



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved AD HOC REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 30, 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: Castañeda, Ald. Lemmer, Johnson, Schwarz, Ald. Myadze, Ald. Wehelie, Ald. Martin.

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

APPROVAL OF September 15, 2021 MINUTES

Ald. Lemmer moved approval. Schwarz seconded. The minutes of September 15, 2021 were approved unanimously.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

1. [66839](#) Public Comments

Max Prestigiacomio: District 2 resident. Supports concepts 7a and 7b. Important to keep university housing in one district. Generally in support of reshaping of D2, should be stopped somewhere around Blair St. Area east of E. Washington Ave. kept in one district and better represented by the new maps. Imagine corridor as one neighborhood.

Terry Evanson - president of Meadowood Neighborhood Association: Would really like to see Meadowood/Greentree/Prairie Ridge neighborhood associations kept together as one community of interest. Currently these neighborhood associations are located in D20.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. [66782](#) Redistricting Process

Estimated Timeline for Madison's Redistricting Process

Staff reviewed the timeline for the redistricting process.

- There are three Committee meetings remaining:
 - o 9/30 - select an Alder District Concept;
 - o 10/4 at 2pm - Review wards and polling places;
 - o 10/7 - final recommendation.
- Ald. Myadze: Wishes the Committee had more time to focus on wards first.
- Ald Wehelie: How will potential modification of current Concept fit into timeline?
 - o Staff shared proposed timeline from CCEC (Common Council

Executive Committee) for Alders to propose amendments. Alders should propose any amendments by October 19. Staff is available to assist Alders between October 12-19.

- Chair: Make a note that for future redistricting processes, it is important to begin these conversations earlier.
 - o Joan Schwarz indicated the County Board has been meeting for months and it has been helpful.
 - o Ald. Martin asked if an exit memo is appropriate. Chair: We could discuss whether we want to do that.

Madison Redistricting Criteria/Communities of Interest

None were discussed.

Summary of Community Feedback on Alder District Concepts 5a and 6

- Comments are on the website
- Summary “Themes from Redistricting Feedback” - Summary is subjective, as staff did their best to summarize the hundreds of comments.
 - o Summary was very helpful (Schwarz, Ald. Myadze, Ald. Martin)
- Ald. Conklin: There is a lot of feedback about splitting D9: 5a goes right through Tamarack Trails Neighborhood Association. Concept 6 keeps everyone together. D9 has seen a lot of growth, but important to keep neighborhood associations together.

Draft Alder District Plans

Staff provided a summary of Concepts 5b, 6, 7a, 7b:

- Concept 5b:
 - o Incorporates early feedback received
 - o Uses Wingra Creek as the boundary between D13/D14
 - o Oak Park Terrace community located in D18
 - o Keeps Arbor Hills and Leopold neighborhoods together
 - o Minor edits to follow neighborhood associations boundaries
 - o UW-Madison dorms are split between D8 and D5
- Concept 6:
 - o Beltline as a dividing line for much of the west side
 - o Includes more of the UW-Madison dorms in D8, but not all
 - o Arbor Hills and Leopold neighborhoods are split by Alder Districts
 - o Oak Park Terrace community located in D12 and somewhat isolated from other D12 areas
- Concept 7a:
 - o Attempts to minimize splitting neighborhood associations
 - o Shifts the southern portion of existing D9 to proposed D1
 - o Proposed D19 is very similar to the existing configuration
 - o D10 includes Arbor Hills
 - o UW-Madison dorms in D8
 - o D2 shifts to the west and more compressed
 - o D6 includes Tenney-Lapham
 - o D15 located to the east of Hwy 51
 - o D16 located to the west of Hwy 51
 - o Overall, this concept seeks to minimize neighborhood association splits
- Concept 7b:
 - o Emphasizes compact Districts
 - o UW-Madison dorms in D8
 - o D2 shifts to the west and more compressed

- o D6 includes Tenney-Lapham
- o D16 crosses Stoughton Road
- o Arbor Hills and Leopold neighborhoods are split by Alder Districts
- o Oak Park Terrace community located in D17 and somewhat isolated from other D17 areas

Questions on Concepts:

