

Redistricting Commission

City of College Park

Monday, May 23, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Members	Present	Absent
Betty Colonomos	X	
Val Graham	X	
Alan Hew	X	
John Krouse	X	
Delmar Nelson	X	
Nathan Rickard	X	
Marilyn Yang		X
Fritz Leopold	X	
D.W. Rowlands	X	
Jordan Dewar	X	
Robert Day	X	
Staff and Others		
Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager	X	
Jacob Vassalotti, City GIS Analyst	X	
Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney	X	
Carleveva Thompson, Contract Secretary	X	

I. Call to Order

Mr. Gardiner called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

II. Review and Approval of Agenda

The Commission reviewed the agenda and no changes were made.

III. Review of the Resolution to Establish a City Redistricting Commission

a. Charge to the Commission

Ms. Ferguson reviewed the Resolution with the Commission. The Resolution states the Commission should review the four districts with the support of the City Attorney and City Staff as determined by the City Manager. A consultant may be requested by the Commission if needed. The Commission should provide the report and recommendation to the City Council on September 13, 2022.

b. Actual Voters

The Resolution defines actual voters as College Park residents registered to vote as of April 1 of the year that reapportionment occurs who have voted in either a statewide election or a citywide election. The City has data from the last two elections that shows who voted and where voters live to provide a count of actual voters. The County data will show the resident name and whether they voted in a federal or municipal election.

c. Criterion

The reapportionment recommendation should be based on the criterion of the sum of population and actual voters. The reapportionment of districts should ensure that the criterion in each district is substantially equal to the criterion in every other district.

d. Population

The population consists of the residents in College Park.

e. Considerations for district boundaries

The Commission will have to consider the commonality of local economic and social interests, preservation of the core of existing council districts, and respect for the neighborhood.

IV. Consulting Assistance

The Council has authorized the Commission to seek a consultant for assistance with the redistricting project. Estimates were received from two consulting firms and the Commission reviewed the tasks for the project:

- Determine if redistricting is necessary
- Hold 2 public hearings to present the map and receive feedback
- Develop 3 redistricting plans
- Edits to each redistrict plan
- Prepare final reports and maps
- Presentation to City Council

Mr. Vassalotti suggested to create a virtual map based on the voter data from the County for the Commission's review. Data organization from the Census and County records will be the biggest and most timely task. City staff will need to work closely with the University of Maryland in regards to occupancy on campus. The consultants will handle the processing of the census data, but City staff will need to gather and compile data from new developments and provide to the consultant. Mr. Krouse suggested for the consultant to review the census block data and analyze the blocks that have changed substantially since the last census.

V. Selection of Chair

Mr. Day was nominated for Chair. Ms. Dewar and Ms. Rowlands were nominated for Vice-Chair.

All members were in favor; no opposed. Mr. Day will serve as Chair and Ms. Dewar and Ms. Rowlands will serve as Vice Chairs.

VI. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled on June 9, 2022.

VII. Milestone Tasks

Create webpage to share documents for Commission

Get information from ESRI

Target date of June 9th to obtain up-to-date data

Check consultants' availability in July-August and options for task work

1st public meeting in July

2nd public meeting in August

Prepare and approve final report with 3 maps in September

Presentation at Council meeting in September

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Day adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carleveva Thompson, contract secretary