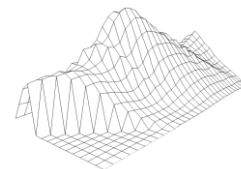




Post-2020 Census Redistricting: Orientation

HARTNELL COLLEGE

MAY 18, 2021



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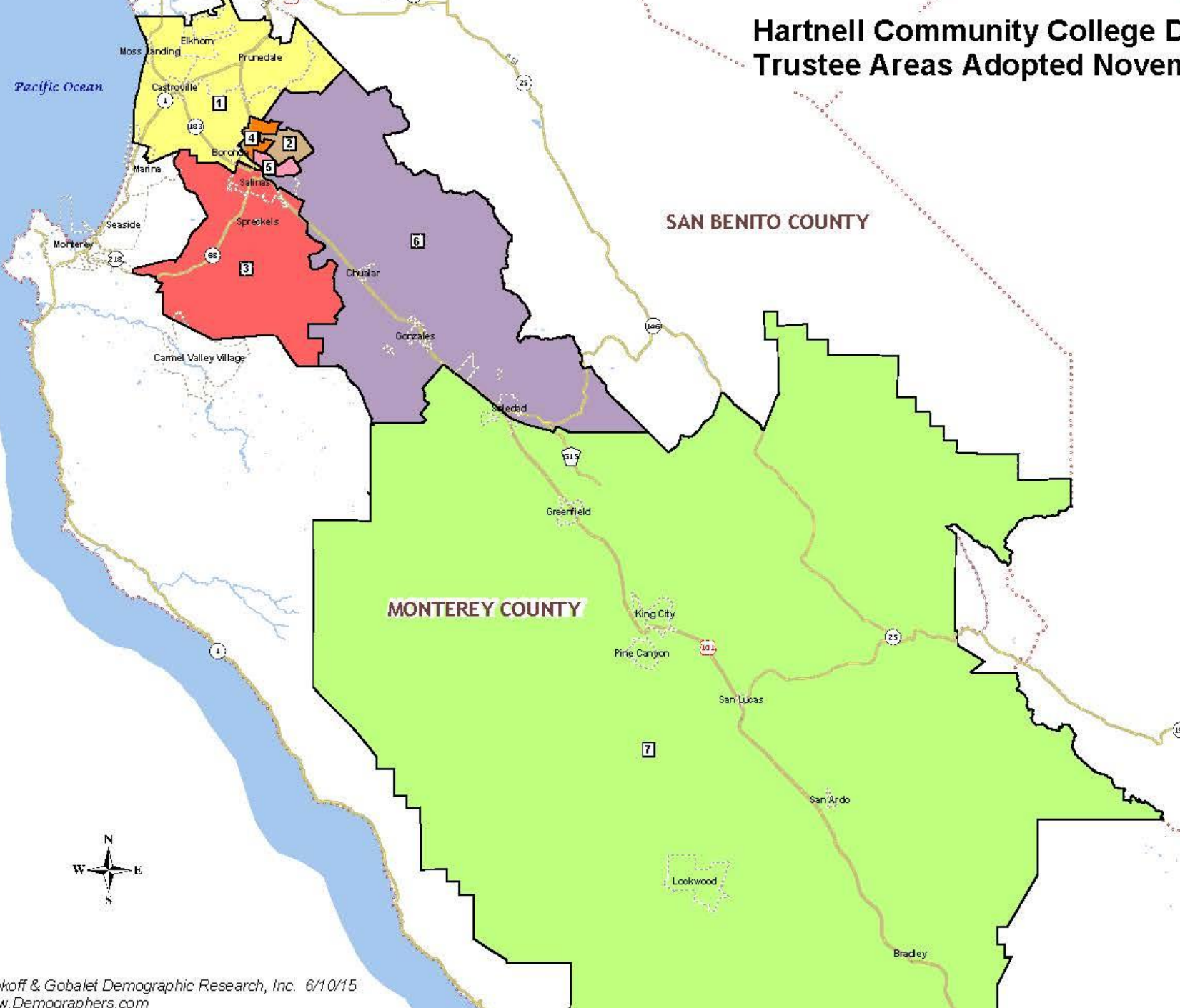
Agenda

- **What is redistricting?**
- **Legal requirements (as demographers understand them)**
- **Trade-offs when applying criteria**
- **Identifying communities of interest**
- **Timeline**

What is Redistricting?

