

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

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COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Summary Of Responses

As of July 17, 2018, 10:37 AM, this forum had:

Attendees:	262
Responses:	119
Hours of Public Comment:	6.0

This topic started on June 27, 2018, 12:47 PM.

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Answered	61
Skipped	58

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Individual Responses

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 27, 2018, 2:50 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 27, 2018, 4:21 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 27, 2018, 4:21 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Pick a redistricting plan and move forward. I'm not sure why this is so hard -- if there are multiple plans and nobody can make a decision, have the court pick one so we can move forward.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 27, 2018, 4:48 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Voting for a representative who is attuned to my district makes sense.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 27, 2018, 4:51 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 27, 2018, 6:12 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 27, 2018, 10:57 PM

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 27, 2018, 11:39 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Switching to a 6 district map from an at large system makes sense and is the fairest for the people of Santa Clara.

It'll ensure that all areas of Santa Clara have a local representative on the council who is accountable to their local area.

Additionally, please stop spending our tax payer dollars to fight this. I was willing to see how the public voted on Measure A, but after it was defeated the current council needs to move past this and implement a plan that will both provide fair representation to all Santa Clarans as well as satisfy the requirements of the court ruling. Further costs and efforts to delay and fight this is wasteful.

Diane Harrison inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 28, 2018, 2:32 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I'm developing some district ideas of my own, but in the meantime, please find out if we will still be electing our mayor at large or if the 6 council-members will select a mayor from among themselves. I asked this question at council, but no one seemed to know the answer.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 28, 2018, 10:24 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Ed Maurer inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 28, 2018, 12:31 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I'm glad we are being forced to do something for the November elections. While Measure A failed to pass, it is unclear how many opposed it because they wanted a different reform and how many wanted nothing to change. Since doing nothing is now off the table, I think ranked voting in two districts should still be part of the discussion. While single-representative districts are appealing for their apparent simplicity, the process of delineating districts based on demographics might be absurd (imagine a demographer going block-by-block labeling each as 'asian', 'latino', 'white', and trying to lump them together to ensure an ethnically representative council). A third option could be a class-based system, breaking the City's population into 6 categories based on household wealth, with council representatives chosen from each group. That might allow both ethnic and economic diversity. Trying something like that could really put Santa Clara into a national conversation on electoral reform!

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 28, 2018, 12:33 PM

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As of July 17, 2018, 10:37 AM

<http://www.opentownhall.com/6467>

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Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I believe that Santa Clara should be divided into 6 neighborhood districts with each district electing one council member. I feel that 6 neighborhood districts will give the council the diversity that it currently lacks. I voted against the City measure in the last election because I did not feel two large districts will achieve the goal of greater diversity.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 4:58 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 4:59 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I have thought this could be good for many years. More of our voices will be heard.

Shelley Flanagan inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 5:54 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 5:58 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

If the goal in districting is to provide the opportunity for our city council to be more diverse, and with the current state of the housing market, our city's population and cultural lines are changing dramatically and quickly causing a multitude of other changes including our schools, our environment, our roads, our food, and the way we live. I hope that whatever way this is developed/designed it will allow for ease and thoughtful processes so that the pendulum of change does not swing so far to the other side we lose what we have so richly been blessed with, developed and learned from. The history of our city must be defined, understood, appreciated and respected to grow successfully. Newcomers need to learn to appreciate.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 6:10 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

6 council seats, 6 equal areas.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 6:19 AM

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 6:21 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 6:36 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 6:43 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I would just like to get a system in place so the racial rhetoric will stop. I believe changing the system to satisfy one racial group is racist.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 6:44 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Not necessary

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 6:59 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Dividing our city into two districts is NOT the solution. There should be AT LEAST four districts, but to get equal representation on the city council there either needs to be seven districts or change the number of council members so the each district elects the same number of council members.

In addition, I strongly urge going to ranked choice voting!

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 7:03 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Robert SHERMAN inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 7:08 AM

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Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

The Introduction should contain the meeting dates and times. I found them on the city's main website, but not on this site.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 7:10 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Single member districts sounds fair.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 7:12 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Why are districts needed, it seems Santa Clara does not have a majority (>50%) of any one race from what I saw? Also don't districts re-inforce segregation by saying people of 1 ethnicity all live in one area. I would rather believe the city is like my street with families of multiple ethnicities all living together as one. Seems like this law is being use to support segregation.

