

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021- 23

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA TO ADOPT CRITERIA TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR 2020 CENSUS REDISTRICTING

WHEREAS, the data for the 2020 Census pertaining to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina has been released for review, assessment, and redistricting of Town Council wards in the Town of Hilton Head Island; and

WHEREAS, to ensure maximum review and public participation in developing redistricting plans based on the 2020 Census, the Town of Hilton Head Island Town Council deems it necessary to publicly adopt criteria for the development of a redistricting plan in accordance with the 1965 Voting Rights Act as amended; and

WHEREAS, the following criteria for developing plans for redistricting 2020 will ensure compliance with the 1965 Voting Rights Act as amended and maximum public participation in the redistricting process:

1. The Town will adhere to the court ordered constitutional requirement of one person, one vote.
2. The Town will adhere to the 1965 Voting Rights Act as amended and by associated controlling court decisions.
3. The Town will adhere to the recommendations of the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office of adopting a plan with a population variance of ten percent (10%) or less.
4. The Town will ensure that parts of the districts are contiguous.
5. The Town will keep proposed districts compact in nature.
6. The Town will attempt to maintain constituent consistency.
7. The Town will respects identified communities of interest.
8. The Town will avoids splitting voting precincts.
9. The Town will solicit public comment and input as part of the development, review, and adoption process; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hilton Head Island commits to developing a plan which will not have the purpose nor the effect of diluting any existing minority voting strength as part of its redistricting efforts so long as such commitment does not impact the Town's ability to comply with the constitutional principles outlined above; and

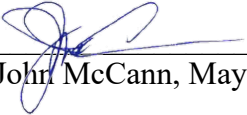
WHEREAS, the Town has outlined the procedural steps that it will follow as part of its redistricting efforts with this document being attached to this Resolution as Attachment "A" and incorporated herein by reference.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT, AND IT HEREBY IS RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, that the above listed criteria for

the 2020 Census Redistricting criteria and associated processes are hereby adopted to ensure maximum public participation, transparency, and engagement in the redistricting process.

MOVED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND ON THIS 7th DAY OF December, 2021.

THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA




John McCann, Mayor

ATTEST:



Krista Wiedmeyer, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Curtis L. Coltrane, Town Attorney

Introduced by Council Member: William Harkins

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND

PROPOSED NEXT STEPS FOR 2020 CENSUS REDISTRICTING

December 7, 2021

General Overview:

S.C. Code of Laws § 4-9-90 requires counties to redistrict within a reasonable time prior to the next general election following the federal decennial census. There is no corresponding statute for other political subdivisions, but similar constitutional principles apply.

The redistricting process should be completed no later than the date of the next general election. For the Town of Hilton Head Island, our next general election is November 8, 2022. The Town's form of government utilizes six (6) single-member Town Council districts. It is therefore necessary to have the boundaries of these districts redrawn prior to the Town's next open filing period which begins on July 31, 2022, and closes on August 15, 2022.

From a practical standpoint, candidates looking to file for office will need to know the established boundary lines prior to the filing period deadline. As such, staff is recommending that we target the late 1st Quarter of Calendar Year 2022 timeframe to have the redistricting process completed. The following is an outline of the proposed next steps to accomplish this process within this timeframe.

Proposed 2020 Census Redistricting Process:

1. **COMPLETE** - November 2, 2021, at 1pm Town Council workshop meeting with presentation by Frank Rainwater, Executive Director of South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (SCRFA).
 - a. Obtain benchmark census number from SCRFA and review population/demographic changes, establish target criteria.

2. **IN PROCESS** - Town Council considers a Resolution at its meeting on December 7, 2021, that outlines the proposed redistricting principles, processes, and expresses the policy priorities that are important to Town Council as part of this undertaking.
3. The Town will receive a baseline map be drawn by SCRFA that redraws the existing Town Council ward boundaries based upon the updated census criteria and the redistricting principles adopted by SCRFA. The Town anticipates receiving this document around the _____ timeframe, but not later than _____ as determined by SCRFA.
4. The Finance and Administration Committee will conduct a public charrette(s) on the baseline map provided by SCRFA. The purpose of this meeting(s) would be to gather public comment and feedback on the baseline map and receive suggested alterations from the community on the proposed district boundaries.
5. Town Geographic Information Staff (GIS) staff will meet with members of Town Council to review the public input from the charrette(s). Town Council members will have an opportunity to review the existing district boundaries, existing census blocks and explore changes/alterations to the baseline map. Any alternatives that are developed as a result of these meeting will be documented and labeled for public discussion and review purposes.
6. The Finance and Administration Committee will conduct a series of public workshops to review the RFA baseline map, public input, any citizen proposed alternatives, any Town Council proposed alternatives, and solicit comments and feedback on all the various alternative options that have been created. The meeting locations for these events will include a diverse geographic area of the Town to encourage public participation and engagement.

