



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Meeting Minutes - Approved AD HOC REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

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Thursday, September 9, 2021

4:00 PM

Via Virtual Meeting

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Castañeda called the meeting to order at 4:00pm and called the roll.

**Present:** 6 - Lindsay Lemmer; Nasra Wehelie; Charles Myadze; Austin S. Johnson;  
Justice M. Castañeda and Joan I. Schwarz

**Excused:** 1 - Arvina Martin

### APPROVAL OF September 2, 2021 MINUTES

A motion was made by Myadze, seconded by Lemmer, to Approve the Minutes.  
The motion passed by voice vote/other.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

1. [66839](#) Public Comments

Liz Dannenbaum

Lives in District 15. President of the Lake Edge Neighborhood Association. The people of the lake edge neighborhood would like to stay together in one Alder District. Currently split by County Supervisory districts. Would like to reduce complication.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. [66782](#) Redistricting Process

- Estimated Timeline for Madison's Redistricting Process
  - Shared updated timeline to discuss movement of next Ad Hoc Redistricting meeting to Wednesday, September 15 at 2:00pm.
  - Alder District Concepts will be shared more broadly with the community during the week of September 20.
  - Ald Lemmer recommended adding the timeline to Legistar.
- Madison Redistricting Criteria/Communities of Interest
  - Staff reviewed the Redistricting Criteria/ Communities of Interest established by the Committee.
  - Ald Lemmer: UW-Madison students should not be grouped into one Alder District. Madison College students do not have this benefit since it is a commuter school.
  - Ald Myadze: Recommended using faith communities and gathering their input into the process.

- Draft Alder District Plans
  - Staff shared materials that have been developed: Alder District Concept comparison maps that cover the west, central, and east areas; and a map and table with redistricting data for existing District 14 and nearby Town of Madison areas that will be added to the City of Madison.
- West
  - Ald. Wehelie - Would like to see the Marty farm area potentially added to District 7. This area could be added to the city in the near future giving District 7 an option for future development. Staff explained that an attached area just needs to be touching a district to be added.
  - Staff to potentially split the 537 pop block of Elver Park
  - Ald. Lemmer - Partial to moving the border of Districts 1 and 9 to Mineral Point Road. Also having the Beltline curve in District 1 makes sense.
  - Ald. Cole - What is the expectations of the committee for elected official comments?
  - Ald. Furman - Using the Beltline as a diving line for district 19 makes sense. Very few residents between Mineral Point and the beltline.
  - Ald. Foster - Alders should be providing input given their knowledge of their district and its area but know this that does not have anything to do with their personal interests. 7 Dane County redistricting maps submitted, 2 by committee members, 3 by staff, and 2 by the public.
    - Ald. Myadze - Can we shift or add the 4,000+ population that will be added with the Town of Madison attachment to the overall population of the city for redistricting?
- Central
  - Johnson - How and when are the communities of interest being considered in the process of drawing these districts?
  - Staff: With limited time, staff has done their best to incorporate COIs into drawing. Staff has also made the process transparent by continuing to provide maps and online tools to overlay COI onto concepts.
  - Ald. Lemmer - Continue to have East Washington be the border between District 2 and 6. What districts are the lakes going into? Does is matter?
  - Staff does not believe it matters which Alder District the lakes are technically located in. Generally, Dane County manages aspects related to the lakes.
  - Ald. Bennett - Concepts 1 and 2 limit the voice of students on the Common Council. The community should be kept together and not split.
    - Schwarz - Are we going to be looking at the dot density maps to consider? These maps are easier to view population and concentrations.
  - Ald. Foster - Some concepts are below our target number for District 14 to absorb the population of the Town of Madison. An option may be to add the incoming Town of Madison population to the overall population of the city to help balance out the growth the city will experience with the 2022 attachment. This will provide equal representation to each district.
  - Castañeda - Concept of packing a district inhibits representation of the members of the district. Traditionally has impacted people of color.

