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MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 2, 2014

TO: Mayor and City Council  
CC: City Manager

FROM: William A. Vaughn, City Attorney

RE: Presentation of Initial Draft Council District Plans of By District Method of Election of City Council Members

**Recommendation.** It is recommended that the City Council receive the presentation of Doug Johnson on the initial draft council district plans; solicit public comment on the draft plans; request modifications to any of the draft plans.

**Background.** On June 4, the Council adopted a resolution to begin the process for Submission of By-District Election Method to the Voters on the November 4, 2014 Ballot. On June 18, 2014 the City Council received introduction presentations by Chris Skinnell as Special Legal Counsel for the City and by Douglas Johnson of National Demographics Corporation (NDC) as the City's demographer concerning City Council districting. The City also received public comment and adopted "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Los Banos Specifying the Criteria to Guide the Preparation of Council Districts, for Submission of By-District Election Method to the Voters on the November 4, 2014 Ballot." On June 25, 2014 the initial draft council district plans were made available to the public by posting on the City's website and by making copies available at City Hall. Additionally, the City published an informational flyer for distribution to the public.

**Discussion.** NDC has prepared four (4) draft districting proposals for City Council review and comment. Douglas Johnson will be making a presentation to the City Council and to the public regarding the four (4) initial draft council district plans. Following the presentation, staff recommends that the City Council receive public input regarding the draft plans and may request modifications to any of the plans. The next steps in the process are outlined in the enclosed tentative timeline.

**Fiscal Impact.** There will be significant legal, experts, consultants, and processing costs associated with this process however, as of this writing those fiscal impacts cannot be accurately estimated.

Attachments: Initial Draft Council District Plans 1-4  
Informational Flyer  
Tentative Timeline



City of  
**Los Banos**  
*At the Crossroads of California*

# COUNCIL DISTRICT DRAFT PLANS

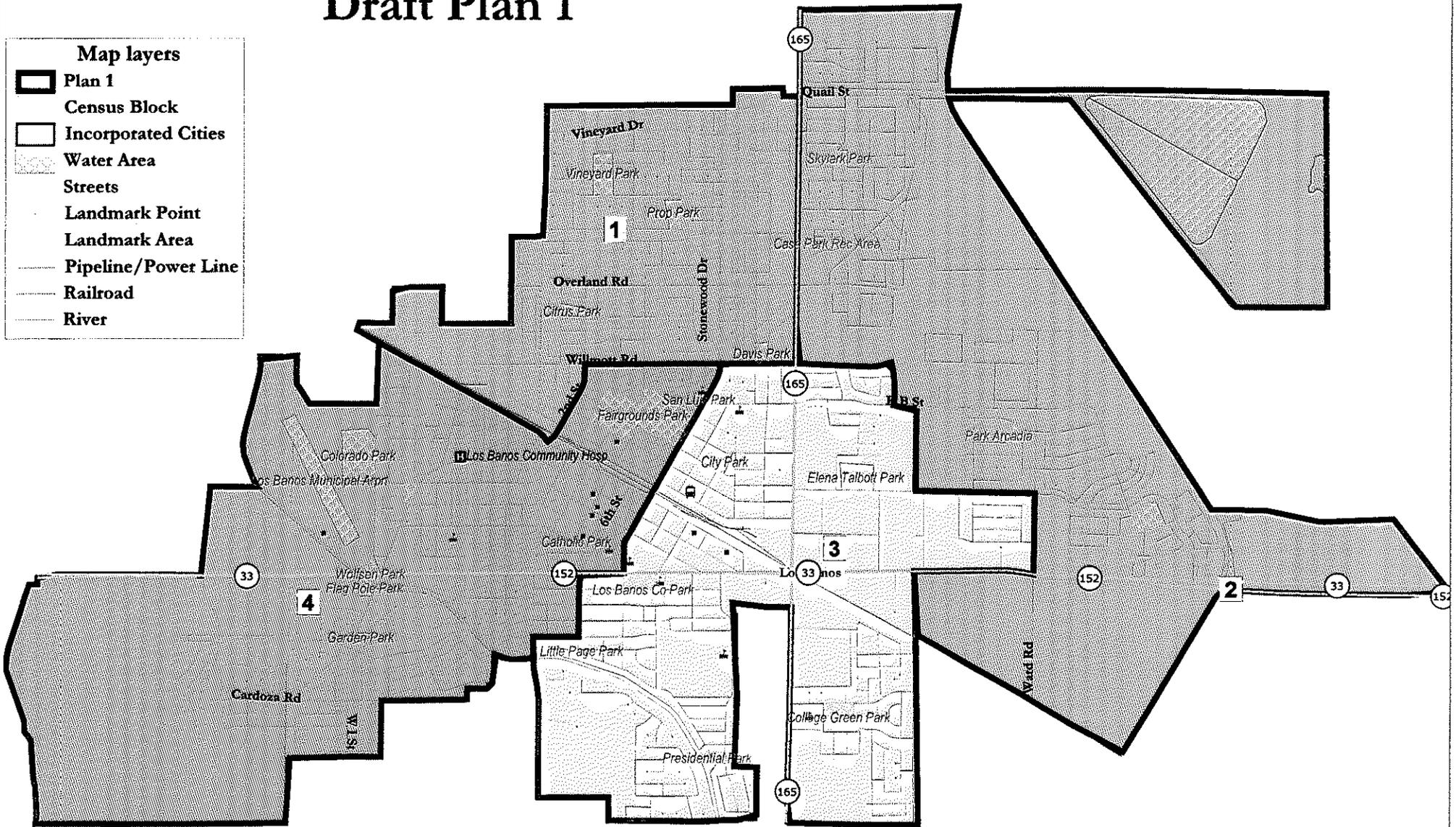
(For By-District Election)

