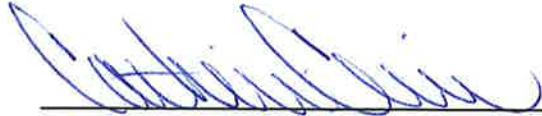


LAKE ARROWHEAD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2018

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Lake Arrowhead Community Services District



CATHERINE CERRI, General Manager

SUBJECT: FOURTH PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSAL TO
ESTABLISH DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR DISTRICT-BASED
ELECTIONS

A. RECOMMENDATION

That the Board open the public hearing to receive any public input on the draft maps prepared by the District's professional demographer, Doug Johnson, which as drafted would effectively change Lake Arrowhead Community Services District's election system from at-large to by-district.

B. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

On December 12, 2017, the Board adopted a resolution of intention to transition from at-large to district-based elections. On January 9, 2018, the Board held its first public hearing in accordance with California Elections Code section 10010(a)(1), regarding the establishment of possible district boundaries for district-based elections. As required under state law, the Board conducted a second public hearing regarding the establishment of possible district boundaries for district-based elections and any parameters to be considered on January 23, 2018. On February 13, 2018, in accordance with California Elections Code section 10010(a)(2), the Board held a third public hearing regarding the content of the draft map(s) and information on proposed staggered terms of office and the potential sequence of elections, if applicable. At this third public hearing, the Board considered two draft maps that were posted on the District's website on February 2, 2018, and the potential sequence of elections based on those proposed districts. There was no public input received on revising the draft maps and staggered terms of office and the potential sequence of elections at that time. The Board set a subsequent public hearing pursuant to California Elections Code section 10010(a)(2) for tonight's meeting, and directed District staff to bring back the Lake Arrowhead CSD "Orange" Draft Map for further discussion. Both draft maps prepared by Doug Johnson (the Lake Arrowhead CSD "Orange" Draft Map and the Lake Arrowhead CSD "Green" Draft Map) have

remained available on the District's website for review and are included as attachments to this staff report.

C. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA") was adopted in 2002 and applies to at-large election voting systems, or those that combine at-large with district-based elections. The CVRA prohibits elections that prevent members of a protected class from electing their chosen candidates to a public agency's governing board or otherwise impairs the ability of voters from a protected class to influence elections. However, the District received a letter on September 26, 2017, from a lawyer named Kevin Shenkman who specializes in suing public entities with at-large elections systems, alleging that the District's at-large election system violates the CVRA because it results in minority vote dilution. While the District does not believe that its current at-large system violates the CVRA, LACSD has initiated the voluntary change to a by-district election system to avoid costly litigation. There has been a tremendous amount of litigation on this issue. As a result, many municipalities and special districts throughout the state are making similar changes to their elections system to avoid the significant costs and risks associated with litigation. On December 12, 2017, the Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2017-17 stating the intent of the District to transition from an at-large election system to a district-based election system pursuant to California Elections Code section 10010.

On January 9, 2018, the Board held an initial public hearing and received public input regarding the composition of proposed district boundaries for the District's election system and set a second public hearing for January 23, 2018. During that discussion, the Board also heard from General Counsel regarding state law requirements in creating districts for a by-district based election system. Specifically, under California Elections Code section 22000(a), each special district adjusting division boundaries shall use the federal decennial census to create divisions that are as far as practicable, equal in population. Additionally, the District Board may consider several factors in adjusting the boundaries: (1) topography, (2) geography, (3) cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory, and (4) community of interests of the division.

On January 23, 2018, the Board held a second public hearing as required under state law to receive the public's input on the composition of proposed district boundaries for the District's election system and provide any direction on the creation of draft maps and any parameters to be considered. There was no input from the public received at that time.

On February 13, 2018, the Board held a third public hearing for the proposal to establish district boundaries for district-based elections. Draft maps that were prepared by Doug Johnson, a professional demographer with extensive experience in the CVRA, were posted on LACSD's website for at least 7 days prior to the hearing. The draft maps included information on staggered terms of office for elected Board members. Mr. Johnson discussed the two draft district maps and proposed sequence of elections. There was no input from the public received at that time. At the February 13, 2019 Board meeting the Board directed staff to bring back the Lake Arrowhead CSD "Orange" Draft Map and set a subsequent public hearing for the Board's next regularly scheduled

meeting on February 27, 2018. Both draft maps prepared by Mr. Johnson include five proposed districts based on the federal decennial census and the potential sequence of elections based on those proposed districts.

