



# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

## City of Greenville, South Carolina

Agenda Item No.

16g

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

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

**AGENDA DATE REQUESTED:** January 10, 2022

**ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION CAPTION:**

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ACTIONS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE TO PROVIDE FOR NEW DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR THE DISTRICT SEATS ON CITY COUNCIL AND TO REQUIRE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REDISTRICTING PLAN WHICH COMPLIES WITH APPLICABLE LAW

**SUMMARY BACKGROUND:**

This Resolution adopts the criteria City Council will use to guide the redistricting process this year.

**IMPACT IF DENIED:**

The criteria will not be adopted.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

N/A


**REQUIRED SIGNATURES**


Department Director \_\_\_\_\_

OMB Director \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney \_\_\_\_\_

City Manager \_\_\_\_\_

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## A R E S O L U T I O N

TO AUTHORIZE THE ACTIONS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE TO PROVIDE FOR NEW DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR THE DISTRICT SEATS ON CITY COUNCIL AND TO REQUIRE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REDISTRICTING PLAN WHICH COMPLIES WITH APPLICABLE LAW

WHEREAS, principles of equity and responsible representative government as well as holdings by the United States Supreme Court on the application of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment require the periodic review and adjustment of district boundaries for the district seats of local governing bodies; and

WHEREAS, the results of the 2020 United States Census have been made available to the City of Greenville and shared with the City Council, and Council recognizes that the City has experienced a population increase and a shift in the density of population among the districts having designated seats on City Council; and

WHEREAS, City Council acknowledges the need to secure professional services to assess the impact of the population changes upon the existing district boundaries and to have presented to City Council reasonable and lawful options for addressing those changes; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to have the City Manager take all necessary and appropriate actions to assure an orderly and lawful redistricting study and recommendation, all to be completed as reasonably possible in advance of the filing deadlines for City Council seats in March 2023;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, the City Manager, in periodic consultation with the City Council, shall direct staff to take all necessary and appropriate actions to address the City's population growth and shifts in density between 2010 and 2020. The recommendations shall specifically address the impact of such changes upon the district boundaries and demographic changes within and among the various districts as they are represented on City Council. The actions shall include retaining professional services of one or more persons familiar with the requirements of applicable statutory law and case law of the United States and of South Carolina for changing district boundaries. The City Attorney shall confer regularly with the City Manager, the City staff, and any retained professional(s).

The resulting redistricting map shall address the following factors:

- 1) The requirement of "one person, one vote" under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and accepted variances;
- 2) The Voting Rights Act, primarily Section 2, which protects the interest of the racial minority population;
- 3) Districts will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district are connected to each other;
- 4) Districts will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts;
- 5) Districts will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that the nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population;
- 6) Districts will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests as well as to maintain constituent consistency; and
- 7) Districts will be drawn to comply with all other applicable court decisions and federal and State laws.

In establishing new districts, all criteria identified in this Resolution shall be considered. Federal and State constitutional issues shall be given priority if a conflict arises or is encountered during the redistricting process.

It is essential to solicit the input of community leaders and members of the public at large and to share with those same persons the parameters within which the City is required to act. At the time enough information is available to address the binding standards, the City shall make a concerted effort to publicize the process and make clear City Council's desire to receive public input. Upon completion of the study and upon receipt of one or more recommendations, City Council at that time shall take such action as needed to comply with applicable law on redistricting.

RESOLVED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK