

Community-Centered Mapping



SHOW UP



**Partnership for the
Advancement of
New Americans**

*This presentation was adapted with permission
from materials provided by Common Cause and
the Black Census and Redistricting Hub*

Agenda

- How do elections work?
- What is redistricting?
- Impacts of redistricting
- What is community mapping?
- Defining Your Community
- Mapping Your Community
- Next Steps



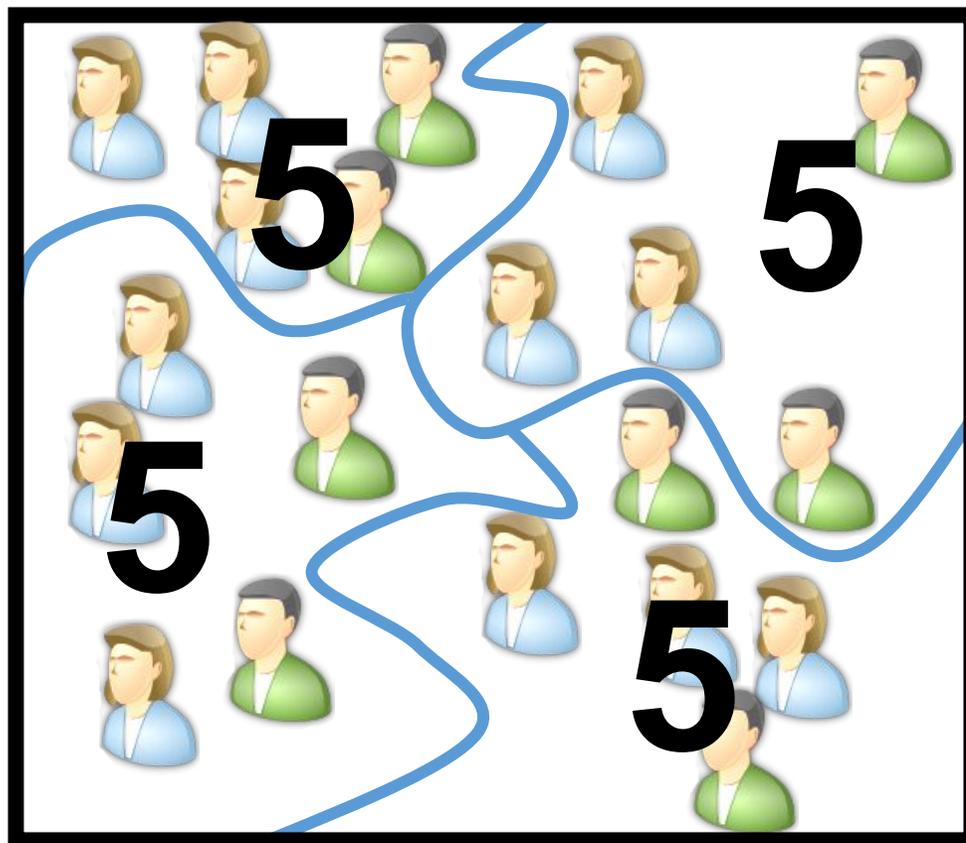
How do elections work?

- Districts:
 - A district is a political region
 - One person represents the people in that district
 - That person has to live in that district AND
 - Only people the people that live in the district can vote for that person



What is
Redistricting?

