

# **Redistricting Guidelines and Criteria 2021**

**Augusta-Richmond County  
Ad Hoc Local Redistricting Committee  
Adopted August 18, 2021**

## **General Principles for Drafting Plans**

1. The Committee will attempt to draw the districts of equal size, as practicable.
2. All plans adopted by the Committee will comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the Georgia Constitution, and the Equal Protection Clause (14<sup>th</sup> amendment of the US Constitution).
3. All plans adopted by the Committee will comply with the United States and State of Georgia Constitutions.
4. Districts shall be composed of contiguous geography. Districts that connect on a single point are not contiguous.
  - a. Commission and School Board districts will maintain the same geography and be identified within the same district boundaries.
5. No multi-member districts shall be drawn on any local redistricting plan.
6. The Committee should consider:
  - a. The boundaries of neighborhoods and precincts;
  - b. Compactness;
  - c. Connections to transportation links;
  - d. The preservation of the core of the current district
  - e. Preserving communities of interest, i.e., economic, social, school district, community or housing commonalities – the shared interest of a community.
7. Efforts should be made to avoid the unnecessary pairing of incumbents.
8. The identifying of these criteria is not intended to limit the consideration of any other principles or factors that the Committee deems appropriate.
9. No district shall be drawn for the purpose of favoring any political party, incumbent commissioner or school board member or other person or be drawn for the purpose of diluting the voting strength of any language or ethnic minority group.