Staff prepared a resolution to switch from at-large to by-district based elections, pursuant to California Elections Code section 10650, which has been agendaized as a separate public hearing at tonight's Board meeting.

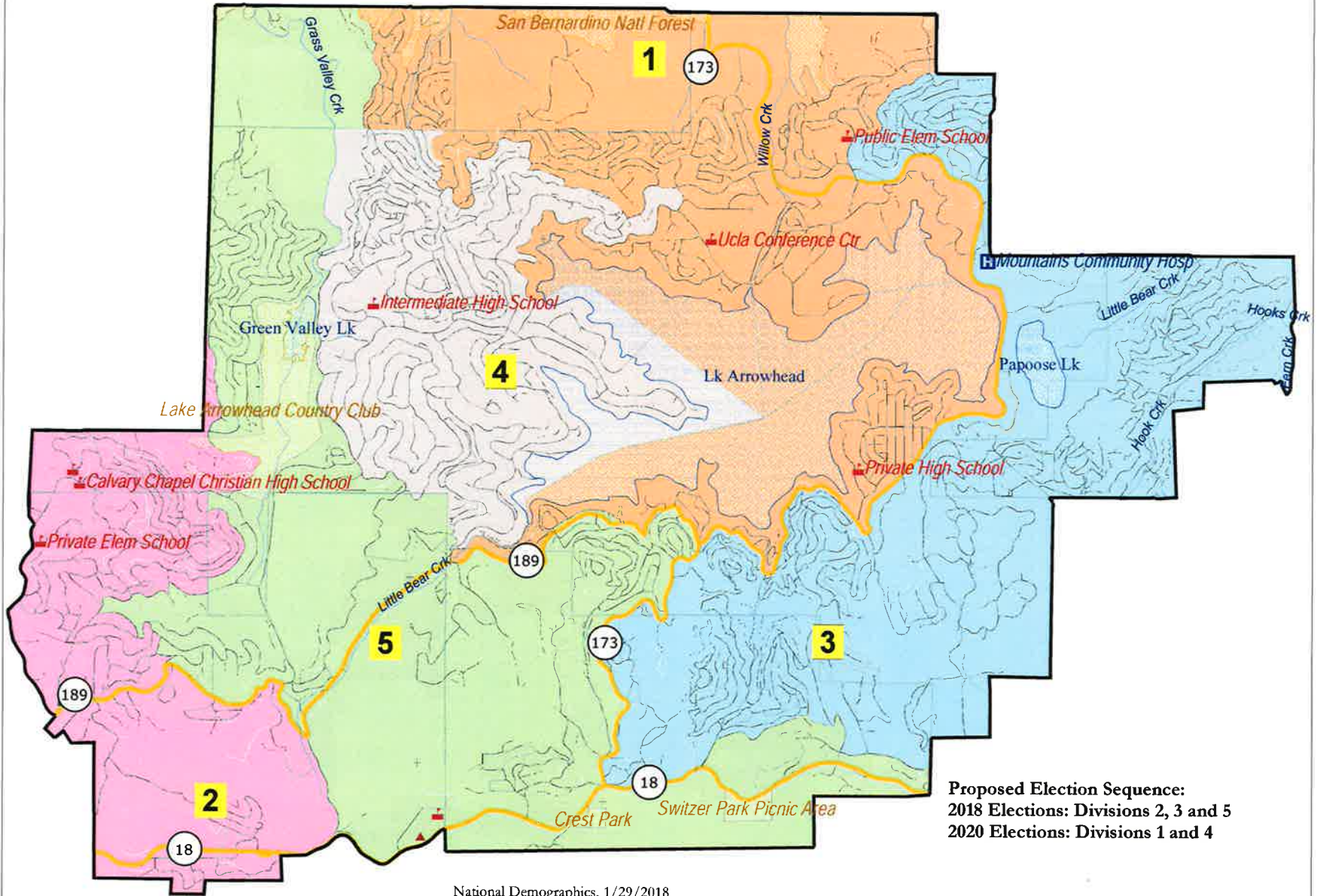
D. FISCAL INFORMATION

Changing the District's election system will result in related legal and consulting fees. If the District does not change its election system and litigation is filed against the District, it may result in higher legal costs to the District.

