



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

City of Greenville, South Carolina

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
FROM: John F. McDonough, City Manager

Agenda Item No.

15a

Ordinance/First Reading
 Ordinance/Second & Final Reading
 Resolution/First & Final Reading
 Information Only

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: January 9, 2023

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION CAPTION:

Ordinance reapportioning the City of Greenville Council Districts based on the 2020 United States Census, and other matters related thereto

SUMMARY BACKGROUND:

The city of Greenville ("City") has examined the results of the 2020 census and determined that adjustments to district lines are required to ensure that each of the four (4) districts contain, as far as is practicable, an equal number of voters. City Council received public input at multiple public meetings, on-line and via email and will hold a public hearing on January 9, 2023, to receive further public comment at a formal meeting of Council. If approved, the proposed 2023 single member district map will create four (4) apportioned Council Districts which adhere to recognized criteria adopted by Council at the inception of the redistricting process in January 2022.

IMPACT IF DENIED:

The City's Voting Districts will not be equally apportioned.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

Department Director _____

OMB Director _____

City Attorney _____

City Manager _____

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Leigh Padetti

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DocuSigned by:

John McDonough

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A N O R D I N A N C E

REAPPORTIONING THE CITY OF GREENVILLE COUNCIL DISTRICTS
BASED ON THE 2020 UNITED STATES CENSUS, AND OTHER MATTERS
RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court has established that, as a general rule, when members of a representative body are selected from separate districts, each district must be established to ensure, as far as practicable, that equal numbers of voters can vote for proportionately equal numbers of officials; and

WHEREAS, the City of Greenville is comprised of representatives from four (4) single-member districts (wards) established based upon the 2010 decennial census, which is no longer an accurate measurement of population within the various council districts; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 decennial census reflects a need to reapportion the four (4) single-member districts (wards) to ensure, as far as practicable, that equal numbers of voters can vote for proportionately equal numbers of officials; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council approved on January 10, 2022, redistricting criteria, which included the following: compliance with the United States Constitution, Federal Law, the South Carolina Constitution, South Carolina Law, the Voting Rights Act, achieving equal population between districts, maintaining contiguity and compactness of districts, maintaining communities of interests within common districts, minimize the division of voting precincts, and maintaining constituent consistency; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council solicited and received public comment regarding the single member district boundaries at multiple public meetings, online, via email, and conducted a public hearing on January 9, 2023;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, pursuant to the authority granted to it by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina to establish municipal ward lines in Act No. 435 of 1978 (Section 5-15-5 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended) that:

Section 1. The new City of Greenville single member district (ward) boundaries as shown on the map attached as Exhibit A designated as proposed Council Districts, and made a part of this Ordinance, are hereby adopted and approved.

Section 2. The new single member district (ward) boundaries as shown in on the map attached as Exhibit A shall be sent to the South Carolina Election Commission and Greenville County Board of Voter Registration and Elections for use in the next scheduled election.

Section 3. This Ordinance, which constitutes final action of City Council, shall be effective upon the date of passage.

DONE, RATIFIED AND PASSED THIS THE __ DAY OF _____, 2023.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY

REVIEWED:

CITY MANAGER

EXHIBIT A

