

August 29, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Prior to September 1 deadline, Cuyahoga County Districting Commission to meet Monday to consider final map of new County Council Districts

Commission to complete work following a series of public meetings, consideration of alternative maps, and robust feedback

CLEVELAND—On Thursday, August 26, 2021, the Cuyahoga County Districting Commission, which Cuyahoga County Council appointed to reapportion Cuyahoga County's Council districts, reviewed a new map presented by its consultants that appeared to satisfy both the criteria established by the Commission and most of the concerns that the members of the public had raised at previous meetings. A video of the August 26th meeting, along with its agenda and the materials that were presented may be found at the links below:

August 26th Cuyahoga County Districting Committee Meeting

Video Agenda PowerPoint

Residents may learn more about the Districting Commission and its efforts by visiting www.cuyahogacounty.us/countyredistricting and may submit comments or questions by visiting cuyahogacounty.us/council-districting-committee-submit-a-question-or-comment. Residents may also sign up for Commission updates by visiting cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Sign-Up.aspx.

The map presented at the August 26th Commission meeting (*image 1 below*) had a range of population deviation of 9.9% (-3.9%–6.0%), meeting the definition of "substantially equal districts" under the Federal model, <u>according to guidance the Commission received from the Cuyahoga County Department of Law</u>. With this map, 29,087 residents—2.3% of Cuyahoga County's population—would be placed in new districts, significantly fewer than in earlier iterations.

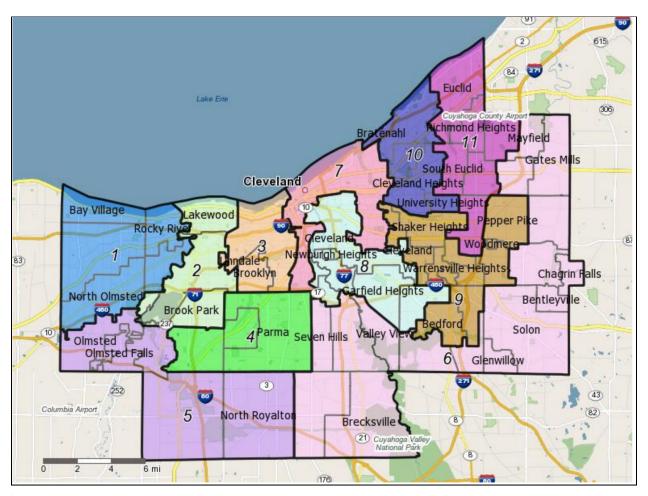


Image 1

Commissioners discussed additional comments they received from the public and feedback they had received from the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections regarding concerns about how several precincts were handled.

The Commission instructed its consultants to resolve the issues raised by the Board of Elections and encouraged the public to provide comments and feedback before its August 30, 2021 meeting.

Final Meeting

The final public meeting of the Districting Commission will be held on:

Monday, August 30, 2021

Time: 3:00-5:00pm

In the Cuyahoga County Council Chambers, Cuyahoga County Administration Building 4th Floor, 2079 E. 9th Street, Cleveland.

THE DISTRICTING COMMISSION WILL CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL ITS FINAL MAP OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICTS FOR 2022-2031.

Agenda PowerPoint

This meeting will be streamed live at: http://council.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Stream-on-ing-Video.aspx. Residents who wish to address the Commission may join the meeting via Zoom at https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86510973774.

Background

The Cuyahoga County Districting Commission must submit a new map for Cuyahoga County' Council districts by September 1, 2021.

Section 3.04 (2) of the Cuyahoga County Charter requires the County Council to appoint a five-member Districting Commission every ten years, immediately following each decennial Federal Census, to draw the boundaries of the County's Council districts. Once established, the Commission shall prepare and certify to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections a detailed apportionment of Council districts that reflect the criteria outlined in the Charter.

Cuyahoga County's Charter requires that the Districting Commission complete its apportionment of Council Districts "...the same date as the apportionment for the Ohio General Assembly," which is September 1, 2021. Federal statute required the U.S. Census Bureau to release the data needed for reapportionment by March 31, 2021, five months before the Districting Commission's deadline. The Census Bureau did not release the necessary data, however, until August 12, 2021—less than three weeks before the Districting Commission's deadline.

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