

## **Guidelines for the Travis County Commissioners Court 2021 Redistricting Process**

The Travis County Commissioners Court (the "Court") will soon begin the process of drawing lines for its four commissioner precincts ("Precincts") based on the 2020 United States Census data.

The Court is committed to an open, fair, and efficient process that meets all legal requirements while respecting and preserving Travis County's diverse cultural heritage. To ensure compliance with these guiding principles, we, the Travis County Commissioners Court, do hereby adopt the following guidelines and will adhere to the criteria set forth as we undertake the redistricting process:


1. Precincts shall be drawn to meet the one-person, one-vote requirement of the United States Constitution on the basis of total population. Plans should show the total population and voting age population, according to the official 2020 U.S. Census Bureau Data, for each proposed precinct, including subtotals for racial groups reported by the U.S. Census Bureau. Plans should have a total population variance (deviation) that is no greater than 10%.
2. Plans shall be constructed to comply with all provisions of the U.S. Constitution and its amendments as well as the Voting Rights Act. Specifically, plans should meet all requirements of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, which prohibits the denial or abridgement of the right to vote based on account of race, color, or membership in a language minority group, and, in some circumstances, requires the configuration of precincts that provide racial and language minorities an effective opportunity to elect their candidate of choice where their populations are sufficiently large and geographically compact.
3. The Court will follow all Texas Constitutional and statutory guidelines.
4. To the extent permitted by law, commissioner precincts should respect population changes in Travis County over the last decade including population increases and decreases within commissioner precincts.

5. Precincts should be drawn in a manner that takes into account the election results for elections held within Travis County over the last decade.
6. Communities of interest should be considered where possible in compliance with the preceding principles. For purposes of this principle, "community of interest" means any group that shares one or more substantial interests that may be the subject of county policy. Social, cultural, geographic, historical, and economic interests common to the population of the area will be considered. Communities of interest may also include but are not limited to matters reflecting: a) shared public policy concerns of urban, rural, cultural, agricultural, industrial, media market, or trade areas; and b) shared public policy concerns such as education, employment, environment, public health, transportation, water needs and supplies, and other issues of demonstrable regional significance.
7. To the extent possible, precincts should be comprised of whole voting tabulation districts ("VTDs"). Where this is not possible or practical, precincts should be drawn in a manner that permits the creation of VTDs. The Court will make every reasonable effort to ensure that polling places are located in such a way as to maximize the opportunity for all voters to participate in the electoral process.
8. Precincts should be comprised of geographically contiguous territory.
9. Proposed plans should be drawn pursuant to these criteria and shall include the boundaries of all precincts.
10. Should the Commissioners Court determine that it is necessary to redraw the five Justice of the Peace and Constable precincts, the adopted guidelines will be applied as is reasonably practicable and necessary under current statutory and legal requirements. To the extent possible under the law, the Court may take into consideration the desire to equalize workload among Justice of the Peace/Constable Precincts.

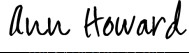
These guidelines shall be in force and effect from and after its passage on the date adopted unless otherwise amended in a public meeting that complies with all requirements of the Open Meetings Law, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

ADOPTED: September 21, 2021

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Commissioner, Precinct One

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