

Report and Recommendation of the 2022 Citizens' Redistricting Advisory Commission

The Report and Recommendation of the 2022 Citizens' Redistricting Advisory Commission includes the following materials:

- Description of recommended council districts in table with population totals
- Map depicting recommended council districts
- Agendas and Memoranda for Meetings on :
 - July 11th, 2022
 - July 25th, 2022
 - August 22nd, 2022
 - August 31st, 2022
- Other materials available in the Office of City Clerk/Council and/or online at <https://bloomington.in.gov/council/redistricting> include, but are not limited to:
 - Interactive mapping tools used by Commission in creating various proposals;
 - Reference maps, GIS data, and related files
 - Council District Calculator spreadsheet
 - All maps submitted for Commission consideration

The Citizens' Redistricting Advisory Commission ("Commission") recommends that the Bloomington Common Council adopt the council districts described and depicted in this Report as the six councilmanic districts for the City of Bloomington. The Commission finds that the recommended districts comply with the criteria listed in Bloomington Municipal Code 2.12.130(e). The recommended districts have a population deviation between the smallest and largest districts of approximately 7.00%, which is an improvement from the 2012 redistricting effort that yielded a map with a population deviation (at the time) of 8.66%. The recommended districts also improve upon compactness when compared to their 2012 counterparts, with each of the districts becoming more compact based on the Polsby-Popper compactness test. The Commission received, created, or requested various map options, numbered #1 through #15. The Commission was able to review all map options in conjunction with race/ethnicity data. The Commission does not believe the recommended map leads to a discriminatory result. The recommended map utilizes Third Street, which divides Bloomington and Perry townships, as a boundary, with only one proposed district (District 2) spanning across this line. The Commission was also able to review all map options overlaid with specified communities of interest through the various mapping tools made available. The Commission attempted to avoid dividing neighborhoods between districts when possible. Of the options considered, the Commission believes the recommended districts and map included herein best respect areas where residents have common traits and concerns.

This 2022 Report of the Citizens' Redistricting Advisory Commission is signed by the following members. By signing this sheet, the members affirm approval of the Memoranda and Report:

