

**GOLETA WEST SANITARY DISTRICT  
ORDINANCE NO. 23-96**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE GOLETA WEST SANITARY DISTRICT  
ESTABLISHING A DISTRICT-BASED ELECTORAL SYSTEM,  
ADOPTING A MAP DESCRIBING THE BOUNDARIES OF EACH  
ELECTION DISTRICT, AND SETTING A SEQUENCE FOR ELECTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, Goleta West Sanitary District (“District”) supports the full participation of all voters in electing members of the Board of Directors (“Board”); and

**WHEREAS**, the District currently elects five (5) members of the Board (“Director”) using an at-large election system, where candidates may reside in any part of the District and each Director is elected by the voters of the entire District; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about September 28, 2021, the District received a notice of violation from Frank J. Ochoa, Esq., on behalf of his clients Ulises Rubio and Janet Zhao (“Prospective Plaintiffs”), alleging the District’s at-large method of electing Directors violated the California Voting Rights Act (“CVRA”). The letter demanded the District transition to district-based elections or face litigation under the CVRA; and

**WHEREAS**, although the District asserted that its at-large method of election did not and does not violate the CVRA, and that the Notice of Violation’s allegations pertaining to the District’s potential liability are unsupported, the District and the Prospective Plaintiffs entered into a settlement agreement whereby the District agreed to transition to district-based elections by the 2024 general election; and

**WHEREAS**, at its regular Board meeting on November 16, 2021, the Board adopted Resolution No. 21-805 which initiated the process of establishing a district-based election system and adopted the schedule therefore; and

**WHEREAS**, Elections Code Sections 10508 and 10650 authorize the District to change from its current at-large election method to a district-based election method under which each candidate (i) must reside within an election district that is a geographically defined part of the District’s jurisdictional boundaries and (ii) is elected only by voters residing within that election district; and

**WHEREAS**, the District engaged in public outreach and engagement including, but not limited to, maintaining a districting webpage, sending a postcard mailer to each resident of the District informing them of the districting process and a timeline for public hearings, and posting notice about the same on message boards throughout the District at District headquarters, Isla Vista Recreation and Park District, Outlook Park, Isla Vista Food Co-op, Camino Real Shopping Center, and Hollister Village Shopping Center; and,

**WHEREAS**, California Elections Code Section 10010 requires that the District hold a total of four public hearings, two of which are required to be held prior to publication of a draft election district map and two of which are required to be held after publication of a draft election district map; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to holding a public meeting to kick-off the District's districting process, at regular meetings of the Board held on August 1, 2023, and September 5, 2023, the District held the requisite two public hearings where the public was invited to provide input regarding the composition of the District's election districts, and the Board considered and discussed the same; and

**WHEREAS**, thereafter, at a regular Board meeting held on September 19, 2023, the Board held a public hearing where the public was invited to provide input regarding the content of a draft map that had been published at least seven days prior, and the Board considered and discussed the same; and

**WHEREAS**, at the regular meeting held on October 5, 2023, the Board held the final public hearing on the proposal to establish district boundaries, reviewed additional public input, formally selected the election district map known as the "Map A" (attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference); and

**WHEREAS**, at this same meeting, the Board made a decision about the sequencing of elections such that the Director seats in election districts 2 and 4 are to be on the 2024 ballot and the Director seats in election districts 1, 3, and 5 are to be on the 2026 ballot; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this Ordinance is to enact regulations for the election of Directors on a district-based system for single-member districts as reflected in Exhibit A to this Ordinance, in furtherance of the purposes of the CVRA (Elections Code Section 14025 et seq.), and to implement the guarantees of Section 7 of Article I and of Article II of the California Constitution.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Directors of Goleta West Sanitary District does hereby ordain as follows:

**Section 1. RECITALS.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct.

**Section 2. ORDINANCE ADOPTION.** Ordinance 23-96 is hereby adopted to read as follows:

**Ordinance 23-96  
District-Based Elections**

Article I	Purpose.
Article II	Map.
Article III	District-Based Electoral System.
Article IV	Sequence of Elections.
Article V	Term and Vacancies.

### **Article I - Purpose.**

The Goleta West Sanitary District's (District) at-large voting system used to elect members of its Board of Directors (Board) was challenged under the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). In response, the Board voted to voluntarily transition from at-large elections to district-based elections. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish the respective election districts, and set forth the schedule for district elections and the other procedures applicable to the District's transition.

### **Article II - Map.**

The Board approves and adopts the map attached as Exhibit "A," incorporated herein by reference, and its five election districts. Directors shall be elected in the electoral districts established by this Article and subsequently reapportioned pursuant to applicable state and federal law.

### **Article III - District-Based Electoral System.**

Commencing with the November 2024 regular election, Directors shall be elected using a district-based election method under which a candidate must be (i) a registered voter residing within an election district identified on Exhibit "A", and (ii) elected only by registered voters residing within that election district. The President and Vice President shall be selected by their fellow Directors.

### **Article IV - Sequence of Elections.**

Directors shall serve for staggered terms of four (4) years each. The following sequence shall apply to the first district-based elections following the effective date of this Ordinance. Beginning November 2024, and every four (4) years thereafter, the voters in election districts 2 and 4 shall elect Directors by district for a four (4) year term. At the general election in 2026, and every four (4) years thereafter, the voters in election districts 1, 3, and 5 shall elect Directors by district to a four (4) year term.

### **Article V - Term and Vacancies.**

**Section 5.1 - Term.** In accordance with Health and Safety Code section 6482, the term of office for each Director elected to the Board shall be four (4) years. Any Director in office as of the effective date of this Ordinance shall continue to hold office until the expiration or earlier termination of the term for which the Director was elected or appointed, regardless of the election district in which such Director resides.

**Section 5.2 - Vacancy Before Transition to Districts.** Before the first district-based election in November 2024, if the position of a Director who is in office as of the effective date of this Ordinance becomes vacant prior to the expiration or earlier termination of the term for which the Director was elected or appointed, the person who is appointed or who is elected at a special election to fill the vacancy may reside anywhere within the District's boundaries.

