City of **Greenfield**
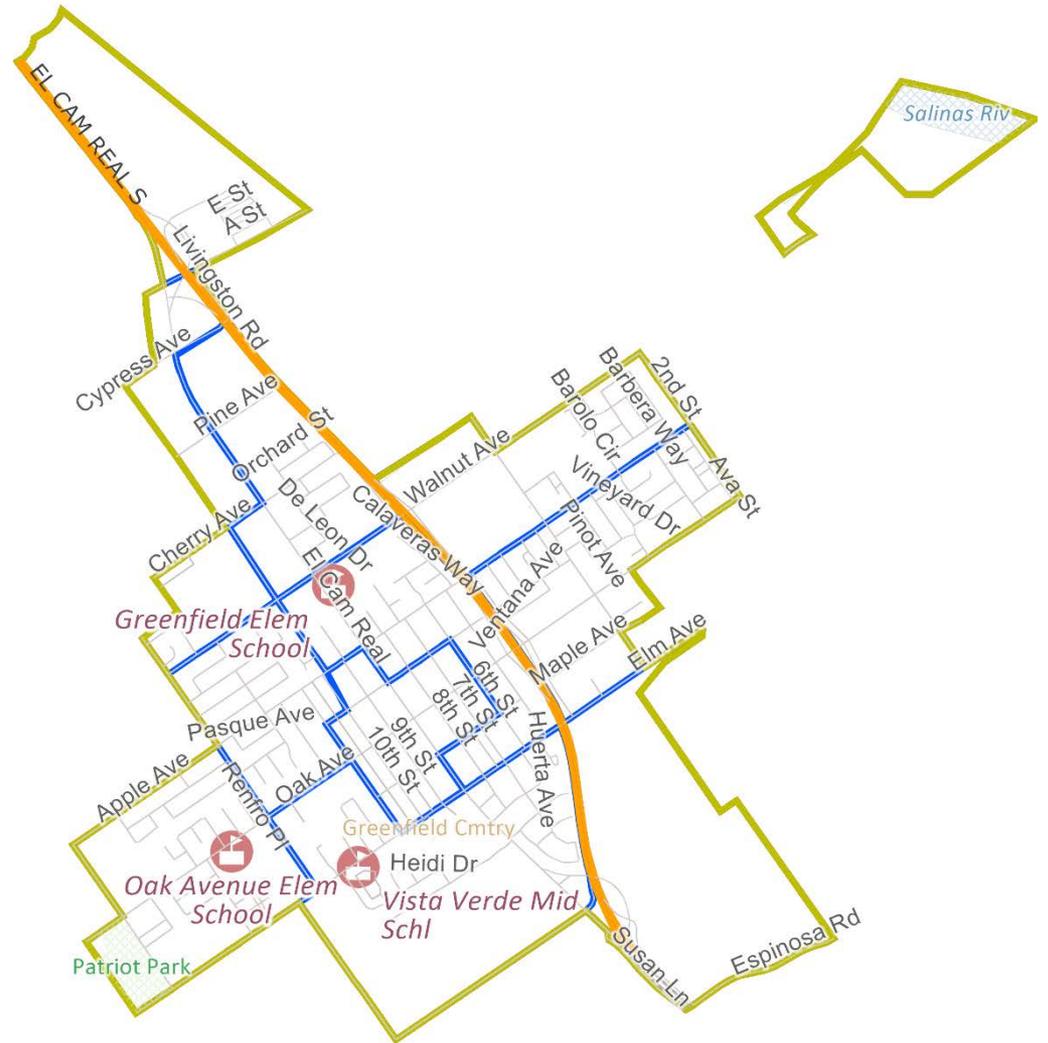
Transition to District Elections

Dr. Daniel Phillips, Consultant

National Demographics Corporation

Election Systems

1. "At Large"

2. "From District" or "Residence" Districts

3. "By District"

The California Voting Rights Act was written to specifically encourage by-district elections

California Voting Rights Act (CVRA)

- Under the Federal Voting Rights Act (passed in 1965), a jurisdiction must fail 4 factual tests before it is in violation of the law.