Member

Date

Alex Semchuck, Chair

Amanda Sheridan

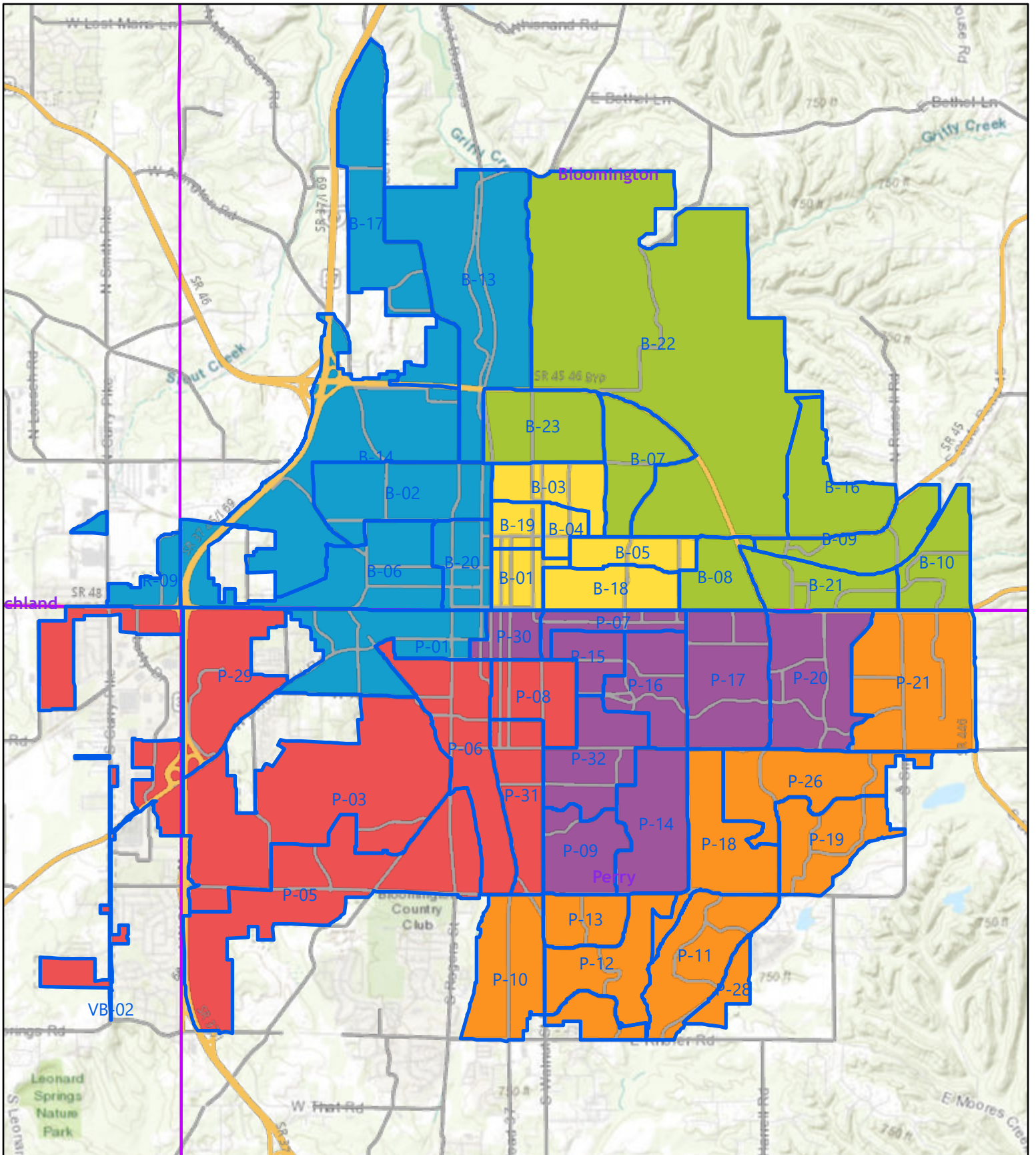
Kathleen Field

Mackenzie Colston

Michael Schnoll

Precinct Name	2020 Census Population	Current City Council Districts	2022 CRAC Recommendation	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6
BLOOMINGTON 01	1,476	6	6						1,476
BLOOMINGTON 02	2,718	1	2		2,718				
BLOOMINGTON 03	1,942	6	6						1,942
BLOOMINGTON 04	912	6	6						912
BLOOMINGTON 05	4,024	2	6						4,024
BLOOMINGTON 06	1,632	1	2		1,632				
BLOOMINGTON 07	1,370	2	3			1,370			
BLOOMINGTON 08	884	4	3			884			
BLOOMINGTON 09	1,830	3	3			1,830			
BLOOMINGTON 10	1,217	3	3			1,217			
BLOOMINGTON 13	1,349	2	2		1,349				
BLOOMINGTON 14	2,400	2	2		2,400				
BLOOMINGTON 16	1,695	3	3			1,695			
BLOOMINGTON 17	1,272	2	2		1,272				
BLOOMINGTON 18	3,322	4	6						3,322
BLOOMINGTON 19	1,216	6	6						1,216
BLOOMINGTON 20	2,332	6	2		2,332				
BLOOMINGTON 21	2,070	3	3			2,070			
BLOOMINGTON 22	1,410	3	3			1,410			
BLOOMINGTON 23	2,570	2	3			2,570			
PERRY 01	2,083	1	2		2,083				
PERRY 03	2,224	1	1	2,224					
PERRY 05	2,663	1	1	2,663					
PERRY 06	1,217	5	1	1,217					
PERRY 07	1,327	6	4				1,327		
PERRY 08	1,305	5	1	1,305					
PERRY 09	1,622	5	4				1,622		
PERRY 10	1,909	5	5					1,909	
PERRY 11	1,672	5	5					1,672	
PERRY 12	1,246	5	5					1,246	
PERRY 13	1,294	5	5					1,294	
PERRY 14	1,390	4	4				1,390		
PERRY 15	949	4	4				949		
PERRY 16	1,276	4	4				1,276		
PERRY 17	1,519	4	4				1,519		
PERRY 18	1,294	4	5					1,294	
PERRY 19	1,259	4	5					1,259	
PERRY 20	2,097	3	4				2,097		
PERRY 21	2,427	3	5					2,427	
PERRY 26	1,330	4	5					1,330	
PERRY 28	671	5	5					671	
PERRY 29	1,945	1	1	1,945					
PERRY 30	1,578	6	4				1,578		
PERRY 31	1,524	5	1	1,524					
PERRY 32	1,597	5	4				1,597		
RICHLAND 09	30	1	2		30				
VAN BUREN 02	2,084	1	1	2,084					
Total Population	79,173	Population of CRAC Districts (7.00% deviation)		12,962	13,816	13,046	13,355	13,102	12,892

