

King County Districting Committee

Meeting Materials

September 9, 2021

Draft Minutes from August 26, 2021

Legal Criteria Summary

Draft Map Development Schedule



King County
Meeting Minutes
King County Districting Committee

Thursday, August 26, 2021
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Ann Schindler, Chair, Sophia Danenberg, Paul Graves, Cheryl Jackson-Williams and Rob Saka

County Staff:

Patrick Hamacher, Erin Arya, Tania Santiago Pastrana and Mari Isaacson

Districting Master:

Dennis Higgins, King County GIS

1. Call to Order

Chair Schindler called the meeting to order at about 7:03 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes from August 12, 2021

Member Graves moved approval of the minutes from August 12, 2021. Member Jackson-Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Disclosure of contacts per Operating Procedure 4.6 and the Districting Master MOU

There were no disclosures.

4. Public comment

There was no public comment.

5. King County Council Chair Claudia Balducci

Council Chair Balducci provided her perspective to the committee about the redistricting process.

6. Census data briefing by Districting Master

Dennis Higgins provided a high-level overview of the 2020 Census Data which was released on August 12 as well as analysis of differences in the data as compared to the OFM estimates. He also noted that the Districting [demographics page](#) has been updated with the 2020 Census Data.

7. Mapping options, number of town halls, and timeline/deadlines

Staff reviewed the draft timeline for developing the draft maps, holding town hall meetings, and conducting the legally required final public hearing and approval process. The committee also discussed and directed staff to proceed with updating the schedule with four town hall meetings. Member Saka suggested developing a media advisory so that the town hall meetings can be publicized as soon as they are scheduled.

8. Reports of community outreach listening sessions

Committee Member debriefed on the community listening sessions held to date, which included the following meetings:

August 16 – Filipino community listening session – Saka, Schindler

August 18 – Faith community listening session – Graves, Saka

August 19 – Community Response Alliance listening session – Danenberg, Schindler

Chair Schindler noted that the plan is to have the notes from each meeting will be compiled and distributed to committee members prior to draft mapping work sessions.

9. Staff updates

Staff noted that Chair Schindler will brief the King County Council at their meeting on September 14 per the Council’s request.

10. Chair updates

Chair Schindler reviewed the schedule for the remaining community listening sessions.

11. Districting Master updates

No additional updates.

12. Adjournment

Chair Schindler adjourned the meeting at about 9:07 p.m.

DRAFT

Redistricting legal criteria

State law (RCW 29A.76) and the King County Charter (KCC Section 650) prescribe committee criteria for developing the new district boundaries:

Nearly Equal Population

- Districts shall be as nearly equal in population as possible to each other

Compact and Contiguous

- Districts are to be compact and comprised of contiguous territory

Existing Natural Boundaries

- To the extent feasible, district boundaries shall coincide with existing recognized natural boundaries and be composed of economic and geographic units

Communities of Interest

- To the extent feasible, districts boundaries shall preserve existing communities of related and mutual interest

Census Tracts + Municipalities

- As nearly as practical, district boundaries shall correspond with the boundaries of municipalities and census tracts

Not favor or disfavor a group

- Population data may not be used for purposes of favoring or disfavoring any racial group or political party

Potential Draft Map Development Schedule

Each Committee member will develop a draft map

- Each member works with DM to develop a draft map that meets all legal criteria and COULD be the final map – September 7-September 23.
- Each member (with DM and staff) present draft maps at September 23 DC meeting.
- At September 30 meeting, review areas of similarities and differences between the draft maps. The Committee can then decide if maps can be combined and fewer than 4 maps can be published before the town hall meetings.
- September 30 - October 10 – ten day waiting period between draft maps being published and of the first town hall meeting.
- October 10 - October 28 – hold 4 town hall style meetings.
- October 28 - November 17th – DC meets to refine and give direction to the DM to prepare a final draft map.
- DM must submit the proposed final redistricting plan to the Committee for publication on or before November 22.
- Public Hearing on November 29.
- Final vote on the redistricting plan no later than December 6.