- The California VRA makes it significantly easier for plaintiffs to force jurisdictions into "by-district" election systems by eliminating two of the US Supreme Court Gingles tests:

  - ~~Can the protected class constitute the majority of a district?~~

  - Does the protected class vote as a bloc?

  - Do the voters who are not in the protected class vote in a bloc to defeat the preferred candidates of the protected class?

  - ~~Do the "totality of circumstances" indicate race is a factor in elections?~~

- Liability is now determined only by the presence of racially polarized voting

CVRA Impact

- Switched (or in the process of switching) as a result of CVRA:
  - At least 240 school districts
  - 34 Community College Districts
  - 154 cities
  - 1 County Board of Supervisors
  - 35 water and other special districts.

- Cases So Far:
  - Palmdale, Santa Clara and Santa Monica went to trial on the merits. Palmdale and Santa Clara lost. Santa Monica is awaiting a decision.
  - Modesto and Palmdale each spent about $1.8 million on their defense (in addition to the attorney fee awards in those cases).
  - Santa Monica has spent an estimated $7 million so far. Plaintiffs in Santa Monica requested $22 million in legal fees after the original trial.

- Key settlements:
  - Palmdale: $4.7 million
  - Modesto: $3 million
  - Highland: $1.3 million
  - Anaheim: $1.1 million
  - Whittier: $1 million
  - Santa Barbara: $600,000
  - Tulare Hospital: $500,000
  - Camarillo: $233,000
  - Compton Unified: $200,000
  - Madera Unified: about $170,000
  - Hanford Joint Union Schools: $118,000
  - Merced City: $42,000

- An estimated $16 million in total settlements and court awards so far.

Transition Process

Step	Description
Two pre-draft hearings: Jan. 31 & Feb. 3	Held prior to the release of draft plans. Purpose is to educate on the process and to solicit input on the neighborhoods and communities of interest in the City.
Release draft plans: Feb. 10	Draft plans posted to the City website. All draft plans to be considered must be posted at least 7 days prior to the first post-draft hearing.
Two post-draft hearings: Feb. 17 & 23	Purpose is to present, discuss, and, if necessary, revise the draft plans, and to discuss the election sequence.
Plan adoption: Mar. 21 & Apr. 12	Plan adopted via ordinance. First and second readings. Final plan must be posted at least 7 days prior to adoption.

Rules and Goals for Drawing Districts

1. Federal Laws	2. California Criteria for Cities	3. Other Traditional Districting Principles
☐ **Equal Population** ☐ **Federal Voting Rights Act** ☐ **No Racial Gerrymandering**	1. **Geographically contiguous** 2. **Undivided neighborhoods and "communities of interest"** (Socio-economic geographic areas that should be kept together) 3. **Easily identifiable boundaries** 4. **Compact** (Do not bypass one group of people to get to a more distant group of people) *Prohibited:* *"Shall not favor or discriminate against a political party."*	☐ **Respect voters' choices / continuity in office** ☐ **Future population growth**

Demographic Summary

All data presented are the official and most current data available.

If the city is divided into 4 districts, each must contain about 4,750 people.

If the city is divided into 5 districts, each must contain about 3,800 people.

City of Greenfield

Category	Field	Count	Pct	Category	Field	Count	Pct
	2020 Adjusted Pop.	19,010		Age	age0-19	6,570	38%
	2020 Census Pop.	18,937			age20-60	8,771	51%
Total Pop	Hisp	17,863	94%		age60plus	1,998	12%
	NH White	624	3%	Immigration	immigrants	7,092	41%
	NH Black	103	1%		naturalized	820	12%
	Asian-American	198	1%	Language spoken at home	english	2,689	17%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	5,258			spanish	12,532	81%
	Hisp	4,320	82%		asian-lang	32	0%
	NH White	700	13%		other lang	160	1%
	NH Black	150	3%	Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	7,392	48%
	Asian/Pac.Isl.	73	1%	Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	3,347	35%
Voter Registration (Nov 2020)	Total	5,579			bachelor	394	4%
	Latino est.	5,090	91%		graduatedegree	111	1%
	Spanish-Surnamed	4,781	86%	Child in Household	child-under18	2,243	60%
	Asian-Surnamed	53	1%	Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	7,394	63%
	Filipino-Surnamed	64	1%	Household Income	income 0-25k	571	15%
	NH White est.	495	9%		income 25-50k	957	26%
	NH Black	83	1%		income 50-75k	803	22%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2020)	Total	3,820			income 75-200k	1,344	36%
	Latino est.	3,427	90%		income 200k-plus	41	1%
	Spanish-Surnamed	3,227	84%	Housing Stats	single family	3,130	79%
	Asian-Surnamed	41	1%		multi-family	856	21%
	Filipino-Surnamed	38	1%		rented	1,912	51%
	NH White est.	376	10%		owned	1,805	49%
	NH Black	62	2%				
Voter Turnout (Nov 2018)	Total	2,482					
	Latino est.	2,159	87%				
	Spanish-Surnamed	2,037	82%				
	Asian-Surnamed	26	1%				
	Filipino-Surnamed	30	1%				
	NH White est.	293	12%				
	NH Black est.	38	2%				

