

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-07

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY, CALIFORNIA,
SPECIFYING THE CRITERIA TO GUIDE THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTORAL DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, at its March 8, 2017 meeting, the City Council, adopted a resolution formally initiating the process of establishing by-district elections for the City Council, beginning in November 2018, and approving a timeline for conducting a public process and adopting an appropriate ordinance pursuant to Government Code section 34886; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to that timeline, on March 8, 2017, the City Council and the public received presentation regarding the procedures and legal and policy criteria governing districting, and received public comment regarding appropriate criteria; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has fully considered the presentations of its consultants and all of the public comments received; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now wishes to adopt criteria to guide the establishment of electoral districts consistent with legal requirements, including reasonably equal population and Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act, and which address other concerns and considerations important to the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- A. The above recitals are true and correct.
- B. The City Council hereby adopts the criteria identified in Exhibit A to this Resolution as criteria to guide the establishment of electoral districts.
- C. The City's demographic consulting firm, acting under the supervision of the City Manager, is hereby authorized and directed to formulate one or more electoral district plan scenarios based upon the criteria specified in Exhibit A for review by the public and by the City Council in accordance with the adopted timeline.
- D. The City Manager shall consult with legal counsel to resolve all legal issues necessary to give effect to this Resolution.

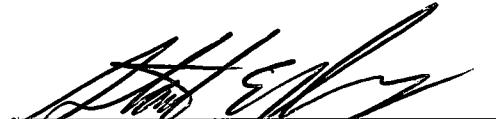
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cathedral City held on this 8th day of March, 2017, by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Aguilar, Carnevale and Kaplan; Mayor Pro Tem Pettis and Mayor Henry

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None



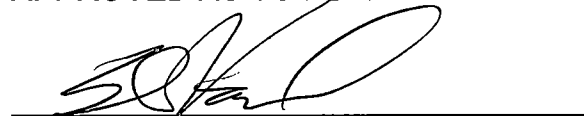
Stanley E. Henry, Mayor

ATTEST:



Gary F. Howell, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

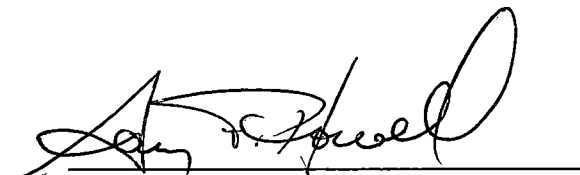


Eric S. Vail, City Attorney

CERTIFICATION

I, Gary F. Howell, City Clerk to the City Council of the City of Cathedral City, certify that the foregoing Resolution was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the City Council at its regular meeting held on March 8, 2017.

DATED: March 8, 2017



Gary F. Howell
City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

Specification of Criteria to Guide the Establishment of Electoral Districts

1. The boundaries of the electoral districts shall be established so that the electoral districts are equal in population as defined by law.
2. The boundaries of the electoral districts shall not be gerrymandered in violation of the principles established by the United States Supreme Court in *Shaw v. Reno*, 509 U.S. 630 (1993), and its progeny.
3. The boundaries of the electoral districts shall be established so that the electoral districts do not result in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen to vote on account of race or color as provided in Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act.
4. The boundaries of the electoral districts shall observe communities of interest as identified in public comment or identified by the city council, including, but not limited to rural or urban populations; social interests; agricultural, industrial or service industry interests; residential and commercial areas, the location of city facilities and historical sites, and the like, insofar as practicable.
5. The boundaries of the electoral districts shall be compact, insofar as practicable.
6. The boundaries of the electoral districts shall be created to contain cohesive, contiguous territory, insofar as practicable.
7. The boundaries of the electoral districts may observe topography and geography, such as the existence of mountains, flat land, forest lands, man-made geographical features such as highways, major roadways and canals, etc., as natural divisions between districts, insofar as practicable.
8. Unless otherwise required by law, the electoral districts shall be created using whole census blocks, insofar as practicable.
9. The boundaries of the electoral districts may avoid the "pairing" of incumbents in the same electoral district, insofar as this does not conflict with the constitution and laws of the State of California and the United States.
10. The boundaries of the electoral districts shall comply with such other factors which become known during the districting process and are formally adopted by the City Council.