

STAFF REPORT

To: Coastside County Water District Board of Directors

From: Mary Rogren, General Manager

Agenda: January 25, 2022

Report Date: January 20, 2022

Subject: Redistricting Based on 2020 Census Data and First Public Hearing on the Proposal to Adjust the Boundaries of the Zones

Recommendation:

No action required.

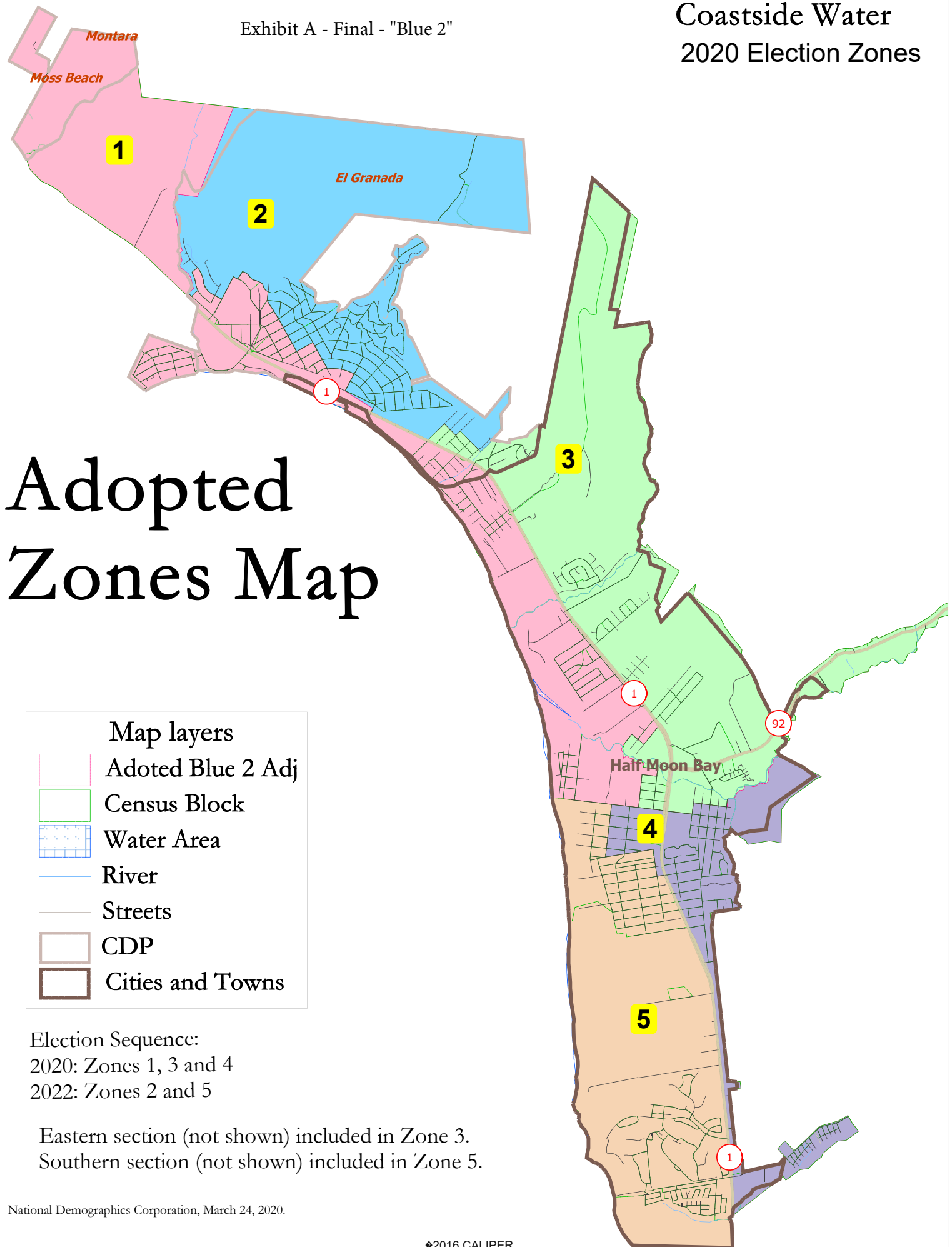
Background:

On February 11, 2020, the Board of Directors of the Coastside County Water District adopted Ordinance No. 2020-01 approving the change from at-large to zone-based elections for the election of members of the Board of Directors commencing in November of 2020 in furtherance of the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act. The District established an electoral system with zone-based elections for the election of its Board members commencing November 2020 with five (5) zones and adopted the “Blue 2” map (Exhibit A.)

The Elections Code section 22000 et seq. provides that following each decennial federal census and using that census as a base, the Board shall adopt boundaries for any or all of the election zones so that the zones shall be substantially equal in population. Because the deviation in the population varied greater than 10% from the 2010 census (used in the establishing the map adopted on February 11, 2020) and the 2020 census, the District must adopt a new map of the five (5) election zones.

This is the first public hearing for the District’s Board of Directors to receive public input with regard to geography, population, and communities of interest to assist the District in drawing five (5) zones that are in compliance with the federal and California Voting Rights Acts.

Joe Armenta from Redistricting Partners LLC, the District’s demographer, will provide an overview of the process and will present three different options for maps. (See Exhibit B.)





Coastside County Water District 2022 Redistricting



Overview

This presentation will cover a range of topics and expand on the technical aspects of the redistricting process.

- What is Redistricting?
- Traditional Redistricting Principles
- Fair Maps Act 2019
- State and Federal Voting Rights Act
- Census Data
- Draft Maps
- Next Steps

What is Redistricting?

Redistricting is the process of adjusting district lines every 10 years after the release of the U.S. Census. The well-known examples are Congress and the state Legislature.

This is important in order to meet two requirements - one constitutional, one from Supreme Court precedent:

- *Equal Representation (14th Amendment)* - how effective any resident can be at advocating for themselves or being represented within a jurisdiction.
- *One Person One Vote* - equal ability to elect a candidate of choice.

Traditional Redistricting Principles

Preventing a Districting from Becoming a Gerrymander

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

- Relatively equal size – people, not citizens
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function
- Maintain “*communities of interest*”
- Follow city/county/local government lines

Communities of Interest

Bringing like-minded people together for representation

A community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

Communities covered by the Voting Rights Act

- Latinos
- Asians
- African Americans

While race is a community of interest, it cannot be the *predominant factor* in drawing districts.

Fair Maps Act (2019)

Preventing a Districting from Becoming a Gerrymander

Starting in 2020, cities and counties doing redistricting have additional criteria they must follow under the California Fair Maps Act. This becomes a “best practice” for all agencies.

- Process/transparency when conducting redistricting
- Not using incumbent or candidate residence as a Community of Interest
- Not drawing districts to advantage a political party

These rules do not currently apply directly to special districts, but redistricting best practices will likely push most agencies to voluntarily adopting them.

What is the Voting Rights Act?

The Voting Rights Act is federal law that seeks to remedy racial disenfranchisement. It has two sections impacting redistricting:

Section 2 – Majority Minority Districts

Section 5 – Preclearance (inactive)

The California Voting Rights Act prohibits the use of At Large Election Systems in local government if there is Racially Polarized Voting. *This does not apply to CCWD (already districted).*

What is the Voting Rights Act?

The Voting Rights Act Section 2 is enforced when a jurisdiction meets certain preconditions:

- 1) A minority group must be sufficiently large and geographically compact to comprise a majority of the district;
- 2) The minority group must be politically cohesive (it must demonstrate a pattern of voting for the same candidates, also known as “bloc voting”); and,
- 3) A majority of voters vote sufficiently as a bloc usually to defeat the minority group’s preferred candidate.

What is the Voting Rights Act?

Determining Section 2 obligation requires legal counsel and sometimes a racially polarized voting analysis.

