



# 2022 Denver Municipal Redistricting

**Small Working Group:** Chair Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval, Councilman Chris Herndon and Councilwoman Kendra Black

**Support Staff:** Emily Lapel, Stacy Simonet, Zach Rothmier, and Manny Santistevan

# Why Redistrict? Federal Requirements

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



- **Reapportionment Act of 1929**
  - By law, the 43 states with more than one Representative must redistrict after each decennial census to account for population shifts within the state as well as (when necessary) to add or remove congressional districts
- **Supreme Court Ruling in *Renyolds v. Sims***
  - Ruled that "the Equal Protection Clause demands no less than substantially equal state legislative representation for all citizens, of all places as well as of all races." According to *All About Redistricting*, "it has become accepted that a [redistricting] plan will be constitutionally suspect if the largest and smallest districts [within a state or jurisdiction] are more than 10 percent apart."

# Why Redistrict? State Requirements

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



- The Colorado Constitution requires that state legislative district boundaries "be contiguous, and that they be as compact as possible based on their total perimeter." In addition, "to the extent possible, districts must also preserve the integrity of counties, cities, towns and – where doing so does not conflict with other goals – communities of interest." There are no similar requirements for congressional districts.
- As of 2018 – Colorado voters approved two constitutional amendments whereby a non-politician commission is established to draw new districts with equal party representation of the majority, minority, and non-party individuals

# Why Redistrict? City Requirements

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



- **Denver Charter Title I, Subtitle B 3.1.2**
  - Denver shall have 11 districts that are compact as possible
  - Contain contiguous territory
  - Contain as equal a population as possible
  - Be based on the most recent U.S. decennial census, or other official population studies or report
  - Consist of whole voting precincts
  - Boundaries that change at least once every 10 years

# Previous Redistricting Efforts Lessons Learned from 2012

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



- Starting early is the key to success
- Community engagement is a priority
- Issues with accessing the redistricting software

# Redistricting 2022: What needs to happen first?

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



- Census normally releases data in April – now delayed to September 30, 2021
- State Legislature approved maps created by the independent commission, delayed due to Census delay
- Denver Clerk & Recorder re-precincts, delayed due to Census delay
- Council passes its resolution outlining procedure and criteria of redistricting process

