

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
 THE COUNTY OF BRAZORIA §

**GUIDELINES FOR PERSONS SUBMITTING
 SPECIFIC REDISTRICTING PROPOSALS
 AND PROVIDING COMMENTS**

WHEREAS, this Commissioners Court has certain responsibilities for redistricting the county commissioner precincts under federal and state law including but not limited to Amendments 14 and 15 to the United States Constitution, U.S.C.A. and Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, 52 U.S.C.A. §10301; article 5, section 18 of the Texas Constitution; and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2058.001 and 2058.002; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide for the orderly consideration and evaluation of redistricting plans which may come before the Court; and

WHEREAS, these guidelines relate to persons who have specific redistricting plans they wish the Court to consider; and

WHEREAS, the Court also welcomes any comments relevant to the redistricting process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in order to make sure that any comments regarding the redistricting process and any redistricting plan that might be submitted are of maximum assistance to the Court in its decision-making process, the Court hereby sets the following guidelines to be followed by each person submitting a comment or a redistricting plan for consideration:

1. Proposed plans must be submitted in writing and be legible. If a plan is submitted orally, there is significant opportunity for misunderstanding, and it is possible that errors may be made in analyzing it. The Court wants to be sure that all proposals are fully and accurately considered.
2. Any plan must show the total population and voting age population for African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and Anglo/Other for each proposed commissioner precinct based on the 2020 Census Data. If a plan is submitted without a population breakdown, the Court may not have sufficient information to give it full consideration.
3. Plans should redistrict the entire county. The Court, of course, will be considering the effect of any plan on the entire county. Any plan is subject to the Voting Rights Act, which protects various racial and language minorities. Thus, as a matter of federal law, the Court will be required to consider the effect of any proposal on multiple racial and ethnic groups. If a plan does not redistrict the entire county, it may be impossible for the Court to assess its impact on one or more protected minority groups.

- 4. Plans should conform to the redistricting criteria the Court will be using in drawing the commissioner precincts.
- 5. Comments must be submitted in writing and be legible, even if the person also makes the comments orally at a public hearing.
- 6. Persons providing comments and those submitting proposed plans must identify themselves by full name and home address and provide a phone number and, if available, an email address. The Court may wish to follow up on such comments or obtain additional information about submitted plans.
- 7. All comments and proposed plans must be submitted to the Commissioners Court by the close of the public hearing.

This resolution shall be effective upon passage by the Commissioners Court.

BE IT SO ORDERED.

Adopted on this 21st day of September, 2021.

BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

L.M. "Matt" Sebesta Jr., County Judge

Donald "Dude" Payne, Commissioner, Precinct 1

Ryan Cade, Commissioner, Precinct 2

Stacy Adams, Commissioner, Precinct 3

David Linder, Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Joyce Hudman, County Clerk