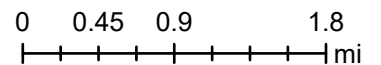
City Council Redistricting Map Option #11



August 31, 2022 Public User

Produced from the City Council Redistricting Web Map

- | | |
|---|--|
| Bloomington Voting Precincts 2022 | 3 |
| Monroe County Townships | 4 |
| 1 | 5 |
| 2 | 6 |



City of Bloomington, Indiana. For use as map information only, information is NOT warranted.

AGENDA
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - CITIZENS' REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022, 5:30 PM
BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL - SHOWERS BUILDING
ALLISON CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 225)
401 NORTH MORTON STREET, 47404

MEETING ALSO ACCESSIBLE VIA ZOOM AT:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/82716050729?pwd=N0tLV2ZzZzRkR1Axa29WNEpBMXpvdz09>

- I. Welcome and Member Introductions
- II. Agenda Summation
- III. 2022 Citizens' Redistricting Advisory Commission Overview by Staff
 - a. Obligations and goals
 - b. Rules that apply to any proposed districts - Federal, state, local considerations
 - c. Final product – Report to Council with recommended district map
- IV. Overview of useful materials and where they can be located
 - a. Staff Presentation on mapping tool – Laura Haley
 - b. Other available resources
- V. Public Input - submission of proposed maps and public comment at meetings?
- VI. Schedule
 - a. Proposed agendas and timeline for future meetings
- VII. Commissioner questions
- VIII. Public comment
- IX. Other
- X. Adjourn

MEETING MEMO
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - CITIZENS' REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022, 5:30 PM
BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL - SHOWERS BUILDING
ALLISON CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 225)
401 NORTH MORTON STREET, 47404

MEETING ALSO ACCESSIBLE VIA ZOOM AT:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/82716050729?pwd=N0tLV2ZzZzRkR1Axa29WNEpBMXpvdz09>

I. Welcome and Member Introductions

Present in person: Alex Semchuck, Amanda Sheridan, Kathleen Field, Mackenzie Colston

Absent: Michael Schnoll

Commissioners and staff introduced themselves.

II. Agenda Summation

Cm. Semchuck summarized the agenda.

III. 2022 Citizens' Redistricting Advisory Commission Overview by Staff

a. Obligations and goals

Council Administrator/Attorney Stephen Lucas provided an overview of the relevant timeline and applicable deadlines that applied to the Commission's work. Lucas explained that the ideal population for new districts totaled approximately 13,195 and described how to calculate the population deviation.

b. Rules that apply to any proposed districts - Federal, state, local considerations

Lucas described that federal rules and criteria come from the U.S. Constitution and federal Voting Rights Act. The Commission should consider any racial impact new districts may have and may not draw districts that intentionally or accidentally discriminate. The concept of one person, one vote also leads into the requirement for districts with equal population.

Lucas presented webinar slides from a prior webinar for cities and towns hosted by Accelerate Indiana Municipalities that discussed Indiana's redistricting rules, which included contiguity, reasonable compactness, and equal population. Lucas explained that a 10% population deviation from the smallest to largest district was used as a threshold the Commission should not exceed. Lucas described that county precincts were used as components to build council districts. He said the County asked the Commission to do its best not cross precinct boundaries due to the administrative burden that would present.

Lucas reviewed local criteria, which instructed the Commission, whenever possible, to avoid recommending districts that split communities of interest (e.g., townships, neighborhoods, school districts, historic districts) and to encourage political competition.

Staff asked if the Commission would like a press release announcing to the public the acceptance of map proposals. Commissioners said they would like council staff to send out a press release requesting map suggestion submissions from the public.

IV. Overview of useful materials and where they can be located

Staff displayed the Commission's web page and explained it would host all resources of the Commission. Staff said the Commission could request any additional resources from Council staff and/or ITS staff.

a. Staff Presentation on mapping tool

GIS Manager Laura Haley provided an overview on the city mapping tool created to assist the Commission in creating and reviewing map proposals.

b. Other available resources

Staff reviewed the 2022 Redistricting Map, Data Portal, District Calculator Spreadsheet, and raw data, and described Auto-Redistrict software.

