



**MAYOR'S OFFICE  
M E M O R A N D U M**

July 8, 2021

**TO:** City Council Members  
**FROM:** Mayor Vi Lyles  
**SUBJECT:** Council Committee on Redistricting

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In anticipation of receiving the 2020 US Census data in September, I am establishing a Council Committee on Redistricting. The Redistricting Committee Chair will be council member Malcom Graham, along with council members Dimple Ajmera, Ed Driggs, and Greg Phipps serving as committee members. The City Attorney Office will serve as staff resource for the Committee.

Based on input from the Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance, and full Council's general consensus to the recommendations from the Budget and Effectiveness Council Committee presented at the June 28 Business Meeting, the Committee's charge will be to develop redistricting recommendations guided by the following principles.

**Importance of the First Order**

- Districts must have substantially equal population – one person/one vote rule. (required)
- Districts should be reasonably compact. (strongly recommended)
- District boundaries may follow neighborhood boundaries or the boundaries of areas containing residents sharing similar interests.

**Importance of the Second Order**

- District boundaries may be drawn to create/maintain (representative) balance between major political parties.
- District boundaries may follow precinct boundaries.
- District boundaries may be drawn considering the race of district residents as long as race is not the predominant motivating factor.

- District(s) most likely to be impacted by future annexations (or growth rates) may be smaller to minimize impact of future annexations on future redistricting.
- District boundaries may be drawn to avoid contests between incumbents.
- When possible, districts should have relatively even partisan balance.

I anticipate the Committee will convene in September, with an update provided to the full City Council at our October Strategy Session. The Committee will work to provide a redistricting recommendation for full Council to consider at the November 8, 2021 Business Meeting. The goal is to notify the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections of the new districts by the November 17, 2021 deadline.

CC: Marcus Jones, City Manager  
Patrick Baker, City Attorney  
Stephanie Kelly, City Clerk