Total population data from the 2020 Decennial Census. Surname-based Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database. Latino voter registration and turnout data are Spanish-surname counts adjusted using Census Population Department undercount estimates. NH White and NH Black registration and turnout counts estimated by NDC. Citizen Voting Age Population, Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2015-2019 American Community Survey and Special Tabulation 5-year data.

Demographic Summary

Category	Field	Count	Pct
	2020 Adjusted Pop.	19,010	
	2020 Census Pop.	18,937	
Total Pop	Hisp	17,863	94%
	NH White	624	3%
	NH Black	103	1%
	Asian-American	198	1%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	5,258	
	Hisp	4,320	82%
	NH White	700	13%
	NH Black	150	3%
	Asian/Pac.Isl.	73	1%

City of Greenfield (table title)

Latino CVAP

Latinos are heavily concentrated throughout the city, especially west of Highway 101.

There are no significant concentrations of other protected classes.

Latino CVAP
- 0-25%
- 25-35%
- 35-50%
- 50-65%
- 65-75%
- 75-100%
- No Population

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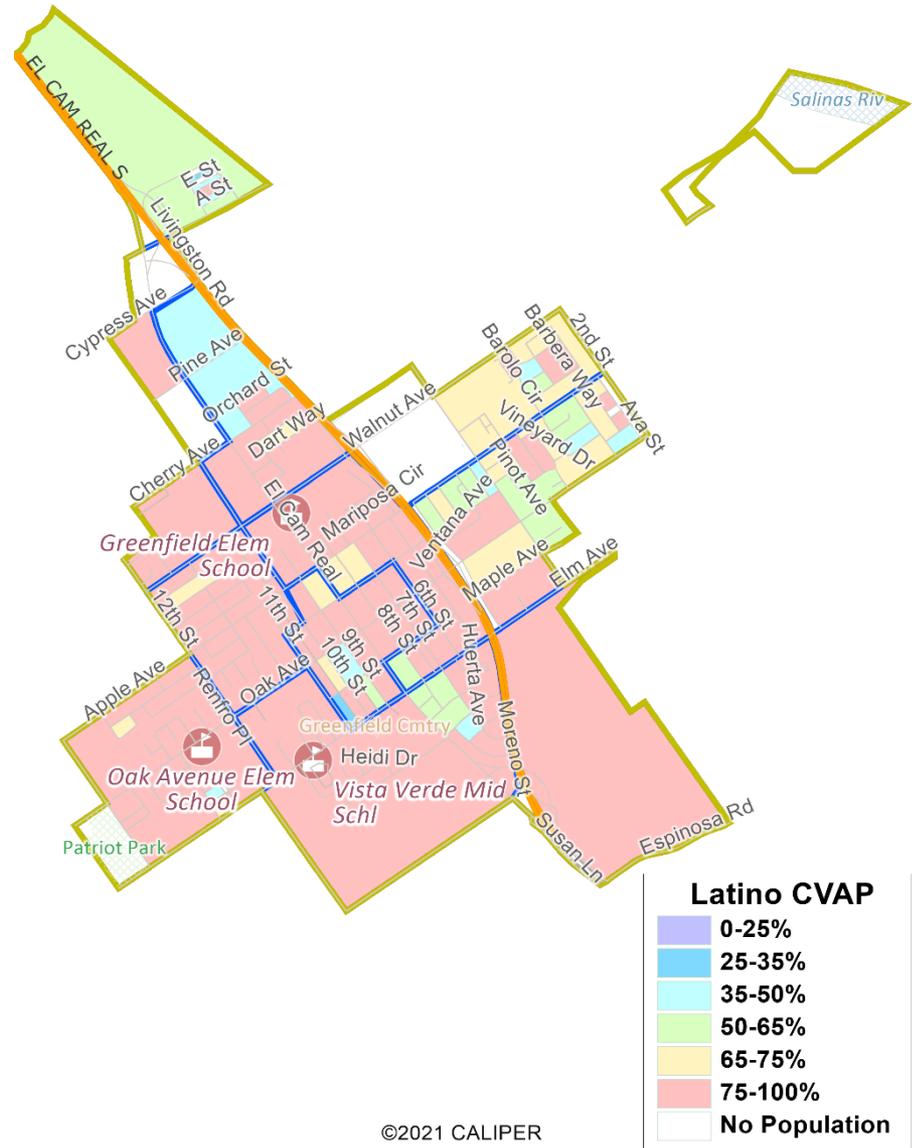
Defining Neighborhoods