Haley offered to make any needed adjustments to the Redistricting Calculator.

V. Public Input - submission of proposed maps and public comment at meetings?

The Commission would like council staff to send out a press release and invite the public to submit map proposals.

VI. Schedule

a. Proposed agendas and timeline for future meetings

Next two meetings:

Monday July 25th at 7:30 pm

Tuesday August 9th at 9:30 am

VII. Commissioner questions

VIII. Public comment

Chuck Livingston commented on the poor quality of sound in the meeting and pointed out an error in the spreadsheet calculator.

Dave Askins called attention to an administrative error regarding the appointment of the Commission chair.

Cm. Field moved and it was seconded to elect Cm. Semchuck as Chair of the Commission. All voted in favor of the motion.

IX. Other

X. Adjourn at 7:00pm

DRAFT

AGENDA
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - CITIZENS' REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION

MONDAY, JULY 25, 2022, 7:30 PM
BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL - SHOWERS BUILDING
MCCLOSKEY CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 135)
401 NORTH MORTON STREET, 47404

MEETING ALSO ACCESSIBLE VIA ZOOM AT:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/87809366880?pwd=bjdvMUR5Vmq0b0YvU09BMGRzODBydz09>

- I. Roll call
- II. Commissioner questions & concerns
- III. Commissioner Map Presentations and Discussion
- IV. Discussion of submitted maps / public correspondence
- V. Establishment of Next Steps
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Other
- VIII. Adjourn

MEETING MEMO
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - CITIZENS' REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION

MONDAY, JULY 25, 2022, 7:30 PM
BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL - SHOWERS BUILDING
MCCLOSKEY CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 135)
401 NORTH MORTON STREET, 47404

MEETING ALSO ACCESSIBLE VIA ZOOM AT:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/87809366880?pwd=bjdvMUR5VmQ0b0YvU09BMGRzODBydz09>

I. Roll call at 7:38pm

Present in person: Alex Semchuck, Amanda Sheridan, Mackenzie Colston

Present via Zoom: Kathleen Field

Absent: Michael Schnoll

II. Commissioner questions & concerns

Chair Semchuck opened with an invitation for any questions from Commissioners and asked if there were any Commissioner-created maps. Cm. Sheridan had created a map.

III. Commissioner Map Presentations and Discussion

Cm. Sheridan brought a physical map, which was copied by staff during the meeting and then distributed to those present. Cm. Sheridan gave an overview of the map she had created and the Commission discussed the population deviation. Cm. Sheridan explained she had made a map with the fewest number of changes possible to achieve an acceptable population deviation by moving the precinct Perry 1.

Chair Semchuck commented on the lack of compactness, specifically precincts that jutted into more compact, neighboring districts. He also mentioned that the move of Perry 1 added to the division of neighborhoods.

Cm. Field noted that Map #3, a public submission, was a good representation of compactness. There was further discussion of this map. Cm. Field brought attention to the southwest section of the city and the irregularly-shaped and noncontiguous precincts.

Council Administrator/Attorney Stephen Lucas noted that the IT department could assist in getting larger or different copies of maps and IT could upload potential maps created in other formats into the Bloomington mapping tool for closer examination.

Cm. Sheridan noted that the academic community had a set of political views that might differ from other communities in Bloomington.

IV. Discussion of submitted maps / public correspondence

The Commission reviewed publicly submitted materials, including a letter and various maps from Charles Livingston. The Commission reviewed specific concerns presented in Mr. Livingston's letter, including keeping neighborhoods and other communities of interest together.

The Commission reviewed maps submitted by Dave Askins, which Mr. Askins explained were submitted to him from his readers.

Lucas explained an error on the population deviation calculation included in the Districtr mapping tool. He then offered the correct deviation percentages to the commissioners for each of the publicly-submitted maps.

Cm. Field asked clarifying questions about the mapping tools. Chair Semchuck answered questions and added that his goal for redistricting did not involve a significant shift away from current districts.

