# __Why Are We Here?__

❖ The City of Santa Clara will conduct a Special Municipal Election on June 5, 2018, which is consolidated with the California Statewide Primary Election.

❖ Measure A is the only local City of Santa Clara ballot measure on the June 2018 special election.

❖ If enacted Measure A updates the way Santa Clara's officeholders would be elected in two ways:

  ❖ District elections would be implemented

  ❖ Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) would be implemented

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# Background

❖ Over the last 10 years, the City of Santa Clara has been working to update its way of electing local officeholders in the following way:

 ❖ In April 2017, the Santa Clara City Council established a Charter Review Committee composed of 13 resident volunteers, to address this voting rights issue

 ❖ The City Council also established an Ad Hoc Advisory Districting Committee to recommend a city council district map

 ❖ The City Council unanimously placed Measure A on the June ballot following over a year of grassroots input and community engagement, including hundreds of public comments, responses and questions through 16 public hearings and the City's online platforms

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# Official Measure A Ballot Question

BY-DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS & VOTING METHOD

| | |
|---|---|
| Shall the City Charter be amended: to establish two districts starting in 2018 to be represented by three council members each; and when available, use ranked choice voting to allow voters to select candidates in order of choice to determine the winners of elections of all city elected officers? | Yes |
| | No |

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# What Does Measure A Do?

❖ If approved by voters, Measure A would update the way Santa Clarans elect local officeholders consistent with the recommendations of the Charter Review Committee

❖ Measure A establishes two voting districts, with registered voters in each district electing three councilmembers per district
  o Candidates seeking election to the Santa Clara City Council are required to reside within the given district they are running in.
  o The Mayor, City Clerk and Police Chief would all still be elected citywide

❖ Measure A establishes a voting process known as "Ranked Choice Voting" (RCV) for all city candidates for office

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# What is My Council District?

❖ The Ad Hoc Advisory Districting Committee forwarded a recommended map to the City Council following an April 12 public meeting. A copy of this recommended map can be viewed at santaclaraca.gov/home/showdocument?id=57241 [NOTE: This should have a more photogenic URL link if possible]

❖ The City Council will consider and act on this recommendation after hearing from interested residents and experts in a public hearing scheduled for May 8th.

❖ The district boundaries will not become effective unless Measure A is approved by voters on the June 5th ballot.
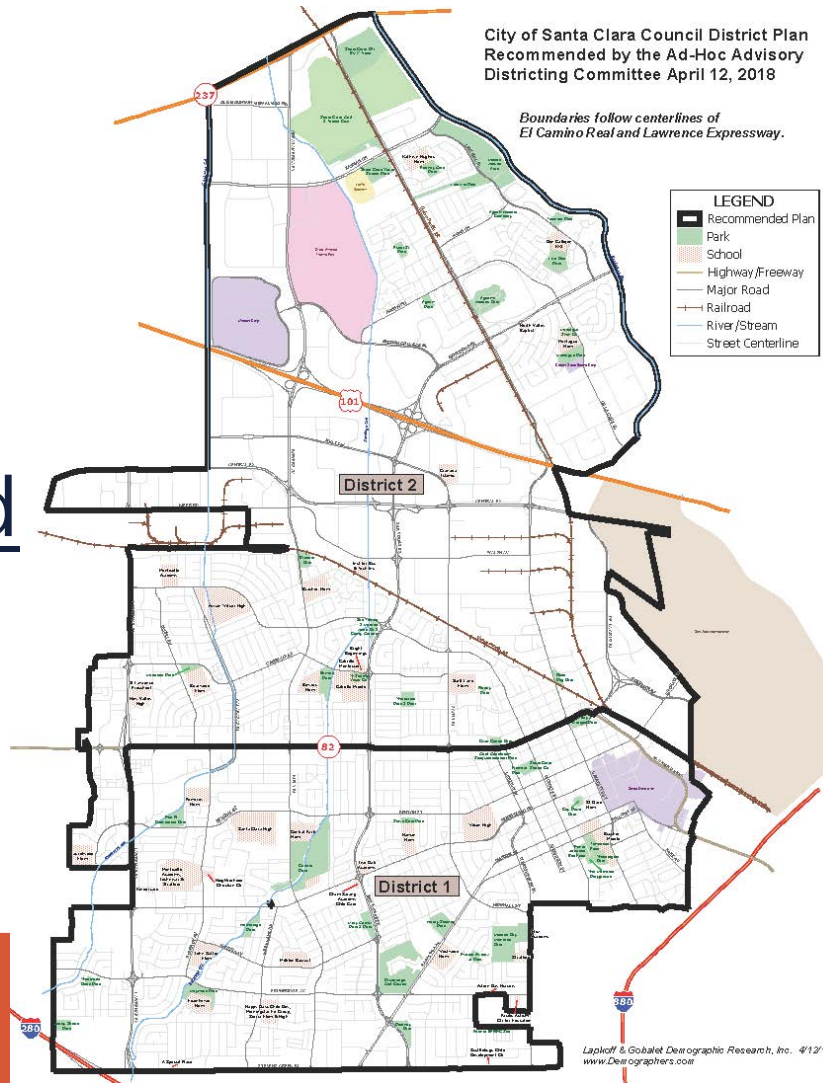
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# What Was the Process of Developing the Recommended Map?