**Section 5.3 - Vacancy After Transition to Districts.** If the position of a Director, who is elected or appointed from an election district on or after the applicable first election date identified in Article IV above, becomes vacant prior to the expiration or earlier termination of the

term for which the Director was elected or appointed the person who is elected or appointed to fill the vacancy must reside in and be a registered voter of that same election district as the outgoing Director. Likewise, any candidate for the Board must reside in, and be a registered voter of, the district in which he or she seeks election at the time nomination papers are issued. Termination of residency in a district by a Director shall create an immediate vacancy for that election district unless a substitute residence within the district is established within thirty (30) days after the termination of residency.

**Section 3. PROCESSING.** The General Manager is authorized to make technical adjustments to the election district boundaries that do not substantively affect the populations in the districts, the eligibility of candidates, or the residence of elected officials within any district. The General Manager must consult with the District's legal counsel concerning any technical adjustments deemed necessary and advise the Board of any such adjustments required in the implementation of the election districts. The General Manager is directed to submit a copy of this Ordinance to the Elections Division of the Santa Barbara County Clerk, Recorder, and Assessor and Registrar of Voters, and to take any additional actions that are necessary to facilitate the completion of the transition to district-based elections in time for the November 2024 regular election.

**Section 4. TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.** Pursuant to Elections Code Section 22000, and such other provisions of law that may amend or replace said code section in the future, the Board may adjust the boundaries of the election districts identified on Exhibit "A" after each decennial federal census, commencing with the 2030 federal census, to ensure that the election districts are in compliance with all applicable laws.

**Section 5. SEVERABILITY.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The Board declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any portion of the Ordinance would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**Section 6. CEQA.** The Board finds that this ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code §§ 21000, et seq., "CEQA") in that it is not a "project" for purposes of CEQA (as defined by CEQA Guidelines § 15378). Specifically, this Ordinance proposes an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment (CEQA Guidelines § 15378(b)(5)). Further, even if this Ordinance were deemed a "project," and therefore subject to CEQA, the Ordinance adoption would be exempt as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment (CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3)).

**Section 7. PUBLICATION.** The Secretary of the Board is authorized and directed to publish this Ordinance, or a summary, once in a newspaper in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 6490.

**Section 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall take effect one week after the date of publication.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Goleta West Sanitary District on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2023.

Attachment: Exhibit A (Map A)

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**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing Ordinance was adopted by the Board of the Goleta West Sanitary District at a regular meeting thereof held on the \_\_\_\_\_ of October, 2023 by the following vote of the members thereof:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian McCarthy, Secretary

(SEAL)

APPROVED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eva Turenchalk, President