7. Bring forward a comprehensive list of all alternative options created to date for formal review and consideration by the Finance and Administration Committee at its meeting on February 15, 2022.
 - a. The Finance and Administration Committee will formally vote on a recommendation of a preferred map.
8. Target March 15, 2022, for First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Town Council ward boundaries based upon the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee.
 - a. Attach the preferred map as an Exhibit to the draft Ordinance.
9. Target April 5, 2022, for Second Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Town Council ward boundaries.
10. After Adoption Steps:
 - a. Send copy of adopted Ordinance to the Beaufort County Board of Elections and Voter Registration, Beaufort County, and any necessary South Carolina State agencies.
 - b. Implement a communications plan to inform Hilton Head Island residents of the adopted ward boundary changes.
 - i. Provide staff contact to answer any citizen questions.
 - c. Publish new maps on the Town's website and in other appropriate areas.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA TO ADOPT CRITERIA TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR REDISTRICTING 2010 TO ENSURE MAXIMUM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

WHEREAS, the data for Census 2010 pertaining to the Hilton Head Island has been released for review and assessment of redistricting of Town Council wards in the Town of Hilton Head Island; and

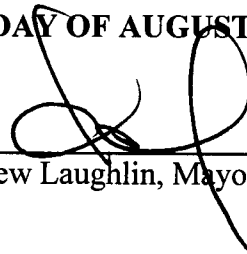
WHEREAS, to ensure maximum review and public participation in implementing any redistricting plans based on the Census 2010, the Town of Hilton Head Island Town Council deems it necessary to adopt certain criteria for the development of a redistricting plan in accordance with the 1965 Voting Rights Act as amended; and

WHEREAS, the following criteria for developing plans for redistricting 2010 will ensure maximum public participation:

1. Adhere to court ordered requirement of one person, one vote.
2. Adhere to state law of population variance under 10%.
3. Adherence to the 1965 Voting Rights Act as amended and by controlling court decisions.
4. Ensure that parts of the districts are contiguous.
5. Respect communities of interest.
6. Attempt to maintain constituent consistency.
7. Avoid splitting voting precincts.
8. Solicit public input.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT, AND IT HEREBY IS RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA, THAT THE ABOVE LISTED CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING 2010 TO ENSURE MAXIMUM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ADOPTED.

MOVED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2011.




Drew Laughlin, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cori Brock, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Gregory M. Alford, Town Attorney

Introduced by Council Member: Ken Heitzke



TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND

Community Development Department

TO: Stephen G. Riley, CM, *Town Manager*
VIA: Charles Cousins, AICP, *Director of Community Development CFC*
VIA: Shawn Colin AICP, *Comprehensive Planning Manager* *SC*
FROM: Marcy Benson, *Senior Grants Administrator* *M. Benson*
DATE: July 13, 2011
RE: Redistricting Criteria

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Town Council adopt criteria to develop plans for redistricting 2010 to ensure maximum public participation, as recommended by the Intergovernmental Committee on July 11, 2011 by approving the attached resolution.

SUMMARY

To ensure maximum review and public participation in implementing any redistricting plans based on the Census 2010 Town staff and Mr. Bobby Bowers, Director of the Office of Research and Statistics for the State Budget and Control Board, recommends Town Council adopt the criteria to develop plans for redistricting found in the attached resolution. This recommendation was endorsed by the Intergovernmental Committee during its July 11, 2011 special meeting and forwarded to Town Council for consideration.

BACKGROUND

At the July 11, 2011 special meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee, Mr. Bobby Bowers, Director of the Office of Research and Statistics for the State Budget and Control Board explained the redistricting process, Federal requirements and specific details for each preliminary redistricting plan.

As each decennial Census is completed jurisdictions are required to review population and demographic information and determine if adjustments are required for political districts. If adjustments are needed, there are controls in place that attempt to minimize the boundary shifts and disrupt the fewest number of districts as possible. As a result of the 2010 US Census the Town of Hilton Head Island is required to review and make recommendation to the US Department of Justice for redistricting.

At their July 11, 2011 special meeting the Intergovernmental Committee recommended Town Council adopt the criteria to develop plans for redistricting listed below:

- Adhere to court ordered requirement of one person, one vote

- Adhere to state law of population variance under 10%
- Adherence to the 1965 Voting Rights Act as amended and by controlling court decisions
- Ensure that parts of districts are contiguous
- Respect Communities of Interest
- Attempt to maintain constituent consistency
- Avoid splitting Voting Precincts
- Solicit Public Input