❖ The City Council established the Ad Hoc Advisory Districting Committee to receive input from the community and determine the optimal way to draw the district map.

❖ Districts are legally required to have approximately equal population, and allow protected groups (such as Asian-Americans and Hispanics) to select an elected official of their choice.

❖ After five community meetings and hundreds of responses from the community, the Districting Committee recommended the City Council select a map that uses El Camino Real as the main boundary between the north and south districts.

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# Districting Committee's recommended map:



City of Santa Clara Council District Plan
Recommended by the Ad-Hoc Advisory
Districting Committee April 12, 2018

*Boundaries follow centerlines of
El Camino Real and Lawrence Expressway.*

LEGEND
Recommended Plan
Park
School
Highway/Freeway
Major Road
Railroad
River/Stream
Street Centerline

District 2

District 1

Laploff & Gobalet Demographic Research, Inc.  4/12/18
www.Demographers.com

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# What is "Ranked Choice Voting?"

❖ Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) sometimes known as "Instant Runoff Voting," will allow voters the opportunity to rank candidates in order of preference

❖ Cities such as Berkeley, Oakland, San Francisco, and San Leandro have adopted RCV

❖ Voters select candidates in order of choice, and votes are tallied based on the voters' indicated preferences, so both the number of votes as well as the rankings determines the winner

❖ This means that the most preferred candidates will win the election

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# How Does Ranked Choice Voting Work?

❖ Ranked-Choice Voting allows voters to rank up to three candidates, in order of preference, when marking their ballots

❖ With Ranked-Choice Voting, if a candidate reaches 25% +1 threshold for victory among the first-choice votes cast for that office, that candidate will be elected

❖ However, if no candidate receives the 25% +1 of the first-choice votes cast, an elimination process begins. The candidate who received the fewest first-choice votes is eliminated

❖ Next, each vote cast for that candidate will be transferred to the voter's next-ranked choice among the remaining candidates

❖ Each successful candidate will receive 25%+1 of the preferred votes, while all other candidates will be eliminated

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# How Does Ranked Choice Voting Affect the Mayor, Police Chief, and City Clerk?

❖ Measure A preserves all existing citywide offices

❖ The Mayor, Chief of Police, and City Clerk will continue to be elected citywide by all registered voters

❖ They would, however, be elected under Ranked Choice Voting, just like Councilmembers

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# When is the Election and How Can I Get More Information About the June Special Election?

❖ The Measure A election will take place on June 5, 2018. To register to vote online and for more information, please visit the Santa Clara County elections department at: www.sccgov.org/sites/rov/Pages/Registrar-of-Voters.aspx

❖ We will continue to keep the community updated about Measure A & the District Mapping Process. Please visit our website for more information: www.santaclaraca.gov/government/departments/city-clerk-auditor/measure-a-district-elections-voting-method-ballot-measure

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# City of Santa Clara

## June 5, 2018 Special Election Information

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