

**WEST SIDE HEALTH CARE DISTRICT
RESOLUTION #2023-3**

RESOLUTION ADOPTING BY-ZONE ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, the West Side Health Care District (“District”) is a California health care district duly organized and existing pursuant to the laws of the State of California, particularly, Health and Safety Code section 32000, *et seq.*;

WHEREAS, the governing board (“Board”) of the District is currently composed of five (5) directors who are elected “at-large,” meaning that each director is elected by voters of the entire District;

WHEREAS, directors are elected in even-numbered years and serve staggered, four-year terms, such that the next election for two directors is scheduled for November 2024, with the remaining three directors scheduled for election in November 2026;

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act of 2001, on July 27, 2023, the Board adopted Resolution 2023-02, signaling its intent to adopt by-zone elections (**Exhibit A**). In a by-zone election system, each director must reside within a designated zone boundary and is elected only by the voters in that zone;

WHEREAS, National Demographics Corporation (“Demographer”) was retained to prepare by-zone election map options for the Board and public’s consideration;

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2023 and August 15, 2023, the Board held public hearings to gather public input regarding potential by-zone election boundaries pursuant to Elections Code section 10010;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Elections Code, section 10010, subdivision (a)(2), the District published five (5) draft zone maps and election sequencing on August 22, 2023 (Maps 101, 102, 103, 104, and 105), and held a public hearing on August 29, 2023 to gather public input on the published maps and election sequencing schedules;

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2023, the District held an informal townhall meeting at 119 Adkisson Way, Taft California, to allow members of the public the opportunity to learn more about the draft maps and ask District administration questions regarding the maps and transition process;

WHEREAS, on September 15, 2023, the District published a sixth draft map and election sequencing (Map 106). On September 28, 2023, the District held a public hearing to gather public input on all of the published maps and election sequencing schedules;

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2023, the District held an additional public hearing to gather public input on all of the published maps and election sequencing schedules;

WHEREAS, throughout this process, the District conducted outreach to the community, including but not limited to public notices, postings on the District’s website, public hearings, and a community outreach meeting; and

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code section 32100.1 authorizes the Board to divide the District into zones, and to change the method of election of the Board from at-large to by-zone elections through the adoption of a resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the West Side Health Care District hereby resolves as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.
2. The Board approves the adoption of by-zone elections pursuant to Health and Safety Code, section 32100.1, in furtherance of the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act of 2001.
3. The Board approves the adoption of zone map _____, set forth in **Exhibit B**, and the suggested election sequencing schedule identified therein, which provides that the elections for zones _____, and _____, will be held in 2024, and the elections for zones _____, _____, and _____, will be held in 2026.
4. The adopted map provides for representation in accordance with demographic, including population, and geographic factors of the entire area of the District, pursuant to Health and Safety Code, section 32100.1.
5. The Executive Director or designee is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the County of Kern, Elections Division, and to work with the Demographer, legal counsel, and the Elections Division to conduct any acts necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution (including but not limited to minor adjustments to the adopted map as may be necessary for its implementation) and to ensure that by-zone elections can be implemented in the election cycles scheduled for 2024 and 2026.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND SIGNED, this 10th day of October 2023, with the following votes:

AYES: _____
NOES: _____
ABSENT: _____
ABSTAIN: _____

Eric Cooper, Board President

ATTEST:

Robyn Melton, Clerk of the Board