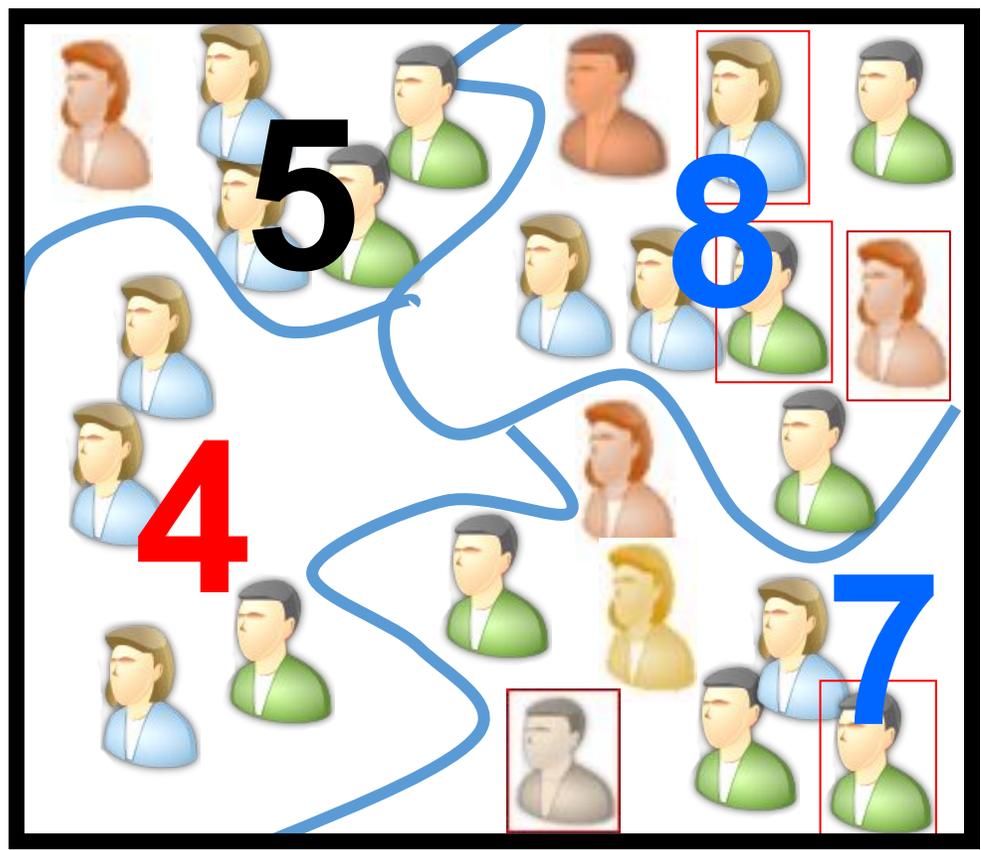
Each district must have the same
number of residents.





What is
Redistricting?

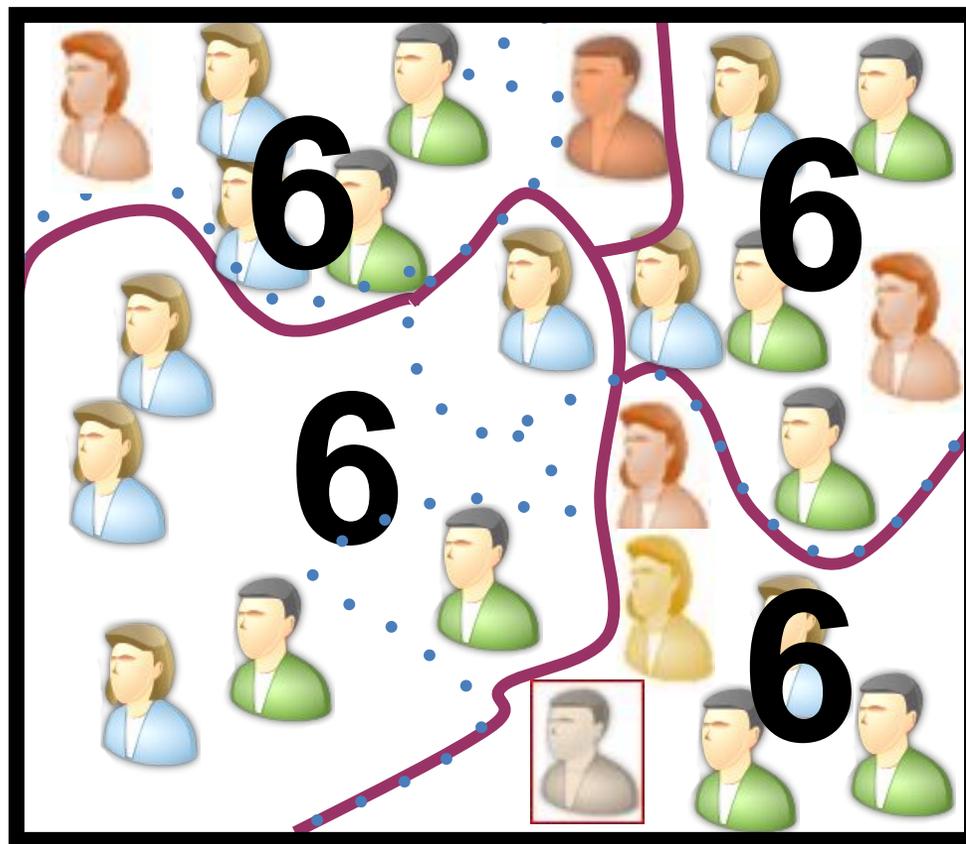
Over time, districts become uneven in size.





