

REPORT OF THE 2023 REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This report and recommendation is submitted to the Mayor and City Council by the members of the City of Sugar Land 2023 Redistricting Advisory Committee (the “Committee”) in accordance with the redistricting criteria identified in Resolution No. 23-19, as adopted by the City Council on June 6, 2023.

On June 6, 2023, City Council also adopted Resolution 23-18 that appointed the Committee to recommend one or more redistricting plans to the City Council. The Committee held two meetings, both of which were publicly posted on the City website and on the City Hall bulletin boards. No members of the public attended the first meeting and only one member attended the second meeting. There were no public comments at either meeting. The Committee did not receive any individual plans from the public.

At the first meeting, held on June 20, 2023, the City’s outside counsel, Bob Heath, from Bickerstaff, Heath, Delgado, and Acosta, conducted an orientation of the criteria adopted by City Council Resolution No. 23-19 that outlines the legal requirements to be used in the redistricting process. The outside demographer, Sherry McCall, from the same law firm, provided a draft plan for the Committee’s consideration. The Committee reviewed the plan and discussed the need for an overlay of subdivisions and voting precincts on the plan at the next Committee meeting. The Committee consensus was to refine the proposed plan as well as review a modified plan moving the “triangle area” between Highway 90, US 59, and TX 6 from District 1 to District 3 to eliminate the split of District 1 over Highway 59.

At the second meeting, held on July 17, 2023, Sherry McCall provided the draft plan with the requested overlays for the Committee’s consideration as well as a modified draft plan reflecting the movement of the “triangle area”. The Committee reviewed both draft plans and discussed additional variations to the district boundaries including dividing the Riverpark subdivision along the Grand Parkway. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee voted to recommend the draft plan, as originally presented, to City Council. Bob Heath confirmed that the draft plan would meet the redistricting legal requirements.

As recommended, Plan A would result in the following three changes to the existing single-member districts:

Change area 1: Moves 1,740 persons from District 2 to District 1 by creating a triangle bound by Highway 6, Highway 59, and Ditch H and includes Meadows Lake, The Lakes, and The Village on Royal Oak subdivisions.

Change area 2: Moves 2,198 persons from District 2 to District 4 by creating an "ice cream cone" shaped area bound by Highway 59, the Grand Parkway, and the Brazos River and includes the Riverpark East and the Enclave at Riverpark subdivisions.

Change area 3: Moves 2,884 persons from District 4 to District 3 by extending the current boundaries to include an area bound by Lexington Boulevard, along Sweetwater Boulevard to the Woodstream Trail / Ditch D and includes Woodstream, Oaks of Alcorn, Sweetbriar, and Briarwood subdivisions.

Plan A has a maximum deviation of 6.76%

Based on detailed consideration of the relevant constitutional and statutory requirements and the traditional redistricting principles identified in Resolution 23-19, the Committee submits this recommendation that the Mayor and City Council consider and adopt Plan A for purposes of redistricting the City's four single-member districts in 2023. Plan A is attached to this report. The recommendation of the Committee is unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Harvey Zinn, Chair