



## Community of Interest Worksheet

### **Redistricting Process in 2021-2022**

Every ten years, local governments use new census data to redraw their district lines to reflect how local populations have changed. This process, called redistricting, is important in ensuring that each Councilmember represents about the same number of constituents. Redistricting is done using U.S. Census data, which is anticipated to be released around September 30, 2021. For the City of Morgan Hill, the redistricting process must be completed by April 17, 2022.

Your input is needed to redraw voting districts for Councilmembers, and one way you can participate is by assisting the City in developing a list of “communities of interest” or “COI” that can be utilized in the process to redraw district lines.

### **What do the existing council districts look like?**

You can find an interactive map of the City’s current Councilmember districts here: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=a18138a3131c4689975d24ebf3cb5ab5>

### **What is a Community of Interest?**

A Community of Interest is a group of people that: share common social or economic interests, live in a geographically definable area, and should be included within a single district for purposes of effective and fair representation in future elections.

There are some communities of interest that are considered “protected classes” in that they have rights through state or federal civil rights or voting rights laws. Some examples of protected classes in districting would be ethnic and racial minorities such as a concentration of Latinx, Asian, Black, or African American people.

There are other potential Communities of Interest that can also be considered in districting, such as: senior citizens, college students, people who live in a particular neighborhood, or even people who share concerns such as parents with young children, bicycle enthusiasts, topic interest group, etc. Communities of Interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

### **What You Can Do to Participate in the Process**

1. Provide your comments on your community of interest. If you need additional space for your responses to the questions, then please feel free to attach a sheet of paper.
2. Please return the completed worksheet via email to [redistricting2021@morganhill.ca.gov](mailto:redistricting2021@morganhill.ca.gov) or pick up and drop off a hard copy to City Hall, City Clerk’s Office, 17575 Peak Ave. Alternatively, you may also complete the online form on our website [www.MorganHillRedistricting2021.com](http://www.MorganHillRedistricting2021.com).
3. Attend the City’s Community Workshops and Public Hearings. The most-up-to-date schedule is available on our website [www.MorganHillRedistricting2021.com](http://www.MorganHillRedistricting2021.com).



## Community of Interest Worksheet

### **How to Document Your Community of Interest:**

1. What is the nature of the common social or economic interest of your community? You can describe what the common interests of your community are and why or how they are important.
2. Where is your community located? You can define it by neighborhood, streets, address, proximity to a key landmark (such as a school or community center), or other boundaries.
3. What are the geographic definers/boundaries of your neighborhood? Examples of definers/boundaries could be highways, roads, rivers, hills, or parks.
4. What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in this districting? Please describe how the issues before the City Council have a unique impact on your group.
5. What do you like about the current district lines? What do you dislike about the current district lines?

### **Optional:**

Name:

Email Address:

Are you a resident of Morgan Hill?      Yes/No