Mary Grizzle inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 7:20 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Is this strictly for voting of the City Council Members?

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 7:24 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Why do we see the same family names running for city counsel year after year, because we don't have redistricting.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 7:27 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Your process is not clear. There should be option to allow how the district should be divided and how many rep support the divided district.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 7:33 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

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No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 7:33 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 7:41 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 7:45 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 7:48 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Please explain how we're in violation to the Calif voting rights act and what other cities have done to comply.

john sontag inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 8:00 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Given the order to create districts, I hope the demographic data that was used to create the 2 district map can be re-used to create geographically compact and contiguous districts that will match council seats to natural neighborhood boundaries. I also support the use of ranked choice voting to encourage more participation in the council election process

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 8:03 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I would like to see district representation to have roughly equal registered voter population where each district includes entire neighborhoods.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:07 AM

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:10 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Multiple districts are unnecessary in Santa Clara because there is no majority race. How can the city be split into districts by race when the entire city has all races living in all areas? I truly hope this city can resolve this ridiculous lawsuit without splitting into districts.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:19 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

It has been used such for many years why sudden change? Public resources and taxes are wasted.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:32 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:38 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:39 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:41 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Despite the court order, I feel it would be best to approach this issue with cutting edge data about voting. It's an opportunity to revamp the standard first-past-the-post voting system common in the U.S. with one that can be more truly reflect the needs of our community. Please consider studying this issue with more than simply focusing on "fixing" the issue at hand.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:47 AM

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Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 8:56 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

While Santa Clara has a high rate of ethnic diversity, we also have a high rate of economic diversity, from millionaires to the impoverished. Our council has not reflected the people in our city, ethnically or economically, and we're long overdue for a change. Our council has focused on their pet issues and squabbles that many residents don't care about. I support voting by multiple districts to encourage a better mix of council members who can better represent the needs and concerns of residents. This could be done by dividing the city into 6 districts - one member from each, plus the mayor, or 3 districts with two members each, but there must be at least 3 districts.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 9:01 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Considering we have open enrollment for schools, you sometimes are involved in, and effected by, other communities in Santa Clara. For example how each new construction effects every citizen in one way or another. I'm not sure how only voting by segregated districts is the way to go. I think Santa Clara is one community. Are we just voting for our favorite person in our district and then they all go against each other for the seat? Maybe I'm confused by why it was that was considered to be unlawful and how it is set to be changed.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 9:02 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 9:05 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 9:15 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Since someone is upset and is forcing the city to change, make the districts by roughly the same number of

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Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

residential residents. Keep neighborhoods together. We have 6 council members, so 6 districts makes sense. Also after each federal census, review the districts and adjust by whole neighborhood if necessary. 1 Council member per district.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 9:17 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 9:21 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I am opposed to district elections.

george delucchi inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 9:32 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I like the single districts for each council person. One council person per district. We then can get to know the individual on a closer basis. they will be our neighbors, not someone across town.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 10:27 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 10:57 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

-Determine whether there will be 6 districts with a mayor elected at large or 7 districts with a mayor selected by the council.

-Comply with the court order and stop spending money fighting the order.

-Of course, districts must have roughly equal population and utilize precinct data. That said, consider using Nextdoor neighborhoods to inform the process.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 11:06 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 11:10 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I don't think the districts will be the best for our city . We need to act together as a city .

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 11:15 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 11:23 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown outside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 11:28 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I support the redistricting process to have appropriate representation of all groups of people.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 11:43 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

What options are available if there is only 1 person running from your district that you do not want to support?

Just because someone lives geographically close to me does not mean that they have my best interest or share my concerns - this restriction being proposed seems to be taking choice away, which does not equate to a better process.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 11:50 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 12:03 PM

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.
Looks like the courts have forced our inept city council to do something other than waste city money.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 12:03 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 12:40 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 1:07 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 1:22 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Santa Clara is a growing city. When it was a small town, at large voting made sense. As the city has grown in the past few decades, many things have changed to go with the growth. Roads, development zoning, land usage, business types, etc are all examples of this change. City council election process should change as well. Otherwise, you can have a council comprised of mostly people from a single part of town. Potential consequence is for the council to become unaware of the issues in different parts of town. Membership that is spread out can result in council members knowing about the local issues.

