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City of Twentynine Palms Releases Mapping Tools with Official 2020 Census Data

The State of California released its official data from the U.S. Census in late September, including adjustments for the State prison population. The City of Twentynine Palms, like many other California cities, is required to use the State-adjusted 2020 Census data to redistrict.

Redistricting determines which neighborhoods and communities are grouped together into a voting district. Population-balanced, representative districts help ensure that elected officials will be responsive to the residents in their communities. Twentynine Palms community members are encouraged to participate in the redistricting process by drawing a map of their community or neighborhood, or all five City Council districts.

Understanding that individuals process information differently and have various comfort levels with technical applications, the City is offering residents various mapping tools to gain insights about the City's population shifts and draw new maps for consideration. These include:

- Paper maps with population counts that can be printed from the website, drawn on and submitted to the City via email <u>redistricting@29palms.org</u>. Maps can also be picked up and dropped off or mailed to City Hall, 6136 Adobe Road.
- An online application called Dave's Redistricting App (DRA), which enables residents to create, view, analyze and share redistricting maps with other community members.
- An interactive review map, similar to Google maps, where residents can explore
 population numbers and other statistics, as well as view and analyze draft maps once they
 are available.

These mapping tools have been added to the City's redistricting website at draw29palms.org so residents can access and provide detailed feedback at their convenience. Community members can submit as many maps as they would like throughout the redistricting process. Once the City receives map submissions from the community, the draft maps will be reviewed by the City's demographer and posted on the redistricting website. The City Council will see all submitted maps, and maps that meet the legal requirements will be taken to City Council to consider for final adoption.

The first round of maps will be presented to the City Council during the next public hearing on February 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. The deadline to submit maps for consideration at this meeting is January 25, 2022. For a complete schedule of the remaining public meetings, visit draw29palms.org/schedule.