

# RFA REDISTRICTING PROCESS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

## GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

- Process, data, and plans are to be transparent
- RFA to provide clear and detailed documentation to Council and the public

### 1. PROJECT INITIATION

- Local Government requests consultation or redistricting services from RFA
- RFA sends Local Government a confirmation letter
- Council may adopt a resolution engaging RFA (optional)

### 2. PRIOR TO RELEASE OF THE 2020 CENSUS DATA AND BEFORE PROJECT IS STARTED, LOCAL GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE TO RFA:

- A designated liaison
- Notice of potential issues that may affect project timeline (filing deadline, next election)
- Names and residential street addresses of incumbents
- Council will coordinate and verify that RFA has the GIS data accurately reflecting current districts

### 3. COUNCIL HAS THREE OPTIONS FOR MOVING FORWARD DEPENDING OF THE LEVEL OF RFA INVOLVEMENT AND THE SPEED AT WHICH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED:

- **OPTION 1:** Council may conduct its own redistricting and use RFA in a consulting role as appropriate.
- **OPTION 2:** RFA can create a Benchmark Report, criteria, and council can then draft its own plan.
- **OPTION 3:** Council may first review the Benchmark Report created by RFA then adopt a set of criteria and request RFA to create a preliminary redistricting plan based on these criteria. This option has the largest time commitment.

### 4. RFA WILL COORDINATE A TENTATIVE ACTION PLAN AND PROJECT TIMELINE BASED ON THE OPTION SELECTED.

FURTHER STEPS ARE DETERMINED BASED ON THE PLAN SELECTED; THE STEPS OUTLINED BELOW ARE BASED ON OPTION 3.

### 5. AT THE REQUEST OF COUNCIL AND WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE 2020 CENSUS DATA IS RELEASED RFA WILL:

- Create a Benchmark Report showing the new population in the current districts and notating the population adjustments needed in each district to achieve the one person, one vote standard and an appropriate acceptable deviation standard

- Provide statistical analyses and guidelines to consider to comply with the Voting Rights Act, specifically Section 2
- Provide a proposed set of traditional redistricting principles

6. BENCHMARK PLAN RELEASE:

- RFA will share the Benchmark Report with Council for review prior to the public meeting.

7. AT THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

- RFA will provide a briefing for Council and the public on redistricting
  - Traditional Redistricting Principles
  - Constitutional and Statutory Requirements
- RFA will provide a report to include:
  - A proposed set of criteria determined by either Council or RFA
  - An analysis (Benchmark Report) of existing districts with 2020 Census data
- RFA will solicit feedback from Council and the public on key issues, including communities of interest

8. AFTER THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

- Local Government liaison will notify RFA of key issues to consider when drafting the preliminary plan.
- RFA will provide the liaison with the preliminary plan
- Liaison will share solicited feedback from Council
- RFA will amend the plan to best achieve the constitutional requirements and local preferences.

9. AT THE SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT MEETING(S)

- Council can decide when the plan should be presented at a public meeting
- Final plan presented for Council to adopt (RFA may or may not need to attend)

10. AFTER ADOPTION

- Council will provide a letter notifying RFA of adoption of the plan
- Council will notify local voter registration office and other affected entities