Every ten years, the district lines have to be redrawn to make each district even in number again.

What is Redistricting?

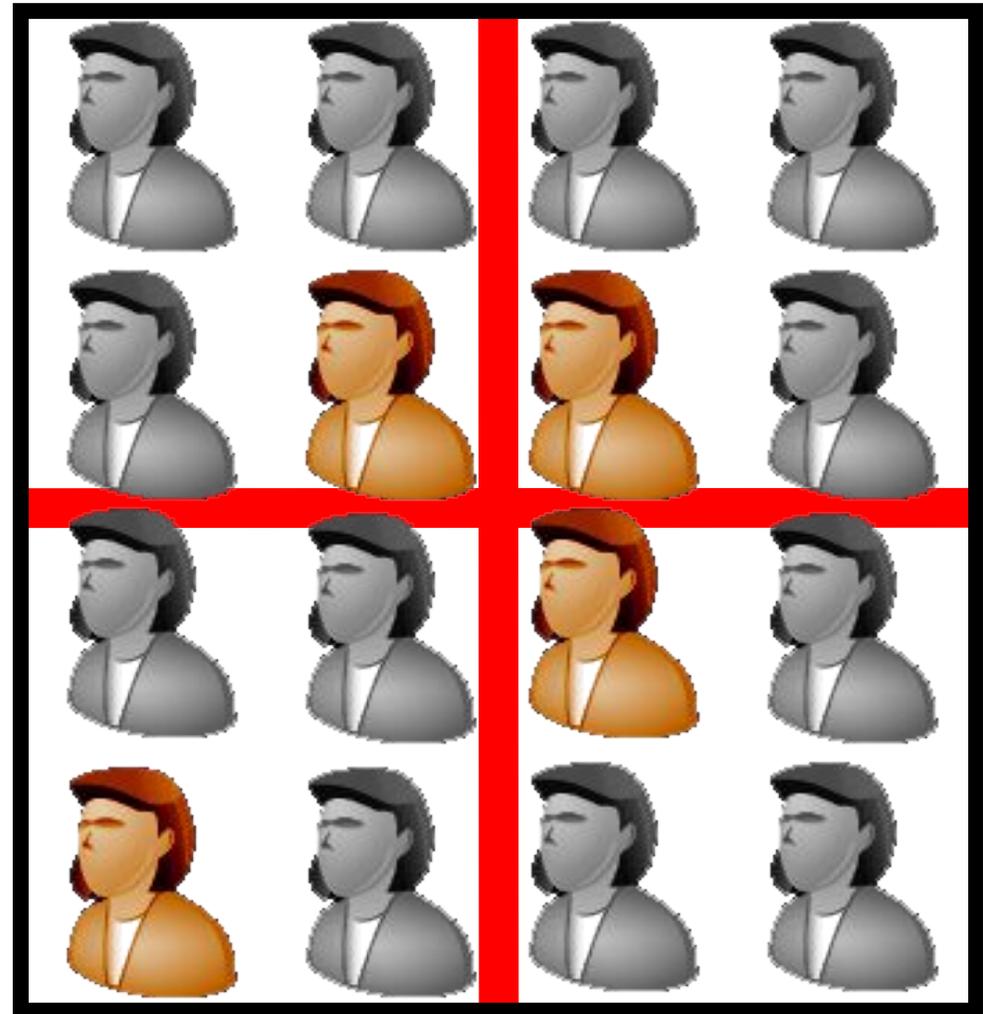




What is
Redistricting?

Redistricting can take away minority voting rights.