6 district plan is the best outcome with a mayor elected at large. Districts should be drawn up using precincts boundaries to start as these already exist and would be easiest to implement.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 1:48 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Frankly this whole issue is still obscure to me. Why is it exactly that the process the City of Santa Clara has been using for years to elect city council members not legal? So far, I have yet to see an explanation that is logical and rational. Saying that the current process discriminates against certain populations doesn't make it true. What is being proposed if I understand it correctly is that the city will have to be divided into 6 districts and

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

I would only get to vote for 1 of the 6 council members ? Meanwhile, the other 5 council members will be making decisions that affect me, yet I don't have a chance to elect them ??? How can that be fair?

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 2:00 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

First - the idea of a precinct is neither racist nor impractical, and has a long history within the political process. However with measure A - there was a glaring issue - it remained possible to have no representation for the 95054 zip code/precincts. This also meant that the Stadium Authority still might not have representation from the one place with the most concerns. Don't even have a neighbor committee.

Second - have either 3 areas by zip code/precinct with 2 representatives or 6 areas but ensure that each zip code would get 2 elected officials based off of existing precinct data. Understand that high traffic and high development areas have different concerns than some of the other spaces in the city.

Third - stop spending money on this - it is not rocket science. Pick the districts, figure out how to elect/appoint a mayor, and be ready for the next election. There doesn't need to be ranking, if a voter doesn't like a candidate, they can opt out, write-in or be the candidate next time. Given that we didn't vote the mayor in the first time, not seeing the angst here.

Honey Chambers inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 2:55 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 3:23 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 3:28 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 5:36 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Andrea Puck inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 5:56 PM

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I support creating a minimum of four voting districts in the City of Santa Clara. The districts should be created by a bipartisan group.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 7:24 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Why do the Court and the Plaintiffs believe more districts will result in more asians being elected to City Council? What is their argument?

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 8:54 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 29, 2018, 10:22 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 29, 2018, 11:40 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

What's unclear to me is what are the main goals in creating the districts, and how are those goals prioritized? Is the number one goal creating districts with certain diversity characteristics, is it to create districts of similar size (from a population standpoint), is it going to be based on demographics of current registered voters or the general population, or is it going to be based on something else? From there, I'd like someone to tie together how the goals that were laid out would adequately address the issues raised as part of the lawsuit/court order, as well as how the proposed district map addresses those goals.

Also, why did we join two changes to our election process into one (districts and ranked-choice voting)? If we plan to do something similar again, wouldn't it make more sense to have two measures on the ballot; one to create single member districts, and one to institute ranked-choice voting? Similarly, why don't we make the issue of how the mayor gets elected (either by a city-wide election or through a rotation among the city council) also a separate measure? I think what probably hurt Measure A's chances the most is the fact that you had some people who were just against creating multiple districts, and some people who were just against the ranked-choice voting. If the two were separated, one of them may have had the chance to pass, and then we'd know which element of the measure needed more refinement.

My biggest concern about creating multiple districts is that we'll end up with city council members making

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

decisions that impact areas outside of their own district, and the citizens who get impacted by those decisions wouldn't have much recourse to change the situation since they can't mobilize and vote out the members that may not be doing good things for their district. From that standpoint, I think we should create as few districts as possible in order to address the concerns of the lawsuit (the judge seemed to indicate that the two proposed districts may not have been sufficient, but I'm not sure if that was because of the demographics associated with those two proposed districts or the fact that there were just two). Personally, at the end of the day, I'd rather see a larger focus be placed on getting more citizens registered to vote because I think that'd have the most positive impact on getting a more diverse perspective, but I know that won't satisfy the court order. Regardless, it's still a worthwhile issue to think about (only having ~15% of our city's population vote on Measure A is pretty low).

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 30, 2018, 1:15 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I voted against measure A, because we need more than 2 districts to increase diversity on the council and ranked choice voting is a bad idea for increasing diversity. Splitting the city into districts is similar to tried and true federalism, and it makes a lot of sense to have one person in your neighborhood who knows your district.

I support the 6 district plans laid out in the power point presentation linked from the city website (<http://santaclaraca.gov/residents/court-ordered-council-districting-process>). I would be ok with any of the draft plans on pages 14, 16, or 18.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 30, 2018, 7:21 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 30, 2018, 10:22 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 30, 2018, 10:30 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 30, 2018, 10:44 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 30, 2018, 11:11 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Stewart Hill inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 30, 2018, 12:08 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

There is absolutely no reason not to divide the city into separate and equal districts. Most all other cities around us do this. It is too important to not have the representation for the whole city and city council members from each district who will listen and strive to take care of each district. There are many important issues for our city from not enough housing, to schools that are not up to date in education to OUR infrastructure that includes maintaining roads, and to maintain our communities that have fallen into disrepair from lack of homeowner maintenance. There are too many expensive homes where owners are investing in updating their property only to have others neglect their homes and lowering the values of our neighborhoods.