1st Question: what is your neighborhood?

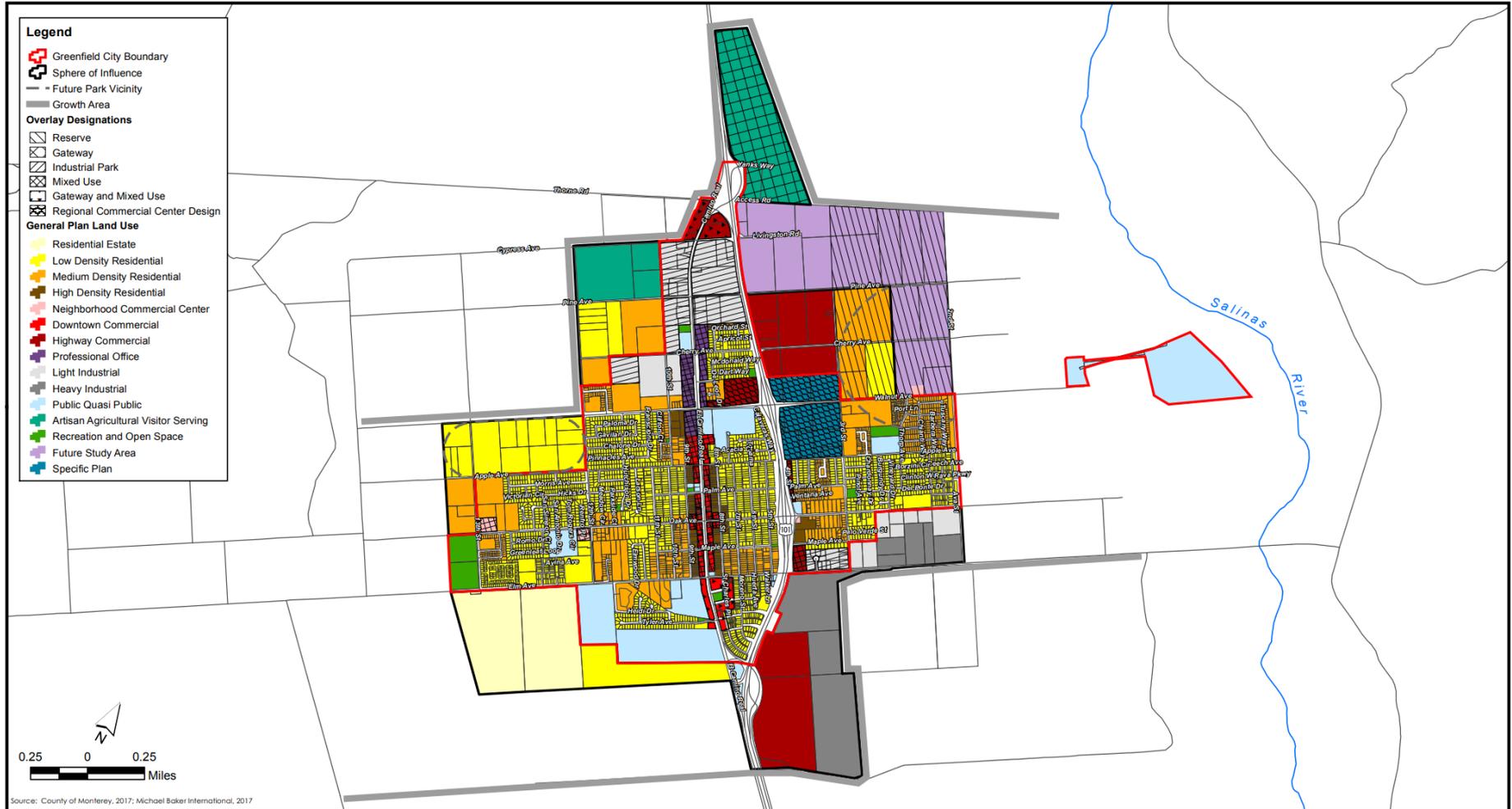**2nd Question: what are its geographic boundaries?**