Minorities
make up
only
 $\frac{1}{4}$ in all
four
districts



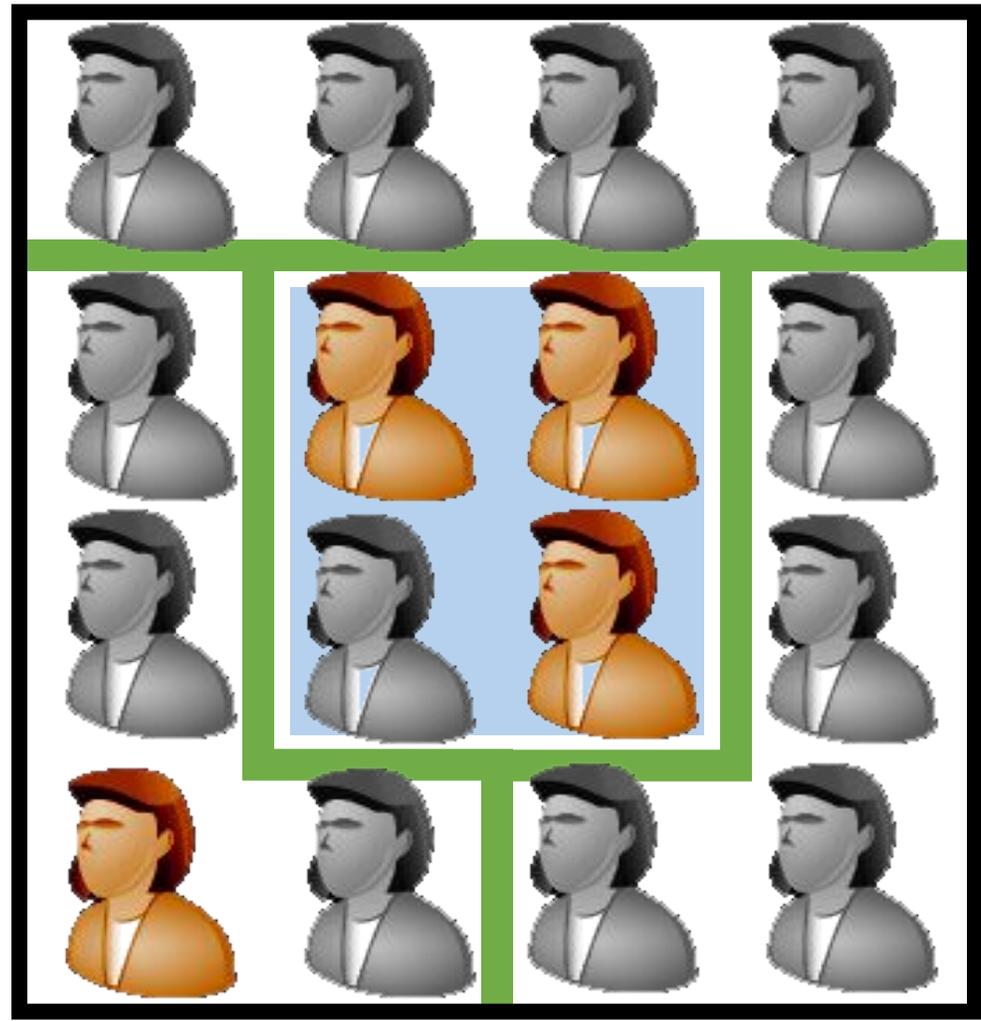


What is Redistricting?

When we organize, we can elect candidates of our community's choice.

Minorities make up $\frac{3}{4}$ of this district

If a majority can be drawn, the Voting Rights Act requires it



Impacts of redistricting



- Affects political districts and political power at the:
 - Federal (congressional districts)
 - State (assembly, senate, and board of equalization districts)
 - Local levels (county supervisorial, *some* city council, *some* school boards, and *some* special districts)



