



# City of Pensacola

## *DISTRICTING COMMISSION*

### Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2021

4:00 P.M.

City Council Chambers

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mack at 4:04 P.M. She advised the remainder of Districting Commission meetings will be held in City Council Chambers. Further she noted the attendance of the Commission's legal counselor Meredith Crawford of Clark Partington law firm.

#### **ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

**Members Present:** Diane Mack, John Jerralds, William Brancati, Jewel Cannada-Wynn, Jarah Jacquay, Eric Stevenson

**Members Absent:** Samuel Mathews

Members of the public may attend the meeting in person. City Council encourages those not fully vaccinated to wear face coverings that cover their nose and mouth.

**Members of the public may also attend and participate via live stream and/or phone.**

To watch the meeting live visit: [cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video](https://cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video).

**To provide input:**

- Citizens may submit an online form available on the City's website [www.cityofpensacola.com](https://www.cityofpensacola.com) (direct link to be distributed) **beginning at 1:00 P.M. until that agenda item has been voted upon** to indicate they wish to speak to a specific item on the agenda **and include a phone number. Staff will call the person** at the appropriate time so the citizen can directly address the City Council using a telephone held up to a microphone. **Any form received after an agenda item has been voted upon will not be considered.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES****1. [21-00806 APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DISTRICTING COMMISSION MEETING DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2021](#)**

**A motion to approve was made by Commission Member Cannada-Wynn and seconded by Commission Member Jerralds.**

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 6	Diane Mack, John Jerralds, William Brancati, Jewel Cannada-Wynn, Jarah Jacquay, Eric Stevenson
No: 0	None

**PRESENTATIONS**

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

None

**DISCUSSION ITEM****2. [21-00808 CONDUCTING THE DISTRICTING PROCESS](#)**

Chairperson Mack read the Summary portion of the memorandum provided in the agenda materials which explains the process beginning with today's meeting. She also referred to hand-out materials (hardcopies provided and on file): 1) *Districting Plan Criteria – Checklist*; and 2) *District 5 Proposed Redistricting Goal 2021* which she read both into the record and provided an explanation as to the application of the information in assessing the data being presented.

Discussion ensued among Commissioners with Supervisor of Elections Stafford and Deputy Supervisor of Elections Heaney presenting census block data via computer software on overhead screens (and provided on individual USB drives for each Commission Member to obtain and utilize individually outside of meetings). SOE Stafford and Council Executive Kraher assisted with facilitation of data and map assessment, as well as fielding comments and questions throughout the free flow of discussion in analyzing voting population data. Additional (static) maps were also provided and referred to for assisting in the discussion: 1) *2021 City Council Districts* (enlarged copy presented on easel); 2) *Eastside CRA*; 3) *Eastside Improvement Association*; and 4) *Eastside Comparison* (hardcopies provided and on file).

**DISCUSSION ITEM (CONT'D.)**

The main objective discussed and the consensus among Commission Members was the adjustment of voting age population (VAP) from districts adjacent to Districts 5 and District 7 to obtain a Black VAP of fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) for those districts, while maintaining five percent (5%) total population (plus or minus) within each district. Further, in working towards that objective for the next meeting on 10/13 SOE Stafford will pull census block data for possible adjustment, looking at all City Districts holistically.

Additional discussion took place. **SOE Stafford confirmed the information he will obtain and forward to Council Executive Kraher to be distributed to Commission Members in advance of the next meeting on 10/13.** Legal Counselor Crawford reminded Commission Members of Sunshine and Public Records laws are applicable to the process of receiving information outside of noticed meetings.

**OPEN FORUM**

**Clifford Stokes:** Reminded the Commission of concerns for maintaining majority minority voting age population within Districts 5 and 7 (referring to the loss of District 6 in the 2011 redistricting process) and be mindful of rapid demographic changes and gentrification due to residential redevelopment currently taking place.

**NEXT MEETING**

October 13<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 P.M., City Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

5:18 P.M.

Approved: October 13, 2021