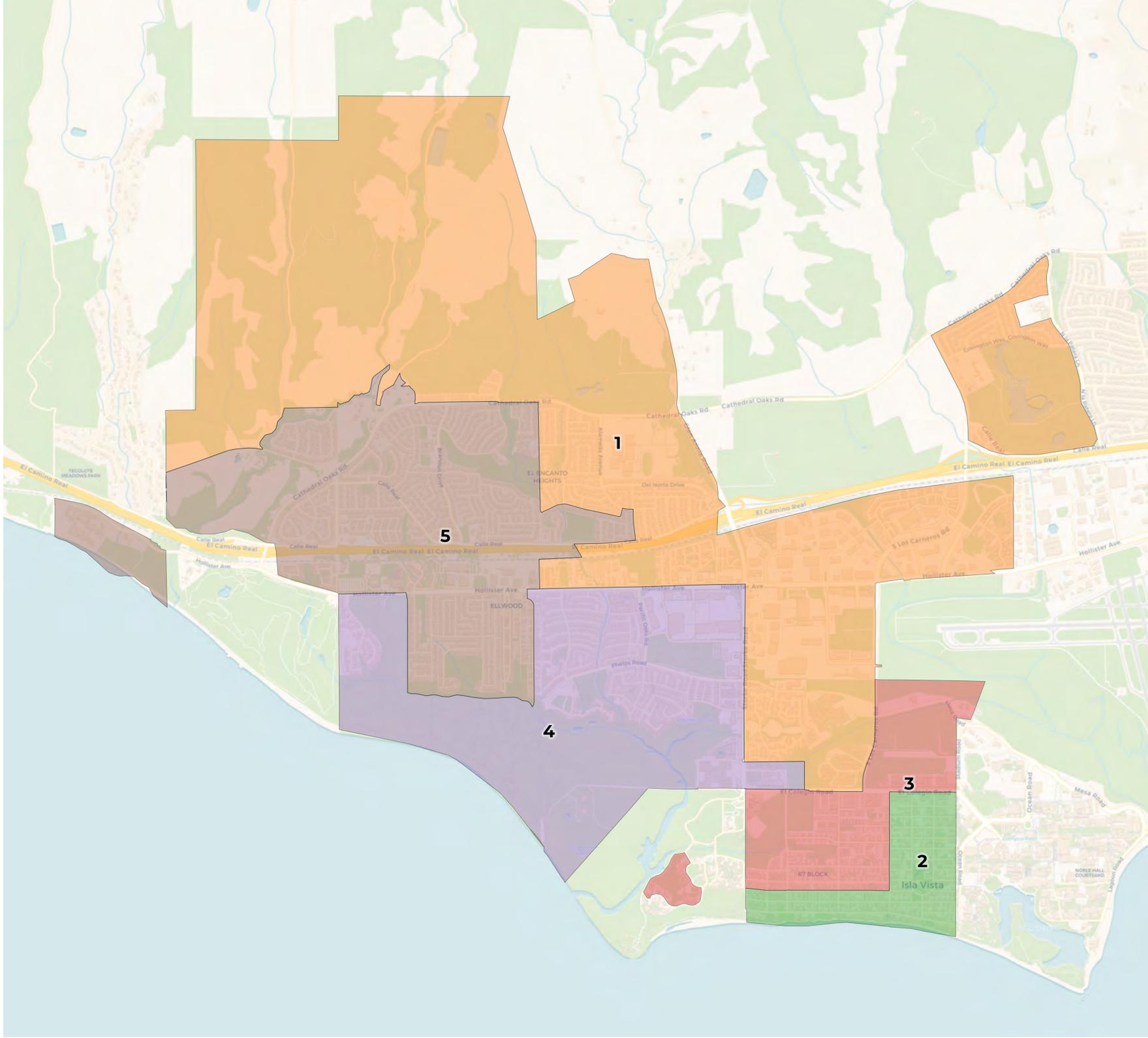
**ATTACHMENT**  
**Exhibit A (Map A)**



**REDISTRICTING  
PARTNERS**

# Goleta West Sanitary District

Map A



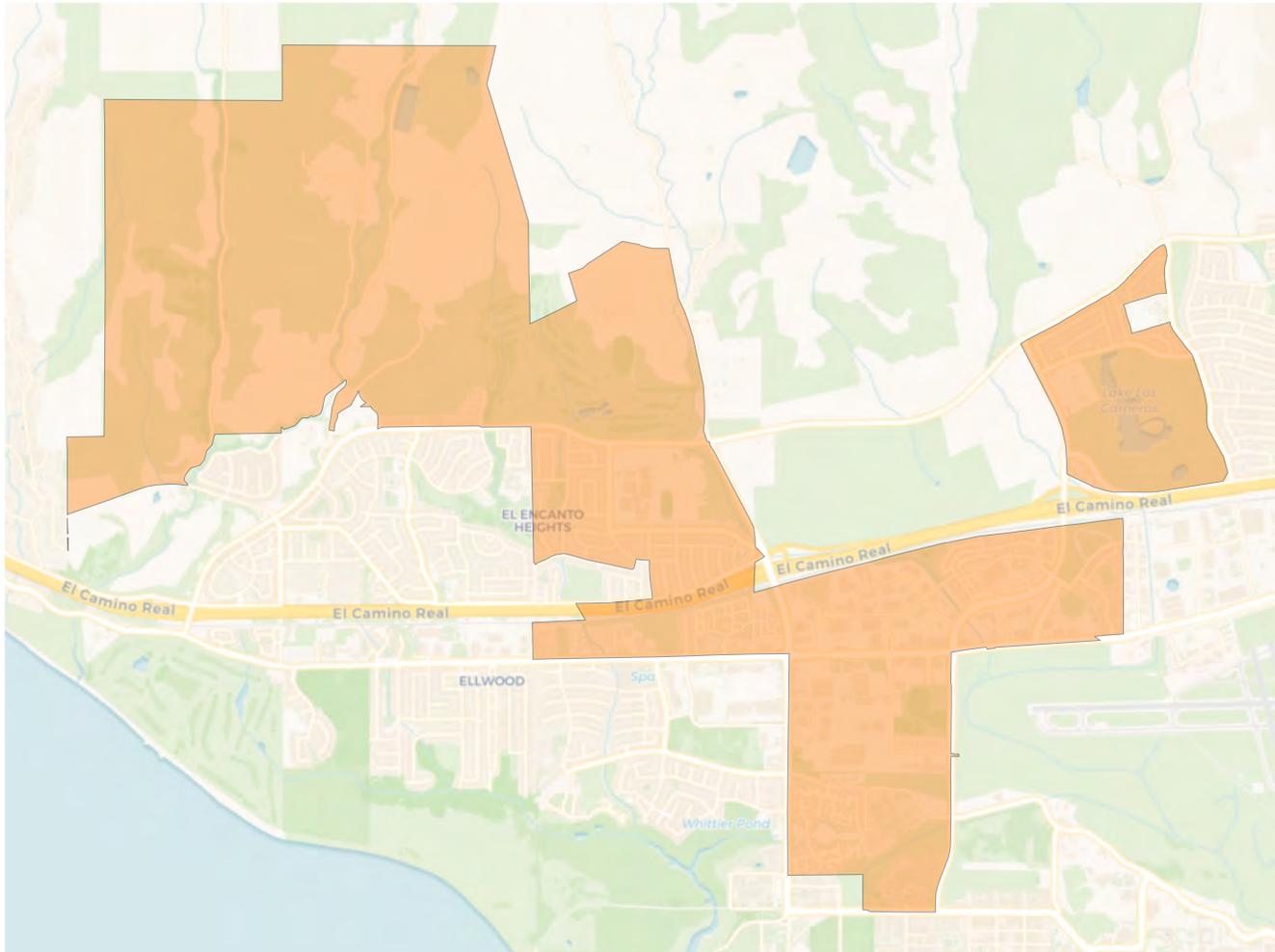
**2020 Census**

	1	2	3	4	5
Population	8,361	8,469	8,226	8,404	8,139
Deviation	41	149	-94	84	-181
Deviation %	0.5%	1.8%	-1.1%	1.0%	-2.2%
Other	4,176	4,529	3,681	4,412	4,235
Other %	49.9%	53.5%	44.7%	52.5%	52.0%
Latino	2,497	1,945	2,422	2,782	3,126
Latino %	29.9%	23.0%	29.4%	33.1%	38.4%
Asian	1,558	1,837	1,939	1,087	667
Asian %	18.6%	21.7%	23.6%	12.9%	8.2%
Black	130	158	184	123	111
Black %	1.6%	1.9%	2.2%	1.5%	1.4%

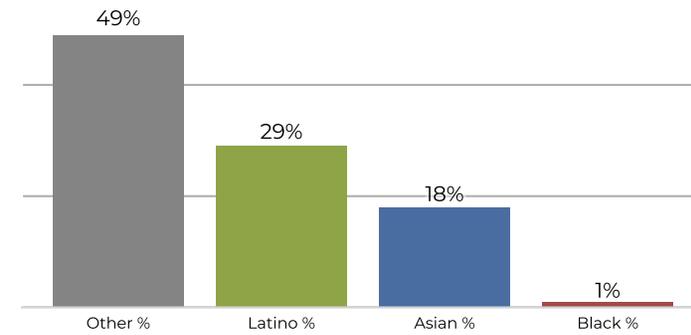
**Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)**

	1	2	3	4	5
Total CVAP	5,267	7,960	6,582	5,098	5,708
Other CVAP	3,167	4,847	4,043	3,249	3,350
Other CVAP %	60.1%	60.9%	61.4%	63.7%	58.7%
Latino CVAP	1,246	1,665	1,510	1,087	1,900
Latino CVAP %	23.7%	20.9%	22.9%	21.3%	33.3%
Asian CVAP	656	1,064	644	625	292
Asian CVAP %	12.5%	13.4%	9.8%	12.3%	5.1%
Black CVAP	198	384	385	137	166
Black CVAP %	3.8%	4.8%	5.8%	2.7%	2.9%

