



Local Redistricting Meeting

AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY

PUBLIC HEARING PRESENTATION



Census, Reapportionment, and Redistricting

- The US Constitution requires a Census of the US population be taken every 10 years.
 - Reapportionment is the process that uses the Census data to determine how the 435 Congressional seats are distributed between the States.
 - Redistricting is the process that uses the Census data to determine where changes are needed within the individual districts to ensure equal representation for all citizens.
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Why do we Redraw District Lines

- Redrawing district lines, or redistricting, is a requirement of law. It is required by the US Constitution to ensure that all citizens have equal representation – one person, one vote, meaning that each elected representative will represent roughly the same number of people allowing each vote to count equally and that each person's vote carries the same weight.



The Redistricting Committee's Role

- Evaluate current districts to determine where there has been growth in population and where there has been a decline.
 - Develop a districting plan by identifying where changes in the configuration of districts need to occur in order to ensure equal representation for all its citizens.
 - Submit the plan to each governing authority for final approval.
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Redistricting Committee's Role is not to:

- Make decisions regarding taxation or public safety
- Alter public school zones
- Determine property assessments
- Make policy for economic development

Structure of the Augusta Commission and Richmond County Board of Education

- There are 8 single member districts numbered 1-8
- There are 2 super districts numbered 9 and 10. Each super district is made up of 4 single member districts.
- Super District 9 is made up of single member districts 1, 2, 4, and 5.
- Super District 10 is made up of single member districts 3, 6, 7, and 8.
- Each citizen votes for 2 members of both the Augusta Commission and the Board of Education.

Population Totals 2010 to 2020

Year	Total Population	Ideal District Size	Percentage Growth
2010	200,549	25,069	
2020	206,607	25,826	3.12%

Ideal District Size is computed by dividing the total population by the number of districts. In Augusta there are 8 districts.

206,607 divided by 8 = 25,826 citizens per district.

Changes by Districts

District Number	2012 Plan at the time of Adoption (Current District Boundaries)		Current District Boundaries with Updated 2020 Census Data	
	2010 Census Data	Deviation from Ideal District Size *Ideal District Size = 25,069	2020 Census Data	Deviation from Ideal District Size *Ideal District Size = 25,826
1	25,126	+0.23%	24,519	-5.06
2	25,049	-0.08%	23,872	-7.57
3	25,081	+0.05%	31,316	+21.26
4	25,027	-0.17%	24,701	-4.36
5	25,038	-0.12%	26,239	+1.6
6	25,078	+0.04%	25,418	-1.58
7	24,955	-0.45%	25,416	-1.59
8	25,195	+0.50%	25,126	-2.71

How do we get started on Local Redistricting?

- All district lines for Congress, State Senate, and State Representative are drawn and adopted by the Georgia General Assembly.
- Likewise, local district lines are drawn by the local governing authorities.
- In 2000 the Augusta Commission and Richmond County Board of Education recognized the value in having the two sets of district lines continue to mirror each other and the Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee was formed.

The Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee

- The Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee contains 12 members. Four are appointed by the Augusta Commission, 4 are appointed by the Board of Education, and 4 are appointed by the Legislative Delegation.
- Together, the Committee develops Guiding Principles, reviews draft maps, solicits and considers public input, and develops a districting plan that redistributes population to meet legal requirements.
- The Final Plan is developed over time and ultimately submitted to the full local governing authorities for approval prior to being submitted to the General Assembly for enactment into law. Once enacted, the new plan will be in effect for the next 10 years.

2021 Committee Members

Commission

- Hon. Sean Frantom,
Committee Chair
- Hon. Ben Hasan
- Hon. Alvin Mason
- Hon. Francine Scott

School Board

- Hon. Venus Cain,
Committee Co-Chair
- Hon. Jimmy Atkins
- Hon. Charlie Hannah
- Hon. Helen Minchew

Legislature

- Senator Harold Jones
- Rep. Wayne Howard
- Rep. Mark Newton
- Rep. Brian Prince



What are Guiding Principles

- The Guiding Principles combine both legal requirements and other criteria that the Committee felt were in the overall best interest of our community. As an example, it is not a legal requirement that subdivisions, precinct boundaries, or communities of interest stay together, but it was a desire of the Committee to refrain from making such divisions, when possible.
- The Principles will guide the Committee's decisions and be used by the Legislative Redistricting Office and/or staff to draw the local districts



Ad Hoc Committee – How it Works

- The Committee receives a draft district map to begin its work.
 - The 2021 draft district maps were drawn by non-partisan mapping professionals working for the State Redistricting Office. The draft maps take into account the Guiding Principles adopted by the Committee and the population growth and decline across the County.
 - The Committee will conduct a series of public hearings and work sessions. Public input is sought and encouraged. Committee work sessions are open to the public.
 - The Committee will make a final recommendation to the Augusta Commission and Board of Education for their consideration.
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Public Hearing Schedule

- Monday, October 18, 2021
Belair K-8,
3925 Harper Franklin Avenue
- Wednesday, October 20, 2021
Diamond Lakes Elementary School,
4153 Windsor Spring Road
- Monday, October 25, 2021
Academy of Richmond County,
910 Russell Street
- Wednesday, October 27, 2021
Wheeless Road Elementary School,
2530 Wheelless Road

Public Hearing Info

- All Public Hearings will begin at 6:00 PM
- Sign up will open at 5:30 PM until 6:00 PM for each meeting
- Public speakers may sign up in person at the venue or to appear virtually by calling 706-826-1304 during the sign up period
- Each public speaker is asked to limit their comments to 2 minutes in order to give all speakers an opportunity to be heard
- Comments will be compiled for Committee members to review



Redistricting Website

- augustaga.gov/redistricting
 - Calendar of Events
 - Citizen Input Portal
 - Committee Members and Contact Info
 - FAQs
 - Guiding Principles
 - Interactive Maps
 - Meeting Videos
 - Transcripts, Agendas, and Presentations



Next Committee Meeting

November 10, 2021

6:00 PM

Board of Education Administrative Offices

965 Broad Street

Augusta, GA