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Cuyahoga County Districting Commission Adopts New County Council District Maps for Next Decade

Commission completes work two days before its September 1, 2021 deadline following an open, transparent, fair, and accountable process

CLEVELAND—On Monday, August 30, 2021, following the conclusion of seven public meetings, outreach to more than 500 individuals and organizations, and a robust series of open, fair, public conversations, the Cuyahoga County Districting Commission adopted a new map of Cuyahoga County's Council districts for 2022-203—two days before its September 1, 2021 deadline. The Cuyahoga County Council appointed the Cuyahoga County Districting Commission to reapportion Cuyahoga County's Council districts in accordance with Cuyahoga County's Charter. A video of the August 30th meeting, along with its agenda and the materials that were presented may be found at the links below:

August 30th Cuyahoga County Districting Committee Meeting

Video Agenda PowerPoint

More information about the Cuyahoga County Districting Committee and its efforts to update Cuyahoga County Council District map are available at www.cuyahogacountv.us/countvredistricting.

The final map was presented at the August 30th Commission meeting by the Commission's consulting team: R Strategy Group, Target Smart, and Muller Public Strategies. R Strategy Group, which is based in Cleveland, was the lead firm and oversaw the project and facilitated public engagement. DC-based Target Smart and Muller Public Strategies of New Jersey performed the data analysis and map-drawing components of the project.

The final map (*image 1 below*) had a range of population deviation of 9.868% (-3.871% – +5.997%), 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, 29,628 residents – 2.34% of Cuyahoga County's population—would be placed in new districts. The number of residents placed in new districts increased by 617 people from the map presented at the Commission's August 26th meeting. significantly fewer than in earlier iterations.

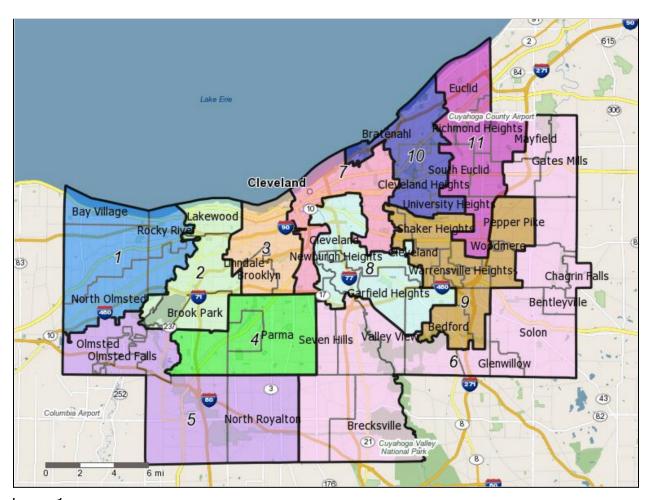


Image 1

The Commission approved the new Cuyahoga County District map by a vote of 4-0. The fifth member of the Districting Commission, Father Doug Koesel, whose absence was approved by the

Commission, joined the meeting via Zoom and expressed his support for the final map, but Ohio law prohibited him from casting a vote.

Four County Council Districts, Districts 7, 8, 9, and 10, remain minority-majority districts, with African-American populations greater than 50%. Council District 3 continues to have the greatest percentage of Hispanic/Latino residents with 27.1%.

The Cuyahoga County Districting Commission forwarded the new Cuyahoga County Council District map to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections for implementation beginning during the 2022 election cycle.

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