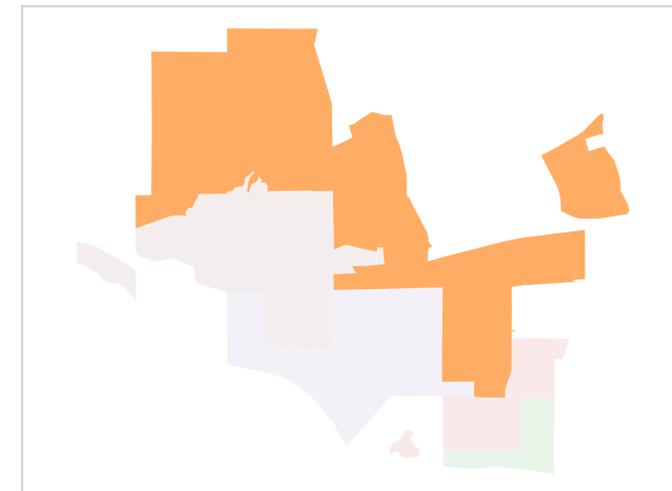
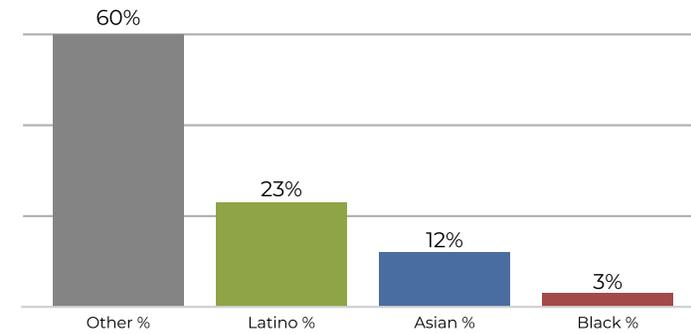
**District 1**



