

LOS ALAMITOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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NEWS RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE – For Immediate Release

Los AI School Board Narrows Trustee Maps, Two Options Remain

After an outreach effort that began in August and has included over 30 scheduled community meetings and public hearings, the Los Alamitos Unified School District Board of Education has agreed to decide between two draft maps showing how the District would be divided into trustee voting areas. The Board is moving to a trustee-area voting system because the California Voting Rights Act strongly discourages the current at-large system. Dividing the school district into trustee areas helps ensure that minority group voting rights in the community are protected and not abridged or diluted.

The Board will choose between the two final options at its regular meeting on January 21. The draft maps — Yellow 3 and Green 4 — and the demographic data supporting them can be viewed on the District web site (<http://bit.ly/losalmaps>.) The site also includes a link (<http://bit.ly/losalmapview>) to an interactive viewer that allows the two maps to be easily compared. The interactive viewer allows individuals to zoom in and out to the street level and enter specific addresses to determine in which trustee area they would be located in each draft map.

The Board has considered 11 draft maps during the voting system transition process. Before taking a final vote, the Board will hold a public hearing on the two remaining draft maps Tuesday, January 21, during its regular meeting which begins at 6:30 PM in the District Office Board Room in Los Alamitos. Printed booklets containing the maps and demographic data will be available for all those attending the meeting, along with large-format maps on display.

Anyone unable to attend the January 21 hearing can submit comments before then via email at trusteeareaelection@losal.org. Complete information on the adoption of the new voting system, including frequently asked questions and timelines, can be found on the District website (<http://www.losal.org/Voting>).

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