derived from the legal description, which matches the map listed on the school district's Web site. The area in question is near the intersection of Jackson Road and Bradshaw Road. The area west of Bradshaw Road and north of Jackson Road, which is included in the boundary map on the school district's Web site, is not included in the boundaries utilized by the Bureau of the Census and the NCES. Because the legal description matches the map of the boundaries posted on the school district's Web site, we are using the total population figure of 330,186.

Federal and State Legal Standards

The County Committee approved the citizens' petition calling for trustee-area elections. In this method of election, one trustee residing in each trustee area would be elected by the voters residing in the same trustee area. Proposed Maps 1, 2, and 3 depict trustee areas that can serve as election districts. All three maps comply with applicable voting rights standards under federal and state constitutional provisions, as well as applicable requirements of the federal Voting Rights Act. In accordance with these constitutional and statutory standards, the proposed trustee areas in each map do not unnecessarily divide or over-concentrate minority voters within a trustee area. In addition, all three maps comply with the one-person one-vote principle, which requires an approximately equal number of persons within each trustee area.

Development of Alternative Maps

Three alternative maps have been prepared. For each map, there is an overall map showing all seven trustee areas on one page, plus seven separate maps, one for each trustee area. Descriptions of the trustee area boundaries are included, as are population data for each trustee area.

In developing the maps, major roads and streets, and other common reference points (e.g., state highways) were used as part of the trustee area boundaries where possible. Some constraints were imposed, however, due to the odd shape of the school district's boundaries. Elongated sections located in the eastern and southern parts of the school district limited the ability to create different trustee area configurations for those sections.

Map 1

Map 1 represents a seven trustee area plan. The criteria used in developing this map are as follows:

1. Compliance with one-person one-vote principle. Sought to minimize to the extent feasible any major population deviations.
2. Avoidance of any unnecessary fragmentation or over-concentration of any minority community, whether viewed as a single group or a combined minority. Sought to avoid any future problems associated with any potential Voting Rights Act challenge.
3. Sought to create trustee areas that represented various geographic sections of the school district. Southern and eastern geographic sections of the school district received separate trustee areas.

Map 2

Map 2 represents a seven trustee area plan. The only difference between Maps 1 and 2 is that Map 2 has less irregularly shaped trustee areas. The criteria used in developing this map are as follows:

1. Compliance with one-person one-vote principle. Sought to minimize to the extent feasible any major population deviations.
2. Avoidance of any unnecessary fragmentation or over-concentration of any minority community, whether viewed as a single group or a combined minority. Sought to avoid any future problems associated with any potential Voting Rights Act challenge.

3. Sought to create trustee areas that represented various geographic sections of the school district. Southern and eastern geographic sections of the school district received separate trustee areas.
4. Trustee areas are less irregularly shaped than in Map 1.

Map 3

Map 3 represents a seven trustee area plan. This map retain the basic configuration of Maps 1 and 2. This map, however, avoids the division of the Hollywood Park and Oak Park neighborhoods into different trustee areas. The criteria used in developing this map are as follows:

1. Compliance with one-person one-vote principle. Sought to minimize to the extent feasible any major population deviations.
2. Avoidance of any unnecessary fragmentation or over-concentration of any minority community, whether viewed as a single group or a combined minority. Sought to avoid any future problems associated with any potential Voting Rights Act challenge.
3. Sought to create trustee areas that represented various geographic sections of the school district. Southern and eastern geographic sections of the school district received separate trustee areas.
4. The neighborhoods of Hollywood Park and Oak Park are not divided into different trustee areas.