**2020 Census**

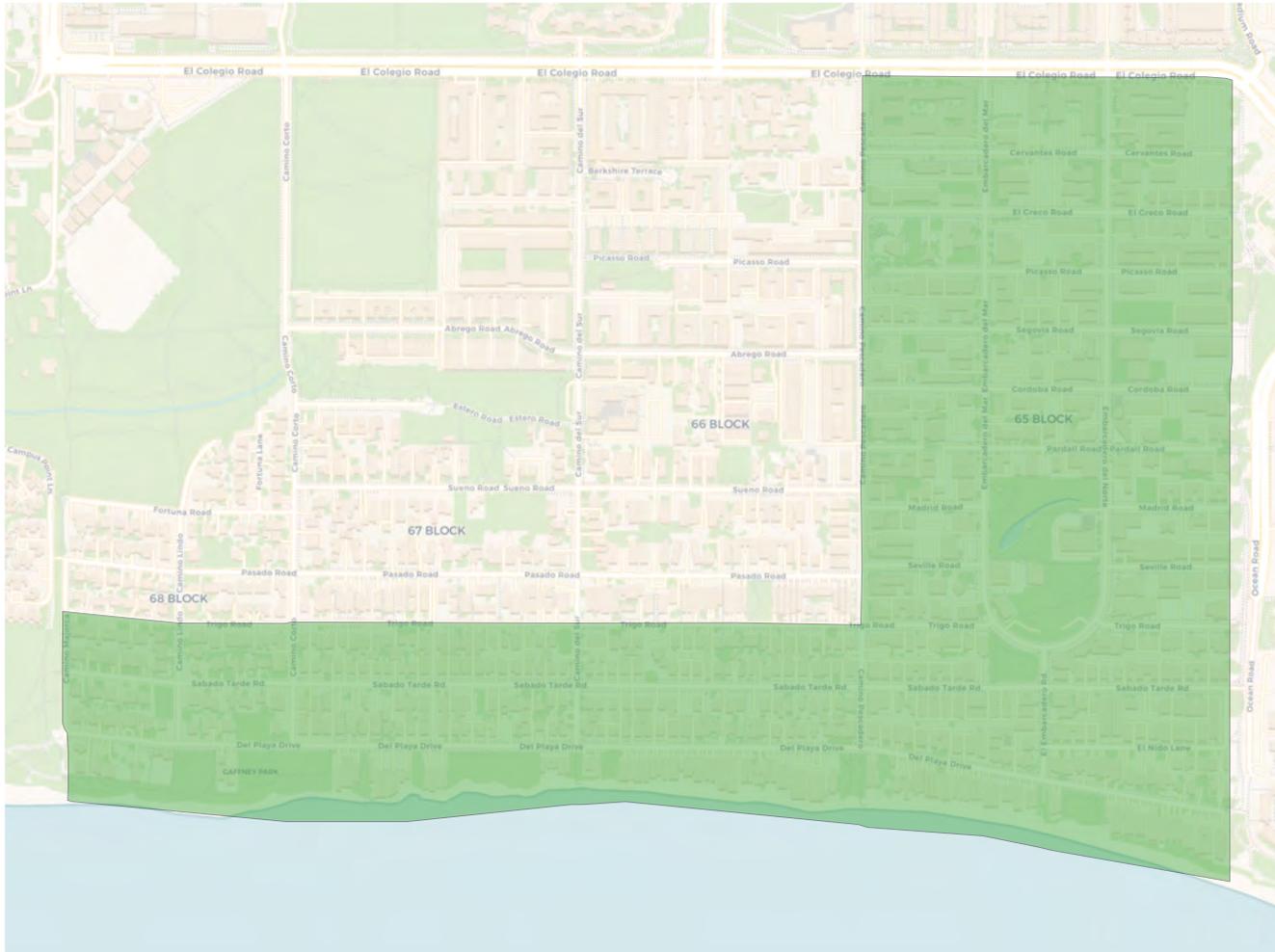


**Citizen Voting Age Population**

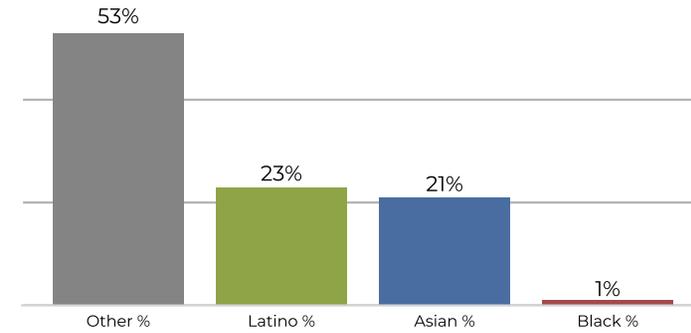


Population	Deviation	Deviation %	Other	Other %	Latino	Latino %	Asian	Asian %	Black	Black %
8,361	41	0.5%	4,176	49.9%	2,497	29.9%	1,558	18.6%	130	1.6%
Total CVAP	Other CVAP	Other CVAP %	Latino CVAP	Latino CVAP %	Asian CVAP	Asian CVAP %	Black CVAP	Black CVAP %		
5,267	3,167	60.1%	1,246	23.7%	656	12.5%	198	3.8%		

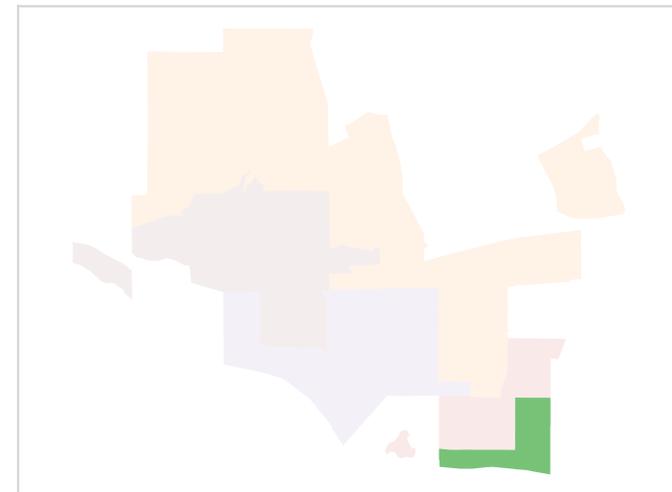
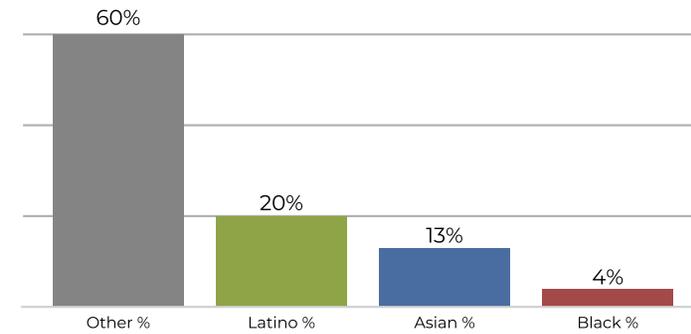
### District 2