Guess where this photo is from





In a time of need,
Watts was ignored





**Why?
Because the Watts
neighborhood was
split by district lines.**

**In 2001, Watts was split
by incumbents into 3
districts at the
Congressional level.**

Division of Watts in 2001: CA Congressional Districts

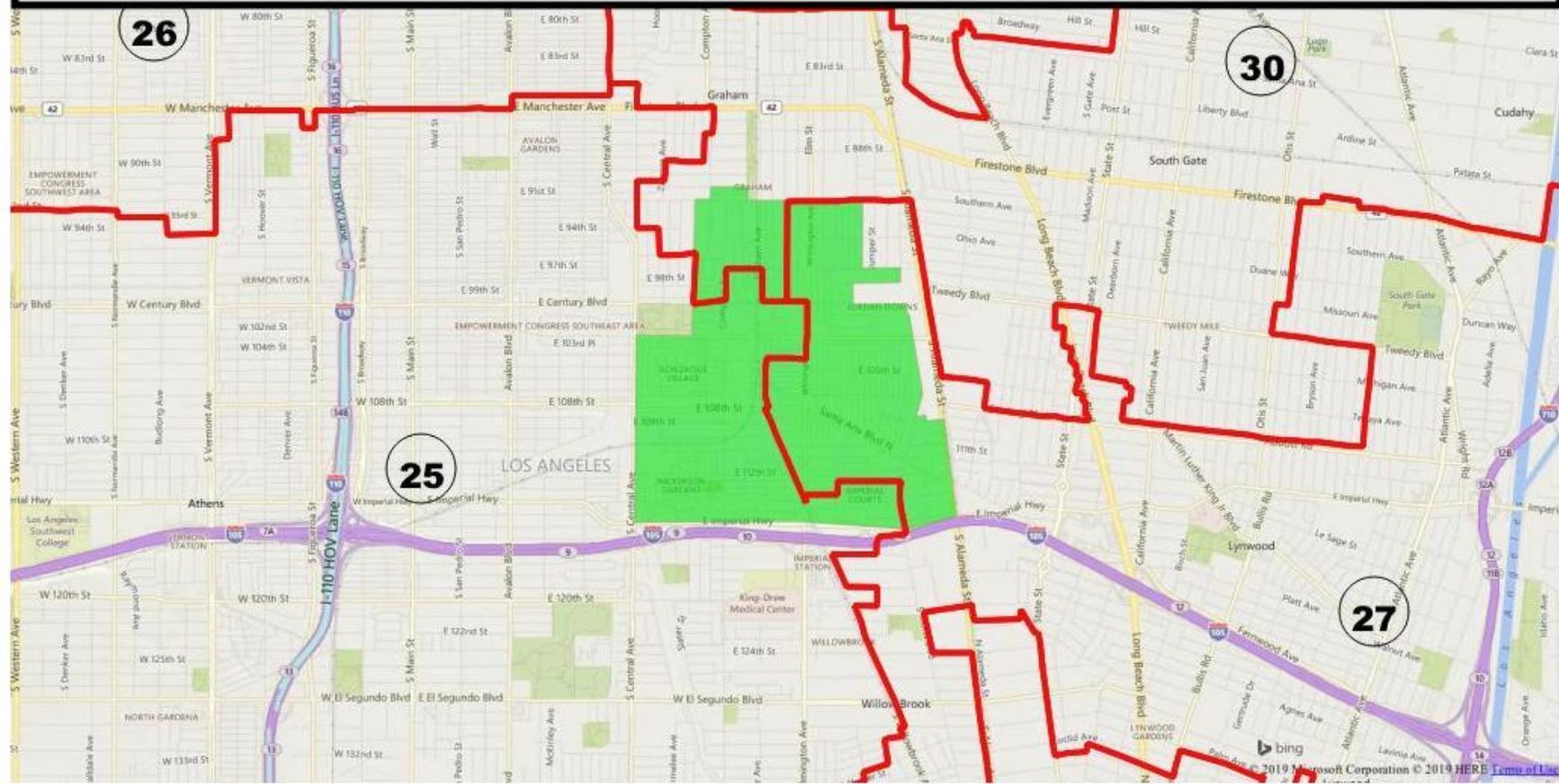




Why?
Because the Watts neighborhood was split by district lines.

In 2001, Watts was split by incumbents into 3 districts at the state Senate level.