- Attorney Haas - Lines are being established for a 10-year period. Consider what the districts will look like with the attachment. Law requires the use of the 2020 census population, but in a case-by-case basis something outside the 10% population range can be considered. The math should be based on the 2020 census population due to state law.
- Ald. Myadze - Question to Attorney Haas: Can the population of District 14 be left low (below the range) to incorporate the population of the Town of Madison (roughly 10,000).
- Attorney Haas: If left low, the lines would be constitutional given the impending large population addition within the next year.
- Ald. Furman - Question to Attorney Haas: Representation of the new Alder Districts happens immediately and is not delayed until 2023?
- Attorney Haas - Yes.
- Ald. Furman - Potentially be living in a different District than is representing.
- Castañeda - What guidance does city staff need for the Committee to move forward?
- Staff - What is the definition of keeping District 14 low? Having the population be a couple hundred low, or several thousand low?
- Ald. Foster - Much more undersized than a few hundred. Recommends having all 20 districts equal following the attachment.
- Ald. Verveer - Concepts 1 and 2 have two dormitories shifting districts. Concept 3 separates two COIs - James Madison Park neighborhood is split. Look at the boundaries of the capitol area, and campus area neighborhood associations. Concept 4 - Departure of the downtown business district. Divides the Basset neighborhood between District 4 and 6 - recommends keeping this COI together. District 4 will continue to increase in population throughout the next 10 years.
- Staff provided an overview of population figures for areas of existing District 14 and nearby Town of Madison attachment areas.
- Ald. Lemmer - Even numbers out. Area F could go into District 13.
- Ald. Myadze - Combining A and B and moving F into District 13. Don't want to divide C and E. Areas E, D, and C should stay together.
- Ald. Foster - His draft has A and B together. C and D are clearly different COIs. Would work A, B, and C together without Bay Creek. D and E would go to District 10. Cannonball Path could split districts.
- Ald. Harrington-McKinney - Does Leopold school include areas E, D, C?
- Castañeda - Does the committee have a preference of having District 14 go north of Wingra Creek or not?
- Staff - If we decide areas A, B, and C will be District 14 it will be low in terms of the population parameters but will fall within the range following the Town attachment. Does the committee want to include a portion of Bay Creek?
- Ald. Evers - Prefer to keep Bay Creek intact. Either take all of Bay Creek into District 14 or none at all.
- Ald. Foster - The concept I submitted includes areas A and B and all of Bay Creek.
- Ald. Lemmer - Recommends not going north of Wingra Creek, not

- adding Bay Creek to District 14.
- Staff - Do we add 4,800 population to the city or do we keep the population of AD 14 low. Is low a couple of hundred people or is it keeping it 3,000 low?
- A motion was made by Chair Casteneda, seconded by Lemmer, to consider the 2022 Town of Madison attachment population when drawing District 14. The motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting aye.
- A motion was made by Lemmer, seconded by Myadze to add the 4,800 Town of Madison population to the overall population of the City to be used when distributing the population of all districts. The motion passed by voice vote.
- East
  - Ald. Myadze - Follow Packers Avenue as the dividing line between Districts 12 and 18.
  - Ald. Abbas - There will be a significant amount of growth in District 12. Potentially use East Washington as a dividing line. Regarding Concept 1 - recommend not dividing neighborhood association and putting a higher concentration of poverty into one district.
  - Ald. Foster - District 18 does not have a lot of potential for growth so keeping the population within the range makes sense. Carpenter-Ridgeway and Hawthorne Neighborhood Associations should be kept in District 12 to avoid being split by Highway 30. It is better to have one alder to represent Carpenter Ridgeway and Hawthorne NAs.
  - District 17
  - Ald. Lemmer - Don't combine districts on either side of East Washington. We are running out of time during this meeting. Would like to discuss the east side at the next meeting.
  - Ald. Foster - Show the dot density overlaid on concepts. The interstates and freeways are more significant barriers than East Washington.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Wehelie, seconded by Lemmer, to Adjourn at 6:55pm.  
The motion passed by voice vote/other.**