- **Every 10 years, all school districts that elect boards by Trustee Area must redistrict (adjust Trustee Area boundaries to have equal total populations)**
- **Federal and state laws apply**
- **Each board must adopt new Trustee Area boundaries before March 1, 2022 (by law)**
- **New Trustee Areas will be in force until after Census 2030**
- **Current Trustees complete their terms of office even if they no longer live in the Trustee Area they were elected to represent**

Hartnell Community College District Trustee Areas Adopted November 1, 2011



Map Layers

- County
- City/Census Designated Place
- Water
- Highway

Trustee Areas

- Trustee Area 1
- Trustee Area 2
- Trustee Area 3
- Trustee Area 4
- Trustee Area 5
- Trustee Area 6
- Trustee Area 7

0 5 10 15
Miles

Current Hartnell Trustee Areas



**Hartnell Community College District
Trustee Areas (Salinas detail)
Adopted November 1, 2011**



Map Layers

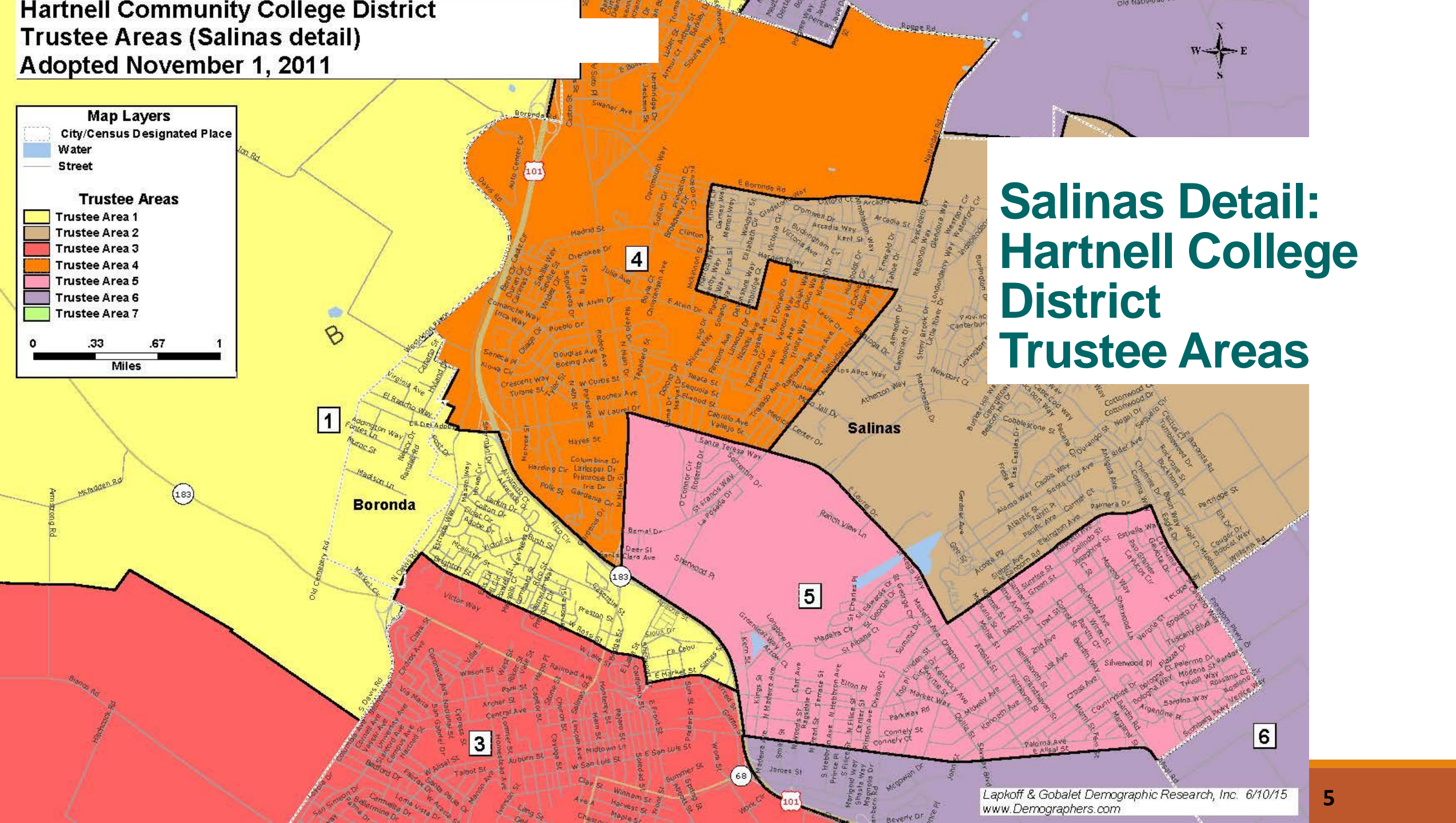
- City/Census Designated Place
- Water
- Street