### 2020 Census

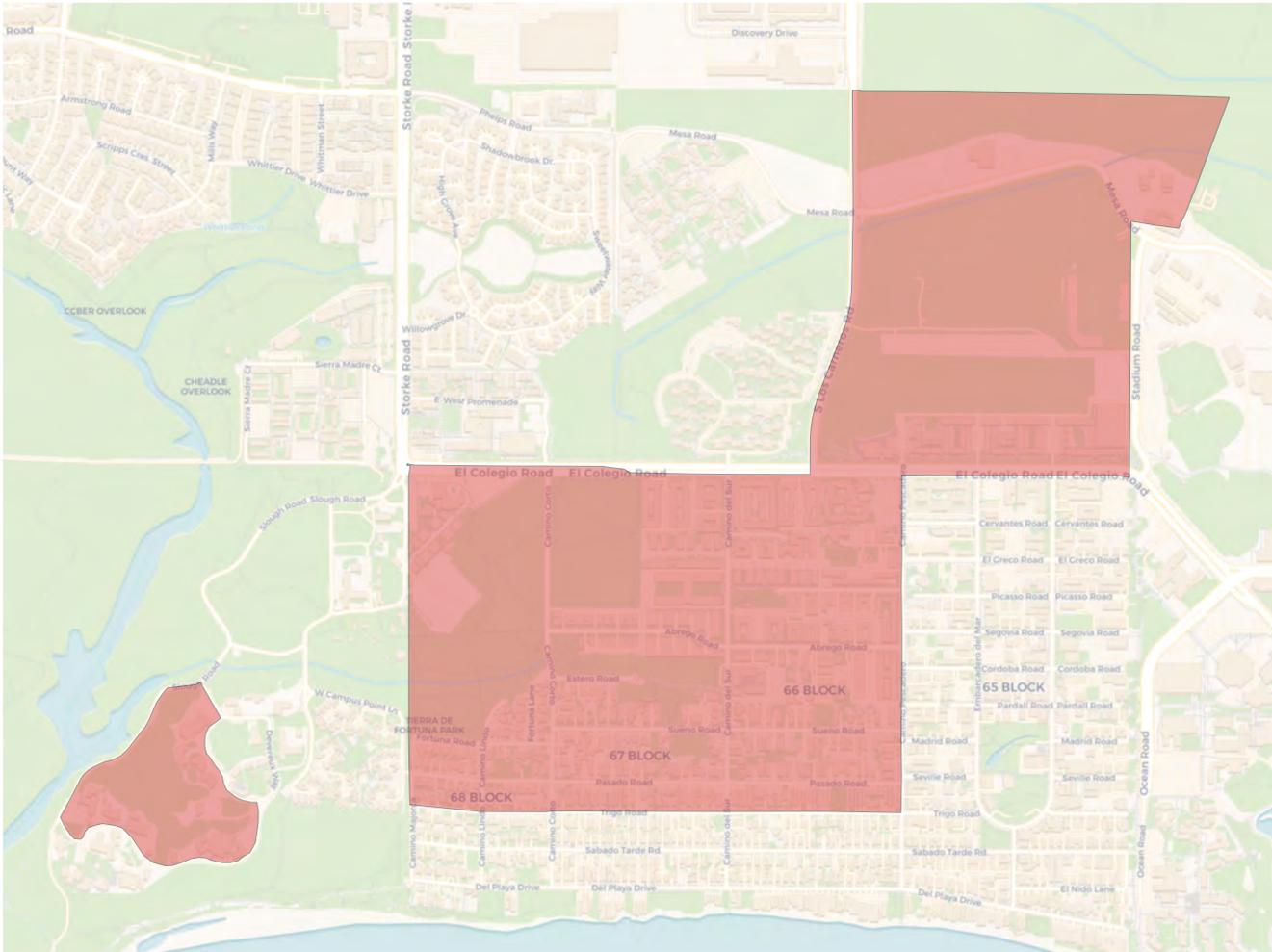


### Citizen Voting Age Population

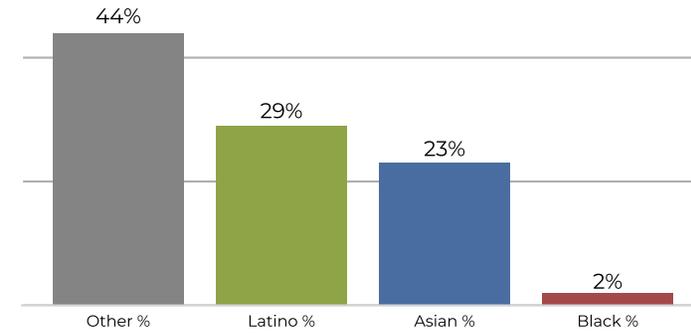


Population	Deviation	Deviation %	Other	Other %	Latino	Latino %	Asian	Asian %	Black	Black %
8,469	149	1.8%	4,529	53.5%	1,945	23.0%	1,837	21.7%	158	1.9%
Total CVAP	Other CVAP	Other CVAP %	Latino CVAP	Latino CVAP %	Asian CVAP	Asian CVAP %	Black CVAP	Black CVAP %		
7,960	4,847	60.9%	1,665	20.9%	1,064	13.4%	384	4.8%		

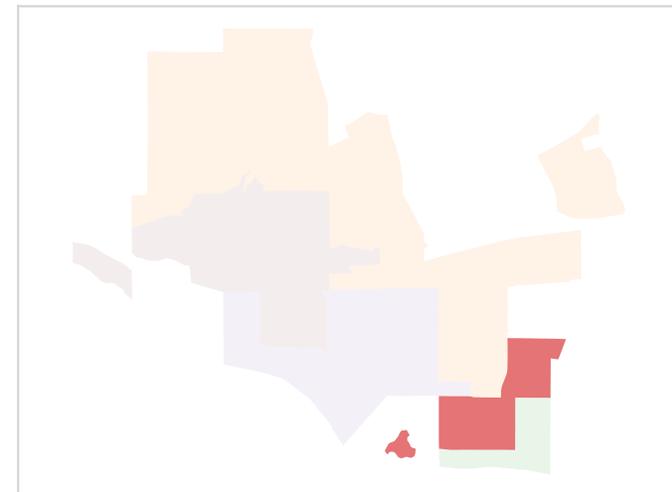
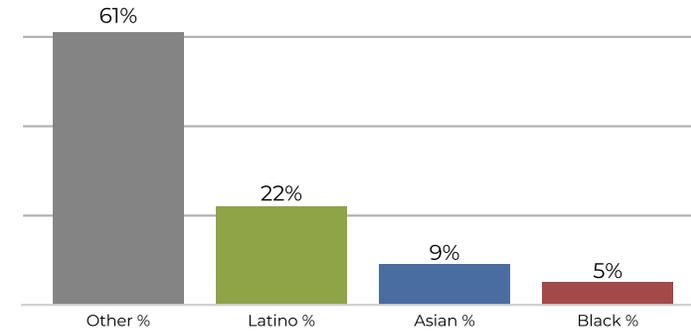
**District 3**