- Does the minority population qualify under Section 2?
- Is the proposed district a sufficient remedy – is it an “effective” majority minority district?
- Is there a claim for a coalition district?
- *Without Section 2, a community of interest can still be supported but race cannot be a predominant factor in drawing lines.*

Census Data

Two different datasets most commonly used in redistricting:

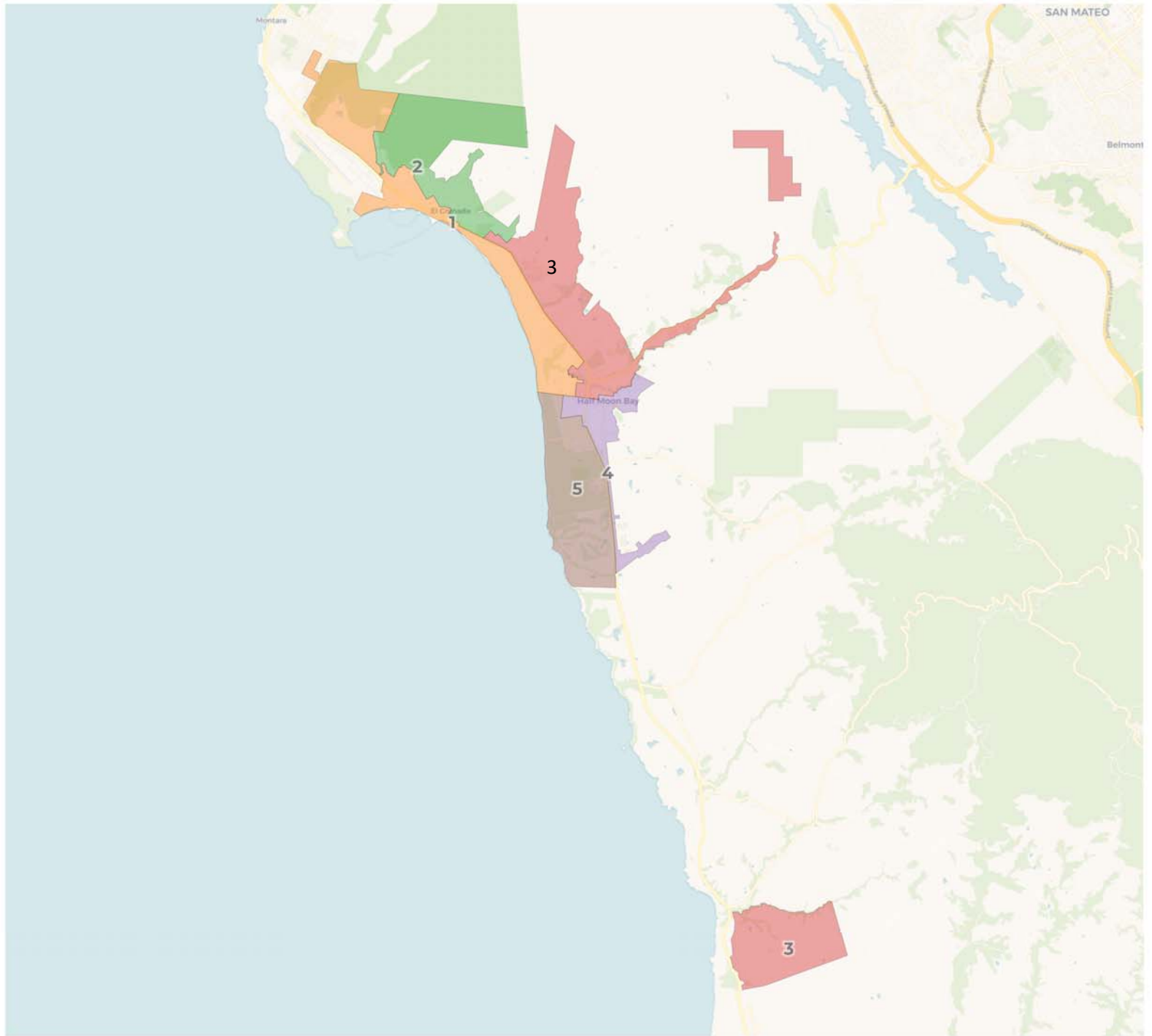
- PL 94-171 - the Decennial Census File
 - Census Block Geography
 - Total Population Counts for April 1, 2020, used to determine the size of each district
 - Required to be released before April 1, 2021, but was delayed until September 20th, with a “legacy” dataset released on Aug. 12th

The mechanics of Redistricting

Census Data

Two different datasets most commonly used in redistricting:

- American Community Survey (ACS)
 - Census Block Group and Census Tract or larger geographies
 - Results in estimated data that provides more context to the Census results with demographic and socioeconomic info.
 - Provides Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)



2020 Census

	1	2	3	4	5
Population	4,725	3,143	3,320	3,282	3,872
Deviation	1,057	-525	-348	-386	204
Deviation %	28.8%	-14.3%	-9.5%	-10.5%	5.6%
Other	3,257	2,534	1,922	1,642	2,936
Other %	68.9%			50.0%	75.8%
Latino	1,247			1,396	672
Latino %	26.4%	14.0%	36.2%	42.5%	17.4%
Asian	182	155	177	211	246
Asian %	3.9%	4.9%	5.3%	6.4%	6.4%
Black	39	15	20	33	18
Black %	0.8%	0.5%	0.6%	1.0%	0.5%

Total Plan Deviation: 43.1%

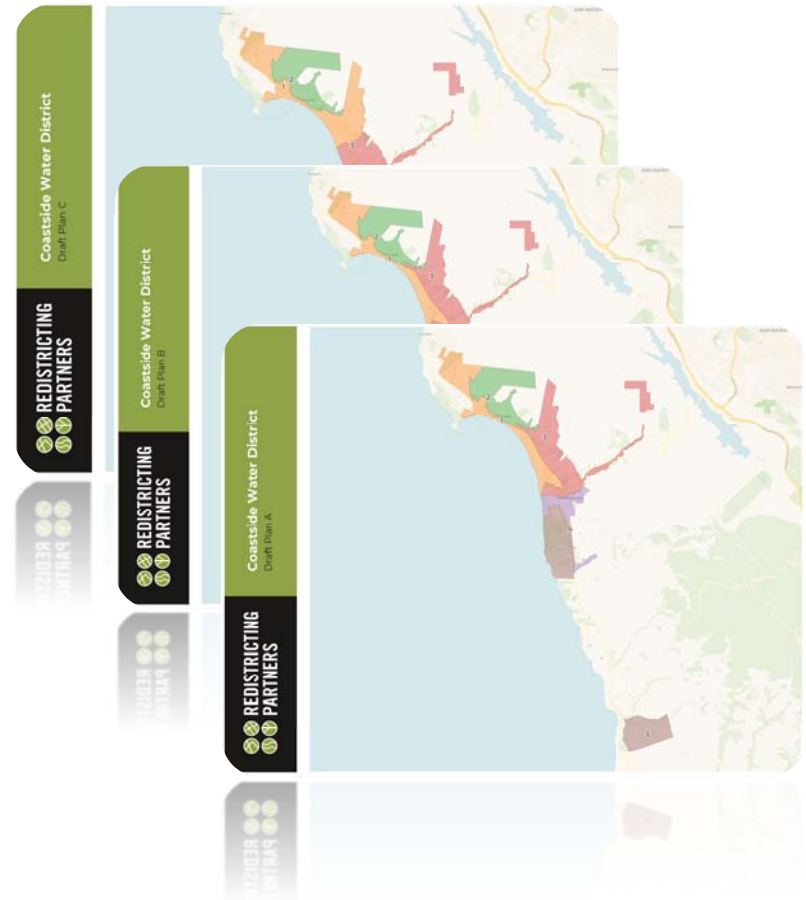
Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)

