

Redistricting Public Hearing Summary Report

March 29, 2022

#### Event/Task/Action Start Date Complete Date Council President assigns Redistricting Working Group 1-Mar-21 1-Mar-21 1-Jul-21 Working Group convenes with Council Staff - design draft redistricting process 1-Mar-21 Staff design Meeting in a Box and initial community engagement methods for data collection 30-Jun-21 1-Apr-21 Staff create media plan, web infrastructure, online outreach tools 1-Apr-21 30-Jun-21 Staff recruit community partners for engagement data collection methodology and analysis 1-May-21 30-Jun-21 Council elects new leadership 19-Jul-21 19-Jul-21 FINGOV Committee receives briefings on redistricting process 1-Jul-21 30-Aug-21 1-Jul-21 Community Outreach - Define Your Denver 15-Oct-21 Referred ballot measure deadline - clerk and recorder elections reform 4-Aug-21 4-Aug-21 30-Sep-21 Maptitude Software Purchase 3-Sep-21 Working Group works on resolution of principles and procedure 30-Aug-21 30-Sep-21 Committee files resolution of principles and procedure 30-Sep-21 30-Sep-21 Data received from Census Bureau 30-Sep-21 30-Sep-21 Staff analyze Defining Your Denver data 1-Sep-21 31-Oct-21 Resolutions of principles and procedures adopted by Council 11-Oct-21 11-Oct-21 Internal meetings with GIS and Council staff 1-Oct-21 1-Dec-21 Staff work with CU Students to draw community of interest maps 1-Nov-21 1-Dec-21 Train City Council and Staff on Redistricting Software 1-Dec-21 31-Dec-21 Public engagement on census data release and maptitude demos 1-Dec-21 31-Jan-22 **Elections Division Re-Precincting\*** 30-Sep-21 30-Dec-21 2-Feb-22 Public draws maps on Maptitude 1-Jan-22 Committee, Council, and Staff work on maps 1-Dec-21 28-Mar-22 State Redistricting Final Plan Submitted\* 1-Jan-22 30-Sep-21 Final Elections Precincts Deadline\* ?? 3-Jan-22 Public Vetting of proposed maps 1-Feb-22 23-Feb-22 Committee debates maps 1-Feb-22 17-Mar-22 Committee approves map(s) for filing 17-Mar-22 17-Mar-22 First reading of Ordinance 21-Mar-22 21-Mar-22 Adopt Ordinance effective for April 2023 election (Public Hearing) Cesar Chavez Day 29-Mar-22 29-Mar-22

# Unique Challenges of Redistricting 2022

- COVID-19 pandemic
- New state Independent Redistricting Commission
- Delayed release of census data
- Approval of moving Denver's municipal elections from May to April



# Redistricting Timeline - 2021

#### Small working Partnership Maptitude Community development Training Group engagement Passed Hosted Created Two weeks of resolution mapping drive outreach training outlining with materials for opportunities Representable council offices for Council principles and procedure • Received 154 Connected Training webinar for with Census maps public partners Hired Worked with facilitator OSFL

# Highlights from 2021

### Resolution 21-1059

- Increased the number of public meetings
- Required language access to be placed into consideration.
- Incorporated language surrounding communities of interest

### **Mapping Drive with Representable.Org**

- Received 154 maps
- Identified common areas of interest among 70 maps
- First municipality in the country to use representable in an official capacity and at this level.

### **Maptitude for Redistricting Training**

- Acquired Maptitude for Redistricting software for all of Council use
- Hosted two weeks of trainings for council and staff to familiarize themselves with Maptitude

### **Social Media and Meeting in a Box**

- Created a social media toolkit translated into Spanish and Vietnamese for council office use.
- Created a Meeting in a Box for community use around redistricting.

# Redistricting Timeline - 2022

#### January

- Council and the public had the month of January to create maps.
- Redistricting
  Working Group met
  with Facilitator to
  design community
  meeting agenda
  and logistics.
- GIS created a redistricting dashboard with equity data layers for public review of proposed maps.