*Released June 25, 2014*

Los Banos Draft Plan 1						
District		1	2	3	4	Total
	Total Pop	9,141	9,006	8,962	8,863	35,972
	Deviation from ideal	148	13	-31	-130	278
	% Deviation	1.65%	0.14%	-0.34%	-1.45%	3.09%
Total Pop	% Hisp	70%	69%	56%	64%	65%
	% NH White	23%	20%	36%	27%	26%
	% NH Black	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%
	% Asian-American	2%	5%	3%	4%	3%
Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	65%	64%	50%	58%	66%
	% NH White	28%	24%	42%	33%	59%
	% NH Black	3%	4%	4%	3%	32%
	% Asian-American	2%	5%	3%	4%	4%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	67%	51%	44%	50%	54%
	% NH White	28%	35%	47%	41%	37%
	% NH Black	3%	4%	5%	2%	3%
	% Asian-American	1%	6%	3%	4%	3%
Voter Registration (Nov 2012)	% Spanish-Surnamed	54%	52%	38%	42%	46%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2012)	% Spanish-Surnamed	50%	48%	32%	36%	41%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Total and Voting Age population data from the 2010 Decennial Census.						
Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database, Nov. 2012 data.						
Citizen Voting Age Pop. from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year data.						

# Los Banos Draft Plan 1

- Map layers**
-  Plan 1
  -  Census Block
  -  Incorporated Cities
  -  Water Area
  -  Streets
  -  Landmark Point
  -  Landmark Area
  -  Pipeline/Power Line
  -  Railroad
  -  River