Examples of physical features defining a neighborhood boundary:

- Natural neighborhood dividing lines, such as highway or major roads, rivers, canals and/or hills
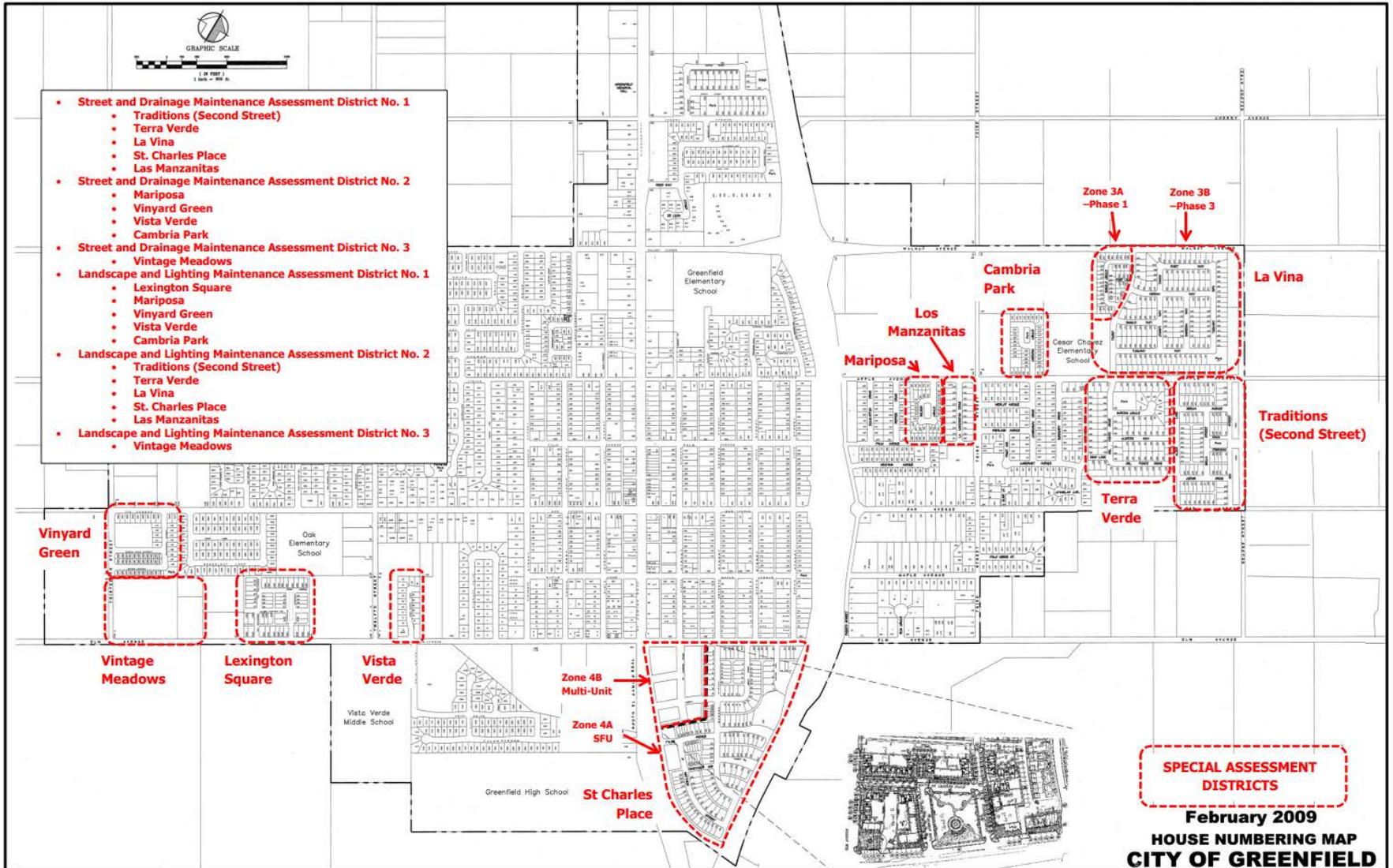- Areas around parks or schools
- Other neighborhood landmarks

