



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Approved AD HOC REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 2, 2021

4:00 PM

Via Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

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

Present: 7 - Lindsay Lemmer; Nasra Wehelie; Arvina Martin; Charles Myadze; Austin S. Johnson; Justice M. Castañeda and Joan I. Schwarz

APPROVAL OF August 26, 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

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. [66782](#) Redistricting Process

- Review of Redistricting Timeline
 - Staff proposed a change to the timeline. Proposed an additional meeting during the week of September 13, potentially September 16 after sunset. Staff summarized planned redistricting outreach.
 - Ald. Furman: highly recommended not meeting September 16th due to Yom Kippur and continued holiday practices after sunset.
 - Ald. Wehelie: would not be available September 15 or 16.
 - Ald. Lemmer: would not like to meet September 16 due to holiday.
 - Ald. Myadze: Asked why rush to meet?
 - Staff explained legal considerations and election considerations for the Redistricting timeline
 - Schwarz: confirmed that timeline is important to Dane County timeline.
- Review of Communities of Interests (COIs)
 - Staff summarized Committee's motion from August 26th meeting regarding Communities of Interests.
 - Castañeda: explained income data at the block group geography can be misleading in some situations.
 - Staff asked for clarification on income distribution as a Community of Interest.
 - Castañeda: clarified that it is of interest to ensure those of low income are

- not marginalized when creating Alder Districts.
- Alder District Concepts
 - General Considerations and Questions
 - Staff explained there are four different concepts developed by Staff. Staff incorporated points from past meetings, including Communities of Interests (COIs)
 - Pending Town of Madison Attachment
 - Staff explained Town of Madison areas coming into the City in October of 2022. Staff asked how the Committee would like to arrange Alder Districts in relation to these Town areas. How best to balance population that will be added and COIs?
 - Castañeda: do we spread the pending Town of Madison population across existing districts?
 - Alder Foster: does not want the population added to one district. Against interest of COIs. Recommends split into two districts with goal of keeping communities together.
 - Ald. Martin moved to suspend Robert's Rules to have free discussion. Ald. Lemmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and Staff described different scenarios of adding pending Town of Madison residents and the Committee discussed.
 - Ald. Foster: described a proposed Alder District layout they developed in DistrictBuilder.
 - Ald. Lemmer: expressed concern of splitting COIs in the proposed map.
 - Ald. Martin: agreed with the concern of splitting larger communities (and potential COIs).
 - Ald. Myadze: would like split to not be vertically as it dilutes the COIs near Town of Madison and in South Madison.
 - Ald. Foster: asked for population density map.
 - Ald. Evers: Described District 13 demographics and other district characteristics.
 - Ald. Martin moved to restore Robert's Rules. Ald. Lemmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Staff explained potential options for considering pending Town of Madison residents: spread population as much as population allows. Or keep in one district. Or keep Town of Madison population in some adjacent areas- What could be the spread look like for this option.
 - Ald. Wehelie made a motion asking staff to do more research and return with more information next week. Johnson seconded motion.
 - Ald. Martin: asked for clarification for motion on floor.
 - Ald. Foster: asked Staff about proposal to have District 14 population below the +/- 5% range.
 - Ald. Myadze: asked Staff if it is possible to have an individual meeting with staff to explain the redistricting mapping process to interested Committee members or Alders.
 - Staff indicated they would explore this idea.
 - Johnson moved to do more research and return with more information next week. Ald. Wehelie seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Staff described they conferred with City Attorney Haas regarding the unique Town of Madison situation. The Committee could consider keeping the District 14 population below the +/- 5% range given the pending population increase from the Town.
- Ald. Foster: Asked if there can be two different scenarios with before and after Town residents are added to the City.
- Arranging District 5 and 8 - UW-Madison Campus Area
 - Staff described different concepts for this area and asked for feedback from the Committee.
 - Ald. Furman: explained the Eagle Heights area has a huge impact on District 5. Advantages of having west campus a part of District 5.
 - Ald. Foster: it will be a stretch to include Eagle Heights and other campus areas in a District.
 - Castañeda: agrees with not having a district for campus specifically.
- District 12 and District 18 Shared Boundary
 - Staff provided a brief summary of Alder District concepts for this area and asked for feedback from the Committee.
 - Ald. Foster: recommends northern part of Northport and Mobile Home Park being added to District 18.
 - Ald. Lemmer: agrees since neighborhoods are similar.
 - Ald. Syed Abbas: agrees with feedback to add area north of Northport Drive to District 18.
- Lakes Mendota and Monona
 - Staff described that the entirety of these lakes are in the City of Madison and therefore must be included in the City's Ward and Alder District Plan. Staff asked the Committee if there is a preference for which wards and alder districts they are placed in. If no preference, staff will place them in wards at the time of writing legal descriptions for each of the proposed wards.
 - Castañeda: suggested to discuss this more in-depth next week.
 - Ald. Foster: asked for clarification on the timeline and agenda for next week.
- General Discussion on the Alder District Concepts
 - Staff described differences in the four Alder District concepts and asked for feedback and questions from the Committee.
 - Ald. Foster: asked the possibility to overlay maps on population density layer.
 - Staff described an online map that has been added to the project website, which allows users to see the four Alder District Concepts alongside other layers of information.
 - Ald. Lemmer: like Concept 3 at this time. Concept 3 keeps communities together. Recommend not take into account where Alders live.
 - Castañeda: agrees should not view and make decisions based on where Alders live.
 - Ald. Foster: asked the possibility to overlay maps on population density layer.
 - Castañeda: spend next week going over materials for next week's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Martin, seconded by Lemmer, to Adjourn at 5:46pm.
The motion passed by voice vote/other.