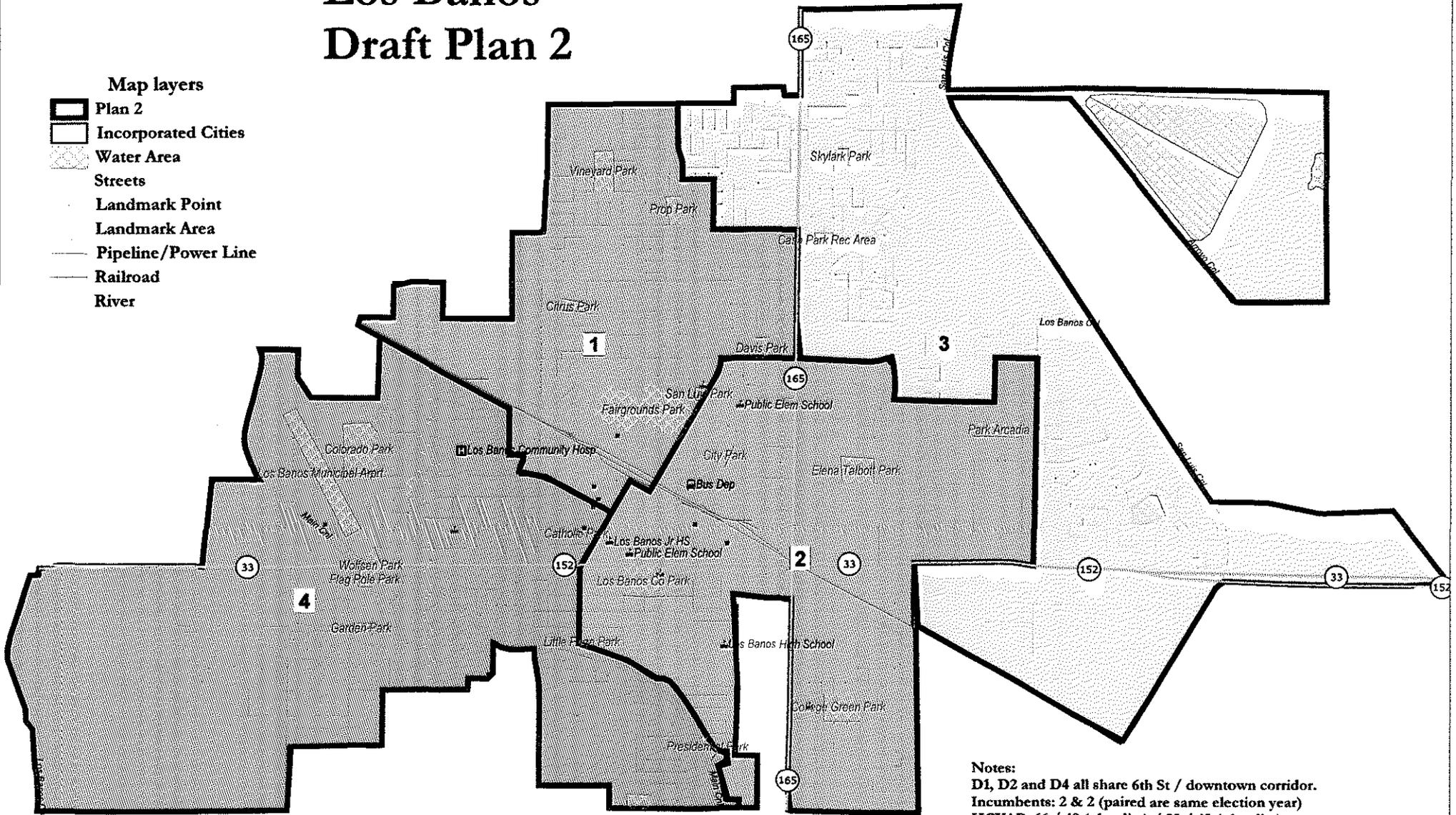
**Notes:**  
 Compact districts with one entirely east of Merced Springs / Hwy 165.  
 Incumbents: 1 & 3  
 HCVAP: 67 / 51 / 44 / 50  
 D1 and D3 have Spanish-surname registration majorities.

Los Banos Draft Plan 2						
District		1	2	3	4	Total
	Total Pop	8,944	8,869	9,182	8,977	35,972
	Deviation from ideal	-49	-124	189	-16	313
	% Deviation	-0.54%	-1.38%	2.10%	-0.18%	3.48%
Total Pop	% Hisp	71%	61%	69%	58%	65%
	% NH White	23%	30%	21%	33%	26%
	% NH Black	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%
	% Asian-American	2%	3%	5%	4%	3%
Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	66%	55%	64%	52%	66%
	% NH White	27%	36%	25%	39%	59%
	% NH Black	3%	4%	4%	3%	32%
	% Asian-American	2%	3%	5%	4%	4%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	66%	48%	55%	45%	54%
	% NH White	29%	42%	34%	45%	37%
	% NH Black	3%	6%	3%	2%	3%
	% Asian-American	1%	3%	5%	5%	3%
Voter Registration (Nov 2012)	% Spanish-Surnamed	55%	43%	51%	36%	46%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2012)	% Spanish-Surnamed	51%	37%	47%	30%	41%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Total and Voting Age population data from the 2010 Decennial Census.						
Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database, Nov. 2012 data.						
Citizen Voting Age Pop. from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year data.						