Chair Semchuck reiterated the importance of population balance and compactness. He suggested keeping all submitted maps as potential options. Chair Semchuck also reminded commissioners that the city mapping tool allowed for a closer examination of communities of interest.

V. Establishment of Next Steps

The Commission's next scheduled meeting was on August 9, 2022 at 9:30 am in the McCloskey Conference Room with a reminder to the public to submit proposals to the Council Office.

Chair Semchuck reminded commissioners to identify criteria that they were concerned about.

Chair Semchuck suggested planning the next meeting for the week of August 22nd, after the August 9th meeting. The Commission settled on 7:30 pm on Monday, August 22nd.

Lucas reminded commissioners of the support from IT and council staff.

VI. Public Comment

Charles Livingston clarified that he did not submit his maps with the intention that they be considered as actual proposals. He asked what communities of interest the commission would be focusing on and how they will promote political competition. He discussed his concerns about low voting rates and whether the commission would consider voting rates. He suggested a shortcut for calculating the population deviation.

Regina Moore commented on how to define communities of interest and suggested that the commission should consider the geographic as well as demographic qualities of every precinct as they are grouped. She said that population was the most important factor to consider and that the commission should not consider voting rates. She offered to be a resource for commissioners.

Dave Askins commented and asked to withdraw Map 1, which was created as an example of a bad map but was not intended to be submitted as a proposal. He noted that he had submitted maps from Charles Livingston leading to duplicate maps from

Mr. Askins and Mr. Livingston. He asked for a quantitative tool to measure compactness of the districts moving forward. He suggested that IT could discover and implement such a tool.

Sam Dove commented that the maps should teach the commission about where people live.

VII. Other

VIII. Adjourn at 8:45.

DRAFT

AGENDA
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - CITIZENS' REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION

MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022, 7:30 PM
BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL - SHOWERS BUILDING
MCCLOSKEY CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 135)
401 NORTH MORTON STREET, 47404

MEETING ALSO ACCESSIBLE VIA ZOOM AT:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/82102838302?pwd=c2NnVUtmOFBWRzJQQ1RhejRiaWQzUT09>

- I. Roll call
- II. Commissioner questions & concerns
 - a. Any questions for staff?
- III. Continued Map Presentations and Discussion
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Schedule Upcoming Meetings
- VI. Other
- VII. Adjourn

MEETING MEMO
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - CITIZENS' REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION

MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022, 7:30 PM
BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL - SHOWERS BUILDING
MCCLOSKEY CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 135)
401 NORTH MORTON STREET, 47404

MEETING ALSO ACCESSIBLE VIA ZOOM AT:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/82102838302?pwd=c2NnVUtmOFBWRzJQQ1RhejRiaWQzUT09>

I. Roll call – Meeting was called to order at 7:58pm

Present in person: Alex Semchuck, Kathleen Field, Michael Schnoll, Mackenzie Colston (arrived 8:08pm)
Present via Zoom: Amanda Sheridan

II. Commissioner questions & concerns

Chair Semchuck asked if commissioners had any questions or concerns that had come up since the last meeting. None were raised.

Assistant Administrator/Legal Research Assistant Abigail Knipstine provided an update on information that had been added into the city mapping tool and demonstrated how to access it. The IT department had incorporated new mapping layers into the mapping tool, including race/ethnicity data and all maps submitted to the commission to date. IT had also incorporated a compactness calculation for all submitted maps based on the Polsby-Popper test, a mathematical compactness measurement.

Cm. Sheridan asked to view the Elm Heights neighborhood in the mapping tool. Knipstine displayed the neighborhood.

III. Continued Map Presentations and Discussion

Chair Semchuck asked to display Map #10, which had been submitted by Cm. Sheridan. He pointed out that the population deviation was around 7%. He noted that the neighborhoods around Bryan Park were consolidated into fewer districts than in the existing district map. However, one concern he had was that the Elm Heights, Bryan Park, Near Westside, Prospect Hill, and Waterman neighborhoods were still divided into multiple districts. He thought this should be avoided, while acknowledging that it might be impossible to find a map that completely avoided dividing neighborhoods.

Cm. Sheridan said Map #10 was not necessarily as compact as some other map options. She said she thought most map options would be legal as far as compactness requirements and also thought most would be acceptable under rules for minority communities. She thought communities of interest might align along factors such as homeownership vs. renting and those who had earned income vs. those who did not.

