
From: Andrew Smith <a.asmith@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:46 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic; CMOOffice
Subject: District Elections - Five (5)

City Council Members and City Manager,

Now that you have decided to go the district elections route although maybe some residents could always go to the ballot box to overturn your decision like rent control, what is the magic number?

Five would be the best which means 35,000 residents per district. Choose a leader for two years like you do with the current mayor. Call them mayor or president of the council. Your choice. Elect everyone at once for 4 years. Increase the pay from \$800/month to \$1,500/month for a little more work with two fewer members (I believe I have the right pay numbers but correct me if I am wrong) Just like Sonoma County does with five supervisors representing 100,000 residents per district.

Seven is too many and creates too many feudal kingdoms potentially. Six members with a mayor chosen citywide would lead to a strong mayor situation like you see in San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose and Los Angeles. Do you want this type of political setup?

Will district elections change how our city is governed? I doubt it. Will it elect more Latinos? Maybe, maybe not. All depends on the demographics of where people are living when you divide Santa Rosa into districts. I have not seen any breakdown.

So now that the white towel has been thrown down, please do the right change for our city.

Andrew Smith
Santa Rosa