E. ATTACHMENT

Draft maps prepared by demographer Doug Johnson (the Lake Arrowhead CSD "Orange" Draft Map and the Lake Arrowhead CSD "Green" Draft Map)

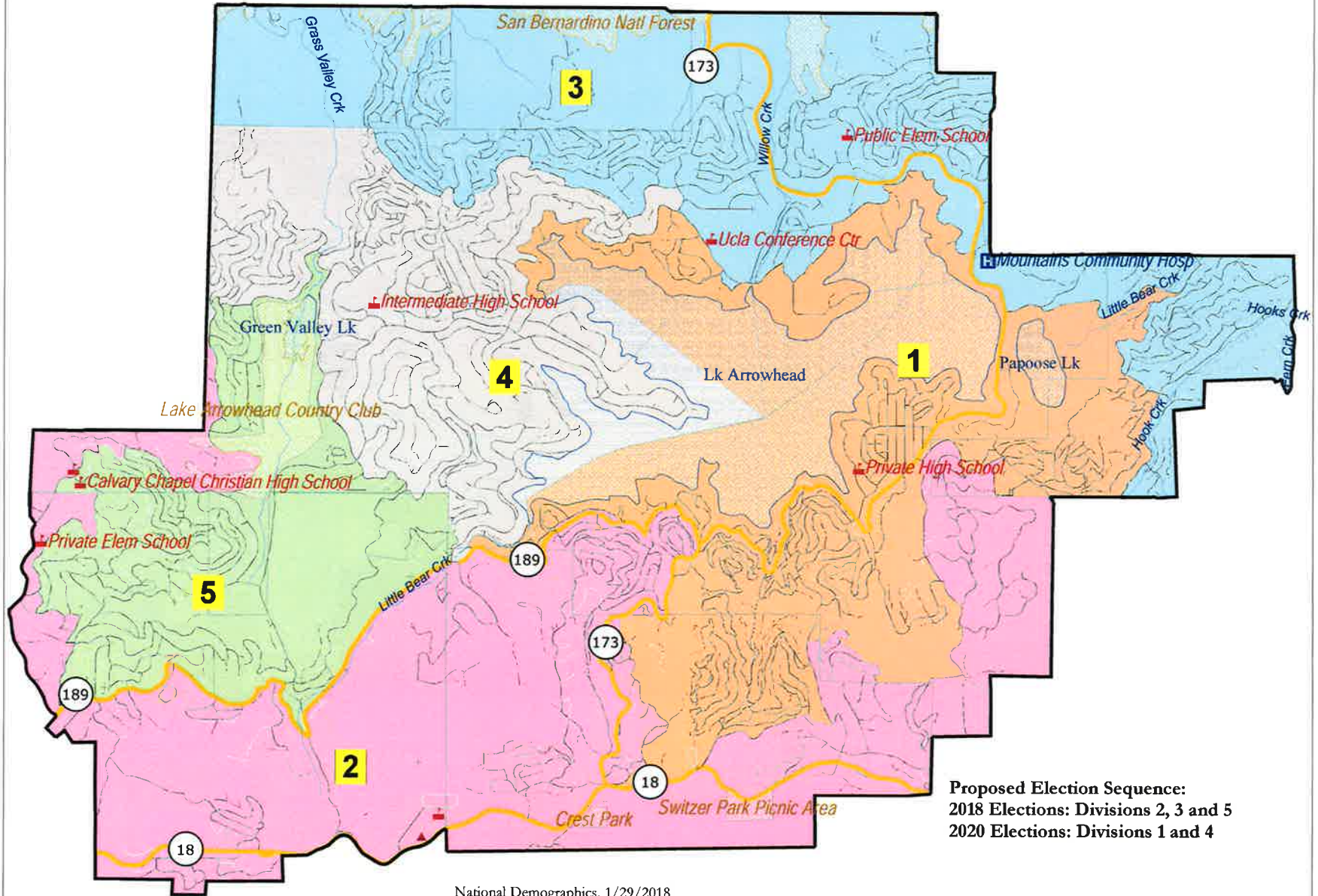
Lake Arrowhead CSD "Orange" Draft Map



Proposed Election Sequence:
2018 Elections: Divisions 2, 3 and 5
2020 Elections: Divisions 1 and 4

National Demographics, 1/29/2018

Lake Arrowhead CSD "Green" Draft Map



Proposed Election Sequence:
2018 Elections: Divisions 2, 3 and 5
2020 Elections: Divisions 1 and 4