# What have we have done so far?

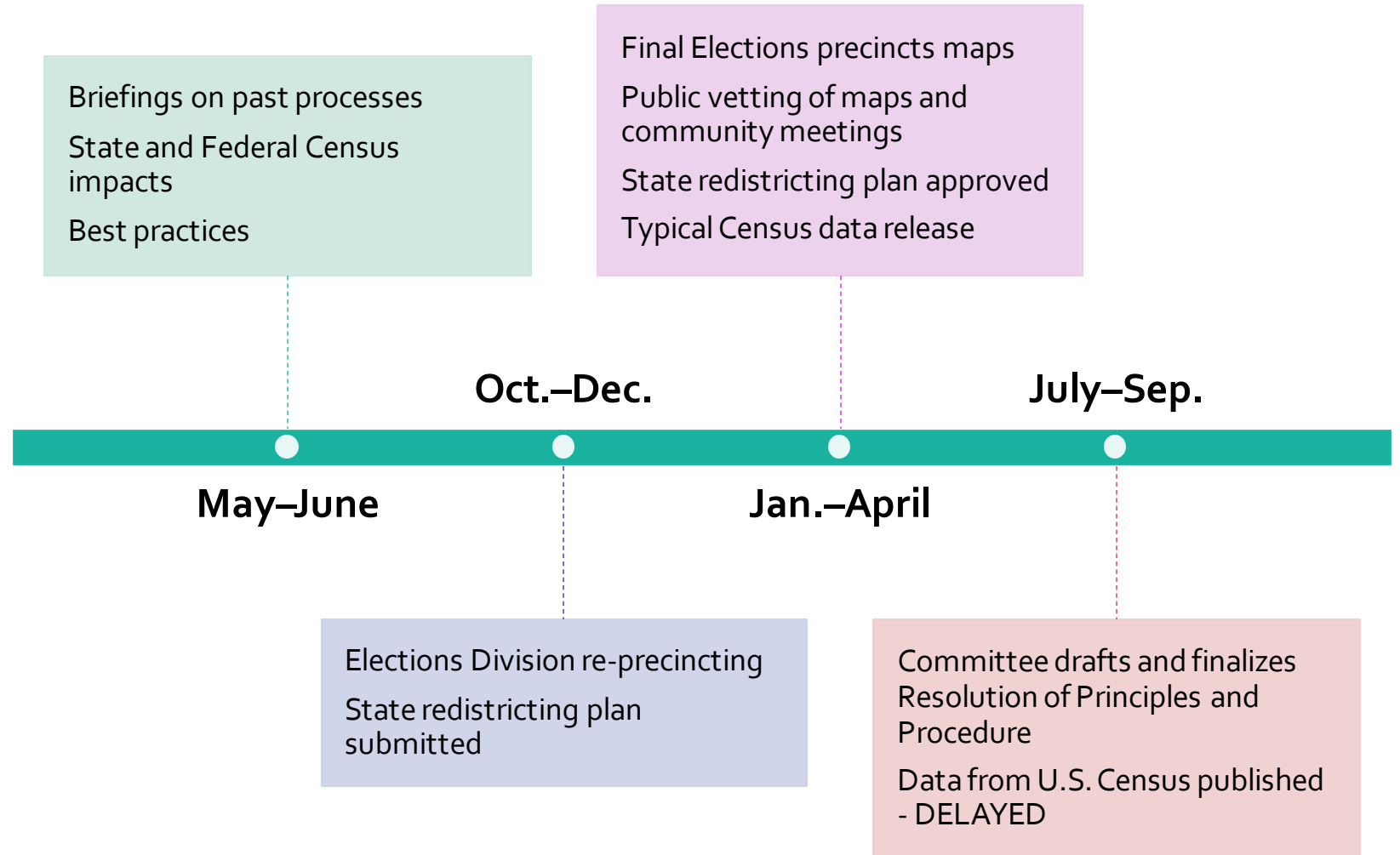
DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



- **TS Project Request:** Created a project request with TS that is providing Council with the GIS support we will need throughout redistricting
- **Software Selection:** Central staff demoed two products and decided to go with Maptitude
- **Research:** Researched best practices in municipal-level redistricting. Have started partnership outreach with peer cities.
  - Working group met with academic partners at UCCS and UC Denver
- **Timeline:** Created initial Gantt timelines
  - Tentative and will change based on when Census releases data

# Timeline

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL





# Software

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



## Free Software

- Representable – to be used for public outreach
- Redistrictr, Dave's Redistricting App

## City Council will purchase software

- Maptitude - \$25,000
  - \$5,000 from Clerk and Recorder
  - \$20,000 from City Council

# Academic Partners

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



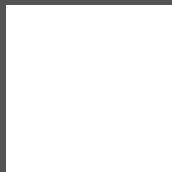
**Dr. Rebecca Theobald**  
University of Colorado,  
Colorado Springs

GeoCivics



**Dr. Peter Anthamatten**  
University of Colorado  
Denver

Masters level student  
internships – Summer '21  
and Fall/Winter '21 terms  
GIS Analysis



**Princeton University**

Representable was created  
by Princeton University  
Students

# Pre-Data Release Community Engagement

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL



- 2012 Process included 5 public meetings, each corner of Denver and the center of the city.
  - 2021 goal is 7 public meetings, using a professional facilitator
- Developing a media plan to keep the community informed throughout the process
- Launching a City website with all things redistricting – to be updated regularly

# Questions?

DENVER  
CITY COUNCIL