Cm. Field pointed out that precinct Bloomington 06 was surrounded by other districts in Map #10.

Cm. Sheridan said she had tried to change as few precincts as possible in her two map options, which led to the central district getting expanded. Chair Semchuck said he noticed this about Cm. Sheridan's maps and thought fewer changes could be a good thing.

Chair Semchuck asked what, aside from population deviation, did commissioners want to focus on in a proposed map. Cm. Sheridan thought keeping neighborhoods together would be good, but said that any new maps drawn would need to be reviewed for compliance with legal requirements.

Cm. Field asked what areas of the city had seen population growth since the last redistricting effort. Council Administrator/Attorney Stephen Lucas read off the 2012 population totals for each of the existing districts. Chair Semchuck noted that District 1 had seen the most significant growth.

Chair Semchuck wondered whether it was possible to manipulate the boundaries near precinct Bloomington 6 on Map #10, where it jutted out to divide up two neighborhoods. Cm. Field said it would require either shifting some precincts between districts or crossing precinct boundaries to keep those neighborhoods together in Map #10.

Cm. Schnoll asked whether the voting precincts had changed since 2012. Lucas said the county had made updates to the precincts in 2021.

Cm. Sheridan asked the Commission which neighborhoods or communities of interest it wanted to focus on keeping together, aside from Elm Heights. Cm. Field asked how neighborhoods were defined in the mapping tool. Lucas and GIS Specialist Max Stier explained that neighborhoods themselves defined the boundaries of their own neighborhood associations. The neighborhoods included in the mapping tool were those with an association on file with the city's Housing and Neighborhood Development Department.

IV. Public Comment

Regina Moore commented on Map #10. She noted that Third Street should serve as a division of the city into north and south areas and that College Ave./Walnut Ave. could do the same thing to a lesser extent with an east/west division. On Map #10, she pointed out that the central district spanned four different communities in the city and did not think those areas shared interests as much as other precincts. She said the commission should not think about voting populations but should focus on equal populations and compactness.

Charles Livingston said he had not analyzed the map options based on school districts or neighborhoods, as he was waiting for an indication from the Commission on how interested it was in those things. He asked if the Commission wanted to consider Map #4.

V. Continued Map Presentations and Discussion

Cm. Field asked to display Map #4. Chair Semchuck said he worried about the compactness of the blue district, which crossed Third Street. Cm. Field said that part of the map might be odd-looking no matter what. Cm. Schnoll noted there was only one district that crossed Third Street in Map #4. Cm. Field asked for the compactness scores of Map #4, which staff displayed. Cm. Field said she preferred districts that were more regular in shape, as much as possible.

Cm. Field asked if commissioners had a preferred map. Cm. Schnoll said Map #4 looked cleaner. Cm. Sheridan asked if there were any maps that did not pass legal muster. Lucas said Map #2 had a population deviation that exceeded the 10% threshold. Cm. Sheridan asked whether the Commission wanted to go through maps one at a time.

Knipstine displayed Map #3. The Commission viewed the map and considered the population deviation, which was about 7.8%. Knipstine displayed Map #9. Cm. Sheridan said she had prepared the map, which only changed the district that precinct Perry 1 was in.

Knipstine shared a public comment from Charles Livingston pointing out that Map #4 had a district that was disconnected from itself. Lucas said that precinct Van Buren 2 appeared to not be connected to itself, but that a portion was connected to the rest of the district.

Chair Semchuck questioned whether Third Street should serve as an absolute boundary between districts and encouraged commissioners to think about the issue before the next meeting. He encouraged the commissioners to more closely examine Maps #4 and #10.

Lucas talked through next steps for the Commission to complete its work by the applicable deadlines and offered staff assistance in helping commissioners adjust or create additional map proposals.

VI. Schedule Upcoming Meetings

The Commission scheduled its next meetings for August 31, 2022 at 7:30pm and September 7, 2022 at 8:15am.