In the absence of public testimony, planning records and other similar documents may provide definition.

Defining Neighborhoods

Source: County of Monterey, 2017; Michael Baker International, 2017

Defining Neighborhoods

- **Street and Drainage Maintenance Assessment District No. 1**
  - **Traditions (Second Street)**
  - **Terra Verde**
  - **La Vina**
  - **St. Charles Place**
  - **Las Manzanitas**
- **Street and Drainage Maintenance Assessment District No. 2**
  - **Mariposa**
  - **Vinyard Green**
  - **Vista Verde**
  - **Cambria Park**
- **Street and Drainage Maintenance Assessment District No. 3**
  - **Vintage Meadows**
- **Landscape and Lighting Maintenance Assessment District No. 1**
  - **Lexington Square**
  - **Mariposa**
  - **Vinyard Green**
  - **Vista Verde**
  - **Cambria Park**
- **Landscape and Lighting Maintenance Assessment District No. 2**
  - **Traditions (Second Street)**
  - **Terra Verde**
  - **La Vina**
  - **St. Charles Place**
  - **Las Manzanitas**
- **Landscape and Lighting Maintenance Assessment District No. 3**
  - **Vintage Meadows**

Beyond Neighborhoods:
Defining Communities of Interest

1st Question: What defines your community?

☐ Geographic Area, plus

☐ Shared issue or characteristic

  ◻ *Shared social or economic interest*

  ◻ *Impacted by city policies*
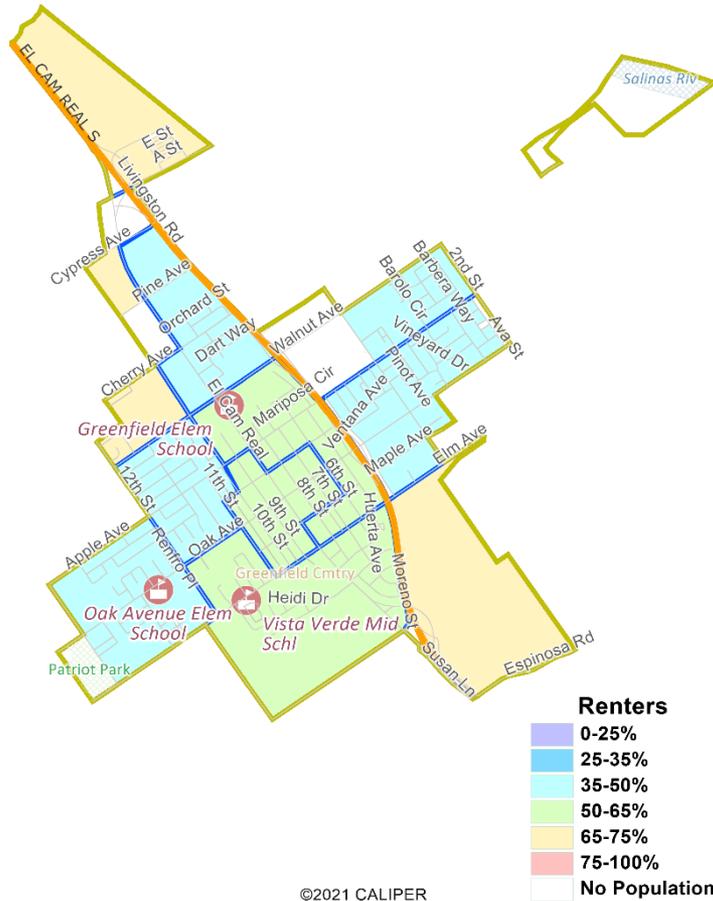
☐ Tell us "your community's story"

2nd Question:

Would this community benefit from being "included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation"?