We must have City Council members who are willing to maintain our city in a way that does not cause us to become lost into a huge San Jose type operation with more traffic, homes and apartments clustered and taking over every street and causing even more congestion. There is no possible way to provide fair and equal housing for all unless all of us as residents would be willing to have huge taxes placed on us and businesses to pay for much more housing at a lower income. At some point you will all have to decide how much money you are willing to sacrifice from your own wallet or savings account.

Public transportation is a wonderful idea if you are so inclined to use it BUT the VTA is one of the worst transportation districts within the United States AND it still needs continued tax support from us. It cannot make enough money to properly self-fund itself. On the East Coast their public transportation districts are much more efficient.

Many of our City resources are used each day by non residents who work here in Santa Clara but do not live here or pay property taxes. What does this mean? Not sure but as an example we have thousands of families who live in apartments and their children go to school here but they do not pay any property taxes. We as homeowners do pay and rental residents should also have to pay some type of annual property taxes or school tax to help support the schools that their children are going to. Education is extremely important but all families whether homeowners or renters should ALL be paying their equal and fair share. No free loading.

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 30, 2018, 1:39 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 30, 2018, 1:40 PM

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

June 30, 2018, 2:56 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Gregory Niven inside Santa Clara (registered)

June 30, 2018, 3:56 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I am fine with the current process. I understand that it has its associated strengths and weaknesses, but I'm fine with how things have been. Please do not make any changes.

Best regards,

Greg Niven

Santa Clara resident since 1999

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 1, 2018, 11:39 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

If the distribution of residents is truly homogenous so that districts don't provide a "solution" there is, I believe, an alternative solution. In Illinois we had (at least for a time) the possibility of cumulative voting. My recollection is it worked by giving each voter a number of votes equal to the number of open seats. Thus, if you had 6 open seats in an at-large election the voter received 6 votes to cast as desired. All 6 might be given to a single candidate or spread across up to all 6. If people interested in color (character being equal) want, each of those folks can cast all 6 of their votes for a single candidate.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 1, 2018, 9:49 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

The candidate must live in the district they represent and should be qualified with appropriate experience as indicated by a detailed job description.

Bob Marx inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 1, 2018, 9:49 PM

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COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Candidates must live in the district that they represent. District lines should be drawn such that natural boundaries of neighborhoods maintain their integrity.

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 2, 2018, 12:34 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 2, 2018, 6:32 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 2, 2018, 9:16 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 2, 2018, 12:59 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Charle Sedlacek inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 2, 2018, 7:29 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

After talking on both the July 3rd and July 5th meeting I can see that the only thing that will be heard is what map do we want to put forward to the Judge in the court case. I agree with the last speaker about reducing the map to 3 districts and below are the reasons.

1. It would make all three 6 district maps into one....the first district would have 1 and 2 districts from the map, the second would be 3 and 4 and the third would be 5 and 6.
2. It would be easier to maintain the deviation of 10% or less having twice the population (CVAP of 22,000 or Total Pop of 38,000).
3. It would allow each district to have 2 city council seats giving the voters more representation (one third of the city council vs 1 sixth).
4. A larger population gives a larger pool for candidate selection.
5. It would make district 2 (districts 3 and 4) would be more contiguous than the 6 district map.
6. To repeat #1, combining the districts in this way would make the resulting map close to the same for all three

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6 district choices.

By creating fewer districts would give more and better choices to the citizens of Santa Clara City.

Thanks for your time.