VII. Other

VIII. Adjourn at 9:10pm

AGENDA
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - CITIZENS' REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022, 7:30 PM
BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL - SHOWERS BUILDING
MCCLOSKEY CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 135)
401 NORTH MORTON STREET, 47404

MEETING ALSO ACCESSIBLE VIA ZOOM AT:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/83384187617?pwd=ODczNkJoWXViekRtbVZnLy8ybGdkZz09>

- I. Roll call
- II. Overview of New and/or Adjusted Maps
- III. Commissioner Discussion
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Establish New District Map Recommendation(s)
- VI. Other
- VII. Adjourn

MEETING MEMO
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - CITIZENS' REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022, 7:30 PM
BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL - SHOWERS BUILDING
MCCLOSKEY CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 135)
401 NORTH MORTON STREET, 47404

MEETING ALSO ACCESSIBLE VIA ZOOM AT:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/83384187617?pwd=ODczNkJoWXViekRtbVZnLy8ybGdkZz09>

I. Roll call – Meeting was called to order at 7:31pm

Present in person: Alex Semchuck, Michael Schnoll, Amanda Sheridan, Kathleen Field

Absent: Mackenzie Colston

II. Overview of New and/or Adjusted Maps

Chair Semchuck went over updates since the previous meeting. He noted that Map #4 had to be removed from consideration due to contiguity issues. Chair Semchuck further reviewed the remaining maps and new maps that had been provided to the Commission. Council Administrator/Attorney Stephen Lucas noted that Map #2 could not be considered because it did not meet the population deviation requirements.

Chair Semchuck stated that the maps remaining for Commission consideration were maps: #3, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, and #15.

III. Commissioner Discussion

Chair Semchuck asked Cm. Sheridan to go over the differences between Maps # 9 and #10, both of which she had made. Cm. Sheridan said the reason she revised Map #9 into Map #10 was due to neighborhood divisions. Semchuck moved and it was seconded to remove Map #9 from consideration. The motion was approved by voice vote.

The Commission narrowed down the discussion to Maps #10, #11, and #13 due to differences in communities of interest between the northeast and northwest sides of the city. The Commission considered the maps that divided these two sections of the city into different districts because of the different demographics each area contained.

Cm. Sheridan mentioned that she did not find anything unfavorable about Maps #11 or #13 upon initial examination. The Commission discussed and compared features of these two maps in detail. Specifically, the Commission considered contiguity, compactness, and neighborhood divisions. Cm. Sheridan noted that all districts in the two maps were more compact than in the district current map.

Cm. Field shared that she preferred Map #11 to Map #13 because Map #13 included precinct divisions between two districts on the south side of the city that were oddly shaped, specifically in precincts Perry 10, Perry 13, and Perry 12.

Cm. Sheridan asked to see the Elm Heights neighborhood boundaries on Map #11 and found that Elm Heights was divided into two districts. The Commission looked at Elm Heights on Map #13 and found that map did not divide Elm Heights.

The Commission compared population deviations between Maps #11 and #13. Map #11 had a deviation of 7.00% and Map #13 had a deviation of 7.14%.

Chair Semchuck said he felt the two maps were equal in the number of strengths and weaknesses. Cm. Field responded that both maps had a district with "leftover" precincts that formed strange shapes. Cm. Field also mentioned that most population growth since 2012 had occurred in the southwest section of the city. Chair Semchuck mentioned that when a single precinct was moved, it could cause significant changes to the population deviation in a particular map.

Lucas offered to display maps so that commissioners could experiment with changing specific areas of the map to see how those changes would affect the overall deviation.

Cm. Sheridan mentioned that even when odd shapes occurred in the districts, they were not significant if they did not change the outcome of an election.

The Commission examined and discussed the tail portion of precinct Perry 10 that wrapped around the southern-most point of the city.

Cm. Field inquired about the population differences in District 1 between Maps #11 and #13. Lucas displayed the maps with population information.

Chair Semchuck said that if either Map #11 or Map #13 were chosen, the eastern part of the city would be significantly redistricted.

Commissioners discussed precincts Perry 20 and Perry 21, their neighborhoods, and which communities of interest they each contained.

The Commission revisited Elm Heights and discussed a small sliver of the neighborhood that fell outside of the district containing the rest of the neighborhood on both Maps #11 and #13. Commissioners decided that the portion was very small and insignificant.

Cm. Field said communities going south had more in common with one another than the neighborhoods going east and suggested High Street as an East/West dividing line. The Commission discussed neighborhoods west of High Street in contrast with commercial and apartment areas east and nearer to College Mall.

Commissioners discussed precincts Perry 17 and Perry 20 as being better suited to be in the College Mall area than the furthest west and southwest portions of the city.

