

## **Council Redistricting**

Municipal elections in Cities in North Carolina with true electoral districts were delayed by the NC General Assembly until March 8, 2022 because the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau data was delayed. A true electoral district is a district where only the voters of that district vote for that council seat.

### **Background: What is redistricting and why does the City need to redistrict?**

Every time there is a federal census, as there was in 2020, the City must take the new census numbers, apply them to the old electoral districts, and determine whether the districts have gotten out of population balance over the course of 10 years since the last census. If they have, then the city council must draw new districts to bring them back into balance. Failure to do that is a violation of the U.S. Constitution. The consultant for the City has determined that the City's 5 electoral districts must be redrawn to bring them back into balance (meaning each district must have a similar population size; often referred to as "one person/ one vote" requirement).

The City's consultant has drafted 3 plans (also referred to as "maps") that bring the districts back into balance. The City Council has directed staff to seek public input regarding the 3 plans. The plans seek to get each district within 5%+ or 5%- of the ideal population for each district.

### **Public Engagement Plan:**

- I. The City staff's public engagement plan is set forth below.
  1. Post plans (maps) at the following locations: public libraries (Sheppard Memorial Library; Carver; East); Housing Authority (community center(s)), and City Hall-- Council Chamber or bulletin board.
  2. Place plans and interactive map on City website. Place comment box on City website to capture citizen comments about the 3 plans (maps).
  3. Public Engagement Sessions, In-Person or Remote with Consultant: proposed dates and times:
    - September 22, 2021, Remote session, Zoom meeting, (4-6 pm);
    - September 29, 2021, In-person session, Council Chambers (12-2pm).

- **Tentative date: Oct. 6, 2021:** In-person session, Council Chambers (4 to 6 pm). Not sure if consultant available for this meeting time.
4. Flyers – quick explanation of redistricting process, list of ways to submit feedback, list upcoming meetings, where to view maps, reminder that GREAT bus is not charging a fare (as an option to attend public engagement sessions, meetings, and areas where maps are being displayed).

## **II. Council Public Hearing/Adopt Map**

1. Council regular meeting 10/14/21
  - a. Staff report on citizen comments
  - b. Council and consultant discuss citizen comments.
  - c. Hold public hearing (seeking more comments). \*\*Place notice of hearing on City website and in local paper **prior** to Council meeting on 10/14.
2. Special Meeting: 11/1/21. Adoption of Map.
  - a. Council consider adopting resolution and map (plan) revising the districts. (Only attorney consultant (Adam) available; Blake has conflict).
  - b. Need Council input on time of meeting; and whether meeting is in-person vs remote. Staff will plan on scheduling in – person meeting for this date (11/21) at 6:00 p.m. -- unless Council directs otherwise.

## **III. Deadlines:**

### **Deadline #1:**

1. Council notify Board of Elections on or before 11/12/21 that map will be submitted by 11/17/21.
2. Filing period: 12/6- 12/17/21

### **Alternate Deadline or Final Deadline:**

1. Council submit map to Board of Elections by 12/17/21.
2. Filing period: 1/3/22 through 1/7/22.

## **IV. Election Date: 3/8/2022**

## **City of Greenville: Council Redistricting Plans**

### **Public comment box on City website and on Flyer**

#### **Background: What is redistricting and why does the City need to redistrict?**

The consultant for the City has determined that the 5 electoral districts must be redrawn to bring them back into population balance. The City's consultant has drafted 3 plans (also referred to as "maps") that bring the districts back into balance. Please complete the below flyer online:

Name:

Address:

#### **Comment about the Redistricting Plans: Options A, B and/or C:**

- State the benefits or drawbacks of Option A:
- State the benefits or drawbacks of Option B:
- State the benefits or drawbacks of Option C:
- Select Preferred Option A, B. or C:
- Additional Comments: