

1 **BY AUTHORITY**

2
3 Resolution 11-0661
4 Series of 2011

Committee of Reference:
Redistricting

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8 **A RESOLUTION**

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10 **ESTABLISHING PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES FOR DEVELOPING**
11 **A PLAN FOR REDRAWING THE BOUNDARIES OF**
12 **COUNCIL DISTRICTS WITHIN THE CITY AND COUNTY**
13 **OF DENVER.**
14

15 **WHEREAS**, Section 3.1.2 of the Charter of the City and County of Denver
16 requires the City Council to change the boundaries of the Council districts at
17 least once every ten years based upon the most recent United States decennial
18 census or other official population studies; and

19
20 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Census Bureau has completed the 2010 decennial census
21 and published the results; and

22
23 **WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 337, Series of 2002, adopted the current Council
24 district boundaries; and

25
26 **WHEREAS**, Council has determined to complete its redistricting process and
27 pass an ordinance adopting new Council district boundaries by April 29, 2012;

28
29 **NOW, THEREFORE,**
30 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF**
31 **DENVER:**

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33 **SECTION 1.** The Council adopts the following principles and procedures
34 for developing a redistricting plan for Council districts:

- 35
- 36 1. Redistricting will respect one-person-one-vote principles as required by
37 the Constitution and the requirement for proportionality as contained in the
38 Charter. The population norm for Council districts will be established by
39 dividing the population of the entire City by eleven, the number of district
40 seats. The sum of the percentage by which the population of the largest
41 district exceeds the norm and the smallest district falls short of the norm
42 will not exceed ten percent. The 2010 census will serve as the source for
43 all population data.
 - 44
45 2. District lines will be drawn to avoid subjecting the city to equal protection
46 claims arising on behalf of any person in a protected class based on race,

1 ethnicity, or national origin. Race and ethnicity will not be the predominant
2 factor determining the location of district boundaries if to do so would
3 subordinate the other traditional race-neutral districting principles set forth
4 herein. However, race and ethnicity will be taken into account to the
5 extent necessary to comply with the Voting Rights Act and to avoid claims
6 arising thereunder.

- 7
- 8 3. District lines will be drawn to create districts that are as compact as
9 possible and contain contiguous territory. District lines will follow obvious
10 geographic boundaries to the extent possible.
- 11
- 12 4. Council districts will be comprised of whole election precincts, as required
13 by Section 3.1.2 of the Charter of the City and County of Denver. Council
14 will urge the Clerk & Recorder to draw precinct boundaries that will
15 facilitate reasonable Council district boundaries.
- 16
- 17 5. Council will make every effort to consolidate traditional neighborhoods
18 within one district to avoid multiple representation and to maintain as
19 much as possible the existing relationships between council members and
20 their present constituents. In order to help accomplish this goal, Council
21 will urge the Clerk & Recorder to draw the boundaries of each precinct
22 wholly within a neighborhood.
- 23
- 24 6. Council will endeavor to preserve logical communities of interest and to
25 preserve the core of existing constituencies traditionally represented by a
26 particular Council district.
- 27
- 28 7. Redistricting will to the extent possible not result in two incumbent district
29 Council members legally capable of running for re-election in 2015
30 residing in the same district.
- 31

32 **SECTION 2.** The Council adopts the following procedures for developing
33 a redistricting plan for Council districts:

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- 35 1. The City Council President has appointed a Redistricting Committee
36 responsible for coordinating the redistricting process and working with
37 Denver GIS within the City's Technology Services Division to obtain the
38 tabulations and maps of the City and County of Denver.
- 39
- 40 2. The Redistricting Committee will adopt a meeting schedule that is
41 convenient to the public and Council members. Redistricting Committee
42 meetings will be conducted in conformity with Denver's open meeting laws
43 (D.R.M.C. 2-31, et. Seq.). Denver TV Channel 8 will televise all meetings.
- 44

- 1 3. Council members will have access to the computer equipment, software
2 and database used to prepare the redistricting plans. Council members
3 will have access to Council staff for research and mapping.
4
- 5 4. Video of the Redistricting Committee's meetings and all documents and
6 maps will be available on the City's website at
7 www.DenverGov.org/CityCouncil. Council staff will maintain a complete
8 record of all meetings, hearings, reports, correspondence, exhibits, and
9 work papers throughout the redistricting process, and any documents
10 presented in the redistricting meetings will be available for inspection at
11 the City Council Office.
12
- 13 5. The City Council will make every effort to communicate the redistricting
14 process to interested constituent groups by conducting outreach through
15 various established media and communication outlets. The Redistricting
16 Committee will schedule no less than five public meetings, one in each
17 quadrant and one at a meeting of the Redistricting Committee at the City
18 & County Building, during the redistricting process to receive comments
19 from interested parties.
20
- 21 6. City Council will hold at least one public hearing prior to voting on the
22 ordinance adopting a redistricting plan for City Council.
23
- 24 7. The Redistricting Committee will submit its proposed redistricting plan to
25 the City Attorney's Office for review and legal assessment prior to
26 submission to the Council. The City Attorney's Office legal assessment
27 will become part of the record of the redistricting process.
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29 **Section 3.** The Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and
30 affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this resolution.
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33 PASSED BY City Council _____, 2011
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35 Chris Nevitt – President _____, 2011
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37 ATTEST: _____ - CLERK AND RECORDER,
38 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
39 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER
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41 PREPARED BY: Gretchen Williams, Legislative Services

42 DATE: September 21, 2011
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