#### February

- Council submitted 6 maps for public feedback
- Council hosted 6 community meetings
- 2 virtual, 4 inperson around the city.
- Committee received weekly briefings from facilitator on the results of the previous week's meeting.

#### March

- Councilmembers edited maps based on community feedback.
- Committee
  deliberated maps
  and voted two out
  of committee for
  Council
  consideration

#### April

 Central staff will create a report outlining this redistricting process and recommendations for future redistricting efforts.

# Highlights from 2022

### **Community Meetings**

- 6 meetings
  - 2 virtual
  - 4 in person
- 389 participants
- 54 neighborhoods represented
- Community Report provided highlighting the Community meetings

### **Public Dashboard**

- Denver TS created a transparent tool for the public and council to use to review maps based on Charter and resolution mandated criteria.
- The dashboard also included equity data from Denver Human Services

### **Public Comment**

 We received 269 public comments for Denver residents

# Map Vetting Rules



# Council Must Adhere to the Following Criteria, per City Charter 3.1.2

- Draw 11 council districts
- Have the council districts be as equal in population as possible
- Council districts must contain contiguous territory
- Council districts must be as compact as possible
- Council districts must contain whole elections precincts
- •Council districts must be approved by March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Map Vetting Rules



# **Council Should Consider the Following Criteria, per Resolution 21-1059**

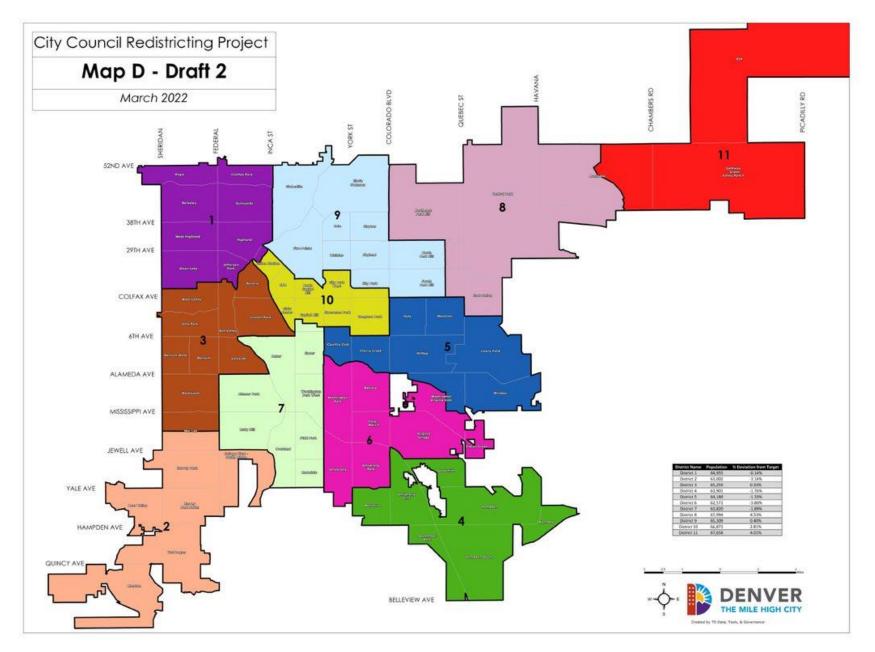
- $\hfill\Box$  The largest council district cannot be more than 10% larger than the smallest population.
- Race and ethnicity shall be taken into consideration to the extent necessary to comply with the Voting Rights Act.
- District lines will follow obvious geographic boundaries to the greatest extent possible.

# Map Vetting Rules



# **Council Should Consider the Following Criteria, per Resolution 21-1059**

- District lines will respect colloquial and statistical neighborhood boundaries to the greatest extent possible.
- Council will preserve logical communities of interest, and the core existing constituencies traditionally represented by a particular council district to the greatest extent possible.
- District lines, to the greatest extent possible, will not result in two incumbent district councilmembers residing in the same district.



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