**2020 Census**

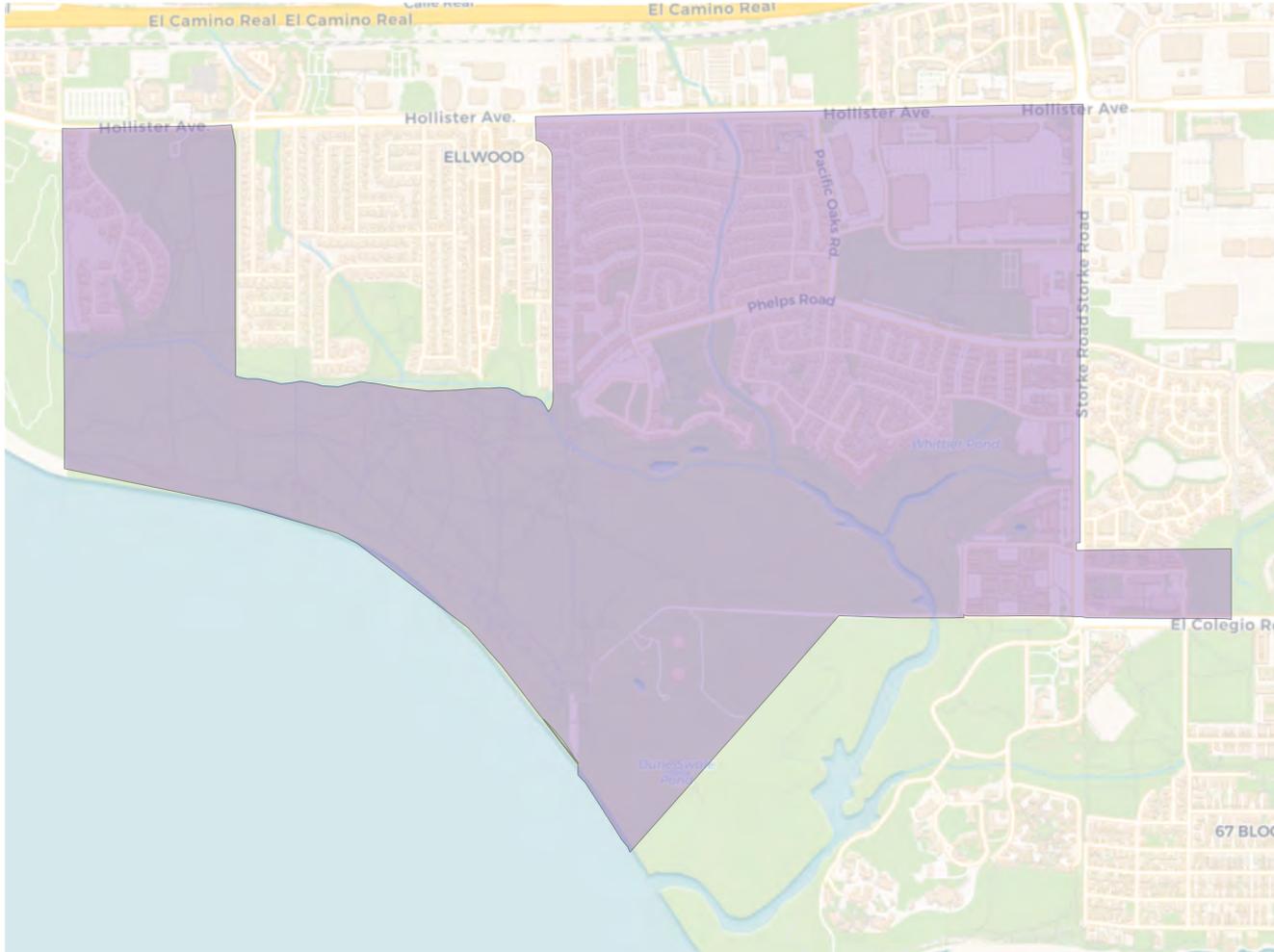


**Citizen Voting Age Population**

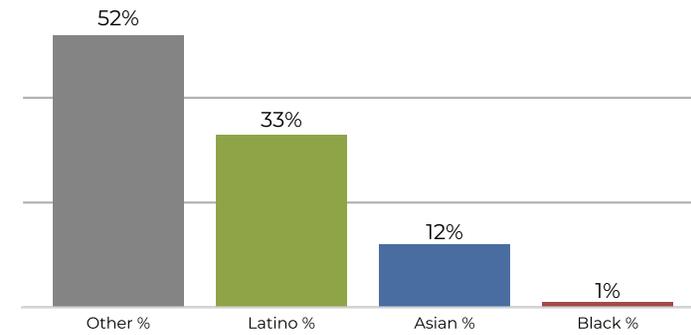


Population	Deviation	Deviation %	Other	Other %	Latino	Latino %	Asian	Asian %	Black	Black %
8,226	-94	-1.1%	3,681	44.7%	2,422	29.4%	1,939	23.6%	184	2.2%
Total CVAP	Other CVAP	Other CVAP %	Latino CVAP	Latino CVAP %	Asian CVAP	Asian CVAP %	Black CVAP	Black CVAP %		
6,582	4,043	61.4%	1,510	22.9%	644	9.8%	385	5.8%		

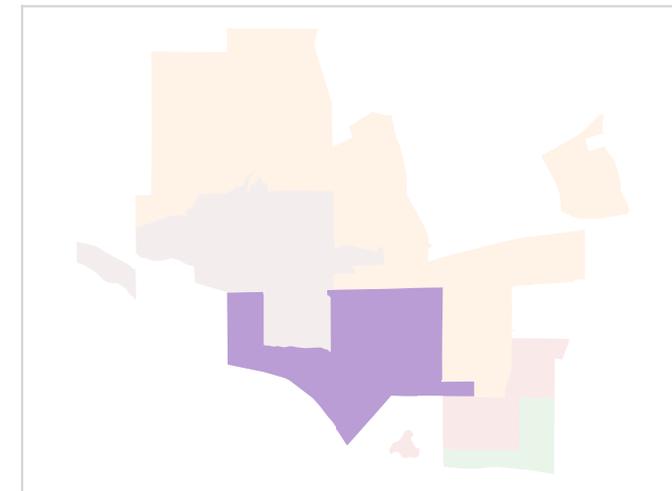
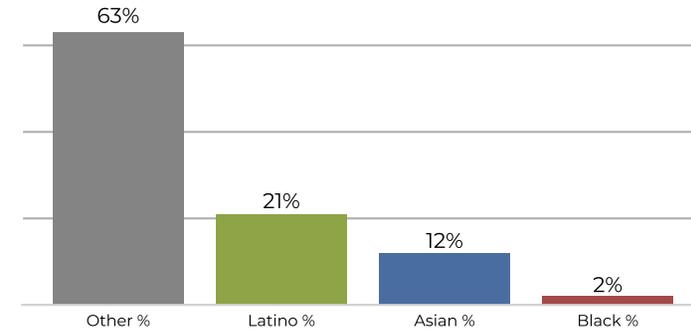
**District 4**



