

King County Districting Committee

Meeting Materials

August 26, 2021

Draft Minutes from August 12, 2021

Legal Criteria Summary

Potential Draft Map Development Schedule



King County

Meeting Minutes King County Districting Committee

Thursday, August 12, 2021
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Ann Schindler, Chair, Sophia Danenberg, Paul Graves and Rob Saka

Members Excused:

Cherryl Jackson-Williams

County Staff:

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

Districting Master:

Dennis Higgins, King County GIS

1. Call to Order

Chair Schindler called the meeting to order at about 7:12 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes from July 8, 2021

Member Graves moved approval of the minutes from July 8, 2021. Member Saka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chair Schindler sent a letter to the King County Councilmembers to offer the opportunity to provide written comment or attend a regular meeting of the Districting Committee. Council Chair Claudia Balducci will attend on August 26 and Councilmember Jeannie Kohl-Welles will attend on September 9. Patrick Hamacher disclosed that he provided a brief update on the timeline to District 2 staff in early August.

4. Public comment

The committee voted to amend the agenda to add public comment. Member Saka moved to amend the agenda to include public comment. Member Graves seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The following individuals provided public comment: Jeannie Williams, Lordia Williams and Jeremy Williams.

5. Reports of community outreach listening sessions

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

7/20: Cohosts Entre Hermanos and GSBA - Danenberg/Schindler

7/21: Cohost League of Women Voters - Jackson-Williams/Saka

7/22: Local Jurisdictions - Danenberg/Graves

7/26: SCA - Danenberg/Saka

7/29: Rural Unincorporated Areas - Graves/Schindler
8/1: Cohost: Korean American Coalition - Danenberg
8/3: Cohost: Chief Seattle Club - Danenberg/Schindler
8/4: Cohost: Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle - Danenberg/Saka
8/5: Cohost: OneAmerica - Danenberg/Saka
8/9: Urban Unincorporated Areas - Danenberg/Jackson-Williams
8/10: Cohosts: Pacific Islander Community Association and Pacific Islander Health Board - Jackson-Williams, Schindler
8/11: Cohosts: Indian American Community Services, Muslim Community Resource Center, Nepal Seattle Society, Pakistan Association of Greater Seattle, PROJONMO, Punjabi Health Board, South Asian Americans Together for WA and Tasveer - Graves
8/11: Cohosts: OCA Advocate Greater Seattle Chapter and CISC - Danenberg/Schindler
8/12: Cohosts: Friends of Little Saigon and Kandelia - Danenberg/Schindler

6. Staff updates/community listening session updates

Staff reported that they are still attempting to schedule five more sessions and that the final schedule should be complete by the next meeting. Staff reminded that they are taking notes on the debrief and creating official notes of the meeting in conjunction with the members that attend each session. The notes will likely be an appendix to the final report. Staff reported they intend to propose town hall meeting recommendations for the fall at the September 9 meeting.

7. Chair updates

Chair Schindler reported that on September 9 she anticipates there will be an analysis of the Census data from the Districting Master.

8. Districting Master updates

The Districting Master reported that the Census data arrived today, that data has been downloaded successfully and should be available for use tomorrow. Districting Master staff completed three test runs of drawing district boundaries using the OFM data in preparation for the Census data. The Districting Master will report on the Census data at the next meeting on August 26 and on September 9.

9. Adjournment

Chair Schindler adjourned the meeting at about 9:08 p.m.

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

Scenario 1: Each Committee member develops 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.
- September 23-October 2 – ten day waiting period between draft maps being made public and beginning of town hall meetings (first town hall occurs within 10 days of draft publication and no later than October 2nd).
- October 2-October 21 – hold ____ town hall style meetings.
- Nov October 21-November 17th – DC meets to refine draft maps into a final map and final direction to the DM.
- DM must submit the proposed final plan to the Committee for publication on or before November 22.
- Public Hearing on November 29.
- Final vote on a plan no later than December 6.

Scenario 2: Committee develops 2 draft maps for public hearings

- Committee reviews proposals from DM and provides direction during weekly meetings during September and first part of October.
- Committee presents 2 proposed draft maps at the October 7 meeting.
- October 7 - 18 – ten day waiting period between draft maps being made public and beginning of town hall meetings (first town hall occurs within 10 days of draft publication and no later than October 18th).
- October 18 -31 hold ____ town hall style meetings.
- November 1 - 17th – DC meets to refine draft maps into a final map for presentation.
- DM must submit the proposed final plan to the Committee for publication on or before November 22.
- Public hearing on November 29.
- Final vote on plan no later than December 6.