From: Andrew Smith
To: _CityCouncilListPublic; CMOffice
Subject: District Elections
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Did not have an opportunity to attend the two February meetings and out of town for the March meeting.

Why not consider five (5) districts as keeping neighborhoods together seems to be an important issue for drawing up the new districts?

Carving up Santa Rosa into seven districts because there are seven existing council persons may not be the best way to proceed. Five districts means 36,000 residents per district. Remember Sonoma County has five supervisors to represent 100,000 per district. So why does Santa Rosa need seven districts for 25,000 resident per district?

This probably would mean increasing the monthly stipend for council persons from $800/month to $1,600/month. Not a huge increase.

I suspect with districts that the council persons will be overwhelmed with more direct requests on their time. And there is no guarantee that there will be more than one Latino on the council like we have now. But it will make the lawyers potentially suing Santa Rosa happy with the changes.

How to divide Santa Rosa into five districts rather than seven would lie in the hands of those that know where the residents live and the neighborhoods are located. I only see statistics from the US Census Bureau but not where people actually live - https://suburbanstats.org/population/california/how-many-people-live-in-santa-rosa

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