

MSSA Reconfiguration: Step-by-Step

1. Organize selected 2010 census data in 2000's MSSA configuration
2. Examine total population, square miles, income information, and demographic data
3. Note areas defined as "frontier" "rural" and "urban"
 - a. Note which areas are frontier with population density change that no longer meet the definition of frontier
 - b. Note which areas are defined rural where population density no longer meets the definition of rural
 - c. Note which areas are defined as urban with population change, or area that may need to be addressed
 - i. Determine the population and area (in square miles) of urban MSSAs within the county
 - ii. Determine if there are contiguous census tracts within a defined "urban MSSA" that, if separated from the urban MSSA, would stand alone as a "rural MSSA". Determined if community stakeholders support creating a new rural MSSA.
 - iii. Ascertain whether the urban MSSA is greater than five square miles. If it is not, then one or more adjacent census tracts will be added to increase the area to five square miles or greater.
 - iv. If the total population of the urban MSSA exceeds 200,000 it will be divided into at least two "urban MSSA subdivisions" that have a population range no less than 75,000 and no more than 125,000.
 - v. Ascertain urban MSSA subdivisions are within at least five square miles in area. If not, then one or more adjacent census tracts will be added to increase the area to five square miles or greater, even if the resulting population of the urban MSSA exceeds 125,000
4. Once consensus (or substantial agreement) among the stakeholders is reached on MSSA reconfiguration, OSHPD prepares a draft motion for the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission (CHWPC), which has been circulated among the stakeholders in the county.
 - a) Changes to the boundaries of MSSAs can only be made through motions adopted by the CHWPC.
 - b) Any such motions will be agenda items of CHWPC and should be accompanied support letters from community officials and stakeholders.