

BACKGROUND

At a meeting on August 19, 2024, the City Council discussed a letter received from a potential plaintiffs' attorney on July 22, 2024, alleging a violation of the California Voting Rights Act (the "CVRA") and threatening litigation if the City declines to voluntarily change to a district-based election system. At the meeting on September 3, 2024, the City Council approved City Resolution No. 2024-91 declaring Foster City's intent to initiate procedures to transition from at-large election to district-based elections.

The City of Foster City currently employs an at-large elections system, in which voters of the entire City elect the five City Council members. A district-based election is one in which the City is divided into separate districts, each with one City Council member who resides in the district and is chosen by the voters in that particular district. The district-election system will be introduced for the 2026 election.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Fill out a Community of Interest form

The City of Foster City wants to hear from the community on how district boundaries should be drawn. Share your opinions by answering a few short but impactful questions:



FOSTERCITY.ORG/COMMUNITYOFINTERESTFORM

Attend a Public Hearing or Community Workshop

OCTOBER 2024

October 7: First public hearing
7pm | Council Chambers

October 20: Community Workshop
10am - 11:30am | Council Chambers

October 21: Second public hearing
7pm | Council Chambers

NOVEMBER 2024

November 4: Third public hearing
7pm | Council Chambers - First maps hearing

November 13: Community Workshop
6pm - 7:30pm | Council Chambers

November 18: Fourth public hearing
7pm | Council Chambers

DECEMBER 2024

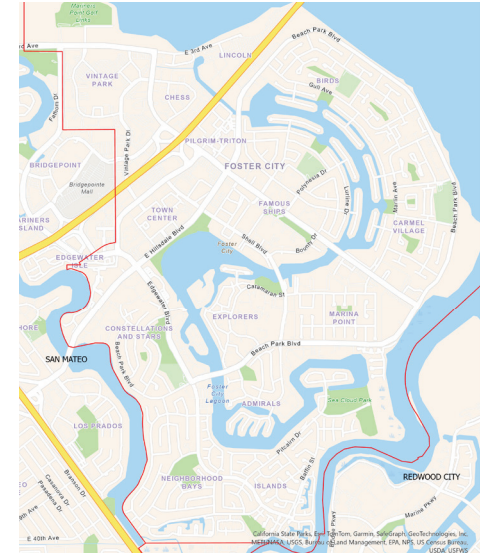
DECEMBER 2: Fifth public meeting
7pm | Council Chambers - final vote

City Council meetings begin at 6:30pm, with the Public Hearing for District Elections starting at 7pm. All meetings will also be available to watch on Zoom, FCTV, and YouTube.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Submit a map

Use the online mapping feature to draw lines indicating how you think the districts should be defined.



The City Council will take the public's submissions into account when the first draft maps are developed. Beginning October 28, the public will be able to review and provide comments on these draft maps. Subsequent drafts will be made available for public review as the transition progresses.

FOSTERCITY.ORG/DISTRICTMAPPING



SUBMIT QUESTIONS:
districtelections@fostercity.org

PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:
publiccomment@fostercity.org

PROCESS

The City needs to hold at least two public hearings over a period of no more than 30 days, at which the public is invited to provide input regarding the composition of the districts. While the public can begin drawing maps, official maps can not be drawn by the city or its consultant before completion of these two public meetings. Once the initial two meetings are complete, the hired demographer can begin to officially draw maps that will be considered in the districting process along with any publicly drawn maps. The City would then hold at least two additional hearings over a period of no more than 45 days, at which the public is invited to provide input regarding the content of the draft maps and the proposed sequence of elections. Only maps that have been public for seven days can be considered at any public hearings. Once a map is selected, it would need to be published at least seven days before consideration at a hearing for introduction of an ordinance to adopt the district map.



Keep up with this significant transition by visiting us online or emailing us with your comments and questions.



TRANSITION TO DISTRICT ELECTIONS



FOSTERCITY.ORG/DISTRICTELECTIONS
districtelections@fostercity.org