# Los Banos Draft Plan 2

## Map layers

-  Plan 2
-  Incorporated Cities
-  Water Area
-  Streets
-  Landmark Point
-  Landmark Area
-  Pipeline/Power Line
-  Railroad
-  River



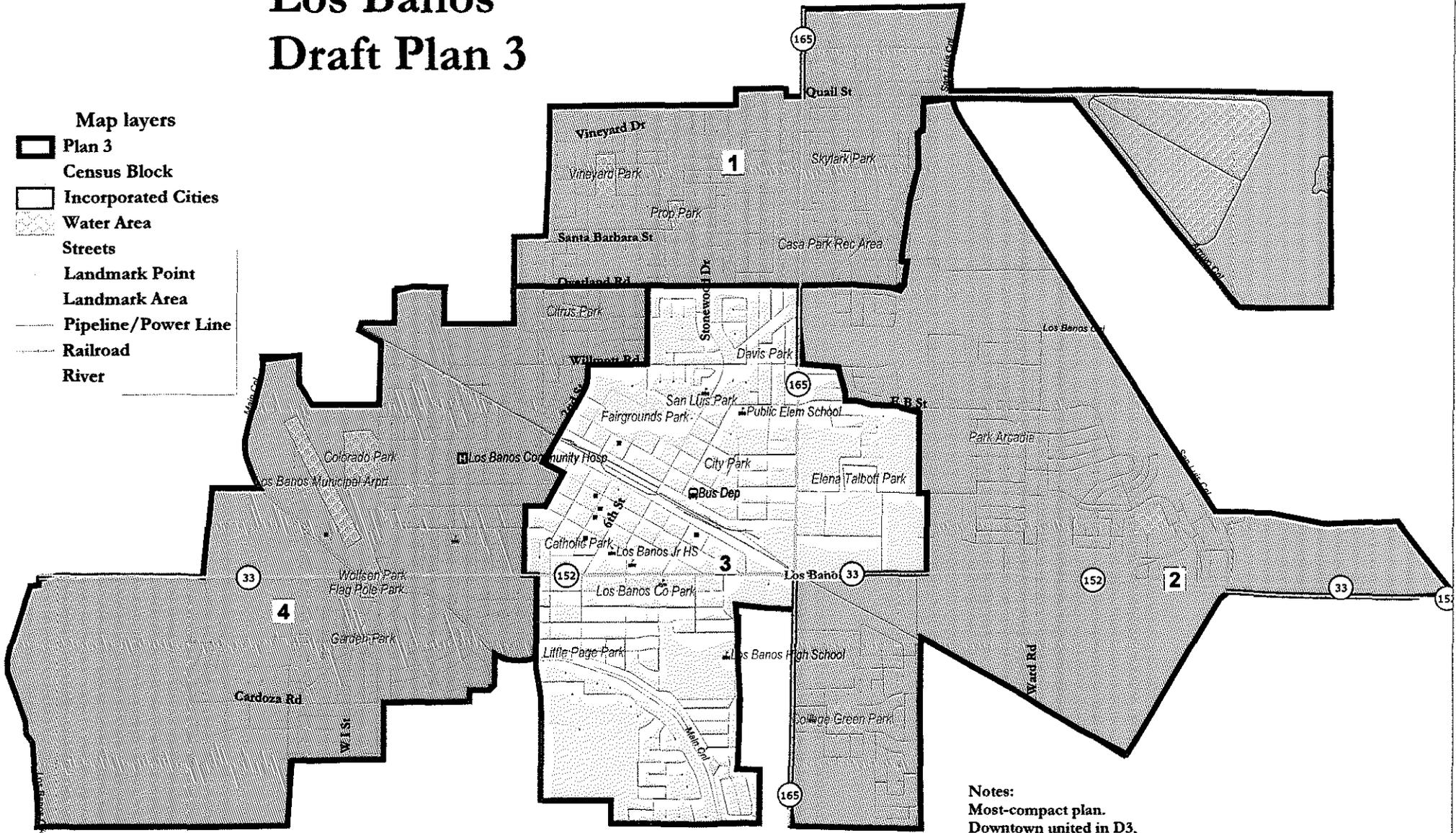
**Notes:**  
 D1, D2 and D4 all share 6th St / downtown corridor.  
 Incumbents: 2 & 2 (paired are same election year)  
 HCVAP: 66 / 48 (plurality) / 55 / 45 (plurality).  
 D1 and D3 have Spanish-surname registration majorities.