☐ Or would it benefit more from having multiple representatives?
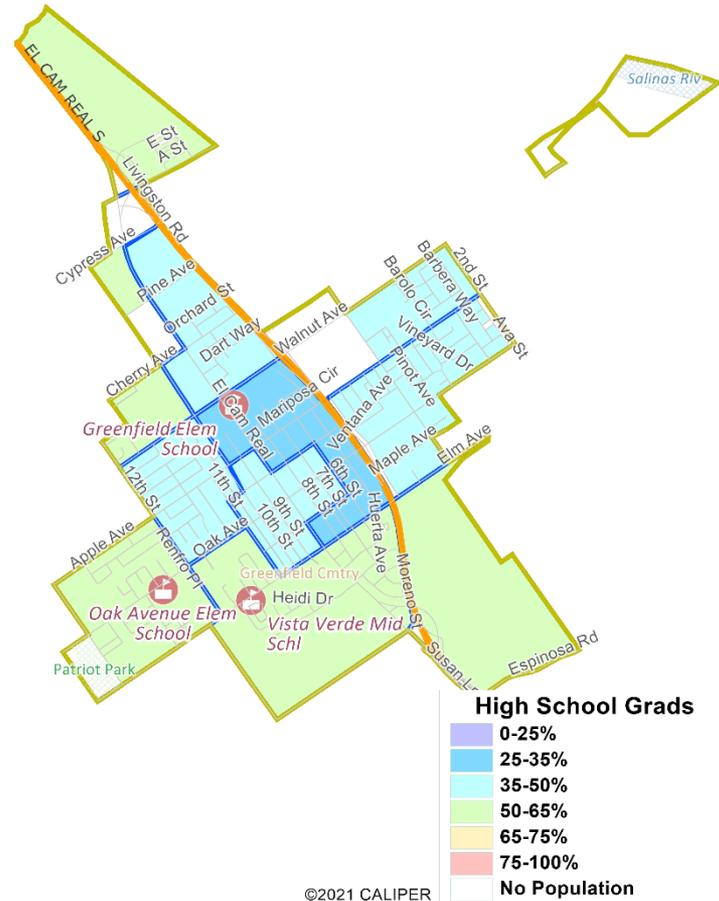
Definitions of Communities of Interest may <u>not</u> include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