Cm. Schnoll pointed out the presence of clean district lines on the eastern side of the city on Map #13 but more on the western side on Map #11.

Chair Semchuck asked if there were any other aspects of Maps #11 or #13 to discuss. He pointed out that precincts Perry 10, Perry 13, and Perry 12 were currently in the same district but would be in different districts on Map #13. On Map #11, he noted these districts would stay together. He asked what kinds of neighborhoods were in the area and if they were being divided by Map #11 and/or Map #13.

The Commission found that the Peppergrass and Sherwood Oaks neighborhoods were divided into two districts on Map #13 and remained in a single district on Map #11. Cm. Field noted that this led her to prefer Map #11 over Map #13.

Cm. Schnoll proposed to keep precinct Perry 10 in District 1 on Map #13 and use South Walnut Street as an east/west dividing line, with precincts Perry 12 and Perry 13 in District 5. Cm. Field noted this would still divide Sherwood Oaks and Peppergrass due to the weird shape of Perry 10. Lucas used the Districtr mapping tool to look at Cm. Schnoll's suggestion and found that it moved the population deviation over the 10% threshold.

IV. Public Comment

Dave Askins pointed out to the commissioners that the Common Council had the option to reject a recommended map. He questioned how commissioners planned to defend their map to the Council. Specifically, he wondered how they would demonstrate that they had considered any racial impacts their recommended map might have.

Commissioners responded by reviewing race and ethnicity data and population distributions throughout the maps. Cm. Sheridan noted that the highest population of any minority groups lived in the university neighborhoods on the east side of town. Chair Semchuck noted that there was a fairly even distribution of minority populations throughout the city. Cm. Field pointed out that Asian populations experienced the greatest shifts between the two maps being discussed, dividing the population between two different districts on Map #11 and #Map 13, in Districts 3 and 5 versus Districts 4 and 6, respectively.

The Commission found the maps they were discussing did not negatively impact minority populations.

V. Continued Commissioner Discussion

Chair Semchuck said the decision between the two maps came down to how the Commission preferred to divide the east side of Bloomington.

Cm. Field asked to revisit an earlier decision to eliminate any maps that did not divide the northern part of the city into distinct eastern and western portions. She asked to look at Map #14 which did not separate the southern neighborhoods. The Commission reviewed Map #14 for compactness, population deviation, and the number of times it crossed Third Street.

Chair Semchuck asked for a review of precinct Bloomington 03, noting that it fell into a different district in Maps #11, #13, and #14. Cm. Schnoll mentioned the area contained the tailgate fields, and Cm. Sheridan noted that she believed it belonged

with the downtown district more than the west side. The Commission determined that the precinct should remain in the central district.

The Commission reviewed the treatment of the Elm Heights neighborhood and southern neighborhoods again by Maps #11, #13, and #14. The Commission also reviewed and considered High Street as a district divider. Cm. Field shared that the High Street division was no longer a defining factor for her.

Cm. Schnoll raised the issue of student housing behind College Mall. Chair Semchuck clarified which district the student housing fell into. It was determined that more student housing was in precinct Perry 20 than Perry 21, which the Commission thought contained mostly residential, single-family homes. Cm. Field commented that the residents of the Hoosier Acres area would have more in common with the residents of Sherwood Oaks than in precinct Perry 20, which contained several student apartments. Due to this, Cm. Field shared preference for Map #11 over Map #13.

The Commission briefly considered Map #15 and commented on its low population deviation. The Commission agreed that Map #15 was not compact enough to be a serious option, though did appreciate that the map kept many neighborhoods together and divided the east side in a preferred manner.

Cm. Schnoll said he liked Map #11 over Map #13, and liked Map #13 over both Maps #14 and #15.

Cm. Sheridan shared that she was torn between Maps #11 and #13.

Cm. Field commented that she felt it was time to eliminate Map #13.

VI. Establish New District Map Recommendation(s)

Cm. Schnoll moved and it was seconded to recommend Map #11. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of Ayes: 4, Nays 0.

VII. Other

Lucas discussed the next steps. Chair Semchuck reminded the Commission that the meeting to vote to adopt the final recommendation and report would take place on Wednesday, September 7th at 8:15 am.

VIII. Adjourn at 8:45pm