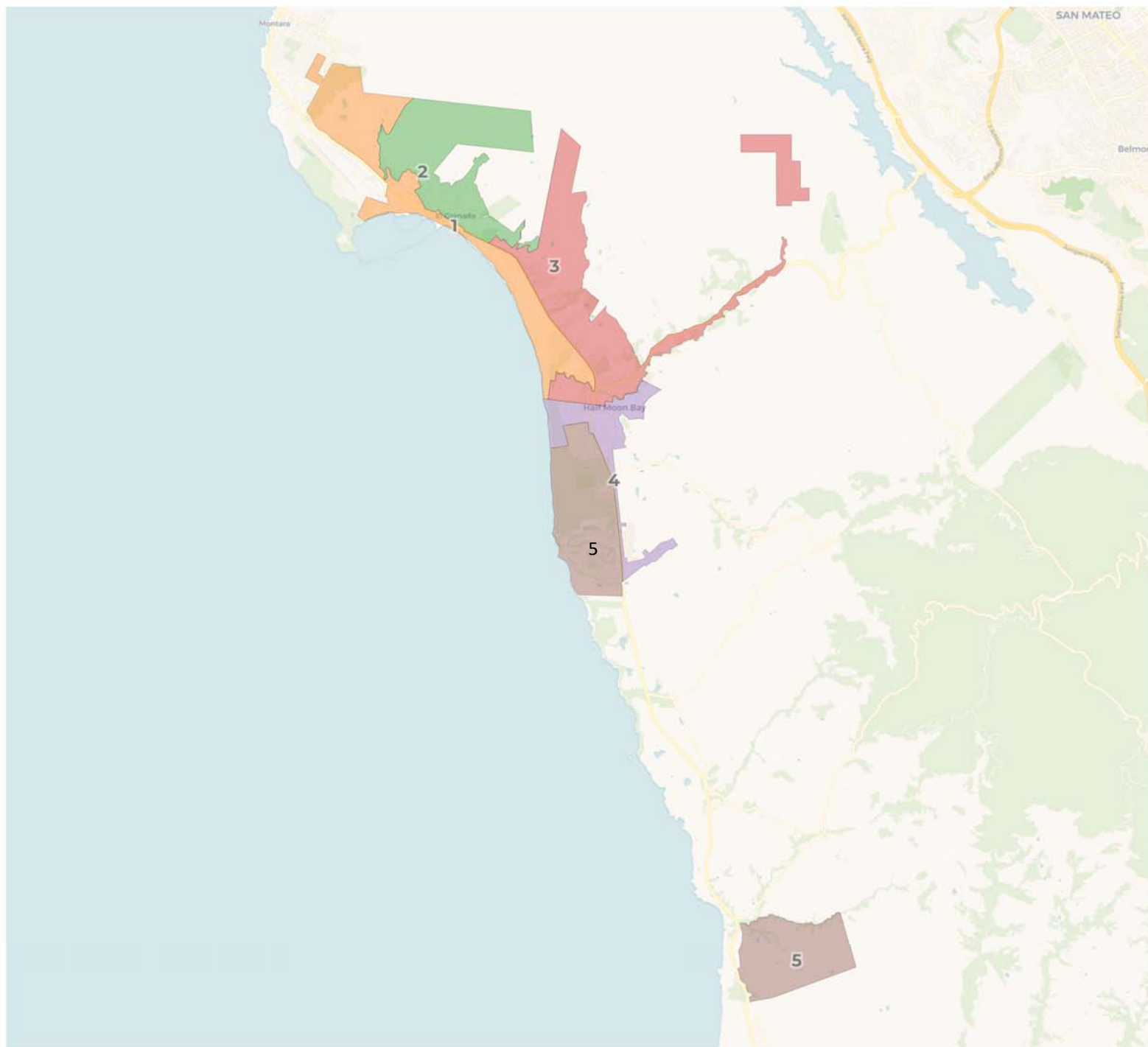
	1	2	3	4	5
Total CVAP	3,616	2,352	2,531	1,863	3,085
Other CVAP	2,624	1,855	1,834	1,416	2,729
Other CVAP %	72.6%	78.8%	72.5%	76.0%	88.5%
Latino CVAP	775	371	505	300	135
Latino CVAP %	21.4%	15.8%	20.0%	16.1%	4.4%
Asian CVAP	196	127	182	146	221
Asian CVAP %	5.4%	5.4%	7.2%	7.8%	7.2%
Black CVAP	20	0	9	0	0
Black CVAP %	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%

Draft Map Plans

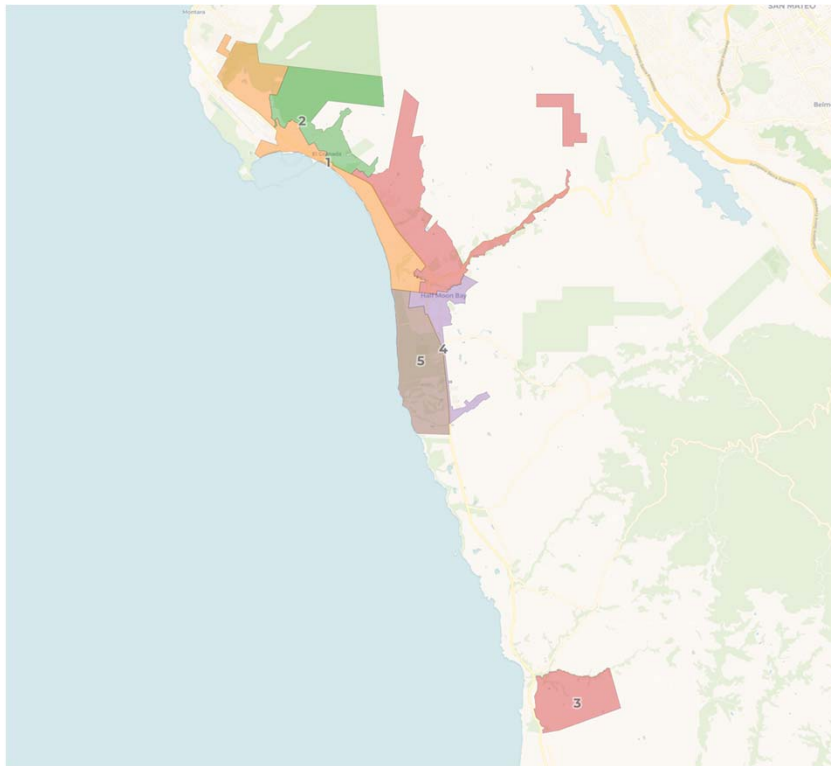
Each draft plan is provided with both a PDF and Online Web-based format

