



ELECTING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES BY DISTRICT

AT A GLANCE

- The City of Hesperia has changed how City Council Members are elected and switched from an at-large election system to a district-based election system.
- In 2017, the City's new by-district election system created new geographic boundaries for the City's five (5) districts.
- Voters in each district select one council representative who also lives in that district.

MORE INFORMATION

How will by-district elections work?

Voters will only vote for the City Council position up for election in their specific district. All five current Council Members will continue to represent the City at-large until their term ends. At the end of their terms, the Council Members can run for re-election in the district that they currently live in if they wish to.

- District 1: Rebekah Swanson, serving at-large until term ends December 2020
- District 2: William J. Holland, term ends December 2018
- District 3: Paul Russ, term ends December 2018
- District 4: Jeremiah Brosowski, appointed term ends December 2018
- District 5: Larry Bird, serving at-large until term ends December 2020

How do I find out what district I live in?

Residents can look up their district by accessing the District Map on-line at: www.cityofhesperia.us/FindMyDistrict. If you do not have access to a computer, contact the City Clerk's Office (760) 947-1026 or in person at Hesperia City Hall, 9700 Seventh Ave., City Clerk's Office, Second Floor.

Will I have a new polling location?

The City of Hesperia consolidates its elections with the County of San Bernardino to administer the election. Due to the transition to districts, precincts may change for City voters. Voters should check their Voter Information Guide for any changes to the location of their polling place. Voter can also find their polling location on-line at: <http://www.sbcountyelections.com/Voting/PPL.aspx>

What is the difference between by-district elections and previous at-large elections?

Previously, Council Members were elected by all registered voters in the City. On November 6, 2018, voters in Districts 2, 3, and 4 will select one Council representative who must live in that district. Council Members in Districts 1 and 5 will continue to serve at-large until the November 2020 election.

Why the change to district-based elections?

The City of Hesperia received a letter in December of 2015 from the Law Offices of Shenkman & Hughes and in January of 2016 from the Law Office of Robert D. Conway which stated that the City's use of an "at-large" election system for City Council elections dilutes the voting strength of Latino voters in the City, asserting that the City is in violation of the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (CVRA) and demanded that the City convert to a district-based election system. At the time the letters were received, over 130 local governments had switched to by-district elections as a result of actual or threatened litigation. No local government has successfully defended a CVRA lawsuit. Therefore, the City chose to switch to by-district elections to avoid potentially costly unsuccessful litigation.

Who created the district boundaries?

Draft District Maps were developed following three opportunities for the public to comment on how they would like to see the community divided into Districts for District-based City Council Elections. On June 6, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance 2017-09 changing the City's Electoral System from at-large to district-based elections, established the District Boundaries, and scheduling the elections within the district.