Division of Watts in 2001: CA State Senate Districts





**Communities'
voices and
needs were
abandoned.**

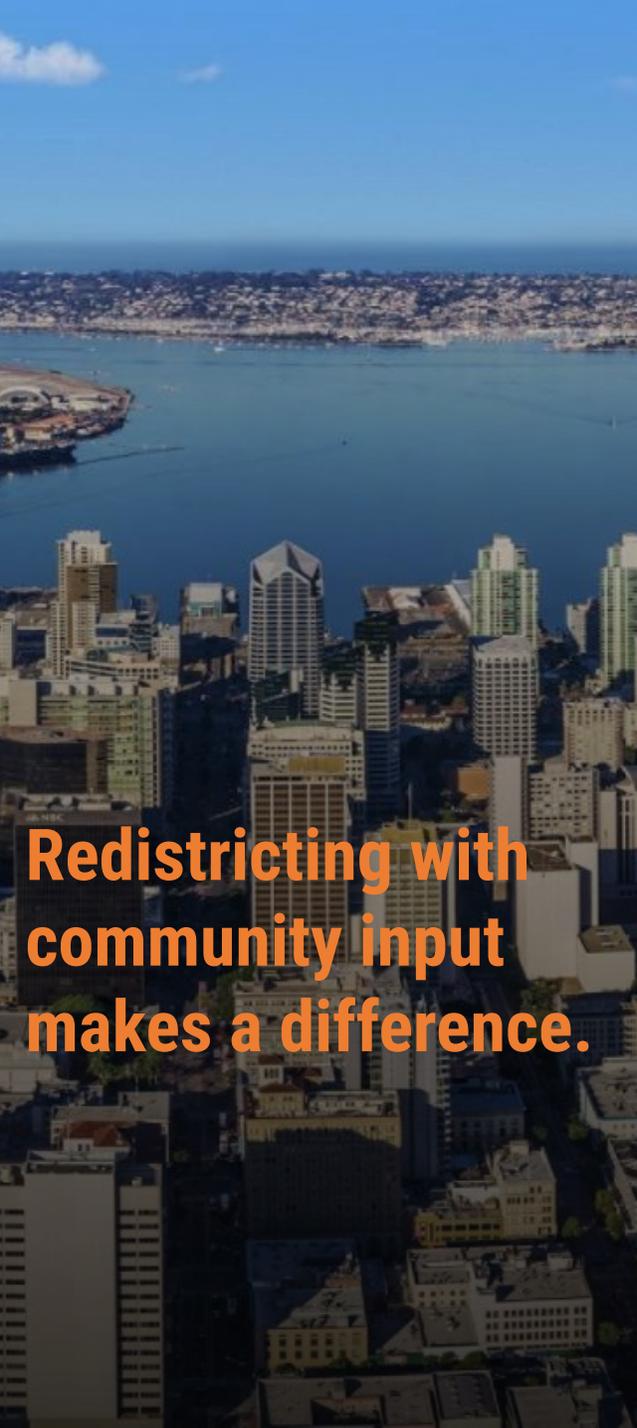


*“At the time of the 2003 flood, I remember our office trying to be very responsive, but there was a lot of **ping-ponging** of constituents between elected representatives. Residents weren't sure who actually was their member of Congress.*”

*Watts is cut into three different Congressional and state Senate districts. Residents who live on the same street may live in different districts. There was a lot of unnecessary **frustration** for constituents during a difficult time.*

***This would have never happened if all of Watts belonged to one district.*”**

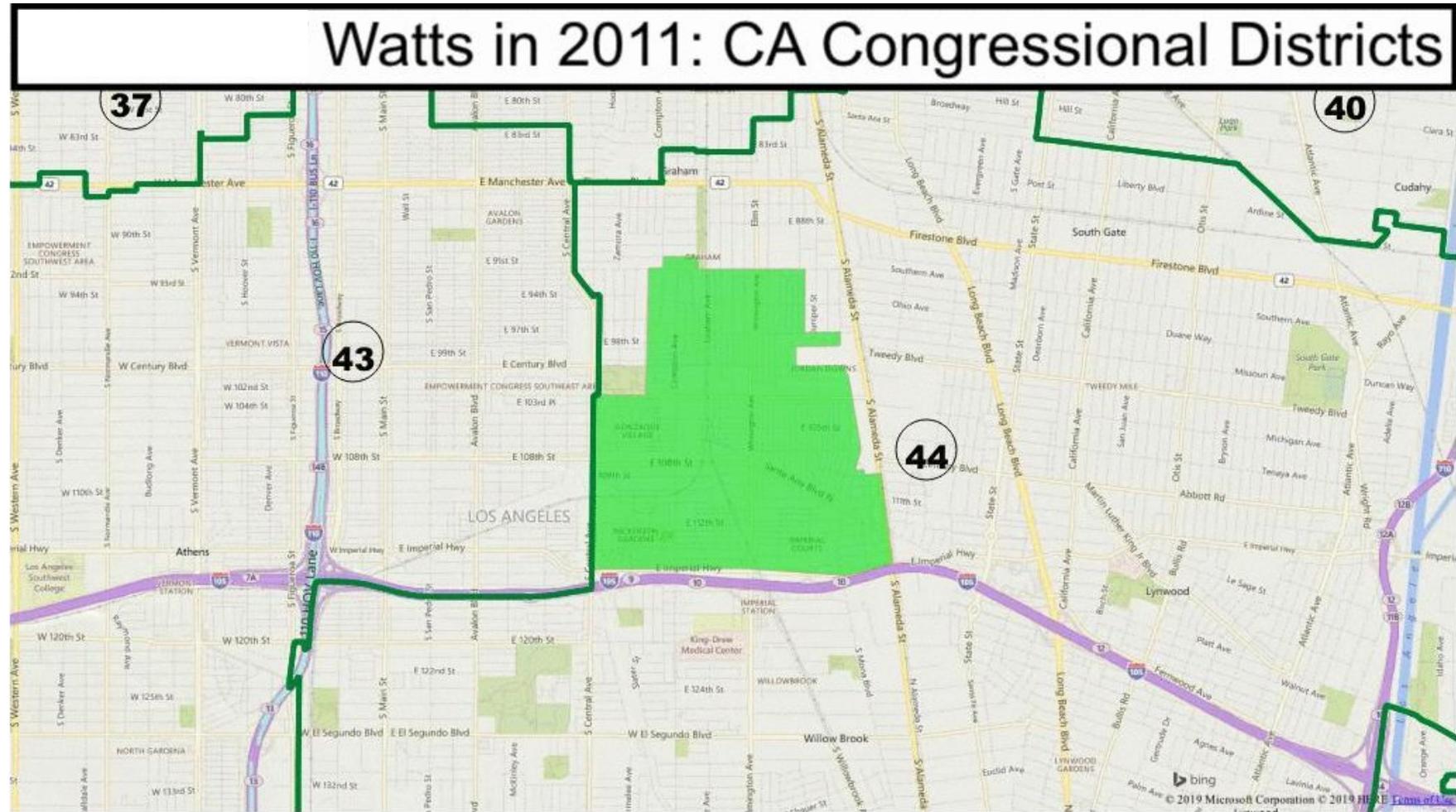
- Romulo Rivera, former Congressional staffer



