

Cuyahoga County Districting Commission

Redistricting Overview - The Path Forward Together

August 17, 2021



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Overview

- Goal
- Introduction of consulting team
- Overview of 2021 federal census data
- Redistricting process and timeline
- Decision points for Commission
- Next steps
 - Map drawing
 - Outreach and engagement
- Next meeting: Thursday, August 19, 2021

Goal: A process that is:

- **Open**
- **Transparent**
- **Fair**
- **Accountable to the public**

Our Team



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Jeff Rusnak, President+CEO

Kathy Berta, Vice President

Mike Thomas, Of Counsel

Calla Bonanno, Senior Associate

Destinee Henton, Consultant

Minister Marcus Gould, Consultant

Ifeolu A.C. Claytor, Consultant

Tom Bonier, Chief Executive Officer

Matt Cassidy, Lead Strategic Consultant

Michael Muller, President

New Census Data – Preliminary Population Balancing

Council District	2020 Census	2010 Census	Population Change	Population Change %	Current Deviation	±Ideal District
1	121,879	118,137	3,742	3.17%	6.00%	6,896
2	114,200	115,832	-1,632	-1.41%	-0.68%	-783
3	113,989	116,495	-2,506	-2.15%	-0.86%	-994
4	118,013	118,265	-252	-0.21%	2.64%	3,030
5	119,446	116,824	2,622	2.24%	3.88%	4,463
6	122,430	119,680	2,750	2.30%	6.48%	7,447
7	109,250	115,213	-5,963	-5.18%	-4.99%	-5,733
8	106,835	113,396	-6,561	-5.79%	-7.09%	-8,148
9	111,092	112,896	-1,804	-1.60%	-3.38%	-3,891
10	108,498	117,324	-8,826	-7.52%	-5.64%	-6,485
11	119,185	116,060	3,125	2.69%	3.65%	4,202
COUNTY TOTALS	1,264,817	1,280,122	-15,305	-1.20%		
IDEAL DISTRICT	114,983	116,374	-1,391	-1.20%		

NOTE: 5%= 5,749. At ±5%, the range would be 109,234 to 120,732.

New Census Data—Preliminary Demographics

Council District	White (only)	Black or African-American (Alone)	Hispanic or Latino (Alone)	Asian (Alone)	Two or More Races
1	87.2%	2.1%	3.8%	3.1%	3.3%
2	75.0%	8.0%	8.7%	3.3%	4.4%
3	45.6%	18.4%	27.8%	2.5%	4.8%
4	81.7%	4.1%	6.4%	3.6%	3.7%
5	85.7%	2.9%	3.4%	4.3%	3.4%
6	78.2%	8.5%	2.6%	7.0%	3.3%
7	30.7%	52.4%	7.6%	5.3%	3.2%
8	22.5%	68.3%	4.6%	0.5%	3.5%
9	29.0%	61.8%	2.6%	2.4%	3.6%
10	33.8%	56.6%	2.8%	2.5%	3.5%
11	45.3%	45.1%	2.4%	3.1%	3.3%

Redistricting: The Basics

- Redistricting - every 10 years
- Five-member Districting Commission
- Based off the latest decennial census data
- Commission's decisions are FINAL
- Submitted to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections by Sept. 1

Principles for Creating District Boundaries

- Legally established criteria
- Substantially equal populations
- Compact and contiguous territory
 - Combine existing governmental units, prioritizing townships, municipalities, and city wards and voting precincts
 - No divided voting precincts
- Commission *may* also:
 - Consider opportunities for historically underrepresented minority communities
 - Establish additional criteria to help achieve an effective, efficient, accountable, responsive, and fairly representative government

Principles for Creating District Boundaries

- Additional criteria can include “Communities of Interest”
- Communities of interest- groups of residents with comparable governmental or community concerns and would benefit from cohesive representation.
 - Factors that define communities of interest are often subjective: Economics, culture, geography, race, education, ethnicity, religion, other historic identities, etc
- Can't consider:
 - Political partisanship
 - Electoral considerations

2011 Redistricting

2011 Timeline

- Census data released- April 2011
- Commission members were appointed, redistricting consultants- June 2011
- Commission met nine times, received public input, and considered eight different map plans
- Final plan approved- September 2011

2011 Criteria

- Districts population within $\pm 5\%$ of the district average, 116,374
- Districts should neither pack nor dilute African-American or Hispanic residents
- Number of residents being assigned to new districts should be minimized
- No communities should be divided between districts, except for the City of Cleveland due the size of its population
- Out of respect for voter preference, Councilmembers should, if possible, continue to represent their current districts

2011 Outcomes

- Each newly drawn district was within $\pm 5\%$ of the average district population
- More than 60% of the residents of four County Council districts were African-American
- Half of the county's Hispanic population was drawn into a single district
- The percentage of residents reassigned to new districts was 10.2% countywide

2021 Redistricting

2021 Compressed Timeline

- Census data released- August 12, 2021 (*four months later than it was released in 2010*)
- Commission members appointed- August 3, 2021
- Redistricting consultants selected- August 11, 2021
- Final district approval - September 1, 2021

2021 Process

- The Commission may create criteria it believes will help draw a fair and representative map for the people of Cuyahoga County.
- Final considerations will evolve through public input and feedback.
- The final plan will likely look different from initial attempts to balance population.

2021 Timeline: Key Dates

Date	Event
Ongoing	Community outreach and engagement
August 17	Commission meeting
August 19	Commission meeting
August 19-23	Creating initial maps Developing microsite
August 23	Commission Meeting—Presentation of initial maps Begin public review of proposed maps
August 24-25	Continue soliciting/receiving public input Continue map drawing and data analysis incorporating input and comments from Commissioners and public
August 26	Commission Meeting Presentation of alternative maps
August 30	Commission Meeting
August 31	Finalize maps/data for transmission to Board of Elections

Decision Points for the Commission

- Should the criteria of $\pm 5\%$ population-variance from 2011 still apply or does the Commission want to change it?
- Should we still pursue minority-opportunity districts with 60%+ African-American populations?
- Should we still attempt to draw at least 50% of Cuyahoga County's Hispanic population into a single district?
- Should we convene regional meetings to increase public participation and input?

Next Steps: Map Drawing

- Thorough demographic report before drawing an initial map iterations
- Begin balancing populations
- Identify the location of current County Councilmembers to avoid pairing of incumbents
- Incorporate Commission and public feedback from this week's meetings
- Prepare initial map iterations for the August 23rd meeting

Next Steps: Outreach and Engagement

- Open, transparent, and accountable process
- Multiple and convenient opportunities for the public to provide their input
 - Public meetings
 - Regional meetings
 - Website
- Outreach to stakeholders, organizations and individuals
 - Invite to meetings
 - Encourage and solicit input into maps and process

Next Steps: Outreach and Engagement

- District Commission website
 - Overview
 - Commission members
 - Data analysis and map drawing
 - Media center
 - Public comment

Questions?