- Draft Map A
- Draft Map B
- Draft Map C

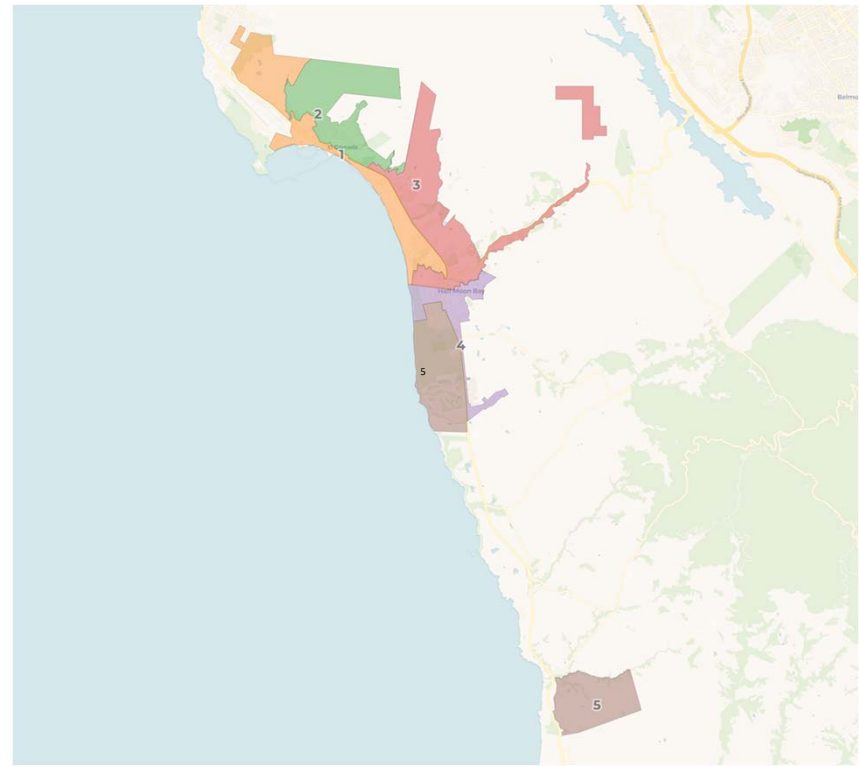


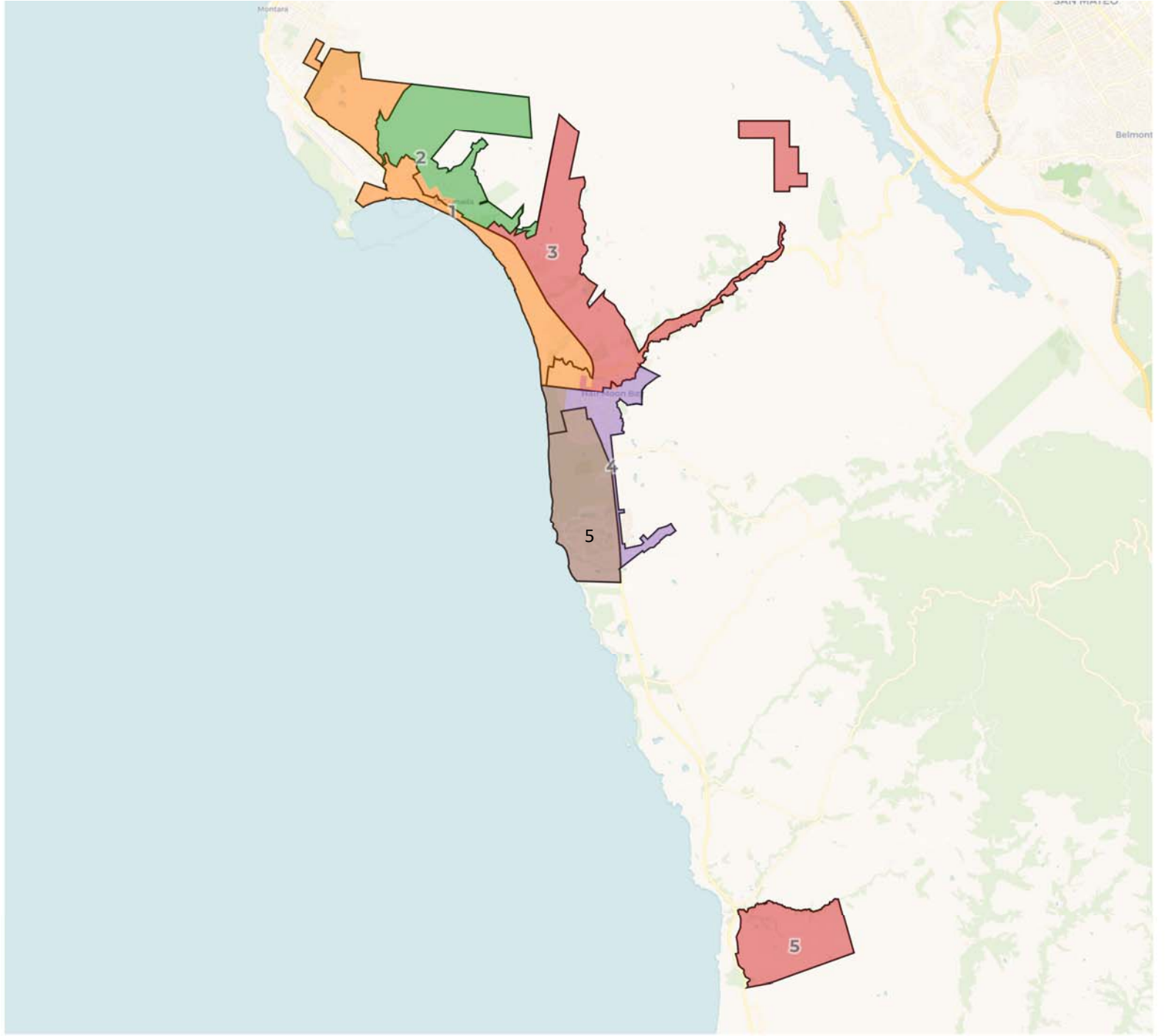


Current Lines



Plan A





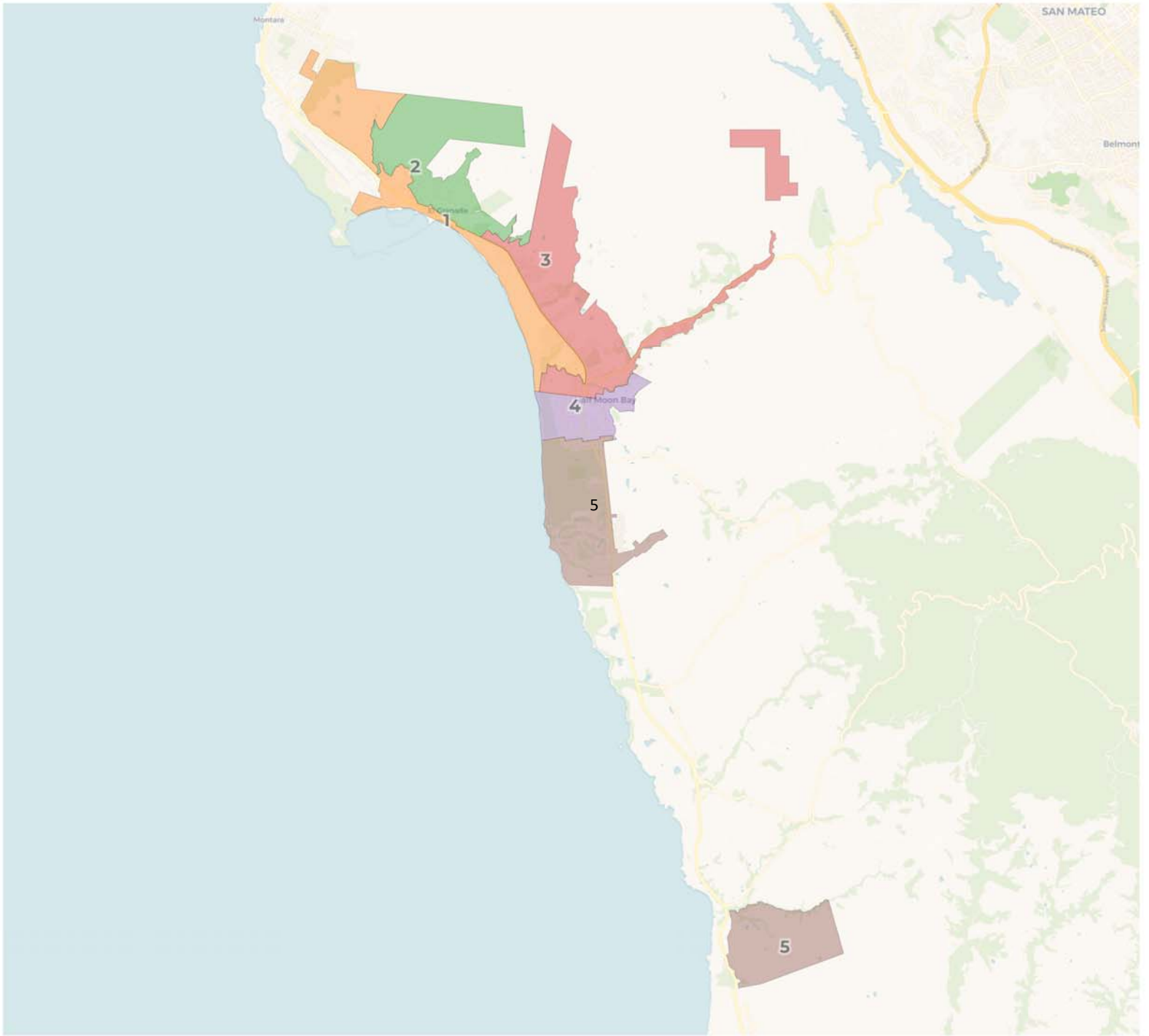
2020 Census

	1	2	3	4	5
Population	3,779	3,634	3,778	3,594	3,581
Deviation	106	-39	105	-79	-92
Deviation %	2.9%	-1.1%	2.9%	-2.2%	-2.5%
Other	2,744	2,918	2,053	1,898	2,682
Other %	72.6%			52.8%	74.9%
Latino	839			1,440	643
Latino %	22.2%	14.6%	40.0%	40.1%	18.0%
Asian	168	163	184	221	236
Asian %	4.4%	4.5%	4.9%	6.1%	6.6%
Black	28	21	29	35	20
Black %	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	1.0%	0.6%

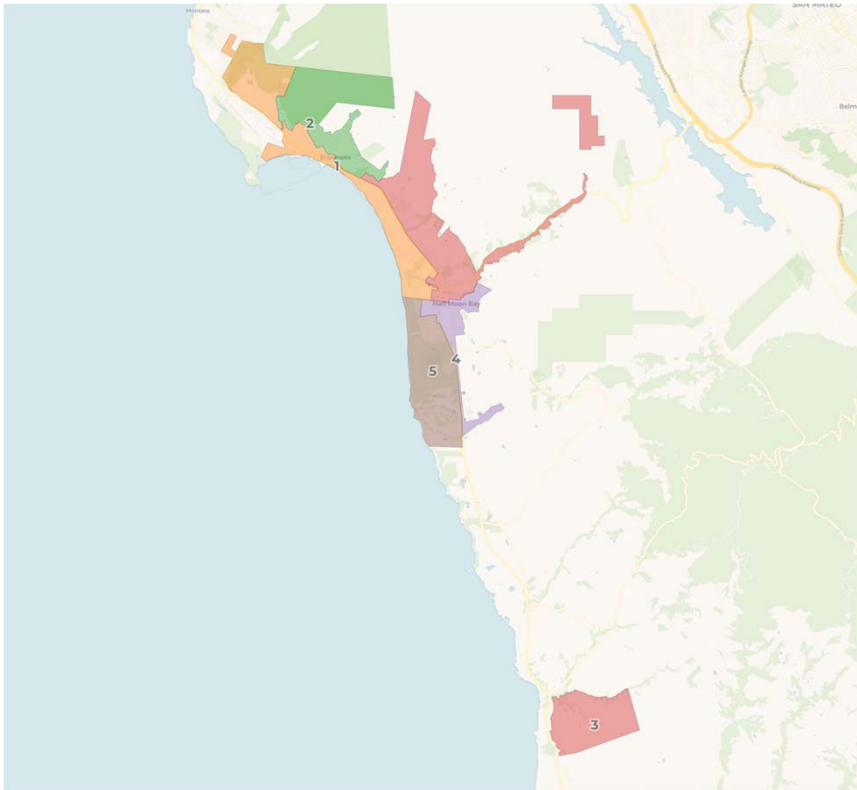
5.4% total deviation

Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)