- Staff reviewed maps illustrating neighborhood association splits.
- Ald. Wehelie: What criteria was used to divide communities of interest, specifically difference between 7a and 7b?
 - o Staff: 7b focuses more on compactness while 7a focused on neighborhood association boundaries.
 - o Chair: Staff following criteria as best as possible.
- Ald. Figueroa Cole: Neighborhood Associations seem to be getting much focus. Is staff using other criteria?
 - o Chair: Not all associations are the same, although they can have impact and organize projects. Would have benefited from an elongated process.
 - o Staff: Focus on required criteria and on criteria committee voted on. Neighborhood Associations have a built-in advantage as they are mapped and can easily communicate needs.
 - o Ald. Figueroa Cole: Was there a priority assigned to criteria?
 - § Staff: Committee did not assign priority.

Comments on Concepts:

- Joan Schwarz: 5b: concerns about residence halls/tenney-lapham split/other splits. Seems to have more problems than other concepts, but is only one that keeps Arbor Hills/Leopold together.
- Ald. Myadze: Concerns with 5b and 7b.
- Ald. Lemmer: 7a does best job of keeping neighborhoods together while prioritizing giving power to underrepresented communities. 7a/b keeping residence halls together is a plus.
- Chair: all districts keep a majority student district. 5b does a great job of keeping BIPOC communities together.
- Ald. Evers: Appreciate attempts to keep D13 a Lake Wingra district. Encourage keeping that element of 7b in a future map.
- Ald. Albouras: Meadowood/Prairie Hills/Greentree neighborhoods collectively have strong synergy. Asking committee to consider keeping these three together in any future map iterations. Map 6 does keep this. Regarding 7a/7b-appreciate Staff's explanation of differences.
- Ald. Bennett: 5a and 6 not acceptable and dilute the student voice. 7a and 7b are more acceptable. At the corner of Regent and Randall there are two blocks with 180 and 475 people. Would be great if these were included in D8. Would also be great if Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara neighborhood association were included in D6.
- Ald. Benford: 3 themes:
 - o 7a/7b - deeply appreciate attempt to keep student voice.
 - o See Darbo-Worthington area as connected to D6. It's important to draw in resources and privilege many folks have to move change in Darbo.
 - o 7a/7b - creating the most privileged super district in D6.
 - o 7a/7b keeping Darbo in D6 would be strongest preference.
- Joan Schwarz: can staff clarify whether Meadowood/Greentree/Prairie Hills are kept together?

- o Staff: Only concept 6 has them kept together. 5b,7a,7b all have Greentree and Prairie Hills in D20, Meadowood in D10.
- Ald. Carter: Could staff explain what is included in D14 in 7a/7b?
 - o Staff: Same, except Martin/Carver area and the Lost City are. Both include Leopold but not Arbor Hills.
- Ald. Bennett: Does 7a address Ald. Benford's request to bring Darbo in to D6?
 - o Staff: No.
- Ald. Bennett: Re: 7a/7b, worth noting there is an arbitrary sacred boundary between D6 and D2. With the new development, there are many arguments to have the isthmus grow together.
- Ald. Albouras: Invested in this discussion, but need to go to different meeting. Preference for Concept 6, but acknowledge that it is problematic for others.
- Ald. Wehelie: Also needs to leave for a different meeting - similar concerns to Alder Albouras. Preference would be 7a with some modification.
- Ald. Wehelie departed at 5:49pm

Comments on Preference from Committee

- Ald. Myadze: Preference for 7a. Captures the most COIs and neighborhood associations and school attendance areas, but may want to change a few things.
- Ald. Lemmer: Preference for 7a. Keeps areas with a variety of incomes together districts on the East side.
- Ald. Martin: Preference for 7a, with 7b close behind. Like how they keep campus together. Maybe could make slight changes
- Joan Schwarz: Preference for 7a. Could we try to accommodate Meadowood/Greentree/Prairie Hills?
- Austin Johnson: Preference for 7a, unless a huge outcry for Leopold/Arbor Hills split.

Committee Member Requests for Resources or Information

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Martin to adjourn. Seconded by Lemmer. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 pm.