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 2, 2018, 8:05 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 2, 2018, 10:36 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I didn't like the option on our June ballot to have both ranked choice voting and to split Santa Clara into two districts. The historic lack of diversity on the City Council in Santa Clara is a serious problem. Other communities like Mountain View and Campbell have had more diverse Councils. These are places with open citywide elections instead of the strange seat system Santa Clara currently has which favors incumbents and stifles competition. I would be in favor of splitting Santa Clara up into districts that kept communities with common interests (and ethnicities!) together. Redistricting, when done right, really does provide opportunities for historically underrepresented people to have representation. Santa Clara is no longer a community solely of white people. Why is our Council all white people? The current seat system is an institutional manifestation of racism where incumbents that represents Santa Clara's white past hold all the power. We shouldn't be afraid of the districts making us "too much like San Jose." The San Jose Council members can and do represent both their districts and the larger city on the whole. It's do-able. San Jose's district system also supports elected Chinese, Indian, Latino, and Vietnamese American Councilmembers. It works at increasing the diversity on Council. The resistance to smaller districts is lead by the established white power structure in the City. This is unacceptable. Please stop using taxpayer funding to fight the court on this issue.

Rozane BeyMcCurdy inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 3, 2018, 6:37 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Term limits need to be addressed. People should not be allowed to rotate through every seat on council, take a break and then return to cycle through all the seats again as their lifetime legacy. Also, once a person moves out of the city of Santa Clara, they should no longer be allowed to participate in any operations of government oversight of our city. No exceptions. If they want to stay in touch with their friends and neighbors, there are *Nostalgia* pages on social media for them to do so.

Any person living outside the city limits of Santa Clara who are not residents here, should have zero input as to how our city is run; either in holding a position OR having an opinion which bears any weight. The same goes for the Dark Money that backs any candidate; especially when it is coming from outside the city. Voters need to be made aware up front who is financially backing campaigns or contributing to each candidate and why. Full disclosure of monetary & in-kind donations must be made up front; because as far as I'm concerned, anything

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discovered after the fact either proves something nefarious was attempted to be hidden OR the candidate lacks the attention to detail to hold an important position.

Naming successors to vacated positions. The council should be ashamed of itself regarding the last several placements. In one instance, a council member elevated to a higher position, she APPOINTED her replacement out of the blue. Meanwhile, other candidates who had run for seats and received votes in elections were not considered. Now, in the wake of an abrupt but necessary resignation, candidates for that very same seat who received many votes for that seat are again not even considered as an interim replacement while the Mayor & council ponder the *dilemma* of the now vacant seat.

Outward appearances are bad. Outward appearances to me indicate that another BFF was not available for appointment so a "let's just keep the seat open until November and see what sticks" mentality is floating on the water. Whatever the reasoning, it looks bad; it lacks transparency; and the way other issues have been handled, it causes one to ponder, "What else is the council hiding and why?"

If we cannot seat a city council that won't stop playing loose with rules of decorum for limits & appointments, the last thing we should be worrying about is how district lines are drawn - no matter how important those lines would be in an above board operation.

I believe Mayor Gilmor and City Council can begin do the right things to fix this and come November the rest of us can do our part. Thank you.

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 3, 2018, 1:57 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Our city was founded in 1852. Voters have rejected the proposal to split the city into two separate districts. But now one man presumes to upend that vote, and furthermore, to force SIX districts down the voters' throats. That'll teach them to vote against the judge's wishes.

Since 1852 every vote in every election has been the same: voters elect the Council to represent them running the city. Therefore, either that is a legitimate and legal way to elect the City Council — or everyone has been voting illegally for more than a century.

Since it is preposterous to believe that we have been voting illegally all this time, I ask the City Council to represent the voters of our city by appealing this wrong-headed decision.

Clearly the fix was in, since numerous commenters stated previously that this is exactly what would happen if the voters did not do what this judge wanted them to do. So in the event the electorate decided that district elections are not in their best interests. The Council needs to put a hold on their high-handed nonsense, and appeal this judge's self-serving decision.

Why didn't the judge simply stop the vote, if he wanted to shove district elections down the voters' throats? That is exactly what several commenters said he would do if residents had the temerity to vote contrary to what a judge wanted. Why even have elections? This judge can simply decree from the bench. Think of the money

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saved.

The City Council and Mayor represent this city. The city has clearly and unequivocally stated, in a legal vote, that the city rejects district elections. Those representatives need to step up and represent the will of the people, as expressed in a legitimate vote less than a month ago, within the past month.

There is no situation that affects the residents of our city more than a meaningful vote of the people. The issue is crystal clear. This judge knew he was going to upend a legitimate vote if residents did not vote the "right" way: the judge's way. A judge must take all the evidence, and make an impartial decision. But it is clear this judge had his mind made up well before the vote was held.