After 2011, after leaders united to testify about Watts before the CA Citizens Commission, Watts was made whole.

COMMON CAUSE
Making Power Accountable

Watts in 2011: CA Congressional Districts



Redistricting with community input makes a difference.

Communities of Interest

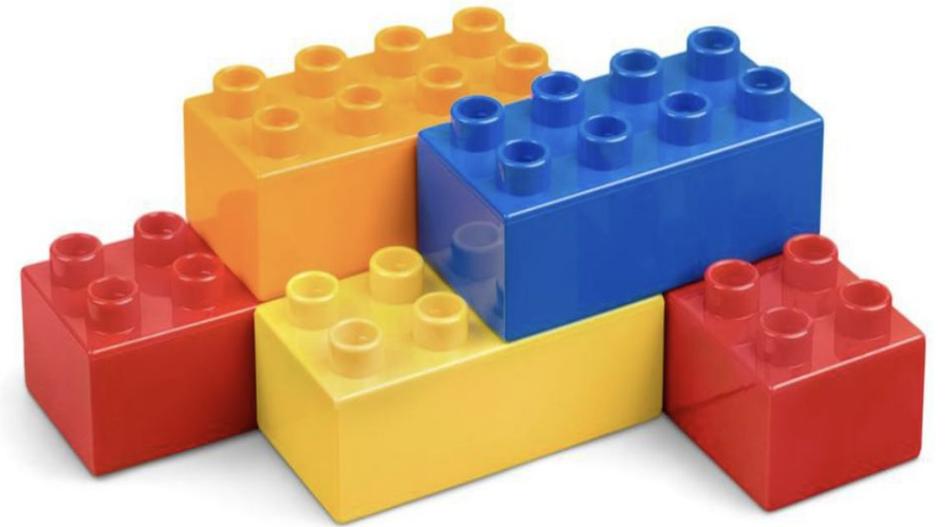
What is a Community of Interest?

- **Shared culture**
- **History**
- **Policy concerns**
 - Examples: renters, shared language, etc.



What is community mapping?

- Communities are the building blocks of redistricting
- Community mapping is a chance for people to tell their own stories
- Focuses on areas that share 3Cs: Culture, Concerns, and Counts



Why is community mapping important?

- The Census does not provide AMEMSA communities with a way to truly be counted.
- Community mapping is huge for AMEMSA communities, who don't show up in the data - we can now show up in a big way through communities of interest testimony & mapping ourselves.



Let's Talk About Your Community!

- In the chat, drop where do you live in San Diego?
 - ex. City Heights, El Cajon, etc.
- Go to the [jamboard](#) and in a sticky note write down a description of your community or neighborhood





Let's Map Your Community!

<https://drawmycommunity.org/>

Next steps

- Starting talk to your friends, family, etc., about redistricting
- In the summer, turn out & testify to the commission on behalf of your COI
- We will be taking these maps to meetings with other community members & partners