**Los Banos Draft Plan 3**

District		1	2	3	4	Total
	Total Pop	9,077	8,934	8,945	9,016	35,972
	Deviation from ideal	84	-59	-48	23	143
	% Deviation	0.93%	-0.66%	-0.53%	0.26%	1.59%
Total Pop	% Hisp	71%	65%	58%	65%	65%
	% NH White	21%	24%	35%	26%	26%
	% NH Black	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%
	% Asian-American	3%	5%	2%	3%	3%
Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	66%	60%	52%	59%	66%
	% NH White	26%	28%	41%	31%	59%
	% NH Black	4%	4%	3%	4%	32%
	% Asian-American	3%	5%	2%	4%	4%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	62%	50%	44%	58%	54%
	% NH White	31%	34%	50%	34%	37%
	% NH Black	3%	7%	2%	3%	3%
	% Asian-American	2%	6%	3%	3%	3%
Voter Registration (Nov 2012)	% Latino	54%	48%	40%	44%	46%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2012)	% Spanish-Surnamed	49%	43%	34%	37%	41%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Total and Voting Age population data from the 2010 Decennial Census.						
Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database, Nov. 2012 data.						
Citizen Voting Age Pop. from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year data.						

# Los Banos Draft Plan 3

- Map layers**
-  Plan 3
  -  Census Block
  -  Incorporated Cities
  -  Water Area
  -  Streets
  -  Landmark Point
  -  Landmark Area
  -  Pipeline/Power Line
  -  Railroad
  -  River