Trustee Areas

- Trustee Area 1
- Trustee Area 2
- Trustee Area 3
- Trustee Area 4
- Trustee Area 5
- Trustee Area 6
- Trustee Area 7

0 .33 .67 1
Miles

Salinas Detail: Hartnell College District Trustee Areas



Legal guidelines that demographers follow:

- ✓ **Federal law:**
 - Population equality
 - Voting Rights Act
- ✓ **State Education Code**
- ✓ **Optional: New state laws**
 - Criteria to use
 - Public outreach



Federal Legal guidelines

1. **Population equality**
2. **Section 2 of the Federal Voting Rights Act: gives protected groups the opportunity to elect candidates of choice**

U.S. Supreme Court decisions (Shaw v. Reno (1993) and others) say that under most circumstances, race cannot be the “predominant” factor in (re)districting.



Legal guidelines that demographers follow: When is redistricting necessary?

Redistricting **IS** required if Trustee Areas no longer have equal populations

Redistricting is **NOT** required If Trustee Area populations are (almost) equal using 2020 Census data

State Law, optional for school districts

California's FAIR MAPS Act (AB 849, 2019) applies to cities and counties only but suggests *best practices* for school districts. Law lists criteria, in order of priority, that should/should not be used during plan drawing.

- 1. Federal Law**
- 2. Geographically contiguous**
- 3. Geographic integrity of communities of interest (especially do not split communities of protected groups)**
- 4. Geographic integrity of cities and unincorporated communities**
- 5. Easily identifiable and understood boundaries**
- 6. Geographic compactness**
- 7. NO political party considerations**

Optional State Law (continued)

FAIR MAPS Act (AB 849, 2019) *also requires* that cities and counties have public outreach and participation:

- 1. Hold at least 4 public hearings, with specific protocols**
 - a) Set starting time for meetings/hearings on redistricting

- 2. Take steps to encourage residents of the jurisdiction to participate in the redistricting process**
 - Redistricting website
 - Translation services
 - Other outreach

We must comply with the laws, but there are tradeoffs:

- 1. All redistricting criteria can rarely (if ever) be optimized simultaneously.**
- 2. We recognize tradeoffs when comparing scenarios.**



Communities of Interest (COIs) - Examples

COIs are contiguous areas where people share common social and economic interests and should be in a single Trustee Area or be considered when drawing Trustee Area boundaries:

- ❑ COI can be individual school districts**
- ❑ Recognized neighborhoods**
- ❑ Cities and unincorporated communities**
- ❑ Areas with similar living standards, including similar income and educational levels**

Timeline

July – August 2021 (before population counts are released):

Redistricting Advisory Commission is formed.

August 16 2021 – Census data released; Mid-September – Adjusted data released

Mid- October 2021

Demographers provide an orientation meeting for Commissioners to review process and criteria and show the imbalance among trustee areas. Also, Commission takes public comments on Communities of Interest.

November 2021 – January 2022 (approximately):

Draft plans are presented to the Commission. Continue revising maps until a consensus is reached and/or no new plans are needed.

February 2022:

Commission's recommendation presented to the Board of Trustees.

Before March 1, 2022:

Board of Trustees adopts a new districting plan.

Next Steps:

- 1. Redistricting Commission: select commissioners; schedule commission meetings**
- 2. Board of Trustees to decide on the role of the commission – advisory or independent or hybrid**
- 3. Website: set up page about the redistricting process on Hartnell's website, describing process and providing schedule of meetings (LGDR will suggest some of the content)**

Questions about redistricting?