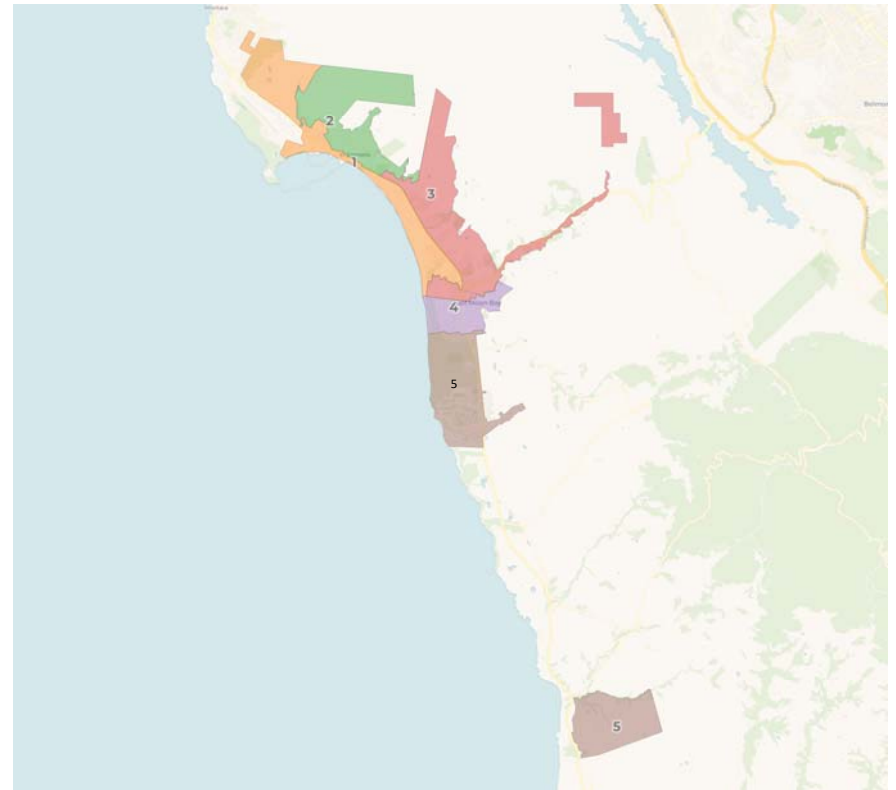
	1	2	3	4	5
Total CVAP	3,031	2,945	2,973	1,982	3,171
Other CVAP	2,505	2,585	1,962	1,436	2,681
Other CVAP %	82.6%	87.8%	66.0%	72.5%	84.5%
Latino CVAP	335	259	780	327	327
Latino CVAP %	11.1%	8.8%	26.2%	16.5%	10.3%
Asian CVAP	157	99	182	197	161
Asian CVAP %	5.2%	3.4%	6.1%	9.9%	5.1%
Black CVAP	34	2	49	22	2
Black CVAP %	1.1%	0.1%	1.6%	1.1%	0.1%