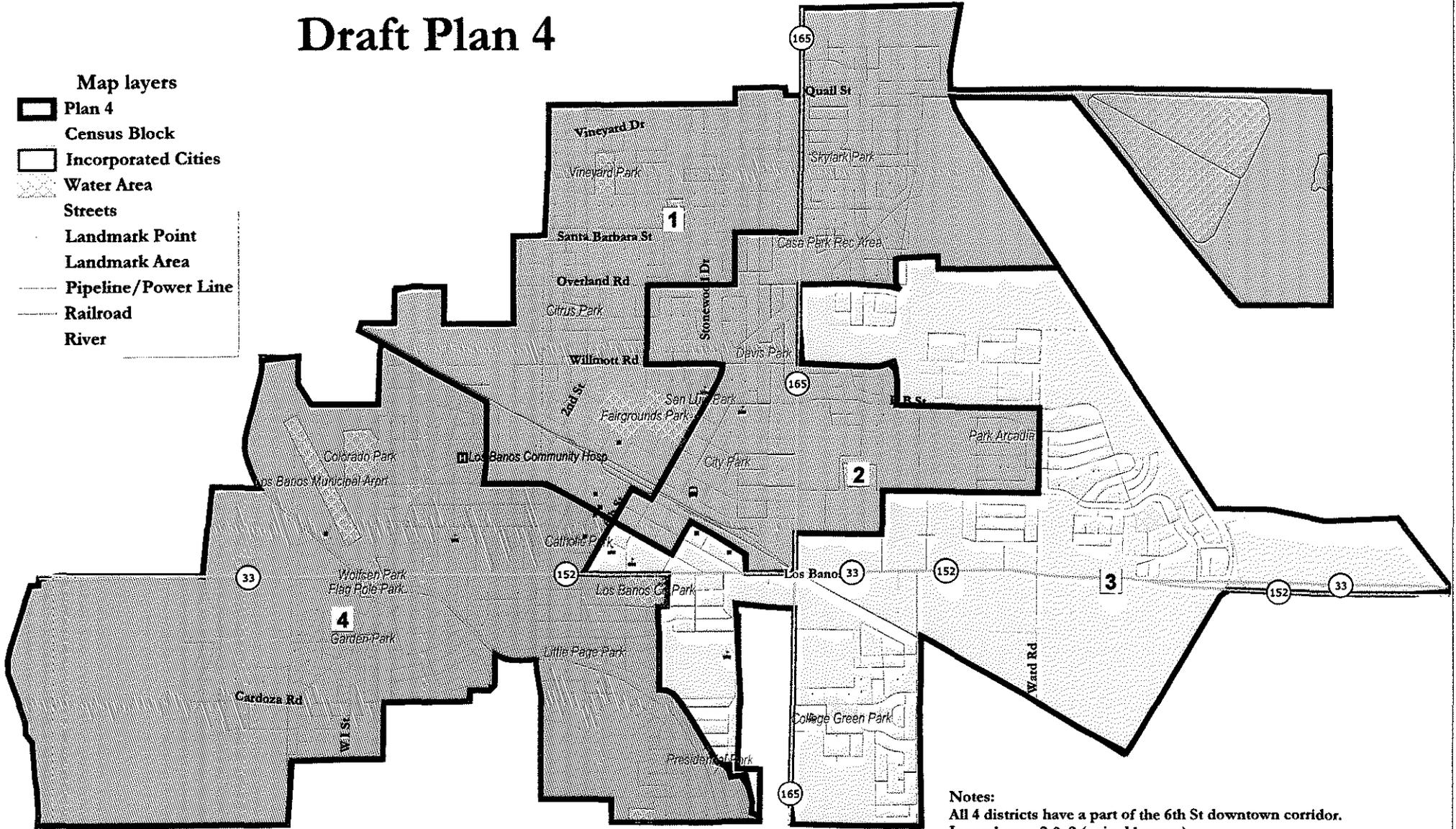


**Notes:**  
 Most-compact plan.  
 Downtown united in D3.  
 Incumbents: 0, 1, 2 and 1  
 HCVAP: 62 / 50 / 44 / 58.

Los Banos 2014 Proposed Plan 4						
District		1	2	3	4	Total
	Total Pop	9,009	9,042	9,042	8,879	35,972
	Deviation from ideal	16	49	49	-114	163
	% Deviation	0.18%	0.54%	0.54%	-1.27%	1.81%
Total Pop	% Hisp	73%	69%	62%	55%	65%
	% NH White	20%	22%	28%	36%	26%
	% NH Black	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%
	% Asian-American	2%	2%	5%	4%	3%
Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	68%	64%	56%	48%	59%
	% NH White	24%	27%	33%	42%	32%
	% NH Black	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%
	% Asian-American	2%	3%	5%	5%	4%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	68%	53%	48%	44%	54%
	% NH White	27%	38%	39%	47%	37%
	% NH Black	3%	2%	6%	2%	3%
	% Asian-American	1%	4%	4%	5%	3%
Voter Registration (Nov 2012)	% Spanish-Surnamed	54%	53%	44%	34%	46%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2012)	% Spanish-Surnamed	49%	49%	39%	28%	41%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Total and Voting Age population data from the 2010 Decennial Census.						
Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database, Nov. 2012 data.						
Citizen Voting Age Pop. from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year data.						

# Los Banos Draft Plan 4

- Map layers**
-  Plan 4
  -  Census Block
  -  Incorporated Cities
  -  Water Area
  -  Streets
  -  Landmark Point
  -  Landmark Area
  -  Pipeline/Power Line
  -  Railroad
  -  River



**Notes:**  
 All 4 districts have a part of the 6th St downtown corridor.  
 Incumbents: 2 & 2 (paired by year)  
 HCVAP: 68 / 53 / 48 / 44.



# City of Los Banos By-District Elections



Public input  
is highly  
encouraged

## *For more information contact:*

- Lucy Mallonee  
City Clerk  
City of Los Banos  
(209) 827-7000  
extension 112  
cityclerk@losbanos.org

## *City Council Meetings:*

Wednesday, July 2nd  
7 pm

Wednesday, July 16th  
7 pm

Wednesday, July 30th  
7 pm

Wednesday, August 6th  
7 pm

Maps available  
beginning  
June 25th

City of Los Banos  
520 J Street  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
(209) 827-7000

## **What is By-District Elections?**

The Los Banos City Council has elected to begin the process of by-district elections. As it stands, there are no separate geographical districts for City Council Members. All residents vote on all Council Members and each Council Member represents "all" of Los Banos instead of a smaller neighborhood. This is called an "at-large" system.

