

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING THE 2021
REDISTRICTING OF THE COUNTY'S ELECTION DISTRICTS**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, held electronically (due to the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic), on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at which meeting a quorum was present, the following resolution was adopted.

WHEREAS Fairfax County, Virginia, is required to consider redistricting and reapportionment every ten years; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Census Bureau is expected to release the results of the 2020 census to the appropriate Commonwealth officials in the latter half of 2021; and

WHEREAS the census data are expected to show that sufficient population changes have taken place within Fairfax County, Virginia, to warrant a reapportionment of the districts from which the Board of Supervisors of the County are elected; and

WHEREAS the Board of Supervisors has the responsibility to apportion the election districts of the governing body in accordance with federal and state laws; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors supports and adopts the following.

Goal

The goal of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is to reapportion the governing body of the County during calendar year 2021. As part of that process, the Board will consider the existing election districts and proposed revisions to those districts. The process will be completed and approved in accordance with federal and state law.

Legal Criteria

1. The governing body of the County shall be composed of one elected at-large chairman and a fixed number of members who are elected from single-member districts.
2. The election districts shall be composed of contiguous and compact territory and constituted as to give, as nearly as is practicable, representation in proportion to the population of the district.
3. The election districts shall have boundaries that are clearly defined and clearly observable, as Virginia law defines that term.
4. The election districts shall be drawn in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the United States, including the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, and the Constitution of Virginia; federal and state laws, including the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; and relevant judicial decisions relating to racial and ethnic fairness.

5. Changes in district boundaries to meet the tests of equitable population distribution among the districts will be made with a minimum disruption of the then existing district pattern of service.

Policies

1. The Board will consider redistricting plans that maintain nine election districts as well as any other plans that propose a lawful number of election districts.
2. The Board will not consider redistricting plans that would result in a maximum population deviation (*i.e.*, the sum of the percentage deviations from population equality of the most- and least-populated districts) that is ten percent or greater.
3. The Board will not consider redistricting plans that result in the denial or abridgement of the rights of any racial or language minority group to participate in the political process.
4. The Board will consider existing geographical and political boundaries, which shall include, but not be limited to, incorporated town boundaries.
5. The Board will consider established communities of interest. A community of interest is defined as a neighborhood or geographically defined group of people living in an area who share similar social, cultural, and economic interests. Present and planned use of land and public facilities are relevant to defining communities of interest. A community of interest does not include a community based upon political affiliation or relationship with a political party.
6. The Board will consider existing districts and incumbent representation on local public bodies that may be affected by reapportionment.
7. The Board encourages redistricting plans that are based on existing voting precinct boundaries, and where changes are necessary, precincts shall be divided along census block boundaries.
8. The Board encourages interested persons to submit redistricting plans to the County. Proponents of any plan shall submit appropriate maps of proposed election districts and statistical summaries and analyses. The statistical analyses shall show the deviation of each election district from the target district population, the maximum population deviation, and the population counts for each district by race and ethnicity.
9. The Board encourages interested persons to submit proposals for amending or revising any redistricting plan that has been submitted to the County. Proponents of any such amendment or revision shall submit appropriate maps showing the proposed changes and statistical summaries and analyses. The statistical analyses shall show the deviation of each election district from the target district population, the maximum population deviation, and the population counts for each district by race and ethnicity.
10. In addition to the public participation encouraged by Policies 8 and 9 above, the Board encourages public comments or recommendations from interested persons on any plan or change to a plan that has been submitted.
11. All of the foregoing criteria shall be considered in the redistricting and reapportionment process, but population equality among districts and compliance with federal and state

constitutional and statutory requirements, including the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, shall be given priority in the event of conflict among the criteria.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of February, 2021.

A Copy – Teste:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jill G. Cooper", is written over a horizontal line.

Jill G. Cooper

Clerk for the Board of Supervisors