



# ADOPTING CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING

RS-21-135

October 19, 2021

# Background

2

- ❑ The City has engaged the law firm of Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta to assist in redistricting
- ❑ City Council received a presentation from Bickerstaff on October 5
- ❑ A recommendation was given that City Council adopt redistricting criteria to:
  - ▣ Serve as a framework in forming and considering plans
  - ▣ Provide a means for evaluating proposed plans
  - ▣ Assist the City in complying with federal and state laws

# Recommended Criteria

3

- ❑ Follow easily identifiable geographic boundaries
- ❑ Maintain communities of interest and neighborhoods
- ❑ Compose districts of whole voting precincts
- ❑ Base the plan on existing districts
- ❑ Adopt districts of relatively equal size

# Recommended Criteria

4

- ❑ Draw districts that are compact and contiguous
- ❑ Keep existing incumbents in their districts
- ❑ Narrowly tailor the plan to comply with the Voting Rights Act
- ❑ Avoid fragmenting a geographically compact minority community or packing minority voters

# Alternatives

5

- ☐ Decline to adopt the criteria
- ☐ Adopt the recommended criteria

# Recommendation

6

- Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the criteria recommended by the Bickerstaff firm for redistricting city council districts.