In a by-district system each Council Member would represent a smaller section of Los Banos and be elected only by those who live in that district. By-district voting would create four (4) representative districts of roughly even sizes. The district boundaries must be ultimately drawn in conjunction with Federal and State law so that the districts shall be as nearly equal in population. In establishing the boundaries of the districts, the Council may give consideration to the following factors: topography, geography, cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity, compactness of territory and community of interests of the districts.

## **How Can I Participate?**

- Attend Public Hearings and City Council Meetings taking place in the Council Chambers, at City Hall, 520 J Street, in July and August.
- You can suggest or provide feedback on draft district maps. The maps are available at City Hall and on the City's website: [www.losbanos.org](http://www.losbanos.org)
- At any time you may call, write, or email any thoughts, suggestions or draft plans to [cityclerk@losbanos.org](mailto:cityclerk@losbanos.org).

## **Timeline for Submission of By-District Election**

- June 4, 2014 City Council elected to begin by-district ballot measure process.
- June 18, 2014 Presentation by special re-districting counsel and demographic consultant.
- June 25, 2014 Initial draft City Council district plans made available to public, solicit public comment.
- July 2, 2014 City Council Meeting: Demographer presents drafts plans and City Council solicits public comment.
- July 16, 2014 City Council Meeting: First Public Hearing on draft plans.
- July 30, 2014 City Council Special Meeting: Second Public Hearing of draft plans and Introduction of ordinance.
- August 6, 2014 City Council Meeting: City Council votes to adopt ordinance.
- August 8, 2014 Last day to submit measure to Merced County Registrar of Voters.
- November 4, 2014 Election on whether to adopt "by-district" method of election.

**CITY OF LOS BANOS**  
**TENTATIVE TIMELINE FOR SUBMISSION OF “BY-DISTRICT” ELECTION**  
**METHOD TO THE VOTERS [GOV’T CODE § 34871]**

(Note: most actions are goal dates subject to change.  
Only items in bold are fixed deadlines.)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
June 4, 2014 Council Meeting	City Council determines to begin process of submitting a ballot measure to the voters to adopt “by-district” method of election; approves the retention of a qualified demographic consultant.
June 18, 2014 Council Meeting	Presentation by special redistricting counsel regarding legal considerations and appropriate policy criteria governing districting, and by demographic consultant regarding City demographics.  Council solicits public input regarding appropriate criteria, and adopts same to guide districting process
June 25, 2014	Initial draft council district plans to be made publicly available.
July 2, 2014 Council Meeting	Demographic consultant to present* initial draft council district plans; Council solicits public comment on draft plans; Council may request modifications to any of the plans.
July 3, 2014	Notice of first public hearing regarding draft plans published in newspaper of general circulation and posted at City Hall and three other public locations.
July 16, 2014 Council Meeting	Council receives public input and additional testimony regarding draft plans; holds first public hearing on draft plans; Council may order further modifications to any of the plans.
July 18, 2014	Notice of second public hearing regarding draft plans published in newspaper of general circulation and posted at City Hall and three other public locations.

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\* Appearances by the City’s special counsel and demographic consultant may be by conference call or in person, as the City prefers.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
July 30, 2014 Special Council Meeting	Council holds second public hearing on alternate plans; first reading of ordinance to submit district plan to voters. If Council orders further modifications, another public hearing will be required.
August 6, 2014 Council Meeting	Council conducts second reading of ordinance to submit district plan to voters, votes to submit ordinance.
<b>August 8, 2014</b>	<b>Last day City may transmit measure to County Registrar for submission to the voters or ordinance to adopt “by-district” method of election.</b>
<b>November 4, 2014</b>	<b>Election on whether to adopt “by-district” method of election.</b>
<b>November 8, 2016</b>	<b>First election using new by-district election plan.</b>