

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02

On motion of Director *Radliff*
Duly seconded by Director *Scanlon*
The following Resolution is adopted.

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING A FINAL DISTRICT PLAN
FOR THE CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT'S TRANSITION TO A
BY-DISTRICT ELECTION SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2021, the Governing Board ("Board") of the Central Fire District ("District") passed Resolution No. 2021-03 initiating the process for the District to transition from an "at-large" election system to a "by-district" election system commencing with the November 2022 General Elections.

WHEREAS, in approving Resolution No. 2021-03, the Board understood that the California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA") prohibits the use of an "at-large" election system for governing board members of government entity if the "at-large" elections impair the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice, or its ability to influence the outcome of an election.

WHEREAS, the District used qualified professionals to assist with the transition to by-district election system including preparation of the proposed district area plans for consideration by the District, Board, and community. These professionals have extensive experience working with special districts and local jurisdictions regarding electoral demographics, taking into consideration the CVRA, the Federal Voting Rights Act, and related election system requirements.

WHEREAS, the Board was presented six alternative district area plans, to wit: "Green", "Orange", "Orange II", "Purple", "Purple II", and "Olive".

WHEREAS, all six of the proposed district area plan boundaries were drawn to be and are found to be consistent with all applicable laws and regulations, including the CVRA and Federal Voting Rights Act and federal election law.

WHEREAS, the District conducted pre-map adoption public hearings at its Regular Board Meeting on November 18, 2021, and at a Special Board Meeting on December 2, 2021. Thereafter the District presented the "Green", "Orange", "Purple", and "Olive" proposed district area plans at the public hearing during its Regular Board Meeting on January 13, 2022. Thereafter the District presented the "Orange II", and "Purple II" proposed district area plans at the public hearing at its Regular Board Meeting on February 10, 2022.

WHEREAS, the District further made the "Green", "Orange", "Purple" and "Olive" proposed district area plans available for public review and comment at the local public libraries, and on the District's website on January 6, 2022. The District made the "Orange II", and "Purple II" proposed district area plans available for public review and comment at the local public libraries and on the District's website on February 3, 2022.

WHEREAS, with thoughtful consideration of all public input received on the six draft district area plans and applicable state and federal laws, the Board indicated its desire to adopt the district area plan and demographic information described as in the "Purple II Map" as the final district area plan establishing the boundaries for the new election districts.

WHEREAS, to complete the CVRA Conversion in time for the November 2022 General Election the final District plan must be submitted to the Santa Cruz County Recorder's Office before April 17, 2022. In consideration of the late release of the 2020 Redistricting Census Data on September 30, 2021, a timeline was posted on the District's website and represented at each of the four public hearings held on November 18, 2021, December 2, 2021, January 6, 2022, and February 10, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, ORDER AND DETERMINE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.
2. The Board hereby approves the district area plan and demographic information described as "Purple II Map" as the final district area plan for the District's transition to a by-district election system commencing with the November 2022 general Elections.
3. The by-district system of elections shall be implemented, beginning at the general election held in November 2022, as follows:
 - a. Members of the Board in districts 4 & 5 shall serve until the completion of the elections of November 2022 and thereafter members be elected in districts 4 & 5 beginning at the general election in November 2022, and every four years thereafter; and
 - b. Members of the Board in Districts 1, 2 & 3 shall serve until the completion of the elections of November 2024 and thereafter be elected in districts 1, 2 & 3 beginning at the general election in November 2024, and every four years thereafter.
4. The Board hereby authorizes and directs staff to transmit this resolution, the final district area plan, and any additional required documentation and to take any other necessary action to effectuate the purposes of this resolution and complete the District's transition to a by-district election system in time for the November 2022 General Election.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Central Fire District of Santa Cruz County, this 10th day of February 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: 4
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1
ABSTAIN: 0

ATTEST:


Orbrad Darbro, Board Chair


Fire Chief John Walbridge, Secretary to the Board