
WARD 1 REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE

**Roadmap for a
Successful
Redistricting Report
for Ward 1**

Submitted for Review
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Introduction

The Ward 1 Redistricting Task Force (“Task Force”) has been charged with the task of making recommendations to the City Council for the redistricting of Ward 1 as it relates to Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (“ANC”) and Single Member Districts (“SMD”). The deadline for producing a detailed report is quickly approaching and the Task Force has not, to date, made significant progress in producing a report. This “Roadmap” is a suggested means of accomplishing that task in an efficient and effective manner. This “Roadmap” is not a suggestion or proposal for the contents of the Task Force’s report.

Approach

The process of completing this task can only be completed in a top-down approach. Much like the City Council has determined the political boundaries of the 8 Wards of the City, this Task Force must, too, first determine the political boundaries of the ANCs within Ward 1 first. Any efforts at determining the specific details of SMDs in advance are premature and essentially not productive. Additionally, basic questions regarding how many ANCs will be proposed in the Task Force’s report also slow down progress towards a suitable end goal. As such, this Roadmap proposes the following process.

Step One: Determine How Many Alternatives Will Be Presented in the Final Report and How Many ANCs Each Will Entail

The Task Force must first answer this most basic question. Discussion has leaned toward presenting at least two alternatives (perhaps one as a primary and one as a secondary – a question of little consequence at this time). However, there has been much debate and discussion over whether or not the Task Force should recommend 4 ANCs or 5 ANCs, with some Task Force members weary of a report with 5 ANCs. As such the basic first question is as follows:

How many ANCs will the Task Force propose in its first alternative and in its second alternative, respectfully?

Possible Answers:

- First Alternative: 4 ANCs; Second Alternative: 4 ANCs
- First Alternative: 4 ANCs; Second Alternative: 5 ANCs

Once the Task Force answers this question it can move on to Step Two.

Step Two: Determine the Political Boundaries of Ward 1 in Each Alternative

The next step the Task Force must complete is determining the political boundaries for each of the ANCs in Ward 1. This will include one of two options: either (a) two maps with 4 ANCs each; or (b) one map with 4 ANCs and one map with 5 ANCs.

The essential element is that each ANC have a number of residents approximately divisible by 2,000, plus or minus 2.5% to 3%. The Task Force should not go to the full length of the 5% rule at this time, in order to allow adequate leeway later in drawing lines for SMDs.

As such, each ANC should have a number of residents in one of the following ranges:

- 9,700 – 10,300
- 11,640 – 12,360
- 13,580 – 14,420
- 15,520 – 16,480
- 17,460 – 18,540
- 19,400 – 20,600
- 21,340 – 22,660
- 23,280 – 24,720
- 25,220 – 26,780

If the Task Force is able to complete Steps One and Two on September 22, 2011, it will be in a solid position to complete the Report in a timely fashion.

Step Three: Create Subcommittees and Appoint Chairs to Determine SMD Lines for Each Predetermined ANC

Once the Task Force has established the political boundaries for each respective ANC in each respective alternative map, the Task Force should nominate Chairs to lead Subcommittee meetings (Subcommittees 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, and 1E (if applicable)) over the next week to determine the boundaries of each SMD within each ANC. For the sake of continuity and local input, each subcommittee should include at least one member of the Task Force and should solicit input from the local community and current ANC Commissioners. These meetings can be informal and should not have enough Task Force members present to create a quorum.

Some guidelines for the Subcommittees:

- Each SMD should be comprised of 2,000 residents based on Census data, plus or minus 5%
- Any deviations from the 5% rule should be substantiated in writing based upon the published guidelines
- At the very least there should not be wide discrepancies within an individual ANC
- SMD boundaries should be somewhat uniform in shape and applicable to various “neighborhoods”

Once completed, the Subcommittees should forward their proposals to other members of the Task Force prior to the Public Hearing Meeting.

Step Four: Utilize the Recommendations from the Subcommittees as the Draft Final Product for Review and Discussion during Public Hearing Meeting

All maps should be completed and enlarged on display during the Public Hearing Meeting so that the public can provide comments on the draft final products.

Members of the public should be encouraged to limit their comments to the following elements:

- Which Alternative they prefer
- Changes that they would like to see made to the SMD lines within any specific ANC

Discussion on changing the political boundaries of the ANCs would no longer be useful and counterproductive.

Step Five: Incorporate Appropriate Public Comments into Draft Final Revisions Before the Task Force's Final October 3 Meeting and Vote to Approve Final Maps and Designate Primary and Secondary Alternatives Should the Task Force So Desire

Having developed final draft maps, the Task Force should spend the last meeting making minor tweaks to the maps and voting on each set of maps.

For sake of efficiency, the Task Force should make the following three votes:

- Approval of Alternative One
- Approval of Alternative Two
- Approval of designation of ranking or lack thereof of each Alternative

Step Six: Designate Task Force Members Who Will Create Final Report Based Upon Final Votes Taken By the Task Force and Create Report

As previous indicated the Task Force must produce a Report which includes appropriate written language following the guidelines established by the Office of Planning. Four or Five Task Force members should be designated to write up the language for each ANC and be assigned someone to double-check their work. Once completed the final Report, with appropriate language should be drafted, uniformly formatted and submitted to the City Council.