**2020 Census**

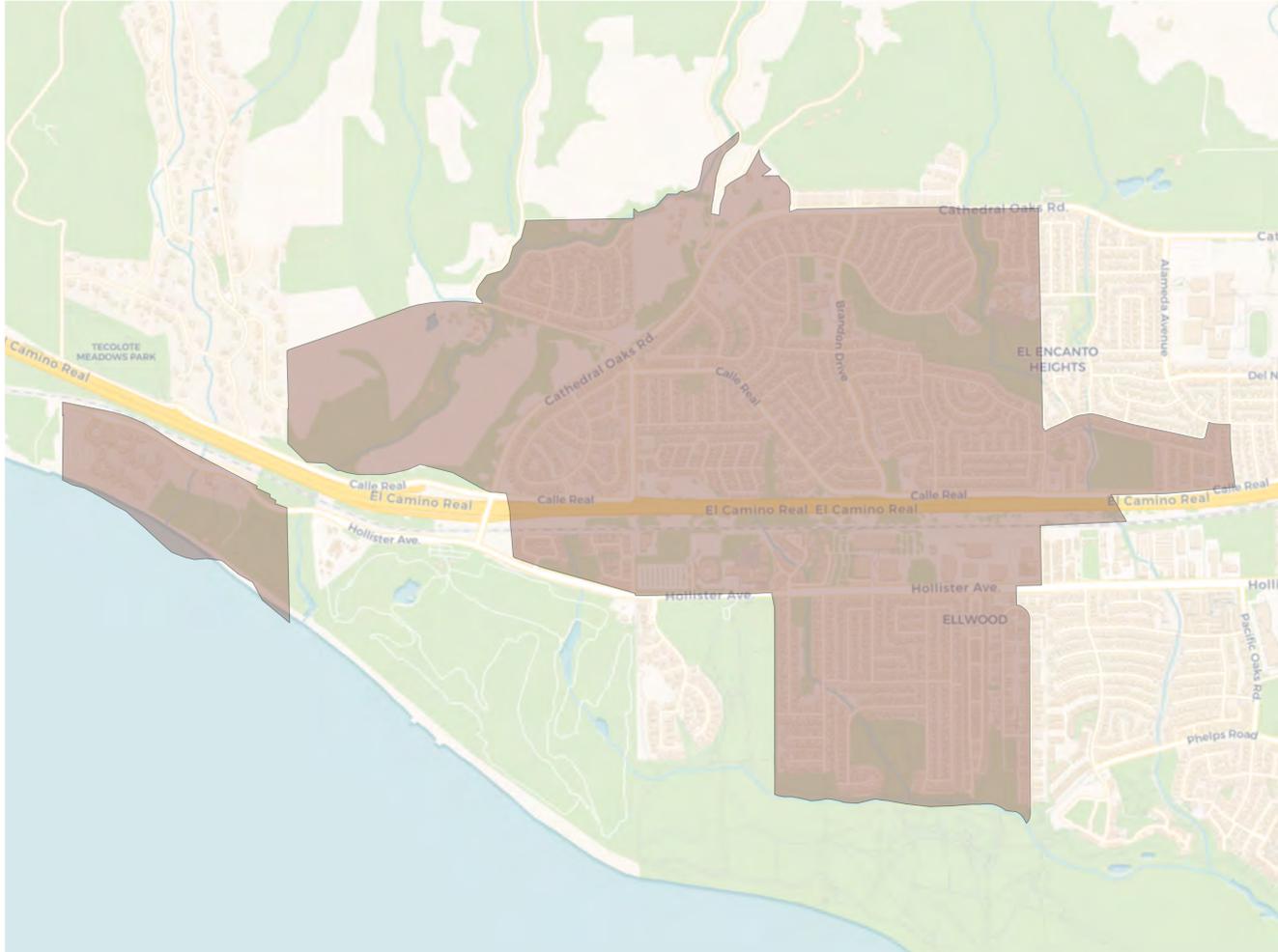


**Citizen Voting Age Population**

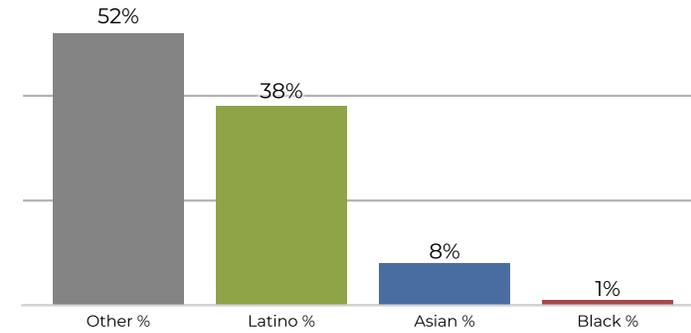


Population	Deviation	Deviation %	Other	Other %	Latino	Latino %	Asian	Asian %	Black	Black %
8,404	84	1.0%	4,412	52.5%	2,782	33.1%	1,087	12.9%	123	1.5%
Total CVAP	Other CVAP	Other CVAP %	Latino CVAP	Latino CVAP %	Asian CVAP	Asian CVAP %	Black CVAP	Black CVAP %		
5,098	3,249	63.7%	1,087	21.3%	625	12.3%	137	2.7%		

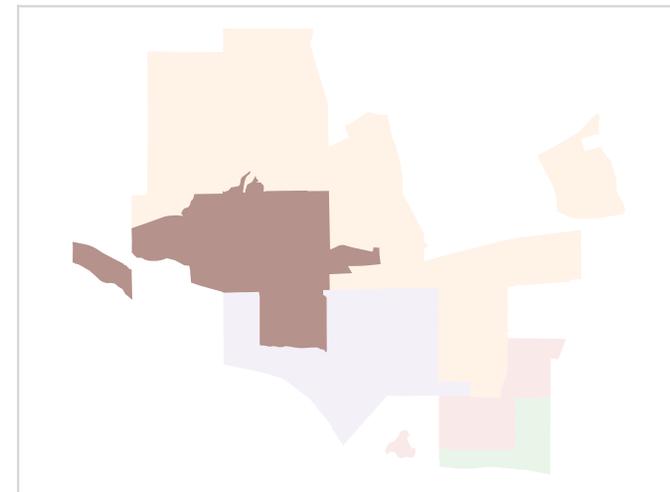
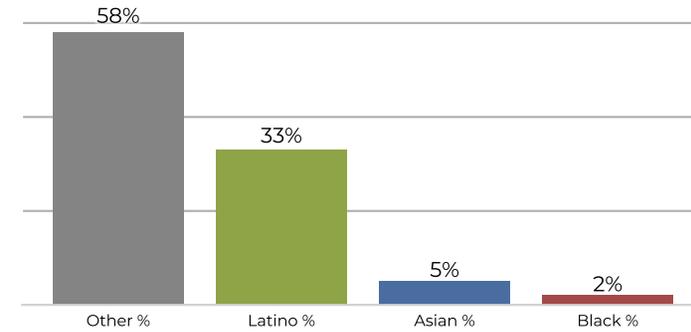
**District 5**



**2020 Census**



**Citizen Voting Age Population**



Population	Deviation	Deviation %	Other	Other %	Latino	Latino %	Asian	Asian %	Black	Black %
8,139	-181	-2.2%	4,235	52.0%	3,126	38.4%	667	8.2%	111	1.4%
Total CVAP	Other CVAP	Other CVAP %	Latino CVAP	Latino CVAP %	Asian CVAP	Asian CVAP %	Black CVAP	Black CVAP %		
5,708	3,350	58.7%	1,900	33.3%	292	5.1%	166	2.9%		