



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Give Input on Goleta's Communities of Interest to Help Draw Boundaries for City's Move to District Elections**

#### ***City Council to hold Second Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 17th***

**GOLETA, CA, August 13, 2021** – Now is the time to provide input on Goleta's Communities of Interest as the City moves to District Elections for the first time beginning in November of 2022. The City Council will hold its second Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to solicit input regarding the composition of the districts prior to considering draft maps, and to identify neighborhoods and communities of interest that may benefit from being kept together in one district.

With district elections, the City will be divided into four districts, and voters in each district will elect a City Council member who lives in their own district. The Mayor will continue to be elected by voters across Goleta. Identifying Communities of Interests is an important part of drawing district lines.

A community of interest is a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that would benefit from being included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest may be overlapping sets of neighborhoods, networks, or groups that share interests, views, cultures, histories, languages, and values, and whose boundaries can be identified on a map.

A list of potential communities of interest will be presented to the City Council for approval on August 17<sup>th</sup>. A link to the Staff Report which includes this list is [available here](#). If you think other communities of interest should be included on this list, please email them to Goleta City Clerk Deborah Lopez at [dlopez@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:dlopez@cityofgoleta.org) or provide public comment at the City Council meeting.

For more information, including how to draw your own district boundaries map, go to [www.DrawGoleta.org](http://www.DrawGoleta.org). Maps are due by January 6, 2022, to be considered.

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