(Fair & impartial, Bias,

The Mayor and City Council represent the city of Santa Clara, and the issue could not be more clear: a petty tyrant has presumed to negate our legitimate vote. That tyrant could have decided either way — otherwise, why even have judges? But it's obvious that he put the word out that if voters did not vote the way he wanted, he would misuse his office.

Represent us. That is your duty. It's truly a "no-brainer."

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 3, 2018, 3:45 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 3, 2018, 7:14 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 4, 2018, 3:12 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I have been a resident of Santa Clara for 39 years, and have followed this issue for several years; I am of the opinion that the council has and continues to act irresponsibly, and not in the best interests of its residents. Its long-term resistance to meaningful single districts and its disregard of prior court cases has/will cost the city millions of dollars.

The ballot measure to divide the city into two districts appeared to me to be a disingenuous attempt to comply with the law.

I am in favor of a 6-district plan to be drawn up independent of the council and the previous commission.

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 5, 2018, 9:32 AM

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

Council Districting Process - Provide your Comments

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 5, 2018, 9:52 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

What are the benefits of this change and what is the cost to the citizens of Santa Clara? The existing process is a fair process. This change will create a division during a challenging climate where this action could do more harm than good. I oppose the change for four separate district I our City of Santa Clara. This is one of the most desired areas to live in the Bay Area, because of its schools and city management. I am concerned there changes will have a significant impact on our small town feel and community. I am extremely concerned this s a motion to promote individual agendas and will significantly impact the citizens of the City of Santa Clara. Thank you.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 5, 2018, 1:51 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

In what way does our current method of electing city council members violate the Voting Rights Act? I am satisfied with the current method of electing our city council.

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 5, 2018, 2:28 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Why continue to use the El Camino Real boundary line?

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 6, 2018, 12:10 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

I attended the July 5th meeting and I am still very confused. Using the little red light attached to her pen, it was difficult to understand the boundaries. An enlargement of each district proposal might have been more useful. I am also confused as to the focus on Asian Americans and Mexicans. Why are we focused on these particular groups?

I heard others say that they want representation from all parts of Santa Clara, not just their own parcel. If something happens at Levi Stadium, we want input. If restructuring Central Park, Swim Center and possibly the library needs input and votes, I want to be heard, even though my rep doesn't represent that area.

I think confusion still reigns. Thank you. Sandra Migueltorry

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 7, 2018, 8:42 PM

COURT ORDERED Council Districting Process

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Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 9, 2018, 7:21 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Santa Clara City Counsel members should be elected in districts that are representative of the people who live in those districts. We are a city of great diversity and that should be reflected in those elected to make decisions for our community.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 10, 2018, 11:42 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

7/13 update: I just watched portions of the third public meeting which I did not attend. One committee member claimed that he knew that measure A failed because of rank choice voting. That is not true for this voter. I voted against Measure A because I opposed only two districts. I am in favor of rank choice voting. Other voters have said the same. Since the Open City Council topic shows no end date for public comment as of today July 13th I am curious if those three committee members were given input from Open City Council as well as letters sent to the email provided on the Court Ordered District information page to inform the opinions they expressed at the end of the meeting. Many voting citizens (including me) were unable to attend those public input meetings and have used other ways to express our opinions. I have no interest in structuring districts to support a ceremonial mayor who gets to appoint city representatives for four years. I want representation for neighborhoods in Santa Clara and shared (rotating mayor) decisions about who represents the city on cross jurisdictional and joint power committees. Earlier comments (I think July 10th): I just saw the new 7 district options on the city's website <http://santaclaraca.gov/residents/court-ordered-council-districting-process> -- One of those makes the most sense for Santa Clara.

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 11, 2018, 7:19 AM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

maps are hard to read. Should be lined with colored borders for each proposed district....not all black. and maybe had % of people in each district.

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 11, 2018, 12:24 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Districts should be regular shaped, plain boxes, with no attempt to "encapsulate" target populations.

Travis Flora inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 11, 2018, 4:25 PM

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Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 11, 2018, 6:50 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

why not do 4 districts, we all know it will get gerrymandered anyhow. the North South thing won't get it and after listening and reading about the lack of ethnic make up in various locations it will never make everyone happy

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 11, 2018, 9:55 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response

Name not shown inside Santa Clara (registered)

July 12, 2018, 1:59 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

Six districts is the best method for proper representation. Just go for it.

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 16, 2018, 7:19 PM

Submit questions and comments you may have on the process to create single member districts.

No response