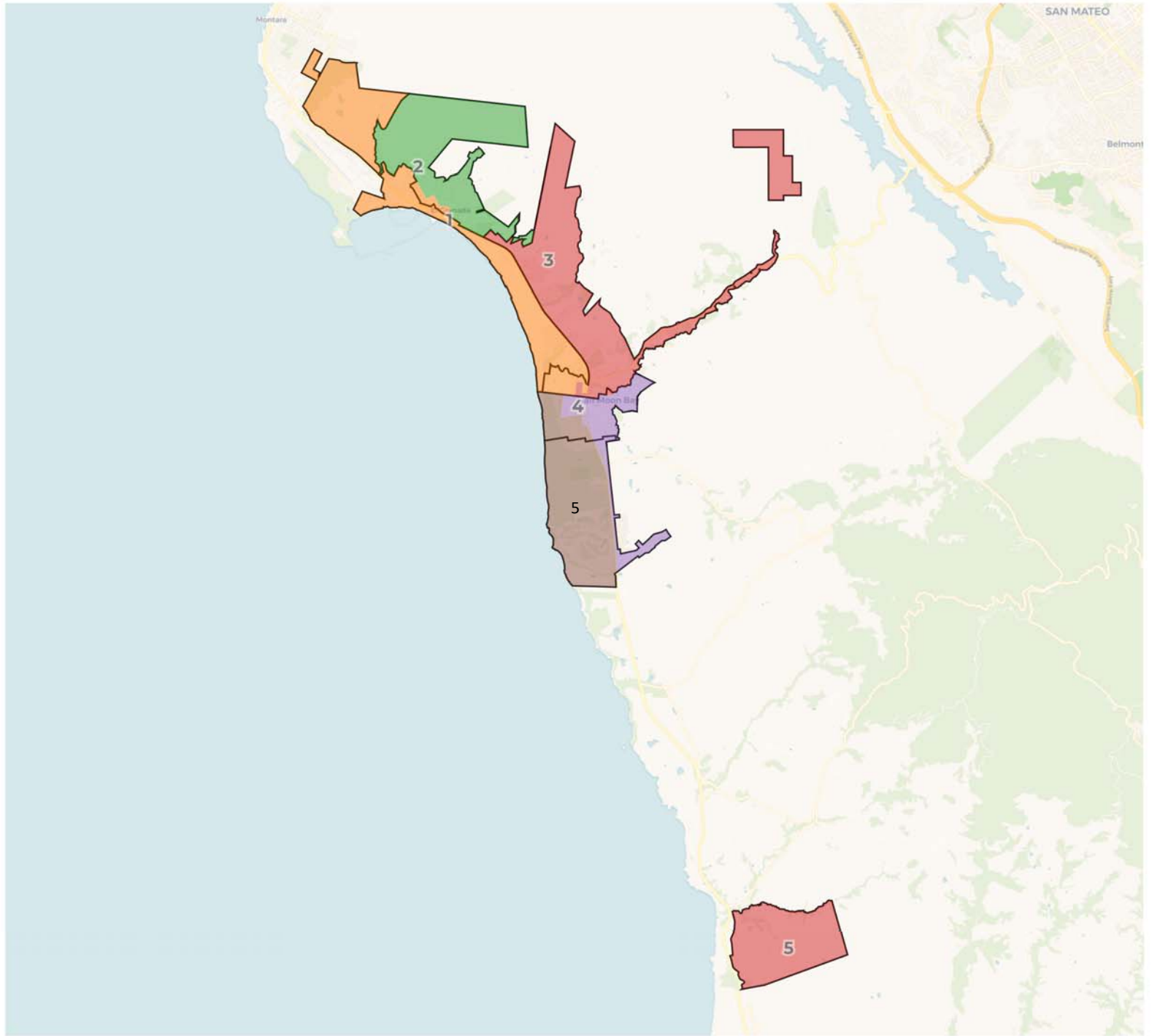


Current Lines



Plan B





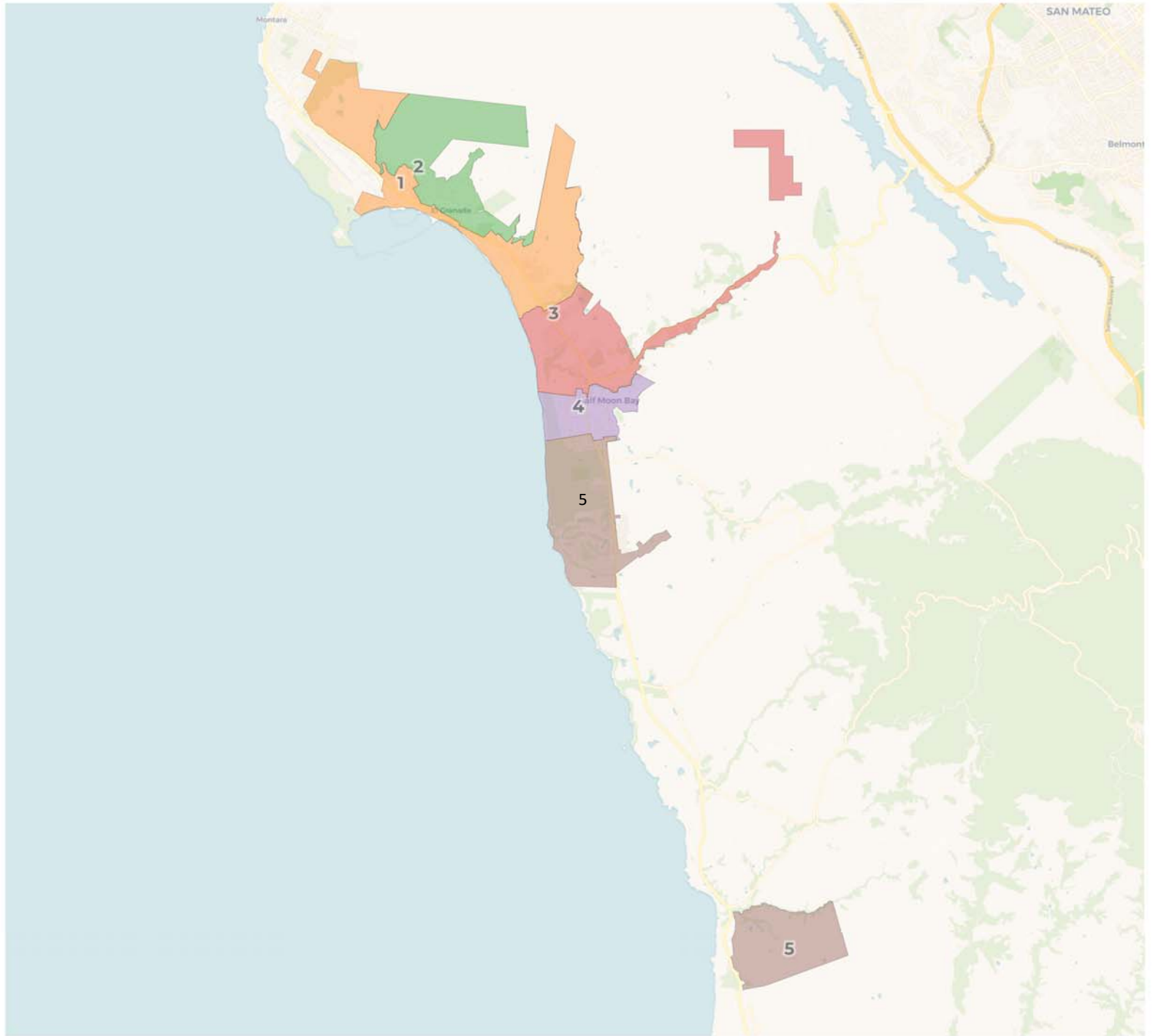
2020 Census

	1	2	3	4	5
Population	3,779	3,634	3,778	3,627	3,548
Deviation	106	-39	105	-46	-125
Deviation %	2.9%	-1.1%	2.9%	-1.3%	-3.4%
Other	2,744	2,918	2,053	2,391	2,189
Other %	72.6%			65.9%	61.7%
Latino	839			955	1,128
Latino %	22.2%	14.6%	40.0%	26.3%	31.8%
Asian	168	163	184	239	218
Asian %	4.4%	4.5%	4.9%	6.6%	6.1%
Black	28	21	29	42	13
Black %	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	1.2%	0.4%

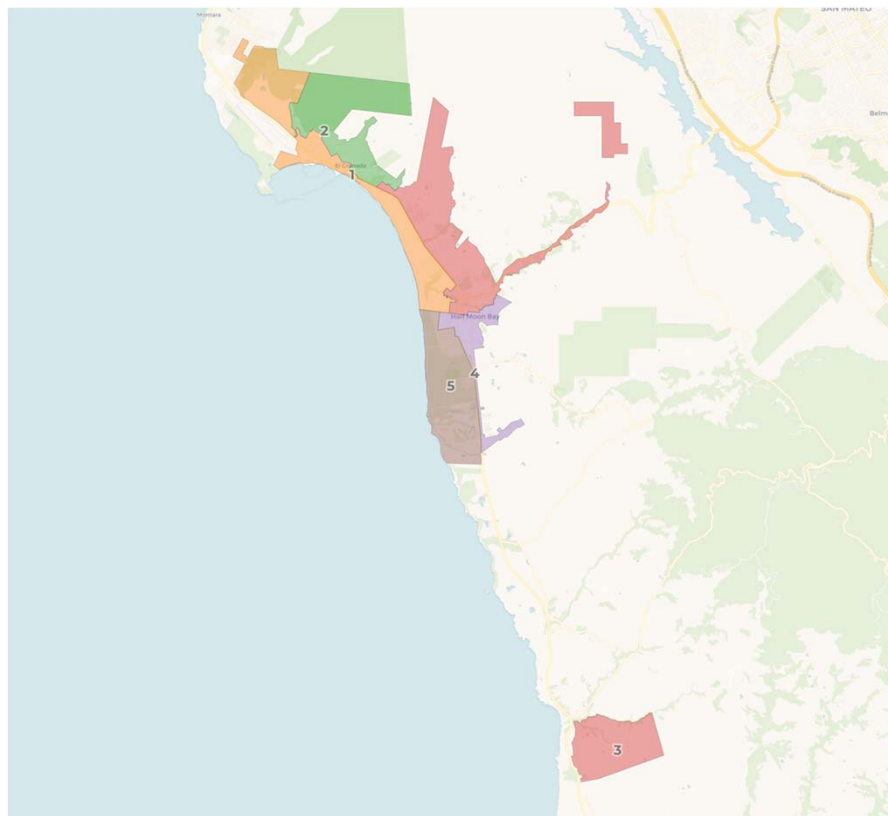
6.3% total deviation

Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)

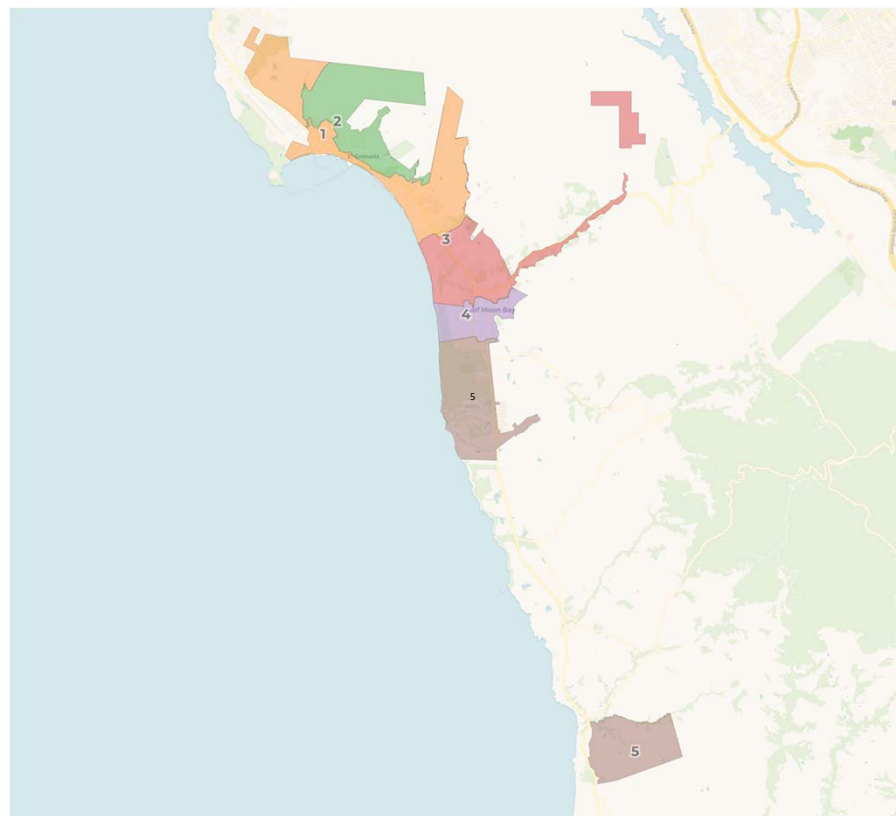
	1	2	3	4	5
Total CVAP	3,031	2,945	2,973	2,405	2,748
Other CVAP	2,505	2,585	1,962	1,867	2,250
Other CVAP %	82.6%	87.8%	66.0%	77.6%	81.9%
Latino CVAP	335	259	780	316	338
Latino CVAP %	11.1%	8.8%	26.2%	13.1%	12.3%
Asian CVAP	157	99	182	199	159
Asian CVAP %	5.2%	3.4%	6.1%	8.3%	5.8%
Black CVAP	34	2	49	23	1
Black CVAP %	1.1%	0.1%	1.6%	1.0%	0.0%

