

# NEWS

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#### For Immediate Release

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## Special Trustee for Compton Community College District Adopts New Trustee Area Boundaries

On May 16, 2012, following the third Public Hearing for redistricting the Compton Community College District trustee area boundaries, the Special Trustee for the Compton Community College District (CCCD), adopted new trustee area boundaries (Map 1) for the District. Adopting new trustee areas is part of a legally required redistricting process that occurs every ten years. Community colleges, city councils and other local agencies must undergo a method to review and modify their election boundaries in order to equalize the population and ensure fair elections.

An Election Waiver Request will now be submitted to the California Community Colleges' Board of Governors for consideration at its July 2012 meeting. Following approval of the Election Waiver by the Board of Governors, the CCCD will submit the new trustee areas to the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder's Office for the new trustee areas to become effective for the November 2013 election.

Trustees elected for Areas B and E in November 2013 will serve an initial term of two years, and Trustees elected for Areas A, C and D will serve a term of four years, as determined by lot accomplished by a random drawing conducted by the District's legal counsel at the May 16, 2012 board meeting.

The Federal Voting Rights Act, adopted initially in 1965 and extended in 1970, 1975, and 1982, codifies and effectuates the 15th Amendment's permanent guarantee that, throughout the nation, no person shall be denied the right to vote on account of race or color.

The California Voting Rights Act of 2001 expands on voting rights granted under the federal Voting Rights Act by, among other things, granting standing to groups who are too geographically dispersed to elect their candidate of choice from a single member district. This eases the path for proportional voting systems to be used as remedies for minority vote dilution.

Both pieces of legislation guide traditional redistricting criteria that were used in the process to adopt new trustee area boundaries. These include: population equality, contiguous territory, geographic compactness, and most importantly, "communities of interest". "Communities of interest" include ethnic communities covered by the California and Federal Voting Rights acts, as well as residents sharing interests or a common thread of social, economic or political interests such as: income levels, educational backgrounds, issues of concern, environmental conditions and employment and economic patterns.

All of the maps developed for the District were constructed to create an optimal plan of unifying communities and following transportation borders, while also considering the communities of interest.

### Map 1

Map number 1, is the best option based on the California and Federal Voting Rights Acts criteria. From a traditional redistricting standpoint, it is the most easily justifiable plan based on analysis from the mapping consultant hired to assist the District in the redistricting process.

The newly adopted trustee areas in Map 1 follow city boundaries, transportation corridors such as freeways, and other natural boundaries as it equalizes population among each of the trustee areas. It preserves the heart of the city of Paramount and splits Lynwood along the 105 freeway. Rosecrans is used as the primary North/South dividing line; and this map also uses the Los Angeles River as a dividing line. The key strength of this plan is that it creates three Latino majority-minority areas and two African American majority-minority areas. This is roughly proportional to the percentage of African American Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) in the District (approximately 38 percent); and to the percentage of Latino CVAP in the District (approximately 49 percent) and the total Latino population which is 71 percent.

During several Redistricting Public Forums held throughout the community beginning in fall 2011, the public was provided the opportunity to comment on the proposed maps for new trustee areas. Additionally, the Special Trustee conducted three Public Hearings – November 15, 2011, March 21, 2012 and May 16, 2012 to provide additional opportunities for public input.

More information on the redistricting process and the newly adopted trustee area map is available on the district website at: district.compton.edu/district\_information/district-redistricting.asp.

## **About the Compton Community College District**

Board meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of each month and are open to the public. The District is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA 90221.