Socio-Economic Demographics

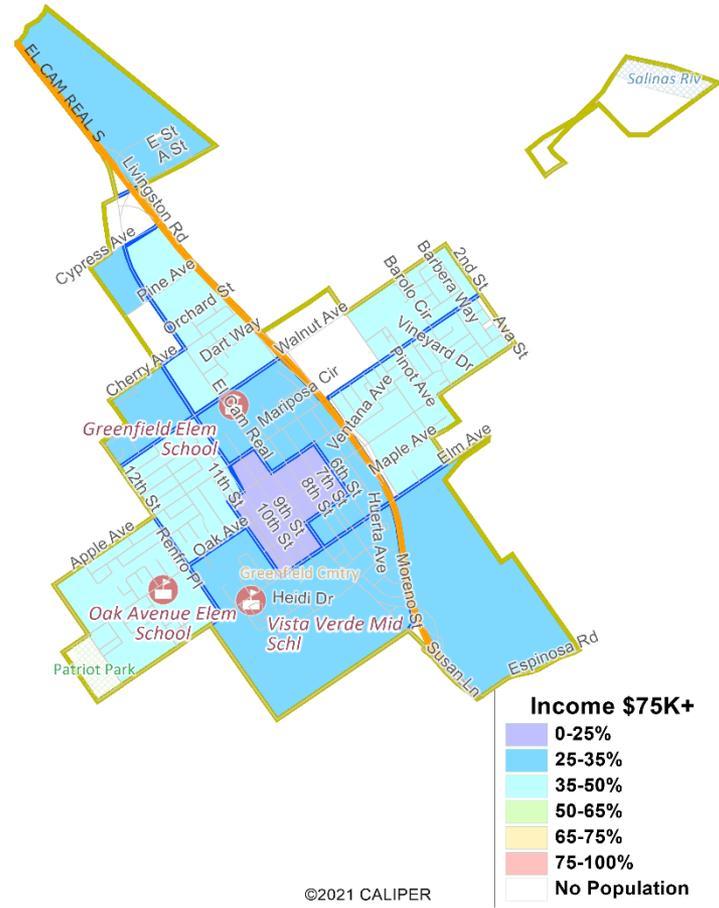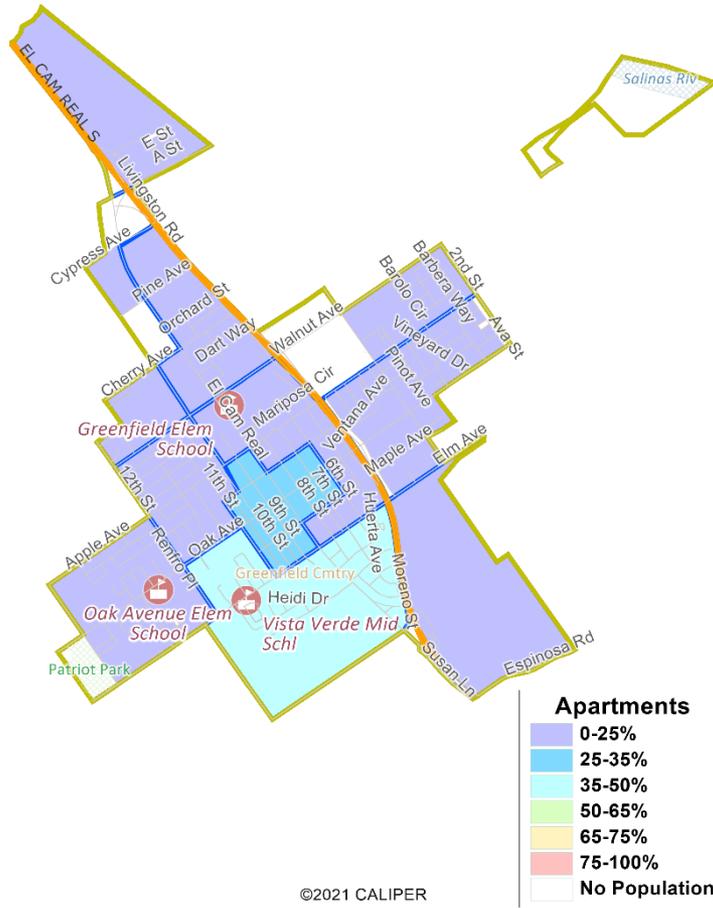**Renters are found throughout the city, while those without a high school degree are concentrated in the center.**

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Renters
- 0-25%
- 25-35%
- 35-50%
- 50-65%
- 65-75%
- 75-100%
- No Population

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High School Grads
- 0-25%
- 25-35%
- 35-50%
- 50-65%
- 65-75%
- 75-100%
- No Population

Socio-Economic Demographics

There are slightly more apartment dwellers toward the south, and slightly more high earners toward the west and east.

Apartments
- 0-25%
- 25-35%
- 35-50%
- 50-65%
- 65-75%
- 75-100%
- No Population

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Income $75K+
- 0-25%
- 25-35%
- 35-50%
- 50-65%
- 65-75%
- 75-100%
- No Population

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Mapping Tools

- Different tools for different purposes
- Different tools for different levels of comfort and interest
  - Simple "review draft maps" tool (<u>included</u>)
  - Easy-to-use "Draw your neighborhood" tool (available)
  - Paper- and Excel-based simple "Draw a draft map" tools (available)

Public Hearing & Discussion

☐ What are the neighborhoods of the city, and what are their boundaries?

☐ What are the communities of interest in the city, and what are their boundaries?

☐ Any questions about the process going forward?