



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 5

Agenda Date: June 16, 2022

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Office of the City Attorney

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Andy Segovia

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Adoption of a Redistricting Plan

SUMMARY:

Adoption of a Redistricting Plan that establishes new City Council District Boundaries.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The U.S. Constitution requires that City Council districts have approximately equal population and the City Charter provides that Councilmembers shall be elected from districts that are as nearly as equal in population as practicable. According to the 2020 Census, the City of San Antonio has a population of 1,434,942 with most of the growth occurring in City Council Districts 8 and 9. As a result, federal law and the City Charter require that the City Council redefine district boundaries to correct the imbalance in population among the districts.

In October 2021, City Council appointed a 23-person Redistricting Advisory Committee to redraw and rebalance district boundaries in a proposed plan in time for the May 2023 Council elections. The Advisory Committee, supported by the City Attorney's Office and redistricting outside counsel, used guidelines and criteria to develop a Committee Draft Plan and a subsequent draft Final Proposed Plan. The Redistricting Advisory Committee held 15 public meetings from

November 2021 to June 11, 2022 to hear public comment and work towards a draft Final Proposed Plan. Advisory Committee members and City staff including outside counsel presented at 29 community meetings held by Council offices, homeowners associations and neighborhood groups to create awareness around redistricting and encourage public engagement in the process.

The Redistricting Advisory Committee meets on June 11, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in City Hall, City Council Briefing Room to review the draft Final Proposed Plan and specifically consider movement of Bexar County voter precincts 1001, 2043 and 2051.

This ordinance will approve the Redistricting Advisory Committee's Revised Final Proposed Plan updated as of June 11, 2022 as the final Redistricting Plan. The new City Council district boundaries set out in the Plan will become effective for the 2023 City Council elections.

ISSUE:

The City Charter requires City Council to examine the boundaries of City Council districts following each Federal decennial census districts and to revise the boundaries to correct population imbalances. As a result of growth in the City over the last ten years current City Council districts are out of balance and must be redrawn to meet U.S. Constitution and City Charter requirements.

ALTERNATIVES:

None

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends adoption of this Redistricting Plan.