

Legislative #

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MEMORANDUM

Office of the City Attorney

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TO: Mayor and City Commissioners

DATE: February 2, 2022

FROM: City Attorney

SUBJECT: Redistricting Update

The City Attorney provided a memorandum to the City Commission on November 22, 2021. Below is an updated memorandum containing the redistricting timeline. The City Attorney's Office and the Office of Communications have collaborated on the redistricting effort. Below is an updated timeline and outreach activities to-date.

Timeline

September 2021: Census data was released.

October 15, 2021: City contracted with Drs. Daniel Smith and Michael McDonald acting under U.F. BEBR to provide 3 draft plans/maps.

Monday, Oct. 25 at 6 p.m.: City hosted webinar via zoom for neighbors showing how the district building software (mapping tool) works and described the redistricting legal requirements. The webinar and map drawing tool are available for public use on the City of Gainesville website.

October 25, 2021 – April 7, 2022: Neighbors may create and submit their own maps for consideration by submitting maps to comments@cityofgainesville.org. Neighbors without a computer may use computers at local libraries.

December 7, 2021 at 5:30 pm: Public engagement session/workshop at the Bob Graham Center for Public Service at UF.

January –February 2022: 1) State Legislative Session convenes 1/11. 2) Supervisor of Elections consultant tentatively releases draft precinct plans. 3) City redistricting consultant (UF BEBR) will tentatively finalize three draft plans/maps.

February 17, 2022: City Commission meeting to review maps and set any necessary future meeting dates to discuss redistricting.

February 19, 2022: Host targeted public engagement session at the Cone Park Branch Library.

March 2022: State Legislative Session ends 3/11, including redistricting of State House and Senate Districts.

April 7, 2022: City Commission to choose final map based upon input from consultant and the public.

April 2022: Supervisor of Elections finalizes precincts.

April 21, 2022: City adjusts redistricting plan, if needed.

May 5, 2022: First reading of ordinance with final map.

May 19, 2022: Second reading and final map approved by the Gainesville City Commission.

June 13-17, 2022: Qualifying period for City election from Monday, June 13 at noon to Friday, June 17 at noon.

August 23, 2022: City election (per 2.04 of City Charter held on same day as Statewide primary).

November 8, 2022: City run-off election, if needed.

Update from the Office of Communications

The Office of Communications continues its efforts to inform and engage neighbors about the redistricting project. A hands-on map building workshop was held at the University of Florida's Bob Graham Center for Public Service in early December and a second workshop has been scheduled in partnership with the Cone Park Library Branch on February 19. Information about the redistricting process and the online map building tool continues to be shared in GNVNews, social media, the City of Gainesville website, and Cox Cable Channel 12. The city's partnership with Gainesville Black Professionals magazine, the Alachua County Library District, and UF's Bob Graham Center for Public Service give additional avenues to share information relative to the redistricting process.