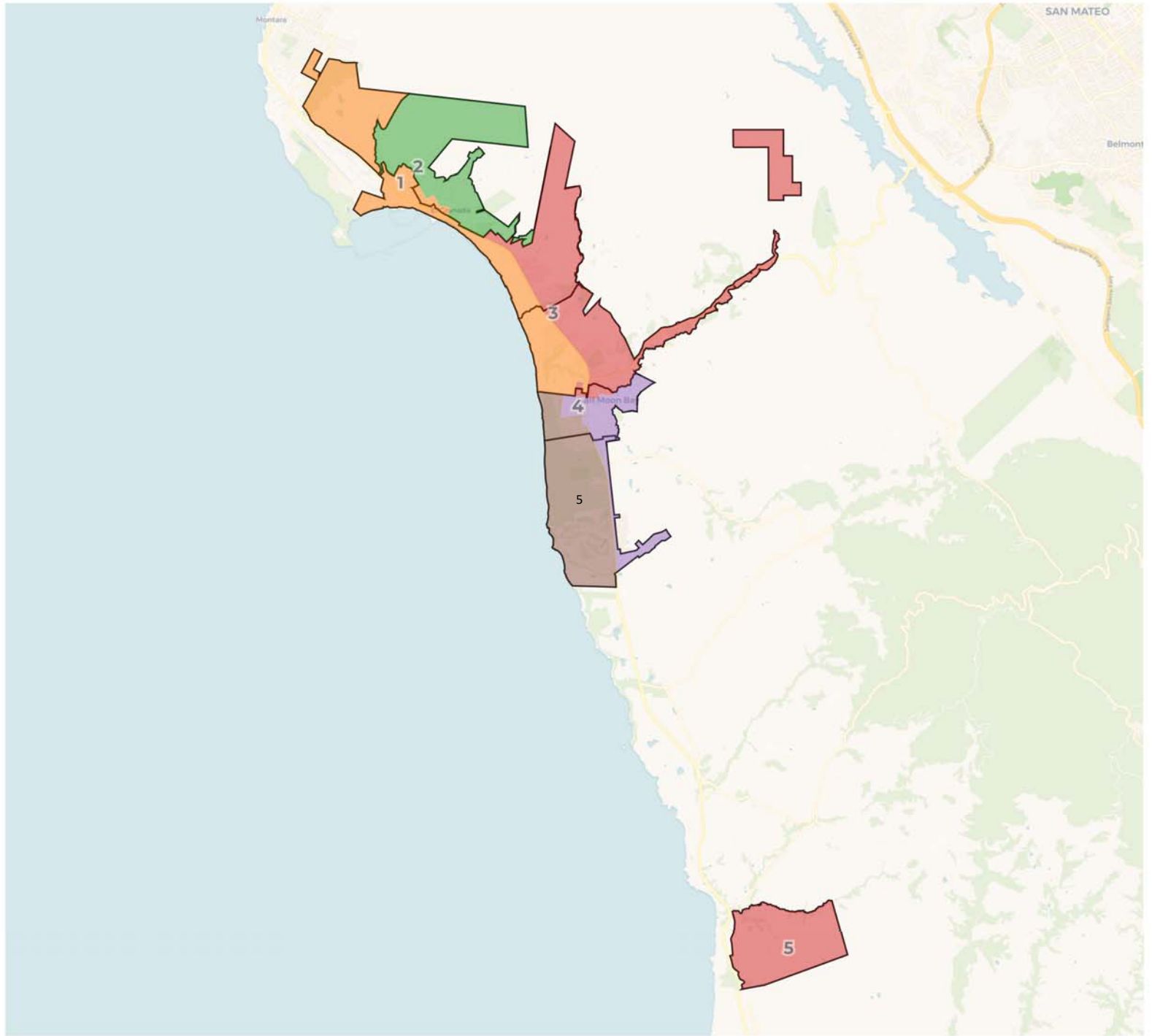


Current Lines



Plan C





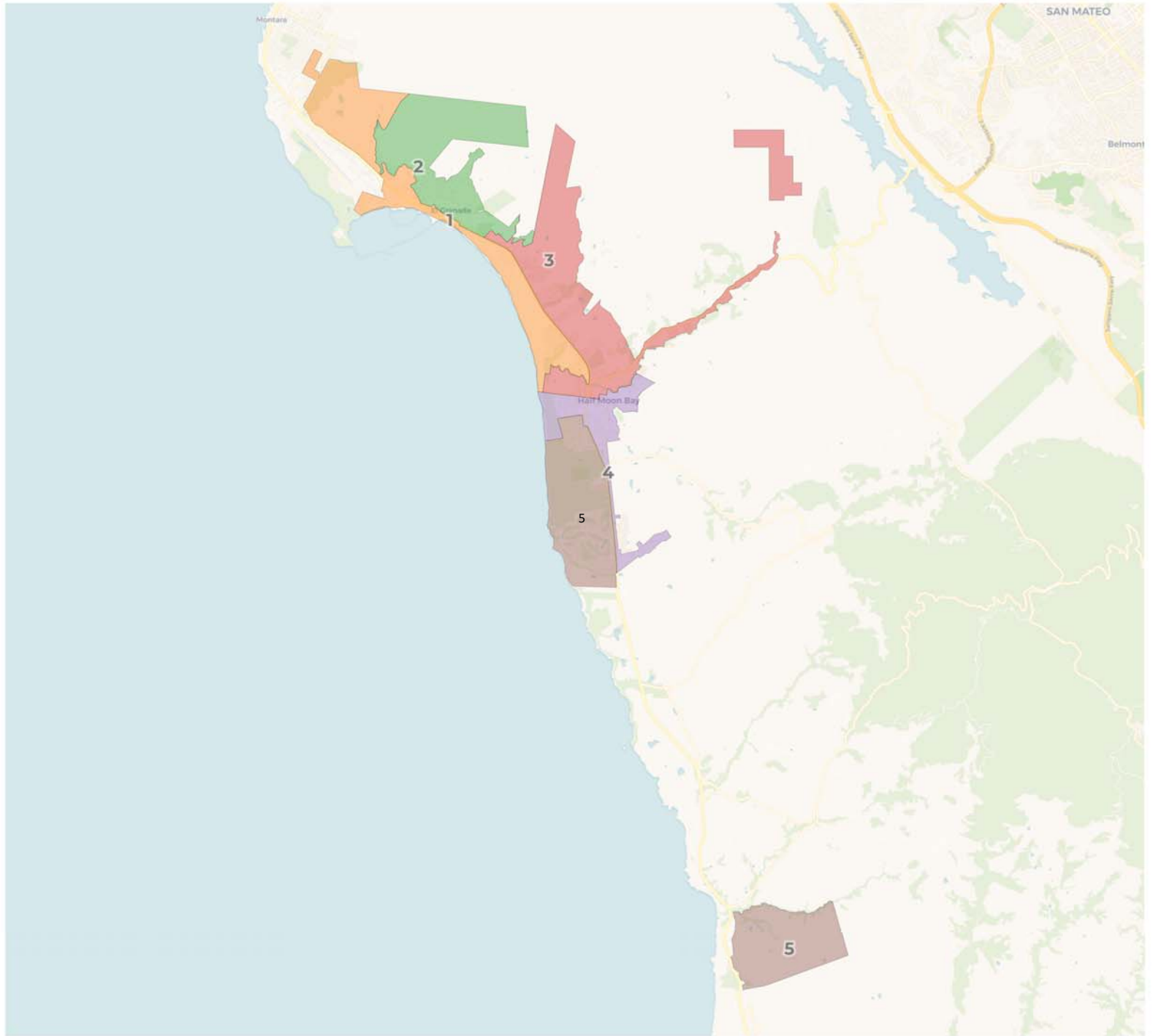
2020 Census

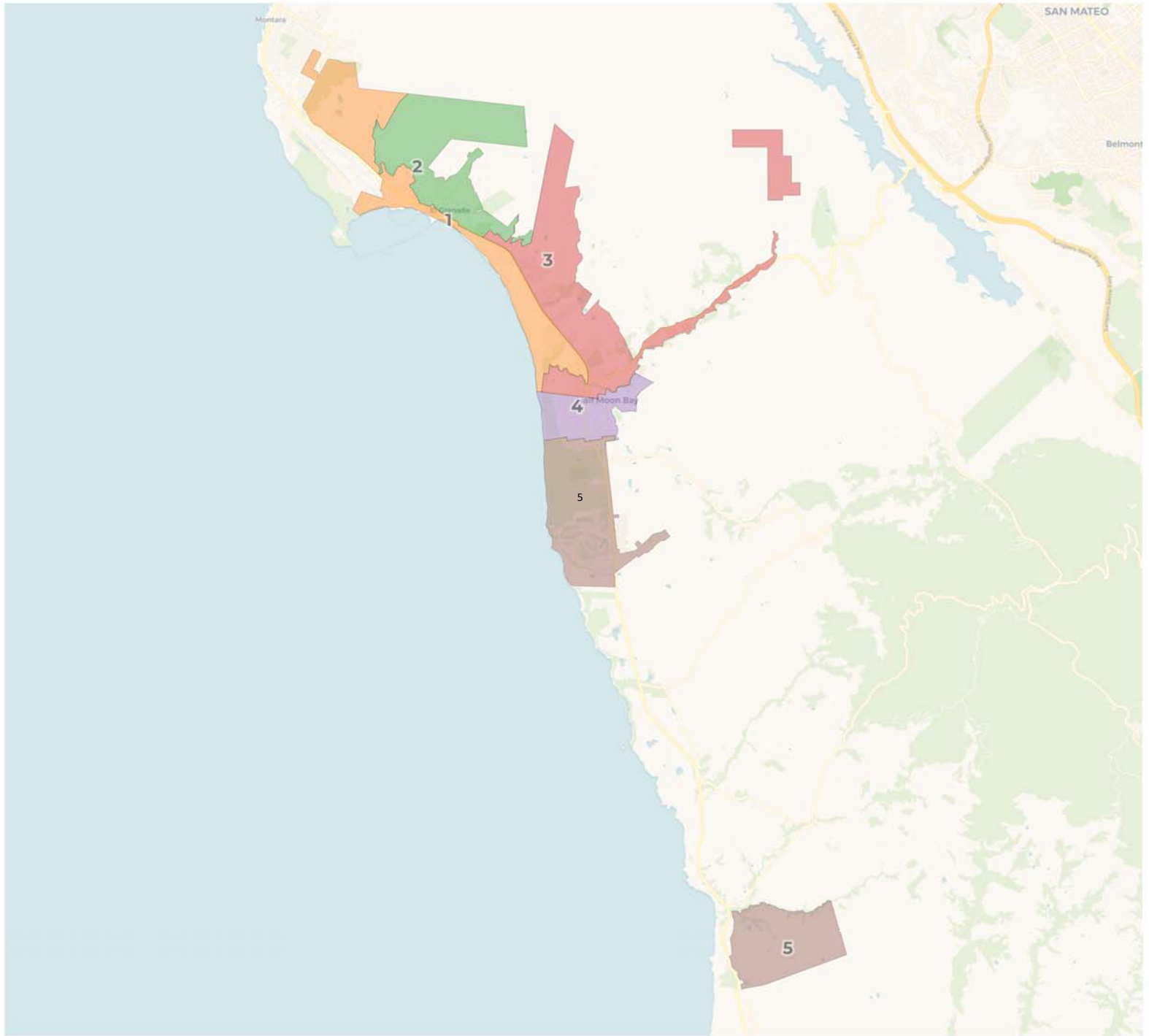
	1	2	3	4	5
Population	3,573	3,579	3,699	3,786	3,729
Deviation	-100	-94	26	113	56
Deviation %	-2.7%	-2.6%	0.7%	3.1%	1.5%
Other	2,696	2,864	1,974	2,459	2,302
Other %	75.5%			64.9%	61.7%
Latino	667			1,033	1,190
Latino %	18.7%	14.8%	41.8%	27.3%	31.9%
Asian	178	163	158	250	223
Asian %	5.0%	4.6%	4.3%	6.6%	6.0%
Black	32	21	22	44	14
Black %	0.9%	0.6%	0.6%	1.2%	0.4%

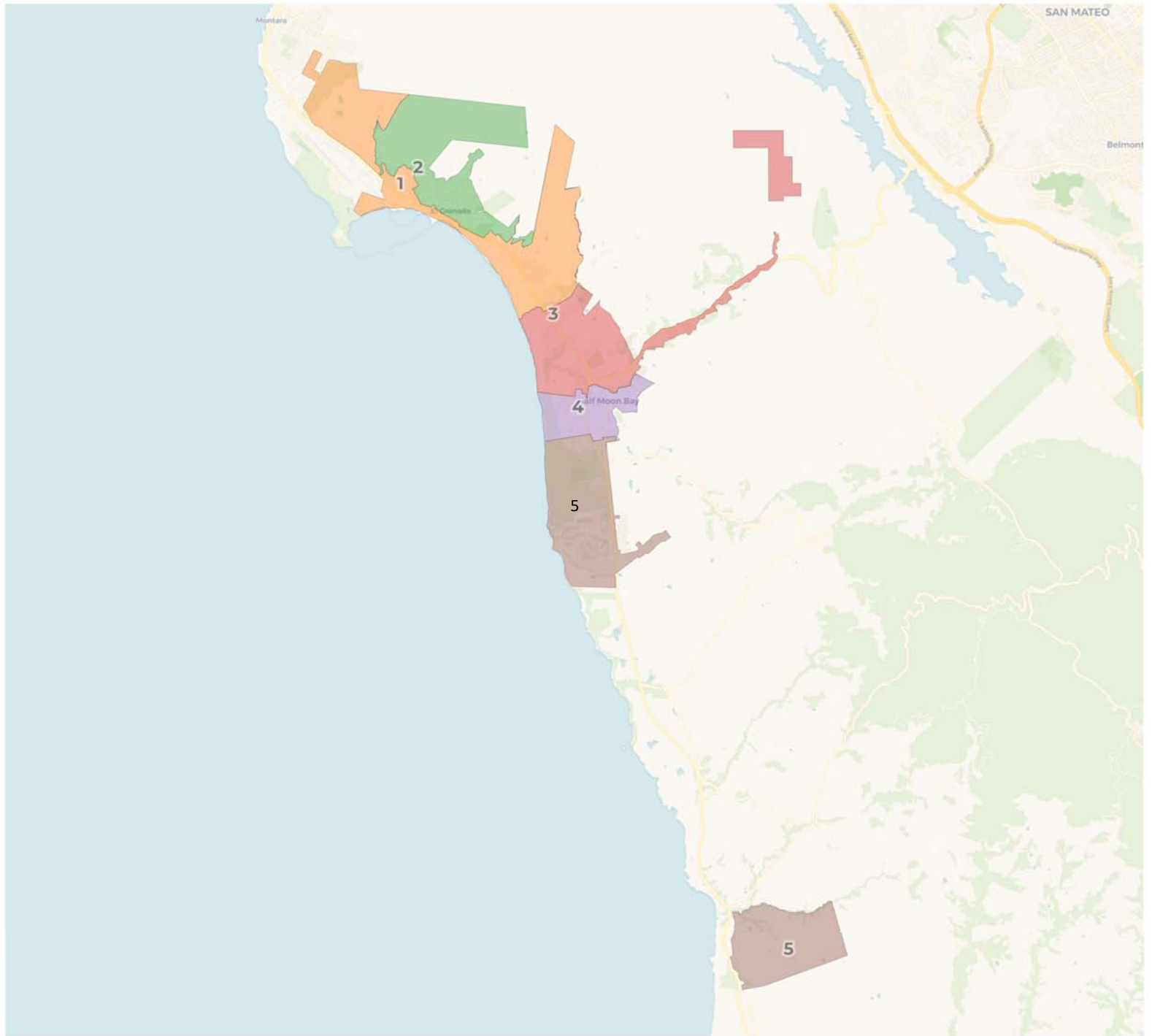
5.8% total deviation

Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)

	1	2	3	4	5
Total CVAP	2,822	2,916	2,931	2,567	2,866
Other CVAP	2,392	2,557	1,915	1,963	2,342
Other CVAP %	84.8%	87.7%	65.3%	76.5%	81.7%
Latino CVAP	231	258	813	364	362
Latino CVAP %	8.2%	8.8%	27.7%	14.2%	12.6%
Asian CVAP	147	99	174	215	161
Asian CVAP %	5.2%	3.4%	5.9%	8.4%	5.6%
Black CVAP	52	2	29	25	1
Black CVAP %	1.8%	0.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.0%







Coastside Water District Redistricting Process

Next Steps

- January 25, 2022: Draft Maps Presentation
- February 2022: Vote to Adopt Draft Maps
- **Deadline to adopt: April 17, 2022**